

Birding
in
Xinjiang,
China

9-29 Sept. 2007

Paul Holt
piholt@hotmail.com

Participants

Gao Jun
Paul Holt
Wang Qingyu

Summary

I made my fourth birding trip to Xinjiang during 9-29 Sept. 2007. As on all three of my previous trips 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 Professor Ma Ming, 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. During this trip we covered about 4000 kilometres & recorded about 187 species. Highlights included six globally threatened birds as defined by BirdLife International namely White-headed Duck, Relict Gull, Pallas's Fish Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Lesser Kestrel & Saker Falcon. I also recorded three near threatened species – Ferruginous Pochard, Cinereous Vulture & Pallid Harrier. In addition three new species for Xinjiang (Little Curlew, Cattle Egret & Parasitic Jaeger) were logged as was a single Dusky Warbler (the latter being only the second record for the province). A single 'Siberian Wagtail' *M. alba ocularis* near Aibi Lake, Jinghe on the 15 Sept was the first Xinjiang record of this taxon. Other noteworthy sightings included large numbers of Ruddy Shelduck (2953), Common Shelduck (7350) & Little Stint (1039) at Aibi Lake, Jinghe on the 15 Sept.; four separate Common Ringed Plovers; a single Relict Gull on two dates at Moguhu, Shihezi; two separate Oriental Honey-buzzards; 6100 Black-necked Grebe on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18 Sept.; 13 Calandra Larks east of Yili on the 20 Sept. & impressive numbers of Brandt's Mountain Finches (600) in the Tien Shan on the 21 Sept.

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, Tien 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 –

Wang Qingyu
2601 Building E,
No 16, Ba Li Qiao South Street,
Tongzhou,
Beijing,
China 101100

Telephone: 00 86 10 89505149
Fax: 00 86 10 89505495

wangqingyu@yahoo.com.cn

<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, third & fourth 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 – 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 return Beijing to Urumqi China Southern flights cost 3280 yuan

Sunday 9 Sept.

China Southern	CZ6904	Dep Beijing	08:45hrs
		Arr. Urumqi	12:50hrs

Return

Saturday 29 Sept.

China Southern	CZ6909	Dep. Urumqi	19:20hrs
		Arr. Beijing	22:45hrs

Chinese settlement designations

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

Sun rise & sun set

Sun rise in central Urumqi on 9/9/2007	07:41
Sun set	20:32
Sun rise in Yili on 20/9/2007	08:13
Sun set	20:32
Sun rise in Puhui, Korla on 23/9/2007	08:04
Sun set	20:13

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

Sept.

- Sunday 9:** Flew Beijing to Xinjiang. Afternoon at two sites near Urumqi – Baihu (Xishan) & Wulabo Reservoirs
- Monday 10:** All day north of Urumqi – Qingedahu, Shashanzi & Bayi/Dong Fang Reservoirs.
- Tuesday 11:** Much of day around Moguhu, Shihezi.
- Wednesday 12:** All day around Shihezi - Moguhu & Beihu Reservoirs, Shihezi
- Thursday 13:** Shihezi to Kuitun via Manasi Valley Nature Reserve, Anjihai Reservoirs & Kuitun Effluent Settlement Tanks
- Friday 14:** Kuitun to Jinghe. Am Daerquanzi & Shaliangzi, Xihu, Wusu.
- Saturday 15:** Aibihu, Jing river mouth, Aibihu Salt Works & Kuerketa Central Protection Station.
- Sunday 16:** Aibihu: Jing river mouth & area between Bole railway station & Boertala river mouth.
- Monday 17:** Morning around Bole
- Tuesday 18:** Bole to Yili via Sailimuhu
- Wednesday 19:** All day in the lower Yili Valley - Yining & Chabuhaer
- Thursday 20:** All day in the lower Yili Valley driving from Yili-Xinyuan-Nalati.
- Friday 21:** Nalati-Gongnaisi-Hejing
- Saturday 22:** Xiangsi Hu, Hejing & Bosten Hu - eastern & southern sides
- Sunday 23:** Morning near Puhui, Korla
- Monday 24:** Korla to Tuokexun - several sites along northern side of Bosten Hu & Bayi Res.
- Tuesday 25:** Morning around Tuokexun. Afternoon returned to Urumqi
- Wednesday 26:** All day around Urumqi: Qingedahu, Shashanzi Res., Bayi & Dong Fang Res.
- Thursday 27:** Most of day at Moguhu, Shihezi
- Friday 28:** All day Shihezi - Moguhu & Beihu Reservoir
- Saturday 29:** Morning Moguhu, Shihezi, afternoon returned to Urumqi & flight back to Beijing

DAILY DIARY

Sunday 9 Sept. 2007. Flew from Beijing to Urumqi, Xinjiang. Afternoon Baihu & Wulabo.

The China Southern flight that Qingyu & I had booked left Beijing on time at 08:45hrs and arrived in Urumqi, after a flight of 2630 kilometres that took 3 hours 33 minutes, at 12:45hrs. 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 for a meeting in central Urumqi. This ended at 15:00hrs & the three of us, plus Prof. Ma Ming, headed off to see the White-headed Ducks at Baihu, Xishan about a 30 minute drive from the city.

Our slightly discounted China Southern flight from Beijing to Urumqi cost 3280 yuan each for a return ticket. (The full price for a one-way ticket was 2560 yuan).

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 750 yuan/night including two complementary breakfasts.

Weather

It was forecast to be 14-24°C in Urumqi city today. It remained overcast but dry all afternoon.

Site 1. Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi. (43°48.8'N., 87°25.7'E.). 795 metres. 15:30-17:15hrs.

This is a spectacularly situated small, roughly circular lake that's about 1.25 kilometres in diameter. Flanked on two sides by steep, arid, rock ridges (one of which is being actively quarried) the lake is probably quite deep (it held a reasonable assortment of diving ducks) but is also fringed by narrow reed beds on these same two flanks. These reed beds extend up to about 60 metres out in to the lake.

Several pairs of White-headed Ducks bred at Baihu during summer 2007 & local birders, particularly Gou Jun, had counted up to 44 individuals with a maximum of 14 adult males here during the last few days. Birds seen today included -

White-headed Duck	37 including 10 adult males & a decent number of locally fledged, and still almost flightless, juveniles.
Gadwall	35
Eurasian Wigeon	6
Mallard	1
Northern Pintail	3
Garganey	8
Common Teal	2
Red-crested Pochard	10
Common Pochard	8
Ferruginous Pochard	4
Tufted Duck	7
Black-necked Grebe	73
Red-necked Phalarope	1
Pied Wheatear	1 juvenile

Leaving here we drove back in to Urumqi city before heading back out on the southern side of the city to our second & last site of the day.

Site 2. Wulabo Shuiku (Wulabo Reservoir) area, Urumqi. 18:15-19:00hrs. (43°39.4'N., 87°34.9'E.) (1060 metres)

As in our 4 May 2007 we visit 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). A pair of Bar-headed Geese bred at Wulabo in 2007 raising at least two young (Gou Jun pers. comm.). Birds here today included -

Pallas's Gull	82
Yellow-legged Gull	8
Mallard	172
Cormorant	11
Garganey	22
White Wagtail	70 – 65 of which were around the Gucheng Donglu lake edge

Chukar	1 was heard at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Common Pheasant	1 was heard at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
White-headed Duck	37, including 10 summer plumaged adult males, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Gadwall	35 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	6 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Mallard	173 near Urumqi on the 9/9/2007 – one at Baihu, Xishan & the other 172 on Wulabo Reservoir. (795 & 1060 metres)
Northern Pintail	3 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

Garganey	30 near Urumqi on the 9/9/2007 – eight at Baihu, Xishan & the other 22 on Wulabo Reservoir. (795 & 1060 metres)
Common Teal	2 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	10 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Common Pochard	8 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	4, including two adult males, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres) at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Tufted Duck	7 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795-1060 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	10 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (840-1060 metres)
Common Moorhen	8, including several locally fledged juveniles, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Eurasian Coot	12 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. This species doesn't breed here. (795 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	1 moulting adult at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Northern Lapwing	12 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	8 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)
Pallas's Gull	82 (including 13 juveniles/first-winters) at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)
Black Kite	15 near Urumqi on the 9/9/2007 – one at Baihu, Xishan & the others over Urumqi International Airport. (840 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	73, including numerous locally fledged & still dependant juveniles, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
Great Cormorant	11 (2 adults & 9 juveniles) at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)
Pied Wheatear	1 juvenile near Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (840 metres)
Barn Swallow	40 in & around Urumqi (mostly at Wulabo Reservoir) on the 9/9/2007. (850-1060 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (850-1000 metres)
White Wagtail	70 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. One of these was at Baihu, Xishan while 65 were around the southern edge of Wulabo Reservoir. All were <i>M. a. personata</i> & the vast majority were adults. (795-1060 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	2 flew over Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

Monday 10 Sept. 2007. All day around Urumqi. Morning Qingedahu, afternoon Bayi Reservoir.

We had breakfast at the Yindu Hotel at 07:30hrs (30 minutes after the buffet breakfast opened) & left with Gou Jun & Wang Chuanbo at 08:30hrs.

There had been exceptional amounts of rain in northern Xinjiang this summer. According to Wang Chuanbo Urumqi received three times the normal amount of rain during the three months June-August. This meant that the reservoirs that we visited today all contained large amounts of water & access to the lake side at Qingedahu was particularly difficult. This made it impossible to get as close as we would have liked to the gulls. The high water also meant that there was only small amounts of mud exposed & there were fewer waders present than both Gou Jun & Wang Chuanbo would have expected at this time of year.

Weather

It was already 21°C at Qingedahu by 10:00hrs & this rose to 28°C there by 12:40hrs. It was 32°C at Bayi Reservoir at 18:10hrs.

We visited three areas northwest of Urumqi today –

Site 1. Qingedahu, Changji. (44°05.61'N., 87°31.72'E.). 470 metres. 09:40-12:30hrs.

Highlights here included large numbers of gulls (1650 Black-headed, 1158 Yellow-legged & 42 Pallas's), decent numbers of ducks with 2050 Mallard, an Oriental Pratincole, a fly-over Tree Pipit and a Pallas's Fish Eagle.

Site 2. Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (44°18.86'N., 87°30.67'E.). (450 metres). 13:40-15:30hrs.

I'd not previously visited this roughly circular reservoir. Its about two kilometres in diameter and is surrounded on more than half of its circumference by a concrete embankment. Heavily fished (there were numerous nets strung out over much of the reservoir) its fed, at least partly, by an outflow from Qingedahu. According to the local watchman one or two pelicans occur here most years. They often say for about one week always in late October (26th October was the date mentioned) to early November. This fits the pattern of Dalmatian Pelican's occurrence at neighbouring Qingedahu.

We saw rather few birds here today – 62 Kentish Plover, one Red-necked Phalarope, two Caspian Tern & 80 Mallard being about the best.

Site 3. Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (44°13.07'N., 87°40.93'E.). 16:00-19:15hrs. (450 metres)

We drove on the embankment around the northern end of the reservoir & then explored neighbouring **Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir**. The latter is only about 400 metres to the south-western side of the south-western end of Bayi Reservoir. Dong Fang is a circular reservoir about two kilometres in diameter. It held a lot more birds today than the larger Bayi Reservoir. Birds seen on the two sites today included – Black-headed Gull 1410, Pallas's Gull 495, Yellow-legged Gull 365, Common Tern 123, Curlew Sandpiper 84, Little Stint 1 juvenile & the undoubted bird of the day a fly-over Little Curlew.

Greylag Goose	8 in Wujiaqu north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 – two at Shashanzi Reservoir & six at Wuyi Reservoir. (450 metres)
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Ruddy Shelduck	7 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 – one at Qingedahu, Changji & the other six at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450 & 470 metres)
Common Shelduck	2 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Gadwall	73 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 35 at Qingedahu, Changji & 38 Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	41 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 35 at Qingedahu, Changji & 6 Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Mallard	2970 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 2050 at Qingedahu, Changji, 80 at Shashanzi Reservoir & 840 in the Bayi Reservoir- Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Northern Shoveler	3 at Qingedahu, Changji & 15 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
Northern Pintail	5 at Qingedahu, Changji & 2 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
Garganey	2 at Qingedahu, Changji & 23 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
Common Teal	54 at Qingedahu, Changji & 50 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	1 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	2 at Qingedahu, Changji & 11 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
Common Kingfisher	2 singles north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 – one near Qingedahu, Changji & the other near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450 & 470 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 in & around Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. (450-750 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	20 in & around Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. (450-750 metres)
Common Moorhen	10 in total north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. Birds were seen at both Qingedahu, Changji & Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & at a couple of minor sites in between. (450-470 metres)
Eurasian Coot	1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Common Snipe	7 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
[Black-tailed Godwit	Wang Chuanbo saw one at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)]
Little Curlew	1 flew south-south-west over Bayi Reservoir towards neighbouring Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu at 17:30hrs on the 10/9/2007. (Paul Holt & Wang Chuanbo). The first record for Xinjiang. (470 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
[Spotted Redshank	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)]
Common Redshank	8 in the Bayi Reservoir- Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Common Greenshank	6 in the Urumqi area on the 10/9/2007 - two at Qingedahu, Changji, one at Shashanzi Reservoir & three at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, both of the latter in Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Little Stint	1 juvenile near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Temminck's Stint	8 in the Urumqi area on the 10/9/2007 - two at Qingedahu, Changji, one at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & five in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Dunlin	3 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	83 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir & one juvenile at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, both Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Ruff	Five in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	1 at Qingedahu, Changji & 12 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
Pied Avocet	124 in total at two sites in Changji on the 10/9/2007 - 33 at Qingedahu, Changji & 91 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	6 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Grey Plover	1 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Kentish Plover	62 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Northern Lapwing	53 in total at two sites in Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007 - 13 at Shashanzi Reservoir & 40 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area. (450-470 metres)
Collared Pratincole	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. This was apparently the latest ever record from Xinjiang. (450 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	1524 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 1158 at Qingedahu, Changji; just one at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 365 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Pallas's Gull	987 in total at two sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 492 at Qingedahu, Changji & 495 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Black-headed Gull	3088 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These involved 1650 at Qingedahu, Changji; just 28 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 1410 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Caspian Tern	8 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 2 adults at Qingedahu, Changji, 2 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 4 birds (three adults & a juvenile) at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (470 metres)
Common Tern	128 in total at just two sites in Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007 - 5 at Shashanzi Reservoir & 123 including numerous locally fledged juveniles at Bayi Reservoir. (470 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	11 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	5 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Black Kite	450 in the Urumqi area on the 10/9/2007. These included 230 at Qingedahu, Changji, 45 near Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 130 near Bayi Reservoir, also Wujiaqu. The two larger counts were at drained fish ponds where birds were scavenging on dead or dying fish. (450-470 metres)
Pallas's Fish Eagle	1 juvenile at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
[Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 bird, possibly this species, was seen very briefly at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)]
Long-legged Buzzard	1 juvenile at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	44 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
[Black-necked Grebe	Gou Jun saw one at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)]

Great Cormorant	51 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 21 at Qingedahu, Changji; 7 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 23 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Grey Heron	167 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 122 at Qingedahu, Changji; 2 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 43 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Great Egret	114 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 87 at Qingedahu, Changji; 4 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 23 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Great Bittern	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	16 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These included one near Qingedahu, Changji, five at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu; three between there & Bayi Reservoir & seven in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang), also Wujiaqu Reservoir area. (450-470 metres)
Bluethroat	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Common Starling	30 near Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Pale Martin	1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
Barn Swallow	600 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. Most of these (500 birds) were at Qingedahu, Changji. (450-470 metres)
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	2 were heard calling at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	400 in total near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
White Wagtail	25 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These included about 10 at both Qingedahu, Changji & Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	30 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These included about 15 at Qingedahu, Changji & slightly fewer than this in the Bayi Reservoir Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Richard's Pipit	3 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 with singles at Qingedahu, Changji, at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
Tree Pipit	1 flew south over Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. It was apparently the first record for this relatively well watched site. (450 metres)
Reed Bunting	1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

Tuesday 11 Sept. 2007. Urumqi to Shihezi. Late morning & afternoon in Moguhu area.

Weather

20°C at 10:15hrs near Qian Quan Hu. This had risen to 29°C at 14:15hrs at Liushugou Reservoir & 33°C at Moguhu at 17:45hrs.

We had breakfast at 07:30hrs & left the Yindu Hotel & Urumqi at 08:25hrs driving about 143kms west on Expressway G312 to Shihezi. Arriving at 10:20hrs we met Xu Jie & one of his friends. We spent the rest of the day exploring a few sites (several of which were new to me) around Moguhu.

Note that about 13 kms east of Shihezi the Expressway crosses the broad, but largely dry Manas River Channel. The water from here used to be the main source of water for Manas Lake (near Ailikehu) but this lake is now only seasonally present – its dry almost all the time! This has apparently happened since the growth of Shihezi city and the consequent water extraction.

1st site. Small woodland at southern end of Moguhu, Shihezi.

We spent about 45 minutes here. Birds included -

Black-throated Thrush	18
Hume's Warbler	5
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 was heard
Pied Wheatear	1 male
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Eurasian Greenfinch	15

Site 2. Moguhu Mu Chang, Shihezi. (44°25.22'N., 85°53.31'E.) 380 metres.

We previously visited this site on 20 May 2007 & it was then an attractive extensive grassy meadow with scattered pools. Situated midway between Qian Quan Hu & Mo Gu Hu lakes it produced a few waterfowl & good number of shorebirds. Today it was much drier and only a narrow strip of water remained. Nevertheless this held a number of interesting birds -

White Wagtail	80 – one nominate <i>alba</i> & all the rest <i>personata</i>
Yellow Wagtail	75 – mostly juveniles that I couldn't racially assign but at least two adult males were present. They were 'blue-headed' types & probably <i>feldegg-beema</i> intergrades.
Black Kite	30
Eurasian Skylark	3
Pacific Golden Plover	23
Kentish Plover	13
Temminck's Stint	1
Northern Lapwing	108
Common Wheatear	1

Site 3. Liushugou Reservoir, Shihezi. (44°24.8'N., 85°48.2'E.). 400 metres. 13:45-14:20.

From here its 20.2kms @ 118° back to Shihezi

There were very few birds on the reservoir – about 100 ducks that were too distant to identify & a handful of Great Cormorant, Grey Heron & Great Egrets. Mid-day the small coppice didn't sound as though it held many birds either. We had a quick snack here.

Site 4. Qian Quan Hu Fenjingqu, Shihezi. (44°24.3'N., 85°51.3) 395 metres

From here its 16.2kms @ 123° to Shihezi

We had previously visited this site on the 16 Oct. & 5 Nov. 2006 & again on 20 May this spring. Today it held no water & no birds. It appeared that it had been deliberately drained and that workers were laying a plastic lining to reduce seepage.

Site 5. Moguhu, Shihezi. (44°28.22'N., 85°53.53'E.) 375 metres. 15:45-19:45hrs

This was a different part of Moguhu to what I'd previously visited. Its best accessed by driving north 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 along the side of this road. Continue north past a large power station adjacent to Km post 94 & then Beihu Reservoir (previously known as Da Quan Gou) on the right shortly after this. Not much further north there's a tourist area (Beihu Park) at the northern end of Beihu Reservoir (accessed by a turning to the right at Km post 80.8) and we've previously usually accessed Moguhu by turning left opposite this. Today we didn't turn here but continued on for about another four kilometres before turning off left at Km post 76.7. This turning is immediately before the well signed Xi An Da Qiu Zhong Bridge (also known locally as '146 Da Qiao'). This side road is still hard surfaced & it skirts right around the northern end of Moguhu and then turns south down the western side. This smooth road normally keeps between about 200-800 metres away from the reservoir's embankment but eventually climbs up on to the top of it. Having driven about eight kms from '146 big bridge' the road bends to the left & climbs up on to the top of the reservoir's embankment. We continued on for about half a kilometre before parking up at a site where it was possible to turn left off this small road & drop down to the lake edge. We spent a couple of hours scanning from here before driving on to view another couple of different sites. We drove for exactly two kilometres and then turned off left on to an un-paved, dirt road. This junction is just where the main road bends to the right. Continuing down here there's one track & after 0.3 kms a second driveable track off to the left. We ignored both of these taking the third track off to the left (we'd then driven 1.1 kms on the dirt track). We were unable to drive right to the end of this track – there was a deep-looking pool only 50 metres before the end of the track that we were afraid to drive in to. We parked up here & walked out across about 800 metres of grazed grassland to the lake edge. Highlights included -

Grey Heron	149
Great Egret	125
Great Cormorant	4855
Common Tern	110
Little Tern	6
Black-headed Gull	2720
Pallas's Gull	462
Yellow-legged Gull	1005
Pacific Golden Plover	12
Little Stint	100+
Temminck's Stint	8
Ruddy Turnstone	2 juveniles
Sanderling	3 juveniles
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juvenile
Common Ringed Plover	1
Common Greenshank	14
Spotted Redshank	3
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile

Greylag Goose	17 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Gadwall	210 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Mallard	1500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Shoveler	36 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Pintail	20 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Garganey	22 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Teal	150 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	28 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375-750 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	30 near at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	80 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Moorhen	4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Coot	34 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Snipe	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Spotted Redshank	3 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Greenshank	14 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 near at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruddy Turnstone	2 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Sanderling	3 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Little Stint	100 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Temminck's Stint	9 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Dunlin	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruff	16 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

Black-winged Stilt	4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pied Avocet	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	12 at Moguhu & 23 more on the wetland mid-way between there & Qian Quan Hu, both Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Kentish Plover	13 on the wetland mid-way between Moguhu & Qian Quan Hu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Lapwing	124 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Siberian Gull	1 bird, probably this species, was seen poorly at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	1005 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pallas's Gull	462 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-headed Gull	2720 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Caspian Tern	2 adults at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Tern	110 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	11 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black Kite	50 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
accipiter sp.	1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Cormorant	Almost 4900 in Shihezi on the 11/9/2007 – these involved 40 at Liushugou Reservoir & a massive 4855 at Moguhu. (375 & 400 metres)
Grey Heron	145 in Shihezi on the 11/9/2007 – these involved 6 at Liushugou Reservoir & 149 at Moguhu. (375-400 metres)
Great Egret	130 in Shihezi on the 11/9/2007 – these involved 5 at Liushugou Reservoir & 125 at Moguhu. (375-400 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	15 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on 11/9/2007. (375-400 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	25 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on 11/9/2007. (375-400 metres)
Northern Wheatear	1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pied Wheatear	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Starling	550 near Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Barn Swallow	200 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375-750 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. Presumably an early date for this species that normally passes through the area during October to late November. (375 metres)
Hume's Warbler	6 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	3 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
House Sparrow	30 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
White Wagtail	120 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. These included one adult male <i>alba</i> , a form that's apparently a rare migrant through Xinjiang. All the rest were <i>personata</i> . (375 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	110 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. Most were immatures & not racially assignable but two adult males were seen & both were 'blue-headed types' but probably <i>feldegg-beema</i> intergrades. (375 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	15 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Linnet	1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

Wednesday 12 Sept. 2007. All day around Moguhu & Beihu, Shihezi.

Weather

It was 18°C at 09:00hrs at Moguhu, Shihezi. This had risen to 33°C there by 13:05hrs & 33°C at Beihu Reservoir at 16:45hrs.

We left the Tianfu Hotel, Shihezi at 08:00hrs & returned to Moguhu. We birded three sites around the reservoir today before stopping off at Beihu on our way back in to Shihezi.

Site 1. Eastern side of Moguhu, Shihezi. (08:40hrs onwards)

This site is accessed by turning left off route S204 opposite Beihu Park. This track leads right down to the lake edge.

Site 2. West-north-western side of Moguhu, Shihezi. (44°28.22'N., 85°53.53'E.)

This is the site that we saw all the Great Cormorants at yesterday & it is 5.58kms @ 300° from site 1.

Site 3. South-western side of Moguhu, Shihezi. (44°26.78'N., 85°54.35'E.)

This is the site where we saw most of the waders yesterday. From here it is 2.88 Kms @ 322° to site 2.

Site 4. Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (Previously known as Da Quan Gou Reservoir). 16:00-17:0hrs.

We accessed this site by turning east of route S204 at KM 87.2 & following this dirt road north-east eventually rejoining the reservoir's eastern embankment. We then drove down on to the grassy plain bordering the lake. Birds here included –

Caspian Tern	28
Gadwall	745
European Roller	1 juvenile
Pallas's Gull	350
Yellow-legged Gull	280
Ruff	4
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile
Little Stint	3
Greater Sand Plover	1 juvenile
Kentish Plover	83

Greylag Goose	147 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	31 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Gadwall	510 at Moguhu & 745 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	25 at Moguhu & 8 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Mallard	3150 at Moguhu & 95 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Shoveler	42 at Moguhu & 15 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Pintail	1100 at Moguhu & 15 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Garganey	7 at Moguhu & 5 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Teal	270 at Moguhu & 45 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	28 at Moguhu & 5 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Pochard	158 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	21 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Tufted Duck	4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
European Roller	1 near Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (390 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 in & around Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375-420 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	4 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	30 in & around Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375-420 metres)
Eurasian Coot	270 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Redshank	2 singles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Greenshank	2 at Moguhu & 1 at Beihu, both Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Sanderling	3 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Little Stint	135 (one winter plumaged adult & the other 134 all juveniles) at Moguhu & 3 juveniles at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Temminck's Stint	9 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Dunlin	5 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	3 (two juveniles & an adult) at Moguhu & 1 juvenile at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruff	73 at Moguhu & 4 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pied Avocet	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	11 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Kentish Plover	250 at Moguhu & 83 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Greater Sand Plover	1 injured juvenile (it had a damaged left leg & couldn't walk well and about 15% of the tip of its upper mandible was missing) at Beihu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Lapwing	83 at Moguhu & 21 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Siberian Gull	1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	1000 at Moguhu & 350 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pallas's Gull	400 at Moguhu & 280 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-headed Gull	2500 at Moguhu & 500 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Caspian Tern	9 (seven adults & two juveniles) at Moguhu & 28 (18 adults & 10 juveniles) at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Tern	63 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Whiskered Tern	1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
White-winged Black Tern	7 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Osprey	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black Kite	10 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Hen Harrier	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	62 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Cormorant	8,500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Grey Heron	243 at Moguhu & 11 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Egret	217 at Moguhu & 19 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Cattle Egret	1 immature at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres). Found by PIH at 09:30 & seen well by me, Gou Jun & Wang Qingyu it was the first record for Xinjiang. Initially seen at about 1.5 kms range it was later seen as close as about 600 metres. It was loosely consorting with Great Egrets. I took some field notes & made a sketch while both Gou Jun & me photographed it. The photos were poor, but identifiable. Sadly I was unable to racially assign it.
Rufous-tailed Shrike	8 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	4 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
Common Starling	500 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
Barn Swallow	400 in the Moguhu-Beihu area, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
Crested Lark	2 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
House Sparrow	100 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 in the Moguhu-Beihu area, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
White Wagtail	30 at various sites around Moguhu & 65 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. All were <i>personata</i> . (375 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	25 at various sites around Moguhu & a similar number at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
Tree Pipit	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

Thursday 13 Sept. 2007. Morning near Shihezi, afternoon drove to Kuitun

Weather

15°C at 09:00hrs in the Manas River Valley. This had risen to 32°C at 12:40hrs at Anjihai Reservoir No. 1 & 33°C at Anjihai Reservoir No. 2 at 16:35hrs.

We left the Tianfu Hotel, Shihezi at 07:05hrs & drove west back to the Manas River Valley. We went the wrong way on route & eventually arrived at 08:30hrs. It was very, very quiet for birds with virtually no migrants – and full of mosquitoes so we turned around & headed back to Shihezi. Gou Jun had paid 18 yuan the previous evening to have his car valeted & our two bottles of repellent had gone missing. It took the staff only a few seconds to return them to us when we appeared back at their car wash! Leaving Shihezi for the second time today we continued west to our next stop, Anjihai Reservoirs 1 & 2. We spent much of the afternoon here (though there were very few birds) before heading back to the east-west expressway & continuing west to Kuitun. We made one last stop - at Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun city.

Site 1. Manasi He Gu Xiao Baohuqu (Manasi Valley Nature Reserve), Manasi. (44°11.5'N., 86°07.2) 600 metres

Arriving at 08:30hrs we spent less than 30 minutes here & saw very few birds.

Azure Tit	6
Great Tit	2
Mistle Thrush	12
Great Cormorant	12 flew south up the valley
Hume's Warbler	2 were heard
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Common Kestrel	1

Site 2. 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.

From here its 53.2kms @ 268° back to Kuitun town centre
43.1kms @ 96° to Shihezi

There are two Anjihai Reservoirs, an Upper and Lower one, that are referred to locally as No. 1 & No. 2. The lower reservoir is about three kilometres north of & can be clearly seen from the upper one. However the driving route between the two reservoirs is a little circuitous! The upper reservoir, Anjihai Shuiku No. 1, is the larger of the two but, other than a few Greylag Geese, at least 11 Common Cranes way off in the fields between the reservoir & the expressway & an unexpected Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua) it was very quiet. The lower reservoir held nothing but a couple of Pallid Harriers were watched heading south over the fields bordering the reservoir's western flank. We birded these two reservoirs from 12:15-16:40hrs. The best access is from Shawan town. When heading east turn left (north) off G312 at San Dao He Ling Chang about 20 metres before Km post 4353 (& 1.5 kms east of the roundabout in the centre of Shawan). You immediately pass under a very attractive ornamental archway and about 200 metres further on turn left again. This smaller road soon heads out of Shawan and remains straight for a couple of kilometres until you come to the first village where there are two obvious zig-zags (first right, then left). Another 100 metres after the second right angle turn left in to Daquan xiang. The road continues right through the centre of this small village and, after about another 2kms, becomes un-paved. You can then see the embankment of Anjihai Reservoir No. 1 in front and to the left. In all the reservoir involves a drive of 11.1kms from the roundabout in the centre of Shawan.

Site 3. Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks (Kuitun Wu Shui Chuli Chang), Kuitun. (44°29.53'N., 84°55.47'E.). 400 metres.

We spent just over one hour at this site about 10 kilometres north of Kuitun city. Its one of three sites in Xinjiang (the other two are in Urumqi) that White-headed Duck was found breeding in 2007. More than ten birds, including six chicks, were seen here earlier in the summer. There are a complex of large reed fringed pools that cover an area of almost one square kilometre. Gou Jun heard five singing Savi's Warblers at this site in summer 2007. He also saw, & photographed, a summer-plumaged adult Red-necked Stint together with eight Little Stints here on 19 July 2007. Birds here today included –

White-headed Duck	9 (eight fully grown immatures)
Common Shelduck	3 (breeds here)
Northern Shoveler	65 (breeds here)
Gadwall	18 (possibly breeds here)
Mallard	31
Common Teal	3
Garganey	4
Little Grebe	4
Black-necked Grebe	1
Great Crested Grebe	1
Wood Sandpiper	15
Little Stint	36
Temminck's Stint	7
Northern Lapwing	9
Black-winged Stilt	17
Common Greenshank	1
Ruff	5
Common Snipe	1
Curlew Sandpiper	5
Black-tailed Godwit	1 juvenile
Common Coot	1
Common Pheasant	1
Richard's Pipit	2
Citrine Wagtail	1
Yellow Wagtail	20
Bearded Parrotbill	4 were heard

Common Pheasant

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

White-headed Duck	9 (eight juveniles & one moulting adult) at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Greylag Goose	27 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Common Shelduck	3 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Gadwall	18 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	8 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Mallard	50 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 31 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 & 435 metres)
Northern Shoveler	65 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Northern Pintail	65 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Garganey	4 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Common Teal	3 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 near Shihezi on the 13/9/2007. (350 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	15 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007.
Common Crane	11 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Common Moorhen	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Eurasian Coot	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Common Snipe	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	1 juvenile at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Common Greenshank	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	15 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Little Stint	36 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Temminck's Stint	1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 7 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 & 435 metres)
Curllew Sandpiper	5 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Ruff	5 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	17 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Northern Lapwing	10 near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 9 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 & 435 metres)
Parasitic Jaeger	1 juvenile at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres) Found as soon as we arrived this is the first record for Xinjiang. It was photographed (extremely poorly with the images being identifiable as a jaeger sp. but not to species) & a description taken.
Yellow-legged Gull	10 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Pallas's Gull	20 on the 13/9/2007 with about equal numbers at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & Quangou Reservoir, Kuitun. (400 & 435 metres)
Black-headed Gull	10 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Black Kite	4 near the Anjihai Reservoirs, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Pallid Harrier	2 juveniles flew south down the western side of Anjihai Res. No. 2, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (405 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (590 metres)
Little Grebe	4 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Great Cormorant	10 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Grey Heron	3 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan, 1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun & 4 at Quangou Reservoir, Kuitun all on the 13/9/2007. (400-435 metres)
Great Egret	5 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan, 2 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun & 47 at Quangou Reservoir, Kuitun all on the 13/9/2007. (400-435 metres)
Little Bittern	1 near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	8 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
Mistle Thrush	12 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	1 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)
Common Starling	300 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
Great Tit	2 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)
Azure Tit	6 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)
Sand Martin	1 juvenile, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)
Pale Martin	15, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)
Eurasian Crag Martin	1, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)
Barn Swallow	900 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. 650 of these were seen with, other hirundines, at two sites near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
Northern House Martin	210, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Hume's Warbler	2 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	4 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Lesser Whitethroat sp.	1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 were heard near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Crested Lark	8 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
White Wagtail	15 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
Citrine Wagtail	1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	30 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 2 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

Friday 14 Sept. 2007. Morning Kuitun, afternoon drove to Jinghe.

Weather

It was very windy in the Jinghe-Aibihu area this afternoon. Nevertheless it was hot - 16°C at Daerquanzi Reservoir, Wusu at 08:10hrs rising to 33°C at Yinshatan, Aibihu by 16:25hrs.

We left Kuitun at 07:05hrs & drove east to Jinghe. We visited a couple of sites on route, but both were rather poor.

Site 1. Daerquanzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu. (44°36.81'N., 84°36.74'E.). 330 metres.

A small roadside shallow water reservoir that we spent about 30 minutes at (08:10-08:40hrs). Birds here included -

Greylag Goose	94
Grey Heron	28
Great Egret	55
Gadwall	25
Red-crested Pochard	10
Northern Pintail	55
Bearded Parrotbill	2 were heard
Northern Hobby	1 adult
Common Crane	40 flew south-south-east at 09:00hrs
Little Owl	1
European Roller	1 adult

Site 2. Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu. (44°31.86'N., 84°40.81'E.). 370 metres.

We spent just 15 minutes here from 09:30hrs. Birds included -

Northern Pintail	45
Mallard	30
Gadwall	15
Black-necked Grebe	1
Red-crested Pochard	10
Great Egret	3
Barn Swallow	500
Pied Wheatear	2
European Roller	1 adult
Richard's Pipit	1

We then drove on to Jinghe & checked-in at the Jinghe Hotel. (44°36.17'N., 82°53.30'E. 318 metres). We left here again at 15:40hrs & drove to Aibihu. We travelled with two men (Mr Gao & Mr Waili) from Bole Forest Department & initially took route S305 (posted to Alashankou).

Aibihu. Site 1. Yinshatan (literally 'Silver Sand Bay') a site about three kilometres northwest of the Jinghe river mouth. (44°50.18'N., 82°49.49'E.). 190 metres.

From this site it is 26.4kms @ 160° back to the Jinghe Hotel.

Arriving at 16:45hrs (one hour's drive from central Jinghe) we spent just over three hours here, leaving at 20:00hrs. There was an extremely strong north-west wind blowing. Birds here included -

Ruddy Shelduck	2300
Common Shelduck	2900
Gadwall	5
Mallard	50
Northern Shoveler	140
Northern Pintail	500
Common Teal	20
Common Redshank	1100
Sanderling	1 juvenile
Little Stint	8
Ruff	80
Red-necked Phalarope	43
Kentish Plover	20
Ferruginous Pochard	1
Yellow-legged Gull	20
Great Cormorant	30
Common Stonechat	1
Pied Wheatear	2

Leaving Yinshatan we drove to some crab ponds inside the reserve & spent the last 15 minutes of daylight birding here.

Great Cormorant	310
Common Pochard	240
Ferruginous Pochard	21
Red-crested Pochard	45
Common Coot	35
Great Egret	7

Greylag Goose	94 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	2300 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Shelduck	2900 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Gadwall	25 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 15 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 5 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
Mallard	30 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & 50 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 & 370 metres)
Northern Shoveler	140 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

Northern Pintail	55 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 45 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 500 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
Common Teal	20 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	10 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 10 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 45 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
Common Pochard	240 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	22 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. One of these was seen actually at Yinshatan itself, the other 21 were on the crab ponds near by. (190 metres)
European Roller	Single adults near Daerquanzi reservoir & Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 & 370 metres)
Little Owl	1 near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
Common Crane	40 flew south-south-east at 09:00hrs Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & another flock of 120 flew due west along the base of the Tien Shan Mountains at Km post 4527 near Tuotuo, extreme eastern Jinghe at 14:10hrs. (330 & ca.800 metres)
Eurasian Coot	35 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	5 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Redshank	1100 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres) I would suspect that this species is an early autumn migrant in Xinjiang & that it reaches its peak in mid-July so thought that it was late in the season for such a large number of birds to be still present.
Sanderling	1 juvenile at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Little Stint	8 juveniles at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Temminck's Stint	1 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Ruff	80 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	43 juveniles at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Kentish Plover	30 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	20 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Black-headed Gull	5 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 adult near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	1 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (370 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Great Cormorant	310 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Grey Heron	28 near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
Great Egret	55 near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 3 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 23 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	7 between Kuitun & Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
Pied Wheatear	2 near Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & 2 more at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 & 370 metres)
Common Starling	300 between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
Barn Swallow	1000 on the 14/9/2007 – 500 at Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & a similar number at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe. (190-370 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	2 were heard at Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 & 370 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
White Wagtail	5 <i>M. a. personata</i> between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	10 at Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 at Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (370 metres)

Saturday 15 Sept. 2007. All day around Aibihu, Jinghe.

Weather

It was extremely windy all day today & 15°C at 07:35hrs in Jinghe town. This had risen to 23°C at 13:30hrs at Jinghe River Mouth & 23°C at the Aibihu Salt Works at 17:50hrs.

We left the Jinghe Hotel at 07:45hrs & drove back to Aibihu. Today we visited three sites around the reservoir -

Aibihu. Site 2a. Jing river mouth. (44°49.04'N., 82°54.00'E.). 190 metres.

From here it is 23.84 kms almost due south back to the hotel in central Jinghe.

We accessed this site by driving back to yesterday's site - Yinshatan (literally 'Silver Sand Bay') and then turning southeast & driving virtually along the lake shore for about three or four kilometres. At one point we had to cross a stream mouth & in order to do this the two men from the forest department had picked up some long wooden planks from the workers at the crab ponds on route. Even with these the crossing was awkward.

Arriving at about 09:00hrs we birded the river mouth area for 5.5hrs until 14:30hrs when we drove back to Jinghe for lunch. It was still extremely windy – even windier than yesterday & this made birding difficult. It was impossible to use the telescope away from the shelter of the vehicle.

Highlights of the day included large numbers of ducks (predominantly Northern Shovelers but with decent numbers of Northern Pintail). These were all well out in the river mouth & strung out off shore to the south-east. There were also impressive numbers of small shorebirds (especially Kentish Plovers & Little Stints) out on the broad lake edge. Large numbers of birds (particularly shorebirds) were moving northwest up the shoreline or over the beach. Highlights at this site included -

Greylag Goose	15
Ruddy Shelduck	2950
Common Shelduck	2150
Gadwall	230
Eurasian Wigeon	8
Mallard	30

Northern Shoveler	4200
Northern Pintail	1800
Common Teal	30
Red-crested Pochard	121
Common Pochard	104
Ferruginous Pochard	1
duck sp.	2000
Eurasian Coot	40
Black-tailed Godwit	16
Spotted Redshank	15
Common Redshank	40
Common Greenshank	9
Wood Sandpiper	1
Common Sandpiper	1
Little Stint	1014
Temminck's Stint	15
Dunlin	12
Curlew Sandpiper	23
Ruff	117
Red-necked Phalarope	23
Black-winged Stilt	1
Pied Avocet	19
Pacific Golden Plover	1
Grey Plover	11
Common Ringed Plover	1
Little Ringed Plover	4
Kentish Plover	1450
Northern Lapwing	1
Yellow-legged Gull	41
Black-headed Gull	46
Caspian Tern	1
Common Tern	1
'Western' Little Tern	1
Eurasian Hobby	1
Great Crested Grebe	7
Great Cormorant	320
Great Egret	34
Desert Wheatear	1
Common Starling	200
Barn Swallow	20
Asian Short-toed Lark	1
White Wagtail	2 – one of which was <i>personata</i>
Western Yellow Wagtail	2

Aibihu. Site 3 Aibihu Salt Works, Jinghe. (44°44.75'N., 83°02.01'E.). 190 metres.

From here it is 19.61 kms at 220° back to the hotel in central Jinghe.

Once we'd found the best vantage point we birded here from 17:30-18:30hrs

The site is accessed by turning off the expressway at Km post 4565.5, the second turning off the expressway (not a proper junction) to the east of the Jinghe junction. The turning is posted to Jinghe railway station. Turn off north & then immediately east on to an unpaved, dirt road that parallels the expressway. We drove on here for about 1.5-2 kms before this road bent north heading away from the expressway. Shortly after this it passed under the railway line & continued to head north towards the large building off in the distance. This building is the salt factory & there's an extensive complex of salt pans stretching from here out towards Aibi Lake. We entered the gated salt works complex & drove along several of the embankments, eventually heading out to a view point – we simply picked the road that seemed to head the furthest out in to the lake. There are a couple of derelict buildings on concrete stilts here, I climbed up on to one of them & scoped from here. To the right (east) there were small numbers of small shorebirds while virtually all the ducks were off to the west.

Ruddy Shelduck	3
Common Shelduck	5200
Gadwall	5
Eurasian Wigeon	3
Mallard	5
Northern Shoveler	30
Northern Pintail	720
Common Pochard	30
duck sp.	1500
Little Stint	25
Pacific Golden Plover	2
Grey Plover	1
Kentish Plover	190
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph flew west over Jinghe city
Isabelline Wheatear	1

Returning to the expressway we continued to head back east (towards Kuitun & Urumqi).

Aibihu. Site 4. Kuerketa Zhongxin Zhan (Kuerketa Central Protection Station), Jinghe . (44°40.41'N., 83°18.55'E.). 236 metres.

From here it is 34.29 kms almost due west back to the hotel in central Jinghe.

We were in the reserve area from about 19:00-20:35hrs when we started to head back to Jinghe. We turned north off the expressway at about Km post 4554.5 – to the Shaquanzi Yanchang (Shaquanzi Salt Works). Once again we turned immediately east on to a smaller dirt road once we'd left the expressway. We continued on here for about eight kilometres (this distance is a guess) & turned off left (north) immediately after a huge concrete sign also on the left. The Kuerketa Zhongxin Zhan (Kuerketa Central Protection Station), part of the Aibihu Reserve, was about two kilometres down here. Our guide knew the protection station staff & they allowed us in to the reserve. We drove down, through an area of very attractive, ancient-looking knarled small trees to an area of bushes, reeds & small lakes near another protection station.

Greylag Goose	2
Red-crested Pochard	12
Ferruginous Pochard	2
Common Greenshank	3 juveniles
Black-winged Stilt	1 juvenile
Oriental Honey-buzzard	1 juvenile flew south over the main protection station at 19:05hrs
Long-legged Buzzard	1
Western Marsh Harrier	1 juvenile
Great Egret	5
Grey Heron	2
Spotted Flycatcher	1
Common Redstart	1 male
Hume's Warbler	2 were heard
Common Starling	5
Great or Turkestan Tit	1
Grey Wagtail	1
White Wagtail	5 – four <i>personata</i> & one <i>ocularis</i>

Returning to Jinghe we changed hotels – the Jinghe hotel was fully booked & we switched to the 2-star Heli Hotel on the main street through the town. Rooms here cost 120 yuan/night.

Greylag Goose	17 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 15 at the Jing river mouth & 2 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	2953 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 2950 at the Jing river mouth & 3 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres). Note that the entire world population has recently been estimated at being between 173,000-223,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Aibi Lake represents between 1.3-1.7% of the entire world population!
Common Shelduck	7350 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 2150 at the Jing river mouth & 5200 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres). Note that the entire world population has recently been estimated at being between 655,000-705,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Aibi Lake represents between 1.0-1.1% of the entire world population!
Gadwall	235 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 230 at the Jing river mouth & 5 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	11 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 8 at the Jing river mouth & 3 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Mallard	35 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 30 at the Jing river mouth & 5 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Northern Shoveler	4230 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 4200 at the Jing river mouth & 30 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Northern Pintail	2520 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1800 at the Jing river mouth & 1720 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Common Teal	30 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	133 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 121 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 12 on pools near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (190 metres)
Common Pochard	134 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	3 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 2 on pools near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (190 metres)
duck sp.	3500 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 2000 at the Jing river mouth & 1500 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Rock Pigeon	20 in Jinghe on the 15/9/2007.
Eurasian Coot	40 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	16 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Spotted Redshank	15 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Redshank	40 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Greenshank	12 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 9 at the Jing river mouth & 3 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Sandpiper	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Little Stint	1039 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1014 at the Jing river mouth & 25 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Temminck's Stint	15 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Dunlin	13 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	23 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Ruff	117 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	23 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	2 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – singles at both the Jing river mouth & near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)
Pied Avocet	19 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	3 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1 at the Jing river mouth & 2 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Grey Plover	12 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 11 at the Jing river mouth & 1 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	4 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Kentish Plover	1640 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1450 at the Jing river mouth & 190 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
Northern Lapwing	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	51 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – these included 41 at the Jing river mouth. (190 metres)
Black-headed Gull	46 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Caspian Tern	1 adult on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Tern	1 juvenile at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

'Western' Little Tern	1 juvenile on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Oriental Honey-buzzard	1 juvenile flew south over the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu at 19:05hrs on the 15/9/2007. (250 metres)
Black Kite	2 near Jinghe on the 15/9/2007.
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 juvenile near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Booted Eagle	1 dark morph flew west over Jinghe town on the 15/9/2007. (ca.230 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	7 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Great Cormorant	320 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – most of these were on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth., (190 metres)
Grey Heron	2 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Great Egret	39 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 34 in the area around the Jing river mouth & nearby crab ponds & 5 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190-230 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	5 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190-230 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	2 in the gardens of the Jinghe hotel early on the 15/9/2007. (ca.230 metres)
Spotted Flycatcher	1 first-winter near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Common Redstart	1 male near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Desert Wheatear	1 male at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	1 near the Aibihu Salt Works, Jinghe on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Starling	205 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 200 the Jing river mouth & 5 the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)
Great Tit or Turkestan Tit	1 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Barn Swallow	20 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Hume's Warbler	2 were heard near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
White Wagtail	7 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. These included six <i>personata</i> & one 'Siberian Wagtail' <i>M. a. ocellaris</i> . The latter was seen near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station & is probably the first record of this form for Xinjiang. (190-230 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	2 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
Grey Wagtail	1 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

Sunday 16 Sept. 2007. All day around Aibihu, Jinghe.

Weather

There was virtually no wind today until the early afternoon when a light south-westerly started to blow. It was a chilly 8°C besides the Jinghe river crab ponds at 08:44hrs. It reached 25°C near Bole Railway Station at 16:45hrs.

We left Jinghe at 07:40hrs & drove to the same first site that we visited yesterday.

Aibihu. Site 2b. Jinghe river crab ponds. (ca.44°49.04'N., 82°54.00'E.). 190 metres.

We again stopped at the to take the wooden planks. I spent about 15 minutes (08:30-08:45hrs) birding here while the guys picked up the items. Birds here today included –

Gadwall	6
Eurasian Wigeon	1
Mallard	6
Northern Shoveler	4
Northern Pintail	18
Common Teal	2
Red-crested Pochard	59
Common Pochard	1
Ferruginous Pochard	1
Common Kingfisher	1
Eurasian Coot	31
Black-tailed Godwit	5
Spotted Redshank	1
Common Redshank	190
Green Sandpiper	1
Little Ringed Plover	2
Black-headed Gull	10
'Western' Little Tern	2
Great Crested Grebe	1
Great Cormorant	15
Great Egret	5
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1
White Wagtail	1
Western Yellow Wagtail	3
Bearded Tit	2 singles were heard

Aibihu. Site 2a. Jinghe river mouth crab ponds. (ca.44°49.04'N., 82°54.00'E.). 190 metres.

From here it is 23.84 kms almost due south back to the hotel in central Jinghe. We spent three hours here (09:30-12:30hrs) before returning to Jinghe.

Probably because the strong wind of the previous few days had eased the birds had dispersed & there was relatively little activity here today. I could see large numbers of waterfowl way off shore but they were too distant & there was too much heat haze to identify them. Similarly although there were large numbers of small shorebirds also present, these were also mostly

unidentifiable. There was however some very small visible passage of passerines flying south-west down the lake shoreline.

Birds here today include -

Greylag Goose	15
Ruddy Shelduck	1000
Common Shelduck	1500
Gadwall	940
Eurasian Wigeon	41
Mallard	4
Northern Shoveler	60
Northern Pintail	500
Common Teal	4
duck sp.	3000
Common Redshank	750
Little Stint	100
Temminck's Stint	10
Dunlin	1
Ruff	15
Pied Avocet	8
Pacific Golden Plover	5
Common Ringed Plover	1
Little Ringed Plover	7
Kentish Plover	1000
Northern Lapwing	2
Yellow-legged Gull	10
Black-headed Gull	6
Greater Spotted Eagle	1 immature was on the lake edge. It flew a couple of times & was seen eating & carrying prey.
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	2 singles flew south-west
Eurasian Kestrel	1 flew south-west
Eurasian Hobby	1 flew south-west
Great Cormorant	17
Great Bittern	1
Grey Heron	3
Great Egret	21
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1
Pied Wheatear	1
Desert Wheatear	1
Common Starling	4
Sand Martin	1
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	9
Barn Swallow	40
Bluethroat	1
Hume's Warbler	1 was heard
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 was heard
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 flew north up the beach
Tawny Pipit	3 singles flew south
White Wagtail	4
Western Yellow Wagtail	6 flew south

Returning to Jinghe we had lunch & then headed north up to Bole. We took the road towards Alashankou. It turned out that this was being up-graded & was in the process of being re-surfaced. For the payment of four packets of cigarettes we were allowed to proceed & it brought us out at Km post 39.2 on route S205 (the main Bole to Alashankou highway) not far west of Bole Railway Station. Turning back east we headed to Bole railway station & our last site of the day.

Aibihu Site 5. Aibihu Wetland Nature Reserve (Aibi Lake) between the Bole Railway Station & the Boertala river mouth, Jinghe. (44°52.9'N'. 82°40.3'E). 190 metres.

From here its 48.2kms @ 268° back to the Aibihu Hotel in central Bole
 149kms @ 222° to Yining, Yili
 177kms @ 103° to Kuytun
 272kms @ 98° to Shihezi
 408kms @ 101° to Urumqi

We turned off route S205 on to minor road Z562 that leads to Bole Railway Station at Km post 31.4 (this junction is 49.1kms from the Aibihu Hotel in Bole town). Bole station itself is only one kilometre down here but we turned off right on to an even rougher, unpaved road after about 600 metres and before we reached the station. This track led around the front of & then down the southern side of a cotton storage depot before turning right immediately besides the railway line. We continued to drive on this rough road and had to take a slight different route to the one taken when we previously visited this site on the 30 October 2006. It appeared that a new railway marshalling yard was being built here. 3.3kms after leaving route S205 there's a small building on the right, another 1.2kms further on there's a small road tunnel under the railway line. We ignored both of these & continued straight on. After another one kilometre there's an obvious seven metre long bridge made of wooden railway sleepers that carries the road over a small stream. 2.3 kms after this (& hence 7.3 after leaving route S205) there's a second & much larger road tunnel under the railway line. We took this. In October 2006 the road was impassable after this spot so we parked up besides the two derelict building on the other side of the railway line. There's a sign here noting that this area is the Aibi Hu Wetland NR & that it was established on the 16 June 2000. Today however we could continue to drive on – it appeared as though this dirt road had been very recently improved. Two kilometres further on we came to a large (11 metres by 3 metres elevated bird watching hide). We had a look inside – sadly there was nothing to see. It would have been great to have

known about this during our previous visit when there were thousands of birds at this site. We continued on and after another 5 kms the track crossed a large bridge over what is probably the Boertala River. Birds seen in this area today included -

Greylag Goose	89
Ruddy Shelduck	Large numbers way, way off shore.
Common Shelduck	Large numbers way, way off shore.
Northern Lapwing	4
Yellow-legged Gull	2
Eurasian Kestrel	1 male
Grey Heron	4
Great Egret	17
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1

Leaving here we headed on to Bole & checked in to the Aibihu Hotel. Rooms here cost 220 yuan/night including Chinese breakfast.

Greylag Goose	104 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 15 at the Jing river mouth & 89 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	1000+ at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 1000 at the Jing river mouth & 'large numbers way off shore' from the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Common Shelduck	1500+ at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 1000 at the Jing river mouth & 'large numbers way off shore' from the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Gadwall	940 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	41 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Mallard	10 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Northern Shoveler	64 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Northern Pintail	500 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Teal	6 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	59 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard duck sp.	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres) 3000 very distant birds were seen at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Rock Pigeon	30 on the 16/9/2007 – with birds being seen in both Jinghe & Bole towns.
Common Moorhen	3 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Eurasian Coot	31 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	5 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Spotted Redshank	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Redshank	940 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 190 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 750 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Little Stint	100 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Temminck's Stint	10 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Dunlin	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Ruff	15 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Pied Avocet	8 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	5 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	9 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 2 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 7 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
Kentish Plover	1000 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Northern Lapwing	6 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 2 at the Jing river mouth & 4 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	12 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 10 at the Jing river mouth & 2 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Black-headed Gull	16 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 10 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 6 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	2 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	2 separate juveniles flew south-west at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Greater Spotted Eagle	1 immature near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – singles at the Jing river mouth & on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 flew south-west over the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Great Cormorant	32 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 15 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 17 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
Grey Heron	7 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 3 at the Jing river mouth & 4 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Great Egret	43 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 5 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, 21 at the Jing river mouth & 17 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
Great Bittern	1 flew south over the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Bluethroat	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Pied Wheatear	2 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Desert Wheatear	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Common Starling	5 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Sand Martin	1 with other hirundines at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Sand Martin or Pale Martin	9 with other hirundines at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Barn Swallow	40 with other hirundines at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

Bearded Parrotbill	2 separate birds were heard near the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Lesser Whitethroat	2 in scrub between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 flew north at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
White Wagtail	5 <i>personata</i> at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	10 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
Tawny Pipit	3 singles flew south-west over the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

Monday 17 Sept. 2007. All day around Bole.

Weather

There was virtually no wind from early morning until the early afternoon when a light south-westerly started to blow.

We left Bole at 07:15hrs & drove up the Boertala River Valley in search of migrants. We failed to find any, or after that, any reservoirs that contained a significant amount of water. In the even we returned to the hotel early.

Common Merganser	1 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
European Roller	1 near Bole on the 17/9/2007. (450 metres)
Common Kingfisher	2 near Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 in & around Bole on the 17/9/2007. (450-540 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	48 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Black-headed Gull	1 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Great Egret	9 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3 near Bole on the 17/9/2007. (450-510 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	2 in the park besides Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	7 in the park besides Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)
Azure Tit	2 in the garden of the Aibihu hotel in central Bole on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)
Barn Swallow	150 over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Hume's Warbler	2 were heard in Bole town on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)
sparrow sp.	150 near Bole town on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)
White Wagtail	4 near Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	2 flew west over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
[European Goldfinch	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard briefly in the park besides Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)]
Common Rosefinch	1 flew west over Wuyi Reservoir & on up the Boertala valley, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

Tuesday 18 Sept. 2007. Bole to Yili via Sailimuhu.

Weather

7°C besides Sailimuhu (2070 metres) at 08:30hrs rising to 26°C there by 12:20hrs. It was 32°C near Yili at 18:15hrs.

We left the Aibihu Hotel, Bole at 06:45hrs & drove straight to Sailimuhu where we arrived just over one hour later.

Sailimuhu (Sailimu Lake), Bole. (44°29.6'N., 81°09.8'E). 2073 metres.

From here its 62.6kms @ 164° back to Yining.

386kms @ 87° to Shihezi

We birded here from 08:00-17:00hrs driving down the road paralleling the lake's eastern shore & then on the road along its southern edge. We turned around near the lake's western end, rejoined the main Bole to Yili highway & headed south to Yili. We spent the night in the 3-star Yili Hotel where discounted rooms cost 240/night.

Whooper Swan	28 adults on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	10 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	39 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Mallard	81 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Northern Shoveler	8 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Northern Pintail	18 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Common Teal	11 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Common Pochard	13 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Tufted Duck	13 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Common Goldeneye	54 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Common Merganser	27 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Three-toed Woodpecker	2 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2170 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-745 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2220 metres)
Laughing Dove	5 (four singles & a pair) besides route S218 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-745 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	240 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-780 metres)
Little Stint	21 juveniles besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Temminck's Stint	2 juveniles besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Dunlin	2 juveniles besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Ruff	4 besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	1 besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

Grey Plover	1 juvenile besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Northern Lapwing	1 besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	32 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	2 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2100 & 2250 metres)
Common Buzzard	3 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2080-2190 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2080 & ca.2350 metres)
Merlin	1 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	2 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Red-necked Grebe	3 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	29 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	6100 were counted on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres). Note that the entire old world population has recently been estimated at being between 319,000-458,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Sailimuhu represents between 1.3-1.9% of the entire old world population!
Great Cormorant	11 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Grey Heron	1 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1 first-winter at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Spotted Nutcracker	10 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2200 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	15 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2180 metres)
Mistle Thrush	2 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2180 metres)
Blue-capped Redstart	6 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)
Common Stonechat	1 male on the edge of the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2130 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	2 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Common Myna	45 besides route S218 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-745 metres)
Eurasian Treecreeper	1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2160 metres)
Songar Tit	4 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2140-2190 metres)
Coal Tit	6 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)
Goldcrest	4 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	6 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2075-2130 metres)
Hume's Warbler	2 birds were heard on the 18/9/2007 – one was in the conifer forest at Sailimuhu, Bole & the other was in the garden of the Yili Hotel. (730 & 2140 metres)
sparrow sp.	20 near Huocheng on the 18/9/2007. (780 metres)
White Wagtail	9 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. These were mostly <i>personata</i> although one nominate <i>alba</i> was seen. (2073 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	3 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 flew strongly west at Sailimuhu, Bole at 09:50hrs on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
Black-throated Accentor	3 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2160 metres)
Fire-fronted Serin	1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2190 metres)
Red Crossbill	6 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2220 metres)
White-winged Grosbeak	2 were heard in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2230 metres)

Wednesday 19 Sept. 2007. All day in Yili & Chabuchaer.

Weather

15°C outside the Yili Hotel at 08:00hrs rising to 20°C in Yining Riverside Park by 10:30hrs & 33°C at Lao Wu Ban, Jiu Lian, 68 Corps, Chabuchaer at 14:20hrs. At 17:50hrs it was 30°C at No. 2 Reservoir of 8th Detachment, 67 Corps, Chabuchaer.

We visited a handful of sites in lowland Yili & Chabuchaer today.

Site 1. Hebian Gongyuan ('Yining Riverside Park'), Yining, Yili. (43°53.2'N. 81°17.7'E). 589 metres.

From here it is 6.3kms @ 14° to Yili town centre. I spent 4.5hrs here (08:00-12:30hrs). Birds included –

European Starling	420 flew northeast across the Yili river towards Yining town – they were apparently leaving an evening roost
Yellow-legged Gull	16 flew down the Yili river
European Goldfinch	5
Cetti's Warbler	11
Siberian Chiffchaff	11
Lesser Whitethroat sp.	1
Azure Tit	6
Turkestan Tit	8
White-crowned Penduline Tit	5 a family group that had probably bred in the park (a nest was seen not far from the party).
Common Pheasant	3
Richard's Pipit	1 flew over
Black-billed Magpie	3
Water Rail	4
Black-throated Thrush	32
Common Myna	3
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard
Eurasian Greenfinch	3
Grey Wagtail	1 flew over
Mallard	14 flew down the Yili river
Black Kite	1 flew west down the Yili river
Great Egret	4 flew east up the Yili river
Long-tailed Tit	7
Laughing Dove	2
Eurasian Kingfisher	1

From there we crossed the 'Yili Big Bridge' and entered Chabuchaer district. We drove west towards 68 Corps in an attempt to find a site that Gou Jun had visited on 1 May 2005. This site (part of the 10th Station in the 68 Corps) is close to the southern bank of the Yili river & it apparently held 10,000 Sand or Pale Martins on Gou Jun's previous visit – about 2000 nest holes were seen. Prof. Ma Ming has seen a Eurasian Oystercatcher here (presumably a migrant).

Site 2. Lao Wu Ban, Jiu Lian, 68 Corps, Chabuchaer (literally Old No. 5 Station, Detachment No. 9, 68 Corps.). (43°52.97'N, 80°46.62'E). 545 metres.

A complex of ponds (at least a couple of which are used as commercial fishponds) partly surrounded by reed beds on the southern side of the Yili river. We spent 1.5 hrs here (14:35-16:05hrs). Birds here included –

Greylag Goose	29
Great Crested Grebe	31 including several locally fledged young
Black-necked Grebe	1
Common Coot	4
Eurasian Kingfisher	1
Western Marsh Harrier	2 juveniles – one of which flew west
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	4
Great Cormorant	25
Yellow Wagtail	1
Crested Lark	12
Siberian Chiffchaff	3
Great Egret	7
Grey Heron	1
Bluethroat	1
White-crowned Penduline Tit	18 – all in one group that were feeding in a large area of flowering tamarisk (Salt Cedar <i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>). This plant is known in China as 'chenliu' or locally called 'hongliu' bushes. Its a semi-deciduous, loosely branched shrub that has a high tolerance of saline soils & is very common and widespread in arid areas of Xinjiang & elsewhere. Its even a fairly common non-native invasive species in the west).

Site 3. Pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps, Chabuchaer. (43°52.79'N, 80°51.41'E). 547 metres.

Close to the previous site (only a ten minute drive away) we spent almost 1.5hrs here (16:30-17:50hrs). The site is best accessed by turning north off route S313 at Km post 45 (at the western end of the small village of Duiqiniuluxiang). Follow this dirt road north towards Laowuban, Jiulian and the pool is on the eastern side of the track. The entire area was roughly triangular being only about 800 metres at its longest by 500 metres at its widest yet it held impressive numbers of waterfowl for such a small pool. Highlights here included –

Gadwall	830
Common Teal	310
Garganey	32
Mallard	3
Common Pochard	1
Red-crested Pochard	5
Ferruginous Pochard	4
Eurasian Wigeon	13
Northern Shoveler	1
Northern Pintail	17
Common Coot	110
White-crowned Penduline Tit	4
Siberian Chiffchaff	3
Ruff	6
Wood Sandpiper	5
Northern Lapwing	3
Laughing Dove	2
Great Egret	26
Grey Heron	3
Common Kingfisher	1
Western Marsh Harrier	1 juvenile flew high to the south-east
Paddyfield Warbler	2

Site 4. No. 2 Reservoir of 8th Detachment, 67 Corps, Chabuchaer. . (43°46.33'N, 80°42.22'E). 660 metres.

A small reservoir that held rather few birds. We stayed here for only 15 minutes (18:30-18:45hrs). Birds included -

Ruddy Shelduck	4
Great Cormorant	14
Yellow-legged Gull	1
Little Ringed Plover	1
Ruff	1
White Wagtail	5 – all nominate <i>alba</i>

Site 5. No. 1 Reservoir of 8th Detachment, 67 Corps, Chabuchaer. . (43°46.48'N, 80°49.78'E). 630 metres.

Another small reservoir that again held rather few birds. We stayed here for only 25 minutes (19:10-19:35hrs). Birds included -

Great Egret	5
Pacific Golden Plover	7
White Wagtail	9 including three nominate <i>alba</i> & at least two <i>personata</i>
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	1
Carrion Crow	5
Common Crane	1 was heard
Long-legged Buzzard	1
Little Owl	1

Common Pheasant	3 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Greylag Goose	29 on the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	4 on the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (660 metres)
Gadwall	830 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	13 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Mallard	17 birds were seen on the 19/9/2007 - 14 flew west down the Yili river at the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & 3 were on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. (545 & 585 metres)
Northern Shoveler	1 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Northern Pintail	17 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Garganey	32 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Common Teal	310 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	5 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Common Pochard	1 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	4, apparently a family group, on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
European Roller	3 singles in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545-600 metres)
Common Kingfisher	3 singles in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. (545-580 metres)
Little Owl	1 near the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (ca.700 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007.
Laughing Dove	4 (two pairs) in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. The first pair were near the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & the second pair near Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. (595 & 610 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	200 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. (545-690 metres)
Common Crane	1 was heard near the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (ca.550 metres)
European Water Rail	4 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Common Moorhen	8 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Eurasian Coot	114 in the 68 th Corps., Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007 – four on the Laowuban, Jiulian pool & 110 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang. (545 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	5 besides the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Ruff	7 in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007 – six on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps. & one on the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps. (545 & 660 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	7 on the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (630 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	1 on the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (660 metres)
Northern Lapwing	3 besides the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	25 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Most of these (16 birds) flew west down the Yili river off the Yining Riverside Park, Yili. (545 metres)
Black Kite	1 flew west down the Yili river off the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	2 separate juveniles in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. The first was over the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool & the second flew east high over the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps. (545 & ca.700 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (ca.700 metres)
Common Kestrel	12 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Most of these (eight birds) were singles and the two pairs were at the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & near Chabuchaer town. (550-670 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	2 displaying outside the Yili hotel in central Yining on the 19/9/2007. (665 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	31, including several locally fledged young, on the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	1 on the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Great Cormorant	80 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. 15 of these were seen from the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & about 40 birds were roosting on pylons in the Yili river near Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer. Elsewhere there were 14 besides the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps. (545-660 metres)
Grey Heron	5 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. (545-630 metres)
Great Egret	42 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Four flew east up the Yili river in the early morning & the rest were in Chabuchaer. Seven were at the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, 26 were on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps. & five were on the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps. (545-630 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3 in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545-640 metres)
Black-billed Magpie	5 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area - on the 19/9/2007 – two in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & three near the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. (545 & 585 metres)
Carrion Crow	5 besides the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps. Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (630 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	30 in Yili on the 19/9/2007 – about 10 in the garden of the Yili hotel & the other 20 in the Yining Riverside Park. (545 & 640 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	32 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Bluethroat	1 besides the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Common Starling	420 flew northeast across the Yili river towards Yining town on the 19/9/2007 – they were apparently leaving an evening roost. (585 metres)
Common Myna	40 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Three in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & all the rest at various sites in Chabuchaer. Several singles & no flock of larger than eight birds was seen. (545-620 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	26 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Five birds, apparently a locally fledged family group (one juvenile was seen being fed by a parent) in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & all the rest in the 68 th Corps., Chabuchaer area. Of these 18 were in scrub near the Laowuban, Jiulian pool & the other three were near the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang. Several adult males were well seen & assignable to <i>R. c. coronatus</i> . (545-585 metres) Birds at Laowuban were feeding in a large area of flowering tamarisk (Salt Cedar <i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>). This plant is known in China as 'chenliu' or locally called 'hongliu' bushes. Its a semi-deciduous, loosely branched shrub that has a high tolerance of saline soils & is very common and widespread in arid areas of Xinjiang & elsewhere. Its even a fairly common non-native invasive species in the west).
Great Tit or Turkestan Tit	10 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Azure Tit	6 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Long-tailed Tit	8 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Most of these were seen, distantly, flying west down the Yili valley from near the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps in the early evening. (545-590 metres)
Cetti's Bush Warbler	11 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Paddyfield Warbler	2 besides the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

Siberian Chiffchaff	25 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. The highest count was 11 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili. (545-630 metres)
Hume's Warbler	15 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. The highest count was 10 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili. (545-585 metres)
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	5 in the 68 Corps. area of Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007 – four near the Laowuban, Jiulian pool & the other near the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment. (545-620 metres)
lesser whitethroat sp.	1 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Crested Lark	18 in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. These included 12 near the Laowuban, Jiulian pool. (545-640 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007.
sparrow sp.	A distant flock of 100 birds was seen flying west (possibly to roost?) from near the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps, Chabuchaer in the early evening of 19/9/2007. (580 metres)
White Wagtail	25 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. These included five from the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & 14 besides the No. 1 & No. 2 Reservoirs of the 8 th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. 10 birds were racially assigned (all were in Chabuchaer) & two were <i>personata</i> eight others were nominate <i>alba</i> . (545-660 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	2 flew over the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Grey Wagtail	1 near the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68 th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 flew over the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Tree Pipit or Olive-backed Pipit	1 was heard, once, over the in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	3 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
European Goldfinch	5 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
Common Rosefinch	1 flew west high over the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

Thursday 20 Sept. 2007. Drove east up the Yili Valley to Xinyuan & then Nalati

Weather

21°C near the 'lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining & 30°C at the Zhongyangchang grassland at 14:25hrs. 28°C at Nalati at 18:05hrs.

We left the Yili Hotel, Yining at 09:20hrs & drove east up the broad Yili Valley eventually leaving Yining district, entering Xinyuan & then continuing on to Nalati. We made numerous stops today, some brief, others not so.

Site 1. 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining. (43°41.90'N. 81°59.74'E). 810 metres.

We spent about two hours (10:40-12:50hrs) birding this complex of sunflower and arid, apparently abandoned, melon fields immediately south of the main S218 Yili to Nalati highway. The site is accessed by turning south off the highway at about Km post 128.3 and driving almost one kilometre down an extremely dusty dirt track towards the Yili river way off in the distance. The larks were all together & I'd seen some large larks with blackish underwings when scanning from the main highway. Suspecting that they were Calandras we drove closer. The turning is at the eastern end of Kashi Gongshe Shi Qiao cun - a distinctive-looking model-type village of about 50 single storey detached small white houses on the northern side of the highway. Birds in the fields included-

Lesser Kestrel	13
Calandra Lark	13
Greater Short-toed Lark	25
Crested Lark	15
Carrion Crow	4
wheatear sp.	1
Linnet	25

Site 2. Heishantou – Km post 143 on route S218

We only stopped here briefly. Birds seen included -

Lesser Kestrel	2
Black-billed Magpie	4
European Roller	1
Common Myna	3

Site 3. Attractive long flat valley just to the east of Heishantou & over-looking the Yili river. (43°35.79'N. 82°12.77'E). 762 metres.

We stopped at this site about five kilometres east of Heishantou (Km post 148) for almost half-an-hour (13:10-13:35hrs). Birds seen included -

Lesser Kestrel	2
Great Cormorant	1
Azure Tit	1
Gadwall	8

Site 4. 'Gongnaisi' or Zhongyangchang grassland, Xinyuan. (43°35.00'N. 82°33.21'E). 810 metres.

We spent almost 1.5hrs here (14:10-15:30hrs) birding two sites –the first was right besides the main east-west highway (route S218) while the second, the Zhongyangchang grassland itself, was accessed by turning south on to a dirt road at Km post 181.5 right in the centre of Zhongyangchang village. We drove about two kilometres down here scanning the grassland from several spots. Birds here included -

Golden Eagle	1 was seen distantly over the mountains to the north-west of Zhongyangchang village.
Lesser Kestrel	6 - one flew purposefully west along the mountain chain while the other five were in the grassland
Common Kestrel	1 in the grassland
kestrel sp.	4 – two singles flew purposefully west along the mountain chain while the other two were in the grassland

Common Myna	4 in Zhongyangchang village
Common Starling	250
Northern Lapwing	3
Common Snipe	1
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile
Rufous-tailed Shrike	1

Site 5. Harvested potato fields one kilometre west of Nalati town. Km 306 on route S218. 1390 metres

I spent just 15 minutes scanning the fields here. Birds included –

Water Pipit	1
European Goldfinch	2

We arrived in Nalati (Km 305 on route S218) at 18:30hrs & checked in to a cheap guest house in the centre of this small, linear town. Rooms here cost 75 yuan/night & there was hot water throughout the night from 19:00.

Chukar	2 singles were seen near Km posts 175 & 17 about 20 kms east of Heishantou, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (820 metres)
Greylag Goose	4 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Gadwall	8 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Mallard	4 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
European Roller	6 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. These involved four in Yining - one near Heishantou, one at Km post 174, one at Km 179.5, one near Musixiang, Nileke xian; one in Xinyuan – a bird at Km 251 (24 kms east of Temerlik & 35 kms west of Karasu) & one about three kilometres west of Nalati. (760, 815, 825, 920, 930 & 1215 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (650-1350 metres)
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 near Wenya'er xiang – km post 99 & 30 minutes drive east of Yili on the 20/9/2007. (800 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. Note that this species was much less common to the east of Yining that it was to the west yesterday. (650-1380 metres)
Common Crane	5 (three adults & two juveniles) flew high to the west at 16:20hrs over Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (920 metres)
Common Snipe	1 in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Northern Lapwing	3 in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
accipiter sp.	1 flew over the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Golden Eagle	1 over the Tien Shan mountains west of Zhongyanchang, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (ca.1800 metres)
Lesser Kestrel	23 between Yining & Xinyuan in the lower Yili Valley on the 20/9/2007. These involved 13 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun; four (one of which flew purposefully west) near Heishantou, Yining; six (one of which flew purposefully west) near Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan. (760, 800, 810 metres)
Common Kestrel	4 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007 – these involved on near Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan, another east of Karasu & two close to Nalati. (810-1340 metres)
kestrel sp.	4 (two of which flew purposefully west) near Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	2 displaying outside the Yili hotel in central Yining on the 20/9/2007. (665 metres)
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Great Cormorant	8 besides the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Grey Heron	4 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Great Egret	7 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3 singles on the 20/9/2007 – the first was in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan & the last at Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati. At least the last bird, an adult male, could be assigned to subspecies - it was <i>isabellinus</i> . (810-920 metres)
Black-billed Magpie	4 near Heishantou, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (760 metres)
Carion Crow	4 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	5 in the garden of the Yili hotel, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (650 metres).
Mistle Thrush	1 near the Kashi river at Km post 106 - four kilometres east of Dunmazhe, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (840 metres)
wheatear sp.	1 near the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Common Starling	300 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. These included 250 over the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan. (750-950 metres)
Common Myna	44 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (790-1170 metres). These involved sightings at the following sites - 2 at Wenya'er xiang, Yining – Km post 99 & 30 minutes drive east of Yili (790 metres) 30 at Dunmazhe, Yining - Km post 106 & 40 minutes drive east of Yili (820 metres) 3 near Km post 122, Yining. (825 metres) 3 near Km post 143 in Heishantou, Yining. (760 metres) 4 in Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan (Km 181) (810 metres) 2 in Karasu, Nalati. (1170 metres)
Great Tit or Turkestan Tit	8 in Yili city on the 20/9/2007. (650 metres)
Azure Tit	3 singles were noted on the 20/9/2007 – one in scrub besides the Yili river about five kilometres east of Heishantou, another was at Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati & the last bird was just on the edge of Nalati town. (760, 920 & 1350 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. These included about 60 near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati. (650-1350 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	2 near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati. (920 metres)
Hume's Warbler	3 near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (920 metres)
Calandra Lark	13 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (Photos). (810 metres)
Greater Short-toed Lark	25 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
Crested Lark	20 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. 15 of these were in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining. (810-950 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (650-1350 metres)
White Wagtail	1 <i>personata</i> near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (920 metres)
Water Pipit	1 flew west over the potato fields about one kilometre west of Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (1350 metres)
European Goldfinch	3 within two kilometres west of Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (1215-1350 metres)

Friday 21 Sept. 2007. Nalati to Gongnaisi forest & along Tien Shan Mountains to Hejing**Weather**

There was virtually no wind from early morning until the we dropped back down in to the plains near Hejing in the afternoon when a strong north-westerly was blowing. It was 8°C outside the Gongnaisi Forest Protection Station (2085 metres) at 07:30hrs & this dropped to a chilly 1°C at the summit of the Aierken Pass (3050 metres) & 29 kms east of there later in the morning. It was snowing on the pass. Temperatures rose as we descended & it was 17°C 'on the way to Baluntai' at 14:40hrs.

We left Nalati (Km 305 on route S218) at 05:00hrs & continued east. We'd hoped to get to the Gongnaisi forest well before dawn in the slim chance of hearing one or two owls. In the even the road was bad & although the manager of our Nalati hotel had told us it was only 40 kilometres this soon proved to be a serious under estimate.

Junction at Ling Gongli (literally 'One Kilometre'). From here it was 29 kms straight on to Gongnaisi or 63 kms turning right to Bayinbuluk. Both roads were having serious work done on them. We turned left.

Site 1. Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing. (43°14.64'N. 84°38.68'E). 2085 metres.

There's a small village here – but when the road works are finished this site is clearly destined to become a bustling tourist resort – there are numerous almost finished hotels etc. A couple of hotels/guest houses were already open – the largest of which was the Gongnaisi Forest Protection Station Tianbao Hotel. Gongnaisi has an attractive area of conifer forest – forest that was very quiet today (as you'd expect a conifer forest to be in autumn) but is undoubtedly rewarding in spring/early summer. At least the following three species of owl have been reported here - Northern Hawk, Eurasian Pygmy & Boreal! I saw very, very little today. Other than an unusually high Eurasian Nightjar I saw nothing of great consequence.

We left Gongnaisi at 09:05hrs & continued on the same road. This gradually took us up & over the Aierken Daban (Aierken Pass).

Site 2. Summit of the Aierken Daban (Aierken Pass), Gongnaisi, Hejing. (43°12.15'N. 84°51.31'E). 3052 metres.

The summit of this pass is 29 kms east of Gongnaisi village. We spent about 40 minutes here. Birds of note included –

Red-billed Chough	14
Water Pipit	10
Brandt's Mountain Finch	300

12 kms east of the summit of the Aierken Pass the road forks in the centre of Huoshao Qiao village - right (south) to Bayinbuluk or straight on to Baluntai. (2650 metres).

Shengli Dao Ban road worker's station. 88 kms east of the summit of the Aierken Pass.

Summit of Chagannu'er Pass. 3310 metres.

We reached Baluntai (approx. 199 kms east of Gongnaisi) at 16:05hrs. Had a break & something to eat & then continued on to Hejing where we spent the night.

Gongnaisi

Summit of Aierken Pass	29 kms east of Gongnaisi
Huoshao Qiao (junction to Bayinbuluk)	12 kms east of summit of Aierken Pass
Shengli Dao Ban road worker's station	117 kms from Gongnaisi, 82 kms from Baluntai
Summit of Chagannu'er Pass	142 kms from Gongnaisi, 113 kms from Aierken Pass & 57 kms east of Baluntai
Baluntai	199 kms from Gongnaisi

Eurasian Nightjar	1 was seen just before dawn right outside the hotel complex at Gongnaisi, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2080 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	4 near Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (1200 metres)
Black Kite	2 singles in Hejing on the 21/9/2007. The first was near Gongnaisi & the second about 10 kms west of the summit of the Chagannu'er Pass. (2090 & 3075 metres)
Lammergeier	1 adult just five kilometres west of the summit of the Chagannu'er Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3250 metres)
Himalayan Griffon	4 near the Shengli Road worker's station 25kms west of the Chagannu'er Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3030 metres)
Cinereous Vulture	2 between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. They were exactly 65 kms east of the former. (2880 metres)
Common Buzzard	2 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100-2150 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	2 near Gongnaisi Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2070 & 2310 metres)
Common Kestrel	4 singles between Gongnaisi & the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2195-2950 metres)
Black-billed Magpie	12 between Gongnaisi & the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2125-2950 metres)
Spotted Nutcracker	3 were heard in the Gongnaisi forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2230 & 2250 metres)
Red-billed Chough	14 on the hillside above the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3100 metres)
Carrion Crow	20 in Hejing on the 21/9/2007 – these involved 10 in the Gongnaisi Forest & another 10 between there & the summit of the Aierken Pass. (2075-2930 metres)

Common Raven	35 between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. 32 of these birds were all together & were exactly 65 kms east of the former pass. (2880 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	4 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110 & 2180 metres)
Mistle Thrush	2 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110 & 2280 metres)
Blue-capped Redstart	5 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100-2150 metres)
[Common Redstart	3 birds, possibly this species, were seen poorly near Baluntai, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (1800 metres)]
Winter Wren	2 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100 & 2140 metres)
Coal Tit	6 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110-2140 metres)
Azure Tit	1 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2135 metres)
Barn Swallow	2 flew west near the Shengli Dao Ban road workers station between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2920 metres)
Goldcrest	4 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110-2150 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 was heard in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2145 metres)
Horned Lark	271 birds were counted between the summits of the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. The first birds were seen nine kilometres east of the Aierken Pass & the last ones were right on the summit of the Pass. Amazingly not a single bird was seen on the eastern side of the Chagannu'er Pass! (2630-3150 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 in Hejing on the 21/9/2007. Most of these were in & around Baluntai. (ca.1800 metres)
White-winged Snowfinch	Two flocks totalling about 85 birds, were seen near the Chagannu'er Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. The first flock (45 birds) was 10 kms west of the summit of the pass, the second (40 birds) five kilometres west. (3165 & 3230 metres)
White Wagtail	1 flew west near the Shengli Road worker's station 25kms west of the Chagannu'er Pass on the 21/9/2007. (3030 metres)
Grey Wagtail	5 in Hejing on the 21/9/2007 – these involved two in the Gongnaisi Forest & three near Balantai. (1800-1830 & 2115-2140 metres)
Water Pipit	10 around the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3070 metres)
Black-throated Accentor	3 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100-2150 metres)
Brandt's Mountain Finch	ca.600 between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. All of the birds were in just two equally sized flocks – the first flock was immediately above the Aierken Pass & the second group 27 kms west of the summit of the Chagannu'er Pass. They were all of the relatively pale-headed subspecies <i>margaritacea</i> . (3020-3100 metres)
Red Crossbill	8 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2210-2280 metres)

Saturday 22 Sept. 2007. All day around Bosten Hu, Bohu

Weather

17°C near Xiangsi Lake, Hejing at 09:00hrs while at Bosten Hu it rose from 25°C at Shui Wen Zhan at 14:00hrs to 32°C at Bailu Zhou at 15:50hrs & dropped again to 24°C at Shuang Wan Jingxiu by 18:40hrs.

We left Hejing at 07:40hrs & spent the rest of the day exploring various sites along the western and south-western side of Bosten Hu.

Site 1. Xiangsi Lake, Hejing.

This small pool lies just to the west of the Korla Expressway & route S325 that parallels it. Its well to the west of Bosten Hu – perhaps by as much as 20 kms. There are two pools, the northern one holding almost 99% of the birds – they're at Km post 106 & 108 on S325. I birded here for just over one hour & saw the following -

Gadwall	54
Northern Shoveler	1
Red-crested Pochard	456. A sample count of 290 birds produced 107 males (37%) & 183 females (63%).
Eurasian Wigeon	3
Common Pochard	23
Ferruginous Pochard	15
Common Kingfisher	1
Common Moorhen	20
Eurasian Coot	74
Black-winged Stilt	1
Black Kite	1
Great Crested Grebe	33
Great Cormorant	3
Grey Heron	4
Great Egret	7
Common Starling	4

Site 2. Eastern Bosten Hu at Da Hekou (literally 'big river mouth'), Bohu. (41°54.50'N, 86°43.08'E). 1052 metres.

This site is at Km 11 on route X293. Entrance tickets here cost 10 yuan/person – the driver is free. We birded here for one hour (10:50-11:50hrs) & saw the following species -

Greylag Goose	10
Gadwall	418
Mallard	1
Northern Pintail	23
Garganey	2
Red-crested Pochard	53
Yellow-legged Gull	81
Pallas's Gull	78
Black-headed Gull	170
Common Tern	59
Whiskered Tern	1 adult

Osprey	1 adult
Hen Harrier	1
Great Crested Grebe	3
Great Cormorant	25
Grey Heron	4
Great Egret	37
Barn Swallow	50
Asian Short-toed Lark	10 flew over
White Wagtail	3
Western Yellow Wagtail	2

From here we returned to Bohu town before turning south, crossing over the river & heading east back towards the lake edge.

Site 3. Eastern Bosten Hu south of Da Hekou, Bohu. (41°52.89'N. 86°43.68'E). 1052 metres.

We birded here for about 25 minutes from 12:45hrs. Birds seen included -

Gadwall	136
Red-crested Pochard	8
Common Greenshank	6
Black-winged Stilt	3
Northern Lapwing	3
Common Tern	51
Great Crested Grebe	9
Grey Heron	1
Great Egret	4
White Wagtail	1 nominate <i>alba</i>

From here we continued to drive down the hard surfaced road that forms a causeway between the western reed bed & the lake at Bosten Hu.

Site 4. Eastern Bosten Hu south of Da Hekou, Bohu. (41°51.86'N. 86°43.77'E). 1052 metres.

This site is just 1.9kms almost due south of the previous one. We birded here for about 45 minutes from 13:15hrs. Birds seen included -

Greylag Goose	1
Gadwall	40
Eurasian Wigeon	3
Mallard	5
Northern Shoveler	3
Northern Pintail	17
Garganey	3
Common Teal	32
Red-crested Pochard	10
Ferruginous Pochard	9
Pied Avocet	8
Pacific Golden Plover	5
'Western' Little Tern	1 juvenile
Great Crested Grebe	9

Site 5. South-eastern Bosten Hu - south of Da Hekou & only about two kilometres from the pumping station at Shui Wen zhan, Bohu. (41°49.82'N. 86°44.46'E). 1052 metres.

This site is at Km post 13 (13kms from Bohu?) & is 5.77kms almost due south of Da Hekou. There's a ticket barrier here where entrance tickets for the Bosten Hu area must be purchased – these cost 60 yuan/person & a ticket must be purchased for the driver also. Birds seen included -

Ruddy Shelduck	3
Gadwall	120
Mallard	14
Red-crested Pochard	25
Common Redshank	13
Wood Sandpiper	1
Curlew Sandpiper	14 juveniles
Black-winged Stilt	8
Grey Heron	1
Great Egret	37

Site 6. Southern Bosten Hu, Bohu.

We made numerous stops as we drove the road along southern shore of Bosten Hu. This road flanks the lake edge, sometimes hugging it quite close while at other times being several kilometres south of it. The road runs east from the pumping station at Shui Wen zhan to Bailu Zhou & beyond. It ends abruptly. Several of the sites we stopped at had names – Bailu Zhou, Longma Chu Hai (literally 'Ride the Dragon-horse to the sea'), Mu Yu Xihai (literally 'Showering west lake') & Shuang Wan Jing Xiu. We drove past the Shui Wen zhan pumping station at 16:10hrs & reached the end of the road at 19:45hrs.

Ruddy Shelduck	3
Gadwall	593 along the southern shore of Bosten Hu - these included 514 at Longma Chu Hai
Eurasian Wigeon	13
Mallard	132 between Mu Yu Xihai & Shuang Wan Jing Xiu
Red-crested Pochard	596 along the southern shore of Bosten Hu – these included 334 at Mu Yu Xihai & 114 at Shuang Wan Jing Xiu
Northern Shoveler	4

Common Redshank	6
Common Greenshank	4
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Mu Yu Xihai
Ruddy Turnstone	1 at Mu Yu Xihai
Little Stint	1 juvenile at Bailu Zhou
Black-winged Stilt	5
Pacific Golden Plover	2 singles – one at Longma Chu Hai & the other at the end of the road
Kentish Plover	15 at Mu Yu Xihai
Yellow-legged Gull	9
Pallas's Gull	7
Black-headed Gull	800
Caspian Tern	4 at Mu Yu Xihai
Common Tern	45
Long-legged Buzzard	3
Great Crested Grebe	19
Great Cormorant	170 along the southern shore of Bosten Hu – these included 120 at Baihu Zhou.
Grey Heron	23
Great Egret	383 at Bailu Zhou.
Rufous-tailed Shrike	2
Southern Grey Shrike	4 (including at least two first-winters & one adult)
Bluethroat	1 near Mu Yu Xihai
Pied Wheatear	19 between the Shui Wen zhan pumping station at & the end of the road near Bailu Zhou
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 at Mu Yu Xihai
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	1 was heard at Mu Yu Xihai
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 at Mu Yu Xihai
Tawny Pipit	1 flew west at Mu Yu Xihai

We then turned around & headed to Korla. The drive took us almost 1.5hrs & we checked in to the comfortable 3-star Jin Feng Hotel where rooms cost 238 yuan/night including two breakfasts.

Greylag Goose	15 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	6 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Gadwall	1361 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 54 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 1307 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. Preferred sites at Bosten Hu included Da Hekou (418 birds), the bay northwest of Shui Wen zhan (120 birds) & Longma Chu Hai (514 birds). (1050 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	25 on the 22/9/2007 – 3 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 22 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)
Mallard	152 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007 – these included 132 between Mu Yu Xihai & Shuang Wan Jing Xiu. (1050 metres)
Northern Shoveler	8 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Northern Pintail	40 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Garganey	5 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Teal	32 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	1158 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 456 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 702 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. Preferred sites at Bosten Hu included Mu Yu Xihai (334 birds) & Shuang Wan Jing Xiu (114 birds). A sample count of 290 birds at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing produced 107 males (37%) & 183 females (63%). (1050 metres)
Common Pochard	23 on Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	24 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 15 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 9 about mid-way along the eastern shore of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)
Common Kingfisher	1 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	20 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Moorhen	40 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Eurasian Coot	74 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Redshank	19 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Greenshank	10 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Shui Wen zhan in the south-western corner of the lake. (1050 metres)
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
Ruddy Turnstone	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
Little Stint	1 juvenile at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Bailu Zhou on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	14 juveniles at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all near Shui Wen zhan. (1050 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	17 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved one at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 16 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)
Pied Avocet	8 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all together about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	7 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. Five were seen about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore & the other two, singles, were near Baihu Zhou on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
Kentish Plover	15 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all together at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
Northern Lapwing	3 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all together about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	100 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. 81 of these were at Da Hekou about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)
Pallas's Gull	105 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. 78 of these were at Da Hekou about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)
Black-headed Gull	1300 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007.
Little Gull	2 juveniles at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were both swimming together well out on the lake & were viewed from the causeway between Da Hekou & Shui Wen zhan. (1050 metres)
Caspian Tern	4 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)

Common Tern	155 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. These involved 110 on the lakes eastern shore with 59 at Da Hekou & 45 along the lakes southern shore, most of which were at Baihu Zhou. Quite a number of juveniles still dependant on being fed by there parents were seen. (1050 metres)
'Western' Little Tern	1 juvenile at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Shui Wen zhan in the lake's south-western corner. (1050 metres)
Whiskered Tern	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. A moulting summer-plumaged adult it was with the Common Terns at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern side. (1050 metres)
Osprey	2 adults at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. One at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern side & the other at Baihu Zhou. (1050 metres)
Black Kite	1 near Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern side. (1050 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	3 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all between Shui Wen zhan & Baihu Zhou on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)
Little Grebe	1 on Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	64 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 33 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 31 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)
Great Cormorant	218 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved three at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 215 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. The preferred site at Bosten Hu was Baihu Zhou where 170 birds were logged. (1050 metres)
Grey Heron	33 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved four at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 29 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. The preferred site at Bosten Hu was Baihu Zhou where 23 birds were logged. (1050 metres)
Great Egret	468 the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved seven at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 461 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. By far the most preferred site at Bosten Hu was Baihu Zhou where a massive 383 birds were logged. (1050 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3 near Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Southern Grey Shrike	4 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all singles, & included at least one adult & two first-winters, & all were seen in the arid desert along the lake's southern shore between Shui Wen zhan & Baihu Zhou. (1050 metres)
Bluethroat	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)
Pied Wheatear	19 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all in the arid desert along the lake's southern shore between Shui Wen zhan & Baihu Zhou. (1050 metres)
Common Starling	4 near Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)
Bearded Parrotbill	8 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. What I assumed to be single birds were heard at Da Hekou & at one more site on the lake's eastern shore & six were seen near Shui Wen zhan in the lake's south-western corner. (1050 metres)
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	11 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. These involved 10 at Da Hekou & one near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres).
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
White Wagtail	4 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. These included one nominate <i>alba</i> just south of Da Hekou on the lake's eastern flank. (1050 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	2 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were both at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern flank. (1050 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 flew west at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)

Sunday 23 Sept. 2007. All day around Puhui, Korla

Weather

19°C in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun at 08:30hrs.

We left Korla at 07:05hrs & spent the morning exploring a couple of sites around Puhui, south-south-west of the city.

We drove south-south-west down local road X230 to Puhui. It took us about 50 minutes to reach this small town where we birded two sites -

Site 1. Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. ('Puhui Diversifolius Poplars Tourist Resort'), Korla. (41°27.5'N., 85°51.4'E.). 880 metres.

This site is accessed by driving in to the centre of Puhui, continuing straight across the round-about in the village centre and turning right immediately over the drainage channel at the far end of the settlement. We drove about five kilometres along here to this small 'reserve'. This site is a small scale tourist resort – there's a tall watch tower (presumably used for looking for forest fires), a complex of small lakes (a couple of which are used for boating), a few tiny yurt-style tourist bungalows and a small café here. The whole area is surrounded by an expanse of large, and presumably quite old, diversifolius poplar trees while just outside the 'reserve' there are several orchards and quite a few small reed-beds on the edges of a number of the lakes and pools. I'd previously visited this site in mid-August 2005 & it then cost 5 yuan/person to enter the tourist 'resort'. There were no tourists here in mid-September & no-one was manning the ticket booth. In August 2005 we saw several species here that we didn't see today - nightjar sp., Booted Eagle (1 dark morph bird was seen in flight on the first visit while an adult & two undoubtedly locally fledged juveniles were seen on the second) & Black Stork (3).

Site 2. Puhui Dunes, Korla. (41°26.4'N., 85°54.3'E.). 878 metres.

In August 2005 we parked up besides Km post 42 on local road X230 and walked off southeast. This site is 39.5 kms south-south-west of Korla (205° back to the city) and 1.67kms at 46° from the roundabout in the centre of Puhui. We then spent 2.5 hours here – searching, successfully, for Xinjiang Ground-jay. It took us one hour and forty minutes to find the jay, and we found a pair of vocalizing adults.

Birds here in 2005 included-	
White-winged Woodpecker	1 juvenile
Stock Pigeon	6 flew over
European Turtle Dove	2 singles flew over
Black Kite	3
['Red-capped' Peregrine Falcon	1 bird, possibly this species, was seen poorly.]
Xinjiang Ground-jay	2 – see below
Desert Wheatear	3 including one adult male
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	15
Asian Short-toed Lark	4
Saxaul Sparrow	15
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south-west
Tarim Hare	3

By today's visit in 2007 this site had been developed – the rolling dunes where we'd seen the ground-jay had been leveled and a tractor was ploughing up the desert! I would guess that they were planning to grow more cotton here. It was also blowing a gale so we didn't stay to bird watch & instead headed back to Korla. We arrived back at the hotel at 12:00hrs.

Common Pheasant	1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was heard in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
White-winged Woodpecker	3 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. They were all in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Stock Pigeon	7 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. Four flew over Puhui Dunes and another three were in Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	10 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	1 juvenile near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Great Cormorant	4 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Great Egret	1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	2 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Barn Swallow	5 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)
White-browed Chinese Warbler	1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	3 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. They were all in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Saxaul Sparrow	28 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. They were all in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)

Monday 24 Sept. 2007. Korla back to Bosten Hu & afternoon on to Tuokexun.

Weather

It was very windy when we left Korla, this soon dropped &, after crossing the first mountain ridge &, after a brief rain shower (probably marking the passage of a weather front) as we entered the plain around Bosten Hu the wind virtually ceased. 14°C at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo at 09:40hrs, 21°C at Yinshatan, Bosten Hu (1050 metres) at 13:40hrs & 24°C at Baiy Reservoir, Heshuo (1570 metres) at 17:00hrs.

We left Korla at 07:10hrs & drove back north, spending the morning & much of the afternoon at several sites around the northern end of Bosten Hu.

Site 1. Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (41°08.87'N., 86°49.31'E.). 1050 metres.

This site is a large reed farm at the north-western end of the massive reed bed that dominates the western third of Bosten Hu. The site is 30.5 kms almost exactly due north of Da Hekou, a site we had birded on the eastern side of Bosten Hu two days previously. We birded here from 09:20-12:00hrs, entered the complex through the locked gates (we had to telephone the manager of the farm for permission to enter) & drove about 700 metres to a small watch tower. I climbed up to the top of the tower & spent about ten minutes scanning from here before we drove on about another 800 metres to reach the edge of the massive reed bed. We drove four kilometres down here – with the reed bed on the left & a complex of fields with a few very small pools on the right. We made numerous stops as we drove down to the fish farm where we turned around. Its apparently possible to drive on this track all the way to Yanji (its 24 kms from the reed farm entrance gate there) but with the morning's rain the tracks were extremely muddy & slippery so we decided against progressing further. Birds here included-

Greylag Goose	22
Red-crested Pochard	180
Northern Pintail	111
Mallard	40
Eurasian Wigeon	4
Common Teal	8
Gadwall	10
Great Egret	134
Grey Heron	5
Eurasian Hobby	2 juveniles
Great Cormorant	42
Barn Swallow	200
Long-legged Buzzard	1
Oriental Honey-buzzard	1 juvenile flew south at 10:00hrs
Greater Spotted Eagle	1 immature
Little Bittern	1
Green Sandpiper	1
Curlew Sandpiper	1
Kentish Plover	1

Pacific Golden Plover	1
Bearded Parrotbill	165 were counted along the four kilometre stretch of reed bed we explored. Several birds were only heard – I counted these as singles but most that were actually seen were in parties of between 7-13 individuals (family parties?).
Paddyfield Warbler	2
Reed Bunting	8
Richard's Pipit	2

Leaving the Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi it took us 20 minutes to drive back to Heshuo where we continued east in an attempt to find access right down to Bosten Hu itself.

Site 2. Pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan, Bosten Hu NP, Bohu. (42°05.80'N., 87°01.27'E.). 1050 metres.

This site is accessed by driving south down route X051 towards 26 Corps

Note that the tourist complex of Yinshatan is two kilometres further down this road – right on the northern edge of Bosten Hu. Access to both of these sites during the tourist season would involve buying a ticket. Yinshatan is also known as Tiangeer in Mongolian. We birded this roadside pool for 45 minutes (13:15-14:00hrs). Birds here included –

Northern Pintail	1020
Common Teal	420
Northern Shoveler	255
Gadwall	53
Eurasian Wigeon	47
Mallard	23
Common Shelduck	20
Ruddy Shelduck	3
Garganey	2
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	1 was heard
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 flew over

Site 3. Yinshatan, Bosten Hu NP, Bohu. (42°05.00'N., 87°01.26'E.). 1050 metres.

I birded this site, right on the edge of Bosten Hu, for about 25 minutes & left at 14:30hrs. Birds seen included-

Great Cormorant	1200
Greylag Goose	12
Great Crested Grebe	290
Great Egret	10
Red-crested Pochard	18

Leaving Yinshatan we headed back north-east for about 20 kms on route X051 to Quhui xiang & turned right at the 'T'-junction with route 325 at the end. This larger road soon starts to run parallel with the main Urumqi to Korla expressway & we headed past exit number 2 of the expressway – this junction is level with about Km post 14.5 on route 325 & is 4.5kms west of the village of Wushitala. [Note also that exit number 2 of this expressway is only accessible from the south i.e. Korla. You can come off the expressway when coming from Korla & you can rejoin the expressway here if heading towards Korla. This is no on or off ramp from the Urumqi direction].

At Km post 10 on the western edge of Wushitala there's a sign-posted turning off to the south of route 325 that leads to Jinshatan - the area's biggest tourist resort. The resort is 22 kms down this side road & is right on the edge of Bosten Hu.

Site 4. Jinshatan, Bosten Hu NP, Bohu. (42°02.98'N., 87°08.90'E.). 1050 metres.

I birded this popular tourist site, right on the edge of Bosten Hu, for about 20 minutes & left at 15:40hrs. A 20 yuan entrance fee was payable. Birds seen included-

Great Cormorant	10
Great Crested Grebe	31
Great Egret	2
Common Tern	10
Gadwall	3

Leaving Jinshatan we headed back to Wushitala & then continued to drive north, right across route 325 to a medium sized reservoir in the mountains 23 kms to the north.

Site 5. Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (42°21.09'N., 87°20.35'E.). 1570 metres.

I birded here from 16:40-17:05hrs but there weren't many birds on this apparently deep water reservoir that's North-north-west of Wushitala -

Black-necked Grebe	7
Northern Pintail	90
Mallard	4
Eurasian Teal	1
Eurasian Wigeon	2
Great Cormorant	1
Grey Heron	1
White Wagtail	6

We then turned around, drove back to Wushitala, turned east & continued through the village & on for about another seven kilometres to where we could join the Urumqi to Korla expressway. We drove west to Tuokexun (Km post 160 – from Urumqi & the drive took a lengthy three hours). We spent the night in Tuokexun.

Greylag Goose	34 near the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 – 22 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 12 at Yinshatan, Bohu. (1050 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	3 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 - they were all on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Common Shelduck	20 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 - they were all on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Gadwall	66 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - 10 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo, 53 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan & three at Jinshatan. (1050 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	53 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 51 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 (four at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 47 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan) & another two at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
Mallard	73 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 63 on the northern side of Bosten Hu (40 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 23 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan) & another 10 at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
Northern Shoveler	255 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – they were all on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Northern Pintail	1221 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 – 1131 on the northern side of Bosten Hu (111 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 1020 at Yinshatan, Bohu) & another 90 at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
Garganey	2 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – they were both on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Common Teal	428 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - eight at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 420 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	198 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - 180 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 18 at Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 23/9/2007.
Hill Pigeon	5 near Wushitala, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. The first three were 15 kms east of there & the other two were about 25 kms east. (1300 & 1380 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	15 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 23/9/2007.
Common Moorhen	5 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Eurasian Coot	10 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Green Sandpiper	1 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Bosten Hu on the 23/9/2007. It was on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Kentish Plover	2 singles near Bosten Hu on the 23/9/2007. The first was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & the second was on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	25 around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Pallas's Gull	3 around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Black-headed Gull	100 around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Tern	10 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. They were all at Jinshatan. (1050 metres)
Oriental Honey-buzzard	1 juvenile flew south near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 23/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo at 10:00hrs. (1050 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 23/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (1050 metres)
Greater Spotted Eagle	1 near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 23/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (41°08.87'N., 86°49.31'E.). (1050 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 23/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (1050 metres)
Eurasian Hobby	3 singles around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. Two of these were at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & the other near Jinshatan. (1050 metres)
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – it was near the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	321 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – 290 at Yinshatan & 31 at Jinshatan. (1050 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	7 on Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1570 metres)
Great Cormorant	1250 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 1250 on the northern side of Bosten Hu (42 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo, 1200 at Yinshatan & 10 at Jinshatan) & another one at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
Grey Heron	6 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 5 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & one at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
Great Egret	164 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 (134 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo, 10 at Yinshatan & 2 at Jinshatan). (1050 metres)
Little Bittern	1 at the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007 – it was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (1050 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3 singles around the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Raven	1 about 60 kms west of Tuokexun on the 24/9/2007. (1690 metres)
Eurasian Blackbird	1 was heard at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Pied Wheatear	6 near Jinshatan on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Common Starling	250 near the western end of Bosten Hu close to Yanji on the on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Barn Swallow	250 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 23/9/2007. About 200 of these were at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the northern side of Bosten Hu.
Paddyfield Warbler	2 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	1 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

Bearded Parrotbill	165 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. These were counted along the four kilometre stretch of reed bed we explored at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. Several birds were only heard – I counted these as singles & the true number of bird present just in this four kilometre stretch of reed bed probably significantly exceeded this count. I would speculate at the total number of birds present at the whole of Bosten Hu easily exceeds 1000 birds! Most that were actually seen today were in parties of between 7-13 individuals (family parties?). (1050 metres)
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	3 singles were heard near Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 flew over the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan, Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	200 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 23/9/2007.
White Wagtail	6 at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1570 metres)
Richard's Pipit	2 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Water Pipit	1 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Reed Bunting	8 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

Tuesday 25 Sept. 2007. Am in the Turpan Depression, Tuokexun & afternoon returned to Urumqi

Weather

Near Tuokexun it was 10°C at 08:30hrs, 23°C at 11:00hrs & 24°C at 14:10hrs.

We left the Tuokexun hotel at 07:40hrs & spent the rest of the morning & early afternoon in the agricultural area in the Turpan depression to the south of town – on the road that ends about 20 kms from Tuokexun at the small village of Xia Xiang Badui. After that we headed back to Urumqi, making a couple of unfruitful stops on route & arrived back at the Yindu Hotel at about 17:00hrs.

Site 1. Road between Tuokexun & village of Xia Xiang Badui. (42°47.08'N., 88°48.22'E.). 42 metres below sea level.

I spent about five hours in this area.

Laughing Dove	15
Eurasian Collared Dove	20
Common Crane	4
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Long-legged Buzzard	3 including two adults
Common Kestrel	1
Rufous-tailed Shrike	4
Southern Grey Shrike	1
Pied Wheatear	5
Common Starling	200
Barn Swallow	30
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	6
Crested Lark	120
House Sparrow	80
Spanish Sparrow	25
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	250
sparrow sp.	400
Desert Finch	6 – two in the grounds of the Tuokexun hotel & four more near Xia Xiang Badui.

Site 2. Caiwopu Hu (Caiwopu Lake), Urumqi. (43°31.8'N., 87°53.4'E.). 1073 metres.

A fairly large lake off to the western side of the Kashi to Urumqi Expressway right at the southern end of the Urumqi wind farm. Its apparently 45 kms by road from here to Urumqi – from here its 39.4 kms at 318° directly to the city. We spent about 45 minutes (13:49-14:33hrs) at the small tourist resort at the northern end of the reservoir. I scanned the lake from the boat mooring platform and then walked south past the meteorological station continuing for about 300 metres down the north-eastern side of the reservoir, staying close to the reed bed.

Black-headed Gull	60
Great Crested Grebe	1

Little Owl	1 was seen from the expressway near Wulabo, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Rock Pigeon	40 in & around Urumqi city on the on the 25/9/2007. (ca.800 metres)
Hill Pigeon	11 were seen from the expressway not far from Wulabo, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1050 metres)
Laughing Dove	15 in & around Tuokexun on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	20 in & around Tuokexun on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)
Common Crane	4 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)
Black-headed Gull	60 at Caiwopu Lake, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1070 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	3, including two adults, between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	1 at Caiwopu Lake, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1070 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	5 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)
Southern Grey Shrike	1 first-winter between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Pied Wheatear	5 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Common Starling	200 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Barn Swallow	30 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Desert Lesser Whitethroat	6 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Crested Lark	120 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

House Sparrow	80 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
Spanish Sparrow	25 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. These birds were seen in a total of four flocks of sparrows – all four flocks were in the agricultural areas away from town & all four flocks also contained House & Eurasian Tree Sparrows! In addition three apparent hybrid Spanish x House Sparrow hybrids were also seen. (minus 40 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow sparrow sp.	250 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
	400 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. Numerous small flocks (of between 15-40 birds) were seen in flight in this same area. (minus 40 metres)
Desert Finch	6 near Tuokexun on the 25/9/2007 - two were in the grounds of the Tuokexun hotel & four more near Xia Xiang Badui. (minus 10 & minus 40 metres)

Wednesday 26 Sept. 2007. All day Qingdahu, Changji

Weather

Dry all day.

Gou Jun & me left the hotel at 08:00hrs & spent the rest of the day north of Urumqi visiting the same four sites that we'd explored on the 10 September 2007.

Site 1. Qingdahu, Changji. (44°05.61'N., 87°31.72'E.). 470 metres. 08:55-12:20hrs.

The reservoir was still very full – and I couldn't get even remotely close to the gulls and ducks. What's more there was a significant amount of heat haze & most of these birds couldn't even be identified. The rice paddies immediately around the reservoir's eastern side had recently been cut with the rice having been laid flat in the fields exposing areas of damp mud. Highlights here on the 10 Sept. 2007 included large numbers of gulls (1650 Black-headed, 1158 Yellow-legged & 42 Pallas's), decent numbers of ducks with 2050 Mallard, an Oriental Pratincole, a fly-over Tree Pipit and a Pallas's Fish Eagle. Highlights today included -

Greylag Goose	5
Ruddy Shelduck	18
Gadwall	Present but not counted
Eurasian Wigeon	Present but not counted
Mallard	Present but not counted
Northern Shoveler	Present but not counted
Northern Pintail	Present but not counted
Common Teal	Present but not counted
Red-crested Pochard	41 of which 29 were male & 12 were females
duck sp.	1500
Rock Pigeon	Present but not counted
Eurasian Collared Dove	10
Common Moorhen	4
Eurasian Coot	20
Common Greenshank	18
Pied Avocet	28
Pacific Golden Plover	5
Northern Lapwing	4
Yellow-legged Gull	Present but not counted
Pallas's Gull	Present but not counted
Black-headed Gull	Present but not counted
Common Tern	1 first-winter
Osprey	1juvenile
Black Kite	65
Hen Harrier	1
Long-legged Buzzard	1 juvenile
Common Kestrel	1
Great Crested Grebe	12
Great Cormorant	520
Grey Heron	29
Great Egret	114
Rufous-tailed Shrike	2
Black-throated Thrush	2
Northern Wheatear	2 singles
Pied Wheatear	1 first-winter was apparently only the second record for the reserve – the first was a male in May 2007
Common Starling	10
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 flew south-south-west
Barn Swallow	There was a steady passage of birds flying south-south-west throughout the morning & perhaps as many as 500 birds were seen
Siberian Chiffchaff	2 singles
Crested Lark	8 birds, probably migrants, were in the paddy fields on the eastern side of the reservoir. They all took flight at 10:50hrs & flew high to the south.
Eurasian Skylark	1 flew south-south-west
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	150
White Wagtail	1 flew south-south-west
Western Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south-south-west
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south-south-west
Tawny Pipit	1 flew south-south-west
Tree Pipit or Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south-south-west
Meadow Pipit or Buff-bellied Pipit	2 singles flew south-south-west

Water Pipit	16 birds, singles & in parties of up to three, flew south-south-west
Black-throated Accentor	2 singles were heard
Eurasian Greenfinch	1

Site 2. Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (44°18.86'N., 87°30.67'E.). (450 metres). 12:45-13:55hrs.

We saw rather few birds here on the 10 Sept. 2007 – 62 Kentish Plover, one Red-necked Phalarope, two Caspian Tern & 80 Mallard being about the best. Highlights today included –

Greylag Goose	22
Ruddy Shelduck	4
Gadwall	215
Eurasian Wigeon	14
Mallard	385
Northern Shoveler	3
Northern Pintail	28
Garganey	4
Common Teal	35
Red-crested Pochard	40
Common Pochard	2 males
Tufted Duck	23 males
Eurasian Coot	48
Common Greenshank	1
Wood Sandpiper	1 juvenile
Ruff	3
Northern Lapwing	9
Yellow-legged Gull	4
Pallas's Gull	6
Black-headed Gull	30
Common Tern	1 juvenile
Osprey	1
Black Kite	4
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail
Great Crested Grebe	1
Great Cormorant	10
Grey Heron	6
Great Egret	18
Rufous-tailed Shrike	2
Common Starling	150
Barn Swallow	20
Siberian Chiffchaff	1
Asian Short-toed Lark	1
Crested Lark	2
White Wagtail	2 <i>personata</i>
Western Yellow Wagtail	3
Grey Wagtail	1
Water Pipit	5

Site 3. Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu. (44°13.07'N., 87°40.93'E.) 14:35-17:35hrs. (450 metres)

We drove on the embankment around the northern end of the reservoir & then explored neighbouring **Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir**. The latter is only about 400 metres to the south-western side of the south-western end of Bayi Reservoir. Dong Fang is a circular reservoir about two kilometres in diameter. It held a lot more birds today than the larger Bayi Reservoir. Birds seen on the two sites on the 10 September included – Black-headed Gull 1410, Pallas's Gull 495, Yellow-legged Gull 365, Common Tern 123, Curlew Sandpiper 84, Little Stint 1 juvenile & the undoubted bird of the day a fly-over Little Curlew. Highlights today included –

Ruddy Shelduck	3 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Gadwall	300 on Bayi Reservoir & 70 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Eurasian Wigeon	30 on Bayi Reservoir
Mallard	40 on Bayi Reservoir & 480 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Northern Shoveler	10 on Bayi Reservoir & 15 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Northern Pintail	10 on Bayi Reservoir & 20 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Garganey	2 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Common Teal	100 on Bayi Reservoir & 110 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Red-crested Pochard	30 on Bayi Reservoir & 67 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Common Pochard	7 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Ferruginous Pochard	1 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
duck sp.	500 on Bayi Reservoir
Eurasian Coot	155 on Bayi Reservoir & 25 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Eurasian Curlew	5 besides Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Little Stint	6 juveniles on Bayi Reservoir
Dunlin	8 juveniles on Bayi Reservoir
Pied Avocet	69 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Yellow-legged Gull	120 on Bayi Reservoir & 84 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Pallas's Gull	535 on Bayi Reservoir & 176 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Black-headed Gull	550 on Bayi Reservoir & 1650 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Common Tern	5 on Bayi Reservoir
Black Kite	2
Long-legged Buzzard	1
Common Kestrel	1
Great Crested Grebe	27 on Bayi Reservoir
Black-necked Grebe	12 on Bayi Reservoir

Great Cormorant	2855 on Bayi Reservoir – about 2000 of which took gradually flight shortly after I arrived, circled & gained sufficient eight that they were soon out of sight. I assumed that they were migrating!
Grey Heron	21 on Bayi Reservoir & 79 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Great Egret	93 on Bayi Reservoir & 49 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Rufous-tailed Shrike	3
Siberian Chiffchaff	3 near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Hume's Warbler	1 was heard near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Crested Lark	1 flew south over Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir
Greylag Goose	27 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 5 at Qingedahu & 22 on Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	27 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 18 at Qingedahu, 4 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 3 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Gadwall	575 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 215 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 300 on Bayi Reservoir & 70 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	44 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 14 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 30 on Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Mallard	905 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 385 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 40 on Bayi Reservoir & 480 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Northern Shoveler	28 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 3 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 10 on Bayi Reservoir & 15 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Northern Pintail	58 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 28 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 10 on Bayi Reservoir & 20 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Garganey	2 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Common Teal	245 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 35 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 100 on Bayi Reservoir & 110 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	178 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 41 (29 male & 12 females) at Qingedahu, 40 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 30 on Bayi Reservoir & 67 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Common Pochard	9 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 2 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 7 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	1 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Tufted Duck	23 males on Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
duck sp.	1500 ducks at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007 were too distant to identify. (470 metres)
Rock Pigeon	'Present' in & around Urumqi, Wujiaqu & Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450-800 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	40 in & around Urumqi, Wujiaqu & Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450-800 metres)
Common Moorhen	4 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (470 metres)
Eurasian Coot	248 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 20 at Qingedahu, 48 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 155 on Bayi Reservoir & 25 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Eurasian Curlew	5 near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Common Greenshank	19 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These involved 18 at Qingedahu & 1 besides Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Little Stint	6 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Dunlin	8 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Ruff	3 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Pied Avocet	97 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These involved 28 at Qingedahu & 69 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	5 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (470 metres)
Northern Lapwing	13 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These involved four at Qingedahu & 9 besides Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	208 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, four on Shashanzi Reservoir, 120 on Bayi Reservoir & 84 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Pallas's Gull	717 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, six on Shashanzi Reservoir, 535 on Bayi Reservoir & 176 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Black-headed Gull	Well over 3000 were in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 30 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 550 on Bayi Reservoir & 1650 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Common Tern	7 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included singles at Qingedahu & Shashanzi Reservoir & five on Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Osprey	2 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007 – a juvenile at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu & an un-aged bird at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)
Black Kite	71 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 65 near Qingedahu, four near Shashanzi Reservoir & two near Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Hen Harrier	2 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007 – singles at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu & Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	3 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007 – a juvenile at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu, and un-aged birds near Shashanzi & Bayi Reservoirs, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. (450 & 470 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	40 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 12 at Qingedahu, one on Shashanzi Reservoir & 27 on Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	12 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Great Cormorant	3385 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 520 at Qingedahu, 10 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 2855 on Bayi Reservoir – about 2000 of which took gradually flight shortly after I arrived, circled & gained sufficient eight that they were soon out of sight. I assumed that they were migrating! (450 & 470 metres)
Grey Heron	135 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 29 at Qingedahu, six on Shashanzi Reservoir, 21 on Bayi Reservoir & 79 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Great Egret	274 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 114 at Qingedahu, 18 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 93 on Bayi Reservoir & 49 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	5 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. (450 & 470 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	2 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Northern Wheatear	2 singles at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

Pied Wheatear	1 first-winter at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. It was apparently only the second record for the site – the first was a male in May 2007. (450 metres)
Common Starling	160 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 10 near Qingedahu & 150 on Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Barn Swallow	300 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. Birds were seen at all the sites we visited & about 200 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu. (450 & 470 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	6 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included two near Qingedahu one near Shashanzi Reservoir & three near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 & 470 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Crested Lark	11 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included eight birds, probably migrants, in the paddy fields on the eastern side of Qingedahu that all took flight at 10:50hrs & flew high to the south. Elsewhere there were two near Shashanzi Reservoir & one over Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	400 in & around Urumqi, Wujiaqu & Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450-800 metres)
White Wagtail	6 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included one that flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, two <i>personata</i> at Shashanzi Reservoir & three <i>personata</i> at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	13 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 10 that flew south-south-west at Qingedahu & three at Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
Grey Wagtail	1 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Tree Pipit or Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Meadow Pipit or Buff-bellied Pipit	1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Water Pipit	21 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 16 birds, singles & in parties of up to three, flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu & 5 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)
Black-throated Accentor	2 singles were heard at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	1 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

Thursday 27 Sept. 2007. Morning drove from Urumqi to Shihezi. Late am & pm Shihezi

Weather

10°C outside the Yindu Hotel, central Urumqi at 07:45hrs rising to 16°C near Moguhu, Shihezi at 10:50hrs, 22°C at 13:10hrs & 26°C there at 17:30hrs.

We left the Yindu Hotel, Urumqi at 08:00hrs & drove straight to Moguhu, Shihezi. Arriving at 10:40hrs we spent much of the rest of the day there.

Site 1. Moguhu, Shihezi. (44°28.22'N., 85°53.53'E.) 375 metres. 10:40-17:00hrs

White-headed Duck	8, including one adult male, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. These were the first birds I'd seen on this autumn's trip away from a breeding site. (375 metres)
Whooper Swan	2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Bean Goose	24 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Greylag Goose	139 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	148 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Gadwall	500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	40 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Mallard	2500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Shoveler	40 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Pintail	500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Garganey	2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Teal	300 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	75 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Pochard	30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	9 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Tufted Duck	6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375-800 metres)
Stock Pigeon	96 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. The flock contained what was apparently a leucistic bird – it was very similar in overall colouration to a Eurasian Collared Dove but with the faded plumage, most noticeable in the wing & tail pattern of a Stock Dove. Structurally & in its bare parts it was identical to other birds in the flock. I wondered initially if it might be a hybrid Stock x Eurasian Collared Dove but the lack of any other Eurasian Collared Dove plumage or structural traits & the fact that its larger feathers (primaries & tail feathers) were heavily abraded suggested leucism. (375 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	30 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375-650 metres)
Eurasian Coot	135 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Spotted Redshank	2, with a flock of Pacific Golden Plovers, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Greenshank	5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Little Stint	32 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Dunlin	67 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. All of the ones seen well (40+ birds) were juveniles. (375 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	2 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruff	5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	60 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Grey Plover	4 (one adult & three juveniles) at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	300 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pallas's Gull	550 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

Black-headed Gull	1500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Caspian Tern	2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Tern	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Osprey	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black Kite	48 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pallas's Fish Eagle	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (Photo). (375 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Rough-legged Buzzard	1 juvenile flew south over the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) near Wugongtai, Hutubi on the 27/9/2007. The first, & early, bird of the autumn. (660 metres)
Common Kestrel	7 on the 27/9/2007 – five of these were seen from the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) while the other two were at Moguhu, Shihezi. (375, 580, 660, 680 & 720 metres)
Saker Falcon	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Peregrine Falcon	2, an adult & a juvenile, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	231 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	31 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Cormorant	3000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Grey Heron	78 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Egret	244 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	8 at various sites around Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	8 on the 27/9/2007 – six of these were seen from the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) while the other two were at Moguhu, Shihezi. (375 & 660 metres)
Desert Wheatear	1 first-winter male at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Isabelline Wheatear	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Starling	3000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Barn Swallow	300 were seen flying south on the 27/9/2007. The bulk of these were actively migrating, over the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) while about 50 did the same at Moguhu, Shihezi. (375 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	2 were heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Hume's Warbler	5 were heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Crested Lark	3 birds (a single & a pair) flew south, as if actively migrating, over the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) near Wugongtai, Hutubi on the 27/9/2007. (550 & 640 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	200 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
White Wagtail	5, including at least one <i>personata</i> , at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Water Pipit	5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

Friday 28 Sept. 2007. All day Moguhu, Shihezi

We left the hotel at 07:05hrs & drove straight back to the main site at Moguhu. We spent the rest of the morning, & a good part of the afternoon, at four sites around the reservoir. We then spent much of the remainder of the day at neighbouring Beihu Reservoir.

Weather

At Moguhu, Shihezi it was a chilly 5°C at 07:40hrs (just before sun rise). 20°C at 12:10hrs & 25°C there 17:05hrs.

Site 1. Moguhu, Shihezi. (44°28.22'N., 85°53.53'E.) 375 metres. 07:35-15:00hrs

Birds here today included -

White-headed Duck	1
Common Crane	3
Relict Gull	1 first-winter
Pallas's Fish Eagle	2 juveniles
Eurasian Spoonbill	3
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 flew south
Tawny Pipit	1 flew south
Water Pipit	19 flew south

Site 2. Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi. (Previously known as Daquangou Reservoir). 15:10-18:50hrs.

Birds here today included -

Pallas's Fish Eagle	2 juveniles – undoubtedly the same as those at Moguhu
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Common Pheasant	1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
White-headed Duck	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Whooper Swan	1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Bean Goose	30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Greylag Goose	353 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 276 at Moguhu & 77 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	615 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 268 at Moguhu & 347 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Common Shelduck	12 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Gadwall	1940 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 890 at Moguhu & 1050 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	80 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 20 at Moguhu & 60 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Mallard	3150 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 2200 at Moguhu & 950 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Northern Shoveler	385 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 340 at Moguhu & 45 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Northern Pintail	2080 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 1900 at Moguhu & 180 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Garganey	3 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 2 at Moguhu & 1 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Common Teal	1020 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 320 at Moguhu & 700 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

Red-crested Pochard	157 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 125 at Moguhu & 32 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Common Pochard	150 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 67 at Moguhu & 83 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	15 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 13 at Moguhu & 2 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Tufted Duck	19 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 16 at Moguhu & 3 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Rock Pigeon	100 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007. (375-420 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	40 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007. (375-420 metres)
Common Crane	3 (two adults & a juvenile) flew over Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Coot	192 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 160 at Moguhu & 32 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Common Snipe	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-tailed Godwit	4 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Spotted Redshank	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Wood Sandpiper	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Little Stint	29 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Temminck's Stint	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Dunlin	15 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Curlew Sandpiper	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruff	17 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 16 at Moguhu & 1 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	13 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 9 at Moguhu & 4 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Black-winged Stilt	1 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pied Avocet	2 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	81 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Grey Plover	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Little Ringed Plover	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Kentish Plover	18 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Lapwing	38 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 25 at Moguhu & 13 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Siberian Gull	1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	560 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 370 at Moguhu & 190 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Pallas's Gull	814 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 650 at Moguhu & 164 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Black-headed Gull	4500 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 4000 at Moguhu & 500 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Relict Gull	1 first-winter at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. Undoubtedly the first record for this site & one over very few records in the whole of Xinjiang. (Photos). (375 metres)
Caspian Tern	19 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 2 (an adult & an attendant juvenile) at Moguhu & 17 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Common Tern	2 (an adult & a juvenile) at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Osprey	2 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved an adult, presumably the same bird as yesterday, at Moguhu & a juvenile at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Black Kite	63 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 45 at Moguhu & 18 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Pallas's Fish Eagle	In Shihezi 2 juveniles were seen at Moguhu in the morning with undoubtedly the same two birds at Beihu Reservoir in the afternoon. (Photos). (375 metres)
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	1 cream-crown at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Long-legged Buzzard	1 adult near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Kestrel	1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Peregrine Falcon	2 juveniles in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – one at Moguhu & the other at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	283 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	66 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Cormorant	3820 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 3500 at Moguhu & 320 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Grey Heron	140 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 62 at Moguhu & 78 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Great Egret	392 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 370 at Moguhu & 22 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
Eurasian Spoonbill	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Rufous-tailed Shrike	5 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	75 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Starling	2500 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
White-crowned Penduline Tit	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Azure Tit	3 near Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375-400 metres)
Barn Swallow	100 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007 – most of these were seen flying south over Moguhu in the early morning. (375 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	4 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 3 near Moguhu & another at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
Hume's Warbler	1 near Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375-400 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 singles flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Crested Lark	1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	4 singles flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	200 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007. (375-420 metres)
White Wagtail	6, including three <i>personata</i> , flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	18 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. Only one of these was racially assignable, an adult male – and apparent <i>feldegg x beema</i> hybrid. (375 metres)
Grey Wagtail	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Tawny Pipit	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Water Pipit	19 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	2 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved a single bird that flew south at Moguhu & another single at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
European Goldfinch	4 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

Saturday 29 Sept. 2007. Morning Moguhu, Shihezi. Afternoon returned to Urumqi. Evening flight back to Beijing

We left the hotel at 07:10hrs & drove straight back to the main site at Moguhu. We spent there rest of the morning & the early afternoon there before heading back in to Shihezi for lunch & on back to Urumqi airport for our 19:20hrs flight back to Beijing.

Weather

At Moguhu, Shihezi it was again a chilly 5°C at 07:55hrs (just before dawn) rising to 15°C by 10:20hrs & 18°C at 13:50hrs.

Site 1. Moguhu, Shihezi. (44°28.22'N., 85°53.53'E.) 375 metres. 07:40-14:10hrs

White-headed Duck	4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Whooper Swan	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Greylag Goose	145 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ruddy Shelduck	200 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Shelduck	7 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Gadwall	870 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Wigeon	10 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Mallard	2450 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Shoveler	68 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Northern Pintail	1000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Teal	230 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-crested Pochard	59 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Pochard	143 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Ferruginous Pochard	6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Tufted Duck	42 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Goldeneye	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Smew	1 redhead at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Rock Pigeon	50 between Shihezi & Urumqi on the 29/9/2007. (375-690 metres)
Eurasian Collared Dove	25 near Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375-410 metres)
Common Crane	43 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. The birds were in two flocks, the first of nine & the second of 34 (24 adults & 10 juveniles) both of which flew south-south-east. Gou Jun speculated that they were heading towards the Manas river valley & from there on up in to the Tien Shan and Bayinbuluk. (375 metres)
Eurasian Coot	180 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Little Stint	29 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Dunlin	14 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Red-necked Phalarope	7 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pacific Golden Plover	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Ringed Plover	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Siberian Gull	2 adults at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Yellow-legged Gull	300 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Pallas's Gull	350 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-headed Gull	2500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Relict Gull	1 first-winter at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. It was undoubtedly the same bird that was seen, & photographed, there the previous day. (375 metres)
Caspian Tern	2 (an adult & an attendant juvenile) at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black Kite	30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Kestrel	2 singles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Crested Grebe	200 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Horned Grebe	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-necked Grebe	65 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Cormorant	3500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Grey Heron	30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Great Egret	283 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Black-throated Thrush	6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Common Redstart	1 male at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. Rare here. (375 metres)
Common Starling	1000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Azure Tit	3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Barn Swallow	30 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Siberian Chiffchaff	3 were heard at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Dusky Warbler	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres) Initially heard at 11:00hrs it wasn't seen for another 40 minutes! It eventually performed well, although it wasn't photographed, I managed to make a couple of decent recordings of quite lengthy sequences of calling. (375 metres) Apparently only the second record for Xinjiang, the first was a bird at 360 metres at Nongtian Reservoir, Wusu (a mostly lowland district between Kuitun and Jinghe in western Xinjiang) on the unlikely mid-summer date of 24 June [1987] [Ma 2001]). According to Gou Jun this bird was collected. Dusky Warbler apparently breeds in the Altai mountains in Kazakhstan (Wassink & Orel 2007) & I would suspect it probably does so in the Chinese Altai.
Hume's Warbler	2 were heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Asian Short-toed Lark	7 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Crested Lark	5 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Skylark	4 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
House Sparrow	15 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
White Wagtail	1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Western Yellow Wagtail	3 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Tree Pipit or Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Water Pipit	17 birds flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Eurasian Greenfinch	2 singles near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)
Desert Finch	2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

Reed Bunting

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. Seen flying around the edge of the lake & later in very short grass right besides one of the river channels it was well out of typical habitat & presumably a migrant. (375 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 Common Pheasant reads (5/21 3 7) - birds were noted on 5 of the 21 days that I was in Xinjiang, with up to 3 individuals on any one date & with a total of 7 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*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 2 3) (795 & 820 metres)

1 was heard at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

2 singles were seen near Km posts 175 & 17 about 20 kms east of Heishantou, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (820 metres)

COMMON PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 3 7) (375-880 metres)

1 was heard at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

3 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was heard in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

WHITE-HEADED DUCK *Oxyura leucocephala* EN

Sept. 2007

(5/21 37 59) (375, 400 & 795 metres)

37, including 10 summer plumaged adult males, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (43°48.8'N., 87°25.7'E.). (795 metres)

9 (eight juveniles & one moulting adult) at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (44°29.53'N., 84°55.47'E.). (400 metres)

8, including one adult male, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (44°28.22'N., 85°53.53'E.). These were the first birds I'd seen on this autumn's trip away from a breeding site. (375 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

WHOOPEE SWAN *Cygnus cygnus*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 28 32) (375 & 2073 metres)

28 adults on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

2, 1 & 1 adults at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27th, 28th & 29/9/2007 respectively. (375 metres)

'TUNDRA BEAN GOOSE' *Anser fabalis serrirostris*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 30 54) (375 metres)

24 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser*

Sept. 2007

(15/21 353 1160) (170-1050 metres)

8 in Wujiaqu north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - two at Shashanzi Reservoir & six at Wuyi Reservoir. (450 metres)

17 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

147 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

27 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

94 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)

17 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 - 15 at the Jing river mouth & 2 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)

104 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 - 15 at the Jing river mouth & 89 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

29 on the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

4 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

15 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

34 near the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - 22 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo & 12 at Yinshatan, Bohu. (1050 metres)

27 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 5 at Qingedahu & 22 on Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

139 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
353 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 276 at Moguhu & 77 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
145 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea*

Sept. 2007

(14/21 2953 7308) (190-1050 & 2073 metres)

7 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 – one at Qingedahu, Changji & the other six at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450 & 470 metres)

4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

31 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

2300 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

2953 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 2950 at the Jing river mouth & 3 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres). Note that the entire world population has

recently been estimated at being between 173,000-223,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Aibi Lake represents between 1.3-1.7% of the entire world population!

1000+ at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 1000 at the Jing river mouth & ‘large numbers way off shore’ from the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

10 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

4 on the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (660 metres)

6 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

3 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 - they were all on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)

27 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 18 at Qingedahu, 4 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 3 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

148 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

615 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 268 at Moguhu & 347 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

200 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 7350 11,794) (190-400 & 1050 metres)

2 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

3 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

2900 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

7350 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 2150 at the Jing river mouth & 5200 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres). Note that the entire world population has

recently been estimated at being between 655,000-705,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Aibi Lake represents between 1.0-1.1% of the entire world population!

1500+ at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 1000 at the Jing river mouth & ‘large numbers way off shore’ from the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

20 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 - they were all on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)

12 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

7 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

Sept. 2007

(16/21 1940 8961) (190-1050 metres)

35 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

73 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 35 at Qingedahu, Changji & 38 Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

210 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1255 in Shihezi on the 12/9/2007 - 510 of these were at Moguhu & 745 at Beihu. (375 metres)

18 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

25 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 15 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 5 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)

235 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 230 at the Jing river mouth & 5 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)

940 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

830 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

8 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

1361 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 54 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 1307 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu.

Preferred sites at Bosten Hu included Da Hekou (418 birds), the bay northwest of Shui Wen zhan (120 birds) & Longma Chu Hai (514 birds). (1050 metres)

66 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - 10 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsu, Heshuo, 53 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan & three at Jinshatan. (1050 metres)

575 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included ‘present but not counted’ at Qingedahu, 215 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 300 on Baiy Reservoir & 70 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

1940 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 890 at Moguhu & 1050 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

870 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

EURASIAN WIGEON *Anas penelope*

Sept. 2007

(15/21 80 449) (190-2070 metres)

6 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

41 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 35 at Qingedahu, Changji & 6 Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

25 at Moguhu & 8 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

8 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
11 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 8 at the Jing river mouth & 3 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
41 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
39 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
13 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
25 on the 22/9/2007 – 3 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 22 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)
53 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 51 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 (four at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 47 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan) & another two at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
44 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 14 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 30 on Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
40 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
80 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 20 at Moguhu & 60 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
10 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

Sept. 2007

(17/21 3245 17,426) (190-2070 metres)

173 near Urumqi on the 9/9/2007 – one at Baihu, Xishan & the other 172 on Wulabo Reservoir. (795 & 1060 metres)
2970 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 2050 at Qingedahu, Changji, 80 at Shashanzi Reservoir & 840 in the Bayi Reservoir- Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
1500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
3150 at Moguhu & 95 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
50 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 31 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 & 435 metres)
30 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & 50 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 & 370 metres)
35 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 30 at the Jing river mouth & 5 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
10 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
81 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
17 birds were seen on the 19/9/2007 - 14 flew west down the Yili river at the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & 3 were on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. (545 & 585 metres)
4 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
152 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007 – these included 132 between Mu Yu Xihai & Shuang Wan Jing Xiu. (1050 metres)
73 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 63 on the northern side of Bosten Hu (40 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo & 23 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan) & another 10 at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
905 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 385 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 40 on Bayi Reservoir & 480 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
2500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
3150 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 2200 at Moguhu & 950 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
2450 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

NORTHERN SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

Sept. 2007

(15/21 4230 5403) (190-1050 & 2070 metres)

3 at Qingedahu, Changji & 15 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
36 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
42 at Moguhu & 15 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
65 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
140 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
4230 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 4200 at the Jing river mouth & 30 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
64 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
8 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
1 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
8 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
255 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – they were all on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
28 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 3 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 10 on Bayi Reservoir & 15 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
40 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
385 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 340 at Moguhu & 45 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
68 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

NORTHERN PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

Sept. 2007

(16/21 2520 9764) (190-2070 metres)

3 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
5 at Qingedahu, Changji & 2 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
20 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
1100 at Moguhu & 15 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
65 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
55 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 45 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 500 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
2520 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1800 at the Jing river mouth & 1720 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
500 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
18 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
17 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

40 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
1221 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 – 1131 on the northern side of Bosten Hu (111 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo & 1020 at Yinshatan, Bohu) & another 90 at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
58 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 28 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 10 on Bayi Reservoir & 20 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
2080 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 1900 at Moguhu & 180 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
1000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

Sept. 2007

(11/21 32 139) (375-1060 metres)
30 near Urumqi on the 9/9/2007 – eight at Baihu, Xishan & the other 22 on Wulabo Reservoir. (795 & 1060 metres)
2 at Qingedahu, Changji & 23 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
22 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
7 at Moguhu & 5 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
4 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
32 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
5 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
2 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – they were both on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
2 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
3 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 2 at Moguhu & 1 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

COMMON TEAL *Anas crecca*

Sept. 2007

(16/21 1020 3216) (190-2070 metres)
2 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
54 at Qingedahu, Changji & 50 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
150 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
270 at Moguhu & 45 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
3 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
20 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
30 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
6 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
11 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
310 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
32 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
428 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - eight at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo & 420 on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
245 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 35 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 100 on Bayi Reservoir & 110 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
300 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
1020 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 320 at Moguhu & 700 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
230 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Rhodonessa rufina*

Sept. 2007

(14/21 1158 2159) (190-1050 metres)
10 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
1 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
28 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
28 at Moguhu & 5 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
10 on Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 10 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 45 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
133 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 121 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 12 on pools near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (190 metres)
59 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
5 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
1158 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 456 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 702 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. Preferred sites at Bosten Hu included Mu Yu Xihai (334 birds) & Shuang Wan Jing Xiu (114 birds). A sample count of 290 birds at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing produced 107 males (37%) & 183 females (63%). (1050 metres)
198 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 - 180 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo & 18 at Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
178 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 41 (29 male & 12 females) at Qingedahu, 40 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 30 on Bayi Reservoir & 67 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
75 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
157 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 125 at Moguhu & 32 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
59 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

Sept. 2007

(11/21 240 909) (190-1050 & 2070 metres)
8 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

158 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
240 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
134 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
13 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
1 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
23 on Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
9 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 2 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 7 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
150 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 67 at Moguhu & 83 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
143 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

FERRUGINOUS POCHARD *Aythya nyroca* NT

Sept. 2007

(12/21 24 114) (190-1050 metres)

4, including two adult males, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres) at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
2 at Qingedahu, Changji & 11 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)
21 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
22 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. One of these was seen actually at Yinshatan itself, the other 21 were on the crab ponds near by. (190 metres)
3 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 2 on pools near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (190 metres)
1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
4, apparently a family group, on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
24 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 15 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 9 about mid-way along the eastern shore of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)
1 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
9 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
15 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 13 at Moguhu & 2 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

Sept. 2007

(7/21 42 114) (375-795 & 2070 metres)

7 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)
4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
13 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
23 males on Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
19 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 16 at Moguhu & 3 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
42 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 54 57) (375 & 2070 metres)

54 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

SMEW *Mergellus albellus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (375 metres)

1 redhead at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON MERGANSER *Mergus merganser*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 27 28) (510 & 2070 metres)

1 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
27 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

duck sp.

Sept. 2007

3500 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 2000 at the Jing river mouth & 1500 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
3000 very distant birds were seen at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
1500 ducks at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007 were too distant to identify. (470 metres)

WHITE-WINGED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos leucopterus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 3 3) (880 metres)

3 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. They were all in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

THREE-TOED WOODPECKER *Picoides tridactylus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 2 2) (2170 metres)

2 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2170 metres)

EUROPEAN ROLLER *Coracias garrulus*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 6 13) (330-1215 metres)

1 near Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (390 metres)

Single adults near Daerquanzi reservoir & Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 & 370 metres)

1 near Bole on the 17/9/2007. (450 metres)

3 singles in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545-600 metres)

6 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. These involved four in Yining - one near Heishantou, one at Km post 174, one at Km 179.5, one near Musixiang, Nileke xian; one in Xinyuan - a bird at Km 251 (24 kms east of Temerlik & 35 kms west of Karasu) & one about three kilometres west of Nalati. (760, 815, 825, 920, 930 & 1215 metres)

COMMON KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

Sept. 2007

(6/21 3 10) (190-580 & 1050 metres)

2 singles north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - one near Qingedahu, Changji & the other near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450 & 470 metres)

1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

2 near Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

3 singles in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. (545-580 metres)

1 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 1 3) (330, ca.700 & 1050 metres)

1 near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)

1 near the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (ca.700 metres)

1 was seen from the expressway near Wulabo, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1050 metres)

EURASIAN NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus europaeus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (2080 metres)

1 was seen just before dawn right outside the hotel complex at Gongnaisi, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2080 metres)

ROCK PIGEON *Columba livia*

Sept. 2007

(18/21 10 1240) (190-1060 metres)

100 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795-1060 metres)

100 in & around Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. (450-750 metres)

100 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375-750 metres)

50 in & around Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375-420 metres)

50 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007.

50 between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)

20 in Jinghe on the 15/9/2007.

30 on the 16/9/2007 - with birds being seen in both Jinghe & Bole towns.

50 in & around Bole on the 17/9/2007. (450-540 metres)

50 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-745 metres)

100 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007.

100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (650-1350 metres)

50 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 24/9/2007.

40 in & around Urumqi city on the 25/9/2007. (ca.800 metres)

'Present' in & around Urumqi, Wujiaqu & Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450-800 metres)

100 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375-800 metres)

100 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007. (375-420 metres)

50 between Shihezi & Urumqi on the 29/9/2007. (375-690 metres)

HILL PIGEON *Columba rupestris*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 11 16) (1050-1380 metres)

5 near Wushitala, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. The first three were 15 kms east of there & the other two were about 25 kms east. (1300 & 1380 metres)
11 were seen from the expressway not far from Wulabo, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1050 metres)

STOCK PIGEON *Columba oenas*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 96 103) (375 & 880 metres)

7 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. Four flew over Puhui Dunes and another three were in Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
96 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. The flock contained what was apparently a leucistic bird – it was very similar in overall colouration to a Collared Dove but with the faded plumage, most noticeable in the wing & tail pattern of a Stock Dove. Structurally & in its bare parts it was identical to other birds in the flock. I wondered initially if it might be a hybrid Stock x Collared Dove but the lack of any other Collared Dove plumage or structural traits & the fact that its larger feathers (primaries & tail feathers) were heavily abraded suggested leucism. (375 metres)

ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia orientalis*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 30 39) (350-800 & 2220 metres)

30 near at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

4 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 near Shihezi on the 13/9/2007. (350 metres)

1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2220 metres)

3 near Wenya'er xiang – km post 99 & 30 minutes drive east of Yili on the 20/9/2007. (800 metres)

LAUGHING DOVE *Streptopelia senegalensis*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 15 24) (minus 30 to +745 metres)

5 (four singles & a pair) besides route S218 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-745 metres)

4 (two pairs) in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. The first pair were near the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & the second pair near Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. (595 & 610 metres)

15 in & around Tuokexun on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

Sept. 2007

(17/21 240 899) (minus 30 to +1380 metres)

10 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (840-1060 metres)

20 in & around Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. (450-750 metres)

80 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

30 in & around Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375-420 metres)

15 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007.

240 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-780 metres)

200 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. (545-690 metres)

100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. Note that this species was much less common to the east of Yining than it was to the west yesterday. (650-1380 metres)

4 near Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (1200 metres)

20 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

10 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)

15 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 24/9/2007.

20 in & around Tuokexun on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)

40 in & around Urumqi, Wujiaqu & Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450-800 metres)

30 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375-650 metres)

40 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007. (375-420 metres)

25 near Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375-410 metres)

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus*

Sept. 2007

(7/21 160 227) (minus 30 to +920 metres)

11 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

40 flew south-south-east at 09:00hrs Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & another flock of 120 flew due west along the base of the Tien Shan Mountains at Km post 4527 near Tuotuo, extreme eastern Jinghe at 14:10hrs. (330 & ca.800 metres)

1 was heard near the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (ca.550 metres)

5 (three adults & two juveniles) flew high to the west at 16:20hrs over Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (920 metres)

4 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)

3 (two adults & a juvenile) flew over Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

43 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. The birds were in two flocks, the first of nine & the second of 34 (24 adults & 10 juveniles) both of which flew south-south-east. Gou Jun speculated that they were heading towards the Manas river valley & from there on up in to the Tien Shan and Bayinbuluk. (375 metres)

EUROPEAN WATER RAIL *Rallus aquaticus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 4 4) (585 metres)

4 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

COMMON MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus***Sept. 2007**

(9/21 40 83) (190-1050 metres)

8, including several locally fledged juveniles, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

10 in total north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. Birds were seen at both Qingedahu, Changji & Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & at a couple of minor sites in between. (450-470 metres)

4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

3 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

8 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

40 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

5 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

4 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (470 metres)

EURASIAN COOT *Fulica atra***Sept. 2007**

(15/21 270 1377) (190-1050 metres)

12 at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. This species doesn't breed here. (795 metres)

1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

34 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

270 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

35 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

40 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

31 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

114 in the 68th Corps., Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007 – four on the Laowuban, Julian pool & 110 on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang. (545 metres)

74 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

10 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

248 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 20 at Qingedahu, 48 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 155 on Bayi Reservoir & 25 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

135 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

192 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 160 at Moguhu & 32 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

180 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago***Sept. 2007**

(5/21 7 1) (375-810 metres)

7 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

1 in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa limosa***Sept. 2007**

(4/21 16 26) (190-400 metres)

1 juvenile at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

16 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

5 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

4 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

[In addition Wang Chuanbo saw one at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)]

LITTLE CURLEW *Numenius minutus***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 1 1) (470 metres)

1 flew south-south-west over Bayi Reservoir towards neighbouring Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu at 17:30hrs on the 10/9/2007. (Paul Holt & Wang Chuanbo). The first record for Xinjiang. (470 metres)

EURASIAN CURLEW *Numenius arquata***Sept. 2007**

(3/21 5 11) (190-450 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
5 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
5 near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 15 24) (190-375 metres)

3 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
15 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
2, with a flock of Pacific Golden Plovers, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
[In addition one bird, possibly this species, was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)]

COMMON REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

Sept. 2007

(6/21 1100 2109) (190-470 & 1050 metres)

8 in the Bayi Reservoir- Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
2 singles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
1100 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres) I would suspect that this species is an early autumn migrant in Xinjiang & that it reaches its peak in mid-July & thought that it was late in the season for such a large number of birds to be still present.
40 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
940 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 190 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 750 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
19 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 19 69) (170-470 & 1050 metres)

6 in the Urumqi area on the 10/9/2007 - two at Qingedahu, Changji, one at Shashanzi Reservoir & three at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, both of the latter in Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
14 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
2 at Moguhu & 1 at Beihu, both Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
12 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 9 at the Jing river mouth & 3 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)
10 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
19 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These involved 18 at Qingedahu & 1 besides Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 1 4) (190-1050 metres)

1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
1 was heard in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)
1 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 15 27) (190-545 & 1050 metres)

1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
15 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
5 besides the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)
1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Shui Wen zhan in the south-western corner of the lake. (1050 metres)
1 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (450 & 1050 metres)

1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 1 5) (190-450 & 1060 metres)

- 1 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)
- 1 near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
- 1 near at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 1 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

RUDDY TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (375 & 1050 metres)

- 2 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 3 7) (190 & 375 metres)

- 3 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 3 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 1 juvenile at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

Sept. 2007

(13/21 1039 1540) (190-450, 1050 & 2070 metres)

- 1 juvenile near Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
- 100 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 135 (one winter plumaged adult & the other 134 all juveniles) at Moguhu & 3 juveniles at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 36 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
- 8 juveniles at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 1039 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1014 at the Jing river mouth & 25 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
- 100 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 21 juveniles besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
- 1 juvenile at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Bailu Zhou on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
- 6 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
- 32 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 29 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 29 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 15 63) (190-470 & 2070 metres)

- 8 in the Urumqi area on the 10/9/2007 - two at Qingedahu, Changji, one at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & five in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
- 9 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 9 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 7 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 & 435 metres)
- 1 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 15 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 10 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 2 juveniles besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
- 1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

Sept. 2007

(10/21 67 129) (190-450 & 2070 metres)

- 3 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
- 1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 5 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 13 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 2 juveniles besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
- 8 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
- 67 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. All of the ones seen well (40+ birds) were juveniles. (375 metres)
- 15 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 14 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 84 135) (190-470, 1050 & 2070 metres)

83 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir & one juvenile at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, both Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

3 (two juveniles & an adult) at Moguhu & 1 juvenile at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

5 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

23 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 juvenile besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

14 juveniles at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all near Shui Wen zhan. (1050 metres)

1 juvenile at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

2 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

Sept. 2007

(12/21 117 349) (190-470 & 2070 metres)

5 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

16 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

73 at Moguhu & 4 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

5 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

80 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

117 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

15 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

4 besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

7 in Chabuhaer on the 19/9/2007 - six on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps. & one on the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps. (545 & 660 metres)

3 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

17 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 - these involved 16 at Moguhu & 1 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 43 90) (190-795 metres)

1 moulting adult at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

1 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

43 juveniles at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

23 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

13 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 - these involved 9 at Moguhu & 4 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)

7 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

Sept. 2007

(7/21 17 59) (170-470 & 1050 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji & 12 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)

4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

17 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

2 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 - singles at both the Jing river mouth & near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)

17 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved one at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 16 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)

1 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

PIED AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 124 260) (190-470 & 1050 metres)

124 in total at two sites in Changji on the 10/9/2007 - 33 at Qingedahu, Changji & 91 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiagu. (450-470 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

19 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

8 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

8 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all together about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)

97 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These involved 28 at Qingedahu & 69 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

2 at Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis fulva*

Sept. 2007

(13/21 81 225) (190-1050 metres)

- 6 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
12 at Moguhu & 23 more on the wetland mid-way between there & Qian Quan Hu, both Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
11 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
3 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1 at the Jing river mouth & 2 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
5 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
1 besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
7 on the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (630 metres)
7 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. Five were seen about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore & the other two, singles, were near Baihu Zhou on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
1 flew south at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
5 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (470 metres)
60 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
81 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 12 21) (190-470 & 2070 metres)

- 1 at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
12 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 11 at the Jing river mouth & 1 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
1 juvenile besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
4 (one adult & three juveniles) at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 1 1) (190-375 metres)

- 1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

Sept. 2007

(6/21 9 19) (190-1050 metres)

- 1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
4 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
9 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 2 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 7 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
1 on the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (660 metres)
1 at Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. It was on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 1640 3113) (190-470 & 1050 metres)

- 62 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
13 on the wetland mid-way between Moguhu & Qian Quan Hu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
250 at Moguhu & 83 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
30 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
1640 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 1450 at the Jing river mouth & 190 near the Aibihu Salt Works. (190 metres)
1000 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
15 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all together at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
2 singles near Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. The first was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo & the second was on the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)
18 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (375 metres)

- 1 at Beihu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. It was a badly injured juvenile (it had a damaged left leg & couldn't walk well and about 15% of the tip of its upper mandible was missing) this undoubtedly explaining the unusually late date. (375 metres)

NORTHERN LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

Sept. 2007

(13/21 124 380) (190-1050 & 2070 metres)

- 12 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)

53 in total at two sites in Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007 - 13 at Shashanzi Reservoir & 40 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area. (450-470 metres)

124 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

83 at Moguhu & 21 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

10 near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 9 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 & 435 metres)

1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

6 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 - 2 at the Jing river mouth & 4 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

1 besides Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

3 besides the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

3 in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

3 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all together about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)

13 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These involved four at Qingedahu & 9 besides Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

38 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 - these involved 25 at Moguhu & 13 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

COLLARED PRATINCOLE *Glareola pratincola*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (450 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. This was apparently the latest ever record from Xinjiang. (450 metres)

PARASITIC JAEGER *Stercorarius parasiticus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (435 metres)

1 juvenile at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres) Found as soon as we arrived this is the first record for Xinjiang. It was photographed (extremely poorly with the images being identifiable as a jaeger sp. but not to species) & a description taken. (Gou Jun, Paul Holt & Wang Qingyu)

SIBERIAN GULL *Larus heuglini heuglini*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 2 4) (375 metres)

1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 adults at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

[In addition 1 bird, probably this species, was seen poorly at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)]

YELLOW-LEGGED GULL *Larus cachinnans*

Sept. 2007

(17/21 1524 5578) (190-540, 1050-1060 metres)

8 at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)

1524 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 1158 at Qingedahu, Changji; just one at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 365 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

1005 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1000 at Moguhu & 350 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

10 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

20 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

51 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 - these included 41 at the Jing river mouth. (190 metres)

12 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 - 10 at the Jing river mouth & 2 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

48 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

32 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

25 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Most of these (16 birds) flew west down the Yili river off the Yining Riverside Park, Yili. (545 metres)

100 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. 81 of these were at Da Hekou about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)

25 around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

208 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, four on Shashanzi Reservoir, 120 on Bayi Reservoir & 84 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

300 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

560 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 - these involved 370 at Moguhu & 190 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

300 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

PALLAS'S GULL *Larus ichthyaetus*

Sept. 2007

(11/21 987 4770) (375-470 & 1060 metres)

82 (including 13 juveniles/first-winters) at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)

987 in total at two sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 492 at Qingedahu, Changji & 495 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

462 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

400 at Moguhu & 280 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

20 on the 13/9/2007 with about equal numbers at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & Quangou Reservoir, Kuitun. (400 & 435 metres)

105 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. 78 of these were at Da Hekou about mid-way down the lake's eastern shore. (1050 metres)

3 around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

717 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, six on Shashanzi Reservoir, 535 on Bayi Reservoir & 176 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

550 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
814 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 650 at Moguhu & 164 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
350 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*

Sept. 2007

(15/21 4500 21,846) (190-510 & 1050-1070 metres)
3088 north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These involved 1650 at Qingedahu, Changji; just 28 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 1410 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiagu. (450-470 metres)
2720 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
2500 at Moguhu & 500 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
10 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
5 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)
46 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
16 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 10 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 6 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)
1 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
1300 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007.
100 around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
60 at Caiwopu Lake, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1070 metres)
Well over 3000 were in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 'present but not counted' at Qingedahu, 30 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 550 on Bayi Reservoir & 1650 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
1500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
4500 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 4000 at Moguhu & 500 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
2500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

RELICT GULL *Larus relictus* **VU**

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (375 metres)
1 first-winter at Moguhu, Shihezi on both the 28th & 29/9/2007. (44°25.22'N., 85°53.31'E.). Undoubtedly the first record for this site & one over very few records in the whole of Xinjiang. (Photographed). (375 metres)

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 2 2) (1050 metres)
2 juveniles at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were both swimming together well out on the lake & were viewed from the causeway between Da Hekou & Shui Wen zhan. (1050 metres)

CASPIAN TERN *Hydroprogne caspia*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 37 75) (190-470 & 1050 metres)
8 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 2 adults at Qingedahu, Changji, 2 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 4 birds (three adults & a juvenile) at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiagu. (470 metres)
2 adults at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
9 (seven adults & two juveniles) at Moguhu & 28 (18 adults & 10 juveniles) at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
1 adult on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
4 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)
2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
19 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 2 (an adult & an attendant juvenile) at Moguhu & 17 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
2 (an adult & an attendant juvenile) at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 155 479) (190-470 & 1050 metres)
128 in total at just two sites in Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007 - 5 at Shashanzi Reservoir & 123 including numerous locally fledged juveniles at Bayi Reservoir. (470 metres)
110 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)
63 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
1 juvenile at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
155 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. These involved 110 on the lakes eastern shore with 59 at Da Hekou & 45 along the lakes southern shore, most of which were at Baihu Zhou. Quite a number of juveniles still dependant on being fed by there parents were seen. (1050 metres)
10 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. They were all at Jinshatan. (1050 metres)
7 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included singles at Qingedahu & Shashanzi Reservoir & five on Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
2 (an adult & a juvenile) at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

'WESTERN' LITTLE TERN *Sternula albifrons albifrons*

Sept. 2007

(6/21 11 27) (190-470 & 1050 metres)

11 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 juvenile on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

2 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 juvenile at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Shui Wen zhan in the lake's south-western corner. (1050 metres)

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (375 & 1050 metres)

1 adult at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. A moulting summer-plumaged adult it was with the Common Terns at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern side. (1050 metres)

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 11 23) (375 & 470 metres)

5 juveniles at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

11 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

7 juveniles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 2 8) (375-470 & 1050 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 adults at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. One at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern side & the other at Baihu Zhou. (1050 metres)

2 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007 – a juvenile at Qingedahu, Wujiagu & an un-aged bird at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved an adult, presumably the same bird as yesterday, at Moguhu & a juvenile at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

ORIENTAL HONEY-BUZZARD *Pernis ptilorhyncus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (250 & 1050 metres)

1 juvenile flew south over the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu at 19:05hrs on the 15/9/2007. (250 metres)

1 juvenile flew south near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo at 10:00hrs. (1050 metres)

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans lineatus*

Sept. 2007

(13/21 450 747) (210-1050, 2090 & 3075 metres)

15 near Urumqi on the 9/9/2007 – one at Baihu, Xishan & the others over Urumqi International Airport. (840 metres)

450 in the Urumqi area on the 10/9/2007. These included 230 at Qingedahu, Changji, 45 near Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 130 near Bayi Reservoir, also

Wujiagu. The two larger counts were at drained fish ponds where birds were scavenging on dead or dying fish. (450-470 metres)

50 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

10 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

4 near the Anjihai Reservoirs, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

2 near Jinghe on the 15/9/2007. (210 metres)

1 flew west down the Yili river off the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

2 singles in Hejing on the 21/9/2007. The first was near Gongnaisi & the second about 10 kms west of the summit of the Chagannu'er Pass. (2090 & 3075 metres)

1 near Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

71 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 65 near Qingedahu, four near Shashanzi Reservoir & two near Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

48 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

63 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 45 at Moguhu & 18 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* VU

Sept. 2007

(3/21 2 4) (375 & 450 metres)

1 juvenile at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (44°05.61'N., 87°31.72'E.). (450 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (44°25.22'N., 85°53.31'E.). (Photos). (375 metres)

In Shihezi 2 juveniles were seen at Moguhu in the morning with undoubtedly the same two birds at Beihu Reservoir in the afternoon. (Photos). (375 metres)

LAMMERGEIER *Gypaetus barbatus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (3250 metres)

1 adult just five kilometres west of the summit of the Chagannu'er Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3250 metres)

HIMALAYAN GRIFFON *Gyps himalayensis*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 4 4) (3030 metres)

4 near the Shengli Road worker's station 25kms west of the Chagannu'er Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3030 metres)

CINEREOUS VULTURE *Aegypius monachus* NT

Sept. 2007

(1/21 2 2) (2880 metres)

2 between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. They were exactly 65 kms east of the former. (2880 metres)

EURASIAN MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

Sept. 2007

(6/21 2 8) (190-ca.700 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 juvenile near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

2 separate juveniles flew south-west at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

2 separate juveniles in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. The first was over the Laowuban, Julian, 68th Corps. pool & the second flew east high over the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps. (545 & ca.700 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 cream-crown at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

[In addition 1 bird, possibly this species, was seen very briefly at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)]

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 2 6) (375-470 & 1050 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 ringtail at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern side. (1050 metres)

2 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007 – singles at Qingedahu, Wujiagu & Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)

1 ringtail at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 ringtail at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* NT

Sept. 2007

(1/21 2 2) (405 metres)

2 juveniles flew south down the western side of Anjihai Res. No. 2, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (405 metres)

EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

Sept. 2007

(7/21 2 8) (Minus 40 to +600, 2100 & 2250 metres)

1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)

1 over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

2 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2100 & 2250 metres)

1 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

accipiter sp.

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (375 & 810 metres)

1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 flew over the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

COMMON BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 3 5) (2080-2190 metres)

3 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2080-2190 metres)

2 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100-2150 metres)

LONG-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo rufinus*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 3 16) (Minus 30-*ca.*700, 2070 & 2310 metres)

1 juvenile at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

1 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

1 near the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (*ca.*700 metres)

2 near Gongnaisi Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2070 & 2310 metres)

3 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all between Shui Wen zhan & Baihu Zhou on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)

1 near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (1050 metres)

3, including two adults, between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)

3 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007 – a juvenile at Qingedah, Wujiaqu, and un-aged birds near Shashanzi & Bayi Reservoirs, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)

1 adult near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo lagopus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (660 metres)

1 juvenile flew south over the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) near Wugongtai, Hutubi on the 27/9/2007. It was the first bird of the autumn in Xinjiang – and was apparently early. (660 metres)

GREATER SPOTTED EAGLE *Aquila clanga* VU

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (190 & 1050 metres)

1 immature near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (44°49'N., 82°54'E.). (190 metres)

1 near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (41°08.87'N., 86°49.31'E.). (1050 metres)

GOLDEN EAGLE *Aquila chrysaetos*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (*ca.*1800 metres)

1 over the Tien Shan mountains west of Zhongyanchang, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (41°08.87'N., 86°49.31'E.). (*ca.*1800 metres)

BOOTED EAGLE *Aquila pennatus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (*ca.*230 metres)

1 dark morph flew west over Jinghe town on the 15/9/2007. (*ca.*230 metres)

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* VU

Sept. 2007

(1/21 21 21) (760-810 metres)

21 between Yining & Xinyuan in the lower Yili Valley on the 20/9/2007. These involved 13 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun (43°41.90'N. 81°59.74'E); four (one of which flew purposefully west) near Heishantou, Yining (43°35.79'N. 82°12.77'E); six (one of which flew purposefully west) near Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan (43°35.00'N. 82°33.21'E). (760, 800, 810 metres)

COMMON KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

Sept. 2007

(13/21 12 40) (Minus 40 to 1340 & 2080-2950 metres)

1 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (590 metres)

2 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – singles at the Jing river mouth & on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

1 over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

2 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2080 & *ca.*2350 metres)

12 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Most of these (eight birds) were singles and the two pairs were at the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & near Chabuchaer town. (550-670 metres)

4 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007 – these involved on near Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan, another east of Karasu & two close to Nalati. (810-1340 metres)

4 singles between Gongnaisi & the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2195-2950 metres)

1 near the western end of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. It was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo. (1050 metres)

1 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

2 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. (450 & 470 metres)

7 on the 27/9/2007 – five of these were seen from the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) while the other two were at Moguhu, Shihezi. (375, 580, 660, 680 & 720 metres)

1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 singles at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

KESTREL SP. *Falco naumanni* or *F. tinnunculus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 4 4) (810 metres)

4 (two of which flew purposefully west) near Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (2070 metres)

1 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

EURASIAN HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 3 13) (190-1050 metres)

1 adult near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)

1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 flew south-west over the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

2 singles at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

2 displaying outside the Yili hotel in central Yining on the 19/9/2007. (665 metres)

2 displaying outside the Yili hotel in central Yining on the 20/9/2007. (665 metres)

1 juvenile near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

3 singles around the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007. Two of these were at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsu, Heshuo & the other near Jinshatan. (1050 metres)

SAKER FALCON *Falco cherrug* EN

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (375 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (44°25.22'N., 85°53.31'E.) (375 metres)

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus*

Sept. 2007

(6/21 2 8) (375-1050 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 juvenile in the Zhongyangchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

1 juvenile on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – it was near the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan. (1050 metres)

2, an adult & a juvenile, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 juveniles in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – one at Moguhu & the other at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)

1 juvenile at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 4 5) (400 & 1050 metres)

4 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

1 on Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

RED-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps grisegena*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 3 3) (2070 metres)

3 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

Sept. 2007

(16/21 321 1317) (190-545, 1050-1070 & 2070 metres)

44 on Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

62 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

1 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

7 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

29 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

31, including several locally fledged young, on the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, Chabuhaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

64 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved 33 at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 31 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. (1050 metres)

321 on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Bole on the 24/9/2007 – 290 at Yinshatan & 31 at Jinshatan. (1050 metres)
1 at Caiwopu Lake, Urumqi on the 25/9/2007. (1070 metres)
40 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 12 at Qingedahu, one on Shashanzi Reservoir & 27 on Bayi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
231 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
283 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
200 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

HORNED GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 3 3) (375 metres)

3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

Sept. 2007

(11/21 6100 6359) (370-795, 1570 & 2070 metres)

73, including numerous locally fledged & still dependant juveniles, at Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

1 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (370 metres)

6100 were counted on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres). Note that the entire old world population has recently been estimated at being between 319,000-458,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Sailimuhu represents between 1.3-1.9% of the entire old world population!

1 on the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

7 on Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1570 metres)

12 at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

31 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

66 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

65 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

[In addition Gou Jun saw one at Bayi Reservoir, Wujiagu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)]

GREAT CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Sept. 2007

(18/21 8500 29,410) (190-2070 metres)

11 (2 adults & 9 juveniles) at Wulabo Reservoir, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (1060 metres)

51 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 21 at Qingedahu, Changji; 7 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 23 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiagu. (450-470 metres)

Almost 4900 in Shihezi on the 11/9/2007 – these involved 40 at Liushugou Reservoir & a massive 4855 at Moguhu. (375 & 400 metres)

8,500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

10 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

310 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

320 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – most of these were on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth. (190 metres)

32 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 15 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth & 17 at the Jing river mouth itself. (190 metres)

11 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

80 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. 15 of these were seen from the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & about 40 birds were roosting on pylons in the Yili river near Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer. Elsewhere there were 14 besides the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps. (545-660 metres)

8 besides the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

218 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved three at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 215 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. The preferred site at Bosten Hu was Baihu Zhou where 170 birds were logged. (1050 metres)

4 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

1250 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 1250 on the northern side of Bosten Hu (42 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo, 1200 at Yinshatan & 10 at Jinshatan) & another one at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)

3385 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 520 at Qingedahu, 10 on Shashanzi Reservoir & 2855 on Bayi Reservoir – about 2000 of which took gradually flight shortly after I arrived, circled & gained sufficient height that they were soon out of sight. I assumed that they were migrating! (450 & 470 metres)

3000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

3820 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 3500 at Moguhu & 320 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

3500 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

Sept. 2007

(16/21 254 1043) (190-2070 metres)

167 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 122 at Qingedahu, Changji; 2 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiagu & 43 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiagu. (450-470 metres)

145 in Shihezi on the 11/9/2007 – these involved 6 at Liushugou Reservoir & 149 at Moguhu. (375-400 metres)

243 at Moguhu & 11 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

3 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan, 1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun & 4 at Quanguo Reservoir, Kuitun all on the 13/9/2007. (400-435 metres)

28 near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)

2 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

7 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 3 at the Jing river mouth & 4 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)

1 on Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

5 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. (545-630 metres)
4 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
33 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved four at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 29 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. The preferred site at Bosten Hu was Baihu Zhou where 23 birds were logged. (1050 metres)
6 birds were logged on the 24/9/2007 - 5 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo & one at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo. (1050 & 1570 metres)
135 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 29 at Qingedahu, six on Shashanzi Reservoir, 21 on Bayi Reservoir & 79 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
78 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
140 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 62 at Moguhu & 78 at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)
30 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREAT EGRET *Casmerodius albus*

Sept. 2007

(18/21 468 2581) (190-1050 metres)

114 in total at just three sites north of Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 - 87 at Qingedahu, Changji; 4 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & 23 in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)
130 in Shihezi on the 11/9/2007 – these involved 5 at Liushugou Reservoir & 125 at Moguhu. (375-400 metres)
217 at Moguhu & 19 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
5 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan, 2 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun & 47 at Quangou Reservoir, Kuitun all on the 13/9/2007. (400-435 metres)
55 near Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 3 on Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu; 23 on the crab ponds near Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190, 330 & 370 metres)
39 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 34 in the area around the Jing river mouth & nearby crab ponds & 5 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190-230 metres)
43 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007 – 5 on the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, 21 at the Jing river mouth & 17 on the marsh between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth. (190 metres)
9 on Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
42 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Four flew east up the Yili river in the early morning & the rest were in Chabuchaer. Seven were at the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, 26 were on the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps. & five were on the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps. (545-630 metres)
7 near the Yili river in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
468 the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. These involved seven at Xiangsi Lake, Hejing & 461 along the eastern & southern shores of Bosten Hu. By far the most preferred site at Bosten Hu was Baihu Zhou where a massive 383 birds were logged. (1050 metres)
1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
164 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007 (134 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo, 10 at Yinshatan & 2 at Jinshatan). (1050 metres)
274 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 114 at Qingedahu, 18 on Shashanzi Reservoir, 93 on Bayi Reservoir & 49 on Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)
244 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
392 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 370 at Moguhu & 22 at Beihu Reservoir. (375 metres)
283 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus ibis*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (375 metres)

1 immature at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres). Found by PIH at 09:30 & seen well by me, Gou Jun & Wang Qingyu it was the first record for Xinjiang. Initially seen at about 1.5 kms range it was later seen as close as about 600 metres. It was loosely consorting with Great Egrets. I took some field notes & made a sketch while both Gou Jun & me photographed it. The photos were poor, but identifiable.

LITTLE BITTERN *Ixobrychus minutus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (415 & 1050 metres)

1 near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)
1 at the northern end of Bosten Hu, Bohu on the 24/9/2007 – it was at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongs, Heshuo. (1050 metres)

GREAT BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (190 & 450 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
1 flew south over the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

EURASIAN SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 3 3) (375 metres)

3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

RUFUS-TAILED SHRIKE *Lanius phoenicuroides*

Sept. 2007

(18/21 16 101) (Minus 30 to +1050 & 2070 metres)

- 16 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These included one near Qingedahu, Changji, five at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu; three between there & Bayi Reservoir & seven in the Bayi Reservoir-Dong Fang (Wolonggang), also Wujiaqu Reservoir area. (450-470 metres)
- 15 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on 11/9/2007. (375-400 metres)
- 8 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 8 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
- 7 between Kuitun & Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
- 5 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190-230 metres)
- 3 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
- 3 near Bole on the 17/9/2007. (450-510 metres)
- 1 first-winter at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)
- 3 in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545-640 metres)
- 3 singles on the 20/9/2007 – the first was in the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan & the last at Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati. At least the last bird, an adult male, could be assigned to subspecies - it was *isabellinus*. (810-920 metres)
- 3 near Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
- 2 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)
- 3 singles around the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
- 5 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 30 to minus 50 metres)
- 5 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. (450 & 470 metres)
- 8 at various sites around Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
- 5 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

SOUTHERN GREY SHRIKE *Lanius meridionalis pallidirostris*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 4 5) (Minus 40 & +1050 metres)

- 4 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all singles, & included at least one adult & two first-winters, & all were seen in the arid desert along the lake's southern shore between Shui Wen zhan & Baihu Zhou. (1050 metres)
- 1 first-winter between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE *Pica pica*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 12 21) (545-760 & 2125-2950 metres)

- 5 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area - on the 19/9/2007 – two in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & three near the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. (545 & 585 metres)
- 4 near Heishantou, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (760 metres)
- 12 between Gongnaisi & the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2125-2950 metres)

SPOTTED NUTCRACKER *Nucifraga caryocatactes*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 10 13) (2150-2250 metres)

- 10 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2200 metres)
- 3 were heard in the Gongnaisi forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2230 & 2250 metres)

RED-BILLED CHOUGH *Pyrhcorax pyrrhcorax*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 14 14) (3100 metres)

- 14 on the hillside above the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3100 metres)

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 20 29) (630, 810 & 2075-2930 metres)

- 5 besides the No. 1 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps. Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (630 metres)
- 4 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)
- 20 in Hejing on the 21/9/2007 – these involved 10 in the Gongnaisi Forest & another 10 between there & the summit of the Aierken Pass. (2075-2930 metres)

COMMON RAVEN *Corvus corax*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 35 36) (1690 & 2880 metres)

- 35 between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. 32 of these birds were all together & were exactly 65 kms east of the former pass. (2880 metres)
- 1 about 60 kms west of Tuokexun on the 24/9/2007. (1690 metres)

EURASIAN BLACKBIRD *Turdus merula**

Sept. 2007

(7/21 30 58) (ca.230-1050 & 2110-2180 metres)

2 in the gardens of the Jinghe hotel early on the 15/9/2007. (ca.230 metres)

2 in the park besides Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)

15 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2180 metres)

30 in Yili on the 19/9/2007 – about 10 in the garden of the Yili hotel & the other 20 in the Yining Riverside Park. (545 & 640 metres)

5 in the garden of the Yili hotel, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (650 metres).

4 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110 & 2180 metres)

1 was heard at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

MISTLE THRUSH *Turdus viscivorus*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 12 17) (600, 840 & 2110-2280 metres)

12 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)

2 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)

1 near the Kashi river at Km post 106 - four kilometres east of Dunmazhe, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (840 metres)

2 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110 & 2280 metres)

BLACK-THROATED THRUSH *Turdus atrogularis**

Sept. 2007

(11/21 75 162) (375-880 & 2180 metres)

25 in the Moguhu area, Shihezi on 11/9/2007. (375-400 metres)

4 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).

1 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)

7 in the park besides Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)

1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2180 metres)

32 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

2 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

8 on the 27/9/2007 – six of these were seen from the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) while the other two were at Moguhu, Shihezi. (375 & 660 metres)

75 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

6 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa striata*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (230 metres)

1 first-winter near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 4 7) (190-1050 metres)

4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 besides the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)

BLUE-CAPPED REDSTART *Phoenicurus coeruleocephalus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 6 11) (2100-2190 metres)

6 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)

5 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100-2150 metres)

COMMON REDSTART *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (230 & 375 metres)

1 male near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

1 male at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. Rare here. (375 metres)

[3 birds, possibly this species, were seen poorly near Balantai, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (1800 metres)]

COMMON STONECHAT *Saxicola torquatus*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 1 4) (190, 450 & 2130 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 male on the edge of the conifer forest over looking Sailimu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2130 metres)

NORTHERN WHEATEAR *Oenanthe oenanthe*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 2 3) (375 & 450 metres)

1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 singles at Qingedahu, Wujiagu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

PIED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe pleschanka*

Sept. 2007

(8/21 19 37) (Minus40 to +1050 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 juvenile near Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (840 metres)

2 near Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & 2 more at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 & 370 metres)

2 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

19 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were all in the arid desert along the lake's southern shore between Shui Wen zhan & Baihu Zhou. (1050 metres)

6 near Jinshatan on the northern side of Bosten Hu, Heshuo on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

5 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

1 first-winter at Qingedahu, Wujiagu on the 26/9/2007. It was apparently only the second record for the site – the first was a male in May 2007. (450 metres)

DESERT WHEATEAR *Oenanthe deserti*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 1 3) (190 & 375 metres)

1 male at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 first-winter male at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

ISABELLINE WHEATEAR *Oenanthe isabellina*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 2 4) (190, 375 & 2070 metres)

1 near the Aibihu Salt Works, Jinghe on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

2 at Sailimu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

WHEATEAR SP. *Oenanthe sp.*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (810 metres)

1 near the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

COMMON STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Sept. 2007

(16/21 3000 9724) (Minus 40 to +1050 metres)

30 near Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

550 near Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

500 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).

300 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)

300 between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)

205 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 – 200 the Jing river mouth & 5 the Kuerketa Central Protection Station. (170 & 235 metres)

5 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

420 flew northeast across the Yili river towards Yining town on the 19/9/2007 – they were apparently leaving an evening roost. (585 metres)

300 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. These included 250 over the Zhongyanchang grasslands, Xinyuan. (750-950 metres)

4 near Xiangsi Lake, Hejing on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

250 near the western end of Bosten Hu close to Yanji on the on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

200 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

160 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 10 near Qingedahu & 150 on Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

3000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

2500 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

1000 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON MYNA *Acridotheres tristis*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 45 129) (545-1170 metres)

45 besides route S218 between Huocheng & Yili on the 18/9/2007. (700-745 metres)

40 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Three in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & all the rest at various sites in Chabuchaer. Several singles & no flock of larger than eight birds was seen. (545-620 metres)

44 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (790-1170 metres).

These involved sightings at the following sites -

2 at Wanya'er xiang, Yining - Km post 99 & 30 minutes drive east of Yili (790 metres)

30 at Dunmazhe, Yining - Km post 106 & 40 minutes drive east of Yili (820 metres)

3 near Km post 122, Yining. (825 metres)

3 near Km post 143 in Heishantou, Yining. (760 metres)

4 in Zhongyangchang, Xinyuan (Km 181) (810 metres)

2 in Karasu, Nalati. (1170 metres)

EURASIAN TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 1 1) (2160 metres)

1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2160 metres)

WINTER WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 2 2) (2100 & 2140 metres)

2 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100 & 2140 metres)

WHITE-CROWNED PENDULINE TIT *Remiz coronatus***Sept. 2007**

(3/21 26 28) (375-585 metres)

26 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Five birds, apparently a locally fledged family group (one juvenile was seen being fed by a parent) in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & all the rest in the 68th Corps., Chabuchaer area. Of these 18 were in scrub near the Laowuban, Jiulian pool & the other three were near the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang. Several adult males were well seen & assignable to *R. c. coronatus*. (545-585 metres) Birds at Laowuban were feeding in a large area of flowering tamarisk (Salt Cedar *Tamarix ramosissima*). This plant is known in China as 'chenliu' or locally called 'hongliu' bushes. Its a semi-deciduous, loosely branched shrub that has a high tolerance of saline soils & is very common and widespread in arid areas of Xinjiang & elsewhere. Its even a fairly common non-native invasive species in the west).

1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

SONGAR TIT *Poecile songarus***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 4 4) (2140-2190 metres)

4 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2140-2190 metres)

COAL TIT *Periparus ater***Sept. 2007**

(2/21 6 12) (2110-2190 metres)

6 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)

6 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110-2140 metres)

GREAT TIT *Parus major***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 2 2) (600 metres)

2 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)

GREAT or TURKESTAN TIT *Parus major* or *P. bokharensis***Sept. 2007**

(3/21 10 19) (230-650 metres)

1 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

10 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

8 in Yili city on the 20/9/2007. (650 metres)

AZURE TIT *Cyanistes cyanus***Sept. 2007**

(7/21 6 24) (375-1350 & 2135 metres)

6 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)

2 in the garden of the Aibihu hotel in central Bole on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)

6 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

3 singles were noted on the 20/9/2007 – one in scrub besides the Yili river about five kilometres east of Heishantou, another was at Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati & the last bird was just on the edge of Nalati town. (760, 920 & 1350 metres)

1 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2135 metres)

3 near Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375-400 metres)

3 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 8 8) (585 metres)

8 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (190 & 415 metres)

1 juvenile, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)

1 with other hirundines at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

PALE MARTIN *Riparia diluta*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 15 16) (415 & 450 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

15, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)

SAND or PALE MARTIN *R. riparia or R. diluta*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 9 15) (190-450 metres)

4 at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).

9 with other hirundines at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (415 metres)

1, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)

BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

Sept. 2007

(20/21 1000 4937) (Minus 40 to +1060 & 2920 metres)

40 in & around Urumqi (mostly at Wulabo Reservoir) on the 9/9/2007. (850-1060 metres)

600 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. Most of these (500 birds) were at Qingedahu, Changji. (450-470 metres)

200 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375-750 metres)

400 in the Moguhu-Beihu area, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).

900 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. 650 of these were seen with, other hirundines, at two sites near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)

1000 on the 14/9/2007 – 500 at Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu & a similar number at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe. (190-370 metres)

20 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

40 with other hirundines at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

150 over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

100 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. Most of these were seen, distantly, flying west down the Yili valley from near the No. 2

Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps in the early evening. (545-590 metres)

100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. These included about 60 near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati. (650-1350 metres)

2 flew west near the Shengli Dao Ban road workers station between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2920 metres)

100 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)

5 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)

250 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 23/9/2007. About 200 of these were at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsu, Heshuo on the northern side of Bosten Hu.

30 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

300 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. Birds were seen at all the sites we visited & about 200 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu. (450 & 470 metres)

300 were seen flying south on the 27/9/2007. The bulk of these were actively migrating, over the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) while about 50 did the same at Moguhu, Shihezi. (375 metres)

100 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007 – most of these were seen flying south over Moguhu in the early morning. (375 metres)

30 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

NORTHERN HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 210 210) (415 metres)

210, with other hirundines, near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (415 metres)

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 4 8) (2110-2190 metres)

4 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2190 metres)

4 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2110-2150 metres)

WHITE-BROWED CHINESE WARBLER *Rhopophilus pekinensis* End.

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (880 metres)

1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

CETTI'S BUSH WARBLER *Cettia cetti*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 11 11) (585 metres)

11 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

PADDYFIELD WARBLER *Acrocephalus agricola*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 2 5) (400-1050 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

2 besides the pool six kms north of Duiqiniuluxiang, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

2 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

SIBERIAN CHIFFCHAFF *Phylloscopus [collybita] tristis**

Sept. 2007

(12/21 25 53) (190-1050 & 2075-2130 metres)

1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. Presumably an early date for this species that normally passes through the area during October to late November. (375 metres)

1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

6 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2075-2130 metres)

25 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. The highest count was 11 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili. (545-630 metres)

2 near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati. (920 metres)

1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)

1 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. It was in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

1 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

6 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included two near Qingedahu one near Shashanzi Reservoir & three near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

2 were heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

4 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved 3 near Moguhu & another at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

3 were heard at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

DUSKY WARBLER *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (375 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres) Initially heard at 11:00hrs it wasn't seen for another 40 minutes! It eventually performed well, although it wasn't photographed, I managed to make a couple of decent recordings of quite lengthy sequences of calling. (375 metres) Apparently only the second record for Xinjiang, the first was a bird at 360 metres at Nongtian Reservoir, Wusu (a mostly lowland district between Kuitun and Jinghe in western Xinjiang) on the unlikely mid-summer date of 24 June [1987] [Ma 2001]. According to Gou Jun this bird was collected. Dusky Warbler apparently breeds in the Altai mountains in Kazakhstan (Wassink & Oreel 2007) & I would suspect it probably does so in the Chinese Altai.

HUME'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus humei**

Sept. 2007

(13/21 15 43) (190-920 & 2140-2145 metres)

6 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 in the Manas River Valley, Manas on the 13/9/2007. (600 metres)

2 were heard near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)
1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
2 were heard in Bole town on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)
2 birds were heard on the 18/9/2007 – one was in the conifer forest at Sailimuhu, Bole & the other was in the garden of the Yili Hotel. (730 & 2140 metres)
15 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. The highest count was 10 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili. (545-585 metres)
3 near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (920 metres)
1 was heard in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2145 metres)
1 near Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 & 470 metres)
5 were heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
1 near Beihu Reservoir, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375-400 metres)
2 were heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

BEARDED PARROTBILL *Panurus biarmicus*

Sept. 2007

(5/21 165 181) (190-1050 metres)

4 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)
2 were heard at Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)
2 separate birds were heard near the crab ponds near the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
8 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. What I assumed to be single birds were heard at Da Hekou & at one more site on the lake's eastern shore & six were seen near Shui Wen zhan in the lake's south-western corner. (1050 metres)
165 on the northern side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. These were counted along the four kilometre stretch of reed bed we explored at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsu, Heshuo. Several birds were only heard – I counted these as singles & the true number of birds present just in this four kilometre stretch of reed bed probably significantly exceeded this count. I would speculate at the total number of birds present at the whole of Bosten Hu easily exceeds 1000 birds! Most that were actually seen today were in parties of between 7-13 individuals (family parties?). (1050 metres)

DESERT WHITETHROAT *Sylvia minula**

Sept. 2007

(6/21 6 20) (minus 40 to +1050 metres)

2 were heard calling at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu on the 10/9/2007. (470 metres)
5 in the 68 Corps. area of Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007 – four near the Laowuban, Jiulian pool & the other near the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment. (545-620 metres)
1 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres)
3 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. They were all in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)
3 singles were heard near Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
6 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

LESSER WHITETHROAT SP. *Sylvia curruca* sp.

Sept. 2007

(3/21 2 4) (190-585 metres)

1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
2 in scrub between Bole railway station & the Boertala river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
1 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

CALANDRA LARK *Melancorypha calandra*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 13 13) (810 metres)

13 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (Photos). (810 metres)

GREATER SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 25 25) (810 metres)

25 in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

ASIAN SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella cheleensis*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 11 34) (190-450 & 1050 metres)

2 were heard near Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)
4 at Yinshatan, Aibihu, Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190 & 370 metres)
1 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)
4 flew north at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)
11 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. These involved 10 at Da Hekou & one near Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern flank. (1050 metres).
2 flew over the pool two kilometres north of Yinshatan, Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
1 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)
2 singles flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)
7 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata*

Sept. 2007

(9/21 120 410) (Minus 40 to +950 metres)

2 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).

8 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

18 in Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. These included 12 near the Laowuban, Jiulian pool. (545-640 metres)

20 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. 15 of these were in the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining. (810-950 metres)

120 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

11 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included eight birds, probably migrants, in the paddy fields on the eastern side of Qingedahu that all took flight at 10:50hrs & flew high to the south. Elsewhere there were two near Shashanzi Reservoir & one over Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

1 was heard near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

3 birds (a single & a pair) flew south, as if actively migrating, over the Urumqi to Shihezi expressway (route G312) near Wugongtai, Hutubi on the 27/9/2007. (550 & 640 metres)

5 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

EURASIAN SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 4 12) (375-450 metres)

3 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

4 singles flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

4 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

HORNED LARK *Eremophila alpestris*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 271 271) (2630-3150 metres)

271 birds were counted between the summits of the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. The first birds were seen nine kilometres east of the Aierken Pass & the last ones were right on the summit of the Pass. Amazingly not a single bird was seen on the eastern side of the Chagannu'er Pass! (2630-3150 metres)

SAXAUL SPARROW *Passer ammodendri*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 28 28) (880 metres)

28 near the Puhui, Korla on the 23/9/2007. They were all in the Puhui Huyangling Luyou Dujiachun. (880 metres)

HOUSE SPARROW *Passer domesticus*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 100 225) (Minus 40 to +375 metres)

30 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

100 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).

80 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

15 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

SPANISH SPARROW *Passer hispaniolensis*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 25 25) (Minus 40 metres)

25 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. These birds were seen in a total of four flocks of sparrows – all four flocks were in the agricultural areas away from town & all four flocks also contained House & Eurasian Tree Sparrows! In addition three apparent hybrid Spanish x House Sparrow hybrids were also seen. (minus 40 metres)

APPARENT HOUSE x SPANISH SPARROW *Passer domesticus* x *P. hispaniolensis*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 3 3) (Minus 40 metres)

3 male apparent hybrids were seen in a mixed sparrow flock between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

Sept. 2007

(17/21 400 2100) (Minus 40 to +1350 metres)

400 in total near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. (450-470 metres)

10 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (850-1000 metres)

100 between Urumqi & Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

40 in the Moguhu-Beihu area, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres).
20 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)
20 between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)
50 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007.
100 between Yining, Xinyuan & Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (650-1350 metres)
40 in Hejing on the 21/9/2007. Most of these were in & around Balantai. (ca.1800 metres)
10 in the Hejing-Bohu areas on the 22/9/2007. (1050 metres)
10 between Korla and the Puhui on the 23/9/2007. (880-920 metres)
200 between Korla, Bosten Hu & Tuokexun on the 23/9/2007.
250 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. (minus 40 metres)
400 in & around Urumqi, Wujiaqu & Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450-800 metres)
200 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)
200 in the Shihezi area on the 28/9/2007. (375-420 metres)
50 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

sparrow sp. *Passer sp.*

Sept. 2007

(4/21 400 670) (Minus 40 to + metres)

150 near Bole town on the 17/9/2007. (490 metres)

20 near Huocheng on the 18/9/2007. (780 metres)

A distant flock of 100 birds was seen flying west (possibly to roost?) from near the No. 2 Reservoir of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps, Chabuchaer in the early evening of 19/9/2007. (580 metres)

400 between Tuokexun & Xia Xiang Badui on the 25/9/2007. Numerous small flocks (of between 15-40 birds) were seen in flight in this same area. (minus 40 metres)

WHITE-WINGED SNOWFINCH *Montifringilla nivalis*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 85 85) (3165 & 3230 metres)

Two flocks totalling about 85 birds, were seen near the Chagannu'er Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. The first flock (45 birds) was 10 kms west of the summit of the pass, the second (40 birds) five kilometres west. (3165 & 3230 metres)

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

Masked Wagtail *M. a. personata*

White Wagtail *M. a. alba*

'Siberian Wagtail' *M. a. ocularis*

Sept. 2007

(19/21 120 410) (190-1060, 1570, 2070 & 3030 metres)

Three different subspecies were noted - Masked Wagtail *M. a. personata*, White Wagtail *M. a. alba* & 'Siberian Wagtail' *M. a. ocularis*. The former was by far the most common & widespread form accounting for 355 of the 370 bird-days (96%) of those racially identified. I also saw up to eight nominate *alba* on four days totalling 11 bird-days. A single 'Siberian Wagtail' *M. a. ocularis* seen near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007 (230 metres) was probably the first record of this form for Xinjiang. (230 metres). Records for White Wagtail *M. alba* as a whole were as follows -

70 in & around Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. One of these was at Baihu, Xishan while 65 were around the southern edge of Wulabo Reservoir. All were *M. a. personata* & the vast majority were adults. (795-1060 metres)

25 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These included about 10 at both Qingedahu, Changji & Bayi Reservoir, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

120 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. These included one adult male *alba*, a form that's apparently a rare migrant through Xinjiang. All the rest were *personata*. (375 metres)

30 at various sites around Moguhu & 65 at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. All were *personata*. (375 metres)

15 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)

5 *M. a. personata* between Kuitun & Jinghe on the 14/9/2007. (190-350 metres)

7 at Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. These included six *leucopsis* & one 'Siberian Wagtail' *M. a. ocularis*. The latter was seen near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station & is probably the first record of this form for Xinjiang. (190-230 metres)

5 *personata* at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

4 near Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

9 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. These were mostly *personata* although one nominate *alba* was seen. (2073 metres)

25 in the Yili-Chabuchaer area on the 19/9/2007. These included five from the Yining Riverside Park, Yili & 14 besides the No. 1 & No. 2 Reservoirs of the 8th Detachment, 68 Corps., Chabuchaer. 10 birds were racially assigned (all were in Chabuchaer) & two were *personata* eight others were nominate *alba*. (545-660 metres)

1 *personata* near Musixiang, Nileke xian, Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (920 metres)

1 flew west near the Shengli Road worker's station 25kms west of the Chagannu'er Pass on the 21/9/2007. (3030 metres)

4 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. These included one nominate *alba* just south of Da Hekou on the lake's eastern flank. (1050 metres)

6 at Bayi Reservoir, Heshuo on the 23/9/2007. (1570 metres)

6 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included one that flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, two *personata* at Shashanzi Reservoir & three *personata* at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

5, including at least one *personata*, at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

6, including three *personata*, flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

CITRINE WAGTAIL *Motacilla citreola*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 1 1) (400 metres)

1 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400 metres)

WESTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*****feldegg-beema* intergrade****Sept. 2007**

(16/21 110 291) (190-585 & 1050 metres)

Only three birds were racially identified & all three were apparent *feldegg-beema* intergrades.

2 flew over Baihu, Xishan, Urumqi on the 9/9/2007. (795 metres)

30 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007. These included about 15 at Qingedahu, Changji & slightly fewer than this in the Bayi Reservoir Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir area, Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

110 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. Most were immatures & not racially assignable but two adult males were seen & both were 'blue-headed types' but probably *feldegg-beema* intergrades. (375 metres) (375 metres)

25 at various sites around Moguhu & a similar number at Beihu, both sites Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

30 between Shihezi, Shawan & Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (400-430 metres)

10 at Daerquanzi reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (330 metres)

2 at the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (190 metres)

10 at Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

2 flew west over Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)

3 at Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

2 flew over the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

2 at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. They were both at Da Hekou on the lake's eastern flank. (1050 metres)

13 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 10 that flew south-south-west at Qingedahu & three at Shashanzi Reservoir. (450 & 470 metres)

4 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

18 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. Only one of these was racially assignable, an adult male – and apparent *feldegg* x *beema* hybrid. (375 metres)

3 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea***Sept. 2007**

(5/21 5 9) (230-545 & 1800-2140 metres)

1 near the Kuerketa Central Protection Station, Aibihu on the 15/9/2007. (230 metres)

1 near the Laowuban, Jiulian, 68th Corps. pool, Chabuchaer on the 19/9/2007. (545 metres)

5 in Hejing on the 21/9/2007 – these involved two in the Gongnaisi Forest & three near Balantai. (1800-1830 & 2115-2140 metres)

1 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus richardi***Sept. 2007**

(7/21 3 12) (370-1050 metres)

3 near Urumqi on the 10/9/2007 with singles at Qingedahu, Changji, at Shashanzi Reservoir, Wujiaqu & at Dong Fang (Wolonggang) Reservoir, also Wujiaqu. (450-470 metres)

1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan & 2 at the Kuitun Effluent Settling Tanks north of Kuitun on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

1 at Shaliangzi Reservoir, Xihu, Wusu on the 14/9/2007. (370 metres)

1 flew over the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

2 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

TAWNY PIPIT *Anthus campestris***Sept. 2007**

(6/21 3 8) (190-1050 metres)

1 at Anjihai Res. No. 1, Shawan on the 13/9/2007. (435 metres)

3 singles flew south-west over the Jing river mouth, Aibihu on the 16/9/2007. (190 metres)

1 flew strongly west at Sailimuhu, Bole at 09:50hrs on the 18/9/2007. (2073 metres)

1 flew west at Bosten Hu on the 22/9/2007. It was at Mu Yu Xihai on the lake's southern shore. (1050 metres)

1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

TREE PIPIT *Anthus trivialis***Sept. 2007**

(2/21 1 2) (375 & 450 metres)

1 flew south over Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. It was apparently the first record for this relatively well watched site. (450 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 12/9/2007. (375 metres)

TREE or OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT *Anthus trivialis* or *A. hogsoni*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 1 3) (375-585 metres)

1 was heard, once, over the in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta***Sept. 2007**

(7/21 21 74) (375-470, 1050-1350 & 3070 metres)

1 flew west over the potato fields about one kilometre west of Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (1350 metres)

10 around the summit of the Aierken Pass, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (3070 metres)

1 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsi, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)

21 in the Urumqi area on the 26/9/2007. These included 16 birds, singles & in parties of up to three, flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu & 5 at Shashanzi Reservoir, Changji. (450 & 470 metres)

5 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

19 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

17 birds flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

MEADOW PIPIT *Anthus pratensis* or BUFF-BELLIED PIPIT *Anthus rubescens japonicus***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 1 1) (450 metres)

1 flew south-south-west at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

BLACK-THROATED ACCENTOR *Prunella atrogularis***Sept. 2007**

(3/21 3 8) (450 & 2100-2160 metres)

3 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2160 metres)

3 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2100-2150 metres)

2 singles were heard at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

FIRE-FRONTED SERIN *Serinus pusillus***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 1 1) (2190 metres)

1 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2190 metres)

EURASIAN GREENFINCH *Carduelis chloris***Sept. 2007**

(6/21 15 24) (375-585 metres)

15 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

3 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

1 at Qingedahu, Wujiaqu on the 26/9/2007. (450 metres)

1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 27/9/2007. (375 metres)

2 in Shihezi on the 28/9/2007 – these involved a single bird that flew south at Moguhu & another single at Beihu Reservoir. (375-400 metres)

2 singles near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

EUROPEAN GOLDFINCH *Carduelis carduelis***Sept. 2007**

(3/21 5 12) (375-1350 metres)

5 in the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

3 within two kilometres west of Nalati on the 20/9/2007. (1215-1350 metres)

4 flew south at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 28/9/2007. (375 metres)

[In addition 1 bird, possibly this species, was heard briefly in the park besides Wuyi Reservoir, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)]

EURASIAN LINNET *Carduelis cannabina***Sept. 2007**

(2/21 25 26) (375 & 810 metres)

1 near Moguhu, Shihezi on the 11/9/2007. (375 metres)

25 feeding in fields of sun flower near the 'Lark fields' at Kashi Gongshe Shiqiaocun, Yining on the 20/9/2007. (810 metres)

BRANDT'S MOUNTAIN FINCH *Leucosticte brandti***Sept. 2007**

(1/21 600 600) (3020-3100 metres)

ca.600 between the Aierken & Chagannu'er Passes, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. All of the birds were in just two equally sized flocks – the first flock was immediately above the Aierken Pass & the second group 27 kms west of the summit of the Chagannu'er Pass. They were all of the relatively pale-headed subspecies *margaritacea*. (3020-3100 metres)

DESERT FINCH *Rhodospiza obsoleta*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 6 8) (Minus 40 to +375 metres)

6 near Tuokexun on the 25/9/2007 - two were in the grounds of the Tuokexun hotel & four more near Xia Xiang Badui. (minus 10 & minus 40 metres)
2 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. (375 metres)

COMMON ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 1 2) (510 & 585 metres)

1 flew west over Wuyi Reservoir & on up the Boertala valley, Bole on the 17/9/2007. (510 metres)
1 flew west high over the Yining Riverside Park, Yili on the 19/9/2007. (585 metres)

RED CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

Sept. 2007

(2/21 8 14) (2150-2280 metres)

6 in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2150-2220 metres)
8 in the Gongnaisi Forest, Hejing on the 21/9/2007. (2210-2280 metres)

WHITE-WINGED GROSBEAK *Mycerobas carnipes*

Sept. 2007

(1/21 2 2) (2230 metres)

2 were heard in the conifer forest over looking Sailimuhu, Bole on the 18/9/2007. (2230 metres)

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Sept. 2007

(3/21 8 10) (375-1050 metres)

1 was heard at Qingedahu, Changji on the 10/9/2007. (450 metres)
8 at Huangshui Gou Feishui Yuwei Gongsu, Heshuo on the north-western side of Bosten Hu on the 24/9/2007. (1050 metres)
1 at Moguhu, Shihezi on the 29/9/2007. Seen flying around the edge of the lake & later in very short grass right besides one of the river channels it was well out of typical habitat & presumably a migrant. (375 metres)

Tibetan Snowcock	Snow Pigeon	Relict Gull
Altai Snowcock	Stock Pigeon	Little Gull
Himalayan Snowcock	Yellow-eyed Pigeon	Gull-billed Tern
Chukar	Common Wood Pigeon	Caspian Tern
Grey Partridge	European Turtle Dove	Common Tern
Daurian Partridge	Oriental Turtle Dove	'Western' Little Tern
Tibetan Partridge	Laughing Dove	Whiskered Tern
Common Quail	Eurasian Collared Dove	White-winged Black Tern
Common Pheasant	Little Bustard	Black Tern
Willow Ptarmigan	Great Bustard	Osprey
Rock Ptarmigan	McQueen's Bustard	Oriental Honey-buzzard
Black Grouse	Siberian Crane	European Honey-buzzard
Western Capercaillie	Demoiselle Crane	Black Kite
Hazel Grouse	Common Crane	Pallas's Fish Eagle
White-headed Duck	Black-necked Crane	White-tailed Eagle
Mute Swan	European Water Rail	Lammergeier
Whooper Swan	Corn Crane	Egyptian Vulture
[Bewick's] Tundra Swan	Little Crane	Himalayan Griffon
Swan Goose	Baillon's Crane	Eurasian Griffon
Bean Goose	Spotted Crane	Cinereous Vulture
Greater White-fronted Goose	Common Moorhen	Short-toed Snake Eagle
Lesser White-fronted Goose	Eurasian Coot	Eurasian Marsh Harrier
Greylag Goose	Tibetan Sandgrouse	Hen Harrier
Bar-headed Goose	Pallas's Sandgrouse	Pallid Harrier
Ruddy Shelduck	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	Montagu's Harrier
Common Shelduck	Eurasian Woodcock	Shikra
Gadwall	Solitary Snipe	Japanese Sparrowhawk
Eurasian Wigeon	Pintail Snipe	Eurasian Sparrowhawk
Mallard	Swinhoe's Snipe	Northern Goshawk
Northern Shoveler	Common Snipe	accipiter sp.
Northern Pintail	Jack Snipe	Common Buzzard
Garganey	Black-tailed Godwit	Himalayan Buzzard
Common Teal	Bar-tailed Godwit	Long-legged Buzzard
Marbled Teal	Little Curlew	Upland Buzzard
Red-crested Pochard	Whimbrel	Rough-legged Buzzard
Common Pochard	Eurasian Curlew	buzzard sp.
Ferruginous Pochard	Spotted Redshank	Greater Spotted Eagle
Tufted Duck	Common Redshank	Steppe Eagle
Greater Scaup	Marsh Sandpiper	Imperial Eagle
Long-tailed Duck	Common Greenshank	Golden Eagle
White-winged Scoter	Green Sandpiper	Booted Eagle
Common Goldeneye	Wood Sandpiper	Lesser Kestrel
Smew	Terek Sandpiper	Common Kestrel
Red-breasted Merganser	Common Sandpiper	Red-footed Falcon
Common Merganser	Ruddy Turnstone	Amur Falcon
Eurasian Wryneck	Sanderling	Merlin
Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker	Little Stint	Eurasian Hobby
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker	Red-necked Stint	Saker Falcon
White-backed Woodpecker	Long-toed Stint	Gyrfalcon
Great Spotted Woodpecker	Temminck's Stint	Peregrine Falcon
White-winged Woodpecker	Dunlin	'Red-capped' Peregrine Falcon
Three-toed Woodpecker	Curlew Sandpiper	Little Grebe
Black Woodpecker	Broad-billed Sandpiper	Red-necked Grebe
Grey-headed Woodpecker	Ruff	Great Crested Grebe
woodpecker sp.	Red-necked Phalarope	Horned Grebe
Eurasian Hoopoe	Grey Phalarope	Black-necked Grebe
European Roller	Indian Thick-knee	Great Cormorant
Common Kingfisher	Eurasian Oystercatcher	Grey Heron
European Bee-eater	Ibisbill	Great Egret
Common Cuckoo	Black-winged Stilt	Cattle Egret
Oriental Cuckoo	Pied Avocet	Chinese Pond Heron
Common Swift	Pacific Golden Plover	Black-crowned Night Heron
Fork-tailed Swift	Grey Plover	Little Bittern
Pallid Scops Owl	Common Ringed Plover	Great Bittern
Eurasian Scops Owl	Little Ringed Plover	Greater Flamingo
Eurasian Eagle Owl	Kentish Plover	Eurasian Spoonbill
Snowy Owl	Lesser Sand Plover	Great White Pelican
Ural Owl	Greater Sand Plover	Dalmatian Pelican
Great Grey Owl	Caspian Plover	Black Stork
Northern Hawk Owl	Eurasian Dotterel	White Stork
Eurasian Pygmy Owl	Northern Lapwing	Black-throated Loon
Little Owl	Collared Pratincole	Red-backed Shrike
Boreal Owl	Black-winged Pratincole	Rufous-tailed Shrike
Long-eared Owl	Parasitic Jaeger	Long-tailed Shrike
Short-eared Owl	Mew Gull	Lesser Grey Shrike
Eurasian Nightjar	Herring Gull assemblage sp.	Southern Grey Shrike
Egyptian Nightjar	Siberian Gull	Great Grey Shrike
Vaurie's Nightjar	Yellow-legged Gull	Eurasian Jay
nightjar sp.	Pallas's Gull	Siberian Jay
Rock Pigeon	Brown-headed Gull	Black-billed Magpie
Hill Pigeon	Black-headed Gull	Mongolian Ground-jay

Xinjiang Ground-jay	Azure Tit	Rufous-necked Snowfinch
Spotted Nutcracker	Long-tailed Tit	Plain-backed Snowfinch
Red-billed Chough	Sand Martin	White Wagtail
Yellow-billed Chough	Pale Martin	Citrine Wagtail
Eurasian Jackdaw	Sand Martin or Pale Martin	Western Yellow Wagtail
Daurian Jackdaw	Eurasian Crag Martin	Grey Wagtail
Rook	Barn Swallow	Richard's Pipit
Carrion Crow	Red-rumped Swallow	Tawny Pipit
Hooded Crow	Northern House Martin	Blyth's Pipit
Apparent hybrid Carrion x Hooded Crow	Goldcrest	Tree Pipit
Large-billed Crow	White-browed Chinese Warbler	Olive-backed Pipit
Common Raven	Cetti's Bush Warbler	Meadow Pipit
Eurasian Golden Oriole	Long-billed Bush Warbler	Red-throated Pipit
Indian Golden Oriole	Lanceolated Warbler	Rosy Pipit
Bohemian Waxwing	Grasshopper Warbler	Water Pipit
White-throated Dipper	Rusty-rumped Warbler	Buff-bellied Pipit
Brown Dipper	Savi's Warbler	Alpine Accentor
Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush	Paddyfield Warbler	Altai Accentor
Blue Rock Thrush	Eurasian Reed Warbler	Brown Accentor
Blue Whistling Thrush	Blyth's Reed Warbler	Black-throated Accentor
White's Thrush	Marsh Warbler	Chaffinch
Eurasian Blackbird	Great Reed Warbler	Brambling
Tibetan Blackbird	Oriental Reed Warbler	Fire-fronted Serin
Mistle Thrush	Thick-billed Warbler	Eurasian Greenfinch
Pale Thrush	Sykes's Warbler	Eurasian Siskin
Red-throated Thrush	Booted Warbler	Tibetan Siskin
Black-throated Thrush	[Eastern Olivaceous Warbler]	European Goldfinch
Rufous-tailed Thrush	White-browed Tit Warbler	Hoary Redpoll
Fieldfare	Siberian Chiffchaff	Common Redpoll
Redwing	Mountain Chiffchaff	Twite
Song Thrush	Dusky Warbler	Eurasian Linnet
Spotted Flycatcher	Wood Warbler	Plain Mountain Finch
Mugimaki Flycatcher	Tickell's Leaf Warbler	Brandt's Mountain Finch
Taiga Flycatcher	Buff-throated Warbler	Sillem's Mountain Finch
Eurasian Robin	Sulphur-bellied Warbler	Asian Rosy Finch
Common Nightingale	Radde's Warbler	Crimson-winged Finch
Siberian Rubythroat	Pallas's Leaf Warbler	Mongolian Finch
White-tailed Rubythroat	Hume's Warbler	Desert Finch
Bluethroat	Arctic Warbler	Long-tailed Rosefinch
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	Greenish Warbler	Common Rosefinch
Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin	Bearded Parrotbill	Pale Rosefinch
Rufous-backed Redstart	Greater Whitethroat	Pallas's Rosefinch
Blue-capped Redstart	Lesser Whitethroat	Red-mantled Rosefinch
Black Redstart	Desert Lesser Whitethroat	Streaked Rosefinch
Common Redstart	Margellanic Lesser Whitethroat	Spotted Great Rosefinch
White-winged Redstart	Xinjiang Whitethroat	Red-fronted Rosefinch
Plumbeous Water Redstart	Hume's Whitethroat	Pine Grosbeak
Hodgson's Bushchat	Asian Desert Warbler	Red Crossbill
Common Stonechat	Barred Warbler	Eurasian Bullfinch
Northern Wheatear	Calandra Lark	Hawfinch
Variable Wheatear	Bimaculated Lark	White-winged Grosbeak
Pied Wheatear	Tibetan Lark	Yellowhammer
Desert Wheatear	White-winged Lark	Pine Bunting
Isabelline Wheatear	Black Lark	Yellowhammer or Pine Bunting
Rosy Starling	Greater Short-toed Lark	Rock Bunting
Common Starling	Hume's Short-toed Lark	Godlewski's Bunting
White-cheeked Starling	Asian Short-toed Lark	Meadow Bunting
Common Myna	Crested Lark	Grey-necked Bunting
[Crested Myna]	Eurasian Skylark	Ortolan Bunting
Eurasian Nuthatch	Oriental Skylark	Little Bunting
Wallcreeper	Horned Lark	Rustic Bunting
Eurasian Treecreeper	Saxaul Sparrow	Yellow-breasted Bunting
Winter Wren	House Sparrow	Black-headed Bunting
White-crowned Penduline Tit	Spanish Sparrow	Red-headed Bunting
Marsh Tit	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Pallas's Bunting
Willow (Songar) Tit	Rock Sparrow	Reed Bunting
Rufous-naped Tit	sparrow sp.	Corn Bunting
Coal Tit	White-winged Snowfinch	Lapland Bunting
Great Tit	Tibetan Snowfinch	Snow Bunting
Turkestan Tit	White-rumped Snowfinch	
Great Tit or Turkestan Tit	Small Snowfinch	