Birding trip to SHANDONG, CHINA

Birding in the Yellow River Delta, Dongying 6 &7/11/2010

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INTRODUCTION

In early November 2010 I was invited to be a judge of a bird race in the Yellow River Delta, Dongying county, Shandong. I travelled down there with friends from Beijing (Zhao Chao, Yan Lu his wife & Xiao Junfeng [Donna]). Sponsored by the Dongying county government the bird race was a large event – there were about 24 teams from a remarkable 13 provinces or municipalities present.

The event was a great opportunity to meet lots of people and among those present were Chen Kelin, Doug Watkins & Suzette Graham of Wetlands International; John Howes a wetland nature park specialist working as a consultant on a wetlands project for the Australia China Environmental Development Partnership; Zhao Shengli (deputy secretary general of the China Wildlife Conservation Association) & Tony Sebastian a consultant working with Wetlands International. I was also able to meet Mr. Chen Jianzhong & Mrs. Wang Fengqin – two Tianjin-based birders who regularly visited Tanggu a district in coastal Tianjin where I've spent a lot of time birding as well as local birder & apparently the main organiser of this bird race, Shan Kai.

This was my first time in the Dongying area and, although the entire event was primarily a promotional one and both Zhao Chao and myself were judges & we were not actually bird racing, the four of us still recorded 88 species, a respectable number for a short visit in early November. The other teams saw an additional 32 species!

Highlights noted by the four of us included up to 1550 Tundra Bean & 645 Greylag Geese, three species of swan, up to 720 Falcated Duck, a massive 7000 Baikal Teal, one Ferruginous Pochard, modest numbers of Smew, Common Merganser and Blacknecked Grebe, Oriental Stork, four Dalmatian Pelicans, one Black-shouldered Kite, five species of crane, decent numbers of both Saunders's Gull (51) and Caspian Tern (79), what was perhaps only the third Bearded Reedling for Shandong, 40 Common Starling & a fly-over, calling Pine Bunting.

The four of us recorded seven species that are currently considered to be globally vulnerable by BirdLife International (2004) *Threatened birds of the world* 2004 CD-Rom Cambridge, U.K. BirdLife International. The threatened species were – Baikal Teal VU, Oriental Stork EN, Dalmatian Pelican CR, Siberian Crane VU, White-naped Crane VU, Hooded Crane VU, Red-crowned Crane EN & Saunders's Gull VU. Ferruginous Pochard, Eurasian Curlew two Near Threatened species, were also recorded.

I travel a lot birding in China & almost all of my trips are organised by Qingyu WANG of Chinabirdtour.com. I have absolutely no hesitation in recommending her as a ground agent. She can be contacted at –

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Friday 5 November 2010. Drove from Beijing to Dongying, Shandong.

I met Zhao Chao, Yan Lu & Donna at Chao's office and the four of us set off at about 12h35. They expected the drive to Dongying to take about 5.5 hours – and it took did exactly that. We arrived at the Dongying Hotel just after 18h00, checked in and reconvened shortly afterwards for dinner.

The 4-star Dongying Hotel is at 180 Dong San Lu, Dongying, Shandong, 257091. Tel. 00 86 546 8062999, 8062888, 8062288 & 8062266 while the fax. Numbers are 8332790 & 8062598.

Saturday 6 November 2010. All day Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying.

We had breakfast at 06h00, picked up our complementary packed lunches & started to head out at 06h30. Unfortunately however we discovered that we weren't supposed to head away until 07h00. So we waited...

Dongying Hotel, Dongying. 10 metres above sea level. (37°25.8'N., 118°39.5'E.).

Leaving the Dongying Hotel in a convoy of vehicles at 07h00 we initially headed east & up Huang He Lu towards Dong An zhen. We hadn't left the hotel more than 15 minutes when we exited the urban area and started to pass through an area of salt pans and

fish ponds. We made numerous stops during the day – some of them very brief, others that lasted for up to 1.5 hours and we did a circuit northeast from the hotel heading right up & into the NNR itself. Today, and today only, we were allowed to enter the core area of the park. There's a maze of roads inside this recently established NNR. Incredibly Dongying city itself was only established in 1983!

1st stop. (37°28.05'N., 118°51.10'E.).

This site is 17.6 kilometres east of the Dongying Hotel. Birds here included –

Tundra Swan 73 Asian Short-toed Lark 7

2nd stop. (37°29.2N., 118°51.2'E.).

Birds here included -

 Great Egret
 73

 Mongolian Gull
 1

 Asian Short-toed Lark
 4

 Grey Heron
 20

 Oriental Stork
 1 flew over

We then drove on, passing the inter-tidal mudflats adjacent to a very grand, multi-storey building that's apparently a Fisheries Research Centre. It was 08h00, very low tide & there were not birds visible on the mud flats.

3rd stop. Keng Dong (literally 'East Sluice Gate'). (37°36.9'N., 118°57.7'E.).

Birds here included –

Mongolian Gull 25 Black-headed Gull 150 Black-tailed Gull 3

Vega Gull1 adult-winterChinese Penduline Tit1 was heardSpotted Redshank58Common Greenshank1

4th stop. 1st tourist complex in the Yellow River Delta Eco-Tourism area. (37°28.05'N., 118°51.10'E.).

Birds here included -

Oriental Stork 1
Yellow-throated Bunting 2
Pallas's Bunting 2
Vinous-throated Parrotbill 3 heard

5th stop. Yellow River Delta Estuary Sightseeing Port & incongruous Ecological Box. (37°44.7'N., 119°08.6'E.). 09h05-10h00.

6th stop. Roadside pools & reed bed. (37°44.6'N., 119°11.2'E.).

Birds here included –

Common Coot 355
Chinese Penduline Tit 2 heard
Great Crested Grebe 3
Chinese Spot-billed Duck 45
Gadwall 12
Water Pipit 2

7th stop. Tidal mud flats. Landmark 59 (37°43.8'N., 119°14.5'E.). 10h20-10h50.

Fortunately we arrived just at the right time here – on a rising tide that was pushing things up the mud flats. The road's a dead-end just beyond here. Birds here included –

Saunders's Gull 79 Caspian Tern Eurasian Curlew 375 Dunlin 6 Kentish Plover 4 Common Greenshank 75 Great Cormorant 10 Whooper Swan 18 Daurian Redstart

8th stop. Reed bed area at small road intersection. Landmark 60. (37°43.03'N., 119°13.32'E.). 11h00-11h30.

Birds here included –

Bearded Tit 1 Hen Harrier 1 juvenile Whooper Swan 10

9th stop. Entered NNR core area & went to landmark 61. (37°44.0'N., 119°07.6'E.).

Birds here included -

Dalmatian Pelican 3 juveniles

Siberian Crane 14

Red-crowned Crane 9 (eight adults & one juvenile)

Great Cormorant 235
Little Egret 1
Oriental Stork 2
Mew Gull 1 juvenile
Black-headed Gull 365

10th stop. Large, man-made impounded Waterfowl Pool. Landmark 61-65. (37°44.0'N., 119°07.6'E. - 37°43.8'N., 119°01.6'F.).

Birds here included -

 Smew
 68

 Gadwall
 650

 Common Pochard
 430

 Tufted Duck
 10

 Falcated Duck
 135

Baikal Teal 8 during the day but a massive 7000 at dusk (from 17h00)

Eurasian Wigeon 13
Mallard 1 male
Common Merganser 133
Northern Shoveler 2
Northern Pintail 1
Ferruginous Pochard 1 fema

1 female Mute Swan Dalmatian Pelican 1 immature Red-crowned Crane 3 169 Siberian Crane White-naped Crane 134 Hooded Crane 64 Common Crane 7 7 Oriental Stork Yellow Wagtail 2 taivana

Common Coot 360 Great Crested Grebe 17 Little Grebe 25 1550 Tundra Bean Goose 645 Greylag Goose 1 adult Siberian Gull Mongolian Gull 65 Eastern Marsh Harrier 1 female

The large flock of Hooded, White-naped & four Siberian Cranes were at Landmark 65 (37°43.8'N., 119°01.6'E.).

Sun rise & sunset Dandong on 6 November 2010

Sun rise 06h34 Sun set 17h03

Weather

A very nice day. It was 9°C outside the Dongying Hotel at 06h50 & 19°C just inside the NNR at 12h15. There was decent visibility (perhaps about five kilometres range) all day.

Highlights of the day

A fantastic day's birding with encounters with eight globally threatened species and two other near threatened ones. Highlights including impressive numbers of both Tundra Bean (1550) & Greylag (645) Geese, three species of swan, 7000 Baikal Teal, one Ferruginous Pochard, 14 Oriental Stork, four Dalmatian Pelican, five species of crane with 183 Siberian, 142 White-naped, seven Common, 64 Hooded & 15 Red-crowned, 51 Saunders's Gulls, one Bearded Reedling & one Pine Bunting.

Common Pheasant 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Tundra Bean Goose 1550 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were almost all in the core zone.

Greylag Goose 645 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were all in the core zone.

Mute Swan 9, six adults and three immatures, in the in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Tundra Swan 140 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Whooper Swan 45 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Common Shelduck 5 in &around in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Ruddy Shelduck 8 in & around in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Gadwall 670 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Falcated Duck 145 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongving on the 6/11/2010. 11 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Eurasian Wigeon 5 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Mallard 55 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Chinese Spot-billed Duck Northern Shoveler 3 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

7000 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were all in the core zone & only eight birds Baikal Teal VU

were seen prior to dusk when three large spiraling flocks appeared from a large reed bed area.

Eurasian Teal 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Common Pochard 430 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Northern Pintail

Ferruginous Pochard NT 1 female in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Tufted Duck 12 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Common Goldeneye 3 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 68 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Smew Common Merganser 133 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Duck sp. 400 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Little Grebe 50 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Great Crested Grebe 28 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Oriental Stork EN 14 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Great Bittern 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Grey Heron 55 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 132 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Eastern Great Egret

Little Egret 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Dalmatian Pelican CR 4, three juveniles & an immature, in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. John Howes & Doug Watkins saw eight birds in this same area.

255 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongving on the 6/11/2010. Great Cormorant Eastern Marsh Harrier 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Hen Harrier 1 ringtail in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 725 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Common Coot

Siberian Crane CR 183 in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 169 birds were aged & this

produced 140 adults (83%) & 29 juveniles (17%).

White-naped Crane VU 142 in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Common Crane

7, five adults & two juveniles, in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Hooded Crane VU

64 in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

15, 13 adults & two juveniles, in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Red-crowned Crane EN

Pied Avocet 2 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Grey Plover 2 singles were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Kentish Plover 5 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Bar-tailed Godwit 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Eurasian Curlew NT 375 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 215 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Spotted Redshank 105 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Common Greenshank Dunlin 8 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Black-headed Gull 740 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

51 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were all on the tidal mudflats at 121. Saunders's Gull VU

Black-tailed Gull 3 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Mew Gull 1 juvenile in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 'Herring Gull Assemblage' 140 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Heuglin's Gull 1 adult in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Vega Gull 1 adult in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

75 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Mongolian Gull 79 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Caspian Tern

[Chinese Grey Shrike Other observers saw, and photographed, one in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010].

30 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Common Magpie Chinese Penduline Tit 10 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Bearded Reedling 1 was heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Asian Short-toed Lark 15 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 2 singles in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Eurasian Skylark Light-vented Bulbul 5 outside the Dongying Hotel in central Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 3 were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Vinous-throated Parrotbill

'Rufous-tailed Thrush' 4 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Daurian Redstart Eurasian Tree Sparrow 20 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Eastern Yellow Wagtail 2 taivana in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Olive-backed Pipit 1 flew over the Dongying Hotel in central Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Buff-bellied Pipit 55 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Most of these, 45 birds, were seen flying to roost in

the evening.

8 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Water Pipit

1 was heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Pine Bunting Little Bunting 3 singles in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Yellow-throated Bunting 2 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Pallas's Bunting 4 were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

2 singles were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Reed Bunting

Sunday 7 November 2010. Morning Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying.

We had breakfast at 06h00 & headed out at 06h35. We spent about 2.5 hours at Swan Lake - a site just on the edge of Dongying town.

Dongving Hotel, Dongving. 10 metres above sea level. (37°25.8'N., 118°39.5'E.).

Tian'e Hu ('Swan Lake'), Dongying. 3 metres above sea level. (37°24.5'N., 118°47.1'E.).

The entrance gate to this site is 11.4 kilometres almost due east of the Dongying Hotel. The lake's massive and has a network of elevated roads along various causeways in it. Several of these causeways are tree lines and there are also at least a couple of small gardens in the complex. Today Tian'e Hu was a good site for Falcated Duck & Black-necked Grebe.

Weather

A very nice day. It was 10°C outside the Dongying Hotel at 06h24. Visibility was slightly poorer than yesterday and was down to perhaps about three kilometres range. There were a few spots of rain midday – after which the wind picked up and visibility improved markedly.

Tundra Bean Goose 5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Swan sp. 5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Gadwall 315 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Falcated Duck 720 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Eurasian Wigeon 2 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. 5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Mallard Chinese Spot-billed Duck 11 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Common Goldeneye 4 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. 98 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Smew Little Grebe 27 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Great Crested Grebe 137 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Black-necked Grebe 110 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Grey Heron 3 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Eastern Great Egret 2 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Little Egret 15 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Black-shouldered Kite 1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. Common Kestrel 1 near Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Common Coot

45 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Black-headed Gull

100 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

'Herring Gull Assemblage'

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Caspian Tern

2 singles at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Oriental Turtle Dove

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Eurasian Collared Dove

2 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Spotted Dove

3 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Eurasian Hoopoe 1 in the gardens of the Dongying Hotel on the 7/11/2010.

Common Magpie 20 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.
Chinese Penduline Tit 10 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.
Light-vented Bulbul 8 around the Dongying Hotel on the 7/11/2010.
Goldcrest 1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

White-cheeked Starling 1 in the flock of Common Starlings at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Common Starling 40 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010. 'Rufous-tailed Thrush' 3 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Naumann's Thrush 1 with three unidentified 'Rufous-tailed Thrushes' at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow 40 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

White Wagtail 2 singles near Dongying on the 7/11/2010. The first flew right over the Dongying Hotel while the second did the same

at Tian'e Hu.

Buff-bellied Pipit 10 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Water Pipit 5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Brambling 15 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Grey-capped Greenfinch 1 flew over the Dongying Hotel on the 7/11/2010.

Meadow Bunting 1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

Rustic Bunting 1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

We recorded a total of 88 species in the time we spent birding around Dongying. Other observers reported seeing the following additional plausible species – Swan Goose VU (seen by at least two teams), Greater White-fronted Goose, Garganey, Black Stork (reported by at least one team), Eurasian Spoonbill, Eastern Buzzard (reported by several teams), Upland Buzzard (reported by at least one team), Amur Falcon (reported by at least two teams), Saker Falcon EN (one was apparently photographed in the Yellow River Delta NNR by Tianjin birder Chen Jianzhong on about the 5 November 2010 – Zhao Chao pers. comm. 7 Nov. 2010), Peregrine Falcon (I saw one of Chen Jianzhong photos of this species taken on the 6 Nov. 2010), Common Moorhen, Blackwinged Stilt, Northern Lapwing, Common Snipe, 'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit (one was seen by several observers including John Howes), Green Sandpiper, Bull-headed Shrike, Chinese Grey Shrike (seen & photographed by several people), Yellow-bellied Tit, Japanese Tit, Barn Swallow (reported by several teams), Pallas's Warbler, Zitting Cisticola, Reed Parrotbill (reported by several

teams), Chinese Blackbird, Red-throated Thrush (reported by one team), Orange-flanked Bluetail, Grey Wagtail, Eurasian Siskin & Black-faced Bunting.

Less plausible & possibly erroneous species reported included - Bar-headed Goose, Horned Grebe, Red-necked Grebe, Red-crested Pochard, Black Kite, Rough-legged Buzzard, Grey-headed Lapwing, Little Ringed Plover, Pintail Snipe, Swinhoe's Snipe, Whimbrel, Eastern Curlew NT, Common Redshank, Marsh Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Common Sandpiper, Pheasant-tailed Jacana, Little Tern, Common Tern, Gull-billed Tern, White-winged Black Tern, Red Collared Dove, Large-billed Crow, Citrine Wagtail, Common Rosefinch, Oriental Reed Warbler, Eurasian Reed Warbler, Chestnut-eared Bunting & Yellow-browed Bunting.

Bird List

Four figures are given in parentheses after the species' English name. The first of these figures details how many days (out of a maximum of just two) that particular species was seen on the trip. The second figure notes the highest daily count & the third the number of bird-days. Hence the first entry for Tundra Bean Goose reads (2/12 1550 1555) - birds were noted on both of the two days that we were in Shandong, with up to 1550 individuals on any one date & with a total of 1555 bird-days.

Taxonomy & nomenclature mostly follows that of the CBR [China Bird Report] Checklist of Birds of China v1.0.2 (2010) available on-line.

COMMON PHEASANT Phasianus colchicus 雉鸡

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

TUNDRA BEAN GOOSE Anser serrirostris 短嘴豆雁

(2/2 1550 1555)

1550 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were almost all in the core zone. 5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

GREYLAG GOOSE Anser anser 灰雁

(1/2 645 645)

645 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were all in the core zone.

MUTE SWAN Cygnus olor 疣鼻天鹅

 $(1/2 \ 9 \ 9)$

9, six adults and three immatures, in the in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

TUNDRA SWAN Cygnus columbianus 小天鹅

(1/2 140 140)

140 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

WHOOPER SWAN Cygnus cygnus 大天鹅

(1/2 45 45)

45 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

SWAN SP. Cygnus sp.

 $(1/2 \ 5 \ 5)$

5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

COMMON SHELDUCK Tadorna tadorna 翘鼻麻鸭

 $(1/2 \ 5 \ 5)$

5 in &around in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

RUDDY SHELDUCK Tadorna ferruginea 赤麻鸭

 $(1/2 \ 8 \ 8)$

8 in & around in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

GADWALL Anas strepera 赤膀鸭

(2/2 670 985)

FALCATED DUCK Anas falcata 罗纹鸭

(2/2 720 865)

720 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

145 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

EURASIAN WIGEON Anas penelope 赤颈鸭

(2/2 11 13)

2 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

11 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

MALLARD Anas platyrhynchos 绿头鸭

 $(2/2 \ 5 \ 10)$

5 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

CHINESE SPOT-BILLED DUCK Anas zonorhyncha 斑嘴鸭

(2/2 55 66)

55 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

11 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

NORTHERN SHOVELER Anas clypeata 琵嘴鸭

 $(1/2 \ 3 \ 3)$

3 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

NORTHERN PINTAIL Anas acuta 针尾鸭

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

BAIKAL TEAL Anas formosa VU 花脸鸭

(1/2 7000 7000)

7000 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. They were all in the core zone & only eight birds were seen prior to dusk when three large spiraling flocks appeared from a large reed bed area.

EURASIAN TEAL Anas crecca 绿翅鸭

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

COMMON POCHARD Aythya ferina 红头潜鸭

(1/2 430 430)

430 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

FERRUGINOUS POCHARD Aythya nyroca NT 白眼潜鸭

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 female in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

TUFTED DUCK Aythya fuligula 凤头潜鸭

(1/2 12 12)

12 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

COMMON GOLDENEYE Bucephala clangula 鹊鸭

 $(2/2 \ 4 \ 7)$

3 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 4 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

SMEW Mergellus albellus 白秋沙鸭

(2/2 98 166)

68 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 98 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

COMMON MERGANSER Mergus merganser 普通秋沙鸭

(1/2 133 133)

133 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

DUCK SP.

400 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

LITTLE GREBE Tachybaptus ruficollis 小䴙䴘

 $(2/2 \quad 50 \quad 77)$

50 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 27 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

GREAT CRESTED GREBE Podiceps cristatus 凤头䴙䴘

(2/2 137 165)

28 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 137 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

BLACK-NECKED GREBE Podiceps nigricollis 黑颈䴙䴘

(1/2 110 110)

110 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

ORIENTAL STORK Ciconia boyciana EN 东方白鹳

(1/2 14 14)

14 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

GREAT BITTERN Botaurus stellaris 大麻鳽

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

 $1\ in$ the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

GREY HERON Ardea cinerea 苍鹭

(2/2 55 58)

55 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 3 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

EASTERN GREAT EGRET Ardea modesta 大白鹭

(2/2 132 134)

132 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

LITTLE EGRET Egretta garzetta 白鹭

(2/2 15 16)

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 15 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

DALMATIAN PELICAN Pelecanus crispus CR 卷羽鹈鹕

 $(1/2 \ 4 \ 4)$

4, three juveniles & an immature, in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. John Howes & Doug Watkins saw eight birds in this same area.

GREAT CORMORANT Phalacrocorax carbo 普通鸬鹚

(1/2 255 255)

255 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE Elanus caeruleus 黑翅鸢

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

EASTERN MARSH HARRIER Circus spilonotus 白腹鹞

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

HEN HARRIER Circus cyaneus 白尾鹞

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 ringtail in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

COMMON KESTREL Falco tinnunculus 红隼

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 near Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

COMMON COOT Fulica atra 骨顶鸡

(2/2 725 770)

725 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 45 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

SIBERIAN CRANE Grus leucogeranus CR 白鹤

(1/2 183 183)

183 in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 169 birds were aged & this produced 140 adults (83%) & 29 juveniles (17%).

WHITE-NAPED CRANE Grus vipio VU 白枕鹤

(1/2 142 142)

142 in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

COMMON CRANE Grus grus 灰鹤

 $(1/2 \ 7 \ 7)$

7, five adults & two juveniles, in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

HOODED CRANE Grus monacha VU 白头鹤

(1/2 64 64)

64 in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

RED-CROWNED CRANE Grus japonensis EN 丹顶鹤

(1/2 15 15)

15, 13 adults & two juveniles, in the core area of the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

PIED AVOCET Recurvirostra avosetta 反嘴鹬

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

GREY PLOVER Pluvialis squatarola 灰斑鸻

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 singles were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

KENTISH PLOVER Charadrius alexandrinus 环颈鸻

 $(1/2 \ 5 \ 5)$

5 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT Limosa lapponica 斑尾塍鹬

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

EURASIAN CURLEW Numenius arquata NT 白腰杓鹬

 $(1/2 \quad 375 \quad 375)$

375 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

SPOTTED REDSHANK Tringa erythropus 鹤鹬

(1/2 215 215)

215 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

COMMON GREENSHANK Tringa nebularia 青脚鹬

(1/2 105 105)

105 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

DUNLIN Calidris alpina 黑腹滨鹬

 $(1/2 \ 8 \ 8)$

8 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

BLACK-HEADED GULL Chroicocephalus ridibundus 红嘴鸥

(2/2 740 840)

740 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

100 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

SAUNDERS'S GULL Chroicocephalus saundersi VU 黑嘴鸥

 $(1/2 \ 51 \ 51)$

BLACK-TAILED GULL Larus crassirostris 黑尾鸥

 $(1/2 \ 3 \ 3)$

3 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

MEW GULL Larus canus 海鸥

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 juvenile in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

'HERRING GULL ASSEMBLAGE'

(2/2 140 141)

140 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

HEUGLIN'S GULL Larus heuglini 乌灰银鸥

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 adult in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

VEGA GULL Larus vegae 西伯利亚银鸥

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 adult in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

MONGOLIAN GULL Larus mongolicus 蒙古银鸥

(1/2 75 75)

75 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

CASPIAN TERN Hydroprogne caspia 红嘴巨鸥

(2/2 79 81)

79 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 2 singles at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE Streptopelia orientalis 山斑鸠

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE Streptopelia decaocto 灰斑鸠

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

SPOTTED DOVE Spilopelia chinensis 珠颈斑鸠

 $(1/2 \ 3 \ 3)$

3 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

EURASIAN HOOPOE Upupa epops 戴胜

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

 $1\ \mbox{in}$ the gardens of the Dongying Hotel on the 7/11/2010.

COMMON MAGPIE Pica pica 喜鹊

 $(2/2 \ 30 \ 50)$

30 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. 20 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

CHINESE PENDULINE TIT Remiz consobrinus 中华攀雀

(2/2 10 20)

10 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

10 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

BEARDED REEDLING Panurus biarmicus 文须雀

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 was heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Perhaps only the third record for Shandong.

ASIAN SHORT-TOED LARK Calandrella cheleensis 亚洲短趾百灵

(1/2 15 15)

15 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

EURASIAN SKYLARK Alauda arvensis 云雀

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 singles in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

LIGHT-VENTED BULBUL Pycnonotus sinensis 白头鹎

 $(2/2 \ 8 \ 13)$

5 outside the Dongying Hotel in central Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

8 around the Dongying Hotel on the 7/11/2010.

VINOUS-THROATED PARROTBILL Sinosuthora webbianus 棕头鸦雀

 $(1/2 \ 3 \ 3)$

3 were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

GOLDCREST Regulus regulus 戴菊

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

WHITE-CHEEKED STARLING Spodiopsar cineraceus 灰椋鸟

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the flock of Common Starlings at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

COMMON STARLING Sturnus vulgaris 紫翅椋鸟

 $(1/2 \ 40 \ 40)$

40 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

[RUFOUS-TAILED THRUSH Turdus naumanni]

 $(2/2 \ 4 \ 7)$

4 in & around the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

3 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

NAUMANN'S THRUSH Turdus naumanni 红尾鸫

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 with three unidentified 'Rufous-tailed Thrushes' at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

DAURIAN REDSTART Phoenicurus auroreus 北红尾鸲

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW Passer montanus 麻雀

 $(2/2 \ 40 \ 60)$

20 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

40 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL Motacilla tschutschensis 黄鹡鸰

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 taivana in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

WHITE WAGTAIL Motacilla alba 白鹡鸰

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 singles near Dongying on the 7/11/2010. The first flew right over the Dongying Hotel while the second did the same at Tian'e Hu.

OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT Anthus hodgsoni 树鹨

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 flew over the Dongying Hotel in central Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

BUFF-BELLIED PIPIT Anthus rubescens japonicus 黄腹鹨

(2/2 55 65)

55 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010. Most of these, 45 birds, were seen flying to roost in the evening. 10 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

WATER PIPIT Anthus spinoletta 水鹨

 $(2/2 \ 8 \ 13)$

8 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

5 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

BRAMBLING Fringilla montifringilla 燕雀

(1/2 15 15)

15 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

GREY-CAPPED GREENFINCH Carduelis sinica 金翅雀

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 flew over the Dongying Hotel on the 7/11/2010.

PINE BUNTING Emberiza leucocephalos 白头鹀

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 was heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

MEADOW BUNTING Emberiza cioides 三道眉草鹀

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

LITTLE BUNTING Emberiza pusilla 小鹀

 $(1/2 \ 3 \ 3)$

3 singles in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

RUSTIC BUNTING Emberiza rustica 田鹀

 $(1/2 \ 1 \ 1)$

1 at Tian'e Hu, Dongying on the 7/11/2010.

YELLOW-THROATED BUNTING Emberiza elegans 黄喉鹀

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

PALLAS'S BUNTING Emberiza pallasi 苇鹀

 $(1/2 \ 4 \ 4)$

4 were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

REED BUNTING Emberiza schoeniclus 芦鹀

 $(1/2 \ 2 \ 2)$

2 singles were heard in the Yellow River Delta NNR, Dongying on the 6/11/2010.

Paul Holt Clitheroe, U.K. 25 November 2010