

Birding

coastal

Tianjin

CHINA

Total 130 days

2000: (2 days) 19 & 20 October

2002: (6 days) 28-31 August & 16-17 September

2003: (3 days) 28 – 30 November

2004: (28 days) 3 January, 2 & 3 May, 3-7, 11 & 17-26 September, 2-8 October, 18-20 December

2005: (10 days) 16-17 March, 21 July, 28-31 August, 10 October

2006: (24 days) 17 & 18 January, 20 March, 25-28 July, 29 August-2 & 4-9 September, 4-5 & 7-10 October

2007: (16 days) – 30 April & 1 May; 5-8 August; 2-11 October

2008: (19 days) – 16-20 January, 10 & 11 March, 30 April-3 May, 1-6 August, 26 August-7 September, 26 September-3 October, 10-13 & 17-25 October.

2009 (28 days): 6 & 7 May; 14-20 & 22-26 & 28-30 July; 1-3 & 7 & 8 August; 9-14 September.

2010: (6 days): 22-24 April; 29 August & 23-24 September.

Paul Holt

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Summary

I have spent some time birding along the coast of Tianjin, eastern China every year since at least 2001 & this report details the birds that I saw there up to 2010. I was accompanied on most of my visits there by the Chinese ground agent, Wang Qingyu.

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

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This report can be divided in to two parts – this first section is effectively a daily diary detailing the places that I birded and the birds that I saw on each date while the second section comprises the systematic list.

Now quite well known as an important staging area for a number of shorebirds and as the main wintering site for Relict Gull the Tianjin coast harbours a decent number of other birds.

2006

I spent a total of 24 days birding coastal Tianjin in 2006 concentrating my efforts particularly in the autumn. I logged 189 species during 2006 & these included an impressive 42 species of shorebird. A number of local rarities - Long-billed Plover (one at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on 20 March 2006), Pallas's Gulls (single juveniles on 29 August and 8 October 2006), Slender-billed Gull (an adult summer at Jingqu, Dagang on 5 September 2006) & Little Gull (two on 1 September 2006) were also seen (all except the plover were documented with photographs).

In 2006 I also recorded particularly high counts of the following species - Common Merganser (1260 at Beitang Reservoir on 20 March 2006), Asian Dowitcher (813 on the 28 July 2006), Marsh Sandpiper (7150 on 26 July 2006), Red-necked Stint (4000 on 25 July 2006), Temminck's Stint (753 on 4 October 2006), Pied Avocet (3475 on 8 October 2006), Kentish Plover (6500 on 7 October 2006), Black-tailed Gull (1572 on 26 July 2006), Relict Gull (7200 on 18 March 2006), Little Tern (1040 on 1 September 2006) & Barn Swallow (120,000 on 9 October 2006).

Other ornithological highlights included eight species considered Globally Threatened by BirdLife (Swan Goose, Lesser White-fronted Goose, Falcated Duck, Baikal Teal, Saunders's Gull, Relict Gull, White-naped Crane and Saker Falcon).

Daily diary:

20 October 2000.

Nanjiang Da Qiao & south down Hai Fang Gong Lu to Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang.

Goose sp.	3 were seen over an extensive area of grassland near the Bei Da Gang Shuikou (Bei Da Gang reservoir) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Common Shelduck	12 flew over the Hai Fang Gong Lu about 3 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Mallard	33 in the coastal salt marsh besides the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road less than 2 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
White-winged Scoter	2 on a flooded salt pan just north of Lu Ju He Xiang, south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.
Common Goldeneye	6 on a flooded salt pan just north of Lu Ju He Xiang, south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Short-eared Owl	1 flew south along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	36 flew over saltpans 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Bar-tailed Godwit	200 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Whimbrel	1 about 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Eurasian Curlew	800 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 (including 320 on coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road).
Eastern Curlew	20 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000, these included 10 on the coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road.
Spotted Redshank	450 in saltpans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 – these included a flock of 22 between Lu Ju He Xiang & Hai Bin Yu Chang & a very large party of 420 about 13 kms south of the Dong Feng Da Qiao (& about 0.5 km north of the Xie Hong Zha Qiao – 7 kms north of the border with Hebei).
Marsh Sandpiper	75 in saltpans between Lu Ju He Xiang & Hai Bin Yu Chang, south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Common Greenshank	120 in saltpans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Wood Sandpiper	1 six kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang, south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.
Great Knot	200 in saltpans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Sanderling	100 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. These included 10 on coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Gang Gong Lu coast road but the highest concentration was in the coastal saltpans between 2 & 8 kms south of the city, where parties of 44, 27 & 10 were logged.
Red-necked Stint	1 on a coastal mud bank with other shorebirds, including a solitary Red-necked Stint, about 1.5 kms south of the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road, immediately south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Temminck's Stint	6 (two parties of 3 birds) in saltpans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Dunlin	2000 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. The highest concentration was on the 'Saunders's Gull mudflats' about 6 kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang where 1000 birds were estimated though there were also 400 in the saltpans between 2 & 8 kms south of Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 on a coastal mud bank with other shorebirds, including 420 Kentish Plovers, 40 Dunlin & single Little & Red-necked Stints etc. about 1.5 kms south of the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road, immediately south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Pied Avocet	269, in just two flocks, on saltpans besides the Jingqi Lu, south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. The first party was of 234 birds & was seen about 13 kms south of the Dong Feng Da Qiao (& about 0.5 km north of the Xie Hong Zha Qiao – 7 kms north of the border with Hebei) while the second party of 35 birds was near the Gang Tang Gong Lu (1 km south of the Guangang Gongyuan – Guangang forest park) about 18 kms southwest of Tanggu.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew over the coastal saltpans about 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Grey Plover	220 in saltpans about 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Kentish Plover	2000 in saltpans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 – these included 420 on coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Gang Gong Lu coast road.
Northern Lapwing	3 on mudflats near the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu (the coast road immediately south of Tanggu) on the 20/10/2000.
Black-tailed Gull	200 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Mew Gull	Less than 10 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	50 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Brown-headed Gull	An adult winter with Black-headed Gulls along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) about 10 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. My first sighting of this species in Tianjin & possibly the first record for the municipality.
Black-headed Gull	1000 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Saunders's Gull	59 (5 first-winters, 1 still in virtually complete adult-summer plumage & the rest apparently adult-winters with possibly some second-winters present but too distant to distinguish) along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu, & 6 kms south of the tourist resort of Hai Bin Yu Chang, on the 20/10/2000.
Relict Gull	An extraordinary 185 birds were counted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. Birds were seen as follows – 2 (both first winters) on mud flats 2 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao 111 (76 1 st -w; 4 2 nd -w & 31 ad-w) between 2 & 10 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao 57 (4 1 st -w; 53 ad-w) near Lu Ju He Xiang 13 (all 13 ad-w) Hai Bin Yu Chang 2 (both ad-w) 6 kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang

This gives a total of 185 Relict Gulls for the 20/10/2000. 82 of which were first-winters, 4 second-winters (though others may well have been over-looked) & 99 adult-winters. Most were observed feeding or roosting around the edges

of the near coastal salt pans & (unlike the Black-headed Gulls with which they loosely associated) none were seen swimming in the flooded pans themselves.

Gull-billed Tern	6 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Caspian Tern	190 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. These included two roosting flocks that totalled 156 birds (with 'good numbers of juveniles) between Lu Ju He Xiang & Hai Bin Yu Chang & another party of 20 birds on the beach about 6 kms south of the latter site.
Hen Harrier	3 were seen over an extensive area of grassland near the Bei Da Gang Shuikou (Bei Da Gang reservoir) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Common Buzzard	1 flew purposefully south over the salt marsh along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Common Kestrel	8 near Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Amur Falcon	1 adult female over an extensive area of grassland near the Bei Da Gang Shuikou (Bei Da Gang reservoir) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Black-necked Grebe	14 in flooded salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 – 6 together just north of Lu Ju He Xiang & 8 just north of Hai Bin Yu Chang.
Great Cormorant	82, in parties of 2, 5 & 75 birds, near Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. (The last mentioned flock was seen near the Guangan Gongyuan) about 18 kms southwest of Tanggu.
Grey Heron	152 around Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. They were in parties of 10, 12 (x2), 20 (x2), 36 & 42 birds.
White-cheeked Starling	1 flew south about 2 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Barn Swallow	15 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	'Several' were heard near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Pallas's Warbler	1 in a small area of reeds along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) about 2 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Asian Short-toed Lark	15 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Eurasian Skylark	100 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
White Wagtail	2, 1 of which was identified as <i>M. a. ocellaris</i> , along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south, over the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south, over the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Water Pipit	2 flew south the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Buff-bellied Pipit	20+ (mostly fly-overs) were noted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Grey-capped Greenfinch	1 flew south over the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road about 2 kms south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.

21 October 2000. All day north of Tanggu town.

Dong Qililai Reservoir Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang

Bean Goose	1 flew over Dong Qililai Shuiku (East Qililai reservoir) northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Ruddy Shelduck	18, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Shelduck	180 with other waterfowl on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Gadwall	20, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Eurasian Wigeon	54, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Northern Shoveler	20, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Northern Pintail	8, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Teal	25, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Goldeneye	51 in a compact flock on a similar salt pan, with other about 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Smew	2, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Red-breasted Merganser	12, with other waterfowl, on a salt pan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Merganser	1 on Dong Qililai Shuiku (East Qililai reservoir) northeast of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	2 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of the Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Grey-headed Woodpecker	1 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of the Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 near Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Oriental Turtle Dove	20 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Snipe	10 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	75 in flight near the Cai Hong Qiao toll bridge, north of the city on the 21/10/2000.
Bar-tailed Godwit	200 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Eurasian Curlew	100 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Spotted Redshank	20 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Marsh Sandpiper	4 in salt pans north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Greenshank	120 in salt pans south of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Temminck's Stint	2 in salt pans north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Dunlin	100 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Pied Avocet	2 on salt pans near the village of Cheng Tou Gu Gang (north of Tanggu) on the 21/10/2000.
Grey Plover	10 in salt pans north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Kentish Plover	200 in salt pans north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Northern Lapwing	150 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Black-tailed Gull	50 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Black-headed Gull	1000 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

Relict Gull	1 first-winter near the village of Cai Jia Pu, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Gull-billed Tern	2 north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Caspian Tern	39 in the salt pans north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Osprey	1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Common Buzzard	2 near Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Common Kestrel	6 near Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Amur Falcon	2 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Great Crested Grebe	12 in a coastal salt pan along the coastal road North-east of Tanggu (7 kms south of Cai Jia Pu & 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang) on the 21/10/2000.
Great Cormorant	30 around Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Grey Heron	30 around Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Black-billed Magpie	1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Daurian Jackdaw	200, with other corvids, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Rook	Several (perhaps 10?), with other corvids, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Carrion Crow	Several, with other corvids, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Common Starling	15, with White-cheeked Starlings, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
White-cheeked Starling	70 were seen, with about 15 Common Starlings, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	3 parties of fly-overs were noted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Dusky Warbler	1 was heard in a reed bed near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Eurasian Skylark	100 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100, northwest of Tanggu (primarily near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou) on the 21/10/2000.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 near Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.
Water Pipit	3 flew south near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Buff-bellied Pipit	40 northwest of Tanggu, primarily near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, on the 21/10/2000.
Brambling	2 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Little Bunting	10 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Black-faced Bunting	6 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.
Pallas's Bunting	6 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

5 September 2001.

07:55 express train from Beijing to Tanggu (via Tianjin). Tickets cost 40 yuan each. Train arrived 09:55 with Tanggu being the third stop! Took Mrs Chao's (tel. 022 66530503) taxi from the station to the Hong Fa Hotel (tel. 022 25811688). Rooms had been pre-booked by Mr Cui & I paid 150/room/night. Spent 11:00 – 18:30 birding along the coast road south of Tanggu & drove as far south as the Du Lu Jian He (a sluice gate/bridge about 30 kms south of the city). Taxi for the day cost 250 yuan.

Common Teal	8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Eurasian Collared Dove	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Common Snipe	3 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Black-tailed Godwit	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Bar-tailed Godwit	80 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Whimbrel	40 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Eurasian Curlew	'Present' in a flock of 500 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. Perhaps 90% of these birds were thought to be Eurasian.
Eastern Curlew	'Present' in a flock of 500 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. Perhaps 10% of these birds were thought to be Eastern Curlews.
Spotted Redshank	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Common Redshank	20 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Marsh Sandpiper	700 in Tanggu (with 300 at the high tide roost besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre & 400 elsewhere) on the 5/9/2001.
Common Greenshank	60 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Wood Sandpiper	10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Terek Sandpiper	20 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Common Sandpiper	8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Asian Dowitcher	9 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Great Knot	30 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Red Knot	20 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Sanderling	4 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Red-necked Stint	435 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Temminck's Stint	6 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Dunlin	480 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001
Curlew Sandpiper	10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Black-winged Stilt	4 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Grey Plover	350 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001
Little Ringed Plover	45 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. 25 of these were at Fang Qiao Zhao.
Kentish Plover	5500 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Greater Sand Plover	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Black-tailed Gull	1215 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001 respectively. These included 880 at the high tide roost besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, 20 at a drainage channel 3 kms north of Lu Ju He, 170 at Lu Ju He, 122 at Hai Bin Yuchang & 23 at Du Lu Jian He.
Vega Gull	30 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Relict Gull	559 south of Tanggu on the 5/9/2001 included 19 (17 ad.-w. & 2 2 nd -w) at Gaoshaling, 1 ad-w south off Lu Ju He & 541 (massively dominated by adults) at a high tide roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre. One of the second-winters at Gaoshaling carried a bright yellow colour ring on its left leg & an aluminium ring on its right leg.
Gull-billed Tern	30 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Caspian Tern	45 in Tanggu, including 42 at Hai Bin Yuchang, on the 5/9/2001.
Common Tern	200 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. These included 60 at the high tide roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, 40 at Lu Ju He & 66 besides the Lu Ju He drainage channel.
Little Tern	750 south of Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. These included 140 at the high tide roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, 50 besides the Lu Ju He drainage channel, 350 (in flocks of 210, 50, 40, 30 & 20) 3 kms south of Hai Bin Yuchang. Several smaller parties were noted elsewhere.
White-winged Tern	400 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Chinese Egret	1 juvenile at Hai Bin Yuchang, besides the turning to Gaoshaling & 3 kms south of Lu Ju He & c18 kms south of Tanggu (38° 50.90' N., 117° 36.80' E.) on the 5/9/2001.
Black-billed Magpie	6 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Barn Swallow	10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
White-cheeked Starling	4 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Arctic Warbler	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Yellow Wagtail	10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Grey Wagtail	1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Richard's Pipit	15 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
Black-faced Bunting	2 at Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

6 September 2001.

All day south of Tanggu, Tianjin municipality. Left the Hong Fa hotel at 05:00 & drove south down the coast road following the same route as the previous day. Spent 3-4 hours near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre before continuing south to Beidagang where I spent another 1.5 hours. 16:00 – 17:40 back at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre.

Japanese Quail	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Garganey	5 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Eurasian Wryneck	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Common Hoopoe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Common Kingfisher	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Black-capped Kingfisher	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Common Snipe	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Bar-tailed Godwit	30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Whimbrel	40 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Eurasian Curlew	'Present' in a flock of 600 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. As yesterday perhaps 90% of these birds were thought to be Eurasian.
Eastern Curlew	'Present' in a flock of 600 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. As yesterday perhaps 10% of these birds were thought to be Eastern Curlews.
Spotted Redshank	1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Marsh Sandpiper	600 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Common Greenshank	50 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Common Redshank	4 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Green Sandpiper	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Wood Sandpiper	20 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001 – these included <i>ca.</i> 10 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Terek Sandpiper	10 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Common Sandpiper	2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Asian Dowitcher	18 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Great Knot	30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Red Knot	150 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Sanderling	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Red-necked Stint	200 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Temminck's Stint	2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Dunlin	'Present' in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001
Curlew Sandpiper	10 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	28 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Pacific Golden Plover	5 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Grey Plover	'Present' in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001
Little Ringed Plover	20 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Kentish Plover	'Present' on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Lesser Sand Plover	5 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Greater Sand Plover	1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Oriental Pratincole	80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Black-tailed Gull	'Present' in the Tanggu area on the 6/9/2001.
Vega Gull	70 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Relict Gull	784 all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre south of Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. A couple of sample counts were made – note the higher proportion of 2 nd -years on the salt pan. Is this significant?

	<u>'Settling tank'</u>		<u>Salt pan</u>		<u>Total</u>
1st-year	3	2%	4	3%	2% 1 st -year
2nd year	29	20%	53	36%	28% 2 nd -yr
adult	112	78%	91	61%	70% adult
Total	<u>144</u>		<u>148</u>		

Gull-billed Tern	70 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Caspian Tern	222 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. These involved 4 at Wu Lu Zhong Xin, 38 at Gaoshaling, 176 at Du Lu Gian He & 4 at Beidagang).
Common Tern	100 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Little Tern	'Present' but were not counted south of Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Whiskered Tern	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
White-winged Tern	300 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Eurasian Marsh Harrier	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Pied Harrier	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Common Kestrel	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Little Egret	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Purple Heron	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Brown Shrike	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Black-billed Magpie	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Black-naped Oriole	1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

Grey-streaked Flycatcher	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Red-throated Flycatcher	15 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Siberian Blue Robin	2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Common Stonechat	4 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Purple-backed Starling	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
White-cheeked Starling	'Present' in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Sand Martin	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Barn Swallow	30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Red-rumped Swallow	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Spotted Bush Warbler	1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Manchurian Reed Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Thick-billed Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Dusky Warbler	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Yellow-browed Warbler	30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Arctic Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Greenish Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Pale-legged Leaf Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
White Wagtail	6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Yellow Wagtail	20, including 2 <i>M. f. macronyx</i> , in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Grey Wagtail	3 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Richard's Pipit	30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Olive-backed Pipit	10 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Common Rosefinch	1 at Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
Black-faced Bunting	2 at Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

7 September 2001.

Dep. Hong Fa hotel at 06:55 & drove south to **Nandagang, Cangzhou, Hebei**. I travelled down the main coastal highway (the Jin Qi or Hai Fang Lu) via Koucun (111 kms south of Tanggu) & then turned west off this highway at the southern end of Nanpaihe village. I arrived at Nandagang village at about 09:15.

Oriental Pratincole	720 on levees between roadside salt pans about one hour's drive south of Tanggu (3 kms north of the border with Hebei & about 8kms north of Qikou) on the 7/9/2001.
Black-tailed Gull	6 on the coast near the border with Hebei on the 7/9/2001.

5 November 2001.

Yu Qiao reservoir, Jixian district, Tianjin municipality.

Dep. Tongzhou 05:35, arr. Jixian 06:45, then to Yu Qiao dam (74 kms & 1 hour 10 mins from Tongzhou where I arr. 07:00). I spent all day here, returning to Tongzhou at c18:00. 270 kms cost 400 yuan!

Ruddy Shelduck	140 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. 30 of these were near Liu Xiang Ying 8.5 kms east of the dam on the reservoir's northern side & 110 near Wu Bai Hu mid-way along the reservoir's southern shore).
Gadwall	40 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Falcated Duck	4 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Eurasian Wigeon	1 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Mallard	2600 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 – these included 740 at San Jia Dian & 1820 at Liu Xiang Ying.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	28 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Northern Shoveler	2 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Northern Pintail	65 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Baikal Teal	60 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11 – 7 of these were at San Jia Dian & the remaining 53 were with other ducks at Liu Xiang Ying.
Common Teal	ca.850 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Tufted Duck	4 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 - 1 at San Jia Dian & 3 at Liu Xiang Ying.
Common Goldeneye	12 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. These included 7 at Liu Xiang Ying.
Smew	20 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 - 2 at San Jia Dian & 18 at Liu Xiang Ying.
Common Merganser	1 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Common Kingfisher	2 near San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. This site is three kms east of the reservoir's dam on its northern shore.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 near Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Green Sandpiper	2 at San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Mew Gull	2 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Hen Harrier	1 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Common Kestrel	1 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Little Grebe	1 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Great Crested Grebe	8 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Grey Heron	5 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Black-headed Gull	ca.600 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. (this included c80 at San Jia Dian & 300 near Wu Bai Hū).

Little Grebe	15 on a saltpan c15 kms south of Tanggu on the 5/11/2001.
Black-billed Magpie	'Present' at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Carrion Crow	2 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Rufous-tailed Thrush	1 near San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001. Not subspecifically identified.
White-cheeked Starling	75 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. They were all at Liu Xiang Ying (8.5 kms east of the dam along the reservoir's northern edge).
Great Tit	1 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Eurasian Skylark	10 over San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew over the Yuqiao Reservoir's dam on the 5/11/2001.
Water Pipit	2 flew over Yuqiao Reservoir's dam on the 5/11/2001.
Buff-bellied Pipit	25 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 included 23 at San Jia Dian.
Brambling	1 flew over San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Little Bunting	10 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
Rustic Bunting	2 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001.
Pallas's Bunting	6 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001.
Lapland Bunting	1 flew over San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001.

6 November 2001.

09:27 express train (1 hr 15 minutes) to Tianjin. 37 yuan. Caught taxi from there along the expressway to Tanggu. Taxi took just under 1 hour & cost 11 yuan. Checked in at the two star Hong Fa hotel (now cost 178 yuan/room/night). Alternative accom. in Tanggu includes the three star Victory Hotel where rooms cost 280 or 380 yuan/night. The best hotel is the Tai Da (a four star?) where rooms cost perhaps 600 yuan/night. Had lunch & at 13:10 headed south. Drove as far as Gaoshaling. Spent time on route at the large settling tank near the

Common Shelduck	349 near Tanggu on the 6/11/2001. 15 of these flew south off Lu Ju He & the other 334 were at Gaoshaling.
Northern Shoveler	8 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Eurasian Curlew	250 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Spotted Redshank	1 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Common Greenshank	1 or 2 on all three days, the 6 th , 7 th & 8/11/2001, near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Dunlin	90 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Grey Plover	200 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Kentish Plover	1700 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Mew Gull	30 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Vega Gull	400 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Black-headed Gull	1600 south of Tanggu on the 6/11/2001 respectively.
Relict Gull	20 on a saltpan about 10 kms south of Tanggu, & about 1 km north of Lu Ju He, the 6/10/2001 These involved 16 1 st -winters, 3 2 nd -w & 1 ad-w.
Caspian Tern	41 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001. These involved 1 at Lu Ju He, another 21 on mudflats 2 kms south of there & 20 at Gaoshaling.
Black-necked Grebe	20 on a saltpan 10 kms south of Tanggu (& 1 km north of Lu Ju He) the 6/11/2001.
Grey Heron	34 on a saltpan 2 kms south of Lu Ju He & 1 km north of Hai Bin Yuchang on the 6/11/2001.
Water Pipit	1 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

7 November 2001.

All day south of Tanggu.

Common Shelduck	403 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001. These included 401 at Gaoshaling.
Eurasian Wigeon	6 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Mallard	40 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Common Goldeneye	21 on a huge flooded saltpan 27 kms south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Red-breasted Merganser	6 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Eurasian Curlew	300 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Common Greenshank	1 or 2 on all three days, the 6 th , 7 th & 8/11/2001, near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Sanderling	4 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Dunlin	120 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Grey Plover	725 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Mew Gull	60 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Vega Gull	200 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Black-headed Gull	2000 south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001 respectively. The count included 650+ on mudflats 2kms south of Lu Ju He (& 1 km north of Hai Bin Yuchang).
Saunders's Gull	148 on inter-tidal mudflats within 26 kms south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001. 1 first-winter about 9 kms south of the city and another 147 at a second site between 22 & 26 kms south of the city (38° 48.55' N., 117° 35.52' E.). All but 30 of these 147 birds were adults (or 2 nd -winters – though most were too distant to distinguish these two age groups & no actual second winters were identified). One of these first-winters bore a colour ring. I requested information via the Oriental Birding email discussion group & Hiraoka Takashi of the Collection Room of the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology, Konoyama 115, Abiko, Chiba Pref., Japan 270-1145. (Phone: +81-471-82-1101, Fax: +81-471-82-1106 replied on behalf of Mr. Ozaki, the head of the bird migration research center, at the Yamashina Institute. 'YG' was banded on 21st June 2001, at the Shuangtaihekou National Nature Reserve Liaoning, China, (40.50 N., 121.35 E.) as a chick. A colour flagging project of Saunders's Gull has been conducted since 1996 by the Chinese National Bird Banding Center & Shuangtaihekou National Nature Reserve in conjunction with two Japanese sponsors - Kitakyushu-city & the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology. Every year, 100-200 Saunders's Gull (mainly chicks) were banded

	with colour flag with two letters (such as :01-99,A1-Y9,AA-YY). The sight record south of Tanggu is, according to Mr Hiraoka's correspondence the first evidence that the Shuangtaihekou birds spending this season at the south of Bo Hai.
Relict Gull	882 south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001. These included 853 that were counted, with other gulls (c500 Black-headed, c50 Mew, c10 Black-tailed and c50 'large white-headed' gulls) at a high tide roost ca.850 metres east of the Tianjin Port Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, 7.67 kms Sse of Tanggu. A sample count of 282 birds in this flock produced 22% 1 st -w, 8% 2 nd -w & 70% ad-w. A further 29 birds (19 1 st -w, 6 2 nd -w & 4 ad-w.) were on the same saltpan 10 kms south of Tanggu as the previous day.
Common Kestrel	2 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Caspian Tern	62 in Tanggu on the 7/11 there were 15 on mudflats at the Saunders's Gull site 24 kms south of Tanggu, 5 more over the huge flooded saltpan 2 kms further south and 42 at the apparently regular site, mud banks in the Du Liu Jian river.
Great Crested Grebe	5 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Grey Heron	1 on a saltpan 2 kms south of Lu Ju He & 1 km north of Hai Bin Yuchang on the 7/11/2001.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
Little Bunting	1 flew south in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

8 November 2001.

Morning & early afternoon south of Tanggu. Afternoon train back to Beijing.

Eurasian Curlew	250 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.,
Common Greenshank	1 or 2 on all three days, the 6 th , 7 th & 8/11/2001, near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Sanderling	4 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Dunlin	100 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.,
Grey Plover	300 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Kentish Plover	700 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 68/11/2001.
Mew Gull	70 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Vega Gull	80 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Black-headed Gull	1000 south of Tanggu on the 8/11/2001 respectively.
Relict Gull	1026 on a rising, moderately high tide south of Tanggu on the 8/10/2001. The birds were concentrated along a short stretch of mudflat and shoreline about 850 metres east of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics centre. Several sample counts were made & about 14-15% of these birds were 1 st -w., 15-16% were 2 nd -w. & 70% (515 of 735 birds) were ad.-w. Most of the birds were loafing/roosting and were either swimming or standing knee deep in the sea. As the tide retreated some of those roosting on the tide line were left high and dry & I was then able to check to see if they were ringed. A surprisingly high proportion of immatures, especially first-winters, bore rings and the details are as follows – 5 out of 18 1 st -w & 2 2 nd -w had a yellow ring on their left leg & an aluminium ring on their right leg. Another 4 of the 18 1 st -w lacked the coloured ring but still had the aluminium ring on their right leg. Another 2 nd -w lacked the aluminium ring (!) but had a yellow ring on its right leg. Two other birds lacked the colour ring but had aluminium bands on their right legs. No adult birds bore rings.

I posted a request for information to the OrientalBirding email discussion group and Simba Chan replied forwarding a message from Qian. He stated that the NBBC (National Bird Banding Centre of China) have conducted banding programs on Relict Gull in the last three years (presumably 1999, 2000 & 2001) at Eerdusi in Inner Mongolia and that the birds I observed at Tanggu probably originated from there.

	Total	% 1st-year	% 2nd-year	% adult	no. aged
5th Sept. 2001	559				
6th Sept. 2001	784	2%	28%	70%	292
6th Oct. 2001	20				
7th Oct. 2001	853	22%	8%	70%	282
8th Oct. 2001	1026	14-15%	15-16%	70%	515

Note the small proportion of first-years at Tanggu in early September.

Common Kestrel	1 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Water Pipit	2 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Eurasian Siskin	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Common Redpoll	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Little Bunting	1 flew south in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Pallas's Bunting	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.
Lapland Bunting	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

Site Information

Tank besides Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.

This tank is 1260 metres north-south, approx. 850 metres wide at the northern end & 340 at the southern end. The tank was being actively drained in autumn 2001 & was much drier in early November than when I visited in early September. The tank is at GPS = 38 ° 56.37' N., 117° 42.17' E. & is 7.67 kms south-south-east of Tangu & 50.4 kms east-south-east of Tianjin.

Yu Qiao reservoir, Jixian district, Tianjin municipality.

I visited this site just once, on the 5/11/2001 & drove right around the reservoir stopping at numerous sites- I dep. Tongzhou , on the eastern edge of Beijing, at 05:35, arr. Jixian 06:45, then continued on to Yu Qiao dam (74 kms & 1 hour 10 mins from Tongzhou where I arr. 07:00). I spent all day here, returning to Tongzhou at c18:00. 270 kms cost 400 yuan!

Site 1. Yu Qiao Dam. (GPS = 40 ° 02.20' N., 117° 26.46' E.), 21 metres above sea level & 91 kms almost due east of Beijing

Poor ornithologically –

Great Crested Grebe	5
Water Pipit	2
Olive-backed Pipit	1
Black-headed Gull	5
Little Bunting	5

Site 2. San Jia Dian. (GPS = 40 ° 03.17' N., 117° 28.23' E.).

A site 2.89 kms east of the dam along the reservoir's northern shore & accessed by driving south down a narrow dirt track immediately west of the first, 15 – 20 foot high, brick aqueduct (about 400 metres long). We parked near the fish ponds at the end of this track.

Great Crested Grebe	3
Baikal Teal	7
Mallard	740
Smew	2
Tufted Duck	1
Green Sandpiper	2
Black-headed Gull	80
'Vega Gull'	4
Eurasian Skylark	10
Buff-bellied Pipit	23
Common Kingfisher	2
Rufous-tailed Thrush	1
Brambling	1
Lapland Bunting	1

3rd stop. Liu Xiang Ying. (GPS = 40 ° 03.44' N., 117° 32.29' E.), 8.51 kms from the dam & 5.86 kms from San Jia Dian

Grey Heron	3
Ruddy Shelduck	30
Eurasian Wigeon	1
Falcatid Duck	4
Gadwall	40
Baikal Teal	53
Common Teal	850
Mallard	1820
Spot-billed Duck	28
Northern Pintail	65
Northern Shoveler	2
Tufted Duck	3
Goldeneye	7
Common Merganser	1
Smew	18
Hen Harrier	1
Eurasian Kestrel	1
White-cheeked Starling	75
Rustic Bunting	2
Pallas's Reed Bunting	6

I then made several other, rather fruitless stops as we continued further east. I stopped at

Wang Diao Zhuang – but wasn't sure that we found the right site

Ma Shen Qiao / Kong Zhuang Zi are where we had lunch. These are two contiguous villages.

Couldn't find Xiao Dao Di

4th stop. Wu Bai Hu. Midway along the reservoir's southern shore. (GPS = 40 ° 00.13' N., 117° 34.48' E.).

Ruddy Shelduck	110
Black-headed Gull	300+

Wednesday 28 August 2002. Beijing - Tanggu.

13:00-15:15 train from Beijing Central Railway Station to Tianjin – not possible to buy tickets for these trains on the upper level of the station in Beijing (you don't have to queue outside). Tickets cost 30 yuan/person. Then took a taxi from Tianjin station to the Hong Fa hotel, Tanggu. Taxi took 1 hr 7 15 minutes & cost 90 yuan via the expressway the price including the road tolls. Buses shuttle this route & cost 30 yuan/person.

I'd arranged to go birding with Mrs Chao the taxi driver in Tanggu. She quoted price of 600 yuan for 2.5 days.

On arrival in Tanggu spent 16:15-18:45hrs (when already dark) besides the Lagoon between the southern end of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao & the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre. Significant changes had been made to this site since I last visited in September/October 2001. Last year's excellent shorebird pool was now being bulldozed in to what was probably going to be a large fish/shrimp pond. The pools were too disturbed to hold any birds. There was however a shallow 'wader scrape' immediately to the west of the main coast road – this held very impressive numbers of shorebirds, especially Red-necked Stints & several species of roosting gulls.

Note that dawn was at 05:00hrs & sunset at 18:45hrs.

Checked in to the Hong Fa Grand Hotel, Tanggu. (Tel. 022 25328886 or 25328188). At 220/night the rooms here are more expensive than the (full) Hong Fa Garden hotel (022 66305888).

Swinhoe's Snipe	1 bird, possibly this species.
Common Snipe	1
Bar-tailed Godwit	20
Whimbrel	100
Eurasian Curlew	15
Common Redshank	1
Marsh Sandpiper	600
Common Greenshank	80
Green Sandpiper	1
Wood Sandpiper	10
Terek Sandpiper	1 heard
Common Sandpiper	2
Asian Dowitcher	2 juveniles
Great Knot	40
Red-necked Stint	1000
Temminck's Stint	1
Dunlin	20
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5
Pied Avocet	1
Pacific Golden Plover	1
Grey Plover	200
Kentish Plover	2000
Grey-headed Lapwing	1
Black-tailed Gull	780
large white-headed gull sp.	6
Black-headed Gull	800
Relict Gull	20
Gull-billed Tern	10
Common Tern	30
Little Tern	50
Whiskered Tern	8
White-winged Black Tern	5
Brown Shrike	2
Black-billed Magpie	10
Common Stonechat	1
Barn Swallow	8
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1

Thursday 29 August 2002. All day Tanggu.

Departed the Hong Fa Grand Hotel at 05:00 & drove straight over the Nan Jiang Da Qiao turning south-east on to the coastal road immediately afterwards. I then birded the coastal impound from 05:30-11:30hrs before having lunch in a small restaurant about 15 kms further south (near the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang tourist complex close to Gaoshaling).

Common Shelduck	7
cuckoo sp.	1 bird, either an Oriental or Common Cuckoo, flew south.
Fork-tailed Swift	1
Common Snipe	3
Black-tailed Godwit	3
Bar-tailed Godwit	20
Whimbrel	50
Eurasian Curlew	80

Eastern Curlew	2
Spotted Redshank	1 adult-summer
Common Redshank	1 juvenile
Marsh Sandpiper	780 but less than 20 juveniles
Common Greenshank	50
Green Sandpiper	1
Wood Sandpiper	2 – at least 1 juvenile
Terek Sandpiper	10
Common Sandpiper	10
Grey-tailed Tattler	4 adults
Asian Dowitcher	6 adults
Great Knot	60 adults
Red Knot	40
Red-necked Stint	5200 birds. 719 birds were aged, 648 (90%) were adult & 71 (10%) juvenile. 9 adults carried leg-flags. 6 had orange flags above the knee on their right legs. 2 had yellow flags above the knee on their right legs. 1 had a red flag above & a yellow flag below the knee on its right leg.
Temminck's Stint	8
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	10
Dunlin	300 – all adults
Curlew Sandpiper	10
Broad-billed Sandpiper	257 on the coastal impound south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2002. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 25,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count represents 1% of the entire flyway & world population. The highest ever count in China are of 1476 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on the 1 Sept. 1991, 729 at the Yalu Jiang NNR, Liaoning on 2May 1999, 124 in North-west Bo Hai Wan on 12 April 2000 and 115 at Shuangtaizhihekou NNR, Liaoning on 12 May 1998 (Bamford et al. 2008).
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1
Pied Avocet	40
Pacific Golden Plover	
Grey Plover	200
Little Ringed Plover	4
Kentish Plover	3000
sand plover sp.	1
Black-tailed Gull	567 (only 3 juvenile)
large white-headed gull sp.	10
Black-headed Gull	400
Relict Gull	255
Gull-billed Tern	20
Caspian Tern	10
Common Tern	10
Little Tern	200
White-winged Black Tern	300
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 juvenile flew south
Common Kestrel	1
Grey Heron	10
Brown Shrike	1
Dark-sided Flycatcher	1
Siberian Blue Robin	2, 1 adult male & 1 first-winter in a small patch of coastal scrub
Common Stonechat	1
Barn Swallow	20
Thick-billed Warbler	1 in a small patch of coastal scrub
Dusky Warbler	2 in a small patch of coastal scrub
Eurasian Skylark	1
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south
White Wagtail	2
Yellow Wagtail	10
Grey Wagtail	2
Richard's Pipit	10
Olive-backed Pipit	2
Pechora Pipit	1 very vocal bird flew south
Red-throated Pipit	1 was heard
Common Rosefinch	1 was heard

Friday 30 August 2002. All day Tanggu.

05:00-12:00hrs 'Nan Jiang Da Qiao lagoon'

14:40hrs Richard Patient arrived on the train from Beijing. I met him at Tanggu railway station. We birded back at the same lagoon from <16:00-18:00hrs.

Common Shelduck	17
Oriental Turtle Dove	1
Pintail Snipe	1
Common Snipe	4
Black-tailed Godwit	20
Bar-tailed Godwit	10

Whimbrel	50
Eurasian Curlew	50
Eastern Curlew	2
Common Redshank	2
Marsh Sandpiper	700
Common Greenshank	30
Green Sandpiper	1
Wood Sandpiper	1
Terek Sandpiper	10
Common Sandpiper	4
Grey-tailed Tattler	4
Asian Dowitcher	1 adult
Great Knot	140 adults
Red Knot	40
Little Stint	1 adult summer. It was photographed by Richard Patient
Red-necked Stint	Not counted – but several thousand birds were present. 6 adult birds bore colour flags. 3 had orange flags above their right 'knee'. 3 had yellow flags above their right 'knee'.
Temminck's Stint	4
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2
Dunlin	300
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile
Broad-billed Sandpiper	50
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1
Pied Avocet	30
Grey Plover	400
Little Ringed Plover	15
Kentish Plover	3000
Grey-headed Lapwing	64 flew south – in parties of 1, 22 & 41 birds.
Black-tailed Gull	600
Vega Gull	6 (5 ad-w & 1 2 nd -w).
Black-headed Gull	300
Relict Gull	286. Most birds were too distant to age reliably though a sample count of 27 birds gave 18 (66%) ad-w, 9 (33%) 2 nd -w. Not included in this sample was a first 1 st -w – the first bird of the year that I'd seen here this autumn.
Gull-billed Tern	10
Caspian Tern	1
Common Tern	4
Little Tern	50
White-winged Black Tern	40
Grey Heron	6
Brown Shrike	4
Sand Martin	2
Barn Swallow	20
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20
Forest Wagtail	1 heard
White Wagtail	3 flew south
Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south
Grey Wagtail	2
Richard's Pipit	8
Blyth's Pipit	1 heard
Olive-backed Pipit	1
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south
Yellow-billed Grosbeak	1
Black-faced Bunting	1

Saturday 31 August 2002. All day Tanggu.

05:00-11:00hrs Nan Jiang Da Qiao Lagoon.

Common Shelduck	10
Fork-tailed Swift	8 flew south
Common Snipe	1
Bar-tailed Godwit	10
Whimbrel	30
Eurasian Curlew	50
Eastern Curlew	2
Marsh Sandpiper	600
Common Greenshank	20
Green Sandpiper	1 heard
Wood Sandpiper	1
Terek Sandpiper	10
Common Sandpiper	2
Grey-tailed Tattler	1
Asian Dowitcher	1
Great Knot	100
Red Knot	40
Little Stint	3 adult-summers. Yesterday's bird was still present along with two others. Richard Patient also managed to digiscope one of these new birds.

Red-necked Stint	About 4000 birds were present. 4 adults birds bore colour flags. 3 had orange flags above their right 'knee'. 1 had yellow flag above their right 'knee'.
Temminck's Stint	2
Long-toed Stint	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	3 adults, 1 bird had an orange flag above its right 'knee'
Broad-billed Sandpiper	50
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1
Pied Avocet	48
Pacific Golden Plover	1 heard
Grey Plover	400
Little Ringed Plover	4
Kentish Plover	'000s
Greater Sand Plover	3
Black-tailed Gull	'Present' but not counted
Vega Gull	8
Black-headed Gull	500
Relict Gull	299 birds – 1 juvenile & the rest were roughly two-thirds adult, one-third 2 nd -year.
Gull-billed Tern	15
Caspian Tern	1 heard
Common Tern	6
Little Tern	480
White-winged Black Tern	40
Grey Heron	6
Brown Shrike	4
Black-billed Magpie	6
Siberian Blue Robin	2
Barn Swallow	10
Thick-billed Warbler	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	2
White Wagtail	4 including 2 <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	10
Grey Wagtail	1
Richard's Pipit	1

We then returned to the hotel to pick up our luggage before returning to Tianjin (taxi cost 80 yuan) & changing to another taxi for the trip back to Beijing (latter cost 180 yuan all the way to the Hui Qiao hotel).

16:00-18:30 Summer Palace, Beijing.

Little Grebe	8
Great Spotted Woodpecker	2
Great Cormorant	2
Chinese Pond Heron	10
Yellow Bittern	1 heard
Mallard	3
Spotted Dove	4
Barn Swallow	30
White Wagtail	2
Oriental Reed Warbler	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	1
Grey-streaked Flycatcher	1 juvenile/1 st -w.
Red-breasted Flycatcher	1
Azure-winged Magpie	50
Black-billed Magpie	80
Large-billed Crow	1 heard
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Common but not counted.

Monday 16 September 2002

Departed Beijing airport at 07:30hrs in a taxi to Beijing Central railway Station with Steve Chalmers. We arrived at 08:30hrs & took the 09:30hrs train (1 hr 15 minutes & costing 45 yuan) to Tianjin. Arrived thereat 10:45hrs. I'd contacted the Tanggu taxi driver, Mrs Chau, in advance & she met us at Tianjin railway station. We then drove to the Hong Fa hotel, Tanggu. (Tel. 022 5811688) where rooms in early autumn cost 140 yuan/night. After lunch in the hotel we headed out birding & spent the afternoon (14:30-18:00hrs) on the southern side of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao. High tide was at about 14:00hrs & was already receding quickly when we arrived.

Whimbrel	4
Eurasian Curlew	30
Eastern Curlew	2
Marsh Sandpiper	20
Common Greenshank	50
Terek Sandpiper	5
Grey-tailed Tattler	4
Ruddy Turnstone	1
Great Knot	7
Red Knot	3

Red-necked Stint	600
Temminck's Stint	8
Dunlin	1000
Broad-billed Sandpiper	25
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1
Grey Plover	15
Little Ringed Plover	6
Kentish Plover	1000
Black-tailed Gull	400
Vega Gull	40
Black-headed Gull	300
Relict Gull	62 birds – 42 were aged. 31 ad-w, 1 1 st -w. 2 ad-w bore colour rings. 1 had a yellow ring above its left foot. The other had an aluminium ring above its right foot.
Gull-billed Tern	10
Caspian Tern	5
Common Tern	2
Little Tern	30
White-winged Black Tern	3
Common Kestrel	1
Grey Heron	4
Siberian Rubythroat	1
Dusky Warbler	1

Tuesday 17 September 2002: 05:15-10:00 Tanggu, Nan Jiang Da Qiao.

The tide was already very distant & hence there were very few shorebirds. Apart from the Relict Gulls detailed below I saw little else of note except for an immature male Peregrine.

Oriental Turtle Dove	1
Common Snipe	1 heard
Bar-tailed Godwit	15
Whimbrel	2
Eurasian Curlew	10
Eastern Curlew	1
Marsh Sandpiper	60
Common Greenshank	100
Terek Sandpiper	6
Common Sandpiper	2
Grey-tailed Tattler	5 – four of which were the same birds as yesterday
Ruddy Turnstone	1 – the same bird as yesterday
Great Knot	10
Red-necked Stint	100
Temminck's Stint	4
Dunlin	200
Broad-billed Sandpiper	4
Pacific Golden Plover	1 heard
Grey Plover	10
Little Ringed Plover	4
Kentish Plover	300
Oriental Pratincole	5
Black-tailed Gull	100
Vega Gull	10
Black-headed Gull	300
Relict Gull	224 birds – 44 were aged. 43 ad-w, 1 2 nd -w.
Gull-billed Tern	10
Caspian Tern	4
Common Tern	2
Little Tern	10
Common Kestrel	1
Peregrine Falcon	1
Great Cormorant	3
Grey Heron	10
Great Egret	1
Brown Shrike	1
Ashy Minivet	1
Siberian Rubythroat	1 male – the same bird as yesterday
Common Stonechat	6
Sand Martin	1
Barn Swallow	10
Dusky Warbler	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	4
Eurasian Skylark	1
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Present – but not counted
Forest Wagtail	1 heard
White Wagtail	30 – including 1 <i>M. a. ocularis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	30
Richard's Pipit	30

Olive-backed Pipit	10
Red-throated Pipit	6
Common Rosefinch	4 were heard

Saturday 21/12/2002 Beijing – Tanggu, Tianjin.

10:15 train from Beijing to Tianjin (took 74 minutes & cost 30 yuan). Met Mrs Chou (Tanggu taxi driver) as arranged at Tianjin railway station on my arrival. Her phone numbers are – mobile 13820858365. Home 022 66530503.

Drove directly to the Hong Fa hotel, Tanggu. Arrived 1 hour later & checked in. In December this 2 star hotel costs 100 yuan/single room/night. (Telephone 022 25811688). Had lunch there before heading out birding.

Hotels in Tanggu include –

Hong Fa hotel (2 star)	022 25811688	100 yuan/single/night
Hong Fa Garden hotel (2 star?)	022 ?	
Teda Central Hotel (4 star)	022 25206666	980 yuan/room/night with no discount. 560 with discount
Victory Hotel		

Headed south & birded at several sites down the Hai Fang Lu.

The first stop was the large settling tank near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre on the eastern side of the Hai Fang Lu & only a kilometre or two south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao. I birded the coast road 13:50–17:00 (dusk).

Common Shelduck	1
Common Merganser	1 offshore near the Hai Bin Yu Chang
Bar-tailed Godwit	14
Oriental Turtle Dove	10 from the train between Beijing & Tianjin.
Eurasian Curlew	288 at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Dunlin	83 at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Grey Plover	303 at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Common Gull	400 birds inc. individuals assumed to be heinei & others to be kamtschatschensis
Yellow-legged Gull	45 inc. 10 first-winters & at least 3 2 nd -winters.
Black-headed Gull	10 – all in Tanggu Port itself.
Saunders's Gull	2 ad.-w near the at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & 174, inc. a 'decent proportion' of 1 st -w 1 km south of Hai Bin Yu Chang (& just south of Gaoshaling).
Relict Gull	64, at the high tide roost on the settling tank near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.
Common Buzzard	1 from the train near Tianjin
Azure-winged Magpie	10 on route between Beijing & Tianjin
Rook / Carrion Crow	10 on route between Beijing & Tianjin

Sunday 22/12/2002. All day south of Tanggu

Dep. Hong Fa hotel, Tanggu 07:15, returned 17:15.

1st stop was besides the river at the northern end of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao

Common Gull	10+
Yellow-legged Gull	4+
Black-headed Gull	60, mostly flying south-east, presumably leaving a roost site

2nd stop was at the southern end of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao along the Hai Fang Lu close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre. 08:15-09:50.

Mallard	25
Eurasian Curlew	365
Dunlin	45
Grey Plover	358
Common Gull	550
Yellow-legged Gull	40
Black-headed Gull	20
Relict Gull	1 first-winter
Buff-bellied Pipit	3 flew high south

3rd stop was 2 km further south

Eurasian Curlew	250
Grey Plover	35
Common Gull	300+

4th stop – at several points between 2 km north of the Lu Jiu He scenic spot – the vantage point that previously had several cafes & Hai Bin Yu Chang

Common Shelduck	6
Saunders's Gull	126 along about 5 kms of inter-tidal mudflats
Relict Gull	2 singles

Elsewhere there were –

Goldeneye	130 on a pool about 3 kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang. Of 99 sexed birds 72 were females & 27 males.
Smew	1 redhead with these Goldeneyes.

5th stop was at Beidagang 13:30-16:20.

Drove about 4-5 kms west along the road along the lake's northern edge.

Japanese Quail	1 flushed by a Northern Harrier
Bean Goose	850
Mallard	70
Spot-billed Duck	40
Northern Pintail	60
Goldeneye	2 redheads
Whooper Swan	2 adults
Eurasian Hoopoe	2
Northern Harrier –	7 inc. 1 ad. male
Upland Buzzard	4
Common Kestrel	6
Saker Falcon	1
Peregrine Falcon	1 ad.
Grey Heron	1 flew south
Chinese Grey Shrike	2
White-cheeked Starling	85 in flocks of 2, 17 & 66 birds
Reed Parrotbill	1 party of 6 birds, another party was heard but not followed up.
Asian Short-toed Lark	40+
Eurasian Skylark	50
Buff-bellied Pipit	75+
Little Bunting	15
Pallas's Bunting	25
Common Reed Bunting	20
Lapland Bunting	25

Monday 23/12/2002. All day south of Tangu.

Departed Hong Fa hotel 07:10. Heavy overnight snowfall continued throughout the morning & most sites now had a 3-4" covering of snow. Note that Beijing had had snow falling for the previous five days (it started on the 19th December & would continue until the 25th – the longest period of snow fall in the capital for over 120 years).

Drove south to Beidagang. Birded there 08:30-10:40.

Mallard	50
Spot-billed Duck	6
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 – feeding with Eurasian Skylarks around bare patches in the snow!
Long-eared Owl	15 at a daytime roost about 5 kms along the northern edge road.
Spotted Dove	2
Northern Harrier	4
Upland Buzzard	4
Common Kestrel	4
Merlin	1 ad. male
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 seen, 1 other heard
White-cheeked Starling	10
Asian Short-toed Lark	100+ in parties of up to 50 birds
Eurasian Skylark	75
Buff-bellied Pipit	2 flew over
Water Pipit	1 flew south
Little Bunting	25
Pallas's Bunting	15
Common Reed Bunting	1 heard
Ochre-rumped Bunting	1
Lapland Bunting	5

Elsewhere the following species were logged –

Goldeneye	142 on the same pool at yesterday.
Common Merganser	3 males on the Goldeneye pool.
Smew	1 redhead on the Goldeneye pool (as yesterday)

Tuesday 24/12/2002. Tanggu area in the morning, returned to Beijing in afternoon.

07:00 departed Hong Fa hotel & drove south, slowly, down the Hai Fang Lu. Some of the previous day's snow had melted & the early morning was fine though with rather poor long-range visibility. It started to snow, increasingly hard, from about 10:15.

Goldeneye	227 at the same site as the previous 2 days.
Eurasian Curlew	10
Common Gull	About 150. Only about 8 first-winters were racially assigned & all appeared to be <i>L. c. heinei</i> . Conversely all the adults had pale irides, white wedges invading the inside of the black primary tip & all were therefore assumed to be <i>L. c. kamtchshatchensis</i> . Also, when seen well, most second-winters, also had pale irides. Of a sample of 96 birds – 89 were ad.-w., 4 2 nd -w. & 3 1 st -w.
Mongolian Gull	47
Black-headed Gull	10
Saunders's Gull	121 – 63 at the scenic viewpoint & within 2 kms to the north of there. (57 ad.-w – inc. at least a couple of 2 nd -w with brown hue to the primary coverts & possibly also the alula. 6 1 st -w.) 68 more at the traditional Saunders's Gull site further south – where the colour flagged bird was seen in 2000.
Relict Gull	222. 2 (an ad-w & a 2 nd -w at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre roost & 220 on tidal mudflats at the 'traditional Saunders's Gull site south of Gaoshaling)

Friday 3rd January 2003

Departed Changzhou at 07:03 & drove east through Huanghua (07:45) to Huanghua Gang. Arrived 08:36 – total journey took 1.5 hours.

The last approx. 8 kms of the drive was through a large complex of shallow salt pans. Although they were frozen & completely birdless they looked potentially attractive & may be quite decent in the spring & autumn.

Huanghua Gang (port) is 42 kms east of Huanghua town, Changzhou is about 50 kms west of the town.

We were denied access to Huanghua town. There are some very extensive tidal mudflats here (they look good for Saunders's Gull) – the entire area looks potentially attractive for birds. But even had we been allowed access I doubt that we would have seen very much – there were some extremely extensive drifts of broken sheet ice on the sea & absolutely no open water was visible anywhere!

We left this site & drove north for about 1.5 hours, making a couple of unproductive stops on route, & finally arrived at Beidagang, Tianjin municipality at 10:15.

Beidagang, Tianjin municipality. 10:15-11:50. (38° 45.13' N., 117° 26.47' E.). 0 metres asl.

This site is 34.3 km south-south-west of Tanggu, 70.7 kms north-east of Changzhou & 50 kms south-south-east of Tanggu.

Oriental Turtle Dove	1
Yellow-legged Gull	6 on route
Black-headed Gull	20 on route
Hen Harrier	1
Upland Buzzard	2
Rough-legged Buzzard	1 male
Common Kestrel	1
Merlin	1 adult male
Chinese Grey Shrike	1
Asian Short-toed Lark	10
Eurasian Skylark	60
Meadow Bunting	2
Little Bunting	15
Pallas's Bunting	20
Common Reed Bunting	1

Departed & then drove another approx. 8 kms north to the Wulong hotel, Dagang. Tel. Tianjin (022) 63231230. Supposedly a 4 star hotel single rooms cost 100 yuan/night & a suite 220.

Saturday 4th January 2003

Departed Wulong hotel with Mrs Chao the taxi driver from Tanggu at 07:30. Drove south to Beidagang. Lunch back at the Wulong hotel. Afternoon drove from there to Gaoshaling & Hai Bin Yu Chang before returning to Tanggu & the Hong Fa hotel via the Hai Fang Lu.

Beidagang. Birded 13 kms along the northern boundary road 07:45-12:45.

Beidagang appears to be a man-made, embanked seasonal reservoir. A well-paved, concrete road runs approximately east-west along the top of the northern portion of this large embankment (and presumably continues right around the reservoir). Immediately to the north of the northern portion of this embankment is an extensive area of broad drainage channels & reed beds. These reeds were being slowly harvested, by hand, when I visited the area in December 2002 & January 2003 and there were small groups of people scattered throughout the area. This same area is dotted with occasional oil derricks as this area is part of the Dagang oilfield. There's a huge power station just to the north-east & what appears to be an oil refinery or petrochemical plant to the west of that. This huge area of reeds is where most of the raptors - Northern Harriers (up to 8), Upland Buzzards (up to 9), Rough-legged Buzzard (up to 3 in early January only), Common Kestrel (up to 4), Merlin (a single adult male) & single Saker & Peregrine Falcons hunt. There is a broken 15-20 metre wide belt of short deciduous trees lining the southern edge of the embankment & it is here that most of the passerines – the Chinese Grey Shrike (up to 3) and most of the buntings are found. All of the three species of owl that I saw were found here. To the south of the embankment is Beidagang reservoir – a huge impound.

The water level is very low in winter & on my two visits in early January 2003 there was absolutely no open water. When I visited the site two weeks earlier, in late December 2002, most of the standing water was frozen but there were a few patches of open water & these were frequented by a limited variety of geese, ducks & swans. These had all vanished now – as had the waterfowl and a couple of species of passerine – Common Hoopoe, White-cheeked Starling & Buff-bellied Pipit. Instead there appeared to be more Upland Buzzards, three Rough-legged Buzzards and decent numbers of Water Pipits. There are a few small areas of reed remaining close to the edge of the lake (most of the others had also been harvested) & it was in one of these that I saw the small party of Reed Parrotbills in late December 2002.

Little Owl	1
Short-eared Owl	1
Oriental Turtle Dove	1
Northern Harrier –	8 inc. 2 ad. male
Upland Buzzard	9
Rough-legged Buzzard	3 inc. 1 ad. male, 1 juv. female & 1 unspecified
Common Kestrel	3
Saker Falcon	1
Chinese Grey Shrike	3
Black-billed Magpie	40
Vinous-throated Parrotbill	3
Asian Short-toed Lark	20
Eurasian Skylark	400
Water Pipit	33
Brambling	1
Meadow Bunting	2 heard
Little Bunting	60
Pallas's Bunting	40
Common Reed Bunting	1
Ochre-rumped Bunting	1
Lapland Bunting	1

Hai Bin Yu Chang – 1 hour from about 15:30-16:30.

Eurasian Curlew	1
Common Gull	50 – of 16 aged birds 6 ad-w., 5 2 nd -w & 5 1 st -w
Vega Gull	5
Yellow-legged Gull	4
Black-headed Gull	30
Saunders's Gull	29 – 25 adult & 4 1 st -w

29 November 2003: Morning Huairou – afternoon travel via Beijing to Tanggu. Night Wu Long Hotel.

Departed Huairou reservoir at 09:20 & caught a local bus back to Dongzhimen bus station in Beijing (8 yuan) & took just over 1 hr 15 minutes. From there took subway to Beijing Railway Station. Had to wait nearly an hour-&a-half for the first express train to Tianjin. Latter cost 30 yuan & took 1 hr 14 minutes departing Beijing at 13:00. Also telephoned to Mrs Chao – (Mobile tel. 1795113820858365. 'Home mobile tel.' 1795102266530503) a Tanggu taxi driver I had previously used & asked her to meet the train when it arrived in Tianjin. This she did & we immediately drove to Tanggu. Sadly two road blocks & very thick fog meant that we arrived at Tanggu & drove down the coast road (the Haibin Yuchang) late – and did very little birding of any consequence. Spent the night at the Wu Long Fandian (Hotel), Dagang District, Tianjin City. Tel. (022) 63236010. Room cost 100 yuan/night in this ridiculously graded, supposedly 4-star establishment.

Rock Pigeon	10 between Tianjin & Tanggu
Common Gull	20
'large white-headed gull sp.'	10
Black-headed Gull	10 between Tianjin & Tanggu
Relict Gull	1 1st-winter
Common Kestrel	1 over Tianjin railway station
Black-billed Magpie	10 between Tianjin & Tanggu
Daurian Jackdaw	300 – the vast majority of the birds in a large mixed species corvid flock between Tianjin & Tanggu were this species
Rook	About 10 in the large mixed species corvid flock between Tianjin & Tanggu
(Carrion Crow	Several birds probably this species, were seen poorly in the large mixed species corvid between Tianjin & Tanggu)
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10

30 November 2003: Morning Beidagang. Return to Beijing in the afternoon.

07:00 left the Wu Long Fandian (Hotel) & drove less than 15 minutes south & then along the northern border of the Beidagang impound. I spent the rest of the morning there – walking along the road with Mrs Chao & the taxi catching me up at intervals. We left at 11:45 & headed directly back to Tianjin – I had hoped to have spent some time exploring the usual gull & shorebird sites close to Tanggu but increasingly dense fog cancelled this option. Caught the 13:20 express train from Tianjin back to Beijing Railway Station & the subway back to Si Hui Dong finally arriving back at about 15:50.

Bean Goose	140
Mallard	50
Spot-billed Duck	100
Northern Pintail	19
Baikal Teal	95
Common Teal	8
Common Goldeneye	24
Smew	7
Common Merganser	4
Eurasian Hoopoe	9

Rock Pigeon	10
Eurasian Curlew	1 heard
Spotted Redshank	12
Mew Gull	20
'large white-headed gull sp.'	2
Black-headed Gull	40
Hen Harrier	4 (2 adult males, 2 ringtails)
Common Kestrel	2
Little Grebe	7
Great Egret	1
Chinese Grey Shrike	3
Black-billed Magpie	30
Carrion Crow	3
Rufous-tailed Thrush	5. All were seen well enough to subspecifically identify – 4 were <i>naumanni</i> (Naumann's Thrush) & one was an adult male <i>eunomus</i> (Dusky Thrush)
White-checked Starling	60
Asian Short-toed Lark	5 heard
Eurasian Skylark	10
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	300
Water Pipit	1
Buff-bellied Pipit	60
Brambling	8
Grey-capped Greenfinch	1
Eurasian Siskin	3
Little Bunting	30
Rustic Bunting	6
Pallas's Bunting	50
Common Reed Bunting	2
Lapland Bunting	4 singles

3 January 2004. Beijing – Tanggu - Beidagang

Caught the 08:02 train from Beijing Railway Station & arrived Tianjin at 09:20. Met Mrs Chao & drove, via the KFC, to Tanggu. Spent the late morning & most of the afternoon slowly driving south down the coast road to Beidagang. We arrived there with just enough daylight to have 45 minutes at Beidagang before dark. Night at the Wu Long Hotel, north of Beidagang.

Bean Goose	3 at Beidagang
Common Goldeneye	125 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang
Common Merganser	2 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 at Beidagang
Eurasian Curlew	100 on the impound near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre
Dunlin	8 near Haibin Yuchang
Mew Gull	600
'large white-headed gull sp.'	20
Black-headed Gull	600
Saunders's Gull	12 in total on the mudflats immediately around Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	An exceptional 3362 birds were logged at four coastal sites & all but five of these were within a seven kilometre stretch of tidal mudflat immediately around Haibin Yuchang & about 18 kms south-south-west of Tanggu. 5 with other gulls on the impound near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre; 355 birds at Lu Ju He (60 on the tidal mudflats & 295 more flew north in an extremely compact, tight flock); 1742 were counted on the mudflats about 1-2 kms north of Haibin Yuchang (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.); 1260 on the tidal mudflats within 3 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & 19.7 kms south-south-west of Tanggu. (38° 50.0' N., 117° 36.8' E.). Of these 3362 birds a reasonable proportion (2092 birds or 62%) were seen well enough to divide in to two age groups – adults/2 nd -winters & first-winters. 1789 (86%) were adults/2 nd -winters & 303 (14%) were first-winters.
Hen Harrier	3 at Beidagang
Upland Buzzard	2 at Beidagang
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang
Black-billed Magpie	10 – 3 at Beidagang & the rest from the train between Beijing & Tanggu.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 at Beidagang
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
Buff-bellied Pipit	2 at Beidagang
Pallas's Bunting	4 at Beidagang
Lapland Bunting	2 at Beidagang

Sunday 4 January 2004. Beidagang & Tanggu coast road before returning to Beijing

07:10 (dawn) – 11:30 Beidagang. Then drove north back up the coast road to Tanggu – essentially the reverse of yesterday's route. Arrived back in Tanggu city centre at 13:45 & headed for the coach station. Here we were immediately surrounded by prospective drivers some of whom wanted to take us to Tianjin, others who were keen to take us all the way back to Beijing. We eventually agreed with one driver that he should take us. The price would have been 200 yuan for the taxi, or 100 if we waited & he could find two more people. We agreed to wait 10 minutes & on 150 yuan if he would take us direct to our house. The journey took a mere 2 hours & 5 minutes!

Common Goldeneye	15 on the same pool as yesterday's birds
Eurasian Hoopoe	5 – all at Beidagang
Mew Gull	100
'large white-headed gull sp.'	3 flew high west over Beidagang
Mongolian Gull	6
Black-headed Gull	50
Saunders's Gull	4 – all first winters near Haibin Yuchang
Relict Gull	Amazingly none were seen on the coastal road where well over 3000 birds were counted the previous day! I was there 4 hours earlier today & the tide was noticeably higher & no mud was exposed but even so I was surprised not to find any relict's roosting with the other small parties of gulls I found!
Hen Harrier	2 ringtails at Beidagang
Upland Buzzard	2 at Beidagang – at least one of which was an adult
Rough-legged Buzzard	1 at Beidagang
Common Kestrel	6 during the day – 3 at Beidagang, 1 near Tanggu airport & 2 singles between Tanggu & Beijing
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang – it was probably the same bird as yesterday.
Black-billed Magpie	30 – almost all at Beidagang
Rufous-tailed Thrush	4 at Beidagang. Two were seen well enough to racially assign & both were 'Naumann's Thrushes' <i>T. n. naumanni</i> .
White-cheeked Starling	30 at Beidagang.
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Skylark	80 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	400 at Beidagang.
Buff-bellied Pipit	15 at Beidagang.
Little Bunting	60 at Beidagang.
Pallas's Bunting	300 at Beidagang. This was by far the commonest & most conspicuous bird there.
Common Reed Bunting	1 heard at Beidagang
Ochre-rumped Bunting	2 at Beidagang – 1 seen & the other only heard.
Lapland Bunting	5 at Beidagang – all single fly-overs.

26 January 2004. Tanggu coast road, Beidagang & public bus back to Beijing.

We left the Hong Fa Mansion hotel, Tanggu at 07:30hrs & drove slowly south down the coast road. We made several stops on our way –

Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre

Mallard 13

River culvert

Common Gull 15

Mongolian Gull 15

Tanggu airport

Dunlin 7

Common Gull 65

Mongolian Gull 10

Relict Gull 2 adults flew south

Lu Ju He (Statue of small horse)

Red-breasted Merganser 2 flew south offshore

Common Gull 20

Mongolian Gull 6

Relict Gull 35

Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (I was there for about 1 hour from 10:55hrs)

Dunlin 647

Mew Gull 220

Glaucous Gull 1 first year

Vega Gull 1 adult-winter

Mongolian Gull 42

Black-headed Gull 15

Saunders's Gull 1 first-winter

Relict Gull 1532 on the inter-tidal mudflats

River immediately north of Beidagang

Mallard 35

Common Merganser 8

Great Crested Grebe 1

Beidagang. (I was there from 12:10-16:15hrs)

swan sp. 32

Bean Goose 17

Mallard 20+

Spot-billed Duck 20+

Common Goldeneye 7

Common Merganser 8

Mongolian Gull 6 flew high overhead

Hen Harrier 4 – 1 adult male & 3 ringtails

Upland Buzzard 5. The three birds that were aged were all juveniles.

Common Kestrel 5

Great Crested Grebe 4

Chinese Grey Shrike 2

Black-billed Magpie 20

White-cheeked Starling 14

Asian Short-toed Lark 25

Eurasian Skylark 18

Eurasian Tree Sparrow 400

Buff-bellied Pipit 15

Little Bunting 8

Pallas's Bunting 30

swan sp. 32 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

Bean Goose 17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

Mallard 68 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 26/1/2004. These involved 13 on the Tianjin Harbour Pools, Tanggu & 55 in Dagang with 35 in the river immediately north of Beidagang & 20+ at Beidagang itself.

Chinese Spot-billed Duck 20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

Common Goldeneye 7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

Common Merganser 16 in Dagang on the 26/1/2004 with eight at Beidagang itself and eight more in the river immediately north of there.

Dunlin 654 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/1/2004.

Mew Gull 320 in Tanggu on the 26/1/2004. These included 70 near Lujuhe, 220 at Haibin Yuchang & 22 at Haibin Yuchang.

Glaucous Gull 1 first year at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/1/2004.

Vega Gull 1 adult winter at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/1/2004.

Mongolian Gull 79 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 26/1/2004. These involved 73 in Tanggu with 31 near Lujuhe & 42 at Haibin Yuchang. Further south there were just 6 in Dagang – birds that flew high over Beidagang.

Black-headed Gull 15 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/1/2004.

Saunders's Gull 1 first winter at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/1/2004.

Relict Gull	1569 in Tanggu on the 26/1/2004. These involved two that flew south past Tanggu airport, 35 at Lujuhe & 1532 at Haibin Yuchang.
Hen Harrier	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Upland Buzzard	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Common Kestrel	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Great Crested Grebe	5 in Dagang on the 26/1/2004 with four at Beidagang & one more in the river immediately north of there.
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Black-billed Magpie	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
White-cheeked Starling	14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Asian Short-toed Lark	25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Eurasian Skylark	18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	400 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Buff-bellied Pipit	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Little Bunting	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Pallas's Bunting	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

Sunday 2 May 2004. All day south of Tanggu

Left the Hong Fa Da Sha Fandian (Hong Fa Mansion Hotel), Teda (288 yuan/night) during the May Day National Holiday at 05:45 & drove south down the Haibin Yuchang. Spent all day birding down there, had a late lunch (15:10-15:45hrs in the Wu Long hotel, Dagang) & then spent about 45 minutes birding at Beidagang. I'd intended to have stayed here longer but it was raining hard & blowing up a storm so we returned to the Hong Fa Hua Yuan Fandian (Hong Fa Garden hotel), Tanggu for the night. We checked in to the very last vacant room. Discounted May Day holiday room cost 178 yuan/night.

An excellent day. Highlights included large numbers of Relict Gulls immediately around Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, large numbers of terns at Beidagang & large numbers of shorebirds south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang with the rarest being 3 different Little Stints all together, & all in view at the same time, about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. I also noted 7 colour flagged shorebirds among a flock of about 1500 waders about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – 2 Bar-tailed Godwits, 2 Great Knots, 2 Red Knots & 1 Curlew Sandpiper.

Japanese Quail	2 at Beidagang
Ruddy Shelduck	1 flew north off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Spot-billed Duck	1 at Beidagang
Common Swift	6 in & around Tanggu town
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Beidagang
Bar-tailed Godwit	600 – all between Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse), Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the river immediately north of Beidagang. I saw two colour flagged birds in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – both had a single yellow flag above their right leg.
Whimbrel	150 from Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre south to the river immediately north of Beidagang
Eurasian Curlew	300 – all between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the river immediately north of Beidagang
Eastern Curlew	10
Common Redshank	1 on a freshwater pool near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre
Marsh Sandpiper	140 – most on the freshwater pools near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre
Common Greenshank	50
Wood Sandpiper	20
Terek Sandpiper	5
Common Sandpiper	1
Ruddy Turnstone	2
Great Knot	300. Two colour flagged birds were noted in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – one had a yellow flag above its right leg, the other a black flag above its right leg.
Red Knot	500. Two colour flagged birds were noted in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – one had a yellow flag above its right leg, the other an orange/red flag above its right leg.
Sanderling	1
Little Stint	3 with about 28 Red-necked Stints on a brackish coastal pool about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (All three birds were photographed). An uncommon spring & mid-autumn passage migrant in the Hebei/Tianjin coastal strip. (This species is no longer a rarity in eastern China – I've personally seen about 17 Little Stints since my first, at Beidaihe in May 1989).
Red-necked Stint	140 – a surprisingly high number for this early in May! At Beidaihe, Hebei day counts of Red-necked Stints probably don't start to approach three-figures until near the peak migration – towards the end of the third week of May onwards (until the end of the first-week of June?).
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	12
Dunlin	1200
Curlew Sandpiper	250. One leg-flagged bird was noted in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – it had an orange/red flag above its right leg.
Black-winged Stilt	2 at Beidagang
Grey Plover	1800 in coastal Tianjin on the 2 May 2004 and this was the commonest shorebird between Tanggu & the river immediately north of Beidagang. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 125,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count represents 14% of the entire flyway population! Bo Hai Wan is well known as being an important site for this species with Barter (2002) estimating that c.80% of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway population passing through the Yellow Sea on northward migration. Other high counts in the area have included 6493 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000, 3550 in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002, 2972 in North Bohai Wan on 2 May 2002 & 1994 in the Shi Jiu Tuo (Happy Island)/Daqing He area, Hebei on an unspecified date (all in Bamford et al. 2008).

Kentish Plover	400
Lesser Sand Plover	10
Black-tailed Gull	8 – 7 first-years & 1 second-year.
Mongolian Gull	1 first-year near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Black-headed Gull	150
Saunders's Gull	1, first-summer, on a brackish tidal lagoon immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	265 (all but two birds were first-years). 1 (first-year) at the river culvert south of Tanggu Airport; 2 (both first-years) at the Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse); 157 (1 adult-winter – with absolutely no signs of a summer plumage hood, 1 fully hooded second-summer & 155 first-years) with no other gulls near high tide besides the small 'river mouth' at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 105 with about 150 Black-headed Gulls on a small brackish coastal pool about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Gull-billed Tern	60 – most along the coast between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & about 5 kms south of there.
Common Tern	550, with a huge number of Whiskered Terns, over Beidagang during heavy rain on the early evening
Little Tern	100
Whiskered Tern	At least 6500 over Beidagang during heavy rain on the early evening. Although large numbers (550) of Common terns were counted at the same site not a single White-winged Black Tern was logged!
Common Kestrel	1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Great Crested Grebe	2 on Beidagang
Great Cormorant	4 on a pool on the inland side of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Grey Heron	1 at Beidagang
Purple Heron	1 at Beidagang
Black-billed Magpie	4, 12 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3 others near Tanggu
Ashy Minivet	1 was heard high over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre
Common Stonechat	3 coastal migrants
White-cheeked Starling	10 – several near Tanggu, several at Beidagang & several near Dagang
Barn Swallow	100 coastal migrants
Red-rumped Swallow	Only 2 coastal migrants were noted – perhaps implying that this is an earlier migrant than Barn Swallow?
Light-vented Bulbul	1 at Beidagang
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre
Dusky Warbler	1 coastal migrant
Pallas's Warbler	2 coastal migrants
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 coastal migrants
Asian Short-toed Lark	6 singing birds along the coast between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100
White Wagtail	3 north bound coastal migrants were heard
Yellow Wagtail	1 north bound coastal migrant was heard
Grey Wagtail	1 north bound coastal migrant was heard
Richard's Pipit	6 north bound coastal migrants were heard
Olive-backed Pipit	2 north bound coastal migrants were heard
Red-throated Pipit	1 north bound coastal migrant was heard
Little Bunting	4 seen.
Black-faced Bunting	1 heard
bunting sp.	At least 100 north bound coastal migrants were noted

Mammals

1 road killed possible Hog-badger was seen on the main coast road adjacent to Tanggu airport. (Photo)

Monday 3 May 2004. Morning south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Hua Yuan Fandian (Hong Fa Garden hotel), Tanggu at 05:00hrs & headed back down the coast road. There was a very strong north-westerly wind today & the sea was a long way out, exposing very extensive inter-tidal mudflats. Consequently most of the shorebirds & gulls were extremely distant. We birded south down the coast road until 11:50hrs, venturing as far as about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, before returning to Tanggu & heading back to Beijing. We'd intended to catch a coach from Tanggu bus station to Beijing but, as happened in February 2004, we were approached by several car drivers almost as soon as Mrs Chao pulled up at the bus station – they were offering rides back to Beijing. We took one, it cost 50 yuan/person – only a few yuan more than the bus would have cost. He dropped us at the Guo Mao subway station.

Common Shelduck	42 at Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse)
Bar-tailed Godwit	500
Whimbrel	80
Eurasian Curlew	300
Eastern Curlew	10
Spotted Redshank	1 flew north over the river culvert near Tanggu airport.
Marsh Sandpiper	100
Common Greenshank	40
Wood Sandpiper	15
Terek Sandpiper	3
Ruddy Turnstone	1
Great Knot	300
Red Knot	400
Red-necked Stint	103 – all on the inter-tidal mudflats near the river culvert close to Tanggu airport.
Dunlin	1000
Curlew Sandpiper	105
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew north over the river culvert near Tanggu airport

Grey Plover	1500
Little Ringed Plover	1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Kentish Plover	100
Black-tailed Gull	3 first-summer on a near coastal pool about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Gull	2 separate first-summer birds – the first at Haibin Yuchang & the second on a near coastal pool about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	150
Saunders's Gull	2, first-summer, on a brackish tidal lagoon immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	292 in total – all were first years. 8 on the mudflats off the river culvert close to Tanggu airport, 37 at Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse), 174 on the mudflats off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 73 on the mudflats between 3-5 kms south of there.
Gull-billed Tern	50
Caspian Tern	1 flew south over the tide-line about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Common Tern	2 on the mudflats about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Little Tern	30
Whiskered Tern	1 flew north over the tide line near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Amur Falcon	1 flew north over the beach off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Great Cormorant	6 on a near coastal pool about 2 kms north of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Black-billed Magpie	1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Common Stonechat	1
Barn Swallow	30
Red-rumped Swallow	1 heard
Yellow-browed Warbler	1
Asian Short-toed Lark	3
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present'
Little Bunting	2

Friday 3 September 2004. Beijing – Tanggu. Afternoon at N. end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.

We caught the 10:20hrs train from Beijing Railway Station to Tianjin (30 yuan/ticket) & arrived at Tianjin Central Station 1 hour & 15 minutes later. Then took a taxi for 100 yuan to the Hong Fa Garden Hotel (Hong Fa Huar Yuan) in Tanggu. We'd reserved a room in advance & this again cost 178 yuan/night.

We then phoned Mrs Chao, our regular Tanggu taxi driver, & she duly arrived to pick us up shortly afterwards.

Leaving the Hong Fa Garden Hotel we headed east towards the river mouth intending to do our usual route, cross the river & drive south down the coast road. However things had changed radically in Tanggu since we were last here & there was now an excellent new settling tank at the north-western end of the large Nanjiang Da Qiao.

Settling Tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. (38° 58.6' N., 117° 43.0' E.). 14:15-18:00hrs.

This settling tank held probably well over 3000 waders, the vast majority of which were Red-necked Stints, but there was a reasonable diversity of other species as well. These included 40 Asian Dowitchers & a moulting juvenile to first-winter Relict Gull.

Common Kingfisher	1
Spotted Dove	1 from the train between Beijing & Tianjin.
Whimbrel	100
Eurasian Curlew	3
Eastern Curlew	4
Marsh Sandpiper	1000
Common Greenshank	2 heard
Wood Sandpiper	3
Asian Dowitcher	40 – 32 juveniles & 8 adults all together
Red-necked Stint	At least 3000. Very few (less than 20 juveniles were noted) & hence well in excess of 99% of the birds were adults. 8 colour-flagged adults were noted – 5 had orange flags above their right 'knees', three had yellow flags above their right 'knees'.
Temminck's Stint	56 – all bar 3 of these birds were on the tidal salt marsh & mudflats immediately on the river side of the settling tank.
Long-toed Stint	1 with other waders on the tidal salt marsh & mudflats immediately on the river side of the settling tank.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	4
Dunlin	12
Curlew Sandpiper	1
Broad-billed Sandpiper	75 – 53 of these were concentrated at the eastern end of the settling tank
Black-winged Stilt	55 – all were on a pool with deeper water adjacent to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre about 1.5 kms south of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Little Ringed Plover	150
Kentish Plover	800
Black-tailed Gull	20
large gull sp.	1 apparent juvenile flew high over head
Black-headed Gull	20
Relict Gull	1 juvenile well advanced in moult towards being a first-winter on the settling tank. (Photo)
Gull-billed Tern	10

Common Tern	1
Little Tern	6
White-winged Black Tern	4 – including at least 1 adult & at least 1 juvenile.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	4, 2 cream-crowns & 2 males, over reed beds close to the mouth of the river.
Common Kestrel	1 from the train between Beijing & Tianjin
Amur Falcon	1 juvenile flew south high over the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Little Egret	7, all juveniles, on the edge of the salt marsh adjacent to the settling tank.
Grey Heron	1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre about 1.5 kms south of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Brown Shrike	8 in low scrub near the settling tank.
Azure-winged Magpie	6 on route from Tongzhou to Beijing Railway Station.
Black-billed Magpie	6
Large-billed Crow	1 near Beijing Railway Station
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 first-winters on the edge of the salt marsh
White-cheeked Starling	2 between Beijing & Tianjin
Barn Swallow	40
Dusky Warbler	2
Yellow-browed Warbler	1
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	At least 100
White Wagtail	1 flew over
Yellow Wagtail	3 singles flew over
Richard's Pipit	1 flew over
Pechora Pipit	2 singles flew up river over the settling tank

Saturday 4 September 2004. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & headed back towards the Nanjiang Da Qiao. We anticipated that high tide would be about 06:00hrs & hoped spend that time birding around the inter tidal mud flats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. However there had apparently been a traffic accident somewhere near there & there was a huge line of trucks backed up north right across the Nanjiang Da Qiao. We tried to find an alternative route south...but failed & ended up birding around the same settling tank that we looked at yesterday.

Settling Tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. (38° 58.6' N., 117° 43.0' E.). 06:45-08:30hrs.

Highlights here included 12 leg flagged Red-necked Stints, 21 Asian Dowitchers, 5 Relict Gulls & another fly-over Pechora Pipit.

We then decided to explore some new sites to the north of Tanggu.

1. Tian Ma Cai Chuan Chang. (39° 05.1' N., 117° 43.8' E.). 09:15hrs for about 10 minutes

This site, on the southern side of a river mouth, is 10.4 kms north-east (38°) & about a 30 minute drive north of Tanggu town centre. Its also about a 2 kms drive south of the Caihong Da Qiao. We saw little here – though a winter visit, when there are perhaps a few more gulls, might be worthwhile.

Grey Heron	15
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2. Complex of roadside saltpans about 2 kms north of the Caihong Da Qiao.

Kentish Plover	545
White-winged Black Tern	10
Black-winged Stilt	1
Curlew Sandpiper	1

3. Cheng Tou Gu. (39° 08.6' N., 117° 47.3' E.). 10:00-10:45hrs.

A small coastal, fishing village with several clean-looking restaurants. Site is 18.5kms north-north-east (31°) of Tanggu. We drove right to the fishing quay itself & then walked about 800 metres north along the sea wall – towards the massive aircraft carrier that's a tourist attraction & moored about 3-4 kms further north. Most of the interesting species were on the inter-tidal mudflats.

Oriental Pratincole	4 flew south
Pacific Golden Plover	3 flew south
Common Greenshank	120
Eastern Curlew	21
Sand Martin	6
Black-tailed Gull	60
Little Tern	35

4. Cai Jia Pu. (39° 10.5' N., 117° 50.2' E.). 11:20-12:00hrs.

This coastal site, another coastal fishing village, is about 7 kms north of the aforementioned aircraft carrier & 23.8 kms north-east (46°) of Tanggu.

Black-tailed Gull	253
Grey-tailed Tattler	1
Black-headed Gull	ca.600
Little Tern	20
curlew sp.	120
Common Greenshank	350
Common Redshank	1

Some pools between the main north-south road & Cai Jia Pu held –

Little Egret	7
White-winged Black Tern	50
Whiskered Tern	2
Common Tern	7

After exploring these sites we decided to return to Tanggu & try again to drive south down the coast road from there.

5. Small bridge on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats 1 km north of Tianjin Airport. (38° 54.2' N., 117° 40.0' E.). 13:15hrs for about 20 minutes

This site is 11.4 kms almost directly due south (186°) of Tanggu town centre.

Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile – presumably a locally fledged bird.
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6. Lu Ju He – the scenic tourist spot with the donkey statue.

This site is 13.4 kms almost directly due south (191°) of Tanggu town centre. Its also 2.29 kms in a direct line from here to the previous site.

Relict Gull	4
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7. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. 14:00-15:30hrs.

50 (7 1st-yrs & 43 adults/second yrs)

8. Last site of the day. Inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (38° 49.0' N., 117° 35.9' E.).

This site is 21.9 kms almost directly due south (201°) of Tanggu town centre & 9.05 kms south-west (216°) of Lu Ju He.

Relict Gull	519. Sample counts gave 453 adults (including second-years as these are difficult to distinguish at the ranges many of the birds are seen) & 26 1 st -years. A subsequent count gave 295 adults & 11 1 st -years.
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Bar-tailed Godwit	3
Whimbrel	150
Eurasian Curlew	40
Eastern Curlew	55
Common Redshank	2
Marsh Sandpiper	450
Common Greenshank	500
Green Sandpiper	1
Wood Sandpiper	20
Terek Sandpiper	10
Common Sandpiper	1 heard
Grey-tailed Tattler	5
Asian Dowitcher	21
Red-necked Stint	2000. A sample count (n = 1108) gave 1081 adults (98%) & 27 juveniles (2%). 12 leg-flagged birds were noted – 6 had orange flags above their right knee, the other 6 had yellow flags.
Temminck's Stint	20
Long-toed Stint	1
Dunlin	10
Curlew Sandpiper	1 adult
Broad-billed Sandpiper	25
Black-winged Stilt	20
Pacific Golden Plover	3 flew south
Grey Plover	20
Little Ringed Plover	150
Kentish Plover	1000
Oriental Pratincole	4 flew south
Black-tailed Gull	1000
Vega Gull	20
large gull sp.	50
Black-headed Gull	1500
Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile moulting to first-winter
Relict Gull	528
Gull-billed Tern	30
Caspian Tern	7
Common Tern	8
Little Tern	100
Whiskered Tern	2
White-winged Black Tern	60
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1
Pied Harrier	2
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Great Cormorant	1
Little Egret	10
Grey Heron	30
Brown Shrike	5
Black-billed Magpie	1
Black Drongo	1
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1

Red-throated Flycatcher	2
Common Stonechat	2
Sand Martin	6
Barn Swallow	200
Dusky Warbler	1 was heard
Yellow-browed Warbler	4
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	1 was heard
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40
White Wagtail	1 was heard
Yellow Wagtail	20
Richard's Pipit	3
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Red-throated Pipit	1 was heard
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the Nanjiang Da Qiao.

Sunday 5 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove directly to the first site -

1. Settling Tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. (38° 58.6' N., 117° 43.0' E.). 05:45-08:00hrs.

Red-necked Stint	1000. A sample count gave 513 adults (93%) & 40 juveniles (7%). 6 leg-flagged birds were noted – 2 with yellow flags on their right legs, 4 with orange.
Purple Heron	1 flew south
Great Egret	2 flew south
Olive-backed Pipit	4 singles flew south
Asian Dowitcher	19 (16 juveniles & 3 moulting adult-summer)
Red Knot	2 – at least 1 of which was a juvenile
Marsh Sandpiper	520 counted
Lesser Sand Plover	2 first-winters
Broad-billed Sandpiper	15
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 flew over

2. Beidagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 09:30-13:10hrs.

This land mark (about 200 metres inside the entrance gate) is 33 kms south-west (216°) of Tanggu town centre.

Great Crested Grebe	49
Little Grebe	200
Little Egret	132
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2
Pied Harrier	2
Kestrel	2
Caspian Tern	3
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 heard
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2 heard
Thick-billed Warbler	1
Chinese Grey Shrike	3, 2 seen & 1 other bird heard.
Light-vented Bulbul	11
Brown Flycatcher	3
Red-throated Flycatcher	8
Arctic Warbler	15
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	9
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1
Common Snipe	18
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	5
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1
Oriental Pratincole	11
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 flew south

We then had lunch at the regular restaurant in the Wu Long Da Jiudian in Shang Gu Lin.

3. Complex of roadside pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	106
Spotted Redshank	2
Black-tailed Godwit	2
Black-winged Stilt	120
Marsh Sandpiper	350
Kestrel	1 flew south
White-winged Black Tern	100

4. Last site of the day. Inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (38° 49.0' N., 117° 35.9' E.). 16:30-18:10hrs

This site – the site that we finished the previous day at is 21.9 kms almost directly due south (201°) of Tanggu town centre & 9.05 kms south-west (216°) of Lu Ju He.

Relict Gull	546. Two sample counts were made – the first (n = 397) gave 333 adults (84%), 41 second-years (10%) & 23 first-years (6%) while the second count (n = 369) gave remarkably similar proportions of the different age groups with tallied 315 adults (85%), 37 second-years(10%) & 17 first-years (5%). Note that second-year birds are relatively easily distinguished at this time of year (early September to early October). Their bills are duller & blacker, lacking the reddish or claret hue found on most, if not all, of the adults. Adults also have brighter redder legs. There are pronounced & obvious differences in primary moult between these two age classes in early September. In early September virtually all of the adult Relict Gulls were in very heavy primary moult, many had either dropped all of their outer primaries or had dropped all of them except the outer most. If this outermost primary was still retained it was invariably ragged & often the white mirror had completely worn away. Primaries 2, 3 & possibly sometime pp4 were invariably short & re-growing. At rest the wing-tip was often virtually absent, the moulting wings giving the bird a very short, truncated or stubby rear end. Even in early October the majority of adults were still in heavy primary moult & still showing this truncated profile. Second year birds were all still full-winged - & hence had prominent primary projections at rest. The 4 or 5 primaries that were visible beyond the tertials were dark (blackish) & many of them had small, sometimes tiny, white tips. Even in early October no second winter birds were seen in heavy primary moult with the truncated rear ends so typical of adults at this time of year. ca.1000
Black-tailed Gull	40
Eastern Curlew	40
Eurasian Curlew	
Japanese Quail	1 was heard at Beidagang.
Common Shelduck	8 on the sea off the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Mallard	1 male on the sea off the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spot-billed Duck	6 at Beidagang.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 singles at Beidagang.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 singles at Beidagang.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	A flock of 5 were seen in flight at Beidagang.
Common Snipe	A flock of 18 were seen in flight at Beidagang.
Black-tailed Godwit	2 on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 – most were on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Whimbrel	100
Eurasian Curlew	40 - most on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	50 - most on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	2 on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Common Redshank	1 at Beidagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	800
Common Greenshank	200
Wood Sandpiper	20
Terek Sandpiper	6
Common Sandpiper	1 heard
Grey-tailed Tattler	5 – including 4 on pools at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Asian Dowitcher	19 (16 juveniles & 3 adults) on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Red Knot	2, including at least 1 juvenile, on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Red-necked Stint	ca1000 – nearly all on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. A sample count gave 513 adults (93%) & 40 juveniles (7%). 6 leg-flagged birds were noted – 4 with orange flags on their right legs & 2 with yellow.
Temminck's Stint	15
Long-toed Stint	1 juvenile on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	106 – all were on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Dunlin	50 – most were on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	3, 2 adults & a juvenile, on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	15
Black-winged Stilt	150 – nearly all were on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Grey Plover	100 – nearly all were on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	100
Kentish Plover	1000 – most of these were on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 first-winters on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Oriental Pratincole	11 at Beidagang.
Black-tailed Gull	ca.1500 – about 1200 of these were on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
large gull sp.	5
Black-headed Gull	1000
Relict Gull	551 – 546 were concentrated by the rising tide on the inter-tidal mud flats at the regular site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. When the tide flooded the last of the mud the majority of birds flew north up the coast (to roost where?). Two sample counts were made here – the first (n = 397) gave 333 adults (84%), 41 second-years (10%) & 23 first-years (6%) while the second count (n = 369) gave remarkably similar proportions of the different age groups with tallied 315 adults (85%), 37 second-years(10%) & 17 first-years (5%). 5 more birds, all first-years, were counted on a pool at Haibin Yuchang itself.
Gull-billed Tern	20
Caspian Tern	3 – all on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	1
Little Tern	50

Whiskered Tern	10
White-winged Black Tern	200 – nearly all were seen over the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	3 including 2 at Beidagang.
Pied Harrier	2, a ringtail & a male, at Beidagang.
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Common Kestrel	3 – 2 over the settling tanks at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao & 1 other over the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Little Grebe	200 at Beidagang
Great Crested Grebe	49 at Beidagang
Little Egret	132 at Beidagang!
Grey Heron	30 – most at Beidagang.
Purple Heron	5 – all at Beidagang.
Great Egret	2 flew south over the settling tanks at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Brown Shrike	10
Chinese Grey Shrike	3, 2 seen & another only heard, at Beidagang.
Black-billed Magpie	5 – all at Beidagang.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	5 – all at Beidagang.
Red-throated Flycatcher	8 – all at Beidagang.
Common Stonechat	4
Sand Martin	4
Barn Swallow	200
Red-rumped Swallow	2 at Beidagang.
Light-vented Bulbul	11 at Beidagang.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2 were heard at Beidagang.
Oriental Reed Warbler	2 were heard at Beidagang.
Thick-billed Warbler	1 at Beidagang.
Dusky Warbler	3
Yellow-browed Warbler	20
Arctic Warbler	15 - all at Beidagang.
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	9 - all at Beidagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	200
White Wagtail	5
Yellow Wagtail	6
Richard's Pipit	6
Olive-backed Pipit	4
Yellow-breasted Bunting	2 – 1 flew south over the settling tanks at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao & the other at Beidagang.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south over the settling tanks at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.

Butterflies

Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	50 (photo).
Swallowtail	10 (photo)
blue butterfly sp.	(photo)

Monday 6 September 2004. Morning south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden hotel at 05:30hrs & spent the early morning (05:45-09:30hrs) birding around the settling tank near the Nanjiang Da Qiao. After that we explored a couple of coastal sites near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre further south before returning to the hotel at about 11:00hrs. We had the afternoon off.

Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 on the steel coal carrying conveyor belt bridge immediately to the east of the Nanjiang Da Qiao!
Whimbrel	40
Eurasian Curlew	10
Eastern Curlew	5
Spotted Redshank	1 heard
Marsh Sandpiper	300
Common Greenshank	10
Green Sandpiper	1
Wood Sandpiper	5
Common Sandpiper	2
Asian Dowitcher	12
Red-necked Stint	800. A sample count (n = 1121) gave 1043 adults (93%) & 78 (7%) juveniles. 8 leg-flagged birds were noted – 6 with red flags on their right legs & 2 with yellow flags.
Temminck's Stint	10
Long-toed Stint	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1
Dunlin	5
Broad-billed Sandpiper	25. 21 birds were aged – 18 were juveniles, 3 adult.
Black-winged Stilt	50
Grey Plover	20
Little Ringed Plover	50
Kentish Plover	500
Lesser Sand Plover	1 first-winter.
Grey-headed Lapwing	87 birds, in parties of 3, 9, 43 & 32, flew south.
Black-tailed Gull	300

large gull sp.	5
Black-headed Gull	500
Relict Gull	1 first-year on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Gull-billed Tern	5
Common Tern	1
Little Tern	20
White-winged Black Tern	5 flew high to the south.
Black-crowned Night Heron	5 juveniles flew south over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Brown Shrike	25
Eyebrowed Thrush	1 over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1
Red-throated Flycatcher	1
Siberian Blue Robin	1
Common Stonechat	4
Sand Martin	2
Barn Swallow	100
Rusty-rumped Warbler	1 was heard in reeds besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 was heard in reeds besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Dusky Warbler	2
Yellow-browed Warbler	5
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	1 was heard.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100
White Wagtail	5
Yellow Wagtail	5
Richard's Pipit	10
Olive-backed Pipit	2 flew south over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1
Black-faced Bunting	1

Tuesday 7 September 2004. Morning near Tanggu, afternoon returned to Beijing.

In the morning we again visited the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank but we didn't spend much time there today. Today's long range visibility was much better than it had been at any time since we arrived in Tanggu & I could see that some more settling tanks off in the distance, to the coastal side of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre held large numbers of birds & that, unlike the previous day, there were very few trucks operating in that area. We decided to head over there, drove round to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & walked around to this increasingly huge complex of tanks. They were thronged with shorebirds & I spent the rest of the morning & early afternoon there, leaving at about 14:00hrs, elated after stumbling across a winter-plumaged Spoon-billed Sandpiper in what was almost the very last flock that I checked! We headed back in to Tanggu & caught the elevated train back to Tianjin – journey took 45 minutes & cost about 5 yuan each. From the terminus it then took us another 30 minutes in a taxi to get to the main railway station where we ended up taking another taxi (50 yuan each) back to Guo Mao in south-eastern Beijing. The latter drive took 1 hour 45 minutes.

Japanese Quail	1 was seen at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 flew north over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Common Snipe	3 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 was seen at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Whimbrel	50.
Eurasian Curlew	30
Eastern Curlew	2
Spotted Redshank	1 flew south over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Common Redshank	1 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Marsh Sandpiper	ca.5000 birds were estimated in total – perhaps 700 of these were on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks, the rest were at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Common Greenshank	20
Green Sandpiper	1 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	20
Terek Sandpiper	1 was heard over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Common Sandpiper	2 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 was heard at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Asian Dowitcher	4 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks in the morning with 2, possibly the same, at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Great Knot	9 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Red Knot	1 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Sanderling	1 juvenile at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Spoon-billed Sandpiper	1 adult-winter was seen & photographed (poorly) on one of the coastal reclamation pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. It was with about 4000 other shorebirds on one of the largest pools (the pool where all the Sharp-tailed Sandpipers & Pied Avocets were & where the largest numbers of Dunlin & Kentish Plovers were counted). It was not considered to be even loosely accompanying any of the thousands of Red-necked Stints that were noted nearby. Seen at about 70 metres distance it was remarkably obvious & could be readily re-found after every time the shorebird flock took flight. Entirely grey with darker upper rear ear-coverts & a rectangular paler post-ocular supercilium (a plumage not shared by any of the Red-necked Stints that I'd seen over the previous few days) the bird's

	distinctive spatulate bill was by far its most obvious feature. It spent much of its time preening almost belly deep in the water.
Red-necked Stint	ca.4500 birds were estimated in total – perhaps 800 of these were on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks, the rest were at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. A sample count of 1056 birds gave 953 adults (90%) & 103 juveniles (10%). 18 leg-flagged birds were noted – 13 had orange flags on their right legs, 4 had yellow & 1 bird had a yellow flag above its 'knee' on its right leg & an orange flag below the same 'knee'.
Temminck's Stint	30
Long-toed Stint	5 singles were seen at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	102 – all at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Dunlin	ca.1300 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Curlew Sandpiper	5, 2 adults & 3 juveniles, at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	62 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juvenile at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Black-winged Stilt	20 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Pied Avocet	452 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Grey Plover	120 – all at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Little Ringed Plover	120
Kentish Plover	4000 – nearly all at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Grey-headed Lapwing	2 flew south high over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Oriental Pratincole	2 flew south high over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Black-tailed Gull	200
Common Gull	1 apparent second year on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Vega Gull	5 on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Black-headed Gull	200
Relict Gull	29 (23 adults, 3 second-years & 3 first-years) on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Gull-billed Tern	20
Common Tern	18 – all on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Little Tern	90 – all on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
White-winged Black Tern	30 on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Common Kestrel	1 flew south over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Little Egret	4 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks.
Grey Heron	2 on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Brown Shrike	3
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 was hunting over the salt marsh besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Black-billed Magpie	4
Black Drongo	6 singles were seen at various sites between the Nanjiang Da Qiao & the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1
Siberian Blue Robin	1 female or immature male was sheltering behind an embankment on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Common Stonechat	1
Barn Swallow	20
Rusty-rumped Warbler	1 showed superbly as it was sheltering behind an embankment on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2
Dusky Warbler	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	10
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30
White Wagtail	1 flew south over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Yellow Wagtail	15
Richard's Pipit	10
Olive-backed Pipit	6
Pechora Pipit	1
Red-throated Pipit	1
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.

Friday 17 September 2004. Beijing – Tianjin – Tanggu. Afternoon nr Nanjiang Da Qiao, Tanggu.

We caught the 10:20hrs express train from Beijing Railway Station to Tianjin & arrived 1hr 20 minutes later at 11:40hrs. The train only makes one stop on route, at Tianjin Bei Zhan (Tianjin North Station) five minutes before the terminus. Tickets for these almost hourly trains cost 30 yuan each &, unlike tickets for trains heading everywhere else from Beijing Railway Station, are bought from a small booth up on the second floor of the railway station near where passengers head down on to the platform. Seats are usually easy to get, but are tougher at weekends & extremely difficult during national holidays (unless you arrive well in advance). These busy holiday trains are occasionally standing room only!

We had a snack at KFC near Tianjin railway station & then headed off to catch the rapid transit train from Tianjin to Tanggu & Teda. Note that the latter line has only been open about 5 months & the line isn't yet complete. Unfortunately it doesn't yet extend all the way to Tianjin Central Railway Station, its planned to do so but this isn't scheduled to happen until late in 2005. Instead we caught a taxi (14 yuan) to Zhong Shan Lu Qing Gui Zhan where the elevated rapid transit train currently terminates. The trains run from here to Tanggu & the Teda about every half hour & currently stop at about eight stations, taking about 50 minutes to reach Tanggu town centre. Tickets cost 5 yuan/person. We'd no sooner arrived at Zhong Shan Lu Qing Gui Zhan than we were approached by a taxi driver offering a ride to Tanggu for 30 yuan – we took it & arrived at the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel about 50 minutes later (? – not sure). Our pre-booked room here cost 178 yuan/night. We telephoned Mrs Chao & she duly arrived at the hotel at 13:40.

We spent the rest of the afternoon (14:05-17:00hrs) at the Nanjiang Da Qiao Settling Tank.

(Eurasian Hoopoe	2 singles were seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin.)
(Spotted Dove	10 were seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin. A surprisingly high number.)
Whimbrel	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Eurasian Curlew	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Eastern Curlew	8 on the inter-tidal mudflats besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Marsh Sandpiper	1450 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank. This species was now the third commonest species of shorebird on the tank. A sample count of 162 gave 9 (6%) first-years & 153 (94%) adults
Common Greenshank	1 was heard over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Common Sandpiper	3 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Asian Dowitcher	2, 1 adult & 1 juvenile, on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Red-necked Stint	1800 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank. This species was now the second commonest species of shorebird on the tank. A sample count of 325 birds gave 302 (93%) juveniles & 23 (7%) adults.
Temminck's Stint	144 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Long-toed Stint	3 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Dunlin	30 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	85 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank. Of these 85 birds there were 73 juveniles (86%) & 12 adults (14%).
Little Ringed Plover	At least 220 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Kentish Plover	2300 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank. This species was now the commonest species of shorebird on the tank.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Black-tailed Gull	150 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
large gull sp.	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Vega Gull	1 juvenile on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Relict Gull	3, all first-winters, on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Caspian Tern	4 birds flew high south-east over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Little Tern	4 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
(Oriental Honey-buzzard)	1 was seen from the train on the western edge of Tianjin – it flew high to the south-east.)
Common Kestrel	2 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
(Amur Falcon	46 birds were counted from the train between Beijing & Tianjin. They were in two discrete areas – 19 birds were seen at the first site (between 20-35 minutes by train south-east of the capital) & 27 more were noted at the second (between 50-60 minutes from Beijing & between 20-30 minutes before Tianjin)
Little Egret	7 – 1 was seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin – it was about 5 minutes west of Nancang & 6 more birds, all juveniles, were seen on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
(Azure-winged Magpie	4 were seen near Beijing Railway Station.)
Black-billed Magpie	6 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Ashy Minivet	1 was heard over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
(Blue Rock Thrush	1 flew high over Beijing Railway Station.)
Dark-sided Flycatcher	1 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 was heard near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
(White-cheeked Starling	About 150 birds were seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin – about 130 of these were in one large flock about 35 minutes after leaving Beijing.)
Barn Swallow	100 in & around Tanggu.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 flew south over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Dusky Warbler	1 in light scrub near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 in light scrub near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in & around Tanggu.
White Wagtail	3 flew over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Yellow Wagtail	2 flew over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Richard's Pipit	5 flew over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.
[Grey-capped Greenfinch	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.]

Saturday 18 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & spent the entire day (06:05-18:15hrs) birding around the extensive complex of impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We had an exceptional day, the undoubted highlight being an adult-winter Franklin's Gull, apparently the first record for China. Other good birds included an adult-winter Little Gull, large numbers of Relict Gulls, very impressive numbers of shorebirds especially Temminck's Stints & a Chinese Grey Shrike.

Ruddy Shelduck	1 early bird on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. September records are very rare at Beidaihe, Hebei - there were no records in that month during the five years 1986-1990 despite good observer coverage. (Williams 2000)
Falcated Duck	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Teal	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Snipe	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Godwit	7 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Whimbrel	15
Eurasian Curlew	50
Eastern Curlew	2
Spotted Redshank	2 juveniles.

Marsh Sandpiper	5200 were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	15
Green Sandpiper	3 on & around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	10
Common Sandpiper	4
Grey-tailed Tattler	1
Great Knot	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red Knot	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sanderling	2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	2500 were estimated on the settling tanks/impounds. A sample count of 455 birds gave 54 (12%) adults & 401 (88%) juveniles. Two leg flagged adults were noted – both had orange flags above their right 'knees'.
Temminck's Stint	An impressive 453 birds were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	7 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	1500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	135 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	743 birds were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	3 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	40
Little Ringed Plover	300 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu on the 18/9/2004. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 25,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 1.2% of the entire flyway population! Other than a count of 4658 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 15 October 1990 the next highest count in China is of 1000 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000 (Barter, M., Riegen, A. & Xu, Q. 2003. Shorebird numbers in Bohai Wan during northward migration. <i>The Stilt</i> 44: 3-8).
Kentish Plover	7000 were estimated to be on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-headed Lapwing	30, in parties of 2, 6 & 22 birds, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Pratincole	20, in parties of 3, 3 & 14 birds, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	200
Common Gull	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 2 of these, an adult & a first-winter, showed characters of <i>L. c. heinei</i> . The third bird was not seen well enough to subspecifically assign.
large gull sp.	30
Vega Gull	10
Black-headed Gull	500
Relict Gull	381 birds were counted at a high tide roost on the settling tanks/impounds. Three banded birds were noted – all were adults & 2 had yellow rings above the knee on their left legs while the third bird had an aluminium ring above the knee of its right leg. Two sample counts were made & the first of 343 birds gave 80 (23%) first-years, 44 (13%) second-years & 219 (64%) adults. The second sample count of 283 birds gave 97 (34%) first-years, 26 (9%) second-years & 160 (57%) adults. Taken together this gives 626 birds - 177 (28%) first-years, 70 (11%) second-years & 379 (61%) adults.
Franklins Gull	1 adult-winter was seen with other gulls at the high tide roost on the settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. The site is 7.5 kms south-east of Tanggu town centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). It was watched for only about five minutes from 09:30hrs at about 120 metres range. It was in a tiny flock of gulls – a flock that contained several Black-headed & a couple of Relict Gulls. Unfortunately we didn't see it leave, it presumably took flight while I was changing the lens on my telescope, but several digital photos & some brief field notes were taken. This is apparently the first record for China.
Little Gull	1 adult-winter was watched 'phalaroping' i.e. spinning & picking insects off the surface of the water on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tank. Although there are perhaps in excess of six spring & at least one autumn record from coastal Hebei (mostly if not all in the Beidaihe/Happy Island area) this is possibly the first record for Tianjin.
Gull-billed Tern	20 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	8 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Tern	1
Little Tern	120 on & around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-winged Black Tern	42
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Harrier	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1
Common Kestrel	2
Little Egret	2 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Heron	26 birds were noted. Most were on the ground but 3 birds were observed flying high to the south.
Purple Heron	4 flew south.
Chinese Pond Heron	4 were seen flying south-east over Tanggu town in the early evening.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 in the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1
Red-throated Flycatcher	3
Siberian Rubythroat	7
Bluethroat	1
Siberian Blue Robin	1
Common Stonechat	2
Sand Martin	25
Barn Swallow	200
Red-rumped Swallow	1
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Numerous birds, probably numbering several hundreds, flew high to the south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Most of those that were seen were in flocks of 30-50 birds but many others were heard & could not be seen.

Lanceolated Warbler	1 was seen well on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dusky Warbler	2
Yellow-browed Warbler	4
Eurasian Skylark	3 singles flew south.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40
White Wagtail	5
Yellow Wagtail	20
Grey Wagtail	8 singles flew south.
Richard's Pipit	50 flew south.
Olive-backed Pipit	50
Pechora Pipit	3 singles flew south.
Red-throated Pipit	34 flew south.
Little Bunting	2
bunting sp.	40

Sunday 19 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:40hrs & headed straight back to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Arriving at 06:05hrs I spent just over four hours here & left at 10:30hrs. I then headed south down the coast road & spent perhaps an hour or so at the same complex of roadside pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.) that I'd visited two weeks earlier (on the 5 September). After that I headed south & spent just over two hours (13:45-16:00hrs) at Beidagang before returning to Tanggu.

Japanese Quail	1 at Beidagang.
Ruddy Shelduck	1 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Common Shelduck	8 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Gadwall	8 at Beidagang.
Falcated Duck	14 – 1 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & 13 at Beidagang.
Spot-billed Duck	20 at Beidagang.
Northern Pintail	3 at Beidagang.
Garganey	2 at Beidagang.
Common Teal	23 – 8 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & 15 at Beidagang.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 was seen in flight over Tanggu town centre!
Eurasian Hoopoe	3 at Beidagang.
cuckoo sp.	1 juvenile at Beidagang.
Common Moorhen	2 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Coot	92 at Beidagang.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1
Common Snipe	4
Black-tailed Godwit	74 – 24 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & 50 on the complex of pools between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin.
Whimbrel	4
Eurasian Curlew	45
Eastern Curlew	5
Spotted Redshank	15
Marsh Sandpiper	1200 – mostly on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & a few on the complex of pools between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin.
Common Greenshank	20
Green Sandpiper	2
Wood Sandpiper	10
Red-necked Stint	400
Temminck's Stint	20
Dunlin	400 – all on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	20 – all on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 flew south near the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Black-winged Stilt	20
Pied Avocet	600 – at least 500 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & at least 100 on the complex of pools between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin.
Pacific Golden Plover	19 flew south over the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre
Grey Plover	110 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Kentish Plover	1000 – nearly all on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Grey-headed Lapwing	91 birds were noted flying south. Flock sizes were as follows – 3, 5, 6, 6, 7, 15, 17 & 32.
Oriental Pratincole	10 – with several flying south over the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & several more at Beidagang.
Black-tailed Gull	400 – mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He.
Vega Gull	140 – about 25 on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & the rest on fishponds immediately south of Lu Ju He.
Black-headed Gull	700 – mostly on fishponds between Lu Ju He, Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin.
Relict Gull	About 350 birds were roosting at high tide on the on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Two sample counts were made the first one of 183 birds gave 63 (34%) first-years, 13 (7%) second-years & 107 (58%) adults. The second sample count of 263 birds gave 68 (26%) first-years, 27 (10%) second-years & 168 (64%) adults. Taken together this gives 446 birds - 131 (29%) first-years, 40 (9%) second-years & 275 (62%) adults. Many of the birds were close & were standing up on the settling tank allowing me to check to see if they were ringed. A total of 12 banded birds were noted – 3 first-winters with aluminium bands on their right legs, 4 adults with aluminium bands on their right legs & 5 adults with yellow colour bands on their left legs.

Gull-billed Tern	20 – 4 at Beidagang & all the rest on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre
Caspian Tern	8 – 1 at Beidagang & all the rest on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre
Little Tern	40 – with most on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & a few at Beidagang.
Whiskered Tern	125 – all at Beidagang. A sample count of 96 birds produced 65 adults (68%) & 31 juveniles (32%). This proportion of almost twice as many adults as juveniles was very different to the pattern found in White-winged Black Tern.
White-winged Black Tern	1500 – about 5 at both the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & Beidagang with all the rest over the complex of fish ponds between Lu Ju He, Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. A sample count of 196 birds produced 168 adults (86%) & 18 juveniles (9%). Note that there was a significantly smaller proportion of juveniles (9% as against 32%) compared with Whiskered Tern.
Oriental Honey-buzzard	3, 1 adult & 2 juveniles, flew south over the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	4 flew south during the day.
Pied Harrier	3, including two immature males flew south during the day.
harrier sp.	23 – these included about 10 birds, singles & small parties, that flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & about 13 at Beidagang.
Japanese Sparrowhawk	3
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	2
accipiter sp.	6
Common Kestrel	2 – 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & the other at Beidagang.
Amur Falcon	6 – 4 at Beidagang & 2 others between there & Tanggu.
Eurasian Hobby	1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Little Grebe	320 – all at Beidagang.
Great Crested Grebe	150 – 16 on a pool between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin & all the rest at Beidagang.
Black-necked Grebe	10 together on a pool between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin.
Great Cormorant	12 – 7 between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin & 5 at Beidagang
Little Egret	10 – 2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & 8 at Beidagang.
Grey Heron	40 – mostly on the fishponds between Lu Ju He, Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin.
Purple Heron	5 – all at Beidagang.
Brown Shrike	2 – both at Beidagang.
Black-billed Magpie	20 – all were either seen at Beidagang itself or from the taxi on the 'inland route' from there back to Tanggu.
Ashy Minivet	5 - 4 birds, two singles & a couple, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & another flew over at Beidagang.
Black Drongo	22 – 3 at Beidagang with all the rest being birds visibly migrating & flying south.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2
Red-throated Flycatcher	4
Common Stonechat	2
Sand Martin	15
Barn Swallow	200
Red-rumped Swallow	5
Light-vented Bulbul	1 at Beidagang.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	At least 500 birds flew south.
Lanceolated Warbler	3 were heard at Beidagang.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2
Dusky Warbler	8
Radde's Warbler	1 was heard in scrub near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre.
Yellow-browed Warbler	15
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	3 were heard at Beidagang.
Eurasian Skylark	8 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 singles were noted – the first was a definite migrant that flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. The birds were seen over the fishponds between Lu Ju He, Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin & at Beidagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	200
White Wagtail	50 – 4 birds were seen well enough to racially assign & they were all <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	50. 1 bird was seen well enough to racially assign - it was <i>M. f. simillima</i> .
Grey Wagtail	4
Richard's Pipit	20
Olive-backed Pipit	25
Red-throated Pipit	9
Common Rosefinch	2 were heard at Beidagang.
Little Bunting	1
Yellow-breasted Bunting	2 at Beidagang.
Black-faced Bunting	3 at Beidagang.
Pallas's Bunting	1 was heard at Beidagang.
bunting sp.	40.

Monday 20 September 2004. Morning & early afternoon south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed straight back to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Arriving at 06:00hrs we spent just over three hours here & left at 09:10hrs. We then headed south down the coast road. It was extremely windy today & was extremely difficult to use my telescope, even from the car. As a consequence we decided to head down to the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang where I hoped that a large wall would shelter us from the almost gale force north-westerly. It did & we spent three hours here (10:00-13:00hrs) being treated to a very impressive movement of raptors (Oriental Honey-buzzards, Amur Falcons & accipiters were particularly well represented) & we also had a migrating Swan Goose.

Swan Goose
1 was seen well as it flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang at 12:40hrs. This is apparently typical early autumn date for this globally endangered species. The species is a rare early autumn migrant in Hebei (its perhaps just about annual at Beidaihe for example). I'm unsure if there are any previous records from Tianjin municipality.

Falcat Duck	9 – 1 again on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 8 flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Teal	42 – 13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 29 others (in flocks of 3, 12 & 14 birds) flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Snipe	4 – 1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 3 others flew south over the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-tailed Godwit	8 flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Whimbrel	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Tanggu airport.
Eurasian Curlew	38 – all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Curlew	5 – 3 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 on the mud flats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	5 – all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Marsh Sandpiper	1200 - all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	50 – almost all were on the inter-tidal mudflats off Tanggu airport.
Green Sandpiper	1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	4 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the mud flats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Sandpiper	1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Red-necked Stint	300 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	10 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	500 – nearly all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-winged Stilt	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	600 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	140 – 105 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the rest elsewhere down the coast between there & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	20 – all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	1500 – nearly all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-headed Lapwing	41 birds, in flocks of 6, 7, 12 & 16 birds, flew south during the day.
Oriental Pratincole	35 migrating birds were noted – 10 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 25 (in flocks of 11 & 14 birds) at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-tailed Gull	400 – mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Gull	1 adult-winter presumed <i>heinei</i> at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
<i>taimyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	3 juveniles were seen with numerous other 'large gulls' on the fishponds immediately south of Lu Ju He.
Vega Gull	300 – nearly all on the fishponds immediately south of Lu Ju He.
Black-headed Gull	800
Relict Gull	350 - 320 birds were estimated to be using the high tide roost at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & at least another 30 were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. A sizeable sample count was made & this produced the following ratios – 25% first-years, 13% second-years & 62% adults. Once again a large number of the birds were close & were standing up on the settling tank allowing me to check to see if they were ringed. A total of 8 banded birds were noted today – 1 first-winter with an aluminium band on its left leg, 1 first-winter with a yellow colour band on its right leg, 2 adults with aluminium bands on their right legs, 3 adults with yellow colour bands on their left legs & another adult whose band was so covered in mud that I couldn't determine what colour the ring was.
Gull-billed Tern	20 – nearly all were on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Caspian Tern	65 - nearly all were on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	3 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	40
Whiskered Tern	1 juvenile flew south over the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
White-winged Black Tern	2
Oriental Honey-buzzard	An impressive 571 birds flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs). 66 birds were aged & of these 46 (70%) were adults & 20 (30%) juvenile.
Black Kite	12 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs). All 6 birds that were aged were juveniles.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	9 flew south, of which 3 were adult or near-adult males.
Pied Harrier	6 flew south, of which 4 were adult or near-adult males.
harrier sp.	30 birds flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs).
Japanese Sparrowhawk	15 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs).
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	33 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs).
accipiter sp.	81 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs).
Common Kestrel	3 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs).
Amur Falcon	89 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs).
Great Cormorant	65 – 5 on the near coastal fish ponds between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a flock of about 60 birds flew high to the south off the latter site.
Grey Heron	10
Great Egret	2 on a pool near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Ashy Minivet	3 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2
Common Stonechat	2
Sand Martin	5
Barn Swallow	50
Red-rumped Swallow	250 birds, including two sizeable flocks, one of 50 & the other of about 110 birds, flew south. Today was the first day that this species had predominated over the previous one.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	50
Dusky Warbler	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	3
Eurasian Skylark	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	10 – 2 birds were seen well enough to racially assign & they were both <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .

Yellow Wagtail	10 – 1 of which was seen well enough to racially assign. It was <i>M. f. similima</i> .
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south.
Richard's Pipit	5
Olive-backed Pipit	5
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Red-throated Pipit	5
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1
Black-faced Bunting	1
bunting sp.	10

Tuesday 21 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed straight back to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Arriving at 06:00hrs we spent just over 45 minutes here & left at 06:45hrs. We then headed south down the coast road spending the rest of the morning (07:30-12:15hrs) watching the large gulls on the fishponds at Lu Ju He. We then returned to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre where we stayed from 12:50-16:45hrs.

Japanese Quail	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Teal	12 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other flew over the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Common Snipe	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Curlew	7 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Spotted Redshank	2
Marsh Sandpiper	2500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	20
Green Sandpiper	1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the mud flats adjacent to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Sandpiper	2 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other at the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 - 1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other flew over the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Red-necked Stint	1000 birds were estimated to be on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. One sample count of 494 birds was made & this gave 485 juveniles (98%) & only 9 adults (2%).
Temminck's Stint	245 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	85 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. The vast majority of birds were juvenile & I only noticed one adult.
Black-winged Stilt	4
Pied Avocet	450 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south over Lu Ju He.
Grey Plover	110 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Northern Lapwing	26 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Pratincole	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	800 – most were on the inter-tidal mud flats around Lu Ju He though there were perhaps 50 on & around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 20 at the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
large gull sp.	100 besides the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
<i>taiyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	3 juveniles besides the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Vega Gull	250 – nearly all besides the Lu Ju He fish ponds. This was the commonest gull here. It easily dominated the other species easily intimidating the other species of large gull.
Mongolian Gull	8 – most were first- & second-year birds.
Black-headed Gull	1200 – the vast majority were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & there were fewer than 10 besides the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Relict Gull	377 birds were noted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. One sample count, of 150 birds, was made & this produced the following results – 72 first-years (48%), 21 second-years (14%) & 57 adults (38%). Rather few (probably less than 20) birds were seen close enough to check for rings but nevertheless two banded birds were noted – they were both adults with yellow colour bands on their left legs.
Gull-billed Tern	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	5 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & at least 3 birds regularly flew over the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Little Tern	10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-winged Black Tern	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
harrier sp.	2 singles flew south.
Ashy Minivet	1 flew south over the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Siberian Rubythroat	2, a male & a female, besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Bluethroat	1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	2
White-cheeked Starling	1, the first coastal migrant I had seen this autumn, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
[Chinese Penduline Tit	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.]
Barn Swallow	20

Red-rumped Swallow	20
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	50
Dusky Warbler	2
Yellow-browed Warbler	4
Asian Short-toed Lark	6 flew over the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Eurasian Skylark	20 – most flew south over the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	20 birds were noted – most were seen directly flying south. Two subspecies were noted – 4 <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> & the first <i>M. a. ocularis</i> (3 birds) that I had seen this autumn.
Yellow Wagtail	10
Grey Wagtail	2
Richard's Pipit	6
Olive-backed Pipit	10
Red-throated Pipit	12
Common Rosefinch	2 singles flew south.
Little Bunting	4
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1
bunting sp.	15

Wednesday 22 September 2004. Morning off, late afternoon south of Tanggu.

My back was playing up today & I had the morning 'off' & we left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 15:30hrs & headed straight back to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Arriving at 16:15hrs we spent just two hours here & left at 18:15hrs. We then headed back to the hotel.

Common Teal	12 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 flew inland over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Snipe	5
Eurasian Curlew	5
Eastern Curlew	7
Marsh Sandpiper	800 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	5
Wood Sandpiper	24 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	1
Grey-tailed Tattler	1
Red-necked Stint	1000
Temminck's Stint	200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	600 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	101 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	60 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	30
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	2500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	400 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Gull	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
large gull sp.	30 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Vega Gull	40 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-headed Gull	1500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Relict Gull	50 on or near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Only 34 birds were aged – 18 first-years (53%), 2 second-years (6%) & 14 adults (41%).
Caspian Tern	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Heron	15
Red-throated Flycatcher	3
Bluethroat	1
Common Stonechat	1
Barn Swallow	10
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several birds flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	6 – only one was racially assigned & it was <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	6
Olive-backed Pipit	2
Red-throated Pipit	1

Thursday 23 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed straight back to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Arriving at 06:05hrs most of the day there, leaving at 14:15hrs. We then headed back north over the Nanjiang Da Qiao & explored a couple of new areas on the northern side of the river - they produced nothing & were very disappointing. We then returned to the hotel, arriving at 16:00hrs.

Garganey	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
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Common Teal	19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Wryneck	1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 flew inland over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Snipe	4
Eurasian Curlew	22
Eastern Curlew	4
Spotted Redshank	1
Marsh Sandpiper	4300 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A new tank, with about 1800 Marsh Sandpipers on it, was visited to day.
Common Greenshank	15
Wood Sandpiper	6
Terek Sandpiper	4
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 singles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Stint	1 bird, an adult moulting out of summer plumage, was seen on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. It was digi-scoped & I have three poor images of the bird.
Red-necked Stint	2000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Very few, probably less than 15 birds (less than 1%) were adults but nevertheless one of these carried leg flags – an orange flag above its right knee & a yellow flag below.
Temminck's Stint	200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	3
Dunlin	2500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A new tank, with about 1500 Dunlin on it, was visited to day.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 juveniles
Broad-billed Sandpiper	52
Pied Avocet	160
Pacific Golden Plover	8
Grey Plover	20
Little Ringed Plover	30
Kentish Plover	4800 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A new tank, with about 3000 Kentish Plover on it, was visited to day.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Pratincole	8 birds, all in one flock, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	400 on & around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Gull	1
large gull sp.	40
Vega Gull	30
Black-headed Gull	1200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Relict Gull	184 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 149 birds were aged & this produced the following results – 98 first-years (66%), 15 second-years (10%) & 46 adults (31%). A surprisingly high proportion of today's birds (11 out of a group of 95 standing birds) carried colour bands – 3 first-winters had aluminium bands on their right legs; 6 adults had yellow bands on their left legs; 1 adult had an aluminium band on its right leg; 1 adult had a yellow band on its left & an aluminium band on its right leg.
Gull-billed Tern	6
Caspian Tern	1
Common Tern	1
Little Tern	12 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 adult male flew south-west over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Great Cormorant	5 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Heron	12 on or around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Brown Shrike	2 singles flew south-west over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1
Siberian Rubythroat	2
Bluethroat	1
Siberian Blue Robin	1
Common Stonechat	3
Sand Martin	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	50 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-rumped Swallow	4 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several birds were heard flying south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1
Dusky Warbler	1
Yellow-browed Warbler	10
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	5 – two birds were seen well enough to racially assign & 1 was <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> the other <i>M. a. ocularis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	5
Grey Wagtail	1
Richard's Pipit	8
Olive-backed Pipit	6
Red-throated Pipit	1
Black-faced Bunting	2
bunting sp.	4
Butterflies	
Swallowtail	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Friday 24 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed directly to the Lu Ju He fishponds where we arrived at 06:15hrs. We spent just over one hour here before continuing south, our next stop being the regular Relict Gull site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. We'd been told, by some of the beach vehicle drivers at Lu Ju He, that today's high tide would be at 09:00hrs & we wanted to be at the 'relict Gull site' well before high tide. In the event we'd been given some wrong information & high tide probably wasn't actually until 11:30hrs. Nevertheless we stayed at this site for almost three hours (07:45-10:40hrs) before returning to the Lu Ju He fishponds. From there we finally headed back to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We birded here from 13:00-16:00hrs & then returned to the hotel.

Common Teal	23 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-throated Needletail	1 flew south over the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Whimbrel	1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eurasian Curlew	120 – 40 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & most of the rest at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	10 – most on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	1 flew inland over the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Marsh Sandpiper	1000 – almost all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	30
Wood Sandpiper	5
Terek Sandpiper	1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Stint	The same adult summer moulting to winter as yesterday was seen again on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	1200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	150 – nearly all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	1500 – about 300 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the rest on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	49 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	20 – 7 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	11 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Plover	50 – 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the rest on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Ringed Plover	10
Kentish Plover	2400 – 400 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the rest on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Pratincole	7 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-tailed Gull	600 – 300 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 40 besides the Lu Ju He fishponds & over 200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 196 birds produced 183 adults (93%) & 13 juvenile/first-winters (7%).
Common Gull	1 second-year on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
large gull sp.	30
<i>taiyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	1 juvenile at the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Vega Gull	400 – nearly all at the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Mongolian Gull	2 at the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	1000 - a sample count of 230 birds produced 216 adults (94%) & 14 juvenile/first-winters (6%).
Saunders's Gull	1 first-winter was hunting crabs over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	210 – 23 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 53 on pools about 1 km north of Tangu airport & 134 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 121 birds at the latter site were aged & there were 49 first-winters (40%), 12 second-winters (10%) & 60 adult-winters (50%). An adult-winter here had a yellow colour band on its left leg.
Gull-billed Tern	12 – 10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	135 – 22 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 105 on pools at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 7 at Lu Ju He & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Tern	1 juvenile flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Tern	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 male flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Northern Goshawk	1 juvenile flew south over the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Common Kestrel	1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Amur Falcon	1 juvenile over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Heron	6
Great Egret	2 on pools at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 flew north-west high over the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Ashy Minivet	At least 39 birds flew south during the day. Flock sizes were as follows – 6 individuals were heard & not seen & were assumed to be singles, 2 singles, 2, 4, 8 & one flock of 17.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 male on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sand Martin	2
Barn Swallow	300
Red-rumped Swallow	10
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Very few birds were noted today – none were seen & very few were heard.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20
White Wagtail	5 – including 1 <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	10
Grey Wagtail	3
Richard's Pipit	20
Olive-backed Pipit	5
Red-throated Pipit	2
bunting sp.	2

Saturday 25 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed directly to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We birded here from 06:00-09:00hrs & then headed south. We spent 1.5 hours at Lu Ju He (09:30-11:00hrs) before continuing further south. A brief stop at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang produced nothing so we drove on to Beidagang via the complex of pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.) that I'd previously visited twice in the previous two weeks (on the 5 & 19 September). We arrived at Beidagang at 13:15hrs & I spent much of the afternoon (until we left at 16:30hrs) watching a large party of roadside Amur Falcons.

Note that Beidagang is just north of Dagang, a moderately large & very well-known, oil town. Its accessed by turning right (west) off the main north-south Tanggu to Dagang road (the Gangtang Lu) about 1 km south of the Dagang Power Station & immediately south of the large Dong Feng Qiao. This minor road reaches a barrier after about 2 more kms where permission needs to be sought to enter the Beidagang area itself. Note that in the past this barrier has been permanently open, & un-manned, in the winter. However autumn is a popular fishing season here & this is probably the reason that the gate is closed & often locked at this time. In over 20 visited I've only once not been allowed access & that was probably exceptional – there had been a murder there the day before & the culprit was apparently still at large!

Note that this site is particularly prone to fog – at least in autumn & winter almost any day with anticyclonic weather & light winds results in poor visibility here.

Beidagang has a sizeable fishing industry. There are at least three sites immediately to the south of the main causeway where hobby fishermen can pay for a spot & fish one of the stocked pools while the large lakes are full of fishing nets, fish traps & often have up to a dozen small single-man fishing boats (punts) on them. There are two small fishing settlements (one with about 40 small, seemingly permanent, reed huts the other with about 20). Most of these huts are supplied with electric power. The pools further west (i.e. inland) have large reed beds & no or very little open-water & even the eastern most pool is now severely overgrown with weed.

Besides fishing there's quite a lot of hare coursing here in the winter when there are numerous gangs 3-5 men hunting the grassland to the north of the embankment. On one day in mid-September 2004 I saw one man in his mid-twenties setting jinn traps in a shallow pool just inside the main gates. It appeared that he was attempting to catch some of the 100+ Little Egrets in that area.

Spot-billed Duck	5 at Beidagang.
Garganey	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Teal	19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
cuckoo sp.	1 at Beidagang.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Beidagang.
Spotted Dove	2 at Beidagang.
Common Moorhen	5 at Beidagang.
Common Snipe	3
Black-tailed Godwit	17 on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.
Eurasian Curlew	32
Eastern Curlew	2
Spotted Redshank	314 on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.
Marsh Sandpiper	1600 – 1200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 400 on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.
Common Greenshank	20
Green Sandpiper	2 singles at Beidagang.
Wood Sandpiper	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang.
Red-necked Stint	1000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 151 birds produced 149 juveniles (99%) & only 2 adults (1%).
Temminck's Stint	100 – nearly all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Dunlin	200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Curlew Sandpiper	3 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Broad-billed Sandpiper	27 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Black-winged Stilt	20 – all on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.
Pied Avocet	25 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Pacific Golden Plover	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Grey Plover	10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks

Little Ringed Plover	10 – most on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Kentish Plover	2500 – 2300 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & about 200 on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.
Oriental Pratincole	30 - 1 flew south over Lu Ju He & 30 at Beidagang.
Black-tailed Gull	400 – a sample count of 86 at Lu Ju He produced 84 adults (98%) & only 2 first-years (2%).
large gull sp.	30
<i>taimyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	1 juvenile on the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Vega Gull	300 on the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	3000 – mostly on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. A sample count of 117 birds here were all adults!
Relict Gull	24 – all were first winters. It was extremely low tide when I visited the settling tanks today & hence there were no birds using the high tide roost there. However there were 19 birds feeding elsewhere on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 5 more about 6-7 kms inland on pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.
Gull-billed Tern	4
Caspian Tern	12
Little Tern	2 at Beidagang.
Whiskered Tern	6 at Beidagang.
White-winged Black Tern	1000 were estimated to be on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. A sample count of 491 birds here produced 446 adults (91%) & 45 first-years (almost all juveniles) (9%).
Eastern Marsh Harrier	5 – 1 male flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 4 more (including 2 more adult males) at Beidagang.
Amur Falcon	114 at Beidagang. Many of these birds were seen very well & a large number (n = 92) were aged & sexed. There were 29 adult males (32%), 40 adult females (43%) & 23 juveniles (25%).
Little Grebe	Several birds were heard at Beidagang.
Grey Heron	10
Purple Heron	5 – all at Beidagang.
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 singles at Beidagang.
Black-billed Magpie	25 – nearly all at Beidagang.
Black-naped Oriole	2 at Beidagang.
Ashy Minivet	16 birds flew south. Two presumed singles were heard otherwise flock sizes were 2, 3 & 9.
Black Drongo	3 at Beidagang.
Red-throated Flycatcher	3
Siberian Rubythroat	3 – 1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 at Beidagang.
Common Stonechat	2
White-cheeked Starling	1 at Beidagang.
Sand Martin	15 birds flew south.
Barn Swallow	300 birds flew south.
Red-rumped Swallow	50 birds flew south.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several parties were noted.
Zitting Cisticola	1 was heard at Beidagang.
Lanceolated Warbler	3 – 1 was seen besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 others were heard at Beidagang.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	4 – all at Beidagang.
Dusky Warbler	3
Yellow-browed Warbler	10
Eurasian Skylark	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40
White Wagtail	10 – the only bird subspecifically identified was <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Citrine Wagtail	1 first-winter was seen well on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow Wagtail	10 - the only bird subspecifically identified was <i>M. f. simillima</i> .
Grey Wagtail	4 singles flew south.
Richard's Pipit	40 flew south.
Olive-backed Pipit	10
Red-throated Pipit	10 singles flew south.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	2 singles.
Pallas's Bunting	1 was heard at Lu Ju He.
bunting sp.	10
Mammals	
Siberian Weasel	1 weasel sp., probably this species, was seen at Beidagang.
Cape Hare	1 at Beidagang.

Sunday 26 September 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed off to the settling tank at the northern end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. There were no birds here so we quickly departed & headed back to Beidagang. We birded Beidagang from 07:40-11:30hrs, as yesterday I spent a large proportion of that time with the Amur Falcons. From there we headed to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We birded here from 12:35-15:00hrs before returning to the hotel, checking out & heading to catch an elevated train back to Tianjin. We left the hotel at 16:05hrs & were lucky enough to catch a train almost immediately. We had dinner at KFC near Tianjin Railway Station from 17:15hrs before taking a shared taxi for 50 yuan each back to Guo Mao in Beijing where we arrived at 20:20hrs.

Note that over the last week the main shorebird pool at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre has been drying out rapidly – the workmen here have been actively pumping water out & its been taking effect. Today was the first day that there was

no open, standing water in this tank & the number of several larger species of shorebird, most notably Marsh Sandpiper, Pied Avocet & even Dunlin were dramatically lower than previously.

Spot-billed Duck	10 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Beidagang.
Oriental Turtle Dove	5 at Beidagang.
Spotted Dove	2 at Beidagang.
Common Moorhen	4 at Beidagang.
Common Snipe	4 – 3 at Beidagang & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	65 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Curlew	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Spotted Redshank	1 flew over Beidagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	Remarkably few birds were seen today – there were only 40 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	10 – nearly all at Beidagang.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang.
Wood Sandpiper	15 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	1000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	136 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A bizarre-looking partial albino that was clean white with patchy greyish-brown feathers scattered on its rear crown, nape, mantle & scapulars & with bright orange legs & bill was also noted.
Long-toed Stint	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	51 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-winged Stilt	2 at Beidagang.
Pied Avocet	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	15 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Ringed Plover	25 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	2500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-headed Lapwing	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Pratincole	105 at Beidagang.
Black-tailed Gull	60 between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Lu Ju He & the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Gull	1 second-year on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
large gull sp.	25
Vega Gull	10
Black-headed Gull	600 between Beidagang, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Lu Ju He & the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Relict Gull	11 – all were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. There was 1 adult-winter & 10 first-winters. Despite being there at a very high tide this was another very disappointing count of Relict Gull & I can only assume that the larger number of birds that I was seeing here no more than a week earlier & now roosting somewhere else.
Gull-billed Tern	4 – 2 at Beidagang & 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	57 birds were roosting at high tide at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Tern	2 at Beidagang.
Whiskered Tern	5 at Beidagang.
White-winged Black Tern	8 at Beidagang.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	3 at Beidagang.
Amur Falcon	131 at Beidagang – the increase from yesterday's count of 114 birds here probably reflects the fact that we explored more areas. 124 birds were aged & sexed. There were 56 adult males (45%), 46 adult females (37%) & 22 juveniles (18%).
Little Grebe	Several birds were noted at Beidagang – but once again the large near the entrance wasn't checked.
Grey Heron	10
Purple Heron	5 at Beidagang.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 juvenile/1 st -winter flew south at Beidagang.
Chinese Grey Shrike	3 singles at Beidagang.
Black-billed Magpie	20
Ashy Minivet	11 birds were noted at Beidagang. Flock sizes were as follows – 6 presumed singles were heard, 2 singles were seen & there was one flock of 3.
Black Drongo	3 singles at Beidagang.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 at Beidagang.
Siberian Rubythroat	11 – 9 were heard at Beidagang & 2 were seen besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Bluethroat	1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	3 at Beidagang.
White-cheeked Starling	23 either at Beidagang or between Tanggu & there.
Sand Martin	5
Barn Swallow	100
Red-rumped Swallow	2
Light-vented Bulbul	12 at Beidagang.
Zitting Cisticola	3 singles were noted at Beidagang.
White-browed Chinese Warbler	1 very vocal bird was heard & later seen at Beidagang.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several flocks were noted flying high to the south.
Lanceolated Warbler	5 singles were heard at Beidagang.

Black-browed Reed Warbler	At least 10 at Beidagang.
Dusky Warbler	4 at Beidagang.
Radde's Warbler	1 at Beidagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10
Arctic Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang.
Eurasian Skylark	1 flew south at Nanjiang Da Qiao.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	6
Yellow Wagtail	5
Grey Wagtail	1
Richard's Pipit	5
Olive-backed Pipit	4
Red-throated Pipit	4
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 at Beidagang.
Little Bunting	1 at Beidagang.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 at Beidagang.
Black-faced Bunting	3 at Beidagang.

Mammals

Siberian Weasel	2 at Beidagang.
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Butterflies

Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	2 at Beidagang.
small blue butterfly sp.	1 was photographed at Beidagang.
white butterfly sp.	6 at Beidagang.

Saturday 2 October 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:45hrs & headed off to the settling tank at the northern end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. There were no birds here so we quickly departed & headed over the bridge to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre – a site that's known to many local taxi drivers as Lan Fangzi (literally 'Blue House'). We birded here from 06:10-13:00hrs before continuing south down to Lu Ju He. Here we spent time looking at the large gulls on the fishponds & time viewing the inter-tidal mudflats. In the later afternoon we walked along the coastal breakwater from Lu Ju He north for about 5-6 kms finishing about 2.5 kms north of Tanggu airport. From there we returned to the hotel & arrived back at about 18:10hrs.

The weather today was gorgeous – it had rained here the day before &, as was the case with the rain we experienced at Miyun, this has the effect of 'cleaning the sky' & the visibility today was very good. It was a bit colder however (10 °C at about 06:30hrs rising to about 20 °C midday) & there was a stiff south-westerly wind throughout the day.

There was a decent passage of Eurasian Skylarks today, plus a smattering of other species. The biggest surprise of the day however was an adult Whooper Swan.

Work on the huge reclamation project goes on apace. At one point Qingyu counted no less than 69 diggers & 28 bulldozers – all of which were working! There are also at least a dozen boats working on the outer sea wall. The current impound is about 3.3 x 4.3 kilometres in area (over 14 km²) & once the outer sea defences are complete (a new sea wall is currently being built about another 3-4 kms further out in to the bay) this should more than triple the project's size! We saw a map of the project today – from that it appears that the Hai He river itself will eventually be canalised. The reclaimed area immediately to the south of the Hai He river (& on the opposite side of the river to the coal terminal & current gas tanks) is going to be a large gas storage depot.

Japanese Quail	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Whooper Swan	1 adult seen flying south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks was found later in the day settled on one of the same tanks.
Mallard	5 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Spot-billed Duck	2 on the sea south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	300 birds were on the inter-tidal mudflats between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He.
Eastern Curlew	6 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Marsh Sandpiper	30 birds were briefly on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	30 – 18 on inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the rest near Tanggu airport.
Wood Sandpiper	2 singles were heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
[Little Stint	1 bird, possibly this species, was seen briefly & distantly on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks].
Red-necked Stint	170 birds were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Only 1 adult was seen – all the rest were juveniles.
Temminck's Stint	192 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	250 – virtually all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	2, a summer-plumaged adult & a juvenile, on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	23 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew west over Tanggu airport.
Grey Plover	80 on the inter-tidal mudflats near Tanggu airport.
Little Ringed Plover	8 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	4000 – 3800 were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & at least 200 were noted on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He.
Northern Lapwing	A flock of 27 birds flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-headed Lapwing	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Tanggu airport.
Black-tailed Gull	500 – nearly all on the inter-tidal mudflats between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He.
Common Gull	1 adult on the inter-tidal mudflats off Tanggu airport.
<i>taimyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	2 adults or near adults were noted – the first of this age that I'd seen this autumn. The first was on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the second besides the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Vega Gull	600 – nearly all were besides the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	4000 – a marked increase on day counts made in late September. Nearly all of these birds were on the inter-tidal mudflats between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He. A sample count of 322 birds produced 312 adults (97%) & only 10 (3%) first-winters!
Saunders's Gull	1 first-winter was seen off Lu Ju He.
Relict Gull	ca 400 birds were noted – although 92 birds were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats at the mouth of the Hai He river the major count was made during an incomplete count of small gulls roosting on the approaching high tide either on the inter-tidal mudflats or the sea itself between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He. A sample count of 155 birds on these latter mudflats produced 37 first-winters (24%), 22 second-winters (15%) & 96 adult-winters (62%). Four banded birds were noted - two winter plumaged adults had yellow colour bands on its left legs & an aluminium band on their right one; another adult just had an aluminium band on its right leg; a first-winter bird also just had an aluminium band on its left leg.
Gull-billed Tern	2 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other off Tanggu airport.
Caspian Tern	30 – about 7 over the Lu Ju He fishponds the remainder being on the inter-tidal mudflats between there & Tanggu airport.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Kestrel	1 near Tanggu town centre.
Amur Falcon	1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-necked Grebe	We were shown a captive bird had been caught in one of the coastal fishing nets at Lu Ju He. It appeared unharmed but the 'owner' claimed that it was heading for the pot.
Great Cormorant	5 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Heron	4.
Rufous-tailed Thrush	1 bird showing characters of <i>T. n. naumanni</i> 'Naumann's Thrush' was seen at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Rufous-tailed Robin	1 first-winter was seen near the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Siberian Rubythroat	3 singles, all males, were noted around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Barn Swallow	400 birds flew south during the day.
Red-rumped Swallow	30 birds flew south during the day.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	At least three flocks were heard as they flew south. None were seen.
Dusky Warbler	3 singles were noted.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Eurasian Skylark	At least 700 birds flew south during the day.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50.
White Wagtail	At least 60 birds flew south during the day. Only 3 birds were racially assigned & these all showed characters of <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	10.
Grey Wagtail	1.
Richard's Pipit	8.
Olive-backed Pipit	5.
Red-throated Pipit	4.
Buff-bellied Pipit	25 birds flew south during the day making this one of the commonest visible passerine migrants today.
Black-faced Bunting	4.
bunting sp.	30.
Butterflies	
Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	1
Indian Red Admiral (Asian Admiral)	1
white butterfly sp.	2

Sunday 3 October 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:45hrs & headed off to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We birded here from 06:30-13:00hrs before returning to the hotel for a break. We headed back out again at 16:00hrs – driving south past this morning's site to view the inter-tidal mudflats to the north of Tanggu airport. Since there was mud still exposed here until almost 18:00hrs the previous evening we thought that the same situation would pertain today & that high tide might not be until after dark – once again we were wrong & there was no mud, no Relict Gulls & rather little else of note on the water. I decided to walk north through some short (50cms – 1 metre) coastal scrub immediately on the seaward side of the seawall. This proved quite productive & quite a few passerine migrants were noted. We returned to the hotel at 18:10hrs.

Japanese Quail	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Mallard	6 birds flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Teal	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Eurasian Curlew	100
Eastern Curlew	8
Marsh Sandpiper	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	31 in the Hai He river channel besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	5 – 1 was heard on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & another 4 birds flew south over there later in the morning.
Terek Sandpiper	1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sanderling	1 moulting adult on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	182 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	148 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	470 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks – these were undoubtedly the same summer plumaged adult & juvenile that were there yesterday.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	36 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	33 – 1 down on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 32 others flew south before reappearing in the river mouth at low tide.
Grey Plover	20
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	3500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Northern Lapwing	A flock of 55 birds flew south over Tanggu town in the early afternoon.
Black-tailed Gull	100
Common Gull	2 - an adult showing characters of <i>L. c. heinei</i> with other gulls at the mouth of the Hai He river & a first-winter also showing characters of <i>L. c. heinei</i> south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
large gull sp.	10
Vega Gull	10
Black-headed Gull	400
Relict Gull	74 birds were noted on the receding tide on the inter-tidal mudflats at the mouth of the Hai He. 59 of these birds were aged & there were 28 first-winters (47%), 11 second-winters (19%) & 20 adult-winters (34%). 3 banded birds were noted - a winter plumaged adult had yellow colour bands on its right leg; a first-winter bird just had an aluminium band on its right leg while another first-winter just had a yellow band on its left leg.
Gull-billed Tern	10 - 5 (including 2 first-winters & 2 adult-winters – the first bird wasn't aged) on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 5 more south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	2 - 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 over a pool south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Kestrel	2 singles.
Great Cormorant	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Heron	4 on the tide line south of the Tanggu impounds.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Rufous-tailed Robin	1 in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 first-winter female in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 first-winter in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Daurian Redstart	1 adult male in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	2 - 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sand Martin	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	300 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	A single bird flew south.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dusky Warbler	11 - 1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 10 more in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 - 1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 more in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Skylark	15 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	20 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow Wagtail	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 1 bird landed & was seen well – it showed characters of <i>M. f. simillima</i> .
Richard's Pipit	8 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Olive-backed Pipit	8 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Buff-bellied Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-faced Bunting	2 - 1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
bunting sp.	10 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Butterflies	
Indian Red Admiral (Asian Admiral)	1 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
'green marbled white butterfly sp.'	1 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Monday 4 October 2004. Early morning & late evening south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:20hrs & headed off to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We birded here from 05:45-09:00hrs before returning to the hotel. We spent most of the remainder of

the day sightseeing but I headed back to view the inter-tidal mudflats to the north of Tanggu airport from 14:40-18:10hrs. 14 °C early morning.

Common Shelduck	5 flew south.
Eurasian Curlew	70
Eastern Curlew	5
Marsh Sandpiper	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	4
Wood Sandpiper	12, a flock of 4 then another of 8, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sanderling	1 adult-winter on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	177 the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	97 the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	1 the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 flew south with a party of 4 Wood Sandpipers over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	350 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	28 the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	5 the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	ca.3000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 first-winter the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	50 – most of these were seen in the evening settled on the sea south of the settling tanks. It appeared as though they were planning to roost there.
Common Gull	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
large gull sp.	30 – most of these were noted south of the impounds in the evening. Very few were seen actually on the sea, most were flying south-west & inland presumably going to roost on one of then ear coastal fish ponds.
Vega Gull	5
Black-headed Gull	600 – most of these were seen in the evening settled on the sea south of the settling tanks. It appeared as though they were planning to roost there.
Relict Gull	18 – 10 first-winters on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remainder were seen in the evening flying offshore south of there – 5 first-winters flew north, 1 flew south & another was on the sea while a second-winter also flew north. In contrast to both Black-tailed & Black-headed Gull it didn't appear that more than perhaps the single bird were planning to roost on the sea south of the settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	7 flew south off the settling tanks in the evening – perhaps they were going to roost somewhere near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 adult male flew south.
Common Kestrel	1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Amur Falcon	1 adult female flew south.
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile flew south.
Grey Heron	4 birds, a group of 3 & a single, took off at dusk from the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & flew south down the coast.
Ashy Minivet	4 presumed singles were heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Bluethroat	1 was seen on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	1.
Barn Swallow	150 flew south.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 flew south.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several parties were noted heading south.
Dusky Warbler	1.
Asian Short-toed Lark	A flock of 5 flew south.
Eurasian Skylark	100 flew south.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	20 flew south.
Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 flew south.
Buff-bellied Pipit	6 flew south.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south.
Little Bunting	1 was seen on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
bunting sp.	10
Mammals	
bat sp	During the early evening 75 were counted, on the right side of the vehicle only, on the drive between the southern end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao & edge of Tanggu town. At least two different species were seen – the vast majority were small pipistrelle-sized bats but 2 large ones were also seen. Note that large (& probably similar?) numbers of bats had been noted every others rainless night that we drove back to the hotel late – but today was the first time that I'd counted them.
Butterflies	
Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	1

Tuesday 5 October 2004. Early morning & late evening south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed off to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. We birded here from 05:45-09:15hrs before returning to the hotel. We spent the rest of the morning &

early afternoon sightseeing in Tanggu but then headed back to view the inter-tidal mudflats to the north of Tanggu airport from 15:10-17:45hrs.

It was 14 °C shortly after day but rapidly warmed up & probably reached a maximum of over 30 °C in the early afternoon.

While shopping in Tanggu town we saw a shop selling cage birds & noted the following species (singles unless otherwise stated) – Masked Laughingthrush, Chestnut-flanked White-eye (15+), Siberian Rubythroat, Eurasian (Chinese) Blackbird, Yellow-billed Grosbeak, Siberian Blue Robin, Red-billed Leiothrix & Hwamei (3). One cage contained about 15 buntings – single Little & Yellow-breasted & about 13 male Yellow-browed!

Yellow-legged Buttonquail	1 was flushed from the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Spotted Dove	1 in Tanggu town centre.
Eurasian Curlew	140 - 70 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & a similar number flew south off the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Eastern Curlew	4 - 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & another 2 birds flew south off the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Marsh Sandpiper	3 flew south.
Common Greenshank	10.
Wood Sandpiper	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Spoon-billed Sandpiper	1 juvenile moulting to first-winter was seen on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. (Photos)
Red-necked Stint	150 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	60 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	800 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	27 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	100 on the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Little Ringed Plover	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	70 - 10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & about 60 off the Tanggu airport mudflats. 46 of the latter were aged & they included only 2 first-years!
large gull sp.	30
Vega Gull	5
Black-headed Gull	4000
Relict Gull	71 - 3 first-winters on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 68 on the Tanggu airport mudflats. All the latter were also aged & there were 27 first-winters (40%), 13 second-winters (19%) & 28 adult-winters (41%).
Gull-billed Tern	1 first-winter on the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Caspian Tern	27 on the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 adult male flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Harrier	1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Kestrel	1 flew over the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel.
Amur Falcon	3 un-aged birds flew south over the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Merlin	1 flew south over the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Grey Heron	2 on the Tanggu airport mudflats.
Black-billed Magpie	1 in Tanggu town.
Ashy Minivet	A flock of 31 birds flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Flycatcher	3 first-winters in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 first-winter in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport.
Common Stonechat	3 in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport.
Sand Martin	4 flew south.
Barn Swallow	300 flew south.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 flew south.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several flocks were noted flying south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dusky Warbler	4 - 1 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 3 in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport.
Pallas's Warbler	2 in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport.
Yellow-browed Warbler	8 in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport.
Eurasian Skylark	200 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50
White Wagtail	20 flew south.
Yellow Wagtail	4 flew south.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south.
Richard's Pipit	5 flew south.
Olive-backed Pipit	10 flew south.
Red-throated Pipit	5 flew south.
Buff-bellied Pipit	5 flew south.
bunting sp.	20
Mammals	
bat sp.	30 between the Nanjiang Da Qiao & Tanggu town centre.
Butterflies	
Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow white butterfly sp.	1 besides Tanggu river front 1 besides Tanggu river front

Wednesday 6 October 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed off to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. I birded here from 05:50-10:00hrs before heading south. The next stop was some pools about 500 metres north of Tanggu airport. I spent about 20 minutes here before continuing on to Lu Ju He where I spent a few minutes scanning over the sea at high tide & then almost 2 hours walking the fishponds. Continuing south from there I stopped briefly at a pool near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang before turning inland. The next birding stop was at the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. (Once again I stopped adjacent to a couple of small oil derricks on this road). From there I continued on to Beidagang where I stayed from 14:00-16:15hrs before returning to the hotel. I arrived back at 17:15hrs.

Note that at Lu Ju He two guys drive around the fishponds in a small truck every day at around about 12:00hrs. They stop twice on the long side of every fishpond & throw off a large (18" x 10") compact 'brick' made of small fish. Another few guys follow the vehicle & walk around breaking up these bricks with shovels before throwing the fish pieces in to small nets which are then lowered in to the fishponds to feed the larger fish that they're raising. The gulls are wise to this daily routing & there's considerable frenzied activity here around noon.

Mallard	270 at Beidagang.
Spot-billed Duck	15 at Beidagang.
Common Teal	At least 3 at Beidagang.
Common Pochard	91 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Coot	20 at Beidagang.
Eurasian Curlew	70 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Cattlebird	6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Common Greenshank	15 – 7 on pools about 500 metres north of Tanggu airport & 8 at Beidagang.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks – it had a badly broken leg.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Red-necked Stint	171 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Of these at least 2 were adults, 1 of which a bird with a missing foot, had been present on the 3 previous days as well.
Temminck's Stint	35 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Dunlin	820 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Broad-billed Sandpiper	29 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Pacific Golden Plover	22 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Grey Plover	2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Little Ringed Plover	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Kentish Plover	2800 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks
Black-tailed Gull	400 birds were estimated during the day. 106 (exactly 100 adults & 6 first-years) were counted on the Tanggu airport pools & 230 were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds. 173 of the latter were aged - 155 adults & 18 first-years. 24, all adults, were on the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang pools. This gives a total of 303 aged birds – 279 adults (92%) & 24 first-years (8%).
Common Gull	1 juvenile <i>heinei</i> besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
large gull sp.	30
<i>taiyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	2, a summer adult & a first-summer moulting to second-winter, besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Vega Gull	670 – of which about 650 birds were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Mongolian Gull	2 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	At least 10000 birds were estimated today – nearly all (9500+) were on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. 28 birds were aged on the Tanggu airport ponds (27 adults & 1 first-year), 397 birds were aged at the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang pools (370 adults & 27 first-years) & 150 were aged on the pools near Gaoshaling (140 adults & 10 first-years). This gives a combined total of 575 aged birds – 537 adults (93%) & 38 first-years (7%).
Relict Gull	48 – 11 (all first-winters) on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 14 (all first-winters) on the Tanggu airport pools & 33 (32 first-winters & 1 adult-winter) on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. A combined total of 47 first-winters & 1 adult!
Gull-billed Tern	1 flew south over the
Caspian Tern	45 – 33 (21 adults, 7 first-years & 5 un-aged) on the Tanggu airport pools, 5 (all un-aged) over the Lu Ju He Fishponds & 7 (6 adults & 1 first-year) on the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang pools. Hence of the 35 aged birds 27 (77%) were adults & 8 (23%) first-years.
Osprey	1 at Beidagang.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	5 at Beidagang.
Common Kestrel	1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Amur Falcon	17 at Beidagang. All these birds were aged/sexed & there were 10 adult males (59%), 1 adult female (6%) & 6 (35%) juveniles.
Merlin	1 at Beidagang.
Little Grebe	360 at Beidagang.
Great Crested Grebe	177 at Beidagang.
Great Cormorant	12 – 7 flew over the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling & 5 birds were at Beidagang.
Little Egret	3 at Beidagang.
Grey Heron	66 at Beidagang.
Purple Heron	1 at Beidagang.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang.

Black-billed Magpie	40 – all either at Beidagang or between there & Tanggu.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang.
Rufous-tailed Robin	1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Daurian Redstart	1 adult male besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Common Stonechat	2 - 1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other at Beidagang.
Sand Martin	15 flew south.
Barn Swallow	500 flew south.
Red-rumped Swallow	200 flew south.
Light-vented Bulbul	4, 2 pairs, at Beidagang.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several parties were noted flying south.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang.
Dusky Warbler	3
Pallas's Warbler	2 – 1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other at Beidagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Beidagang.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard over the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Eurasian Skylark	At least 500 birds flew south.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100
White Wagtail	20 – at least 2 were <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	6
Grey Wagtail	1
Richard's Pipit	4
Olive-backed Pipit	8
Red-throated Pipit	6
Buff-bellied Pipit	6
Pine Bunting	2 – 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other flew south over the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Little Bunting	1
Black-faced Bunting	1
bunting sp.	40
Butterflies	
Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	12
Asian Comma	2
Swallowtail	1
Indian Red Admiral (Asian Admiral)	1
white butterfly sp.	5
Eastern Painted Lady	1

Thursday 7 October 2004. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed south. Our first stop was at Lu Ju He where we arrived at 06:00hrs – a 30 minute drive at this time of day when there's little other traffic on the road. After a short time here we headed south & stopped again to look over the inter-tidal mudflats about 1 km to the south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Continuing south our next stop was the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. We spent about 2.5 hrs here – today's relatively low high tide peaked at about 11:30hrs but even at its height didn't cover all the mudflats here. Note that the light at this site is much better in the evening – this morning it was difficult viewing but there were large numbers of Relict Gull here today – at long last we'd managed to find them! After that we returned to Haibin Yuchang before heading inland to view the complex of pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. Today I stopped at a couple of sites – both to view large concentrations of gulls (primarily Black-headed). The first stop was about 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself. The second stop was the usual one - adjacent to a couple of small oil derricks at Km 8 on this same road (hence I've called this site the 'Km 8 Oil derrick Pool' in my notes. Note that this second pool is roughly semicircular in shape with the long axis lying along the road & being about 1.6kms in length. I spent almost 2 hrs here (10:00-11:45hrs). Leaving there we returned to Lu Ju He where the tide was already receding & birded our way slowly north back towards the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. Lastly we spent a couple of hours here (13:30-15:30hrs) before heading back to the hotel.

Common Shelduck	40 - 37 on the sea off the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3 on one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Northern Shoveler	1 on one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Common Snipe	3 – 2 flew south over the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 flew over one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Godwit	85 – in flocks of 6 & 79 birds on the pool besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Bar-tailed Godwit	7 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eurasian Curlew	500 – with numbers being split almost equally between the inter-tidal mudflats north & south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	5 – 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Spotted Redshank	15 – all on pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Marsh Sandpiper	13 - 3 flew south over the mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 7 on pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling & 3 on the mudflats off Tanggu airport.

Common Greenshank	30 – with sightings off Lu Ju He, at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, on pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling & between Lu Ju He, Tangu airport & the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	2 singles at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red Knot	2 flew south, with a flock of 6 Marsh Sandpipers, over one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Red-necked Stint	88 – all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	284 – all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	1000 – with perhaps 400 on the mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 600
Broad-billed Sandpiper	32 – all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	40 – 12 on the mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 28 on the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Grey Plover	300 – all on the inter-tidal mudflats either side of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	4 – 1 besides one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling 3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	4500 – high site counts included 2000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	900 birds were noted along the coast today. High counts included - 300 on the mudflats off Lu Ju He shortly after dawn – 199 birds were aged & these involved 182 adults & 17 first years. 260 birds were on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & a sample count of 182 birds produced 180 adults & only 2 first-years! 5 birds (all adult-winters) were noted on the easternmost of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling – once again none were seen further inland on the westernmost pool. 309 birds were aged between Lu Ju He & the settling tanks – 295 adults & 14 first-years. Combining the counts produces 690 birds that were aged - 657 adults (95%) & 33 first years (5%).
Common Gull	2 – an adult besides the easternmost of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling & a juvenile <i>heinei</i> on the mudflats off Lu Ju He. The juvenile was undoubtedly the same bird that was seen besides the fishponds the previous day.
large gull sp. <i>taimyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	40
Vega Gull	1 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds – it was the same first-summer moulting to second winter as was there yesterday. 650 – birds were widespread along the immediate coast though the vast majority (600+) were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	8000 birds were estimated during the day. At Lu Ju He shortly after dawn there was a steady passage of birds heading southeast & inland. I surmised that they might have roosted on the sea to the north of Lu Ju He & were heading inland to feed on to one of the large pools. 7500 birds were estimated to be on the complex of pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. A sample count of 748 birds produced 734 adults (98%) & only 14 first-years (2%)!
Saunders's Gull	2 winter plumaged adults were on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	An impressive 1582 birds were noted today – the vast majority were seen at the regular site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. All records as follows (importantly its thought that there was very little duplication between sites) - 5 (1 second-winter & 4 first-winters) on the mudflats about 1 km south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 1333 were counted at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang. The vast majority of these birds were adults & a sample count of 273 birds produced 7 first-winters (3%), 41 second-winters (15%) & 225 adult-winters (82%). Its undoubtedly not a coincidence that this site is also, later in the season, the best site local to Tangu for Saunders's Gull. 111 birds were counted on the complex of pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. 5 (1 adult-winter, 2 second-winters & 2 first-winters) were counted on the easternmost pool about 1 kms west of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling while 106 birds were counted on the large pool near the oil derricks at km 8. At both sites very few birds were actually swimming on the water (as the majority of the 8000 Black-headed Gulls on the same pools were doing) rather they were actively feeding around the edge of both pools. The age ratios were dramatically different to coastal counts &, at the second pool, I logged 104 first-winters (98%), 1 second-winter (1%) & 1 adult-winter (1%)! 109 birds were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & the southern end of the impounds at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. 68 of these birds were aged & this produced 21 first-winters (31%), 18 second-winters (26%) & 29 adult-winters (43%). Lastly 24 birds, all first-winters, were counted besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. In summary 481 birds were aged - & this produced 162 first-winters (34%), 63 second-winters (13%) & 256 adult-winters (53%) but note that a low proportion of the large flock of predominantly adults at the main site were aged & that this will skew these ratios. Note also that I have never seen a single Relict Gulls consorting with the other gulls besides the complex of fishponds at Lu Ju He.
Little Gull	1 winter plumaged adult was seen with large numbers of Black-headed Gulls on the 'Km 8 Oil Derrick pool' besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.). (Photo).
Gull-billed Tern	1 over the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
Caspian Tern	89 - 22 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang, 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 2 kms north of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 5 over the Lu Ju He Fishponds & 29 on the mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tangu airport.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south over Gaoshaling.
Black-necked Grebe	5 on the 'Km 8 Oil Derrick pool' besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling.
Great Cormorant	3 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang, 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Heron	6
Sand Martin	5 flew south.
Barn Swallow	200 flew south.
Red-rumped Swallow	30 flew south.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several parties were heard flying south.
Dusky Warbler	2
Yellow-browed Warbler	2

Asian Short-toed Lark	2 – singles over the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang, 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Eurasian Skylark	150 flew south.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100.
White Wagtail	15, including 2 <i>M. a. leucopsis</i> , flew south.
Yellow Wagtail	5.
Richard's Pipit	8.
Olive-backed Pipit	8.
Red-throated Pipit	7 flew south.
Buff-bellied Pipit	12.
Common Rosefinch	2 flew south.
Black-faced Bunting	2
bunting sp.	10
Butterflies	
Eastern Pale Clouded Yellow	2
white butterfly sp.	3

Friday 8 October 2004. Early morning south of Tanggu followed by a return to Beijing.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05:30hrs & headed south to the impounds & settling tanks at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. There was hardly any wind today, & was foggy with visibility being reduced to less than 800 metres. The regular wader pool had virtually all dried up, there were only a couple of very small (10 metres diameter) patches of open, extremely shallow water (forming little more than damp patches in reality) remaining &, as it was also low tide & large areas of inter-tidal mudflat were exposed there were absolutely no shorebirds here! I stayed for just over an hour (05:50-07:00hrs) before returning to the hotel. We checked out quickly & caught the local light railway back to Tianjin & transferred immediately to a taxi to Guo Mao & Beijing.

Common Snipe	1 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	20 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Curlew	1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	2 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Green Sandpiper	1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	5 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Temminck's Stint	71 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	20 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Ringed Plover	2 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	30 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	30 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
large gull sp.	5
Black-headed Gull	10
Relict Gull	8 (5 adult-winters, 1 second-winter & 3 first-winters) on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Saker Falcon	1 flew north over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 first-winter was seen on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	At least 1 flock was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Skylark	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in & around Tanggu town.
White Wagtail	10 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Olive-backed Pipit	6 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Buff-bellied Pipit	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
bunting sp.	15 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

21 July 2005. Tanggu.

We'd spent the previous night in the Hong Fa Garden Hotel & headed out in a taxi at 05:00. We drove almost directly to the 'Blue House' but things had changed massively since we were here nine months ago. The reclamation project was now well advanced & the previous autumn's sites were now completely dry & being bulldozed. Instead we found another complex of muddy pools about one kilometre further south & spent the morning (05:45-11:00hrs) exploring these. After this we drove south to Lu Ju He & from there to the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 8 kms further south.

It was extremely hot today - 29°C at 05:45 rising to 36°C in the early afternoon. We were exhausted & returned to the hotel at 15:50.

Eurasian Curlew	15 – all at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	2 – 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other was with the Eurasian Curlews at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
Common Redshank	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Marsh Sandpiper	1040 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	45 – only 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 more at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & the other 41
Wood Sandpiper	18 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Sandpiper	4 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Asian Dowitcher	37 – 4 adults on the pools & a flock of 33 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Stint	1 adult-summer was seen & photographed on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	1490 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 18 colour-flagged birds were noted – 12 had orange flags, 6 yellow.
Temminck's Stint	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	11 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	59 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	35 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	40 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	26 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-winged Stilt	28 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Plover	40 – 1 at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & the remaining 39 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He.
Little Ringed Plover	20 – all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	1400 – 850 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remaining 550 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He.
Oriental Pratincole	3, an adult & two apparently attendant juveniles, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	500 – no more than 10 around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 220 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He & 270 at a high tide roost at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang. Only one juvenile was seen.
large gull sp.	1 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-headed Gull	40 – most on the near coastal pools immediately inland from Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	5 – an adult-summer flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 4 others (2 adult-summers, a first-summer & an un-aged bird (either an adult or second-summer) were at the high tide Black-tailed Gull roost at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
Gull-billed Tern	3 – 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more off Lu Ju He.
Common Tern	43
Little Tern	60
White-winged Black Tern	21
Chinese Egret	1 about 1 km south of Lu Ju He later flew off north-west.
Grey Heron	4 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 flew over Tanggu town centre.
White-cheeked Starling	1 near Tanggu town centre.
Sand Martin	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	At least 300 flew south during the morning – mostly over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 flew south over Lu Ju He.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard over the impounds at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu town.

Sunday 28 August 2005. All day south of Tanggu.

We'd spent the previous night in the Hong Fa Garden Hotel & headed out in a taxi at 06:00. We drove almost directly to the 'Blue House' but things had changed even in the month since my last visit. I birded on the pools here until 11:30hrs - only two pools, one of which was quite small, held any shorebirds but the larger of the two must have had about 10,000 birds on it – mostly Red-necked Stints & Kentish Plovers. After birding here we drove south to Lu Ju He where I spent about 1.5 hours at high tide before returning to the hotel, arriving back at 15:30hrs.

Spotted Dove	1 in central Tanggu.
Bar-tailed Godwit	83 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Whimbrel	8 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 6 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Eurasian Curlew	91 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Spotted Redshank	2 over Lu Ju He.
Marsh Sandpiper	900 – 900 were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 10 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Common Greenshank	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Green Sandpiper	3 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Great Knot	5 juveniles on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Red Knot	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	5950 birds were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 796 birds gave 788 adults (99%) & 8 juveniles (1%). I saw 25 colour flagged birds today – the most I've ever seen on a single day at this site. 18 birds had orange leg flags, six had yellow & a single bird had red over yellow.
Temminck's Stint	62 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	14 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	75 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	810 – 755 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 55 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Curlew Sandpiper	12 (10 adults & 2 juveniles) on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	28 – 27 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Black-winged Stilt	70 - 24 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remainder on roadside pools between there, Tanggu airport & the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Pied Avocet	71 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Of these only 20 birds were 'grounded' on one of the pools – the remainder were visibly migrating south – in parties of 12, 16 & 23 birds.
Grey Plover	50 were estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Little Ringed Plover	9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	6000 – 4600 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1400 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Black-tailed Gull	755 – 43 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 14 on pools near Tanggu airport & 698 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Mongolian Gull	12 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 4 on pools near Tanggu airport & 6 either on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang or besides the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	185 – 45 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 55 on pools near Tanggu airport 85 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	1 adult-winter on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Gull-billed Tern	36 - 33 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Caspian Tern	8 – 3 on pools near Tanggu airport & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	225 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	105 - 93 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 7 on pools near Tanggu airport 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Whiskered Tern	6 – 4 (2 adults & 2 juveniles) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more adults flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
White-winged Black Tern	143 – 119 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 13 over the pools near Tanggu airport & 11 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Great Cormorant	6 – 4 (2 adults & 2 immatures) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more immatures flew south over Lu Ju He.
Little Egret	4 – 3 flew south off Lu Ju He & another flew south across the river at Nan Jiang Da Qiao.
Grey Heron	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Brown Shrike	3 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	3 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	50 flew south during the day.
Yellow-browed Warbler	6 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Arctic Warbler	1 on one of the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White Wagtail	10 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow Wagtail	30 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Richard's Pipit	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Rosefinch	1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-faced Bunting	2 singles were heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Monday 29 August 2005. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & spent the day south of Tanggu, returning at about 16:30hrs. Sites visited today included -

- 1. Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).**

Again this was the main site today & we spent almost the entire morning (06:10-10:55hrs) here. Again there were large numbers of shorebirds present.

(The site is 7.5 kms south-east of Tanggu town centre.)

2. Roadside pools immediately north of Tanggu airport. (38° 53.9' N., 117° 39.7' E.).

We spent about 30 minutes here – there were a few shorebirds (decent nos. of Grey-tailed Tattlers & Terek Sandpipers), a few gulls inc. a first-summer Relict Gull with an apparently broken wing) & a handful of terns.

(This site is 1.57 kms north-east [51°] of Lu Ju He; 7.78 kms south-west [232°] of the 'Blue House' [Lan Fangzi] & 12.0 kms almost directly due south (188°) of Tanggu town centre.)

3. Lu Ju He – the scenic tourist spot with the donkey statue. (38° 53.2' N., 117° 39.0' E.).

We only stopped here very briefly since the tide was already well in & there were no birds on the inter-tidal mudflats.

(This site is 13.4 kms almost directly due south [191°] of Tanggu town centre. Its also 2.29 kms in a direct line from here to the previous site [the small bridge on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats 1 km north of Tianjin Airport]).

4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.)

Again we only stopped very briefly here – principally to look at gulls & terns on the 'inland pool'. Highlights here inc. 5 Great Knot, 11 Relict Gull & large numbers of terns esp. – Little Tern (117) & Common Tern (63).

5. Inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (38° 48.8' N., 117° 35.8' E.).

We spent about 1.5 hours here (12:50-14:20hrs) & arrived just at the right time – as the rising tide was pushing shorebirds & gulls in to the high tide roost here. Highlights inc. 166 Eurasian Curlew, 81 Eastern Curlew, 29 Red Knot, 3 Great Knot, 248 Grey Plover, 85 Bar-tailed Godwit, 840 Kentish Plover, 311 Black-tailed Gulls, 139 Relict Gulls & 19 Caspian Terns.

(This site, the 'traditional Relict Gull site' is 22.3 kms almost directly due south [202°] of Tanggu town centre & 9.05 kms south-west [216°] of Lu Ju He.)

6. Easternmost 'gull pool' on the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.).

I spent about 2 hours in this area – highlights included particularly large numbers of Black-tailed Godwits (208) and Black-winged Stilts (625) & huge numbers of White-winged Black Terns (2845)!

(This site is about 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself.)

Common Snipe	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Godwit	217 - 9 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & there were 208 on the pool near Gaoshaling (about 1 km inland of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang). A sample of 157 birds at the latter site were aged & this produced 148 (94%) adult & 9 (6%) juvenile.
Bar-tailed Godwit	86 – 85 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 flew south over Gaoshaling.
Whimbrel	15 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the pools near Tanggu airport, 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 flew over the pools near Gaoshaling.
Eurasian Curlew	166 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	81 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	6 – 2 south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 4 juveniles on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Common Redshank	2 on the pools near Tanggu airport.
Marsh Sandpiper	1390 - 1036 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 55 on the pools near Tanggu airport, 30 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 265 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Common Greenshank	39 – 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 13, 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 5 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Green Sandpiper	2 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	10 – 6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 4 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Terek Sandpiper	13 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 11 on the pools near Tanggu airport.
Common Sandpiper	2 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 on the pool near Tanggu airport.
Grey-tailed Tattler	17 – all of these were on the pools near Tanggu airport.
Great Knot	11 – 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 5 on the near coastal pool actually at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang itself. All were juveniles.
Red Knot	29 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Sanderling	2 on the pool near Tanggu airport.
Red-necked Stint	Ca.5000 birds were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Only a few birds were seen away from here. Only 9 colour flagged birds were seen – 7 orange & 2 yellow.
Temminck's Stint	78 – 72 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport & 4 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Long-toed Stint	18 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	135 – 83 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 38 on the pool near Tanggu airport & 14 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Dunlin	750 – 699 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-winged Stilt	739 – 37 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 65 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 625 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Pied Avocet	49 - 23 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 26 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Plover	248 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	34 – 13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 4 on pools near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 17 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Kentish Plover	Ca.5500 - 4500 were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 65 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 42 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 840 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 35 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Grey-headed Lapwing	1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Oriental Pratincole	1 adult was roosting besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	Ca.1000 birds were estimated between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang today. Counts included 72 roosting besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 123 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 120 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 40 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 311 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 65 on the pool near Gaoshaling & 555 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon. There was undoubtedly some duplication in these counts.
Mongolian Gull	17 - 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 4 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	2500 birds were estimated between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the Gaoshaling pool today.
Relict Gull	152 - 1 first summer (a bird with an apparently broken wing) on the pool near Tanggu airport, 11 (8 adult & 3 second-winters) on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 139 (all either adult- or second-years) on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 first-winter on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Gull-billed Tern	24 - 5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 13 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon.
Caspian Tern	44 - 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 5 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 3 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 7 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 19 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 9 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon. There was quite likely some duplication in these sightings.
Common Tern	258 - 105 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 25 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 63 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 50 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Little Tern	202 - 45 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 7 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 117 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 18 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
White-winged Black Tern	An impressive 2900 birds were counted south of Tanggu today. These included 47 on or south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 3 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 7 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a massive 2845 on the pool near Gaoshaling! I aged 387 birds at the latter site & this produced 320 adults (83%) & 67 juveniles (17%).
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 'cream-crown' flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Kestrel	1 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Great Cormorant	1 juvenile near the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Little Egret	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Heron	21 - 3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 4 near Gaoshaling
Purple Heron	2 juveniles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Brown Shrike	3 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	2 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 first-winters – 1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Stonechat	3 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Sand Martin	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	50 flew south during the day.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 over the Gaoshaling pool.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Arctic Warbler	1 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	1 in scrub besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
White Wagtail	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow Wagtail	40 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the pool at Gaoshaling.
Richard's Pipit	5 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Tuesday 30 August 2005. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove north. We effectively birded three sites today – two to the north of Tanggu & one to the south.

1. Fu Yu Zhi Lu, Tanggu County. (39° 06.4' N., 117° 44.0' E.).

A large fish or shrimp pond immediately to the northeast of the large Cai Hong Da Qiao (Rainbow Bridge). We took the first left (west) turn off the main road that leads north of Tanggu – the small road is about 100 metres north of the toll booth immediately at the northern end of the bridge. Within 400 metres this road loops back under the Cai Hong Da Qiao & there was a large, bird-thronged pool on the left. From this site it is 12.6kms at 213° back to Tanggu.

Birds here inc. – Black-tailed Godwit (587), Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (365) & Asian Dowitcher (84).

After birding here we continued to drive along the small dirt road towards the shore & reached here in about 800 metres – it was low tide & there was very little to see.

2. Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu county. (39° 08.3' N., 117° 47.1' E.).

A fishing village about 6 kms north of the Cai Hong Da Qiao (Rainbow Bridge). From this site it is 18kms at 221° back to Tanggu. We initially stopped in the village itself – there were huge numbers of hirundines, especially Sand Martins (1100+) on the overhead wires here. We then continued through the village to the coast where I spent an hour sea-watching. There were a few Relict Gulls (13), a few shorebirds & a small number of waterfowl flying south at high tide.

3. Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).

Overall there were similar numbers of birds here today – but more Temminck's (215) & Long-toed (36) Stints, Sharp-tailed Sandpipers (148) & noticeably few terns. 10 Relict Gulls flew south over the impounds.

Falcated Duck	5 flew south (with a party of 9 Garganey) over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Garganey	36 - 11 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 25 (in flocks of 3, 9 & 13 birds) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Common Kingfisher	1 flew up the main road in central Teda!
Collared Dove	2 on the southern edge of Tanggu.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	17 birds flew south during the day – a single bird over the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, 13 over Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 3 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Godwit	587 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Bar-tailed Godwit	5 - 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 on a pool near Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Whimbrel	3 - 2 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 was again on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	82 - 81 on or over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Curlew	1, with the Eurasian Curlew flock, on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Spotted Redshank	7 - 5 juveniles on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 2 (a summer plumaged adult & a juvenile) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Marsh Sandpiper	1450 - 580 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county, 835 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & about 35 others on other pools north end of the Cai Hong Bridge.
Common Greenshank	40 - nearly all on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Wood Sandpiper	40 - most of these were on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Ruddy Turnstone	4 on pools near the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Asian Dowitcher	85 - 84 birds were seen with other shorebirds, especially Black-tailed Godwits, on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county. 47 birds were aged, before the entire flock flew, and of these there were 21 adults (45%) & 26 juveniles (55%). In addition a single juvenile flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Sanderling	1 moulting adult on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	4600 birds were estimated during the day - virtually all of these were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 474 birds gave 446 adults (94%) & 28 juveniles (6%). I saw 12 colour flagged birds today - 10 birds had orange leg flags, one had a yellow & another yellow over orange.
Temminck's Stint	222 - 7 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 215 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	36 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	555 - 365 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county, 42 on other pools between there & Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 148 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	400 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	8 (including only two juveniles) - 4 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 4 more on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-winged Stilt	250 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Pied Avocet	30 - 20 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Little Ringed Plover	8 - mostly on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	5000 - 4500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & most of the remainder on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Grey-headed Lapwing	2 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Black-tailed Gull	200 - common & widespread.
Mongolian Gull	7 - 6 on the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-headed Gull	200 - common & widespread.
Relict Gull	23 - 13 (11 adults, one second year & one first-winter) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 10 (8 adults & two second years) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Gull-billed Tern	8 - with 6 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 2 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	2 - 1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Common Tern	25 – with about equal numbers over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	55 – 9 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 46 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-winged Black Tern	200 – nearly all of these were over roadside pools north of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 male flew south over the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Little Egret	4 near Nanjiang Da Qiao, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	15 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Brown Shrike	1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-billed Magpie	Several birds were heard around the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 first-winters besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 first-winter besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	2 near the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Sand Martin	1300 in & around 1130 birds were counted on wires in the village centre & the remaining 170 were counted over the salt pans on the edge of the village. Only about 4-5% of those seen on the wires were adult!
Barn Swallow	100 – mostly over the salt pans on the edge of the Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Red-rumped Swallow	40 – all in & around Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 – 1 in Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & the other 2 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 – mostly in & around Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
White Wagtail	3 flew south over the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Yellow Wagtail	50 birds flew south during the day.
Grey Wagtail	3 singles flew south during the day.
Richard's Pipit	6 birds flew south during the day.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over the pool at Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Rosefinch	4 birds flew south during the day.
bunting sp.	5 birds flew south during the day.

Wednesday 31 August 2005. Early morning immediately south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove south to the reclamation project where I spent about 2.5 hours birding here (06:00-08:30hrs) before we headed back in to Tanggu, took the local train from there to Tianjin & then the Express train from there back to Beijing. We arrived in Beijing at 11:30hrs.

1. Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).

Overall there were fewer shorebirds here today than yesterday, although there were more Broad-billed Sandpipers.

Common Snipe	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Whimbrel	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Marsh Sandpiper	900 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	1 was heard over on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Green Sandpiper	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Ruddy Turnstone	4 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	3200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. I saw 8 colour flagged birds today - all had orange leg flags.
Temminck's Stint	234 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	17 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	124 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	90 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	42 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 27 birds were aged – 17 adults & 10 juveniles.
Black-winged Stilt	20 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	About 3000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	15 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-headed Gull	25 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Gull-billed Tern	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Tern	6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-winged Black Tern	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 was seen from the train between Tanggu & Tianjin.
Grey Heron	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Brown Shrike	2 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	40 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow-browed Warbler	4 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in Tanggu town centre.
Yellow Wagtail	20 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Richard's Pipit	6 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Sunday 28 August 2005. All day south of Tanggu.

We'd spent the previous night in the Hong Fa Garden Hotel & headed out in a taxi at 06:00. We drove almost directly to the 'Blue House' but things had changed even in the month since my last visit. I birded on the pools here until 11:30hrs - only two pools, one of which was quite small, held any shorebirds but the larger of the two must have had about 10,000 birds on it - mostly Red-necked Stints & Kentish Plovers. After birding here we drove south to Lu Ju He where I spent about 1.5 hours at high tide before returning to the hotel, arriving back at 15:30hrs.

Spotted Dove	1 in central Tanggu.
Bar-tailed Godwit	83 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Whimbrel	8 - 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 6 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Eurasian Curlew	91 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Spotted Redshank	2 over Lu Ju He.
Marsh Sandpiper	900 - 900 were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 10 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Common Greenshank	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Green Sandpiper	3 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Terek Sandpiper	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Great Knot	5 juveniles on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Red Knot	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	5950 birds were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 796 birds gave 788 adults (99%) & 8 juveniles (1%). I saw 25 colour flagged birds today - the most I've ever seen on a single day at this site. 18 birds had orange leg flags, six had yellow & a single bird had red over yellow.
Temminck's Stint	62 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	14 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	75 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	810 - 755 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 55 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Curlew Sandpiper	12 (10 adults & 2 juveniles) on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	28 - 27 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Black-winged Stilt	70 - 24 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remainder on roadside pools between there, Tanggu airport & the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Pied Avocet	71 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Of these only 20 birds were 'grounded' on one of the pools - the remainder were visibly migrating south - in parties of 12, 16 & 23 birds.
Grey Plover	50 were estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Little Ringed Plover	9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	6000 - 4600 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1400 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Black-tailed Gull	755 - 43 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 14 on pools near Tanggu airport & 698 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Mongolian Gull	12 - 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 4 on pools near Tanggu airport & 6 either on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang or besides the Lu Ju He fishponds.
Black-headed Gull	185 - 45 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 55 on pools near Tanggu airport 85 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	1 adult-winter on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Gull-billed Tern	36 - 33 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Caspian Tern	8 - 3 on pools near Tanggu airport & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	225 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	105 - 93 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 7 on pools near Tanggu airport 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Whiskered Tern	6 - 4 (2 adults & 2 juveniles) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more adults flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
White-winged Black Tern	143 - 119 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 13 over the pools near Tanggu airport & 11 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Great Cormorant	6 - 4 (2 adults & 2 immatures) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more immatures flew south over Lu Ju He.
Little Egret	4 - 3 flew south off Lu Ju He & another flew south across the river at Nan Jiang Da Qiao.
Grey Heron	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.
Brown Shrike	3 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	3 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	50 flew south during the day.
Yellow-browed Warbler	6 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Arctic Warbler	1 on one of the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White Wagtail	10 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow Wagtail	30 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Richard's Pipit	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Common Rosefinch
Black-faced Bunting

1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
2 singles were heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Monday 29 August 2005. All day south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & spent the day south of Tanggu, returning at about 16:30hrs. Sites visited today included -

1. Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).

Again this was the main site today & we spent almost the entire morning (06:10-10:55hrs) here. Again there were large numbers of shorebirds present.

(The site is 7.5 kms south-east of Tanggu town centre.)

2. Roadside pools immediately north of Tanggu airport. (38° 53.9' N., 117° 39.7' E.).

We spent about 30 minutes here – there were a few shorebirds (decent nos. of Grey-tailed Tattlers & Terek Sandpipers), a few gulls inc. a first-summer Relict Gull with an apparently broken wing) & a handful of terns.

(This site is 1.57 kms north-east [51°] of Lu Ju He; 7.78 kms south-west [232°] of the 'Blue House' [Lan Fangzi] & 12.0 kms almost directly due south (188°) of Tanggu town centre.)

3. Lu Ju He – the scenic tourist spot with the donkey statue. (38° 53.2' N., 117° 39.0' E.).

We only stopped here very briefly since the tide was already well in & there were no birds on the inter-tidal mudflats.

(This site is 13.4 kms almost directly due south [191°] of Tanggu town centre. Its also 2.29 kms in a direct line from here to the previous site [the small bridge on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats 1 km north of Tianjin Airport]).

4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.).

Again we only stopped very briefly here – principally to look at gulls & terns on the 'inland pool'. Highlights here inc. 5 Great Knot, 11 Relict Gull & large numbers of terns esp. – Little Tern (117) & Common Tern (63).

5. Inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (38° 48.8' N., 117° 35.8' E.).

We spent about 1.5 hours here (12:50-14:20hrs) & arrived just at the right time – as the rising tide was pushing shorebirds & gulls in to the high tide roost here. Highlights inc. 166 Eurasian Curlew, 81 Eastern Curlew, 29 Red Knot, 3 Great Knot, 248 Grey Plover, 85 Bar-tailed Godwit, 840 Kentish Plover, 311 Black-tailed Gulls, 139 Relict Gulls & 19 Caspian Terns.

(This site, the 'traditional Relict Gull site' is 22.3 kms almost directly due south [202°] of Tanggu town centre & 9.05 kms south-west [216°] of Lu Ju He.)

6. Easternmost 'gull pool' on the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.).

I spent about 2 hours in this area – highlights included particularly large numbers of Black-tailed Godwits (208) and Black-winged Stilts (625) & huge numbers of White-winged Black Terns (2845)!

(This site is about 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself.)

Common Snipe	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Godwit	217 - 9 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & there were 208 on the pool near Gaoshaling (about 1 km inland of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang). A sample of 157 birds at the latter site were aged & this produced 148 (94%) adult & 9 (6%) juvenile.
Bar-tailed Godwit	86 – 85 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 flew south over Gaoshaling.
Whimbrel	15 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the pools near Tanggu airport, 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 flew over the pools near Gaoshaling.
Eurasian Curlew	166 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	81 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	6 – 2 south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 4 juveniles on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Common Redshank	2 on the pools near Tanggu airport.
Marsh Sandpiper	1390 - 1036 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 55 on the pools near Tanggu airport, 30 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 265 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Common Greenshank	39 – 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 13, 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 5 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Green Sandpiper	2 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	10 – 6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 4 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Terek Sandpiper	13 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 11 on the pools near Tanggu airport.
Common Sandpiper	2 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 on the pool near Tanggu airport.
Grey-tailed Tattler	17 – all of these were on the pools near Tanggu airport.
Great Knot	11 – 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 5 on the near coastal pool actually at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang itself. All were juveniles.
Red Knot	29 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Sanderling	2 on the pool near Tanggu airport.
Red-necked Stint	Ca.5000 birds were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Only a few birds were seen away from here. Only 9 colour flagged birds were seen – 7 orange & 2 yellow.
Temminck's Stint	78 – 72 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport & 4 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

Long-toed Stint	18 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	135 – 83 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 38 on the pool near Tanggu airport & 14 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Dunlin	750 – 699 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-winged Stilt	739 – 37 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 65 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 625 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Pied Avocet	49 - 23 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 26 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Plover	248 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	34 – 13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 4 on pools near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 17 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Kentish Plover	Ca.5500 - 4500 were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 65 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 42 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 840 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 35 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Grey-headed Lapwing	1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Oriental Pratincole	1 adult was roosting besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	Ca.1000 birds were estimated between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang today. Counts included 72 roosting besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 123 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 120 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 40 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 311 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 65 on the pool near Gaoshaling & 555 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon. There was undoubtedly some duplication in these counts.
Mongolian Gull	17 - 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 4 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	2500 birds were estimated between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the Gaoshaling pool today.
Relict Gull	152 - 1 first summer (a bird with an apparently broken wing) on the pool near Tanggu airport, 11 (8 adult & 3 second-winters) on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 139 (all either adult- or second-years) on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 first-winter on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Gull-billed Tern	24 - 5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 13 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon.
Caspian Tern	44 - 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 5 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 3 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 7 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 19 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 9 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon. There was quite likely some duplication in these sightings.
Common Tern	258 - 105 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 25 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 63 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 50 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
Little Tern	202 - 45 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 7 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 117 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 18 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
White-winged Black Tern	An impressive 2900 birds were counted south of Tanggu today. These included 47 on or south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 3 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 7 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a massive 2845 on the pool near Gaoshaling! I aged 387 birds at the latter site & this produced 320 adults (83%) & 67 juveniles (17%).
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 'cream-crown' flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Kestrel	1 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Great Cormorant	1 juvenile near the Lu Ju He fish ponds.
Little Egret	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Heron	21 - 3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 4 near Gaoshaling
Purple Heron	2 juveniles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Brown Shrike	3 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	2 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 first-winters – 1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Stonechat	3 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Sand Martin	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	50 flew south during the day.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 over the Gaoshaling pool.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Arctic Warbler	1 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	1 in scrub besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
White Wagtail	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow Wagtail	40 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the pool at Gaoshaling.
Richard's Pipit	5 in total at various sites south of Tanggu.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Tuesday 30 August 2005. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove north. We effectively birded three sites today – two to the north of Tanggu & one to the south.

1. Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, Tanggu County. (39° 06.4' N., 117° 44.0' E.).

A large fish or shrimp pond immediately to the northeast of the large Cai Hong Da Qiao (Rainbow Bridge). We took the first left (west) turn off the main road that leads north of Tanggu – the small road is about 100 metres north of the toll booth immediately at the northern end of the bridge. Within 400 metres this road loops back under the Cai Hong Da Qiao & there was a large, bird-thronged pool on the left. From this site it is 12.6kms at 213° back to Tanggu.

Birds here inc. – Black-tailed Godwit (587), Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (365) & Asian Dowitcher (84).

After birding here we continued to drive along the small dirt road towards the shore & reached here in about 800 metres – it was low tide & there was very little to see.

2. Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu county. (39° 08.3' N., 117° 47.1' E.).

A fishing village about 6 kms north of the Cai Hong Da Qiao (Rainbow Bridge). From this site it is 18kms at 221° back to Tanggu. We initially stopped in the village itself – there were huge numbers of hirundines, especially Sand Martins (1100+) on the overhead wires here. We then continued through the village to the coast where I spent an hour sea-watching. There were a few Relict Gulls (13), a few shorebirds & a small number of waterfowl flying south at high tide.

3. Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).

Overall there were similar numbers of birds here today – but more Temminck's (215) & Long-toed (36) Stints, Sharp-tailed Sandpipers (148) & noticeably few terns. 10 Relict Gulls flew south over the impounds.

Falcated Duck	5 flew south (with a party of 9 Garganey) over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Garganey	36 - 11 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 25 (in flocks of 3, 9 & 13 birds) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Common Kingfisher	1 flew up the main road in central Teda!
Collared Dove	2 on the southern edge of Tanggu.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	17 birds flew south during the day – a single bird over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, 13 over Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 3 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Godwit	587 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Bar-tailed Godwit	5 - 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 on a pool near Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Whimbrel	3 - 2 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 was again on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	82 - 81 on or over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Curlew	1, with the Eurasian Curlew flock, on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Spotted Redshank	7 - 5 juveniles on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 2 (a summer plumaged adult & a juvenile) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Marsh Sandpiper	1450 - 580 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county, 835 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & about 35 others on other pools north end of the Cai Hong Bridge.
Common Greenshank	40 - nearly all on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Wood Sandpiper	40 - most of these were on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Ruddy Turnstone	4 on pools near the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Asian Dowitcher	85 - 84 birds were seen with other shorebirds, especially Black-tailed Godwits, on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county. 47 birds were aged, before the entire flock flew, and of these there were 21 adults (45%) & 26 juveniles (55%). In addition a single juvenile flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Sanderling	1 moulting adult on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	4600 birds were estimated during the day – virtually all of these were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 474 birds gave 446 adults (94%) & 28 juveniles (6%). I saw 12 colour flagged birds today - 10 birds had orange leg flags, one had a yellow & another yellow over orange.
Temminck's Stint	222 - 7 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 215 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	36 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	555 - 365 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county, 42 on other pools between there & Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 148 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	400 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	8 (including only two juveniles) - 4 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 4 more on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-winged Stilt	250 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Pied Avocet	30 - 20 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Little Ringed Plover	8 - mostly on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Kentish Plover	5000 – 4500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & most of the remainder on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Grey-headed Lapwing	2 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Black-tailed Gull	200 – common & widespread.
Mongolian Gull	7 - 6 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-headed Gull	200 - common & widespread.
Relict Gull	23 - 13 (11 adults, one second year & one first-winter) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 10 (8 adults & two second years) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Gull-billed Tern	8 – with 6 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 2 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Caspian Tern	2 – 1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Tern	25 – with about equal numbers over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	55 – 9 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 46 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-winged Black Tern	200 – nearly all of these were over roadside pools north of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 male flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Little Egret	4 near Nanjiang Da Qiao, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	15 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Brown Shrike	1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-billed Magpie	Several birds were heard around the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 first-winters besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 first-winter besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	2 near the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Sand Martin	1300 in & around 1130 birds were counted on wires in the village centre & the remaining 170 were counted over the saltpans on the edge of the village. Only about 4-5% of those seen on the wires were adult!
Barn Swallow	100 – mostly over the saltpans on the edge of the Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Red-rumped Swallow	40 – all in & around Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 – 1 in Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & the other 2 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 – mostly in & around Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
White Wagtail	3 flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Yellow Wagtail	50 birds flew south during the day.
Grey Wagtail	3 singles flew south during the day.
Richard's Pipit	6 birds flew south during the day.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Rosefinch	4 birds flew south during the day.
bunting sp.	5 birds flew south during the day.

Wednesday 31 August 2005. Early morning immediately south of Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove south to the reclamation project where I spent about 2.5 hours birding here (06:00-08:30hrs) before we headed back in to Tanggu, took the local train from there to Tianjin & then the Express train from there back to Beijing. We arrived in Beijing at 11:30hrs.

1. Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).

Overall there were fewer shorebirds here today than yesterday, although there were more Broad-billed Sandpipers.

Common Snipe	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Whimbrel	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Curlew	1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Marsh Sandpiper	900 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Greenshank	1 was heard over on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Green Sandpiper	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Wood Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Ruddy Turnstone	4 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Red-necked Stint	3200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. I saw 8 colour flagged birds today - all had orange leg flags.
Temminck's Stint	234 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Long-toed Stint	17 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	124 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Dunlin	90 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Curlew Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	42 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 27 birds were aged – 17 adults & 10 juveniles.
Black-winged Stilt	20 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pied Avocet	13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Kentish Plover	About 3000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-tailed Gull	15 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Black-headed Gull	25 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Gull-billed Tern	5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Tern	6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Little Tern	9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
White-winged Black Tern	3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 was seen from the train between Tanggu & Tianjin.
Grey Heron	2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Brown Shrike	2 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Common Stonechat	1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Barn Swallow	40 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Yellow-browed Warbler	4 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in Tanggu town centre.
Yellow Wagtail	20 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Richard's Pipit	6 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Wednesday 21 December 2005. Tanggu, Tianjin.

Together with Qingyu and Liu Yang caught the 08:35hrs express train from Beijing to Tianjin, then a taxi followed by the elevated train to Tanggu. Checked-in to the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, had a quick lunch of instant noodles in the room and headed out birding at about 12:30hrs.

Drove south down the Haibin Lu.

1st stop. Lu Ju He.

Very quiet.

2nd stop. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

Relict Gull	322. A sample count of 118 birds produced 97 first-winters (82%), 12 second-winters (10%) and 9 adult-winters (8%). 13 banded birds were seen and all of these were first-winters. Five carried both a single yellow leg flag on one leg (the right leg on four birds, left leg on the other) with an aluminium band on the other leg. Another eight birds just carried aluminium bands. In all I could confidently assess perhaps just over 100 birds for the presence or absence of leg flags/bands so seeing 13 banded birds meant that just over 10% of the birds were banded. Liu Yang was confident that all of these birds were from a fairly recently established colony in Shaanxi.
Grey Plover	348
Dunlin	6
Vega Gull	1 adult-winter
Mongolian Gull	5
Goldeneye	Liu Yang saw one flying south offshore
Common Gull	50
Black-headed Gull	50

3rd stop. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.) 5 metres asl.

A site that I hadn't visited before. It's a coastal pumping station (from here its 26.6 kms at 20° back to Tanggu town centre) about 7-8 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. There's a complex of fairly large buildings here – they're visible from the main north-south coastal expressway. We drove to this pumping station and birded from inside the compound before walking about 400 metres away down a shallow coastal breakwater.

We spent about 1.5 hours here before heading back to Tanggu.

This site held a few Relict Gulls, large numbers of Dunlin and Eurasian Curlews but was most noteworthy for the impressive number of Saunders's Gulls.

Mallard	15
Saunders's Gull	173
Relict Gull	28 – including a first-winter that carried a yellow leg flag
Common Gull	30
Dunlin	700
Eurasian Curlew	320
Water Pipit	1

Mallard	15 at Du Liu Jian Hekou.
Goldeneye	1
Eurasian Curlew	320 – all were at Du Liu Jian Hekou.
Dunlin	700 – apart from 5 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang all the rest were at Du Liu Jian Hekou.
Grey Plover	400 – 348 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and 50 at Du Liu Jian Hekou.
Mew Gull	80 – 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and 30 at Du Liu Jian Hekou.. 40 first-winters were noted as being <i>L. c. heinei</i> .
Vega Gull	1 adult-winter at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Mongolian Gull	5 – all near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	100 – including 50 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Saunders's Gull	173 – all at Du Liu Jian Hekou. A high proportion (not assessed) of these were first-winters.

Relict Gull	360 – 322 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and 28 at Du Liu Jian Hekou. A sample count of 118 birds at the first site produced 97 first-winters (82%), 12 second-winters (10%) and 9 adult-winters (8%). 14 banded birds were seen (13 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and a single bird at Du Liu Jian Hekou) and all of these were first-winters. Six birds (including the bird at Du Liu Jian Hekou) carried both a single yellow leg flag on one leg (the right leg on four birds, left leg on the other) with an aluminium band on the other leg. Another eight birds just carried aluminium bands. In all I could confidently assess perhaps just over 100 birds at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang for the presence or absence of leg flags/bands so seeing 13 banded birds at that site alone meant that just over 10% of the birds were banded. Liu Yang was confident that all of these birds were from a fairly recently established colony in Shaanxi.
Hen Harrier	1 ringtail near the south end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao, Tanggu.
Common Kestrel	3 – 2 close to Tanggu town and 1 near Du Liu Jian Hekou.
Black-billed Magpie	4
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20
Water Pipit	1 at Du Liu Jian Hekou.

Thursday 22 December 2005. All day around Tanggu and Dagang, Tianjin.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:58hrs and initially headed north. We birded several sites during the day, with Liu Yang heading home at about 17:00hrs.

It was cold again today, but never as windy as the previous day. Temperatures rose from a chilly -7°C just after dawn to a maximum of +5°C in the early afternoon.

Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu county, Tianjin. (39°06.7'N., 117°39.5'E.) 0 metres asl.

Only a 15 minute drive from the Hong Fa Garden Hotel and is 11.8 kilometres almost due north (3°) of Tanggu town centre this fairly large (perhaps two kilometre diameter) almost circular, embanked, fairly deep water reservoir was completely frozen. The site is not far south of Beitang zhen and only a ten minute drive south of the well-known, triple arched 'Rainbow Bridge' (Cai Hong Da Qiao). Bei Tang Reservoir is adjacent to the very end of the Jingtang Expressway and can be accessed at a couple of sites off this road. In early spring and autumn its apparently good for diving duck and grebe (a Red-necked Grebe had apparently been present here in November)

We saw rather little here –

Rough-legged Buzzard	1 adult flew over
Common Buzzard	1
Little Owl	1
Mongolian Gull	20 flew over
Common Gull	2 flew over with the Mongolian Gulls

Caihongqiao/Qing Tuozi, Hangu county, Tianjin.

This is the near coastal complex of shrimp ponds where I saw good numbers of Asian Dowitchers this autumn. Its possible to drive through this ponds to the coastal defence wall – this is where Liu Yang has made some large counts of Relict Gulls. Today, however, it was extremely quiet and we only stayed a very short time.

Qing Tuozi, a tiny hamlet is accessed by turning left off the Tanggu to Hangu road 200 metres north of the first toll booth at the northern end of the well-known, triple arched 'Rainbow Bridge' (Cai Hong Da Qiao). This minor side road doubles back towards the river. Take the first left which leads back under the northern end of the Rainbow Bridge and then heads out east towards the shore. This dirt road passes a complex of shrimp ponds on the left and a moderately sized fish (or more likely a shrimp) processing plant on the right. It reaches the concrete sea wall about 1.5 kilometres after crossing under the Rainbow Bridge. Its possible to drive north (in a taxi but not a bus) up the inside of the sea wall for at least 1-2 kilometres.

From here we headed south, back through Tanggu.

Beidagang, Dagang county, Tianjin.

We birded the usual site at Beidagang from 09:30 – 12:20hrs.

This site is accessed by turning right (west) off the main Tanggu to Dagang road immediately at the southern end of the long Du Lu Jian River Bridge. Presumably called the Du Lu Jian He Da Qiao, this bridge is about one kilometre south of a very large and conspicuous power station.

After having turned right on to this minor, but still paved, road head west. The road continues west for probably at least 15-20 kilometres (despite having probably made more than 20 visits here I've never actually drive n to the end of the road) and stays on a 10-15 metre high raised embankment. There's a extensive area of pools and creeks in the reeds and grassland besides the Du Lu Jian River to the right (north) and, after about three kilometres, the start of the equally large Beidagang reservoir complex on the left. Once again there was virtually no open water – everything was frozen. There's a barrier across the road about six kilometres down here, its almost invariably open. The whole area to the north, and more especially to the south and closer to Dagang is dotted with hundreds of oil derricks.

Beidagang is an excellent site for raptors – it seemingly always holds large numbers of Amur Falcons in the autumn and has decent numbers of Hen Harriers and buzzards (often of all three eastern Chinese species) during the winter. On several previous visits I've also seen Saker Falcon.

In autumn 2005 it apparently hosted a Dalmatian Pelican while in March 2005 it also held a family party of Mute Swan. There are impressive counts of both Baer's Pochard & Oriental Stork from here detailed in the BirdLife Asian Red Data Book.

In all we walked about four kilometres along the road on top of this embankment.

Buff-bellied Pipit	20
Water Pipit	7
Brambling	1 flew over
Eurasian Skylark	10
Hen Harrier	5 – three ringtails and two adult males
Upland Buzzard	1
Rough-legged Buzzard	1
Kestrel	1
Chinese Grey Shrike	3
Lapland Bunting	7 in several groups of 2 or 3 birds
Little Bunting	30
Pallas's Bunting	15
Penduline Tit	5
Oriental Turtle Dove	1
Hoopoe	18
White-cheeked Starling	1

Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River

From there we headed south and made several attempts to view the huge inter-tidal mudflats to the south of the Du Liu Jian Hekou (the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River that we visited yesterday). We accessed the coast at three sites and made several counts of birds on these mudflats. The first and southernmost of these three sites was accessed by turning east off the main highway adjacent to Km post 4.6 – this small, concrete side road starts about 200 metres north of the large blue crossroads sign that points left (east) to Jingqu. (This site was at 38°42.68'N., 117°34.98'E.) The second site was at the southern side of the Du Liu Jian River mouth (and as such was just over one kilometre south of the pumping station). The third and last site was the pumping station itself.

There were phenomenal numbers of (almost exclusively extremely distant) Relict Gulls present. They were spread right down this seven kilometre stretch of mudflat and were actively feeding – patrolling or walking up and down the mud. There was quite a few people way out on these same mudflats and most were apparently collecting shellfish (we saw a group of guys with a large bag full of small cockle-type shells). There was a large expanse of broken sea ice on the shoreline (in places this extended perhaps 40-50 metres out) and then a huge expanse of mud. The walk out looked treacherous – there appeared to be several deep-water channels and who knows what other obstacles! It would have been nice to have been able to walk out closer to the birds – but all of these shell fish harvesters were wearing chest waders! We estimated that many of the birds were two, quite possibly even three kilometres away. It appeared that as the tide slowly came in these birds tended to drift off to the south.

The tide was way out today (it was probably high tide when we visited this area yesterday) and the birds were remarkably different – apart from the massive increase in the number of Relict Gulls present there were far fewer Saunders's Gull and far fewer Eurasian Curlews and Dunlin!

Relict Gull	We estimated a massive 5000 – 6000 birds on the seven kilometre stretch of inter-tidal mudflat south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River.
Saunders's Gull	20. A significant decrease since yesterday!
Upland Buzzard	1 flew south
Mallard	1
Eurasian Hoopoe	18 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Little Owl	1 at Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' at several site but not systematically recorded.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Curlew	40 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.
Dunlin	150 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.
Grey Plover	10 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.
Mew Gull	80 – these included 30 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and about 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.
Vega Gull	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang.
Mongolian Gull	25 - 20 flew over the Bei Tang Reservoir and another 5 were on a shrimp pond near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	30 – nearly all of these were on a shrimp pond near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Saunders's Gull	20 on the inter-tidal mudflats within seven kilometres south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang.
Relict Gull	5000 – 6000 birds were estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats within seven kilometres south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang. This is easily the largest ever count of wintering Relict Gulls anywhere in the world.!
Hen Harrier	5 – two adult males and three ringtails at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Buzzard	1 at Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu.
Upland Buzzard	2 in Dagang district – 1 at Beidagang and the other flew south near the coast close to the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.
Rough-legged Buzzard	2 – 1 flew south over Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu and the other was at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Kestrel	4 – 2 near the Rainbow Bridge, Tanggu, 1 at Beidagang, Dagang and 1 near the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, also Dagang.
Chinese Grey Shrike	3 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Black-billed Magpie	15 – nearly all at Beidagang.
Rufous-tailed Thrush	2 near the centre of Teda, Tanggu.
White-checked Starling	5 – 4 near the centre of Teda, Tanggu and 1 at Beidagang, Dagang.

Chinese Penduline Tit	5 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Skylark	10 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100
Water Pipit	7 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Buff-bellied Pipit	20 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Brambling	1 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Little Bunting	30 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Pallas's Bunting	15 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Lapland Bunting	7 at Beidagang, Dagang.

Friday 23 December 2005. All day around Tanggu and Dagang, Tianjin.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:30hrs and drove south. Our first stop was at the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River. There were virtually no bird here so we continued south and headed to Jingqu.

Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River

Access details.

This site is easily accessed and lies just to the east of the Haibin Da Dao - the recently constructed, coastal dual carriageway that heads south from Tanggu at least as far as Huanghua in Hebei.

This site is about a 50 minute drive down the Haibin Da Dao south of Tanggu. There's a toll booth on this divided dual carriageway (a fast expressway-style road) about 15 minutes south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (Local taxis - Tanggu or possibly even Tianjin taxis? - pass through this toll booth for free!). 2.1 kilometres south of this toll booth there's a large bridge over the Du Liu Jian River. (The conspicuous Du Liu Jian Hekou or pumping station at the mouth of this river is accessed by turning east off the north-bound carriageway through an unofficial exit - rather a seven metre gap in the crash barrier immediately to the north of this bridge).

Continue south down the Haibin Da Dao for another six kilometres after crossing this bridge before turning off east. Note that this turning can again only be accessed from the north-bound carriageway but that there's a break in the central reservation about 200 metres south of the junction. The turning is about 1.5 kilometres south of the Hong Yuan Yan Chang (the Hong Yuan Salt Farm, Dagang) and about 700 - 800 metres south of two circular large green oil storage tanks. Both the salt farm buildings and the oil tanks are on the west side of the road. The turning on to the minor road is 10 metres north of a small oil derrick that's numbered '8 - 33'. This side road is dead straight and leads almost due east for 2.9 kilometres before you have to park the taxi where it bends south inside the coastal wall. The road is smooth concrete for the first 1.3 kilometres but rougher and unpaved for the next 1.6 kilometres. Once we'd parked up we walked south down the (barely driveable) track inside the seawall. This track again bent back east after about 1.5 kilometres - we birded from the corner right here.

(38°41.86'N., 117°34.83'E.) 5 metres asl.

From here it is 16 kilometres north to Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
35.1 kilometres @ 117° to Tanggu town centre, Tianjin.
76.2 kilometres @ 241° to Cangzhou town centre, Hebei.

Arriving at 08:00hrs we spent the best part of the day here. We parked up at the end of the driveable section of road and walked south about 1.5 kilometres to a viewpoint that overlooked the ice-covered mudflats to the south. We stayed here until 13:20hrs. There was now no mud visible, the tide was right in, and with the strong wind of the previous two days having abated it was quite comfortable. The ice of yesterday had largely dispersed - the wind had changed direction overnight and the ice had drifted in to the bay to the south. We could see a massive flock of extremely distant, unidentifiable gulls here almost as soon as we arrived. We waited, hoping that the gulls would fly north up the coast as the tide receded. They did exactly that, with almost all of them moving north close inshore - predominantly along the line of the sea ice that was only about 40 metres off the coastal wall! Equally fortunately most of the birds moved in a gradual trickle and could be easily and accurately counted. Only three large flocks were seen moving north, one of these contained 300 and another 550 birds, and both of these moved through slowly. There was an additional larger flock that moved north quite quickly and remained densely packed, it was impossible to count this flock accurately but we estimated it contained about 700 birds.

We spent about 5 hours and 15 minutes counting these Relict Gulls - Qingyu scribing the numbers as I counted and called them out. I was not able to age the birds at this time - there was simply too much happening.! Before we left we spent about 1.5 hours watching Relict Gulls as they slowly drifted back south and headed past the watch point where we'd parked the taxi. The birds were close enough and moved slowly enough so that a large proportion of them could be aged.

There were surprising numbers of ducks on the open sea - a huge virtually single species flock of Common Goldeneye (it contained four Greater Scaup) and an equally impressive flock of Mallard (it contained one Spot-billed Duck and a single redhead Smew!). Exceptional (for Tianjin and Hebei at least) numbers of Saunders's Gulls also headed north. Large numbers of these actually congregated in the bay immediately at the southern watch point - and probably about three-quarters of the birds that headed north flew over the pool inland of the two watch points. Very few Relict Gulls were seen to do this - and all of the 70 or so birds that did so, were first-winters!

Large numbers of Dunlin, and towards the end of the passage, large numbers of Eurasian Curlews also moved north.

Leaving the Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats at 15:20hrs we drove back north, stopping off briefly to view some gulls on pools about two kilometres south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

Mallard	850 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang.
Spot-billed Duck	1 in the Mallard flock on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang.
Greater Scaup	4 (two males and two females) in the flock of Common Goldeneye on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Goldeneye	1425 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang. A sample count of 440 birds produced 165 (38%) adult males and 275 (63%) redheads
Smew	1 redhead with the Mallard on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Merganser	48 (44 redheads and 4 adult males) on a deepwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Owl	1 on the coastal breakwater at Jingqu, Dagang.
Rock Pigeon	Present but not counted
Eurasian Curlew	750 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Dunlin	2165 were counted as they flew north from their high tide roost over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Plover	60 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mew Gull	140 – these included 80 on pools south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang. Several apparent <i>kamtschatschensis</i> were photographed at the first site.
Siberian Gull	1 adult with other gulls on a frozen shrimp pond about one kilometre south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (Photo).
Vega Gull	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mongolian Gull	6 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Black-headed Gull	40 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	864 were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang! A massive count – the scale of which was totally unexpected. This is possibly the highest count anywhere in China away from the two main breeding colonies of Shuangtaizi, Liaoning and Yancheng, Jiangsu. A sample count of 122 birds were aged and this produced 117 (96%) adults and a paltry 5 (4%) first-winters!
Relict Gull	7880 were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang! A massive count – the scale of which was again unexpected! This figure is a reliable and accurate count (see count details and methods above) and I feel that I counted almost all of the Relict Gulls on these mudflats. A sample count of 1522 birds produced 992 (65%) adult winters, a surprising number 426 (28%) second-winters and a paltry 104 (7%) first-winters.
Merlin	1 flew north up the coastal breakwater at Jingqu, Dagang.
Peregrine Falcon	1 adult over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Heron	1 immature on a frozen fishpond about one kilometre south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Black-billed Magpie	5.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Present but not counted.

Saturday 24 December 2005. Morning south of Tanggu and in Dagang, Tianjin.

We checked out and left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, Tanggu at 06:30hrs and drove directly south to Jingqu, Dagang arriving 50 minutes later at 07:20hrs.

It was cold again today – minus 5°C at 07:30hrs.

The wind had changed direction again – and was now south-westerly. This meant that the sea ice was not concentrated immediately along the shoreline as it was yesterday and instead a thin layer of ice extended out for perhaps as much as two kilometres. Consequently there were no ducks inshore and any gulls that were moving were several kilometres out to sea – right on the edge of this sea ice! Coupled with this the visibility was much poorer than yesterday – we couldn't see the pumping station six kilometres to the north today, whereas yesterday we could even make out Tianjin Haibin Yuchang almost 16kilometres to the north! This combination of factors made for a disappointing morning. In the event we stayed here only a couple of hours, left at about 09:15hrs and stopped off at a couple of sites right at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. We returned to Tanggu at about 11:15hrs, had lunch in the town centre KFC and headed back to Tianjin.

Mallard	50 resting on the ice off Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Goldeneye	1 on the inland pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Merganser	36(all redheads) on the inland pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
Rock Pigeon	Present
Eurasian Curlew	250 resting on the ice off Jingqu, Dagang.
Dunlin	200 resting on the ice off Jingqu, Dagang.
Mew Gull	150 – about 50 at Jingqu, Dagang and 100 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull assemblage'	100 – 10 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and 90 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Vega Gull	8 – all at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mongolian Gull	5 – all at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-headed Gull	40 – all at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	56 – 55 resting on the ice at Jingqu, Dagang and 1 ad-w at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	40 – all resting on the ice at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Black-billed Magpie	4.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Present.

Friday 17 January 2006. Afternoon south of Tanggu, Tianjin – in the Haibin Yuchang, Dagang & Beidagang areas.

Sunrise in Tanggu on the 17 March 2006 was at 06:19hrs, sunset at 18:18hrs.

We caught the 08:35 train from Beijing Central station to Tianjin (cost 30 yuan and took almost 1.5 hours). Once there we took a taxi to the elevated train (18 yuan), then another train (5 yuan/person) & finally another taxi (8 yuan) to the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, Tanggu. We arrived at the hotel at about 11:30hrs. A quick lunch in the nearby KFC & then we headed south. Stops today included Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, the pumping station at Du Liu Jian Hekou, the Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats & Beidagang. We finally left Beidagang at about 18:10hrs and drove slowly, with one stop for dinner, back to Tanggu.

1. Lu Ju He

Extremely quiet – there were no birds of note here today. 10 minutes from 12:45hrs.

2. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

We stopped here for about 30 minutes from 13:00hrs.

Relict Gull	265
Black-headed Gull	7
Dunlin	5
Common Shelduck	26

3. The pumping station at Du Liu Jian Hekou. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.) 5 metres asl. Also known as Yuren Matou which translates as 'Fishermen's Harbour'.

We spent about 30 minutes here from about 13:30hrs.

Saunders's Gull	16
Relict Gull	75
Pied Avocet	3
Common Shelduck	46

4. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River. (38°41.86'N., 117°34.83'E.) 5 metres asl.

We spent just over two hours here (14:45 – 16:50hrs) and walked south down the coastal wall for about one kilometre. High tide appeared to be at about 16:00hrs and our visit was almost perfectly timed!

Relict Gull	4610 were counted. A sample count of just 63 birds yielded 35 adults, 23 second-years and five first-years.
Common Teal	8
Spotted Redshank	1 flew over
Mallard	48
Oystercatcher	2
Swan Goose	3 flew north
Bean Goose	85 flew north
Great Cormorant	17 (in flocks of 4 & 13) flew north
Ruddy Shelduck	4
Dunlin	1300
Kentish Plover	170
Eurasian Curlew	450

5. Beidagang. (38°45.2'N., 117°26.5'E.)

We birded here from 17:25 – 18:10hrs.

Upland Buzzard	1
White-cheeked Starling	6
White Wagtail	15
Common Kestrel	2
Great Crested Grebe	11
Little Grebe	8
Chinese Penduline Tit	'Several' were heard
Little Bunting	1 was heard
Northern Shoveler	65
Common Teal	120
Smew	8 (seven redheads and one adult male)
Hen Harrier	2 ringtails
White-naped Crane	A flock of 86 feeding on recently burnt reed stubble.

Common Pheasant	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Swan Goose	3 flew north, with a party of Bean Geese, over Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Bean Goose	A flock of 85 birds flew north over Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Ruddy Shelduck	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Common Shelduck	109 were counted between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang - 26 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang itself, 46 at Yuren Matou & 37 at Jingqu itself on the 17/3/2006.
Mallard	48 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Northern Shoveler	65 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Common Teal	130 - 8 flew south over the sea off Jingqu and another 120 were counted at Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.

Smew	8 (one adult male & seven redheads) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Little Owl	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not systematically recorded around Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.
White-naped Crane	86 on recently burnt fields of reed stubble at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	450 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Spotted Redshank	1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Dunlin	1600 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Pied Avocet	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Grey Plover	45 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Kentish Plover	170 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Northern Lapwing	1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Mew Gull	45 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/3/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	15 between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/3/2006.
Vega Gull	10 between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/3/2006.
Black-headed Gull	160 between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/3/2006.
Saunders's Gull	16 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Yuren Matou on the 17/3/2006.
Relict Gull	4950 between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou and Jingqu on the 17/3/2006. Specific counts were – 265 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 75 at Yuren Matou & 4610 at Jingqu. A sample count of just 63 birds at the last site yielded 35 adults (56%), 23 second-years (37%) and five first-years (8%).
Hen Harrier	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Upland Buzzard	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Little Grebe	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Great Cormorant	19 - 17 (in flocks of 4 & 13) flew north over Jingqu & there were also 2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	15 in total between Tanggu, Jingqu & Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.
Daurian Redstart	3 single, widely scattered males were seen south of Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	6 – all at Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.
Chinese Penduline Tit	'Several' at Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	10 immediately south of Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not systematically recorded around Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.
White Wagtail	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Water Pipit	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
Little Bunting	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

Saturday 18 January 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, together with Liu Yang & Lei Jingyu (co-editors of the China Bird Report), at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Bei Tang Reservoir. 06:20 – 07:00hrs when we were asked, forcefully, to leave by two security guards.

2. Hangu. – 07:30 - 09:15hrs

3. Beidagang. 10:45 – 13:30hrs

4. Yuren Matou. Ca.14:00 – 14:30hrs.

5. Jingqu. 15:05 – 17:00hrs.

6. Site about 6 kilometres north of Yuren Matou. Ca.17:20 – 17:50hrs.

7. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Very briefly at about 18:00hrs.

We arrived back at the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 18:30hrs.

Common Pheasant	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Whooper Swan	47 – 26 resting on the inter-tidal mudflats about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou & another flock of 21 birds flew north over there in the late afternoon of the 18/3/2006.
Ruddy Shelduck	10 (a single bird and a flock of nine) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Common Shelduck	365 on the sea off Hangu on the 18/3/2006.
Mallard	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Northern Shoveler	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Garganey	22 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Common Teal	32 – 16 over the sea off Hangu & another 16 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Common Pochard	500 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Tufted Duck	456 on the 18/3/2006 – 6 on Beitang Reservoir & 450 at Beidagang, Dagang.

Common Goldeneye	200 on the 18/3/2006 – 2 on Beitang Reservoir & 200 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Smew	265 on the 18/3/2006 - 45 on Beitang Reservoir & 220 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Merganser	290 on the 18/3/2006 – 288 on Beitang Reservoir & 2 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 at Beitang Reservoir on the 18/3/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not counted
White-naped Crane	29 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006 - (12 in the same field where birds were seen yesterday, and another 17 birds flew north overhead).
Common Snipe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
'Western' Black-tailed Godwit	2 at Yuren Matou on the 18/3/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	ca.600 on the 18/3/2006 – with large counts at Hangu & also at the site about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou.
Eastern Curlew	1 at Yuren Matou on the 18/3/2006.
Dunlin	1000 in the area between the site six kilometres north of Yuren Matou, Yuren Matou itself & Jingqu on the 18/3/2006.
Pied Avocet	62 on the 18/3/2006 - 6 at Beitang Reservoir, 9 at Hangu, 2 at Yuren Matou & 45 flew north over Jingqu.
Grey Plover	800 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou.
Kentish Plover	300 on the inter-tidal mud flats between Jingqu & the site six kilometres north of Yuren Matou on the 18/3/2006.
Mew Gull	300 on the 18/3/2006 – including ca.100 on pools just north of Yuren Matou and another 120 on the inter-tidal mudflats about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	40 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly on the pools just north of Yuren Matou.
Vega Gull	20 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
Black-headed Gull	300 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
Saunders's Gull	26 on the 18/3/2006 – 1 at Hangu & 25 at Yuren Matou
Relict Gull	A total of about 7200 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Hangu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/3/2006 - 410 at Hangu, 12 at Yuren Matou, a massive 6100 at Jingqu & 720 about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou. A sample count of 164 birds at the latter site yielded 104 adults (63%), 40 second-years (24%) & 20 first-years (12%).
Hen Harrier	5 (1 adult male & a ringtail) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 flew north low over the sea off Hangu on the 18/3/2006
Upland Buzzard	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	70 on the 18/3/2006 – 55 on Beitang Reservoir & 15 at Beidagang.
Great Cormorant	54 on the 18/3/2006 – 30 at Beitang Reservoir, 2 flew north at Hangu & 22 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Grey Heron	1 came in high off the sea at Hangu on the 18/3/2006.
[Chinese Grey Shrike	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.]
Black-billed Magpie	20 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
Rook	1 in flight over Beitang Reservoir on the 18/3/2006.
Daurian Redstart	1 female at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	10 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly near Beitang Reservoir.
Chinese Penduline Tit	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	25 on the 18/3/2006 – with birds seen in flight at Beitang Reservoir, Hangu, Beidagang & Jingqu.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
White Wagtail	10 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly at Beidagang, Dagang.
Water Pipit	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
Little Bunting	5 on the 18/3/2006 – 1 at Hangu & 4 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Pallas's Bunting	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

Monday 20 March 2006. Morning around Tanggu, afternoon departed for Tianjin.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 11:30hrs and drove to Beitang Reservoir. We spent about two hours there (11:40-13:35hrs) before taking the same taxi back to Tianjin & from there returned to Beijing.

Beitang Reservoir. 11:40-13:35hrs.

It was gloriously warm (18°C) and with almost no wind.

We walked almost three kilometres north along the boundary/embankment road.

Bean Goose	7 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Falcated Duck	6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Mallard	6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	24 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Northern Shoveler	6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Common Teal	2 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Tufted Duck	8 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Common Goldeneye	70 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Smew	158 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Common Merganser	1260 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Long-billed Plover	1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Kentish Plover	1 was heard at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	150 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Vega Gull	40 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Black-headed Gull	20 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	72 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Black-necked Grebe	1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Great Cormorant	910 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Grey Heron	1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	8 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

White-cheeked Starling	4 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 was heard outside the Hong Fa Garden Hotel in Tanggu town on the 20/3/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 were heard at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
White Wagtail	6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

Monday 25 July 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:10hrs.

It rained virtually all day today, sometimes heavily. It was dark & overcast all day with poor visibility.

Highlights included large numbers of Black-tailed Gulls & 30 species of shorebirds including one Little Stint and good numbers of Marsh Sandpiper, Asian Dowitcher, Great Knot, Red-necked Stint, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Black-winged tilt and Pied Avocet.

Sites visited today were –

1. Bei Tang Reservoir. 06:30 – 06:45hrs.

Little of note –

Common Tern	4 (3 ad-s, 1 juv)
Whiskered Tern	8 ad-s
White-winged Black Tern	10 ad-s
Little Tern	5
Great Crested Grebe	4 adult summers

2. Hangu. 07:00 - 09:00hrs

Excellent. The main shorebird pool was full of birds but the normally driveable track was muddy & impassable so I never reached the coastline.

3. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park. 10:00-10:45hrs

4. Lu Ju He. 11:00-11:20hrs

5. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang 11:30-12:10hrs

6. Gaoshaling.

We arrived back at the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 13:30hrs.

Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	51 near Tanggu on the 25/7/2006 – 12 at Hangu, 37 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 2 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Bar-tailed Godwit	15 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	60 on the 25/7/2006 – 30 at Lu Ju He & 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Spotted Redshank	25 on the 25/7/2006 – 6 at Hangu, 3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 14 at Gaoshaling
Common Redshank	1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	4650 on the 25/7/2006 – 3000 at Hangu, 1300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools, 150 at Lu Ju He, 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 150 at Gaoshaling
Common Greenshank	30 on the 25/7/2006 - 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 20 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Green Sandpiper	3 on the 25/7/2006 – 2 at Hangu & 1 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools
Wood Sandpiper	360 on the 25/7/2006 – 350 flew south over Hangu & 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools
Terek Sandpiper	5 on the 25/7/2006 - 1 flew south over Hangu & 4 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Common Sandpiper	15 on the 25/7/2006 – 6 at Hangu, 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools, 2 at Lu Ju He, 3 at Gaoshaling
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 on the 25/7/2006 – 1 at Hangu & 1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Ruddy Turnstone	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 25/7/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	162 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Great Knot	385 between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
Red Knot	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 25/7/2006.
Little Stint	1 adult summer at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Red-necked Stint	4000 on the 25/7/2006 – 3000 at Hangu & 1000 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools. 12 leg-flagged birds were noted. 5 birds at Hangu had orange leg flags & 7 birds on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools had leg flags (four had orange, one yellow & a single bird had black over white).
Temminck's Stint	3 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Long-toed Stint	1 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	420 on the 25/7/2006 – 280 at Hangu, 120 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 20 at Gaoshaling
Dunlin	15 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Curlew Sandpiper	29 on the 25/7/2006 – 21 at Hangu, 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 2 at Gaoshaling
Broad-billed Sandpiper	7 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

Black-winged Stilt	530 on the 25/7/2006 – 150 at Hangu, 240 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 140 at Gaoshaling
Pied Avocet	830 on the 25/7/2006 – 770 at Hangu, 45 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 15 at Gaoshaling
Grey Plover	45 on the 25/7/2006 – 30 at Lu Ju He & 15 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Little Ringed Plover	5 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Kentish Plover	125 on the 25/7/2006 – 15 at Hangu, 70 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools and 40 in the Lu Ju He – Tianjin Haibin Yuchang area
Greater Sand Plover	1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	1114 on the 25/7/2006 – 2 over the pools at Hangu, 25 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools, 832 between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 255 on a pool about 800 metres inland from Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Mongolian Gull	3 on the 25/7/2006 – 1 at Hangu, 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Black-headed Gull	1000 on the 25/7/2006 – with the largest gathering being 800 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools
Relict Gull	1 moulting adult-summer on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 25/7/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
Common Tern	55 on the 25/7/2006 – 4 at Bei Tang Reservoir, 2 at Hangu & 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Little Tern	215 on the 25/7/2006 – 5 at Bei Tang Reservoir & 210 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Whiskered Tern	55 on the 25/7/2006 – 8 at Bei Tang Reservoir, 7 at Hangu & 40 over marshland south of Tanggu. All were adults.
White-winged Black Tern	15 – mostly at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	4 at Bei Tang Reservoir on the 25/7/2006.
Grey Heron	2 on the 25/7/2006 – singles at Hangu & flying south high over Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 adult flew north over Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
Yellow Bittern	1 over marshland south of Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	5 on the 25/7/2006.
Barn Swallow	20 in & around Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	50 in & around Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 was heard outside the Hong Fa Garden Hotel on the 25/7/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 on the 25/7/2006.

Wednesday 26 July 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Hangu. 05:50 - 12:45hrs

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park. 13:45-15:00hrs

3. Jingqu

4. Yuren Matou

5. Pools besides the Expressway immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

Falcated Duck	3 (2 eclipse adult males & a female) on pools at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Eurasian Hoopoe	3 on the 26/7/2006 – 2 at Hangu & 1 at Jingqu.
Fork-tailed Swift	1 over Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Spotted Dove	2 singles in Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	405 on the 26/7/2006 - 351 at Hangu; 54 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Bar-tailed Godwit	42 on the 26/7/2006 - 15 at Hangu & 27 at Jingqu.
Whimbrel	2 singles on the 26/7/2006 - 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 1 at Jingqu.
Eurasian Curlew	260 on the 26/7/2006 - 50 at Hangu & 210 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	4 on the 26/7/2006 - 2 at Hangu & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
curlew sp.	210 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Spotted Redshank	110 on the 26/7/2006 - 64 at Hangu; 35 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 6 at Jingqu & 5 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Redshank	1 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	7150 on the 26/7/2006 - 6200 at Hangu; 880 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 50 at Jing Qi; 20 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Greenshank	85 on the 26/7/2006 - 25 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu; 35 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 10 at Jingqu & 15 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Wood Sandpiper	20 on the 26/7/2006 - 15 at Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 26/7/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the 26/7/2006 - 1 at Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Common Sandpiper	24 on the 26/7/2006 - 12 at Hangu; 8 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 4 at Jingqu.
Grey-tailed Tattler	10 on the 26/7/2006 - 3 at Hangu; 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 1 at Jingqu & 1 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Ruddy Turnstone	4 on the 26/7/2006 - 2 at Hangu & 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools
Asian Dowitcher	256 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Great Knot	438 on the 26/7/2006 - 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 417 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. One bird at the latter site had a yellow flag on its right leg.
Red Knot	16 on the 26/7/2006 - 8 at Hangu; 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Stint	1 summer plumaged adult at Hangu on the 26/7/2006. A different bird to that seen yesterday.

Red-necked Stint	3760 on the 26/7/2006 - 3550 at Hangu; 150 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 20 at Jingqu & 50 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Six leg-flagged birds were noted at Hangu – five with orange & 1 with a yellow flag.
Temminck's Stint	11 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Long-toed Stint	5 on the 26/7/2006 - 4 at Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	568 on the 26/7/2006 - 306 at Hangu; 247 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 5 at Jingqu & 10 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Dunlin	60 on the 26/7/2006 - 35 at Hangu; 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 15 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	412 on the 26/7/2006 - 384 at Hangu; 12 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 2 at Jingqu & 14 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Two leg flagged birds were noted at Hangu – one had an orange flag, the other yellow.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	25 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	850 on the 26/7/2006 - 630 at Hangu; 150 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 50 at Jingqu & 20 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 173 birds at Hangu yielded 155 adults (90%) & 18 juveniles (10%).
Pied Avocet	1385 - 1320 at Hangu; 20 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 30 at Jingqu & 15 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Plover	30 on the 26/7/2006 - 15 at Hangu & 15 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	23 on the 26/7/2006 - 17 at Hangu & 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Kentish Plover	3050 on the 26/7/2006 - 750 at Hangu; 55 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 50 at Jingqu & 2200 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Greater Sand Plover	2 at Jingqu on the 26/7/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	1572 on the 26/7/2006 - 32 at Hangu; 108 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 658 (including one leucistic bird) at Jingqu; 644 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 30 at Lu Ju He. One apparent second summer (third calendar year) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools had an orange band on its right leg.
Mongolian Gull	4 on the 26/7/2006 - 1 at Hangu, 2 at Jingqu & 1 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	2000 on the 26/7/2006 including 1000 at Hangu & 700 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Relict Gull	505 on the 26/7/2006 - 2 at Hangu (both were second calendar years moulting from first-summer to second winter); 3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 491 at Jingqu & 9 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. No juveniles were seen. With the tide being extremely high all the birds at Jingqu were on two pools both about one kilometre inland. Six leg-flagged or banded birds were noted at Jingqu. The four combinations were as follows – one bird had a yellow band on its left leg; one bird had a yellow band on its left and a red flag on its right leg; one bird had a red flag on its right leg; 3 birds had aluminium bands on their right legs.
Gull-billed Tern	30 on the 26/7/2006 - 6 at Hangu; 16 at Jingqu & 8 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Caspian Tern	11 on the 26/7/2006 - 8 at Hangu & 3 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	53 on the 26/7/2006 - 25 at Hangu; 8 at Jingqu & 20 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Little Tern	355 on the 26/7/2006 - 175 at Hangu (15 over the inter-tidal mudflats & 160 in the river channel 500 metres upstream of the Rainbow Bridge); 20 at Jingqu & 160 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Whiskered Tern	1 summer plumaged adult at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	600 on the 26/7/2006 - including 110 at Hangu; 390 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 178 at Jingqu.
Common Kestrel	1 adult male at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Saker Falcon	1 juvenile at Hangu on the 26/7/2006 took a small shorebird.
Little Egret	30 in the river channel 500 metres upstream of the Rainbow Bridge at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Grey Heron	35 on the 26/7/2006 - 32 at Hangu & 3 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-crowned Night Heron	11 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006 – 3 in the shorebird pools & 8 on the inter-tidal mudflats!
Black-billed Magpie	6 on the edge of Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
Barn Swallow	200 in & around Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	40 in & around Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 on the 26/7/2006.

Thursday 27 July 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Beidagang. 06:45-10:30hrs

2. Yuren Matou. 11:00-13:00hrs

3. Pools besides the Expressway immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. 13:30-14:15hrs

4. Lu Ju He. 14:30-15:30hrs

5. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park. 15:45-17:00hrs

Common Pheasant	4 (an adult male, adult female & two almost fully-grown juveniles at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	8 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Eurasian Cuckoo	6 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Little Owl	2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 27/7/2006.
Spotted Dove	2 singles south of Tanggu towards Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

Black-tailed Godwit	30 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.
Whimbrel	4 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	528 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 308 at Yuren Matou; 40 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 60 near Lu Ju He; 120 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Eastern Curlew	4 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/206 - 2 at Yuren Matou & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	4 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	600 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 – these included 80 at Beidagang & 500 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Common Greenshank	80 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/206 - 4 at Beidagang, 50 at Yuren Matou & 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Green Sandpiper	3 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	10 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	7 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.
Common Sandpiper	4 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	24 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 23 at Yuren Matou & 1 at Lu Ju He.
Asian Dowitcher	75 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.
Great Knot	500 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 264 at Yuren Matou; 180 at Lu Ju He & 50 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Red Knot	4 at Yuren Matou on the 27/6/2006.
Red-necked Stint	3000 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 80 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3000 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools. One bird at the latter site had an orange leg flag.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	55 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 27/7/2006.
Dunlin	8 on the 27/7/2006 - 4 at Yuren Matou & 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Curlew Sandpiper	7 on the 27/7/2006 - 2 at Yuren Matou & 3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	6 on the 27/7/2006 - 1 at Yuren Matou & 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Black-winged Stilt	600 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 320 at Beidagang & 300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Pied Avocet	50 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 6 at Beidagang & 45 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Grey Plover	15 at Yuren Matou on the 27/6/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	4, including one locally fledged bird, at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Kentish Plover	1000 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. These included 50 at Yuren Matou, 600 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Lesser Sand Plover	4 summer plumaged adults – 2 at Yuren Matou & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Greater Sand Plover	44 on the 27/7/2006 - 39 at Yuren Matou & 5 at Lu Ju He.
Oriental Pratincole	20 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. All the ones seen well were adults moulting some of their flight feathers. Several birds were seen carrying food – presumably to feed their young,
Black-tailed Gull	1240 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 44 at Beidagang; 320 at Yuren Matou; 430 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 50 near Gaoshaling, 90 at Lu Ju He & 310 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Mongolian Gull	2 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 27/7/2006.
Black-headed Gull	920 were estimated south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. These included 50 at Beidagang, 20 at Yuren Matou, 50 in the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang/Gaoshaling area and 800 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools. A juvenile, my first of the autumn, was seen at the last site.
Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.
Relict Gull	503 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006. A sample count of 121 birds yielded 96 second calendar years (79%) & 25 adults (21%).
Gull-billed Tern	9 on the 27/7/2006 - 3 at Yuren Matou & 6 (including one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Caspian Tern	5 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 27/7/2006.
Common Tern	30 in total south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. These included 10 at Beidagang.
Little Tern	750 in total at several coastal sites between Tanggu & Yuren Matou. 40 at Beidagang; 306 at Yuren Matou; 310 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 10 at Lu Ju He & 85 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Whiskered Tern	280 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	825 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 5 at Beidagang; 80 at Yuren Matou & 740 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Little Grebe	25 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	3 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Little Egret	16 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Grey Heron	24 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Purple Heron	16 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Great Egret	2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Black-crowned Night Heron	35 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. Most of the ones seen well were juveniles & its possible that they bred in one of the small coppices lining the embankment road.
Yellow Bittern	22 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. Nearly all of these were seen as they flew one direction or the other over the embankment road.
Von Schrenck's Bittern	3 separate males were seen as they flew over the embankment road at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Brown Shrike	2 separate juveniles at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	6 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Sand Martin	16 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Barn Swallow	200 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. This was the first day that a (very small) number of birds were seen actually migrating south down the coast.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	20, mostly pairs, at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. Many birds were still singing and several were seen carrying food (presumably to feed young still in the nest).
Zitting Cisticola	10 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

Oriental Reed Warbler	2 singing birds were heard at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006.
Meadow Bunting	2 singing birds were heard at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

Mammals

Siberian Weasel	1 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
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Friday 28 July 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs, went north to Hangu, spent four hours or so there & then returned to the hotel, checked out & headed back to Tianjin.

The only site visited today was –

1. Hangu. 05:50 – 10:00hrs

It was high tide when I arrived & there were huge numbers of long-legged shorebirds on the two main pools. However the tide was dropping quickly & these birds soon headed out – to feed on the inter-tidal mudflats. After a couple of hours here I checked the river & then headed around the northern side of the two settling pools to the inter-tidal mudflats.

Common Shelduck	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Little Owl	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	72 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. Very few (<6) juveniles were present.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Whimbrel	7 on the river at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	750 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Eastern Curlew	19 at Hangu on the 27/7/2006 – 15 on the river & 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats
Spotted Redshank	6 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Marsh Sandpiper	2000 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Common Greenshank	50 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Wood Sandpiper	5 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	38 (16 on the river & 22 on the inter-tidal mudflats) at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Common Sandpiper	6 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Asian Dowitcher	A massive 813 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. Of these only 9 were juveniles!
Red-necked Stint	1500 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. 7 leg flagged birds were seen – 6 had orange & one had yellow over orange. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Temminck's Stint	22 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Long-toed Stint	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	525 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Dunlin	7 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Curlew Sandpiper	167 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	19 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Black-winged Stilt	720 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Pied Avocet	1125 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. A sample count of 237 yielded 220 adults & 17 juveniles.
Grey Plover	15 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	32 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. Quite a few (presumably locally fledged?) juveniles were seen today, as on all the previous few days.
Kentish Plover	730 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	120 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Black-headed Gull	500 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	12 (7 on the river channel & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats) at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Caspian Tern	9 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Common Tern	35 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Little Tern	68 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Whiskered Tern	6 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	145 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
Little Egret	68 in the river channel at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Grey Heron	13 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Great Egret	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Chinese Pond Heron	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Black-crowned Night Heron	2 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	5 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Sand Martin	3 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Barn Swallow	50 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	25 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
White Wagtail	1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

Banded birds in the Tanggu & Hangu areas in late July 2006

Red-necked Stint

Leg flagged birds were noted at two sites in Tianjin municipality, N. China in late July 2006. All of the birds I saw (flagged or not) during these four days were adults.

The following birds were noted at Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North China (39° 05.1' N., 117° 45.1' E)

5 out of 3000 birds on the 25/7/2006 had orange leg flags.

6 out of 3550 birds on the 26/7/2006 had flags- 5 had orange, one yellow

7 out of 1500 birds on the 28/7/2006 had flags - 6 had orange & one had yellow over orange

The following birds were noted on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.)

6 out of 1000 birds on the 26/7/2006 had leg flags. - four had orange, one yellow & a single bird had black over white.

1 out of 350 on the 27/6/2006 had an orange flag

Curlew Sandpiper

2 out of 384 birds (all adults) at Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North China (39° 05.1' N., 117° 45.1' E) on the 26/7/2006 had leg flags. One had an orange flag, the other yellow.

Great Knot

One in flock of 417 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) on the 26/7/2006 had a yellow flag.

Black-tailed Gull

One apparent second summer (third calendar year) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.) on the 26/7/2006 (a day when a record 1572 birds were counted in the area) had an orange band on its right leg.

I noticed in China Bird Watch:48 April 2006 that two colour-ringed birds were noted by Zhang Xixian in Shandong in March 2006. A bird with a white band was seen at Changdao, Shandong on the 10 March & a bird with a red band in Laizhou, Shandong on 20 March.

Relict Gull

Six leg-flagged or banded birds were noted at Jingqu, Dagang, Tianjin, North China (38°41.86'N., 117°34.83'E.) on the 26/7/2006. The four combinations were as follows – one bird had a yellow band on its left leg; one bird had a yellow band on its left and a red flag on its right leg; one bird had a red flag on its right leg; 3 birds had aluminium bands on their right legs.

Tuesday 29 August 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu. 06:30 - 12:45hrs

2. Beitang Reservoir. 13:05- 13:25hrs

3. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park. 14:30-18:00hrs

Common Shelduck	9 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Mallard	155 on the 29/8/2006 - 5 flew south off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & there were 150 on Beitang Reservoir.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	20 on Beitang Reservoir on the 29/8/2006.
Garganey	211 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Baikal Teal	2 with the Garganey flock at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Common Teal	22 with the Garganey flock at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	2250 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	6 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Whimbrel	4 on the 29/8/2006 – 3 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Eurasian Curlew	345 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Spotted Redshank	15 on the 29/8/2006.
Common Redshank	8 on the 29/8/2006.

Marsh Sandpiper	5520 on the 29/8/2006 – 1420 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 4100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Common Greenshank	45 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	20 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Common Sandpiper	5 on the 29/8/2006 – 2 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 1 on Beitang Reservoir & 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	523 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006. A sample count of 323 birds produced 92 adults (28%) & 231 juveniles (72%).
Great Knot	4 flew south at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Red Knot	1 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Red-necked Stint	2500 on the 29/8/2006 – 250 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2250 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools. A sample count of 216 birds at the second site produced 15 juveniles (7%) & 201 adults (93%). Seven leg flagged birds were noted in a flock of 1200 that were close enough to see well at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools – six of these had orange flags while the seventh bird had a yellow flag on its right leg & a green one on its left.
Temminck's Stint	25 on the 29/8/2006 – 18 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 7 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools.
Long-toed Stint	3 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	574 on the 29/8/2006 – 445 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 119 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Dunlin	310 on the 29/8/2006 – 120 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 190 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Curlew Sandpiper	15 on the 29/8/2006 – 12 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	63 on the 29/8/2006 – 6 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 57 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Black-winged Stilt	2965 on the 29/8/2006 – 2015 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 950 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Pied Avocet	2780 on the 29/8/2006 – 1900 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 880 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Grey Plover	220 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	10 in the Tanggu/the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006.
Kentish Plover	2500 on the 29/8/2006 – 150 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Greater Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	467 on the 29/8/2006 – 50 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 417 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 in the Tanggu-the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006.
Pallas's Gull	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006. It was photographed.
Black-headed Gull	3000 in the Tanggu-the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006. 16 out of 400 birds at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools had some oil on them.
Gull-billed Tern	82 on the 29/8/2006 – 63 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Caspian Tern	22 on the 29/8/2006 – 10 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Common Tern	119 on the 29/8/2006 – 48 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 71 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Little Tern	251 on the 29/8/2006 – 130 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 121 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools
Whiskered Tern	4 over Beitang Reservoir on the 29/8/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	510 on the 29/8/2006 – 360 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. A sample count of 226 birds at the first site produced 223 adults (99%) & only 3 juveniles (1%)!
Great Crested Grebe	12 on Beitang Reservoir on the 29/8/2006.
Great Cormorant	69 on the 29/8/2006 – 17 flew south off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 52 on Beitang Reservoir.
Little Egret	59 on the 29/8/2006 – 44 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 15 near Beitang Reservoir.
Grey Heron	101 on the 29/8/2006 – 19 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 82 at Beitang Reservoir.
Brown Shrike	7 on the 29/8/2006 - 6 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools
Black-billed Magpie	1 near Tanggu on the 29/8/2006.
Siberian Blue Robin	3 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Barn Swallow	50 in & around Tanggu on the 29/8/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Dusky Warbler	1 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not counted in & around Tanggu on the 29/8/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	3, including one <i>taivana</i> , near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
bunting sp.	3 singles flew south in the Tanggu-the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006.

Wednesday 30 August 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Jingqu. 06:45-07:15hrs

2. Yuren Matou. 07:30-08:10hrs

3. Pools besides the Expressway immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. 08:30-11:15hrs

4. Lu Ju He. 11:20-11:25hrs

Common Kingfisher	3 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 1 at Yuren Matou & 2 besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Fork-tailed Swift	100 over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not specifically counted
Black-tailed Godwit	1 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	4 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Whimbrel	12 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	320 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Eastern Curlew	21 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Spotted Redshank	2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	720 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Common Greenshank	55 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	10 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Common Sandpiper	3 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Great Knot	2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Red Knot	2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Red-necked Stint	2500 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006. A sample count of 415 birds at the produced 18 juveniles (4%) & 397 adults (96%). Three birds with orange leg flagged were noted among these 415 birds.
Temminck's Stint	17 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	224 on the 30/8/2006 – 166 near Jingqu, Dagang & 58 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Dunlin	40 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Curlew Sandpiper	4 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	50 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Grey Plover	85 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	12 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Kentish Plover	4550 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Lesser Sand Plover	11 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Grey-headed Lapwing	1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	677 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 356 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 320 near Lu Ju He.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Black-headed Gull	1000 between Tanggu, Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou (all in Tanggu) and Jingqu (Dagang) on the 30/8/2006.
Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile moulting to first-winter on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Relict Gull	86 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006. All were third calendar year birds (second years moulting to adult-winters).
Gull-billed Tern	9 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Caspian Tern	62 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 59 about two kilometres up the river channel from Yuren Matou & 3 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	43 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Little Tern	142 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 20 at Yuren Matou & 122 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
White-winged Black Tern	40 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Little Egret	53 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/8/2006 – 9 at Jingqu, Dagang, 4 near Yuren Matou, 29 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 11 near Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	86 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 8 in the river channel about two kilometres upstream of Yuren Matou & 78 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Brown Shrike	106 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 63 at Jingqu, Dagang, 14 at Yuren Matou, 23 between there & the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 6 besides these same pools.
Common Stonechat	2 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Barn Swallow	30 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 in scrub besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 in scrub besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
White Wagtail	2 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
bunting sp.	2 singles flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

Thursday 31 August 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 06:30-12:00hrs

Common Shelduck 8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

Common Kingfisher	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Migration commences, but is relatively low-key and unobtrusive other than a few birds start to appear in unusual places, from about the middle of August. Passage peaks sometime during September (?) and continues on a declining scale in to November. Birds are noteworthy after the end of that month and winter records (like the ones in Beijing in recent years – see China Bird Reports) are apparently unknown.
Fork-tailed Swift	40 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	2000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Very, very few juveniles were seen (probably less than 10).
Bar-tailed Godwit	34 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. About one-third of these birds were juvenile.
Whimbrel	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Of the two seen well, one was a juvenile, the other an adult.
Eurasian Curlew	452 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Almost all the birds seen in flight were adults in heavy wing moult.
Spotted Redshank	11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All 11 were moulting summer plumaged adults.
Common Redshank	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Still very few birds were juvenile.
Common Greenshank	452 were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 31/8/2006. This is by far the largest count I've ever had in coastal Tianjin.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Small scale passage continues.
Wood Sandpiper	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Common Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Both were juveniles.
Asian Dowitcher	381 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Again the majority of birds were juveniles.
Great Knot	9 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All nine birds were juvenile.
Red Knot	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All three were juvenile.
Red-necked Stint	450 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Temminck's Stint	25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	958 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. A sample count of 63 birds produced 51 adults (81%) & 12 juveniles (19%). One bird among this flock of 958 had a yellow leg flag.
Dunlin	43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All of those seen well were juvenile.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All three were adults.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Both were juvenile.
Black-winged Stilt	600 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Pied Avocet	1100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. A surprisingly local migrant – birds are absent along much of the Tianjin coastline preferring salt pans or fish or shrimp ponds to open mudflat.
Pacific Golden Plover	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All three were moulting summer plumaged adults. The first of the autumn.
Grey Plover	325 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Only 2 of these 325 birds (<1%) were juveniles!
Little Ringed Plover	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Kentish Plover	1700 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	150 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Mongolian Gull	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Black-headed Gull	400 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Relict Gull	8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. One first-winter & seven moulting older immatures.
Gull-billed Tern	8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Caspian Tern	17 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Birds were practically absent from the Tanggu-Hangu coastline in late July/early August (& were perhaps still in the breeding colonies rearing young). I expect numbers to increase throughout September to a peak sometime in early October.
Common Tern	43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Little Tern	64 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Numbers are already starting to decline slightly.
Whiskered Tern	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. As with the previous species inclement weather and especially drizzle brings an influx of birds. Juveniles are scarce until mid-September.
Pied Harrier	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Little Egret	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Grey Heron	51 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Ill-defined south-bound passage is already well under way by the last week of August and gatherings of up to 50 or 80 birds are then not infrequent. Birds actively migrating can be seen early and late in the day throughout August and September these same birds are often resting up at regular near coastal sites e.g. Beitang Reservoir (especially the safe, central island), the Caihongqiao Pools at Hangu & the pools around Tianjin Haibinyuchang or on the inter-tidal mudflats during the rest of the day.
Purple Heron	1 flying south with two Grey Herons over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Brown Shrike	4 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Siberian Blue Robin	2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Sand Martin	2 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Barn Swallow	40 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	15 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' in & around Tanggu but not counted.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	5 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Grey Wagtail	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Richard's Pipit	15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Pechora Pipit	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
bunting sp.	10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

Friday 1 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 03:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 03:30-04:15hrs

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 07:30-10:15hrs

3. Lu Ju He, Tanggu. Brief stop.

4. Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, Tanggu. 10:45-11:00hrs.

5. Jingqu, Dagang. 11:30-12:30hrs.

6. Yuren Matou, Tanggu. 12:45-13:45hrs on a falling tide.

Garganey	2 on pools near Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Fork-tailed Swift	15 flew south over Lu Ju He, Tanggu on 1/9/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	'Present' pre-dawn on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 1/9/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Whimbrel	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	723 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Eastern Curlew	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	2000 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 1800 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 200 others between there, Lu Ju He, Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Common Greenshank	150 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	1 heard pre-dawn on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 1/9/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Common Sandpiper	1 heard on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	42 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	Heard pre-dawn on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 1/9/2006.
Great Knot	45 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Red Knot	580 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Red-necked Stint	450 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Temminck's Stint	25 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	150 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Dunlin	65 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Curlew Sandpiper	2 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	1200 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 950 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 250 others between there, Lu Ju He, Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Pied Avocet	650 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 510 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 140 others between there, Lu Ju He, Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Grey Plover	520 between Yuren Matou, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	15 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	2500 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 1400 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 1100 others between there, Lu Ju He & especially on the mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	960 between Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006. 115 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools, 75 on the Tanggu airport pools, 80 besides the Lu Ju He fishponds, 280 on the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, 170 at Yuren Matou & 240 at Jingqu Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	25 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Vega Gull	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	2000 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Relict Gull	773 at two sites between Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006 – 48 on the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools & 725 at Jingqu, Dagang. Only one first calendar year bird was seen.
Little Gull	2 second-winters on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006. Both were photographed.
Gull-billed Tern	45 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Caspian Tern	14 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Common Tern	346 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006. 145 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools, 20 on the Tanggu airport pools & 181 at Jingqu Dagang.
Little Tern	1040 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006. 364 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools, 36 on the Tanggu airport pools, 30 on the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, 410 at Yuren Matou & 200 at Jingqu Dagang.
White-winged Black Tern	200 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south high over Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Little Grebe	2 on a pool on the edge of Tanggu town on the 1/9/2006.
Little Egret	25 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Grey Heron	175 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006. These included 131 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Brown Shrike	15 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Black Drongo	2 over the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

Siberian Blue Robin	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
Common Stonechat	6 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	20 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
White Wagtail	6 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Grey Wagtail	1 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
Blyth's Pipit	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	2 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
bunting sp.	10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

Saturday 2 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 06:30-09:30

Common Shelduck	11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Northern Pintail	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Garganey	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	1255 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Whimbrel	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	320 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Spotted Redshank	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Common Redshank	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	1515 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Common Greenshank	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	370 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006. A sample count of 241 birds revealed 188 juveniles (78%) & 53 adults (22%).
Red-necked Stint	200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Temminck's Stint	25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	566 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Dunlin	120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	800 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Pied Avocet	450 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Grey Plover	300 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	700 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Caspian Tern	5 (four adults & one juvenile) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Little Tern	80 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	80 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Little Egret	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Grey Heron	25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Brown Shrike	2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	10 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

Monday 4 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 11:20hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 11:45-14:45hrs

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 15:15-18:15hrs

A cold front had passed through to the south of Tianjin the previous evening & there had been a dramatic drop in temperature across northern China. Here in Tanggu for example temperatures dropped from around 30-31°C that had been typical throughout the previous week & indeed over the weekend to 24°C today. Consequently there was a noticeable change in the local avifauna. There were noticeably fewer Sharp-tailed Sandpipers & Asian Dowitchers but markedly more Temminck's Stints & Broad-billed Sandpipers. There had also been an overnight change in the age compositions of several of the species e.g. the number of juvenile Red-necked Stints had jumped dramatically. I also recorded eight species for the first time this autumn – namely Northern Shoveler, Eurasian Hoopoe, Grey Nightjar, Sanderling, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Red-throated Flycatcher, Dusky & Arctic Warblers.

Common Shelduck	23 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Northern Pintail	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Northern Shoveler	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. The first birds of the autumn.
Garganey	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Common Teal	107 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Grey Nightjar	1 on the edge of Tanggu at dusk on the 4/9/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not counted in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	1000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. A sample count of 149 birds yielded 5 juveniles (3%) & 144 adults (97%).
Bar-tailed Godwit	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Whimbrel	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	390 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Spotted Redshank	55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Common Redshank	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	2730 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 980 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1850 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Common Greenshank	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Common Sandpiper	3 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu
Asian Dowitcher	95 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. A sample count of 51 birds yielded 49 juveniles (98%) & 2 adults (2%).
Sanderling	4 (one adult & three juveniles) on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first birds of the autumn.
Red-necked Stint	500 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 450 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. A sample count of 108 birds yielded 67 juveniles (62%) & 41 adults (38%). This was the first time this autumn that juveniles had out-numbers adults. Two yellow leg flagged birds were noted on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Temminck's Stint	268 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 238 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. Only one juvenile was seen.
Long-toed Stint	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	190 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 125 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 65 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Dunlin	90 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 44 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 46 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. All birds were adults.
Curlew Sandpiper	14 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. More than half of these birds were juveniles.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	93 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 63 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. Almost all these birds were juveniles.
Black-winged Stilt	1350 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 900 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 450 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Pied Avocet	2100 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 980 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1120 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Grey Plover	200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	2500 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2000 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Lesser Sand Plover	7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	158 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	40 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 35 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Vega Gull	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
Mongolian Gull	15 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006.
Relict Gull	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	18 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 14 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Caspian Tern	43 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 38 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Common Tern	126 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
Little Tern	153 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 over the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first bird of the autumn.

Common Kestrel	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Great Cormorant	85 flew east over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Little Egret	10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006.
Grey Heron	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Purple Heron	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Little Heron	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
Brown Shrike	6 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Red-throated Flycatcher	6 besides the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first birds of the autumn.
Sand Martin	5 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	30 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 was heard on the edge of Tanggu on the 4/9/2006.
Dusky Warbler	2 singles in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other besides the Tanggu Harbour Pools. These were the first birds of the autumn.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006
Arctic Warbler	1 besides the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first bird of the autumn.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not counted
Yellow Wagtail	5 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Grey Wagtail	1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	4 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
Mammals	
Small bat sp.	219 were counted during a 20 minute period as we drove back to Tanggu at dusk on the 4/9/2006. All were between the Tanggu Harbour Pools & the bridge over the river on the southern edge of the town.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	2 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

Tuesday 5 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

High tide was probably at about 15:30hrs

Sites visited today were –

1. Lu Ju He, Tanggu. Brief stop from 06:20hrs.

2. Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. 06:35-07:15hrs on a distant, but rising, tide.

3. Yuren Matou, Tanggu. 07:25-10:30hrs on a rising tide.

4. Jingqu, Dagang. 11:00-12:00hrs.

5. Mudflats about four kilometres south of Jingqu, Dagang. (38°40.0'N., 117°34.1'E.). 13:00-17:00hrs.

This was the first time that I'd ever visited this site & it took some time to actually navigate our way to these inter-tidal mudflats – an extension of the mudflats that are visible to the south of Jingqu. We eventually accessed them by driving south on the main Dagang to Shanghai road. There's a toll station about 10-15 kilometres south of Dagang and 150 metres before this on the left (east) there's a petrol station. Turn right immediately south of this on to a dirt track that parallels (on the north bank) a small river. The track leads, after perhaps two kilometres, to the shore where the mudflats can be scanned. Note that you are looking due east across the mudflats from here & that because of this the site will be at its best in the later afternoon when the sun is behind you. Note also that these mudflats are massive & that without a high tide ALL the birds will be extremely distant! Note also that this approach road is dirt, treacherous & impassable after rain.

6. Railroad crossing on Tanggang Gonglu & near Guanggang between Tanggu & Dagang – five kilometres south of the Aroma Golf Club & holiday resort. Right at dusk - 18:50-19:05hrs.

We stopped here as the railroad crossing barrier was down. It was a clear, cloudless night with virtually a full moon & there were impressive numbers of Black-crowned Night Herons all flying south. It was impossible to determine whether these birds were actually migrating or whether they were simple heading out of a daytime roost to feed. There were even larger numbers of mosquitoes here!

Another good day with some outstanding species. The undoubted highlight was a summer plumaged adult Slender-billed Gull on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang. Other highlights included impressive numbers of Relict Gulls & a decent array of passerines including many that were recorded for the first time this autumn.

Japanese Quail	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Common Shelduck	11 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 6 south of Jingqu, Dagang.

Chinese Spot-billed Duck	15 near the railroad crossing at Gangtang, north of Dagang at dusk on the 5/9/2006.
Common Teal	7 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Eurasian Wryneck	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	1 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Eurasian Hoopoe	4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Haibinyuchang, one at Yuren Matou & two south of Jingqu.
Fork-tailed Swift	15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Short-eared Owl	1 came in high over the sea south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang areas on the 5/9/2006.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006 was in a location suggestive of it being a migrant.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 flew over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Common Snipe	1 flew south at Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Black-tailed Godwit	1 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Whimbrel	22 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 2 at Haibinyuchang & 14 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 6 south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Curlew	1300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – the bulk of these (1150) were on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Curlew	25 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 2 at Haibinyuchang & 18 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 5 south of Jingqu.
Spotted Redshank	2 near Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Common Redshank	6 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. Most of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	770 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 30 at Haibinyuchang & 152 at Yuren Matou both Tanggu with 590 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Wood Sandpiper	2 singles at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	5 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Haibinyuchang, three at Yuren Matou & one at Jingqu.
Common Sandpiper	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	18 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – seven at Haibinyuchang, nine at Yuren Matou & two at Jingqu.
Asian Dowitcher	23 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Great Knot	7 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Red Knot	22 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Red-necked Stint	1000 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. A sample count of 178 birds yielded 148 juveniles (83%) & 30 adults (17%).
Temminck's Stint	95 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. Five juveniles were seen today.
Long-toed Stint	5 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	215 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Dunlin	1350 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	30 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Pied Avocet	400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – these included 355 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Plover	720 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 200 at Haibinyuchang & 150 at Yuren Matou both Tanggu with 370 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Ringed Plover	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	3000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 -
Lesser Sand Plover	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Grey-headed Lapwing	132 flew south in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. Flocks were the following sizes – 2, 3, 7, 7, 13, 21, 29 & 50.
Oriental Pratincole	2 near the railroad crossing at Gangtang, north of Dagang at dusk on the 5/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	1070 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 250 at Haibinyuchang & 220 at Yuren Matou, both Tanggu and 602 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	60 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 -
Vega Gull	47 besides the Lu Ju He fishponds, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Mongolian Gull	1 juvenile besides the Lu Ju He fishponds, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 -
Slender-billed Gull	1 summer plumaged adult south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. Probably the first record for Tianjin. (Photo).
Relict Gull	1152 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 406 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 287 in the bay between Yuren Matou & Jingqu & 459 on the mudflats south of Jingqu. Only one first winter was seen, a bird at Yuren Matou. One adult with a yellow band was at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Caspian Tern	20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Common Tern	100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Little Tern	250 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. These included 100 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 120 south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Whiskered Tern	3 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	230 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 40 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 190 south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Pied Harrier	5 (two adult males & three ringtails) came in off the sea at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Common Kestrel	2 singles flew south in the Tanggu area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Haibinyuchang & the other at Yuren Matou.
Amur Falcon	1 flew south near Dagang on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Little Grebe	10 on a small pool near Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Little Egret	75 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. The only significant count was of 64 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Heron	320 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. The only significant count was of 284 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang.

Black-crowned Night Heron	304 flew south near the railroad crossing at Gangtang, north of Dagang in 15 minutes (18:50-19:05hrs) at dusk on the 5/9/2006. It was a clear, cloudless & still night with an almost totally full moon but it wasn't clear whether these birds were actually migrating or simply heading towards Beidagang to feed.
Brown Shrike	20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Black-naped Oriole	1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Black Drongo	4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – two at Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & two more at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eyebrowed Thrush	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2 singles in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & the other south of Jingqu, Dagang. The first of the autumn.
Red-throated Flycatcher	18 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. These included 11 south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 first-winter south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Siberian Blue Robin	8 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Common Stonechat	15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Sand Martin	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	25 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 was heard over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
David's Bush Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Thick-billed Warbler	3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Dusky Warbler	15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. These included 7 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 6 south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	35 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. 20 of these were at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Arctic Warbler	3 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – two at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & one south of Jingqu, Dagang.
Two-barred Greenish Warbler	2 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – singles at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & south of Jingqu, Dagang. The first of the autumn.
Pale-legged Leaf Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
White Wagtail	5 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	10 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Grey Wagtail	4 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	10 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south over Lu Ju He, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 singles flew south in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – the first over Yuren Matou, Tanggu & the second south of Jingqu. The first of the autumn.
Common Rosefinch	5 singles flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
Black-faced Bunting	2 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
Pallas's Bunting	1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
bunting sp.	10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Mammals	
Small bat sp.	40 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

Wednesday 6 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:05hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang. 06:45-11:00hrs

We did the usual strategy at Beidagang & drove slowly west along the main embankment except this time we continued driving right to the western end of the reservoir. There's a small village here, Nantai cun and the rough embankment road passes under a new looking railway bridge &, about 800 metres later, comes to a fairly major highway. The road bridge here, the Wanjiamatou Daqiao, leads north back to Dagang. We took this, passed through a couple more small villages before turning back off right. This turning was immediately before (west of) a small bridge (Hongnihe Bridge) and led south for about 800 metres back to the northern edge of Beidagang Reservoir. There was a good, broad smooth dirt road along the top of the embankment on the northern side of the reservoir and we drove on this back towards Dagang Power Plant.

2. Pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang. 11:00-11:45hrs.

3. Gaoshaling Pools, Tanggu. 12:15-12:25hrs

4. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 12:50-14:20hrs

Common Pheasant 1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

Mallard	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	39 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Teal	18 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Tufted Duck	7 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Eurasian Hoopoe	5 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Black-capped Kingfisher	2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Kingfisher	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Eurasian Cuckoo	4 juveniles at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Fork-tailed Swift	2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006.
Oriental Turtle Dove	4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Moorhen	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Snipe	8 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	3 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Spotted Redshank	70 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 300 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, 2000 at Gaoshaling & 1000 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Common Greenshank	6 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	30 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Sanderling	2 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Red-necked Stint	300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 20 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang & 280 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Temminck's Stint	390 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 251 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang & 139 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Long-toed Stint	16 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	50 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 15 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang & 35 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Dunlin	300 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	4 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the Tanggu Harbor Pools.
Pied Avocet	800 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the Tanggu Harbor Pool.
Little Ringed Plover	166 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – almost all of these were on the Tanggu Harbor Pools.
Oriental Pratincole	119 over Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Vega Gull	4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Mongolian Gull	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	5 on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/9/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	10 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Caspian Tern	29 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Common Tern	10 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Little Tern	100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang & 80 on the Tanggu Harbour Pool.
Whiskered Tern	70 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	13, including two adult males, at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Kestrel	4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Amur Falcon	4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Little Grebe	152 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	6 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Great Cormorant	7 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Little Egret	35 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 28 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, 6 on the Gaoshaling Pools & 1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Grey Heron	85 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Purple Heron	7 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Great Egret	3 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Black-crowned Night Heron	50 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Brown Shrike	20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Black Drongo	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Red-throated Flycatcher	4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Stonechat	23 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	6 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Sand Martin	3200 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang in 1 hour 15 minutes on the 6/9/2006. 3095 of these were counted flying west-south-west in 1 hour 15 minutes. Birds were counted from 07:30-08:45hrs and averaged almost 50 birds/minute during the busiest part of this period!
Barn Swallow	150 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Zitting Cisticola	2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Dusky Warbler	3 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	15 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Present
White Wagtail	2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	5 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	15 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
Common Rosefinch	1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

Oiled birds

Black-headed Gull	1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
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Thursday 7 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 06:35-09:15hrs.

Low & falling tide.

2. Tanggu/Teda Harbour area. 09:45-11:00hrs

After leaving the Caihongqiao pools we attempted to find some access points to view the mudflats at the southern side of the river mouth. We did this but the tide was so far out that we achieved rather little.

Common Shelduck	33 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	9 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Northern Pintail	1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Common Teal	25 in flocks of three, seven & 14, on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	69 birds in just two flocks (22 & 47 birds) flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu
Common Snipe	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	400 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	8 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Whimbrel	10 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	300 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Eastern Curlew	5 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Spotted Redshank	76 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Common Redshank	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	1600 at Hangu on the 7/9/2006 – 1400 on the Caihongqiao Pools & 200 more on the neighbouring mudflats.
Common Greenshank	712 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Green Sandpiper	4 (a single and a flock of three) flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	21, including a flock of 16 birds, flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	5 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	40 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Red-necked Stint	150 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006. A sample count of 43 birds produced 37 juveniles (86%) & 6 adults (14%).
Temminck's Stint	95 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Long-toed Stint	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	96 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Dunlin	100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Curlew Sandpiper	18 (one adult & 17 juveniles) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Pied Avocet	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Pacific Golden Plover	11 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006 - a flock of nine & two birds that were only heard & were logged as singles.
Grey Plover	250 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 summer plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Grey-headed Lapwing	16 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006. Flock sizes were as follows - 1 (heard only & logged as a single), 2 & 12.
Oriental Pratincole	115 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006. Two flocks were seen – one of 15 birds, the other of 100.
Black-tailed Gull	100 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.
Vega Gull	10 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.
Mongolian Gull	2 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	1000 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	17 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Caspian Tern	6 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Common Tern	10 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Little Tern	80 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	70 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2, an adult male & a juvenile, flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

Pied Harrier	5, including three adult males, flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Common Kestrel	5 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Little Egret	129 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Grey Heron	212 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Eurasian Spoonbill	2 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Sand Martin	50 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	300 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	50 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Dusky Warbler	1 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	4 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not counted in & around Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.
White Wagtail	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Grey Wagtail	3 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	30 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	4 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
bunting sp.	8 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

Friday 8 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:05hrs.

The weather changed dramatically during the day. It was overcast, hazy & with poor visibility in the early morning – but it was windy. This wind became increasingly strong as the morning progressed, especially after 09:15hrs & was eventually about force six or seven. With this strengthening wind the haze dissipated & visibility improved dramatically. It rained, briefly, for about five minutes from 13:15hrs.

Sites visited today were –

1. Mudflats about four kilometres south of Jingqu, Dagang. (38°40.0'N., 117°34.1'E.). 06:25-10:15hrs.

Note that we saw two separate men with lengthy mist net rides on the edge of the salt marsh on the drive between the main north-south highway and the mudflats here. The second man had two 20 metre lengths of nets. Both men were challenged by Qingyu & both immediately furled their nets, packed up and headed off. Several birds (two Yellow-browed Warblers, one Arctic Warbler & a Rusty-rumped Warbler) were seen in the second illegal bird trapper's nets.

2 Jingqu, Dagang. 10:30-12:45hrs.

3 Pools immediately south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. 13:20-13:45hrs.

Common Shelduck	4 south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Common Snipe	2 singles flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	23 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	20 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Whimbrel	8 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	1300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1050 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang. & 250 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Eastern Curlew	4 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Spotted Redshank	2 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Common Redshank	24 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	100 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Common Greenshank	1300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1250 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & 50 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Wood Sandpiper	4 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	6 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	6 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Great Knot	206 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Red Knot	2 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Red-necked Stint	800 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006. A sample count of 421 birds produced 372 juveniles (88%) & 49 adults (12%). One orange leg flagged bird was seen.
Temminck's Stint	210 on the edge of the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Long-toed Stint	3 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	30 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

Dunlin	1700 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1600 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.& 100 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	4 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Pied Avocet	120 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Pacific Golden Plover	8 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Grey Plover	800 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	8 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Grey-headed Lapwing	18 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	550 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 250 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.& 300 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.
Vega Gull	4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.
Relict Gull	1880 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1780 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & 98 (including two first-winters – the only ones of the day) on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Gull-billed Tern	23 on the 8/9/2006 - 16 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang & 8 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Caspian Tern	8 on the 8/9/2006 – 3 over the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang & 5 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Common Tern	5 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Little Tern	50 on the 8/9/2006 – 15 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang & 35 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
Whiskered Tern	5 birds flew high to the south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	120 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Pied Harrier	4 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Common Kestrel	2 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Amur Falcon	1 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Great Cormorant	17 (in flocks of 3 & 14 birds) on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Little Egret	20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.
Grey Heron	50 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Brown Shrike	1 near Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 8/9/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	10 near Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Siberian Blue Robin	2 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Sand Martin	20 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	30 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Rusty-rumped Warbler	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006. One of these was in an illegal bird catcher's mist net!
Dusky Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Arctic Warbler	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006. One of these was in an illegal bird catcher's mist net!
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not counted in & around Tanggu on the 8/9/2006.
White Wagtail	4 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Grey Wagtail	2 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	10 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

Oiled birds

Black-headed Gull	14 on the mudflats south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
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Saturday 9 September 2006. All day around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 06:00hrs.

It was an immaculately clear morning but the wind was still very strong & continued to strengthen during the morning. I'd had enough wind & grit in my eyes by mid-morning & threw in the towel.

Sites visited today were –

1. Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu. 06:15-06:25hrs

2. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 06:50-08:30hrs.

3. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 09:05-10:15hrs

Black-tailed Godwit	50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Whimbrel	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

Eurasian Curlew	40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Spotted Redshank	20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	850 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 830 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 120 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Common Greenshank	200 on the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Asian Dowitcher	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Red-necked Stint	100 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 60 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Temminck's Stint	688 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 498 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 190 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Long-toed Stint	8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	9 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Dunlin	100 on the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	130 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Pied Avocet	410 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 190 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 220 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Grey Plover	20 on the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Kentish Plover	600 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 400 on the Caihongqiao area, Hangu & 200 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Grey-headed Lapwing	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Oriental Pratincole	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	50 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.
Black-headed Gull	200 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006
Saunders's Gull	1 first-winter on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Relict Gull	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Caspian Tern	3 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.
Common Tern	5 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.
Little Tern	55 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 20 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
White-winged Black Tern	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Pied Harrier	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Common Kestrel	2 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – one over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other near the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
Great Crested Grebe	16 on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 9/9/2006.
Great Cormorant	9 on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 9/9/2006.
Little Egret	5 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006.
Grey Heron	50 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – most of these were on the mudflats at Hangu.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Barn Swallow	80 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006.
Dusky Warbler	2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	6 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006.
White Wagtail	8 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Grey Wagtail	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

Wednesday 4 October 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs.

It was very misty throughout the day with visibility limited to perhaps 1.5 kms at best.

High tide was about midday.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 05:55-09:15hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 10:40-12:15hrs

3. Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. 12:30hrs.

4. Pools immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinvuchang, Tanggu. 13:00hrs.

5. Jingqu, Dagang. 13:30-15:30hrs.

Common Shelduck	35 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Mallard	1 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Common Teal	39 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Little Owl	1 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Rock Pigeon	100 in & around Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Whimbrel	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	1220 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Eastern Curlew	26 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Spotted Redshank	70 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	2300 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 1920 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 80 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 300 near Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	120 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Green Sandpiper	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Sanderling	3 juveniles on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Red-necked Stint	40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Temminck's Stint	753 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 670 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 83 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	1550 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	27 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 7 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	595 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 510 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 85 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Grey Plover	30 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on
Kentish Plover	4100 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 2300 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 800 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 2000 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Lesser Sand Plover	3 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Northern Lapwing	7 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Grey-headed Lapwing	5 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Oriental Pratincole	1 was heard flying south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	600 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 21 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 292 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 50 on the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu; 130 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 40 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang & 70 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	400 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – most of these were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu.
Vega Gull	250 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – most of these were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu.
Black-headed Gull	1000 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – most of these were either at the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu or Jingqu, Dagang.
Saunders's Gull	6 (two adults & four first-winters) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Relict Gull	890 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 97 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang & 785 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	3 singles near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – with birds over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu, the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	218 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 216 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & singles besides the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu & at Jingqu, Dagang.
White-winged Black Tern	180 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Eurasian Hobby	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	1 on one of the pools near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Little Egret	2 singles near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
Grey Heron	215 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 15 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 30 on the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu; 30 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 10 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang & 120 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	5 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	18 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Chinese Penduline Tit	3 singles were heard over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Sand Martin	44 with a large assemblage of Barn Swallows near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Barn Swallow	2100 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 flew south near Tanggu during the 4/10/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	300 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Dusky Warbler	45 on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Radde's Warbler	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Pallas's Warbler	10 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	20 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not counted in the Tanggu area on the 4/10/2006.
White Wagtail	20 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	5 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

Red-throated Pipit	8 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	5 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Brambling	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
Pine Bunting	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	6 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.

Thursday 5 October 2006. Early morning around Tanggu.

We left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs. It was extremely foggy today – and it worsened. We drove south to Yuren Matou, birded there for about one hour & had then had enough. We couldn't see anything & returned to the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, Tanggu.

Japanese Quail	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Whimbrel	1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Common Greenshank	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Dunlin	20 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Grey Plover	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Kentish Plover	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Black-headed Gull	'Present' at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Caspian Tern	1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Daurian Redstart	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Chinese Penduline Tit	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Barn Swallow	10 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Dusky Warbler	15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Radde's Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Pallas's Warbler	6 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	20 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
White Wagtail	2 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	3 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Brambling	1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Little Bunting	4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Pallas's Bunting	3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

Saturday 7 October 2006. Afternoon around Tanggu.

We'd been in Tianjin the previous evening and returned to Tanggu late morning today. I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 11:00hrs. It was still poor visibility but this gradually cleared during the early afternoon. The wind picked up dramatically around 15:00hrs and within an hour visibility was excellent. I headed south towards Yuren Matou but ended up only birding around Jingqu, Dagang. It was a full moon the previous night (& the climax of the lunar Mid-Autumn Festival) and this combined with a strong on-shore easterly wind resulted in an extremely high tide.

Sites birded today –

1. Jingqu, Dagang. 12:00-17:15hrs.

2 Pools immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. 17:20-17:50hrs.

I arrived back at the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at about 18:30hrs.

Gadwall	17 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Falcat Duck	5 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Eurasian Wigeon	5 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

Mallard	270 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	7 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Northern Shoveler	9 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Northern Pintail	26 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Common Teal	4 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Tufted Duck	1 with other ducks on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' in & around Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.
Whimbrel	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	1720 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Eastern Curlew	23 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Common Greenshank	1250 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Red Knot	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Dunlin	4200 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	15 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 10 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 5 at Jingqu, Dagang
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Grey Plover	80 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Kentish Plover	6500 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	1020 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 570 at Jingqu, Dagang & 550 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu.
Common Gull	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	400 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 40 at Jingqu, Dagang & most of the others besides the fish ponds at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
<i>taimyrensis</i> Siberian Gull	2 adults at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Vega Gull	200 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - several at Jingqu, Dagang & most of the others besides the fish ponds at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Mongolian Gull	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Black-headed Gull	2500 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Saunders's Gull	13 (10 adults & 3 first-winters) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Relict Gull	2590 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 1950 at Jingqu, Dagang & 640 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu.
Gull-billed Tern	77 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Caspian Tern	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Little Tern	8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Northern Goshawk	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Common Buzzard	1 juvenile flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Common Kestrel	2 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - one near Lu Ju He, Tanggu & the other at Jing, Qu, Dagang.
Amur Falcon	1 flew south over at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Little Grebe	4 near Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.
Great Cormorant	11 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Little Egret	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Grey Heron	240 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 185 at Jingqu, Dagang & 55 besides the fish ponds at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Eurasian Spoonbill	1 first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	4 near Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.
Daurian Redstart	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Barn Swallow	10 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
Barn Swallow	50 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 was heard flying south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Dusky Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Pallas's Warbler	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	50 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' in & around Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Siberian Accentor	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Little Bunting	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
Pallas's Bunting	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

Sunday 8 October 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs.

It was very clear today with good long-range visibility and a force 5-6 Northeast wind. There was full 8/8 cloud cover & it remained overcast until mid-afternoon. The sky blackened significantly from mid-morning until early afternoon & it threatened to rain from about 09:30-14:00hrs (it apparently rained very hard in Tanggu but I managed to avoid seeing this).

High tide was in the early afternoon. Elsewhere Jesper Hornskov noted his first Ruddy Shelduck, Rook & Water Pipit of the autumn at Beidaihe (telephone text message to me early am).

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools, -Hangu. 05:55-10:00hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 10:40-11:40hrs

3. Lu Ju He Pools, Tanggu. 12:00 – 12:15hrs,

4. Pools immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu, 12:25-12:45hrs & again on the way back north from 15:15-16:00hrs.

5. Jingqu, Dagang. 13:00-14:30hrs.

Swan Goose	2 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006. (Photo).
Bean Goose	18 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 14 were initially on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu with a group of five Lesser White-fronted, but soon flew off south & another four were on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang. All were Tundra Bean Geese <i>A. f. serrirostris</i> .
Greater White-fronted Goose	19 flew west over the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Lesser White-fronted Goose	5 with a flock of 14 Bean Geese on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006. They all flew off south at 06:10hrs.
Common Shelduck	44 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 17 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 27 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gadwall	4 with the Mallard flock at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Eurasian Wigeon	2 with the Mallard flock at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Mallard	260 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 11 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 250 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	27 (in parties of 6, 7 & 14 birds) over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Northern Shoveler	6 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 1 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 5 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Northern Pintail	32 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Common Teal	22 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 21 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & one with other ducks at Jingqu, Dagang.
duck sp.	There was a reasonable movement of ducks south over the sea near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006. Besides those specifically identified & detail above I noted another six flocks flying south over the sea off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu. All were too distant to identify. Flock sizes were as follows – 4, 7, 8, 10, 23 & 30 birds.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' in & around Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - but not counted.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 singles near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – one over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools & the other at Jingqu.
Black-tailed Godwit	74 on the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Eastern Curlew	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Spotted Redshank	330 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 310 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 20 near Jingqu, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	1800 on the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Common Greenshank	600 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 40 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools; 20 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	1 near the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Great Knot	257 south of Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 240 on the mudflats off Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 17 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red Knot	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Sanderling	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Red-necked Stint	71 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Temminck's Stint	585 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Long-toed Stint	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Dunlin	1000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – most of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	15 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 10 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 5 at Jingqu, Dagang
Broad-billed Sandpiper	54 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Black-winged Stilt	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Pied Avocet	3475 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 3150 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 327 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pacific Golden Plover	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Grey Plover	550 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Kentish Plover	5000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 1500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 212 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 284 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 430 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 190 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Northern Lapwing	25 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	1140 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 25 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 212 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 284 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 430 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 190 at Jingqu, Dagang. A sample count of 124 birds besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang yielded 123 adults & just one first-year!
Common Gull	10 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 4 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. Seven of these birds were first-years (juveniles or first-winters).
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	600 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 20 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 110 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 400 at the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 30 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 40 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Vega Gull	300 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – most of these were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.

Pallas's Gull	1 juvenile moulting to first-winter was on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006. (Photo).
Black-headed Gull	3000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Relict Gull	2000 south of Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 700 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 1300 at Jingqu, Dagang. Extremely few first years were seen & a sample count of 234 birds at the first site yielded 210 adults (90%), 23 second-years (10%) & only one first-winter (<1%)
Gull-billed Tern	17 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 7 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 1 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 8 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	229 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 1 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 207 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 5 over the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 14 on the mudflats immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Tern	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
White-winged Black Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Common Kestrel	3 singles near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other was at the Lu Ju He Fishponds.
Amur Falcon	2 single adult males flew south on the 8/10/2006 – one over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Peregrine Falcon	1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Little Grebe	2 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Great Cormorant	9 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Little Egret	2 singles near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other at the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	185 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 75 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 70 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 50 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Spoonbill	6 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – two first-winters flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 4 (two adults, a first-winter & a first summer) on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-billed Magpie	10 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Daurian Redstart	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Chinese Penduline Tit	90, in a single flock, flew south low over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Sand Martin	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Barn Swallow	1000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006. Very few (<10) birds were noted near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu in the early morning but as soon as the weather started to worsen large numbers of birds appeared over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu and areas to the south of there.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	70 flew south over Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Dusky Warbler	3 singles near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Pallas's Warbler	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	70 flew south near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	150 in & around Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
White Wagtail	15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Richard's Pipit	3 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	3 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Water Pipit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	20 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Pine Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
Little Bunting	3 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

Monday 9 October 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove south. Sites visited today included -

1. Jingqu, Dagang. 06:20-08:10hrs.

2. Beidagang, Dagang. 08:45-17:45hrs.

We drove along the usual southern embankment for a couple of hours before crossing on to the huge central, reed clad island. I spent much of the day there (12:00-17:45hrs). There were huge numbers of Barn Swallows here – there was a massive southerly movement throughout the afternoon & tens of thousands of birds (I estimated 30,000!) roosted in the reed bed. There were some massive stretches of illegal three-panel mist nets strewn throughout the reed beds – from one spot I counted 74 mist net poles & given that they were all about 30' or ten metres apart this equates with a total length of almost 750 metres! There were more mist nets in a couple of other sites on the 'island' & there was at least one kilometre of mist nets on the 'island' as a whole! The scale of this operation was shocking. I never saw anyone checking the nets, nor was there anyone around or showing an interest when I approached the nets & took a couple of them down. Fortunately all the nets were empty – save for one dead Barn Swallow; most were very loosely erected and easy to see. I guessed that they were there to catch the roosting hirundines – and the suspicion was that the operators might deliberately flush birds from the roost at night – catching some in the nets.

Common Pheasant 2 were heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

Swan Goose	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Bean Goose	97 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Gadwall	100 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Wigeon	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Mallard	515 at Dagang on the 9/10/2006 - 215 at Jingqu & 300 at Beidagang.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Northern Shoveler	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Northern Pintail	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Teal	18 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 3 at Jingqu & 15 at Beidagang.
Common Pochard	237 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
duck sp.	1500 at Beidagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Kingfisher	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Moorhen	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Coot	320 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Snipe	3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Bar-tailed Godwit	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	1400 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eastern Curlew	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Spotted Redshank	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Greenshank	850 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Green Sandpiper	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Wood Sandpiper	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Great Knot	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Temminck's Stint	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Dunlin	1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Pied Avocet	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Grey Plover	400 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Little Ringed Plover	3 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 1 flew south at Jingqu & 2 at Beidagang.
Kentish Plover	1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Oriental Pratincole	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Black-tailed Gull	300 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 1200 at Jingqu, Dagang & 300 at Beidagang.
Saunders's Gull	3 adults at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Relict Gull	1230 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Caspian Tern	7 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 5 at Jingqu & 2 at Beidagang.
Whiskered Tern	18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Buzzard	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Amur Falcon	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Peregrine Falcon	1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Little Grebe	71 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Great Crested Grebe	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Great Cormorant	33 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 21 flew south at Jingqu & 12 at Beidagang.
Little Egret	45 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Grey Heron	150 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 60 at Jingqu & 90 at Beidagang.
Purple Heron	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Great Egret	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Intermediate Egret	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Great Bittern	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Spoonbill	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Black-billed Magpie	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Ashy Minivet	1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Red-throated Thrush	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Siberian Rubythroat	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Bluethroat	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Stonechat	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
White-cheeked Starling	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Chinese Penduline Tit	120 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Sand Martin	200 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 50 flew south over Jingqu & 150 with other hirundines at Beidagang.
Barn Swallow	Incredible numbers of birds were noted at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006. 2500 roosting on wires at Jingqu & massive numbers at Beidagang. A strong southward passage was already taking place when I arrived at 09:00hrs and continued until the late afternoon. I made 13 five minutes counts of this passage throughout the day. Passage was initially relatively slow with 800-1000 birds/five minute period until midday when it increased and appeared to peak in the early afternoon (when 1400-1500 birds/five minute period were noted. By 15:00hrs the movement had dropped back to between 800-950 birds/five minute period & passage had practically ceased one hour later. A conservative estimate of the number of birds moving would be about 15,000 birds/hour for 7 hours = 105,000! In the evening about 20,000 birds were estimated to be roosting in the reed beds here!
Red-rumped Swallow	50 with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Light-vented Bulbul	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

Zitting Cisticola	14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Lanceolated Warbler	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Rusty-rumped Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Oriental Reed Warbler	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Dusky Warbler	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Pallas's Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Asian Short-toed Lark	8 (three singles & a flock of five) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
White Wagtail	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006 – two were seen well enough to racially assign & they were both <i>taivana</i> .
Richard's Pipit	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	11 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 – 6 flew south over Jingqu & 5 at Beidagang.
Water Pipit	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Little Bunting	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Black-faced Bunting	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
Pallas's Bunting	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

Monday 10 October 2006. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel at 05:30hrs & drove north to the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu. It was foggy again this morning with visibility on the coast down to about 700 metres. I birded here from 05:55-07:20hrs before returning to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan. We then packed our gear, took the BMT (Binhai Mass Transit elevated train) back to Tianjin (5 yuan/person). We then took a taxi (30 yuan) to Tianjin main railway station & a train from there back to Beijing Central Railway Station (35 yuan/person). It was extremely foggy on route back to Tianjin with visibility down to about 200 metres!

Common Shelduck	10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Gadwall	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Mallard	3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Northern Shoveler	11 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Common Teal	4 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Little Owl	1 was heard outside the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, Tanggu at 05:30hrs on the 10/10/2006.
Black-tailed Godwit	22 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Eurasian Curlew	10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Spotted Redshank	95 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Marsh Sandpiper	600 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Common Greenshank	80 on the salt pans immediately to the north of the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Terek Sandpiper	1 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Temminck's Stint	10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Dunlin	200 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	21 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Pied Avocet	2075 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Grey Plover	40 on the salt pans immediately to the north of the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Kentish Plover	1500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Black-headed Gull	300 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Gull-billed Tern	2 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Chinese Penduline Tit	2 were heard (possibly both in flocks?) over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Barn Swallow	20 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Eurasian Skylark	20 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in & around Tanggu on the 10/10/2006.
White Wagtail	2 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Yellow Wagtail	1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Red-throated Pipit	3 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.
Buff-bellied Pipit	6 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

Monday 30 April 2007. All day around Tanggu.

I left the 5-star Teda International H05:00hrs & drove north to the Caihongqiao Pools. These were totally dry & held hardly any birds, though there were a few things on the inter-tidal mud flats. After little over one hour here I returned to the hotel, had breakfast with Qingyu & we both headed out again at 08:15hrs.

30 April 2007

Sunrise 05:15hrs

Sunset 18:59hrs

Teda International H(39°01.85'N., 117°40.88'E.).

A discounted room here for three nights during the early May holiday cost 428 yuan including two breakfasts.

High tide was at about 15:00hrs.

It was quite warm today - 18°C at 05:30hrs, rising to 25°C by 10:00hrs. There was a very strong southerly wind throughout the day. A thunderstorm had been predicted for the afternoon, but never materialised.

Sites visited today were –

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. 05:25-06:35hrs.

The wader pools that have held huge numbers of shorebirds here in the last few years were now completely dry and held nothing. The road that was being constructed out in to the tidal mudflats now extended for at least 1.8kms (& possibly further). Birds here included -

Black-tailed Godwit	55 (two flocks of 15 birds flew south offshore & a group of 25 were in the neighbouring salt pans)
Bar-tailed Godwit	65
Common Greenshank	180
Dunlin	120
Curlew Sandpiper	15 flew south offshore
Grey Plover	110
Terek Sandpiper	4
Marsh Sandpiper	240 in the neighbouring salt pans
Spotted Redshank	6
Eurasian Curlew	270
Gull-billed Tern	3
Relict Gull	1 first-summer flew south
Black-headed Gull	15

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 08:20-09:0hrs

The pools here held even fewer birds than those at Caihongqiao!

3. Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. 09:05hrs.

Nothing!

4. Lu Ju He. 09:15-09:30

Grey Plover	130
Eurasian Curlew	15
Kentish Plover	10

5. Pools & inter tidal mud flats immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. 09:45-10:15 & again 16:10-1630hrs.

Great Knot	585
Red Knot	55
Dunlin	855 on the mud flats at low tide rising to 1030 on the pool at high tide
Grey Plover	70
Whimbrel	1
Bar-tailed Godwit	30
Terek Sandpiper	5
Little Tern	4
Relict Gull	8 on the mud flats at low tide rising to 25 on the pool at high tide
Red-necked Stint	12
Gull-billed Tern	8 on the mud flats at low tide rising to 30 on the pool at high tide

6. Inter-tidal mud flats two kilometres south of Yuren Matou. 15:15-16:00. (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.).

Grey Plover	80
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Greater Sand Plover	2
Lesser Sand Plover	1
Red Knot	125 including two leg-flagged birds. One had a white flag on its right tarsus, the other an orange flag.
Bar-tailed Godwit	205 including three leg-flagged birds - all three had yellow flags on their right tarsi.
Curlew Sandpiper	13
Relict Gull	3 first-summers
Caspian Tern	2
Gull-billed Tern	31
Saunders's Gull	2 first-summers

7. Yuren Matou, Tanggu. 11:00-11:20hrs on a low but rising tide.

Black-tailed Gull	8
Bar-tailed Godwit	55
Eurasian Curlew	30
Gull-billed Tern	15
Saunders's Gull	1 first-summer

8. High tide wader roost on partially drained fish pond at Jingqu, Dagang. 11:30-15:00hrs.

Grey Plover	1115
Dunlin	640
Eurasian Curlew	490
Bar-tailed Godwit	330
Red Knot	1490
Great Knot	33
Common Greenshank	40
Gull-billed Tern	194
Little Tern	4
Pacific Golden Plover	3
Greater Sand Plover	31
Red-necked Stint	12
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5
Pied Avocet	2
Asian Dowitcher	3
Saunders's Gull	3 first-summers
Relict Gull	6 first-summers

Common Shelduck	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Rock Pigeon	Present but not counted between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Black-tailed Godwit	66 on the 30/4/2007 - 55 at Caihongqiao (two flocks of 15 birds flew south offshore & a group of 25 were in the neighbouring salt pans); three over the inter tidal mudflats two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; eight at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Bar-tailed Godwit	685 on the 30/4/2007 - 65 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 30 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 205 including three leg-flagged birds (all three had yellow flags on their right tarsi) on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.). These birds were flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E, sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6436 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.; 55 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 330 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Whimbrel	15 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 10/4/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	950 on the 30/4/2007 - 270 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 15 at Lu Ju He, Tanggu; 130 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 30 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 490 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Spotted Redshank	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/4/2007 - six on salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu & one on the pools at Jingqu, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	320 on the 30/4/2007 - 240 on salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 80 on pools at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	290 on the 30/4/2007 - the only large count was of 180 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Terek Sandpiper	15 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 10/4/2007 - four at Caihongqiao, five south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, two at Yuren Matou & four at Jingqu
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/4/2007.
Asian Dowitcher	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Great Knot	618 on the 30/4/2007 - 585 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 33 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red Knot	1670 on the 30/4/2007 - 55 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 125 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.) - these included two leg-flagged birds (one had a white flag on its right tarsus & had been flagged in the Auckland area, North Island (NZ), approximate co-ordinates 37deg 0min S, 175deg 0min E sometime since 22 December 1991. The re-sighting was a distance of approximately 10271 km, with a bearing of 319 degrees, from the marking location. The second Red Knot had an orange flag on its right tarsus & had been flagged in Victoria (Australia), approximate co-ordinates 38deg 0min S, 145deg 0min E sometime since January 1990. The resighting was a distance of approximately 8982 km, with a bearing of 339 degrees from the marking location.). There were also 1490 Red Knot at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red-necked Stint	35 on the 30/4/2007 - these included 12 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & another 12 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Dunlin	1800 on the 30/4/2007 - 120 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 1030 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 640 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Curlew Sandpiper	28 on the 30/4/2007 - 15 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 13 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Pacific Golden Plover	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

Grey Plover	1505 on the 30/4/2007 - 110 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 130 at Lu Ju He, Tanggu; 70 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 80 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 1115 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Kentish Plover	30 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Greater Sand Plover	33 on the 30/4/2007 - 2 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 31 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-tailed Gull	8 first-summerers at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Black-headed Gull	30 on the 30/4/2007 - 15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu and a similar number near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	6 first summerers on the 30/4/2007 - 2 first-summerers on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 1 first-summer at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 3 first-summerers at Jingqu.
Relict Gull	35 on the 30/4/2007 - one first summer flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 25 first-summerers on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; three first-summerers on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; six first-summerers at Jingqu.
Gull-billed Tern	273 on the 30/4/2007 - 3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 30 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 31 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 194 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	2 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Common Tern	15 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Little Tern	15 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
Common Kestrel	1 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	2 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Common Stonechat	1 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Barn Swallow	10 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	20 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 singles south of Tanggu on the 30/4/2007 - 1 near Lu Ju He and the other near the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Present but not counted in the Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang areas on the 30/4/2007.
Grey Wagtail	2 flew north over the Caihongqiao, Hangu mud flats on the 30/4/2007.
Blyth's Pipit	1 near the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/4/2007.

Tuesday 1 May 2007. All day around Tanggu.

I left the 5-star Teda International H04:55hrs & drove 10 minutes northwest to Beitang Reservoir. There was a vicious-looking large dog guarding the usual access to the reservoir so I ventured about one kilometre further west.

Sites visited today were –

1. Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu. 05:05-05:50hrs

Chinese Spot-billed Duck	3
Goldeneye	1 male
Great Crested Grebe	39
Common Snipe	1
Marsh Sandpiper	25
Common Greenshank	5
Common Sandpiper	1 heard
Temminck's Stint	4
Long-toed Stint	1
Little Ringed Plover	2
Kentish Plover	2
Oriental Pratincole	1 was heard
Little Tern	4
Caspian Tern	1
Black-headed Gull	80
Common Kestrel	1
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard
Ashy Minivet	1 was heard over the Teda International Hotel, Teda
White-cheeked Starling	10

I returned to the hotel at 06:05hrs, we had breakfast as soon as the restaurant opened at 06:30 & headed back out again at 07:15hrs.

2. Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang. 08:45-11:45hrs

A large amount of building work was underway & it appeared that they were widening the road along the top of the main embankment. The large reservoir to the south of this embankment now held very little water & was a haven for shorebirds.

Mute Swan	1 immature flew in from the west at about 08:50hrs & landed on the shallow lake. It was still there when we left.
Tundra Swan	2 (an adult and an immature). Separate but on the same pool as the Mute Swan! Exceptionally late in the season!
Common Shelduck	1
Spot-billed Duck	27
Mallard	12
Northern Pintail	4
Black-winged Stilt	324
Black-tailed Godwit	565
Marsh Sandpiper	420
Common Greenshank	15

Wood Sandpiper	17
Red-necked Stint	1
Little Stint	1 adult-summer
Temminck's Stint	183
Long-toed Stint	1
Little Ringed Plover	39
Kentish Plover	58
Curlew Sandpiper	28
Common Snipe	11
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5
Green Sandpiper	1
Common Sandpiper	1
Oriental Pratincole	12
Caspian Tern	11
Common Tern	5
Gull-billed Tern	3
Little Tern	22
Black-headed Gull	15
Brown-headed Gull	1 first summer flew west low over the lake with a flock of eight first-year Black-headed Gulls. (11:40hrs). My second sighting of this species in Tianjin.
Common Kestrel	1
Zitting Cisticola	1 was heard
Pallas's Warbler	1
Light-vented Bulbul	5
Olive-backed Pipit	4
Red-throated Pipit	3 (two flew north, one on the pool edge)
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 flew north
Yellow Wagtail	8
White Wagtail	3 <i>ocularis</i>
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 were heard
Pallas's Bunting	4
Meadow Bunting	1
Little Bunting	3

3. Pool besides main north-south highway about one km south of turning northeast on the expressway to Tanggu, Dagang.

12:05-12:20hrs

Pied Avocet	24
Black-winged Stilt	20
Black-tailed Godwit	30
Curlew Sandpiper	18
Marsh Sandpiper	185
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	15
Common Greenshank	2
Common Redshank	1
Spotted Redshank	3
Common Tern	12

4. Freshwater pool between the highway & the mud flats about 4 kms south of Jingqu. (38°39.88'N., 117°32.63'E.). 13:00-

14:15hrs.

Red-necked Stint	187 including one with a yellow leg flag on its right tibia
Little Stint	21 adult-summer. A remarkable tally – at least 14 of these birds were digiscoped (mostly quite badly). This species is typically considered to be a rare bi-annual passage migrant through eastern China. The previous maximum day count I'm aware of was of four (possibly five?) birds at Caihongqiao in mid-May 2006 (Liu Yang et al.). This sighting of 21 birds is clearly exceptional!
Long-toed Stint	1
Curlew Sandpiper	37
Pied Avocet	17
Marsh Sandpiper	45
Kentish Plover	51
Little Ringed Plover	1

5. Mud flats about 4 kms south of Jingqu.

A massive amount of work had taken place since I last visited this site in autumn 2006 (late September?). At least 400 metres of the mud flats had been, or were in the process of being, reclaimed!

Gull-billed Tern	55
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6. High tide wader roost on partially drained fish pond at Jingqu, Dagang. 15:30-17:00hrs.

Grey Plover	901
Great Knot	3
Red Knot	1450, including three colour flagged birds - one with a yellow flag on its right tibia, the other two had single orange flags on their right tibia.
Eurasian Curlew	300
Dunlin	560
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5
Curlew Sandpiper	9
Red-necked Stint	5

Asian Dowitcher	28
Sanderling	2
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1
Black-headed Gull	74
Relict Gull	3 – two first-summer and another bird that was either an adult-summer or a second-summer
Gull-billed Tern	110

7. Inter-tidal mud flats two kilometres south of Yuren Matou. 17:30. (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.).

Bar-tailed Godwit	105 including a leg-flagged bird - it had a yellow flag on its right tarsus.
Red-necked Stint	20
Whimbrel	3
Great Knot	3
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1
Curlew Sandpiper	1
Black-tailed Gull	2 first-summer

8. Lu Ju He. 18:05-18:10

Relict Gull	17 first-summer
Black-tailed Gull	2 first-summer
Mongolian Gull	1 first summer
Great Knot	3

Common Pheasant	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Mute Swan	1 immature at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007. My first record of this species anywhere in China except Xinjiang!
Tundra Swan	2, an adult and an immature, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007. An exceptional date and my first sighting of this species in the Tianjin area.
Common Shelduck	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Mallard	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	30 on the 1/5/2007 - three at Beitang Reservoir & 27 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Northern Pintail	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Common Goldeneye	1 on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' but not counted south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Common Snipe	12 on the 1/5/2007 – 1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu & 11 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Black-tailed Godwit	595 south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007 - 565 at Beidagang, Dagang; 30 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang.
Bar-tailed Godwit	About 150 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 – these included 7 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 105 (including a leg-flagged bird - it had a yellow flag on its right tarsus) on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.). This bird was flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6436 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.
Whimbrel	About 8 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 – these included 3 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Eurasian Curlew	About 500 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - 300 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 120 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Spotted Redshank	3 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Common Redshank	1 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	675 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/5/2007 - 25 near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu; 420 at Beidagang, Dagang; 185 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 45 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang;
Common Greenshank	About 50 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 – these included 5 at Beitang, Tanggu; 15 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Terek Sandpiper	5 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007.
Common Sandpiper	2 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - 1 heard at Beitang, Tanggu; 1 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Asian Dowitcher	28 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu on the 1/5/2007.
Great Knot	9 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - 3 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 3 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 3 on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Red Knot	1535 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 - 1450 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu, Dagang. These including three colour flagged birds - one with a yellow flag on its right tibia, the other two had single orange flags on their right tibia; 85 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu. The orange leg flagged birds were flagged in Victoria (Australia), approximate co-ordinates 38deg 0min S, 145deg 0min E sometime since January 1990. The resighting was a distance of approximately 8977 km, with a bearing of 339 degrees, from the marking location. The yellow leg flagged bird was flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6430 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.
Sanderling	2 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu on the 1/5/2007.
Little Stint	22 at Dagang on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beidagang, Dagang; 21 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang (38°39.88'N., 117°32.63'E.). An incredible series of records!
Red-necked Stint	213 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beidagang, Dagang; 187, including one with a yellow leg flag on its right tibia, on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang (38°39.88'N., 117°32.63'E.); 5 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 20 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu. The Jingqu leg flagged bird was flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6430 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.
Temminck's Stint	187 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 4 at Beitang, Tanggu; 183 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Long-toed Stint	3 singles in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 1 at Beidagang, Dagang; 1 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	22 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 5 at Beidagang, Dagang; 15 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 1 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 1 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Dunlin	810 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 560 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 250 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Curlew Sandpiper	93 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 28 at Beidagang, Dagang; 18 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 37 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang; 9 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 1 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu on the 1/5/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	About 450 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007. These included 324 at Beidagang, Dagang & 20 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang.
Pied Avocet	43 at Dagang on the 1/5/2007 - 24 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 17 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang; 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Plover	950 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 901 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 45 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Little Ringed Plover	42 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 2 at Beitang, Tanggu; 39 at Beidagang, Dagang; 1 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang.
Kentish Plover	140 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 2 at Beitang, Tanggu; 58 at Beidagang, Dagang; 51 on the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang.
Oriental Pratincole	13 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 12 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Black-tailed Gull	4 first-summer in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - two tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu & two more on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Mongolian Gull	1 first-summer on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Brown-headed Gull	1 first summer flew west at 11:40hrs low over the lake at Beidagang on the 1/5/2007. It was with a flock of eight first-year Black-headed Gulls & was my second sighting of this species in Tianjin. Possibly the first record for Tianjin.
Black-headed Gull	200 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 80 at Beitang, Tanggu; 15 at Beidagang, Dagang; 74 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu.
Relict Gull	20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 3 (two first-summer and another bird that was either an adult-summer or a second-summer) at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu; 17 first-summer on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Gull-billed Tern	168 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 3 at Beidagang, Dagang; 55 over the mud flats four kilometres south of Jingqu; 110 at the high-tide wader roost near Jingqu.
Caspian Tern	12 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 11 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Tern	17 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 5 at Beidagang, Dagang; 12 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang.
Little Tern	30 on the 1/5/2007. These included - 4 at Beitang, Tanggu; 22 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Whiskered Tern	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 flew north over the trackside pool on route to Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Common Kestrel	2 singles on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 1 at Beidagang, Dagang;
Great Crested Grebe	39 at Beitang, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Grey Heron	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Ashy Minivet	1 was heard over the Teda International Hotel, Teda on the 1/5/2007.
White-cheeked Starling	10 at Beitang, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Chinese Penduline Tit	At least one was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Barn Swallow	20 south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
Light-vented Bulbul	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Zitting Cisticola	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Vinous-throated Parrotbill	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 on the 1/5/2007 - one heard at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu & two heard at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	'Present' but not counted.
White Wagtail	3 <i>ocularis</i> at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Richard's Pipit	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Red-throated Pipit	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Meadow Bunting	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Little Bunting	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Pallas's Bunting	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

Sunday 5 August 2007. Morning travelled from Beijing to Tianjin & on to Teda. Afternoon Tanggu.

Qingyu & me had breakfast at the Crowne Plaza on Wangfujing Street, Beijing as soon as the buffet opened at 06:30hrs & then took a taxi to Beijing Central Railway Station. We caught the day's first train from Beijing to Tianjin (08:05hrs) & then took a taxi from there to Teda where we were checked in to the 5-star Teda International Hhrs we soon phoned the regular driver - his car was 'out of action' but he contacted a friend who arrived at about 12:00hrs.

Sunrise on 5 August 2007	05:12hrs
Sun set	19:17hrs

Weather

28°C and overcast all afternoon. High humidity

We only visited one site today –

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 12:45-16:30hrs.

The wader pools that have held huge numbers of shorebirds here in the last few years & had been completely dry when I was last here on 30 April this year were again very productive & held a large number of birds of a wide variety of species (33 species!).

Common Shelduck	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Rock Pigeon	'Present' in the Teda-Caihongqiao, Hangu areas on the 5/8/2007.
Black-tailed Godwit	80 birds (apparently all adults) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Whimbrel	11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Eastern Curlew	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Spotted Redshank	125 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Common Redshank	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	2685 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. Several juveniles were seen, but the vast majority of birds were adults.
Common Greenshank	45 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Terek Sandpiper	16 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Common Sandpiper	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Ruddy Turnstone	2 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Asian Dowitcher	25 birds (apparently all adults) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Sanderling	1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Red-necked Stint	913 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. 13 of them carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs.
Temminck's Stint	41 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Long-toed Stint	1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	512 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. One had a white leg flag above the knee of its right leg.
Dunlin	15 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Curlew Sandpiper	55 birds (54 adults & one juvenile) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	9 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Ruff	1 adult female at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. A rarity in eastern China.
Black-winged Stilt	760 (including several juveniles) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Pied Avocet	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew high to the south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Grey Plover	32 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Kentish Plover	1500 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Greater Sand Plover	2 juveniles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	55 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Mongolian Gull	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Black-headed Gull	230 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Saunders's Gull	2 birds (juveniles moulting to first-winter) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Relict Gull	4 heavily moulting birds (either second-summers moulting to adult winter or adults moulting from summer to winter plumage) were seen distantly at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	58 (including several juveniles still accompanied by their parents) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Caspian Tern	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Common Tern	28 (including several juveniles still accompanied by their parents) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Little Tern	189 (including several juveniles still accompanied by their parents) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
White-winged Black Tern	350 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Little Egret	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Grey Heron	62 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Sand Martin	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
Barn Swallow	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

Monday 6 August 2007. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Teda International H^oC in central Teda at 06:00hrs. High tide was at about 07:30hrs and there was a light northwest wind until at least the early evening.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:30-08:45hrs.

Highlights again included good numbers of shorebirds with the following surprises –

Little Stint	1 adult summer
Red-necked Phalarope	2 adults moulting from summer to winter plumage
Great Knot	19
Red Knot	2

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. 10:45-12:00hrs**3. Lu Ju He fishponds, Tanggu. 12:30****4 Pools immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) Ca.13:00hrs.****5. Jingqu, Dagang. 13:30-16:30hrs.**

Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 bird, thought to probably be a Swinhoe's Snipe was seen, heard & tape recorded on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Black-tailed Godwit	137 (4 juveniles & 134 adults) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	87 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 80 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Whimbrel	12 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 9 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Curlew	2775 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 775 at a high tide roost on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & ca.2000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Curlew	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Spotted Redshank	60 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Common Redshank	20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	3450 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2600 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 600 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 250 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	1425 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 65 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 10 at Lu Ju He, Tanggu & 1350 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 others flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Terek Sandpiper	103 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 101 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Sandpiper	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	37 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 22 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Asian Dowitcher	322 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 317 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Great Knot	27 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 19 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 8 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red Knot	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 more on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Stint	1 adult summer on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Red-necked Stint	1725 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 920 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 765 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang. 18 out of 585 birds seen well were noted at the Caihongqiao Pools carried colour flagged birds - 16 carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs while the other two bore a yellow flag in the same place.
Temminck's Stint	74 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 47 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 25 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Long-toed Stint	1 adult on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	877 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 585 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 70 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 222 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Dunlin	975 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 950 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Curlew Sandpiper	40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Red-necked Phalarope	2 moulting summer plumaged adults were on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	1770 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 750 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 850 on pools near the Tanggu River Mouth; 20 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 150 on or near the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pied Avocet	68 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 45 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Plover	130 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 75 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Ringed Plover	55 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 15 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu
Kentish Plover	6000 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007. These included 1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 450 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 4000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Greater Sand Plover	1 juvenile at Jingqu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	735 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 54 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 126 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 95 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 205 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 355 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang. One with 204 other birds at the high tide roost at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, coastal Tianjin (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) had a dark green band above its left knee.
Mongolian Gull	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.

Black-headed Gull	1200 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007.
Relict Gull	326 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 318 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	37 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 21 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2 (an adult and an attendant, begging juvenile) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & two more (another adult and an attendant, begging juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Tern	113 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 91 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Tern	217 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 140 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 57 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
White-winged Black Tern	720 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 150 over the inter-tidal mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 200 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 20 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 350 over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Great Crested Grebe	2 on one of the larger freshwater pools at Jingqu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
Little Egret	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
Grey Heron	120 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007.

Tuesday 7 August 2007. Morning north of Tanggu.

I left the Teda International H°C again in central Teda at 06:00hrs. High tide was at about 07:30hrs and there was hardly any wind today. It rained hard for about 30 minutes midday.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:35-08:30hrs.

Rock Pigeon	'Present' in & around Teda & Tanggu on the 7/8/2007.
Black-tailed Godwit	366 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Whimbrel	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	520 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Spotted Redshank	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Common Greenshank	40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Asian Dowitcher	14 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Great Knot	18 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Little Stint	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007. The closer of the two birds was photographed.
Red-necked Stint	870 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007. 10 birds carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs.
Temminck's Stint	20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	220 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Dunlin	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Curlew Sandpiper	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	750 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Pied Avocet	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Grey Plover	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Kentish Plover	1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	150 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Black-headed Gull	200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Caspian Tern	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Common Tern	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Little Tern	120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
White-winged Black Tern	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Little Egret	1 juvenile, with a juvenile Chinese Egret, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Chinese Egret	1 juvenile, with a juvenile Little Egret, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Grey Heron	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Barn Swallow	40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
Richard's Pipit	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

Wednesday 8 August 2007. Morning north of Tanggu, midday returned to Beijing

I left the Teda International H°C in central Teda at 06:00hrs. High tide was in the morning and there was a south-easterly wind. It had rained hard (briefly) overnight & threatened to do so again at about 08:30hrs.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:30-08:30hrs.

Black-tailed Godwit	579 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Spotted Redshank	120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	3550 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007. One bird (out of the 2680 counted on the first pool) had a yellow flag above the 'knee' on its right leg.
Common Greenshank	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Asian Dowitcher	29 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Red-necked Stint	810 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007. Of the 630 birds seen well 9 leg flagged individuals were noted – seven had orange flags above their right 'knees' while two had yellow flags in the same place.
Temminck's Stint	33 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	292 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Dunlin	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Curlew Sandpiper	32 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Pied Avocet	50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Grey Plover	55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	80 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Black-headed Gull	200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Caspian Tern	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Common Tern	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Little Tern	100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
White-winged Black Tern	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Grey Heron	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/8/2007.
White Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Richard's Pipit	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

Leg flagged & colour banded birds in coastal Tianjin in early August 2007

Marsh Sandpiper

One bird (out of the 2680 counted on the first pool Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North-east China (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.) on the 8 August 2007) had a yellow flag above the 'knee' on its right leg.

Other birds present there the same day included –

Black-tailed Godwit	579 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Spotted Redshank	120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	3550 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007. One bird (out of the 2680 counted on the first pool) had a yellow flag above the 'knee' on its right leg.
Common Greenshank	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Asian Dowitcher	29 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Red-necked Stint	810 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007. Of the 630 birds seen well 9 leg flagged individuals were noted – seven had orange flags above their right 'knees' while two had yellow flags in the same place.
Temminck's Stint	33 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	292 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Dunlin	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Curlew Sandpiper	32 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Pied Avocet	50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Grey Plover	55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	80 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Black-headed Gull	200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

Caspian Tern	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Common Tern	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Little Tern	100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
White-winged Black Tern	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Grey Heron	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
White Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
Richard's Pipit	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

Red-necked Stint

I made several sightings of colour flagged birds at Caihongqiao, Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North-east China (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.) -

13 out of 913 adults there on the 5/8/2007 carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs.

18 colour flagged birds were noted (out of 585 birds seen well) on the 6/8/2007 - 16 carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs while the other two bore a yellow flag in the same place.

10 colour flagged birds were noted (out of 870 birds seen well) on the 7/8/2007. All 10 carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs.

9 colour flagged birds were noted (out of 630 birds seen well) on the 8/8/2007. 7 of these had orange flags above their right 'knees' while two had yellow flags in the same place.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

1 bird (out of 512 seen well) at Caihongqiao, Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North-east China (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.) on the 5 August 2007 had a white flag above the knee of its right leg.

Black-tailed Gull

One with 204 other birds at the high tide roost at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, coastal Tianjin, North-east China (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) on the 6 August 2007 had a dark green band above its left knee.

Tuesday 2 October 2007. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance – Tianjin Teda Hotel & Conference Centre (29, Second Avenue, Teda, Tianjin 300457, China. Tel.: 022 6621 8888. Fax.: 022 6621 9999 Http: www.renaissancehotels.com/tsntj) High tide was at about 05:00hrs and again at about 17:30hrs & there was a northwest wind until at least the early evening.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:00-08:10hrs.

It had rained a lot in coastal Hebei & Tianjin during September 2007 & the usual shorebird pools were full of water – suitable only for long-legged waders such as curlews & shanks. There were some edges and reasonable numbers of Temminck's Stints were found on these. There was also a decent southerly passage of passerines.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 10:30-13:00hrs

3. Pools & coastal mudflats immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) 13:30-14:40hrs.

4.. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 15:15-16:45hrs.

Common Shelduck	48 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Mallard	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Northern Pintail	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Common Teal	29 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 18 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 11 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Black-tailed Godwit	13 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Whimbrel	1 was heard on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	2750 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 730 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 130 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1890 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Curlew	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	27 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 23 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	1125 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 70 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 825 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 230 at Jingqu, Dagang.

Common Greenshank	1650 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 135 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 375 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1150 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Great Knot	299 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 244 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 55 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red Knot	24 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 4 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Sanderling	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Red-necked Stint	5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	780 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 51 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 730 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Dunlin	3500 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 70 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 1100 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2300 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-winged Stilt	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	1045 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 840 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 27 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 275 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Grey Plover	1380 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 340 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1030 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Ringed Plover	31 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 29 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	6500 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 180 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 2600 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 1500 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-tailed Gull	378 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 87 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 8 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 43 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 240 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.
Vega Gull	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Mongolian Gull	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	1250 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 40 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 400 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-tailed Gull	440 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 30 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 180 the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 230 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Saunders's Gull	1 first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Relict Gull	2335 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 first-winters on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 383 the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1950 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	31 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 16 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	207 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 201 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 6 at Jingqu, Dagang. 50 birds at the first site were aged & this produced 41 adults (82%) & 9 first-years (18%).
Common Kestrel	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Great Cormorant	95 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Little Egret	59 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 3 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 12 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 43 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Heron	337 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 30 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 3 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 34 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 270 at Jingqu, Dagang. 3 first-winters on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	1 flew south over the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.
Ashy Minivet	1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 male near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Bluethroat	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Common Stonechat	2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Sand Martin	1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	40 birds flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - most of these were near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu in the early morning.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 30 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 5 at Jingqu, Dagang. Numerous other unseen birds were heard.
Dusky Warbler	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu, 2 near the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Radde's Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 9 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 8 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 8 near the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Skylark	40 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 25 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.
White Wagtail	5 birds were heard (counting each heard as a single) in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	3 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	25 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 8 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 6 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools & a similar number flew south over the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

Olive-backed Pipit	15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 10 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 were the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Red-throated Pipit	8 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 5 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 went over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools & 2 over the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Buff-bellied Pipit	4 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 3 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & one went over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/10/2007.
Little Bunting	4 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	9 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 1 near the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

Wednesday 3 October 2007. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance Hotel High tide was at about 05:00hrs and again at about 17:30hrs & there was a northwest wind until at least the early evening.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:10-08:35hrs.

There was a good southerly passage of passerines.

2. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 11:00-13:00hrs.

3. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 13:15-14:00hrs

Common Shelduck	54 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Gadwall	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Eurasian Wigeon	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Mallard	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Northern Shoveler	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Northern Pintail	7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Common Teal	126 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Common Snipe	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Black-tailed Godwit	64 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Little Whimbrel	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Whimbrel	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	2790 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 630 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 320 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1840 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Curlew	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 15 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Spotted Redshank	11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	370 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 240 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 130 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	1325 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1120 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 170 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Great Knot	25 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Red-necked Stint	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	42 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Dunlin	3230 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 720 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-winged Stilt	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	320 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 320 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Plover	1790 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 140 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1630 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Ringed Plover	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	4500 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 500 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 4000 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-tailed Gull	735 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 48 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 220 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 465 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007.
Siberian Gull	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007.
Saunders's Gull	13 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.
Relict Gull	2100 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - one first-winter on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 300 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & at least 1800 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	63 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 29 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & at least 34 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	141 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 4 (two adults & two first-winters) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 4 at Jingqu, Dagang & 130 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Common Tern	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Little Tern	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 came in off the sea at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.

Common Kestrel	1 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.
Eurasian Hobby	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Little Egret	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 6 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 27 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Heron	252 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 43 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 119 at Jingqu, Dagang & 60 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
Eurasian Spoonbill	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Ashy Minivet	7 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 6 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – one on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Common Stonechat	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – one on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Common Starling	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Sand Martin	40 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	1500 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	20 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 in central Teda on the 4/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	100 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 4 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Radde's Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 3 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 more at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Yellow-browed Warbler	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 10 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 15 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	20 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 15 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & at least one at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007.
White Wagtail	125 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 112 of these were counted over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the day. All of those racially identified (only about 20 birds) were <i>ocularis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	16 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Grey Wagtail	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	46 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	27 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Red-throated Pipit	61 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Buff-bellied Pipit	36 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
Common Rosefinch	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Little Bunting	6 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

Thursday 4 October 2007. Early morning around Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance Hotel High tide was at about 08:30hrs & there was hardly any wind before about 08:00hrs.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:10-08:10hrs.

Ruddy Shelduck	4 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Shelduck	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Baikal Teal	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Teal	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Crane	2 adults on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	600 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Eastern Curlew	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	109 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	220 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Greenshank	105 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Red-necked Stint	2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Dunlin	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Grey Plover	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Kentish Plover	450 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	135 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Gull	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Relict Gull	1 first-winter on the on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Caspian Tern	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Black Kite	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Kestrel	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

Great Cormorant	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Little Egret	156 in coastal Hangu on the 4/10/2007 - 11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & another 145 in the river immediately upstream from the Caihongqiao bridge.
Chinese Egret	1 flew south with Little Egrets along the coast near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu at 06:20hrs on the 4/10/2007.
Grey Heron	26 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	6 (two adults & four first-winters – a family party?) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	9 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Ashy Minivet	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Stonechat	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
White-cheeked Starling	9 on the edge of Tanggu on the 4/10/2007.
Chinese Penduline Tit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Yellow-bellied Tit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Sand Martin	20 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	200 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	40 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	6 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Radde's Warbler	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	12 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Arctic Warbler	1 was heard near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	25 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 between the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & Tanggu on the 4/10/2007.
White Wagtail	15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	11 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	11 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Red-throated Pipit	10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Buff-bellied Pipit	22 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Little Bunting	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

Friday 5 October 2007. Early morning around Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance Hotel

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:05-07:00hrs.

Common Shelduck	23 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Black-tailed Godwit	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	400 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Eastern Curlew	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Common Greenshank	20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Red-necked Stint	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Dunlin	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Grey Plover	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Kentish Plover	50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Vega Gull	2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	60 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Grey Heron	12 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	6, two adults & four first-years, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	Several birds were heard over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	2 were heard near Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 was heard near Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

Saturday 6 October 2007. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance Hotel

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:15-08:35hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 12:15-16:00hrs

Greylag Goose	3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Common Shelduck	43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Mallard	7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Northern Shoveler	27 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Northern Pintail	97 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Common Teal	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	26 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	300 on the inter-tidal mud flats near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Eastern Curlew	3 on the inter-tidal mud flats near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	1290 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1250 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	131 on the inter-tidal mud flats near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Sanderling	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Red-necked Stint	23 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	807 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 52 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 755 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	920 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 320 on the inter-tidal mud flats near on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 600 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Ruff	1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	700 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 66 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 650 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Grey Plover	50 on the inter-tidal mud flats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	76 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 72 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	3300 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 300 on & near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3000 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-tailed Gull	78 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 35 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	15 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 250 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	3 first-winters on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 1 was heard over the inter-tidal mud flats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 were seen on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Kestrel	1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Little Egret	3 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Grey Heron	15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Great Egret	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	6, two adults & four first-winters, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	20 near Tanggu, coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007.
Ashy Minivet	2 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Grey-backed Thrush	1 male near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Daurian Redstart	2 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
Common Stonechat	2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Sand Martin	2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007. Most of these were over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the mid-afternoon.
Red-rumped Swallow	6 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – several flew over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
David's Bush Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 4 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 besides the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Radde's Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	3 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	14 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 9 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 5 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Eurasian Skylark	6 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007.
White Wagtail	4 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	6 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	14 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	8 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Red-throated Pipit	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 1 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 besides the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Buff-bellied Pipit	7 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	5 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
Pallas's Bunting	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

Sunday 7 October 2007. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 06:45-11:30hrs

Site 2. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 12:00-15:00hrs

3. Pools & coastal mudflats immediately to the south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang, Tanggu. (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) 15:45-16:00hrs.

Tundra Swan	1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Swan Goose	29 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
'Taiga Bean Goose'	98 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Greater White-fronted Goose	4 adults at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Greylag Goose	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
goose sp.	60 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Common Shelduck	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Gadwall	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Falcated Teal	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Eurasian Wigeon	37 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 35 at Beidagang & 2 at Jingqu.
Mallard	433 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 168 at Beidagang & 265 at Jingqu.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	620 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Northern Pintail	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Baikal Teal	1550 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Common Teal	3270 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 3200 at Beidagang & 12 at Jingqu, both Dagang & 60 on the sea near Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
Common Pochard	35 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Common Snipe	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	162 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	65 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	1350 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	465 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 455 at Beidagang & 10 at Jingqu.
Common Redshank	2 singles, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	1020 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 480 at Beidagang, 410 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 130 at Jingqu.
Common Greenshank	670 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 42 at Beidagang & 630 at Jingqu.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Great Knot	370 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Red Knot	135 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Red-necked Stint	3 juveniles on a pool on the edge of Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	615 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 30 at Beidagang, 580 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 5 near Jingqu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Dunlin	1550 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, 40 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 1500 at Jingqu.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on a pool on the edge of Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	500 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 34 at Beidagang & 460 at Jingqu.
Pacific Golden Plover	6 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang & 1 at Jingqu.
Grey Plover	1430 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	136 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 134 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 2 at Jingqu.
Kentish Plover	3200 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 35 at Beidagang, 1200 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 2000 at Jingqu.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 juvenile on a pool on the edge of Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Northern Lapwing	3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Oriental Pratincole	36 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	223 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 43 at Jingqu & 180 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 4 at Beidagang & 6 at Jingqu.
Vega Gull	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	670 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 150 at Beidagang, 20 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 500 at Jingqu.
Saunders's Gull	3 first-winters at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Relict Gull	1420 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 1300 at Jingqu, Dagang & 120 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Gull-billed Tern	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Caspian Tern	26 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 4 at Jingqu & 22 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Common Tern	1 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Osprey	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Oriental Honey-buzzard	2 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – one flew south at Beidagang & the other came in off the sea at Jingqu.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

Hen Harrier	3 ringtails at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Northern Goshawk	1 adult came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
accipiter sp.	2 singles came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Common Buzzard	3 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – two flew south at Beidagang & the other came in off the sea at Jingqu.
Common Kestrel	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Amur Falcon	480 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Little Grebe	34 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Great Crested Grebe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Great Cormorant	34 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Little Egret	132 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 80 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 52 at Jingqu.
Chinese Egret	2 with other egrets at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Grey Heron	355 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 170 at Beidagang & 185 at Jingqu.
Great Egret	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	72 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 first-winter at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Taiga Flycatcher	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Eyebrowed Thrush	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Yellow-bellied Tit	1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Sand Martin	3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	100 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Lanceolated Warbler	3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Mongolian Lark	1 flew south at 08:15hrs with Eurasian Skylarks at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	600 flew south in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007. The majority of these (540 birds) were seen moving over Beidagang during the four hours that I was there (06:45-11:00hrs).
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007.
White Wagtail	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	20 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Red-throated Pipit	3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Buff-bellied Pipit	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Meadow Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Little Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
Pallas's Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

Monday 8 October 2007. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel

Site 1. Coastal mudflats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) 06:10-07:30hrs.

Site 2. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 08:15-09:55hrs

Site 3. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 10:15-15:15hrs

We then checked in to the 3-star Hydrus Hotel immediately opposite the Dagang Power Plant at the northern end of the Beidagang Da Qiao at 16:15hrs. Discounted rooms here cost 210yuan/night.

Japanese Quail	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – one at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
Tundra Swan	1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Swan Goose	41 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Bean Goose	104 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007. All of those racially assigned were 'Taiga Bean Geese'.
Greylag Goose	14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Common Shelduck	31 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Gadwall	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Eurasian Wigeon	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 1 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & there were 2 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Mallard	300 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	450 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Northern Shoveler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Northern Pintail	25 flew south over the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Baikal Teal	350 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Common Teal	1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 20 flew south over the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & there were still about 1500 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Tufted Duck	3 males at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Common Goldeneye	2 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

Eurasian Hoopoe	2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Long-eared Owl	1 came in off the sea & sat on one of the boats close to shore at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Short-eared Owl	1 was sat on the sea wall at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Oriental Turtle Dove	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 1 came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & there were 6 more at Beidagang, Dagang.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	341 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	640 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 140 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Spotted Redshank	150 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	235 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 10 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, 25 at Jingqu, Dagang & 200 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	200 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 30 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, 140 at Jingqu, Dagang & 30 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other at Beidagang, Dagang.
Temminck's Stint	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Dunlin	1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	6 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Grey Plover	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Kentish Plover	1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Lesser Sand Plover	3 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Northern Lapwing	30 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Oriental Pratincole	26 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	326 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 76 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, 65 on the pools at Gaoshaling & 195 at Jingqu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Vega Gull	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	700 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Relict Gull	2975 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 550 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 2425 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	36 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 11 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 25 near Jingqu, Dagang.
Osprey	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Hen Harrier	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Common Buzzard	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Amur Falcon	885 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Little Grebe	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Great Cormorant	47 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 27 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu & 20 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Little Egret	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - most of these were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Chinese Egret	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007 with probably the same bird seen later on the road side pools not far south of there.
Grey Heron	267 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 7 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 32 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu; 107 at Jingqu, Dagang & 121 at Beidagang.
Great Egret	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	43 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Brown Shrike	1 first-winter at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
'Dusky Thrush'	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Chinese Penduline Tit	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Sand Martin	3 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	400 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	7 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 3 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 3 at Jingqu, Dagang & 5 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Radde's Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	600 flew south during the 8/10/2007 - 80 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 30 at Jingqu, Dagang & at least 500 were estimated at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
White Wagtail	29 flew south during the 8/10/2007 - 20 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 4 at Jingqu, Dagang & 5 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Yellow Wagtail	7 flew south during the 8/10/2007 - 3 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 1 at Jingqu, Dagang & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Richard's Pipit	7 flew south during the 8/10/2007 - 3 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 1 at Jingqu, Dagang & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Olive-backed Pipit	7 flew south during the 8/10/2007 - 3 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 1 at Jingqu, Dagang & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Red-throated Pipit	6 flew south during the 8/10/2007 - 1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 2 over the Gaoshaling Pools; 1 at Jingqu, Dagang & 2 at Beidagang, Dagang.

Buff-bellied Pipit	34 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 19 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 3 at Jingqu, Dagang & 12 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Grey-capped Greenfinch	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Common Rosefinch	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Pine Bunting	9 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Little Bunting	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	35 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – these included about 30 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Pallas's Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
Reed Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

Tuesday 9 October 2007. All day in Dagang.

We left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 06:25-10:00hrs

Site 2. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 10:30-12:30hrs

Common Pheasant	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Swan Goose	27 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Bean Goose	114 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Greylag Goose	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Shelduck	24 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 1 at Beidagang, Dagang & 23 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gadwall	17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Eurasian Wigeon	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, Dagang & 15 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mallard	380 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 150 at Beidagang, Dagang & 230 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	515 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 500 at Beidagang, Dagang & 15 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Baikal Teal	300 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Teal	1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 1500 at Beidagang, Dagang & 9 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Pochard	16 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
White-winged Scoter	4 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Yellow-legged Buttonquail	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Short-eared Owl	1 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang at 11:10hrs on the 9/10/2007.
Oriental Turtle Dove	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Snipe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	910 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	210 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 210 at Beidagang, Dagang & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	210 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 200 at Beidagang, Dagang & 10 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	520 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 20 at Beidagang, Dagang & 500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Great Knot	70 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Dunlin	1500 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Black-winged Stilt	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	260 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Grey Plover	1500 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Kentish Plover	2000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Oriental Pratincole	1 injured first-winter at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	65 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Mew Gull	1 first-winter <i>heinei</i> at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 300 at Beidagang, Dagang & 200 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Saunders's Gull	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Relict Gull	2010 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Caspian Tern	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Osprey	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Oriental Honey-buzzard	1 came in off the sea at 12:20hrs at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Hen Harrier	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Buzzard	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Kestrel	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Amur Falcon	50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Great Cormorant	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Little Egret	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Grey Heron	274 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 72 at Beidagang, Dagang & 202 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Spoonbill	55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Red-throated Thrush	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Rufous-tailed Robin	1 first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Stonechat	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Chinese Penduline Tit	103 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007. Four birds were heard & not seen otherwise flocks of the following sizes were noted – 2, 3, 22, 30 & 42.
Barn Swallow	150 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Zitting Cisticola	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	20 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Lanceolated Warbler	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	9 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 7 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pallas's Warbler	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 3 at Beidagang, Dagang & 4 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	110 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 100 at Beidagang, Dagang & 10 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
White Wagtail	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	9 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 7 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Olive-backed Pipit	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red-throated Pipit	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 7 at Beidagang, Dagang & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Buff-bellied Pipit	26 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 22 at Beidagang, Dagang & 4 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Brambling	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Common Rosefinch	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Pine Bunting	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 with singles at Beidagang, Dagang & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Bunting	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
Pallas's Bunting	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 2 at Beidagang, Dagang & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.

Wednesday 10 October 2007. All day in Dagang & coastal Tanggu.

We left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 06:20-09:15hrs & again 13:30-15:30hrs

Site 2. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 09:45-11:15hrs

Site 3. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 11:30-13:15hrs

Japanese Quail	4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Swan Goose	24 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007. They arrived from the east at 06:52hrs.
Bean Goose	307 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 255 at Beidagang, Dagang (149 arrived from the north-east between 06:55 & 07:45hrs & two flocks – one of 76 & the other of 30 flew south-west at 14:45hrs & 15:10hrs respectively) & 52 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang at 13:00hrs.
Greater White-fronted Goose	5 (two adults & three first-years) at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007 – they all flew south west in a flock of Bean Geese at 14:45hrs.
Greylag Goose	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Ruddy Shelduck	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Common Shelduck	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Gadwall	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Falcatel Teal	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Eurasian Wigeon	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Mallard	340 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 230 at Beidagang, Dagang & 110 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	430 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Northern Shoveler	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Northern Pintail	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Baikal Teal	1650 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007. 1550 of these arrived from the south-west at 07:30hrs, repeatedly circled the lake for about 20 minutes & then headed back off the same direction. This is a fairly accurate count – I'd just finished counting almost 200 birds with the other ducks on the lake when Qingyu spotted the large flock flying in the distance. This flock continued to come close & then split in to three, one large flock which I photographed & two smaller flocks that I estimated contained 100 & 200 birds. I later examined my photos of the large flock & carefully counted that it contained 1160 birds!
Common Teal	2500 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Common Snipe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	210 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Bar-tailed Godwit	45 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Eurasian Curlew	700 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Eastern Curlew	11 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	470 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Common Greenshank	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 25 at Beidagang, Dagang & the rest on the inter-tidal mud flats in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area.

Green Sandpiper	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Great Knot	435 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2007.
Red Knot	95 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Dunlin	2000 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Pied Avocet	15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2007.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Grey Plover	1500 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Kentish Plover	2000 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Oriental Pratincole	1 injured first-winter, the same bird as yesterday, at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Black-tailed Gull	80 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
Saunders's Gull	8 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Relict Gull	2830 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Gull-billed Tern	12 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jingqu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.
Caspian Tern	72 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007 – 66 about one kilometer up the Duliujian River from the pumping station & the rest on the inter-tidal mud flats near the river mouth.
Osprey	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Hen Harrier	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Amur Falcon	1350 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Peregrine Falcon	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Little Grebe	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Great Crested Grebe	2 flew south over the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Great Cormorant	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Little Egret	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Grey Heron	168 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 58 at Beidagang, Dagang; 14 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 96 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Great Egret	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Eurasian Spoonbill	51 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Bull-headed Shrike	1 first-winter at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
Red-throated Thrush	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Siberian Rubythroat	2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Bluethroat	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Daurian Redstart	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 1 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Yuren Matou.
White-cheeked Starling	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Chinese Penduline Tit	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007. It flew south.
Sand Martin	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	150 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
Red-rumped Swallow	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, Dagang; 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Radde's Warbler	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	17 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 8 at Beidagang, Dagang; 8 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
White Wagtail	6 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	7 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	8 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	23 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 17 at Beidagang, Dagang, 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red-throated Pipit	6 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Buff-bellied Pipit	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 36 of these flew south at Beidagang, Dagang.
Brambling	7 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Common Rosefinch	2 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Pine Bunting	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 2 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 more at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.
Little Bunting	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 - 8 at Beidagang, Dagang & 7 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Black-faced Bunting	21 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 15 at Beidagang, Dagang; 5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pallas's Bunting	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – singles at Beidagang, Dagang & at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Reed Bunting	2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

Thursday 11 October 2007. Morning Dagang, afternoon Tianjin

We left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 06:20-08:00hrs

Site 2. Changhong Park, Tianjin City. 15:00-16:30hrs.

Bean Goose	Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
duck sp.	500+ at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Grey-headed Woodpecker	1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Common Kingfisher	1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Rock Pigeon	100 in Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Spotted Dove	6 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Common Moorhen	2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Spotted Redshank	At least 10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Common Greenshank	Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Wood Sandpiper	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Temminck's Stint	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Oriental Pratincole	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Black-headed Gull	50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Amur Falcon	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Grey Heron	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Azure-winged Magpie	20 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Black-billed Magpie	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 10 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Red-throated Flycatcher	2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Daurian Redstart	1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Chinese Penduline Tit	Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Sand Martin	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Barn Swallow	10 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 50 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 was heard in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Dusky Warbler	3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Pallas's Warbler	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 3 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Eurasian Skylark	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 2 flew over Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 300 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007
White Wagtail	3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Yellow Wagtail	4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Richard's Pipit	3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Red-throated Pipit	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Buff-bellied Pipit	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Little Bunting	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Black-faced Bunting	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
Bunting sp.	5 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

Wednesday 16 January 2008. All day in the Dagang/Tanggu.

Qingyu & me left Beijing mid-morning, caught the train to Tianjin (51 yuan/person in first class, 43 in second class) & then a taxi to the 3-star Hydrus Hotel immediately opposite the Dagang Power Plant at the northern end of the Beidagang Da Qiao. Arriving there at about 15:10hrs we checked in, dropped our gear & headed out almost immediately. We spent the rest of the afternoon in the area between Jingqu, Dagang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu before returning to the hotel at 17:30hrs. On our previous visit to the Hydrus Hotel discounted rooms cost 210 yuan/night while they now cost 238 yuan/night. Neither rate included breakfast. The hotel is nice – clean, warm & located close to the Beidagang/Jingqu/Yuren Matou area. It also has a very good, popular restaurant in a separate building to the rear.

Hydrus Hotel, 2233 South of Jingqi Road, Dagang, Tianjin. Tel.: 022 63348888. Qingyu made the reservation via her E Long discount card.

Site 1. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 16:00-16:50hrs

Site 2. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 17:00-17:10hrs

It was very low tide at both sites – perhaps at its lowest & we guessed that high tide might have been exactly six hours earlier, perhaps at 11:00hrs.

Mallard	35 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
Common Merganser	23 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
duck sp.	880 resting on sea ice off Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	720 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008.
Dunlin	665 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
Grey Plover	85 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
Mew Gull	280 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
Vega Gull	25 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
Black-headed Gull	1 on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
Saunders's Gull	85 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
Relict Gull	26 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
Common Kestrel	1 near Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
Grey Heron	1 near Dagang on the 16/1/2008. Probably rare in Tianjin in winter.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 16/1/2008.

Thursday 17 January 2008. All day in the Dagang/Tanggu.

We left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang at 07:05hrs & spent almost the entire day birding in the Beidagang/Yuren Matou/Jingqu area returning to the hotel at 16:35hrs.

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 07:15-10:45hrs

The work on improving the main east-west dyke road that was ongoing when I last visited Beidagang in October 2007 had finished now & the new road was very good being concrete and two lane. However in the process of widening the road many of the hawthorn-type trees lining the southern side of it had been bulldozed! This was a great shame as this shelter belt often held large numbers of migrant passerines &, in the right season, roosting Black-crowned Night Herons & even occasionally Long-eared Owls.

Despite the sub-zero temperatures there were still numerous people at Beidagang – a team of about 20 men had broken a couple of holes through the ice in one of the larger fishponds & were in the process of somehow dragging a fishing net through it & under the ice. Another group, of at least as many people, were working way off to the southwest & were busily harvesting reeds and loading them on to a fleet of small tractors & trailers. Another 11 guys and at least five grey hounds were coursing hares & still more people were lighting small fires to burn of the reed stubble. Beidagang's a busy place even in mid-winter!

Site 2. Du Liu Jian He (Duliujian river), Dagang.

This is the canalized river between the power station at Dagang and the coastal sluice/bridge immediately south of Yuren Matou. It was totally ice-free – unlike all other open water in the area. I assumed that it received hot water from the Dagang power station outflow & that this was why it was unfrozen.

Site 3. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 11:15-11:50hrs

Site 4. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 12:10-16:15hrs

It was high tide at about 11:00hrs today.

'Tundra Bean Goose'	48 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. My first encounter with this species in Tianjin in winter - coastal Tianjin is probably the northern limit of this species' winter range.
Mallard	1600, with Chinese Spot-billed Ducks, on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. These are surprisingly large numbers so far north in winter but not that 1900 were counted at Niukouyu Res., Fangshan on 18 Jan. 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	1270, with Mallards, on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. These are surprisingly large numbers so far north in winter.
Common Goldeneye	2, with other sawbills, on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. As with all the sawbills most birds apparently winter south of Tianjin municipality – where there's more ice-free fresh water.
Smew	2, with other sawbills, on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. As with all the sawbills most birds apparently winter south of Tianjin municipality – where there's more ice-free fresh water.
Common Merganser	166 in Dagang on the 17/1/2008 – 156, with other sawbills, on the Duliujian river & the other ten on the sea off Jingqu. As with all the sawbills most birds apparently winter south of Tianjin municipality – where there's more ice-free fresh water.
duck sp.	2100 birds, either Mallard or Chinese Spot-billed Ducks, were on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. (See the entries for these two species above). In all there were 2890 large dabbling ducks (all either Mallards or Chinese Spot-billed Ducks) at Jingqu today. These are possibly exceptional numbers this far north in winter?
Eurasian Curlew	715 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008.
Dunlin	760 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008.
Grey Plover	240 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008.
Mew Gull	250 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	45 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008.
Vega Gull	45 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008.
Black-headed Gull	15 on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Saunders's Gull	116 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008. Earlier 80 birds were seen at Yuren Matou, Tanggu but some, if not all of these, were probably later seen at Jingqu & these were not included in the total.
Relict Gull	820 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang/Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008. The concentration of huge amounts of sea ice in the bays that are usually preferred by this species has possibly resulted in the bulk of the population moving slightly further south.
Hen Harrier	3 (one adult male & two ringtails) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Upland Buzzard	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Rough-legged Buzzard	1 adult male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Apparently a scarce but annual winter visitor to this site.
Common Kestrel	1 near Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Great Egret	1 besides the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Rare in winter - I've previously seen this species wintering in coastal Jianguo but this is my first ever sighting in Tianjin municipality in winter.
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	40 in Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Coastal Tianjin is probably the northern limit of this species' winter range.
Mongolian Lark	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Only my second ever sighting in Tianjin (my previous encounter was also with a singleton on the more typical date of 7 October [2007]) and a surprising date.
Asian Short-toed Lark	250 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. By far the commonest passerine today!
Eurasian Skylark	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	150 in the Beidagang, Jingqu (both Dagang) & Yuren Matou (Tanggu) areas on the 17/1/2008.
Water Pipit	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. In China Buff-bellied Pipit winters primarily in the lower Yangtze Valley and its likely that Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is probably at, or very close to, the regular northern limit of this species' winter range.
Brambling	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
Reed Bunting	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Again Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is probably at or very close to the northern limit of this species' winter range.
Lapland Bunting	55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

Friday 18 January 2008. All day in the Beidagang, Dagang area.

Qingyu left & headed back to Beijing while I left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang at 07:10hrs & spent almost the entire day birding at Beidagang. I then spent about 20 minutes looking on the Duliujian River immediately south of the hotel & finished the day at 16:35hrs.

It was a gorgeous day today – there was very little wind & it was surprisingly mild. Visibility was much poorer than the previous two days however – being as little as about two kilometres at 08:00hrs, clearing slightly as the wind picked up from about 11:30hrs but the maximum visibility was still a paltry four kilometres. This decreased again as the temperatures started to drop in the late afternoon. At Beidagang it was a cold minus 6°C at 07:45hrs but a surprisingly pleasant 0°C by 13:30 and dropping back slightly to minus 2°C by 15:45hrs.

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.), 07:25-15:45hrs

I explored two areas at Beidagang today -

a. Eastern site. I birded here from 07:25-13:00hrs

The same area that I'd walked with Qingyu yesterday – the area that's accessed by walking south off the concrete road on the main east-west embankment about five kilometres west of the gated entrance to the 'sanctuary'. As yesterday we walked off the road adjacent to the first fisherman's settlement & immediately before the first fish pond on the left. I walked along the embankment to the fishpond, then around the south side of the same fishpond & the one immediately to the west of it before this dirt track joined another one that was larger & raised higher. This second track cut almost due south & started adjacent to the third building on the left (not including the one at the main gate). I walked right to the end of this track – it came to a 'T-junction' at the end, each branch of which went parallel to a large canal. This is probably the largest track that runs north-south across the Beidagang reed bed & its used daily by a few farm vehicles. I walked as far as this 'T-junction' (a distance of perhaps four kilometres one-way), birded the area between there & the derelict small pump house, 400 metres back north, for a while & then retraced my route back to the main road where I rejoined the taxi driver. Birds in this area included –

Rough-legged Buzzard	1
Chinese Penduline Tit	All 94 of the day's birds
Reed Parrotbill	A flock of 11 in the reeds close to the derelict, frame of a pumping station right near the end of the track. 38°43.66'N., 117°26.58'E.).
Asian Short-toed Lark	All 200 of the day's birds
Buff-bellied Pipit	All but one of the day's 24 birds
Pallas's Bunting	80 of the day's 110 birds
Reed Bunting	27 of the day's 30 birds
Ochre-rumped Bunting	All six of the day's birds
Lapland Bunting	About 40 of the day's 270 birds

b. Western site. 13:15-15:45hrs

This second site is about eight kilometres west of the other one & is accessed by walking south of the main east-west road about 100 metres before the large, raised double sluice gates that are themselves about 200 metres east of an impressive new, two or possibly three storey building that looks like a protection station & is set back about 70 metres to the south of the road. I walked about two kilometres south down the recently made dirt track (not driveable). I walked back the same way. The birds were quite different to those at the first site (there were no Penduline Tits, Asian Short-toed Larks, only one Buff-bellied Pipit, no Ochre-rumped and only three Reed Buntings. Birds seen in this area included -

Hen Harrier	3 of the day's four birds
Merlin	All three of the day's birds
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	550 of the day's 700 birds
Little Bunting	All three of the day's birds
Pallas's Bunting	30 of the day's 110 birds
Lapland Bunting	An impressive flock of 230 birds

Site 2. Du Liu Jian He (Duliujian river), Dagang. 16:05-16:30hrs

Birds here included -

Little Grebe	15
Northern Pintail	4
Light-vented Bulbul	2
Japanese Quail	3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Its likely that Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is at or close to the northern limit of this species' winter range.
Common Pheasant	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
'Tundra Bean Goose'	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Mallard	24 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	6 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Northern Pintail	4 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Common Merganser	5 on the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Black-headed Gull	30 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Hen Harrier	4 (three ringtails & an adult male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Upland Buzzard	3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Rough-legged Buzzard	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. It was the same adult male that we saw yesterday.
Common Kestrel	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Merlin	3 (one adult male & two females) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. The two females were hunting with a pair of Hen Harriers.
Little Grebe	16 on the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Chinese Grey Shrike	4 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Birds were seen multiple times & are very wide ranging however I'm confident that I saw at least four birds – possibly as many as six!
Black-billed Magpie	30 in the Beidagang, Dagang area on the 18/1/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	94 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Birds were in groups of the following sizes – three singles, two, four, four, ten & there were two larger flocks – 26 & 45 birds.
Great Tit	1 was heard in gardens near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 gardens near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Reed Parrotbill	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. They were all in a single flock in the reeds close to the derelict, frame of a pumping station right near the end of the track. 38°43.66'N., 117°26.58'E.). Only the second time that I've encountered this species in Tianjin municipality!
Asian Short-toed Lark	200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

Eurasian Skylark	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	700 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. 550 of these were in a single flock at the second of the tow sites I visited.
Water Pipit	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	24 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Little Bunting	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	110 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. A significantly higher count than yesterday – not only because I explored further afield but there were simply more Pallas's Buntings today (and slightly fewer Reed Buntings).
Reed Bunting	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
Ochre-rumped Bunting	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Again Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is probably at or very close to the northern limit of this species' winter range.
Lapland Bunting	280 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Most of these birds were in two flocks – one that I estimated contained about 40 birds & the other a massive 230!

Saturday 19 January 2008. All day in the Dagang/Tanggu area.

I left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang at 07:00hrs & spent most of the morning birding at Beidagang. I left there at 11:35hrs & headed north, up to Tanggu where I met Qingyu & Chenchen. We spent the weekend in a nice hotel in Teda.

The coldest morning so far this winter being minus 8°C at Beidagang when I arrived at 07:15hrs. It had increased to minus 4°C there by 09:30hrs. However visibility was very bad today with most of coastal Tianjin being cloaked in fairly dense freezing fog. Early morning visibility was down to probably just about one kilometre, this had increased to about two kilometres by the time I left.

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 07:15-11:35hrs

Common Pheasant	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
'Tundra Bean Goose'	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008. Presumably a transient since there was virtually no un-frozen open water.
Hen Harrier	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Upland Buzzard	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Rough-legged Buzzard	1 about midway between Beidagang & Tanggu on the 19/1/2008
Common Kestrel	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Water Pipit	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008. There are some subtle differences in the habitat preferences of the two wintering pipits at Beidagang. Most Water Pipits are singletons & the species is noticeably less gregarious than Buff-bellied Pipit & all Water Pipits I saw were found besides areas of open water whereas the Buff-bellieds were usually in areas of burnt stubble.
Buff-bellied Pipit	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008. Probably one of the northernmost records in China this winter.
Pallas's Bunting	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Reed Bunting	25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Ochre-rumped Bunting	3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
Lapland Bunting	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

Sunday 20 January 2008. Early afternoon walk along the Tanggu river front.

We had a relaxing day in our hotel in Teda but Qingyu & me headed out in the early afternoon, sightseeing & shopping along the river front in Tanggu. I took my binoculars but saw very, very little.

During my five day visit (16-20 January 2008) I recorded a modest 46 species in coastal Tianjin.

Green Sandpiper	1 on the river in central Tanggu on the 20/1/2008.
Vega Gull	3 over the river in central Tanggu on the 20/1/2008.
Black-headed Gull	10 over the river in central Tanggu on the 20/1/2008.

Monday 10 March 2008. Beijing to Dagang.

Qingyu & me left Beijing early-morning, caught the 08:05hrs train to Tianjin (51 yuan/person in first class, 43 in second class) & then a taxi to the 3-star Hydrus Hotel immediately opposite the Dagang Power Plant at the northern end of the Beidagang Da Qiao. Arriving there at about 11:05hrs we checked in, dropped our gear & headed out almost immediately. We spent the rest of the afternoon in the area between Yuren Matou, Tanggu, & Jingqu/Beidagang, Dagang areas & before returning to the hotel at 17:30hrs. Rooms here cost 238 yuan/night. The hotel is nice – clean, warm & located close to the Beidagang/Jingqu/Yuren Matou area. It also has a very good, popular restaurant in a separate building to the rear.

Hydrus Hotel, 2233 South of Jingqi Road, Dagang, Tianjin. Tel.: 022 63348888. Qingyu made the reservation via her E Long discount card.

Site 1. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 11:50-12:50hrs

Site 2. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 13:05-14:30hrs

Site 3. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 14:50-17:15hrs

Beidagang was much poorer than when I'd visited the site in mid-January. Most of the taller reeds had already been harvested & much of the stubble had been burnt leaving huge areas devoid of vegetation. Although there was now absolutely no ice (& judging from the temperatures we experienced today there presumably hadn't been any for a considerable time) the water levels had dropped considerably and rather little open water was remaining – a 40 metres wide strip that ran east-west & parallel to but immediately north off the main access road; an large open pool in the supposed 'reserve' about two or three kilometres to the north that we accessed by driving across the narrow road bridge (often submerged) on to the 'island' before turning left (west) to view the pool. This pool had a motorboat on it with guys plying up & down setting or checking what looked like seismic monitors – presumably they were workers from the Dagang oilfield. The third & final area of open water that we saw held the Oriental Storks & access to it is described in more detail in the following day's diary entry. Surprisingly – but perhaps because of the disturbance the entire Beidagang area held virtually NO waterfowl!

It was very low tide at both of the coastal sites – perhaps the lowest I've ever seen it & we guessed that high tide might have been at about 15:30hrs.

Common Pheasant	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
swan sp.	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Common Shelduck	39 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Mallard	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	4 (two pairs) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Smew	1 redhead on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
duck sp.	13 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/3/2008.
Short-eared Owl	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	420 on the 10/3/2008 – 10 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 410 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Spotted Redshank	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Dunlin	1545 on the 10/3/2008 – 110 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1435 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pied Avocet	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Grey Plover	510 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Kentish Plover	3 on the 10/3/2008 – two at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & the other at Beidagang, Dagang.
Mew Gull	55 on the 10/3/2008 – 30 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 25 at Jingqu & one at Beidagang, Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	410 on the 10/3/2008 – 15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 15 at Jingqu & the other 380+ at Beidagang, Dagang.
Siberian Gull	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Vega Gull	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Mongolian Gull	375 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Black-headed Gull	280 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/3/2008.
Relict Gull	259 on the 10/3/2008 – 12 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 247 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Hen Harrier	5 (four ringtails & one adult male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Common Kestrel	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	2 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Grey Heron	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Oriental Stork	45 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	20 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu & Jingqu-Beidagang, Dagang areas on the 10/3/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Water Pipit	35 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Rustic Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
Lapland Bunting	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

Tuesday 11 March 2008. All day Dagang.

We left the Hydrus Hotel at 06:00hrs & spent much of the morning back at Beidagang.

During my two day visit (afternoon of the 10th & morning of the 11 March 2008) I recorded a modest 54 species in the Dagang area.

Weather

It was much windier today – a strong south-westerly that soon backed around the north-west and strengthened. Colder (perhaps about 13

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 06:20-10:30hrs

We explore the 'western site' that I'd first visited on the 18 January this year. Its about eight kilometres west of the other one & is accessed by walking south of the main east-west road about 100 metres before the large, raised double sluice gates that are themselves about 200 metres east of an impressive new, two or possibly three storey building that looks like a protection station & is set back about 70 metres to the south of the road. We walked exactly four kilometres south down the recently made dirt track (now driveable – it wasn't in January) walking as far as the end of the large drainage canal that runs at right-angles to the main, hard-surfaced road. There was a large open water pool at the extreme south-western end of this road & this is where we'd seen the Oriental Storks the previous afternoon (when scanning from near the 'protection station'). We spent about one hour here before walking back the same way to the taxi. The storks were still present, but with the poor visibility we couldn't find the swans & there was a very impressive north-westerly movement of small passerines (predominantly Eurasian Skylarks, Pallas's and Lapland Buntings). Other birds seen in this area included -

Japanese Quail	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Common Pheasant	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Greylag Goose	9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Mallard	4 (two pairs) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Northern Pintail	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Smew	5 redheads at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Common Merganser	2 redheads at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Rock Pigeon	30 between Dagang & Tianjin city on the 11/3/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Pied Avocet	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	2 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Kentish Plover	15 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. Group sizes were as follows – one, one, five & eight.
Northern Lapwing	3 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Mongolian Gull	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Hen Harrier	3 (two ringtails and an adult male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Upland Buzzard	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Grey Heron	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Oriental Stork	48 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. (38°44.01'N., 117°22.65'E). 13 metres above sea level. With a world population recently estimated at a mere 3,000 birds (Wetlands International. 2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) today's count represents 1.6% of that! Incredibly however an amazing c.800 birds were recorded at Beidagang in March 1999, c.70 of which remained into April. (fide Zhang Zhengwang BirdLife International [2001] <i>Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book</i> . Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International).
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	520 flew northwest at Beidagang, Dagang during the morning of the 11/3/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
White Wagtail	4 singles flew northwest at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. Three birds were seen well enough to racially assign and all three were <i>leucopsis</i> .
Water Pipit	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Pine Bunting	2 flew northwest at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Little Bunting	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	320 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. The second commonest passerine here today & most of these flew northwest.
Reed Bunting	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Ochre-rumped Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
Lapland Bunting	90 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. The third commonest passerine here today all were in small parties of between one and 12 birds & all were actively migrating northwest.

Wednesday 30 April 2008. Beijing- Tianjin-Teda/Tanggu.

Qingyu, Chenchen & me left Beijing early-morning, (on the first non-stop train of the day to Tianjin at 09:18hrs) & headed to Tianjin. Once there we took a taxi to Hongrui's house in order to see her new daughter. We had lunch with the three of them plus Hongrui's mother & mother-in-law before heading on to Teda. We took the local train from Tianjin & arrived in central Teda at about 18:30hrs. We checked in at the Teda International Hotel & Club where our room cost 670 yuan including three breakfasts.

Thursday 1 May 2008. Birding in the Hangu & Tanggu areas.

I left the Teda International Hotel & Club at 05:20hrs & spent a few hours birding the Caihongqiao area before returning to the hotel for breakfast. In the late morning/early afternoon I spent time around the Tianjin Port before heading south, past Lujuhe (Lu Ju He) to view the mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

Sunrise 05:10hrs
Sunset 19:01hrs

High tide was probably at about 09:00hrs.

Weather

Dry & quite warm – the forecast in Tianjin was for temperatures to range from about 15 up to 30°C but it remained much cooler on the coast. There was a strengthening north-east wind all day, this created an unpleasant dust storm mid-afternoon when I was at Haibin Yuchang & I called an end to my day because of the reduced visibility.

There had been some massive changes in coastal Hangu/Tanggu since I last birded these areas. The near coastal settling tanks and even the huge complex of fish ponds and salt pans at Caihongqiao had totally vanished & in their place was a massive construction/drainage project. None of the tanks held any water, several had been ploughed over or had heavy machinery lumbering up an down. Moreover the causeway that had been constructed out across the inter-tidal mudflats now extended out for at least two kilometres & a second similar causeway was just starting to be built about 800 metres further south! A small pool immediately inside the sea wall between these two pools held a small number of freshwater shorebirds (including the Western Sandpiper) but otherwise most birds were out on the mudflats.

There has also been considerable more construction/development at the Tianjin Port Industrial Park & basically only one pool held a significant number of birds – sadly most of the stints on this pool were too distant & there was too much heat haze to identify all but a small proportion of them. Of about 1650 stints on this pool only about 300 birds [less than 20%] were seen well enough to identify/

Further south a couple of other new causeways now extend out into the inter-tidal mudflats between the Tianjin Port Industrial Park & Haibin Yuchang – one of these was at Lu Ju He itself and extended out well over one kilometre (possibly much more – visibility was poor).

It was the first day of the shortened May Day national holiday today & Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang were both thronged with people.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 06:15-08:40hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 11:15-14:10hrs

3. Coastal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) 14:45-15:15hrs.

Common Shelduck	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	11 on inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	450 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 15 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 435 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Whimbrel	8 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – the vast majority were on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang.
Common Redshank	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	1020 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 700 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 320 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	650 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu & 260 south of Haibin Yuchang.
Wood Sandpiper	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Common Sandpiper	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Ruddy Turnstone	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	28 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Great Knot	240 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 40 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
Red Knot	90 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 85 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 5 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
Sanderling	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Western Sandpiper	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008. First seen at about 07:45hrs it was watched for only about one minute before all the birds on the pool took flight. It wasn't seen again but I managed to obtain a couple of poor photographs & some brief field notes. The first record for Tianjin & only the second or third for the whole of mainland China!
Little Stint	A remarkable 30 birds were seen in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – one on the Caihongqiao pool, Hangu (photo) & the remaining 29 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu. 12 of the latter were also photographed. Significantly the only other large count in coastal Tianjin occurred on this very same date – 1/5/2007 when 22 birds were logged in coastal Dagang.
Red-necked Stint	1650 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 1635 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu. The vast majority of the latter (1350 birds) were too distant & not seen well enough to eliminate Little Stint!
Temminck's Stint	19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.
Long-toed Stint	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – six at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining four were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	385 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 275 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu & 100 south of Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	155 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 90 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 65 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Grey Plover	930 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 120 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 810 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Little Ringed Plover	22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.
Kentish Plover	1900 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 700 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu & 400 south of Haibin Yuchang.
Lesser Sand Plover	16 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.
Mongolian Gull	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Black-headed Gull	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 5 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 20 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	69 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 51 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 18 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. Two second-summers were seen, all the rest were 1 st -summers.
Gull-billed Tern	19 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Common Tern	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 in the Hangu/Tanggu area on the 1/5/2008.
Whiskered Tern	2 singles flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	10 in & around Tanggu/Teda on the 1/5/2008.
thrush sp.	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	2 singles were heard flying north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Barn Swallow	50 in the Hangu/Tanggu areas on the 1/5/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 over the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools on the 1/5/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	10 in & around Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 was heard flying north over the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools on the 1/5/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 singles near the hotel in central Teda on the 1/5/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu/Teda on the 1/5/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	5 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	4 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

Friday 2 May 2008. Morning birding in the Dagang & Tanggu areas.

I left the Teda International Hotel & Club at 05:00hrs & headed straight south to Jingqu. I birded there & then at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools before returning early to the hotel. I arrived back at about 11:50hrs.

Weather

Overcast & hazy – though with very slightly better visibility than yesterday (perhaps two kms!). Because of the cloud cover there was far less heat haze today & I was able to identify many more of the stints on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools today than I was yesterday.

Site 1. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). 06:00-10:00hrs

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 10:30-11:20hrs

Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Spotted Dove	2 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	4 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	110 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Whimbrel	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Eastern Curlew	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Spotted Redshank	24 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Common Redshank	2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	450 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 80 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 320 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	180 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 165 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 5 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Wood Sandpiper	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Common Sandpiper	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

Asian Dowitcher	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Great Knot	15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Red Knot	95 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Little Stint	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 5 on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang (one was identifiably photographed) & 6 others on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu (there were seven birds on this same pool the previous day).
Red-necked Stint	1550 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 120 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 112 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 1320 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. On of the 112 birds on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.). had an orange leg flag on its right leg. Other birds on this same pool are noted below.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	113 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 54 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 65 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	1300 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 880 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 367 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 50 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Curlew Sandpiper	380 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 60 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 305 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	25 on pools at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Pied Avocet	40 on one pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008. Most birds were obviously paired & were perhaps planning to breed here?
Grey Plover	800 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Kentish Plover	1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 400 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 25 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 1100 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Lesser Sand Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/5/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/5/2008.
Oriental Plover	1 apparent first-summer female on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/5/2008. My first sighting in Tianjin & only the second I've ever seen in China – the first being an injured bird on the Sand Flats at Beidaihe Qinhuangdao, Hebei in late May about ten years ago.
Black-tailed Gull	1 first-summer on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Black-headed Gull	300 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008. As with the following species all of those seen well enough were non-breeding first-summers.
Relict Gull	76 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008. Only four of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats the remaining 72 were on a single large freshwater pool just back from the coastline.
Gull-billed Tern	42 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Common Tern	22 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Whiskered Tern	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Common Buzzard	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Grey Heron	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Chinese Pond Heron	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008.
Common Stonechat	6 in coastal Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Sand Martin	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Barn Swallow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008. Significantly five birds came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang at 08:25hrs!
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	2 singles flew north at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 in the gardens of the Teda International Hotel & Club, Teda on the 1/5/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008.
White Wagtail	15 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	15 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Richard's Pipit	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Pechora Pipit	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Little Bunting	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

Oiled birds

Black-headed Gull	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008 was extensively smeared with pale oil.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 first-summer on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu had a large patch of dark oil on its belly.

Leg flagged shorebirds in coastal Tianjin.

1 Red-necked Stint with 112 other Red-necks on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang, coastal Tianjin (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.) on the 2/5/2008 had an orange flag on its right leg. According to Clive Minton & Heather it was flagged in Victoria (Australia), (38°0'S., 145°0'E.), sometime since January 1990. The resighting was a distance of approximately 8979 km, with a bearing of 339°, from the marking location.

Saturday 3 May 2008. Morning birding in the Tanggu area.

I left the Teda International Hotel & Club at 05:00hrs & headed straight south to the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools where I birded for almost two hours. I then returned to the hotel, we all had breakfast together & finally left Teda heading back to Beijing.

High tide was probably at about 11:00hrs &, possibly because of this, there were few stints on the settling pools e.g. today I logged 740 Red-necked Stints on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools while yesterday, shortly after high tide I counted almost 600 more (1320 birds).

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 05:25-07:10hrs

Whimbrel	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	400 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Common Greenshank	2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	2 were heard over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Little Stint	23 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008. 20 on the small, southern pool with 325 Red-necked Stints & the other three were on the larger, northern pool with 415 Red-necks. Birds on the latter pool were significantly more distant & its likely that several more Little Stints were missed.
Red-necked Stint	740 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Temminck's Stint	11 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Long-toed Stint	4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Dunlin	2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	40 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 flew north over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	13 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Kentish Plover	450 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Black-headed Gull	13 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Common Tern	11 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Common Stonechat	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Barn Swallow	20 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 in the Tanggu & Teda area on the 3/5/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
White Wagtail	4 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	10 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	3 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
bunting sp.	20 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

Friday 1 August 2008. Afternoon birding in the Tanggu/Hangu area.

We left Tongzhou at 07:30hrs & headed straight to Beijing South Railway Station intending to take the new, high speed train from there to Tianjin. However we had it wrong & while the old trains no-longer run from Beijing Central Station the first of these new trains wasn't due to run until later that afternoon! Frustrated we headed instead to the long distance railway station & caught a bus to Tanggu. This service runs every 30 minutes from 06:30hrs until the early evening, tickets cost 50 yuan/person & the journey time was just a fraction over the advertised two hours! Excellent.

Once in Tanggu we checked in to the increasingly dilapidated Hong Fa hotel, phoned our regular driver, had a quick bite to eat in the nearby KFC & headed out at 12:50hrs.

We spent the afternoon visiting two sites & kept the taxi with us for just over six hours, relinquishing it when we arrived back at the hotel at about 19:00hrs. Today's taxi fare was 200 yuan.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 13:15-17:30hrs.

It was high tide during my visit & impressive numbers of shorebirds, especially Sharp-tailed Sandpipers & Asian Dowitchers, were on the pool closest to the river mouth.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 18:00-18:30hrs

Poor light & the fact that most of the shorebirds were distant meant that I didn't stay long.

Common Snipe	1 was heard in flight over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	65 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	23 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008. One colour flagged bird was noted it had a black over a white flag. According to Clive Minton of the AWSG it had been flagged at Chongming Dao, Shanghai, China (approx. 31°27'N., 121°55'E.) sometime since April 2006. The resighting was a distance of approximately 932 km, with a bearing of 337°, from the marking location.
Whimbrel	8 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

Eurasian Curlew	1 was heard in flight over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	320 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Common Redshank	2 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	720 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Common Greenshank	31 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	15 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	5 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	8 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	3 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	A very impressive 1390 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008. A sample count of 174 birds produced 158 adults (91%) & only 16 juveniles (9%). My previous highest count on the Tianjin coast was of 813 birds, also at Caihongqiao, Hangu on a very similar date - the 28 July 2006. The world population of Asian Dowitcher has recently been estimated to be only 23,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Hangu represents just over 6% of the entire old world population!
Red Knot	1 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Little Stint	2 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008. One of them was photographed.
Red-necked Stint	1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 280 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 700+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Six orange colour flagged birds were noted – four on the Caihongqiao Pools & the other two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Temminck's Stint	20 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	A very impressive 2070 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 1750 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 320 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One yellow colour-flagged bird was noted on the Caihongqiao Pools. This is count easily more than double my previous high count on the Tianjin coast which were 958 on the 31 August 2006 & 877 on the 6 August 2007.
Dunlin	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 1 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Curlew Sandpiper	73 summer plumaged adults in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 23 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two colour flagged birds – one yellow & the other orange were noted at the Caihongqiao Pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	29 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 24 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	170 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Pied Avocet	4 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Grey Plover	6 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	37 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 6 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 31 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – with about equal numbers (500) on both the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Oriental Pratincole	7 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – with about equal numbers around both the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	6 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	340 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	8 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Common Tern	18 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	264 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	288 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Grey Heron	137 on one of the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 juvenile flew over central Tanggu around midday on the 1/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2008.
Sand Martin	300 over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	50 over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in & around Tanggu on the 1/8/2008.

Saturday 2 August 2008. All day the Tanggu & Hangu areas.

I left the Hong Fa hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs & headed back to Caihongqiao.

Hong Fa Hotel, Tanggu. (39°02.01'N., 117°39.02'E.).

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 05:24-09:10hrs.

Like yesterday I had a look on the pools, the inter-tidal mudflats (it was low tide during my visit &, unlike yesterday, most shorebirds were on the mud flats) & also the salt pans around the small hamlet of Qingtuozi.

2. Industrial wasteland pools at northern end of Teda. (39°05.29'N., 117°43.09'E.). 09:40-10:15hrs.

I've never visited this site 7.91kms Ne of Tanggu town centre, before – we simply saw some roadside waders from the taxi & stopped.

3. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 18:00-18:30hrs

I explored more of this increasingly vast complex of reclaimed land, deep water pools & shallow ponds & found three very impressive concentrations of shorebirds – seeing probably more individual birds here (perhaps even approaching 20,000 birds!) than on any previous visit. The largest shorebird-thronged settling tank is rectangular in shape & covers almost 6 square kilometres

(5.74km²) in area being a good 4.1 kms long and 1.4kms wide. The shorebirds were not uniformly scattered over it but occupied less than one quarter.

Mallard	11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Rock Pigeon	20 in & around Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	25 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 24 adults on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other bird, my first juvenile of the autumn, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Bar-tailed Godwit	20 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008. The black over white colour flagged bird that I saw yesterday was still present.
Whimbrel	4 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	405 on the inter-tidal mudflats at on the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	280 adults near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 250 around the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Redshank	13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Normally scarce in coastal Tianjin (& Hebei) today's count is one of the highest I've ever had in the area. My previous maximum was on a very similar date & involved 20 around Tanggu on the 6 August 2007.
Marsh Sandpiper	3970 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 740 (just 20 more than yesterday) around the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu; 580 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & the other 2650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One juvenile, my first of the autumn, was at the first site.
Common Greenshank	56 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 3 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & another 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	640 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 40 on & around Caihongqiao, Hangu; 120 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 480 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Terek Sandpiper	7 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & another calling bird flew over the Hong Fa hotel in central Tanggu at 18:40hrs.
Common Sandpiper	6 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	6 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Ruddy Turnstone	4 on the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	120 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 115 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Red Knot	3 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Sanderling	1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Little Stint	1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Red-necked Stint	A massive 10,250 birds were counted near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 280 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 20 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 9950 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. The vast majority of birds at the latter site were on just three of the settling tanks with 6450 on the largest tank, 2550 on the next largest & 700 on another. My previous high counts in coastal Tianjin were both almost four weeks later in late August & involved 5200 on the 29 August 2002 & 5950 on the 28 August 2005 The world population of Red-necked Stint has recently been estimated at 315,000 birds (Wetlands International. 2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so today's count represents just over 3% of the entire world population! 23 colour flagged birds were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu – one yellow & 22 orange.
Temminck's Stint	67 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 20 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 36 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	22 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 8 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & another 8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2925 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 550, mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats today, at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 335 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 2040 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Its likely that there were many, many more on the mud flats at Caihongqiao where 1750 were counted yesterday. Its also likely that there's little overlap between these three main sites & assuming this the actual number of birds currently in the Tanggu-Hangu area is probably in excess of 4000 birds! I arrived at these numbers by summing the three larger counts (1750 on the Caihongqiao pool yesterday, 335 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 2040 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu today). The world population of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper has recently been estimated to be 160,000 birds & 4000 birds equates to about 2.5% of the world population!
Dunlin	18 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	512 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 1 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 505 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	45 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 42 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	200 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – the vast majority of these, 1176 birds, were on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools.
Pied Avocet	15 flew south over Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Grey Plover	30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	175 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 95 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 68 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	2500 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Birds were present at all three sites but weren't counted at any of them. The Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu held the largest numbers.
Greater Sand Plover	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	7 near the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	45 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 39 at Caihongqiao, Hangu (mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats) & 6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-headed Gull	2600 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Birds were present at all three sites but were only specifically counted at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu where there were 2250 birds. Three juveniles were seen today – the first of the autumn.
Relict Gull	19 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 14 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

Little Gull	1 summer plumaged adult with the Black-headed Gulls on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. I've had three previous sightings of Little Gulls in Tianjin, all have been in Tanggu & later in the autumn. These records are as follows - an adult-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18 September 2004; an adult-winter near Gaoshaling on the 7 October 2004 & two second-winters together on the Industrial Park Pools on the 1 September 2006.
Gull-billed Tern	2, an adult & an attendant juvenile, at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Caspian Tern	1 calling juvenile flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Common Tern	8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	430 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Apart from 8 at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other 422 were at Caihongqiao, Hangu where the majority of birds were seen in three discrete groups with parties of 30, 190 & 197. The adults were feeding close in shore & returning to feed their offspring. Three sample counts of one of these groups yielded between 28-32% juveniles.
Whiskered Tern	4 adults near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – one came in off the sea at Caihongqiao, Hangu & three others were besides the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools.
White-winged Black Tern	825 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Little Egret	12 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Grey Heron	35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Black-crowned Night Heron	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	1 at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	6 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	31 Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 28 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other 3 were besides the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools.
Sand Martin	50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 in central Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in & around Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
White Wagtail	3, including at least 1 <i>leucopsis</i> , at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

Sunday 3 August 2008. All day in the Tanggu & Dagang areas.

We left the Hong Fa hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs & headed south spending all day at a variety of sites between Tanggu & Dagang before returning to the hotel at 16:50hrs.

High tide today was at 17:02hrs.

Sun rise was at 05:12hrs

Sun set 19:20hrs

Site 1. Large pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.) 05:45-06:30hrs & 15:30-15:45hrs.

Site 2. Freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 06:45-10:00hrs

Site 3 Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°42.85'N., 117°33.89'E.). 10:10-10:40hrs & 13:30-15:00hrs

We made two visits here, one mid-morning & the other to catch the rising tide in the early afternoon.

Site 4. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.8' N., 117°27.8' E.). 11:00-13:00hrs

It was very, very hot when we visited this site & we didn't stray very far from the shelter of the car simply driving 13 kilometres west along the main embankment & returning to the main road the same way.

Site 5. Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38° 53.9'N., 117° 39.7'E.). 15:50hrs,

Site 6. Southern end of the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. (38°54.82'N., 117°40.55'E.). 16:00-16:15hrs

duck sp.	3 flew over Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 singles in Dagang on the 3/8/2008 – one at Jingqu & the other at Beidagang.
Fork-tailed Swift	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Rock Pigeon	20 in & around Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
Common Moorhen	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	4, including one juvenile, on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu the 3/8/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Whimbrel	8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	430 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Eastern Curlew	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. The majority of these were on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Redshank	7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 1500 in Tanggu with 740 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 320 on the Tanggu airport pool & 420 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Counts further south in Dagang included 340 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang (38°42.85'N., 117°33.89'E.), where there was also a colour flagged bird that had black over orange. Heather on behalf of Clive Minton of the AWSG provided the following details. The bird had been flagged in Java (Indonesia) (approximate co-ordinates 7°

	4°S., 114°2'E. sometime since 2007 & the resighting was a distance of approximately 5103 km, with a bearing of 4° from the marking location.
Common Greenshank	300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. Of these 265 were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	5 on the 3/8/2008 – 3 over the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & two singles in Dagang – one at Jingqu & the other at Beidagang.
Wood Sandpiper	180 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. Birds were equally split between Tanggu & Dagang with 90 in Tanggu (25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 55 on the Tanggu airport pool & 10 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang) & 90 in Dagang (10 at Beidagang & all the rest at Jingqu).
Terek Sandpiper	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	570 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Great Knot	11 summer plumaged adults on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
Red Knot	48 summer plumaged adults on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
Little Stint	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008. It was photographed.
Red-necked Stint	600 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 320 at Jingqu, Dagang & 250 on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools Five colour-flagged birds were logged – one with a yellow leg flag & another with an orange flag on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.); 3 leg-flagged birds (one orange, one yellow & the third had a yellow flag above its knee & an orange flag below) were on a coastal pool at Jingqu (38°42.9'N., 117°33.9'E.). The yellow over orange bird was flagged in Southwest Australia, (approx. 31°59min S, 115°49min E.), sometime since December 1999. The resighting was a distance of approximately 7859 km, with a bearing of 1°, from the marking location.
Temminck's Stint	35 – all on one pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	700 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 365 in Tanggu with 220 on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 131 on the Tanggu airport pool, & just 14 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Further south there were 174, including one bird with an orange leg flag, on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang (38°42.85'N., 117°33.89'E.).
Dunlin	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 99 in Tanggu with 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 14 on the Tanggu airport pool & 45 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Further south in Dagang there were 38 on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5, including my first juvenile of the autumn, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	190 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 50 in Tanggu with birds on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, on the Tanggu airport pool & on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Further south there were about 140 in Dagang with 87 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu & 45 at Beidagang.
Pied Avocet	7 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Grey Plover	30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	75 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These involved 68 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
Kentish Plover	2500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. The majority of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Greater Sand Plover	26 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	1152 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. Of these 669 were in Tanggu - 301 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 348 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 20 on the Tanggu airport pool & the remaining 483 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mongolian Gull	8 with other gulls on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	2 first-years (one of which was almost entirely juvenile) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Relict Gull	740 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. All sightings as follows – 15 in Tanggu with 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pool, 2 on the Tanggu airport pool, 8 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere 725 were counted at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	9 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008 – 3 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other 6 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	5, three adults & 2 attendant juveniles, on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
Common Tern	30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	140 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 116 in Dagang with 65 at Jingqu & 51 at Beidagang.
Whiskered Tern	1200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	30 in Dagang on the 3/8/2008. The majority (25+) were at Beidagang but several were also seen at Jingqu.
Black Kite	1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2 juveniles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
accipiter sp.	1 bird, probably a Eurasian Sparrowhawk, was seen near Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Little Grebe	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Great Cormorant	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Little Egret	55 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008. These included just one in Tanggu – a juvenile on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. The remaining 54 birds were in Dagang with 8 at Jingqu & 46 at Beidagang.
Grey Heron	50 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008. The vast majority of these were on the mudflats at Jingqu.
Purple Heron	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Great Egret	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Yellow Bittern	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Sand Martin	2350 were counted on wires at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008. A sample count of 280 birds revealed almost equal numbers of adults (49%) & first-years (51%).
Barn Swallow	50 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Zitting Cisticola	15 in Dagang on the 3/8/2008. Other than a single singing bird at Jingqu all the others were at Beidagang.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

Monday 4 August 2008. All day in the Hangu & Tanggu areas.

I left the Hong Fa hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs & spent the entire day at just two sites in the Hangu/Tanggu areas returning to the hotel at 17:30hrs..

High tide

The day's high tides were at 04:35 & 17:38hrs & the tide was still high when I arrived at Caihongqiao in the early morning & was approaching full height when I left the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools in the late afternoon

Weather

Another gloriously sunny day – very hot & humid. Temperatures reach 35°C midday & while there was very little wind first thing in the morning a strong southerly & later easterly & onshore wind started by about 07:00hrs.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 3.5 hours from 05:30-09:00hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 7 hours from 09:45-16:45hrs

Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 calling bird flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	65 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 60 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Whimbrel	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	495 roosting at high tide near the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Eastern Curlew	1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	60 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 40 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Redshank	3 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	2700 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	380 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	700 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 685 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Terek Sandpiper	8 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Sandpiper	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	3 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 besides the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	345 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 305 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Great Knot	1 summer plumaged adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Red Knot	1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Little Stint	2 single summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Red-necked Stint	10,000 were estimated on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008! Nine colour flagged birds were noted – seven orange, one yellow & one orange over yellow.
Temminck's Stint	35 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 28 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5900 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 1600 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 4300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu! Four juveniles, the first of the autumn, were seen at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Dunlin	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	315 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 310 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	15 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	200 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 55 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remainder on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	215 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008 – a marked increase on the previous few days.
Grey Plover	15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	135 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 128 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One badly oiled bird was seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Kentish Plover	3000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – less than 200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 2800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Greater Sand Plover	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	205 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 39 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 166 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Mongolian Gull	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

Black-headed Gull	5400 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 5150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. 6 birds with varying amounts of oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Relict Gull	20 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – one first summer flew north over the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. 2 with oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Little Gull	2 separate summer plumaged adults (one of which was first seen two days ago) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008. They differed slight in plumage, one bird starting to moult out some of the back feathers from around the base of its bill, & both were photographed.
Gull-billed Tern	6 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Tern	247 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	465 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 155 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 310 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	190 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 170, including the first juvenile I'd seen this autumn, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Little Egret	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Grey Heron	30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Great Egret	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Black-crowned Night Heron	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	2 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Sand Martin	100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	150 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Zitting Cisticola	1 singing bird was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008!
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008.
White Wagtail	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
Oiled birds	
Little Ringed Plover	1 badly oiled bird was seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	6 with varying amounts of oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
Relict Gull	2 with oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

Tuesday 5 August 2008. All day in the Hangu-Tanggu area.

I left the Hong Fa hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs & spent much of the day at the same two sites that I visited yesterday.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 05:21 & 18:14hrs.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 3 hours 15 minutes from 05:30-08:45hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 5.5 hours from 09:15-14:50hrs

Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 flew over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	6060 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	300 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	50 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 35 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Redshank	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	3000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 500 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2500+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	170 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 150 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Wood Sandpiper	450 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 400+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Terek Sandpiper	5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Sandpiper	3 around the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	250 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Red Knot	3 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Little Stint	9 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008. This is easily my highest ever autumn day count in China away from Xinjiang! Five different birds were photographed.
Red-necked Stint	10,000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008. 15 colour-flagged were noted – 13 orange, one yellow & one orange above the knee & yellow below. Still no juveniles had been seen.
Temminck's Stint	58 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 54 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	8 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 600 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & at least 4500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One yellow flagged bird was seen on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu.
Dunlin	4 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	260 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & at least 250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two yellow flagged birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	17 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	210 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 60 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	4 flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Grey Plover	10 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	225 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 210 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Yesterday's badly oiled bird was still on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Kentish Plover	3000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – about 250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & all the rest on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	21 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	85 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	3500 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008. The vast majority of these were around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
Common Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	200 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008. The vast majority of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Whiskered Tern	4 flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	895 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 710 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 185 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two juveniles were seen today – all the rest were adults.
Little Egret	2 singles in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Sand Martin	400 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	300 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	6 flew south, all together, at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

Wednesday 6 August 2008. Early morning in the Hangu area.

I left the Hong Fa hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs & spent the early morning at Caihongqiao.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 06:05 (& 18:45hrs)

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 3.5 hours from 05:30-09:00hrs.

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	218 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	8 on the salt pans near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. One of these had a yellow leg-flag.
Whimbrel	3 singles flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	360 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Common Redshank	2 singles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	1300 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Common Greenshank	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	65 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	4 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	850 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Little Stint	1 summer plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. This was the thirteenth bird that I'd seen in coastal Tianjin during my current visit (1-6 August) &, like nine of the others, it was also photographed.
Red-necked Stint	250 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Temminck's Stint	63 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Long-toed Stint	2 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1290 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. One orange & one yellow leg flagged birds were seen.
Curlew Sandpiper	15 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	27 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. 1 bird with what appeared to be a black leg flag was seen. It was watched at 50 metres range for about 10 minutes & the flag really did look black as opposed to being covered in mud!
Black-winged Stilt	120 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Pied Avocet	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Grey Plover	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	15 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Kentish Plover	100 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	3 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	15 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

Black-headed Gull	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Relict Gull	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Common Tern	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	400 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	3 in Tangu on the 6/8/2008.
Sand Martin	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 in Tangu on the 6/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 between Tangu & Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
White Wagtail	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
Richard's Pipit	1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. My first of the autumn.

Tuesday 26 August 2008. Beijing to Tangu.

Qingyu & me left Tongzhou at 04:45hrs & headed in to Beijing pick up Nigel Marvin. This done we next headed to the Zhao Gongkou Long Distance Bus Station intending to catch the first bus of the day to Tangu. Our three week old timetable showed that the first bus was scheduled to leave Beijing at 06:00hrs, but unbeknown to us the new, winter schedule had started the day the Olympic Games finished, on the 24 August & the first bus on this schedule didn't leave Beijing until 06:30hrs. There was then a regular half-hourly service right through until the last bus of the day at 19:30hrs. Tickets for the bus cost 50 yuan each & the three of us arrived in Tangu less than two hours later at 08:25hrs. Qingyu had called ahead to Mr Chen (13820791812), our regular Tangu taxi driver, & he duly arrived to pick us up at the appointed site five minutes later. We spent most of the morning at the Caihongqiao Pools and almost 2.5hrs in the afternoon exploring the Tianjin Port Reclamation Pools before Nigel & Qingyu headed back to Beijing. They caught the 16:00hrs coach while I checked in at the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu in Tangu.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 10:48hrs.

Sun rise was at	05:32hrs
Sun set	18:50hrs

Weather

A glorious day. There had been an overnight thunderstorm with heavy rain in Beijing the previous evening & some rain persisted until about half-way on route to Tangu (until about 07:15hrs). The rest of the day was warm, clear & sunny with temperatures probably rising to about 28°C.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 3 hours from 08:45-11:45hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tangu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 2 hours from 12:40-14:50hrs

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	125 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	3 besides the fishponds near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008. One bird was colour flagged with black over white on its right leg. The white flag was inscribed V8. This bird was banded on Chongming Dao, Shanghai (approx. 31°27'N., 121°55'E.) on 15 April 2007. The resighting was a distance of approximately 932 km, with a bearing of 337°, from the marking location.
Little Curlew	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Whimbrel	5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Eastern Curlew	2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	60 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 50 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu.
Common Redshank	6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	3500 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 850 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu.
Common Greenshank	20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 30 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu.
Terek Sandpiper	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	349 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008. A small sample count of 48 birds produced 39 juveniles & nine adults.
Great Knot	4 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Little Stint	1 moulting summer plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008. (Photo).
Red-necked Stint	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 26/8/2008. Several juveniles were seen as were two orange flagged birds.

Temminck's Stint	340 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 260 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	7 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	4000 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 1040 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 1 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. All four birds were adults.
Curlew Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008. Both were adults.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 2, an adult & a juvenile, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 others on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	1170 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Grey Plover	10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1950 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Oriental Pratincole	33 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Mongolian Gull	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-headed Gull	1200 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. An unusually large number of oiled birds (19) were noted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu – all had oil on their breasts and many also on their bellies as if they'd picked it up while swimming on the water (perhaps at an overnight roost?).
Relict Gull	1 adult-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	16 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Caspian Tern	1 adult flew over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Common Tern	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 26 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	130 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 110 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	1350 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 270 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1080 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Kestrel	1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Little Egret	42 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Grey Heron	145 roosting at high tide on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	4 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	3 near Tanggu on the 26/8/2008.
Common Stonechat	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – singles near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Thick-billed Warbler	2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in the Hangu-Tanggu areas on the 26/8/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	10, including two <i>simillima</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008. About 8 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other two flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

Wednesday 27 August 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs & spent the day back at the Tianjin Harbor Reclamation Pools.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 12:48 & 18:37hrs.

Weather

Hot & humid with poor long-range visibility. 23°C at 05:45hrs & perhaps about 30°C in the early afternoon. There was very little wind today & the morning was misty, visibility improving only very slightly through the day.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 9 hours 45 minutes from 05:30-15:15hrs

Common Shelduck	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Common Snipe	2 singles over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	11,200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. By far the largest day count I've ever made at this site, or anywhere in China for that matter! Previous maxima have included 7150 on 26 July 2006 & 5520 on 29 August also 2006 & 5000 on 7 September 2004.
Common Greenshank	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Green Sandpiper	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	600 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

Asian Dowitcher	53 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. 34 of these (64%) were adults, 19 juveniles.
Red-necked Stint	3500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. A sample count of 651 birds yielded 583 adults (90%) & 68 (10%) juveniles. 13 leg-flagged birds were seen & they all bore orange flags.
Temminck's Stint	461 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The three highest local counts are 688 on 7 September 2006, 780 on 2 October 2007 & 753 on 4 October 2006.
Long-toed Stint	35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The largest ever local count of this locally uncommon species is of just one more bird, 36, on a very similar date (the 30 August 2005).
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	8850 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. This is the largest ever local count of this species & is in what's turning out to be an exceptional year for it. One orange flagged bird was seen.
Dunlin	125 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. All adults.
Curlew Sandpiper	91 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. 78 of these(86%) were adults, the remaining 13 (14%) juvenile.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	61 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	830 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The local highest count is a massive 2965 on the 29 August 2006.
Pied Avocet	3085 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The local highest count is a slightly higher 3475 on the 8 October 2006 while all the other high counts were also in 2006 and involve 2780 on 29 August, 2100 on 4 September & 2075 on 10 October 2006.
Pacific Golden Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	115 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	285 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	61 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Vega Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Mongolian Gull	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. As yesterday an unusually large number of oiled birds (14) were noted that had oil on their breasts and many also on their bellies as if they'd picked it up while swimming on the water (perhaps at an overnight roost?).
Gull-billed Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Common Tern	178 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	365 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	2250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	13 separate individuals were heard flying south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Arctic Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
White Wagtail	6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Grey Wagtail	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Richard's Pipit	7 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
bunting sp.	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	14 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	13
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1

Thursday 28 August 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu, with a different driver, at 04:55hrs & spent much of the early morning back at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools before heading south. I stopped again at the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & had hoped to move south from there on to Jingqu – but it had just rained & the taxi driver wouldn't take his vehicle off the hard surfaced road! Frustratingly we turned around & headed back to Tanggu, arriving back at the hotel at 13:20hrs.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 14:00hrs.

Weather

Early morning visibility was even worse than yesterday's – probably being down to just over one kilometre. Despite a stronger wind this poor visibility remained until a mid-day thunderstorm after which it cleared markedly – visibility near Jingqu, Dagang was then about four kilometres. This rain continued from about 12:00 until I arrived back in Tanggu at 13:20hrs.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4.5 hours from 05:25-10:00hrs

2. Large pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.) 11:10-11:50hrs.

3. Freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 06:45-10:00hrs

4. Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°42.85'N., 117°33.89'E.). 10:10-10:40hrs & 13:30-15:00hrs

We made two visits here, one mid-morning & the other to catch the rising tide in the early afternoon.

5. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.8' N., 117°27.8' E.). 11:00-13:00hrs

It was very, very hot when we visited this site & we didn't stray very far from the shelter of the car simply driving 13 kilometres west along the main embankment & returning to the main road the same way.

6. Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38° 53.9'N., 117° 39.7'E.). 15:50hrs,

7. Southern end of the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. (38°54.82'N., 117°40.55'E.). 16:00-16:15hrs

Common Teal	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Whimbrel	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	50 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	5000 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 4500+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 300 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Common Greenshank	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	400 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 350+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 30 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Common Sandpiper	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	38 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Sanderling	1 moulting adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Red-necked Stint	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008. A sample count of 467 birds yielded 457 (98%) adults & just ten juveniles (2%) – a markedly different proportion to yesterday! Three leg-flagged birds were logged – two orange & one undetermined/ distant & possibly covered in mud.
Temminck's Stint	230 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Long-toed Stint	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008. One black over yellow colour flagged bird was seen but probably not much more than 20% of the 4000 birds present could be checked for the presence of leg flags.
Dunlin	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Pied Avocet	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	5 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	660 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 270 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 390 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	900 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 4000 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	2 (an adult & a first-winter) roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Caspian Tern	27 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Common Tern	310 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 130 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 180 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
'Eastern' Little Tern	720 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 240 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 320 in the river immediately upstream from Yuren Matou.
Whiskered Tern	20 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	500 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 80 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 120 in the river immediately upstream from Yuren Matou.
Eurasian Hobby	1 adult flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Little Egret	15 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Grey Heron	30 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	17 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	4 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Common Stonechat	4 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	50 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Arctic Warbler	2 singles around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Forest Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
White Wagtail	5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

Eastern Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Grey Wagtail	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Richard's Pipit	14 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – eight over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another six over the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Common Rosefinch	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
Little Bunting	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
bunting sp.	6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

Friday 29 August 2008. Most of the day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 08:15hrs spent the day south of Tanggu returning to the hotel at 17:30hrs.

High tide

The day's high tide, a large one, was at 14:50hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry but visibility was again very poor – being not much more than one or two kilometres all day.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 3 hours from 09:00-12:00hrs

2. Large pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.) 12:10-13:00hrs.

3. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 2.5 hrs from 13:20-16:00hrs

4. 1.45 kms of intertidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38° 53.9'N., 117° 39.7'E.). Almost 30 minutes from 16:15-16:40hrs,

5. Southern end of the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. (38°54.82'N., 117°40.55'E.). 16:00-16:15hrs

Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	128 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008. Five leg flagged birds were present in this high-tide roosting flock, four with yellow flags & one black over white. The latter was only seen briefly & distantly & there's a possibility that it also had some characters written on the white flag.
Whimbrel	97 in coastal Tianjin on 29/8/2008 – of these three were on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other 94 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Curlew	620 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Eastern Curlew	17 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & two at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Redshank	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	6000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – ca.4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 300 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 1200 on the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe – all three sites in Tanggu. This latter site was not counted previously & these birds were likely in addition to those counted in the very high count two days ago. Further south there were 500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Terek Sandpiper	4 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	5 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Great Knot	13 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Red Knot	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Little Stint	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008. Photographed & a description taken. This very well marked bird was the first juvenile I'd seen in Tianjin or indeed anywhere in eastern China.
Red-necked Stint	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang. Four leg flagged birds were logged – two orange in a party of 200 birds on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one orange, one yellow in a flock of 120 birds at Jingqu, Dagang.
Temminck's Stint	150 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). There were also about 80 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Long-toed Stint	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	7000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – ca.4000 were very roughly estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 150 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 2700 on the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe – all three sites in Tanggu. This latter site was not counted previously & these birds were likely in addition to those counted in the very high count two days ago. Further south there were 350 at Jingqu, Dagang.

Dunlin	650 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-winged Stilt	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pied Avocet	2500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited with 1800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 50 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 450 on the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). Further south there were 200 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Ringed Plover	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Kentish Plover	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Lesser Sand Plover	4, three moulting adults & a juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	7 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Grey-headed Lapwing	25 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 16:45hrs on the 29/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	1527 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited today with 140 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 632 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 35 the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). Further south there were 520 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Mongolian Gull	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited – the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
Saunders's Gull	3, two adults & a first-winter, at one of the high tide gull roosts at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Relict Gull	538 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – three roosting with other gulls besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 535 roosting at two separate high tide sites at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	10 between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Caspian Tern	25 in the gull & tern roost besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Common Tern	250 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Most were in the gull & tern roost besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Most were in the gull & tern roost besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Most were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Kestrel	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Little Egret	63 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Grey Heron	50 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Purple Heron	1 juvenile with the Grey Herons & Little Egrets on the edge of the salt marsh at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	225 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited – 38 at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 'several' near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 'several' more besides the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). However the largest concentration was at Jingqu, Dagang where I counted 192 birds!
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	4 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 29/8/2008.
Black Drongo	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	5 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Yellow-rumped Flycatcher	1 male at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 male besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Common Stonechat	10 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	40 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Thick-billed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Arctic Warbler	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Forest Wagtail	2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the morning & the other over Jingqu, Dagang in the late afternoon.
White Wagtail	5 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	15 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Three birds were seen well enough to racially & all three were <i>simillima</i> .
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Richard's Pipit	4 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Common Rosefinch	2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
Chestnut Bunting	1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

Saturday 30 August 2008. all day around Tanggu..

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs spent most of the day at two sites near Tanggu.

High tide

The day's high tide, a large one, was at 15:27hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry initially & visibility had improved on the previous couple of days. Overcast all morning - making viewing some of the more distant shorebirds possible it started to rain at about 14:30hrs & shortly after that rained very hard, causing me to head back to the hotel early.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 4.5 hours from 05:20-09:45hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4 hours from 10:40-14:40hrs

Common Teal	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Fork-tailed Swift	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Common Snipe	3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	60 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Whimbrel	1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	3 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	30 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	5000 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 4500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	120 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	600 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – about 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the remainder on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Terek Sandpiper	2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Common Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Long-billed Dowitcher	1 winter-plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008. Probably the second record for Tianjin (one was seen, and photographed, in Tanggu sometime in 2006) it was photographed & a description taken. It was also twitched, unsuccessfully, from Beijing by Chen Liang & three of his friends!
Asian Dowitcher	14 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 11 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Great Knot	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Little Stint	2 separate summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008. One of them was photographed.
Red-necked Stint	2500 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & all the others on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Five colour-flagged birds were seen (four orange & one yellow) at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Temminck's Stint	822 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 239 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 583 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	66 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – eight on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 56 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5500 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One yellow colour-flagged bird was seen at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	25 (24 adults & one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008. Surprisingly considering how few adults were seen two colour flagged birds were noted – one yellow & the other yellow over orange. The latter was a colour combination I hadn't noted in this species before (but I'd seen three Red-necked Stints with yellow over orange previously).
Broad-billed Sandpiper	176 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Ruff	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008. (Photographed). My third sighting in Tianjin – my two previous encounters were also of single birds on these same reclamation pools & were on the 5 August & 6 October 2007,
Black-winged Stilt	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 100 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	2840 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 2830 were counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Grey Plover	60 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	250 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 43 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & all the rest around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & all the rest around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Oriental Pratincole	62 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	84 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Caspian Tern	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – an adult with an attendant juvenile at Caihongqiao, Hangu & another adult with an attendant juvenile over Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Tern	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	15 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	2950 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.

Common Kestrel	1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Little Grebe	13 on a fishpond at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Little Egret	71 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Grey Heron	45 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Purple Heron	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with about equal numbers around Caihongqiao, Hangu & around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-billed Magpie	2 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 30/8/2008.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	3 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Siberian Blue Robin	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sand Martin	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with about equal numbers around Caihongqiao, Hangu & around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Arctic Warbler	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
White Wagtail	4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	10, including two <i>simillima</i> , the only birds racially assigned in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008. About equal numbers were seen around the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
bunting sp.	2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

Sunday 31 August 2008. Most of the day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs spent the day at the same two sites near Tanggu as yesterday returning to the hotel at 17:30hrs.

Chen Liang and four of his friends again twitched the Caihongqiao Long-billed Dowitcher today – this time successfully. Apparently leaving Beijing at about 06:00hrs they arrived on site just before 09:00. I spent the rest of the morning & early afternoon birding with one of the two car loads of birders – we travelled together to the Tianjin Harbour Pools & they left to head back to Beijing just before 15:00hrs.

High tide

It was a full moon today & the day's swollen high tide was at 16:01hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry &, because it had rained hard overnight, visibility was initially poor but improved throughout the day & was very good by the late afternoon.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 5 hours from 05:30-10:30hrs.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 5.5 hours from 11:30-17:00hrs

Garganey	5 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Common Teal	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 in Tanggu town on the 31/8/2008.
Common Snipe	4 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	73 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008. Of these there were 71 adults & just two juveniles – the latter the first of that age I'd seen so far this autumn.
Bar-tailed Godwit	10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008. Among them was the bird seen six days earlier, on the 26 August, with black over white leg flags on its right leg. The white flag was inscribed V8.
Whimbrel	47 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – two near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & a flock of 45 flew high to the south, as if migrating, over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 14:50hrs.
Eurasian Curlew	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & a flock of about 15 landed briefly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Eastern Curlew	2 in a flock of about 15 Eurasian Curlews that landed briefly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Spotted Redshank	65 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Common Redshank	5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	4000 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 210 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 4000 were estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Green Sandpiper	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

Wood Sandpiper	600 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the remainder were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Terek Sandpiper	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – two on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Long-billed Dowitcher	Yesterday's bird was still on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008. It was successfully twitched by five Beijing birders, including Chen Liang, today.
Asian Dowitcher	28 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 27 (12 adults & 15 juveniles) on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other (a juvenile) was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Great Knot	2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Sanderling	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Little Stint	2 separate summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008. At least one of these was different to those seen yesterday making at least five different individuals in the area during my second autumn visit tot Tanggu. I've now seen at least 18 birds during the autumn as a whole & my 53 in coastal Tianjin so far this year! [I saw 13 different birds on my previous autumn visit (1-6 August) & at least 35 during my spring visit (1-3 May)].
Red-necked Stint	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008. Four colour flagged birds were noted – three orange & one black. A very small number (69) of birds were aged & of these 32 (46%) were adults & 37 (54%) juveniles.
Temminck's Stint	620 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 195 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 425 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – five on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	4500 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 610 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 4000 birds were estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two colour flagged birds were noted today – one yellow among the 610 birds on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & one with black over orange on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	38 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 37 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One orange flagged bird was among the 37 birds (36 adults & one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	216 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 215 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	450 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 165 actually on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu while another 61 birds flew high & purposefully to the south (in flocks of six, 15 & 40 birds that really looked as if they were in the process of migrating). Elsewhere there were about 230 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 1950 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Grey Plover	140 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 80 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – very few on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu while about 2000 were estimated to be around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	30 near the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 135 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & about 160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Black-headed Gull	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – very few at Caihongqiao, Hangu & about 500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	1 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	50 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Caspian Tern	4 on the 31/8/2008 with an adult & an attendant juvenile, at both the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Tern	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – with again about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	3100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Common Kestrel	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other high over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Little Egret	350 in Hangu on the 31/8/2008 – 33 on the Caihongqiao Salt Pans & 350 on the Yongding River immediately upstream of the Caihong Bridge.
Grey Heron	30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Brown Shrike	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-billed Magpie	2 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 31/8/2008.
Black Drongo	1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Sand Martin	2 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Barn Swallow	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	4 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
Arctic Warbler	1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	6 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Richard's Pipit	13 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
bunting sp.	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

Monday 1 September 2008. Most of the day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs spent the day at a number of sites south of Tanggu returning to the hotel at 17:30hrs.

I spoke to several guys today who were in the management of the Tianjin Dredging Company Ltd. Their company, apparently an entirely government owned concern, is in charge of the massive land reclamation project which will stretch for a full 30 kilometres from the river mouth at Tanggu in the north south to Dagang (ending at Jingqu). (I measured this distance using my GPS on the 10 October 2008 & the distance from the embankment on the southern side of the Tanggu river to the base of the southernmost causeway at Jingqu, Dagang was 31.21kms). What's more it will extend a massive ten kilometres out in to the sea and hence the reclaimed area will be 300² kms! The entire project is scheduled to be finished in about ten years time – 2018. To the north of the river mouth at Caihongqiao there's another, & thankfully smaller, coastal reclamation project!

High tide

The day's high tides were at 03:38 & 16:34hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry & with outstanding visibility throughout the day.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4hrs 20 minutes from 05:25-09:45hrs

2. 1.45 kms of intertidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38° 53.9'N., 117° 39.7'E.). 10:00-11:30hrs when I was asked to leave by the staff here.

3. Complex of roadside pools immediately east of the toll booth between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6'N., 117° 34.6'E.). 12:00-12:10hrs

4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.) 12:15-13:15hrs.

5. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 2.5 hrs from 13:45-16:15hrs

Common Shelduck	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Eurasian Wryneck	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	14 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – ten Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four more at Gaoshaling.
Bar-tailed Godwit	15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Whimbrel	10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	480 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Eastern Curlew	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Common Redshank	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	16,500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008. 13,500 of these were on four of the largest Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 900, 1430, 2600 & 8500 birds on them respectively). In addition there were another 2500 on the recently created coastal pool at Lujuhe. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin & indeed anywhere in China! I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Pied Avocet & Kentish Plover in coastal Tanggu today!
Common Greenshank	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Most of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Wood Sandpiper	500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008. The vast majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Terek Sandpiper	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – one over the Lujuhe impound, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 juvenile, the first that I'd seen this autumn, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Great Knot	5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Red Knot	1600 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	400 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – these were almost equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the Lujuhe impound. A sample count of just 114 birds at the latter site yielded 15 adults (13%) & 99 juveniles (87%).
Temminck's Stint	510 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – the majority of birds (423) were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & there were also 80 on the Lujuhe impound.
Long-toed Stint	11 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – seven on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four on the Lujuhe impound.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	9500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 7500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2000 on the Lujuhe impound! Record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh Sandpiper, Pied Avocet & Kentish Plover!

Dunlin	325 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 285 were in coastal Tanggu with 25 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 30 on the Lujuhe impound & 230 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 45 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Curlw Sandpiper	15 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – seven on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & eight on the Lujuhe impound. Of these 12 were adults and the other three juveniles.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	14 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 11 on the Lujuhe impound.
Black-winged Stilt	285 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 230 were in coastal Tanggu with 110 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 40 on the Lujuhe impound, 60 on the Gaoshaling pools & 20 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 55 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pied Avocet	5350 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – exactly 4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 275, 300 & 3425 birds being logged on three of the large pools). Slightly further south there were another 1300 on the Lujuhe impound! I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Kentish Plover in coastal Tanggu today!
Grey Plover	650 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang on the 1/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	100 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 20 on the Lujuhe impound.
Kentish Plover	12,000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 7650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 650, <i>ca.</i> 3000 & <i>ca.</i> 4000 being recorded on the three largest pools)! Slightly further south another 3500 were estimated to be on the Lujuhe impound & 600 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang. I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Pied Avocet in coastal Tanggu today! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 12% of the entire flyway population! This is probably the second largest count ever in China - the largest count for China and the entire flyway is 24,313 in the Huang He NNR, Shandong on the 6 April 1999. Other high counts in China are 7880 at Chongming Dongtan NNR, Shanghai on 14 Marsh 2001 & 5550 in the Shi Jiu Tuo (Happy Island)/Daqing He area, Hebei on 30 August 1994 [note the close proximity of the date].
Grey-headed Lapwing	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	1523 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 715 were in coastal Tanggu with 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 20 on the Lujuhe impound & 660 at Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 808 at Jingqu, Dagang. Amazingly this is just four birds fewer than I counted in this same area four days previously!
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	7750 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 4280 were in coastal Tanggu with 1750 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, just 10 on the Lujuhe impound, 520 on the Gaoshaling pools & 2000 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 3450 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Saunders's Gull	5 (two adults & three first years) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Relict Gull	1276 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – two on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the remaining 1274 in three discrete high tide roosting flocks at Jingqu, Dagang. The first group was at 38°42.794'N., 117°33.926'E. Only four first-winter birds were seen – the vast majority being adults and a sample count of 259 birds at Jingqu yielded just one first-winter (<1%), 16 second-winters (6%) & 242 adults (93%). Five orange flagged birds were also seen at Jingqu, Dagang – four among a roosting party of 591 birds & one in another roosting flock of 321 birds. All five birds were flagged on their right leg. (Note that probably less than half of the birds in these two flocks were seen well enough to check for the presence of leg flags – some were swimming, some standing on just their left leg or others were so tightly packed as to be obscured from full view.
Gull-billed Tern	30 over the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	28 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. 26 of these were in Tanggu with one over the Lujuhe impound & 25 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. The other two birds, an adult & an attendant juvenile, were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Tern	476 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 420 were in coastal Tanggu with 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 182 at high tide on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & another 190 at high tide on a pool not far north of Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 56 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Eastern' Little Tern	395 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 275 were in coastal Tanggu with 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 140 at high tide on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & another <i>ca.</i> 100 at high tide on a pool not far north of Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 120 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Whiskered Tern	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – four flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another three did the same over the Lujuhe impound.
White-winged Black Tern	650 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 400 were in coastal Tanggu with 300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 50 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & another 50 at high tide on a pool not far north of Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 250 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	3 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Little Egret	110 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Grey Heron	650 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Little Heron	1 flew high to the south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 06:25hrs on the 1/9/2008.
Eurasian Spoonbill	7 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	3 widely scattered singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Black Drongo	1 flew south over the Lujuhe impound, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2 singles around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – three around the Lujuhe impound, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
Rusty-rumped Warbler	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other near the Lujuhe impound.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
Arctic Warbler	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other two at Jingqu, Dagang.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
White Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	15 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the Lujue impound, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

Oiled birds

Black-headed Gull	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
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Tuesday 2 September 2008. Morning north of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs spent the early morning north of Tanggu returning to the hotel at 09:30hrs.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 04:21 & 17:05hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry & with decent visibility.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 3 hours from 05:30-08:30hrs.

Common Shelduck	6 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Teal	4 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Kingfisher	2 singles near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. The first birds I'd seen in coastal Tianjin this autumn.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	3 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Snipe	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	298 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Whimbrel	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	45 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Eastern Curlew	7 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	136 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	160 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Greenshank	491 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Sandpiper	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Long-billed Dowitcher	1 bird, now in its fourth day, was still on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	14 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. Of these only one was an adult, the other 13 being juveniles.
Great Knot	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	3 (two juveniles & one adult) on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Temminck's Stint	269 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	269 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. One black over yellow colour flagged bird was present.
Dunlin	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	27 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	32 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Grey Plover	15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	43 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	5 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	30 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	45 roosting during the early morning high tide around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	4 roosting during the early morning high tide around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	15 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Tern	3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	1 flew south low over the sea off the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. The first of the autumn.
Little Egret	40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Grey Heron	80 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Black-crowned Night Heron	2 adults on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	4 singles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Black-naped Oriole	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. The first of the autumn.

Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Sand Martin	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 in & around Tanggu on the 2/9/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 in Beitang village north of Tanggu on the on the 2/9/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	3 in Beitang village north of Tanggu on the on the 2/9/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Thick-billed Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Arctic Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu on the 2/9/2008.
White Wagtail	4, including one <i>leucopsis</i> , in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 2/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
bunting sp.	1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

Wednesday 3 September 2008. All day in Dagang.

Qingyu & me left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel in Tanggu at 05:00hrs spent the entire day at a series of sites in Dagang & spent the night at the Hydrus Hotel on the north-eastern side of the Dong Feng Da Qiao (Dong Feng Big Bridge) & immediately across the road from Dagang Power Station. Qingyu had negotiated a very good price of 220 yuan/room/night.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 05:02 & 17:35hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry & with moderate visibility.

1. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 1 hour from 06:10-07:15hrs

2. Southern area at Jingqu, Dagang. (38°39.99'N., 117°34.12'E.). 2.5hrs from 07:50-10:30hrs

3. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). 5hrs from 11:10-16:00hrs.

Japanese Quail	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Pheasant	13 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Mallard	4 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Garganey	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Teal	12 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Eurasian Wryneck	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Kingfisher	3 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – two singles at Jingqu & one at Beidagang.
Common Cuckoo	2 (an adult & a juvenile) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Little Owl	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Grey Nightjar	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Spotted Dove	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Moorhen	6, including some recently & locally fledge juveniles, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Snipe	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Whimbrel	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	750 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Eastern Curlew	12 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Redshank	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	500 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 400 at Jingqu & 100 at Beidagang.
Common Greenshank	490 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 480 at Jingqu & 10 at Beidagang.
Green Sandpiper	12 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – one at Jingqu & 11 at Beidagang.
Wood Sandpiper	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Sandpiper	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Temminck's Stint	50 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Dunlin	650 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	50 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 30 at Jingqu & 20 at Beidagang.
Pied Avocet	30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Grey Plover	450 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

Little Ringed Plover	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Grey-headed Lapwing	207 flew south in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 187 at Jingqu & 18 at Beidagang. Flock sizes were as follows – two, two, three, six, eight, 13, 13, 17, 17, 24, 25, 34 & 43.
Oriental Pratincole	720 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008. Eight birds flew south while all the rest were resting on a sandy area at the eastern end of the reserve.
Black-tailed Gull	150 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 148 at Jingqu & two at Beidagang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	500 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Saunders's Gull	3 (two first-winters & an adult-winter) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Relict Gull	867 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008. Three roosting flocks (of 42, 70 & 755 birds) were noted – all at the same three sites as two days previously. Five orange colour flagged birds were seen in the larger of the three flocks.
Gull-billed Tern	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Tern	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	350 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 310 at Jingqu & 40 at Beidagang.
Whiskered Tern	220 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	400 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – almost all of these were at Jingqu with just three at Beidagang.
Black-shouldered Kite	2 juveniles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008. (What was believed to be the second for Tianjin was recorded at this same site, Beidagang on 1 March 2006 [Liu Yang & Tseng-guofan in China Bird Watch 48: April 2006]).
Eastern Marsh Harrier	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Pied Harrier	1 adult male flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Little Grebe	10, including several locally fledged juveniles, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Great Cormorant	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Little Egret	143 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 60 at Jingqu (including a flock of 35 birds that came in high off the sea) & 83 at Beidagang.
Grey Heron	200 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 177 at Jingqu & 20+ at Beidagang.
Purple Heron	33 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – a flock of 28 came in off the sea at Jingqu & 5 at Beidagang.
Great Egret	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Yellow Bittern	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Eurasian Spoonbill	7 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	15 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 3 at Jingqu & 12 at Beidagang.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Black-naped Oriole	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Grey-streaked Flycatcher	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	15 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – one at Jingqu & 14 at Beidagang.
Taiga Flycatcher	27 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – three at Jingqu & 24 at Beidagang.
Siberian Blue Robin	16 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Sand Martin	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	100 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Zitting Cisticola	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Rusty-rumped Warbler	2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Thick-billed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Dusky Warbler	2 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with singles at both Jingqu & Beidagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	12 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with about four at Jingqu & eight at Beidagang.
Arctic Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
(Two-barred) Greenish Warbler	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with singles at both Jingqu & Beidagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with birds at both Jingqu & Beidagang.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
White Wagtail	3 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	15 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with about ten flying south at Jingqu & five Beidagang.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
Chestnut Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

Thursday 4 September 2008. All day in Dagang.

I left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang with Mr Li (13212254810) in his car at 05:00hrs. We spent the morning at four sites in the Dagang and southern Tanggu areas & I returned to the hotel for a break midday (11:45-15:00hrs). I headed back out again in the afternoon, revisiting Jingqu, Dagang for the second of the day's high tides.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 05:42 & 18:00hrs.

Dawn & dusk

Sun rise 05:40hrs
Sun set 18:37hrs

Weather

Fine & dry through the day (but it rained hard from a bout 20:30hrs) that evening & with moderate visibility throughout the day.

1. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 2 hours from 05:50-08:00hrs & another 2 hrs from 15:25-17:30hrs

2. Inter-tidal mudflats about two kilometres north of Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou. (ca.38°47'N., 117°34'E.) 10 minutes from 08:20hrs

3. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). Just over one hour from 08:40-09:55hrs.

4. Complex of roadside pools immediately east of the toll booth between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6'N., 117° 34.6'E.). 1.5hrs from 10:05-11:30hrs

Common Shelduck	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Common Teal	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Common Kingfisher	1 besides the Gaoshaling Pool, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Common Snipe	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	282 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & 281 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. 171 birds were aged and these produced 162 adults (95%) & nine (5%) juveniles.
Bar-tailed Godwit	101 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. Of these a high tide roosting flock of 61 birds at Jingqu, Dagang contained two yellow flagged birds. Elsewhere there were 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Whimbrel	40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	950 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 560 at Jingqu, Dagang & 350 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Eastern Curlew	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	140 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Common Redshank	12 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	700 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 40 at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang & 600 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Common Greenshank	80 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 15 at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang & 20 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Green Sandpiper	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	10 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	1 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Grey-tailed Tattler	5 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & four on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Great Knot	73 juveniles on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Red Knot	592 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 14 juveniles at Jingqu, Dagang & 578 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Red-necked Stint	22 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – four juveniles at Jingqu, Dagang & 18 birds (nine adults & an equal number of juveniles) in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu. 41% of today's birds were adults.
Temminck's Stint	50 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	70 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Dunlin	580 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 juveniles in one of the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 juvenile at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	700 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – counts included 15 at Jingqu, Dagang & 678 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	30 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
Grey Plover	300 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	75 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	2000 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – counts included 25 at Jingqu, Dagang & in Tanggu district there were 1000+ on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & a similar number in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Greater Sand Plover	1 badly oiled juvenile was near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Grey-headed Lapwing	2 singles flew south in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one over Jingqu, Dagang & the other over the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Black-tailed Gull	1168 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 283 at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou and an impressive 845 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The majority of these, 1200 birds, were on one of the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	15 (seven adults & eight juveniles) at the high tide gull roost at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Relict Gull	1189 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. Of these 1164 birds (in discrete high-tide roosting parties of four, 460 & 695 birds) were at Jingqu, Dagang. In Tanggu district there were three on the inter-tidal mudflats about two

kilometers north of Yuren Matou, 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & a single first-winter with about 1200 Black-headed Gulls on one of the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. Six orange flagged birds were seen among the large roosting flock at Jingqu. Only six first-winters were seen during the day.

Gull-billed Tern	20 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	24 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one adult at Jingqu, Dagang & 23 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Common Tern	120 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The vast majority of these were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	80 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The vast majority of these were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	300 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The majority of these were at two sites – the complex of roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu & on the pools immediately outside the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang. 1 flew southwest over the complex of roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 came in off the sea immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008 was the first I'd seen this autumn.
Amur Falcon	50 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 30 at Jingqu, Dagang & 20 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Little Egret	140 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. Of these 77 birds were at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were ten on the inter-tidal mudflats about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou, 43 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & about ten in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
Grey Heron	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	5 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Sand Martin	30 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 singles in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one was heard near the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu & the other was seen in the ornamental garden right inside the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang.
Rusty-rumped Warbler	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Arctic Warbler	100 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
White Wagtail	5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	2 in waste ground immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	1 flew southwest over the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Pechora Pipit	1 in waste ground immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 in waste ground immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
Oiled birds	
Greater Sand Plover	1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

Friday 5 September 2008. Most of the day at just two sites – one in Dagang & the other in Tanggu.

I left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang with Mr Li (13212254810) in his car at 05:00hrs. We drove back to Jingqu where I spent about 1.5 hours birding before returning to the hotel to pick up Qingyu. The three of us then drove north to Tanggu in order for Qingyu to catch a bus back to Beijing. I then switched taxis, to Mr Chen's, and the two of us headed off to the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park where I spent much of the rest of the day. Just before one pm I stumbled across a Chinese Crested Tern & this became the focus of an afternoon twitch with two guys from Tianjin (a Mr Han & another gent) and Wang Qin from Beijing turning up. Sadly although I watched the bird for a full two hours Mr Han was the first to arrive & he turned up merely 15 minutes after the bird disappeared! I spent the night back at the Hong Fa Hua Yuan hotel in Tanggu.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 06:20 & 18:24hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry & with poor long range visibility.

1. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 1.5 hrs from 05:20-06:55hrs

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 8 hrs from 09:00-17:00hrs

Common Snipe	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	13 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	68 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008. Among this flock were two birds with yellow leg flags.
Whimbrel	18 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	450 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Eastern Curlew	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Common Redshank	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	6000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Common Greenshank	110 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Asian Dowitcher	11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Great Knot	3 juveniles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008. 480 birds were aged & of these 184 were adult (38%) & 296 juvenile. One orange leg flagged bird was among these 480 birds.
Temminck's Stint	615 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Long-toed Stint	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Dunlin	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008 – 385 at Jingqu, Dagang & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	4850 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Pacific Golden Plover	4 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	275 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Grey-headed Lapwing	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	230 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008 – 184 at Jingqu & about 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008. The vast majority of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Relict Gull	666 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008. Birds were seen in four discrete high tide roosting flocks – of 20, 70, 186 & 390 individuals. Only five first winters were seen in total while 175 birds were aged & this produced 164 adults (94%) and just 11 second years. Four birds with orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) were seen – two were in the flock of 390 birds & two others in the flock of 186. This latter flock was seen very well – all the birds in it were well separated & were all standing and I was able to clearly see the legs on nearly all of them (actually I could see the right leg on 168 birds). Two birds in this flock had yellow leg flags & another nine had bands on their right tarsus (lower leg) – two of these bands were bright yellow while the other seven were essentially colourless but appeared to be extremely faded yellow bands.
Little Gull	1 second-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Chinese Crested Tern	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008. Photographed and a description taken this was the first record for Tianjin. Found at 13:00hrs it flew off northwest almost two hours later at 14:55hrs and wasn't seen again. Sadly this was just 15 minutes before Mr. Han from Tianjin, the first of the three twitchers to chase the bird, arrived.
Common Tern	120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 near Tianjin town on the 5/9/2008.
Little Grebe	4 near Tianjin town on the 5/9/2008.
Little Egret	20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Grey Heron	40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	15 between Jingqu, Dagang & Tianjin town on the 5/9/2008.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008.
Arctic Warbler	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008.
White Wagtail	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008 – one flew south at Jingqu, Dagang & the other was walking on the mud of one of the settling tanks at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

Saturday 6 September 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Hua Yuan Hotel, Tanggu with Mr Chen (13820791812) at 05:00hrs &, knowing that several more Beijing birders were coming to twitch yesterday's Chinese Crested Tern, we drove back to the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools. I spent the entire day there.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 07:02 & 18:51hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry & with moderate visibility.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 8 hrs from 05:40-16:30hrs

Common Teal	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 in Tanggu town on the 6/9/2008.
Common Snipe	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Whimbrel	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Common Redshank	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Common Greenshank	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	180 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Great Knot	3 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Red Knot	14 (13 juveniles & on e adult) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Sanderling	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Little Stint	2 moulting adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. The first bird was seen by four other observers while I managed to photograph the second.
Red-necked Stint	1700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. 1031 birds were aged & 226 of these were adults (22%), the remaining 805 being juveniles. Two orange leg flagged birds were seen.
Temminck's Stint	100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Long-toed Stint	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Dunlin	725 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	36 (29 adults & seven juveniles) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	108 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. Very few adults were seen today (probably less than 20 birds).
Ruff	2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. The second bird was seen by five other observers.
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. It was subsequently seen by several other observers.
Black-winged Stilt	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	1200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Grey Plover	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	65 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Greater Sand Plover	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Vega Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Relict Gull	1 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Little Gull	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. Photographed but sadly it disappeared before any of the other observers arrived on site.
Gull-billed Tern	2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	4 (three adults & a juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Common Tern	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	1650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Grey Heron	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in Tanggu town on the 6/9/2008.
thrush sp.	1 was heard in flight over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Dark-sided Flycatcher	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Red-throated Flycatcher	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	7 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Sand Martin	10 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	20 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Asian House Martin	2 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 12:50hrs on the 6/9/2008. Seen by four other observers including Chen Liang this is possibly the first record for Tianjin.
Arctic Warbler	2 singles besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Forest Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
White Wagtail	7 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	18 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	14 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Blyth's Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.



Sunday 7 September 2008. Early morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Hua Yuan Hotel, Tanggu with Mr Chen (13820791812) at 05:00hrs we drove back to the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools. I spent most of the morning there before heading back in to Tanggu where I met Zhao Chao, a Beijing birder who'd kindly offered me a ride back to Beijing.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 08:54 & 19:25hrs.

Weather

Fine & dry but with poor visibility. A wind & dust storm blew up at 11:30hrs, prompting our slightly premature departure.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 8 hrs from 05:30-17:00hrs

Common Teal	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Common Snipe	7 birds, in three different groups, were seen in flight over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
curlew sp.	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Common Redshank	3 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	9500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Common Greenshank	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Ruddy Turnstone	2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Great Knot	3 juveniles, probably the same birds as yesterday, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Red Knot	11, 10 juveniles & one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Sanderling	2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. 115 birds were aged and only three of these (3%) were adults! Among the un-aged bulk a single orange flagged bird was seen.
Temminck's Stint	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Long-toed Stint	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Dunlin	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	6, three adults & three juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	92 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	920 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Pacific Golden Plover	9 birds, a single and then a flock of eight, flew high to the south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Vega Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Little Gull	1 juvenile, the same bird as yesterday, was seen again on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. It was again photographed.
Gull-billed Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Common Tern	35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

White-winged Black Tern	650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 7/9/2008.
Great Cormorant	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Brown Shrike	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Black Drongo	3 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 first-winter female besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	15 near Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Arctic Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Forest Wagtail	3 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
White Wagtail	16, including three <i>leucopsis</i> , around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. The majority of birds were seen actively flying southwest.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	42, including two <i>simillima</i> , around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. As with White Wagtail the majority of birds were seen actively flying southwest.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	31 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
bunting sp.	6 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

Friday 26 September 2008. Most of day in the Tanggu/Hangu area.

Qingyu & me left Tongzhou at 04:45hrs & headed to the Zhao Gongkou Long Distance Bus Station in Beijing. Here we caught the first coach of the day to Tanggu – it left at 06:30hrs. Tickets for the bus cost 50 yuan each & we arrived in Tanggu less than two hours later at 08:25hrs. We took a taxi from there to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu where we checked in. Qingyu had called ahead to Mr Chen (13820791812), our regular Tanggu taxi driver, & he duly arrived to pick us up at the hotel at 09:30hrs. We spent most of the morning & early afternoon at the Tianjin Port Reclamation Pools & the late afternoon at the Caihongqiao Pools.

As of late September there's now another fast way of travelling between Beijing & Tanggu. The high speed train service that shuttles between Beijing & Tianjin & that started in late July (just before the summer's Olympic Games) has several services each day that also serve Tanggu. Leaving Beijing South Station so-called 'special seat' tickets cost 118 yuan, first class 84 yuan & second class tickets are apparently 70 yuan.

Depart Beijing South	Arr. Tianjin	Arr. Tanggu
10:45	11:15	11:39
12:35	13:05	13:29
15:55	16:25	16:49
18:50	19:20	19:44
Depart Tanggu	Arr Tianjin	Arr Beijing South
12:14	12:36	13:10
13:44	14:06	14:40
17:04	17:26	18:00
19:59	20:21	20:55

There had been a massive change in the three weeks since I'd been here. Two of the pools at the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park that previously held thousands, one of the them tens of thousands, of waders now held practically nothing and overall there were far, far fewer shorebirds. Two particular species had declined massively in numbers – Sharp-tailed Sandpiper (I saw none today!) & Marsh Sandpiper. However on the up side there were record numbers of Temminck's Stint (2150!) & an impressive tally of Kentish Plovers (7200). I also logged nine first-winter Relict Gulls – the first, albeit small, aggregation of this age-group this autumn.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 13:41hrs.

Sun rise was at	05:59hrs
Sun set	18:01hrs

Weather

A glorious day. It was fairly warm, clear & sunny with temperatures probably rising to about 22°C.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4.5 hours from 10:45-15:15hrs

2. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 2 hours 15 minutes from 15:45-18:00hrs.

Common Shelduck	30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – eight on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the remainder at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Mallard	10 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & seven at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Garganey	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Common Teal	247 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Common Snipe	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	89 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 68 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 21 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Whimbrel	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	270 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	175 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	1150 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 440 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & ca.700 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Common Greenshank	150 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	45 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 10 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Common Sandpiper	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Great Knot	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Sanderling	9 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008. Other than 100 birds here on the 20 October 2000 I have no other local count in excess of six birds! The three figure count is probably exceptional in recent years.
Red-necked Stint	95 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 85 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. All these were aged & only 10% of these (10 birds) were adults.
Temminck's Stint	2210 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – a massive 2150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 60 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. My previous highest count locally was little over one-third of this number - 822 birds on the 30 August this year.
Dunlin	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	4 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	24 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Ruff	2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 26/9/2008. They were seen to fly off high to the south, loosely associating with a party of Marsh Sandpipers, in the early evening.
Black-winged Stilt	11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	530 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 405 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 125 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Pacific Golden Plover	7 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Grey Plover	45 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	7200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	240 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 68 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 170 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	50 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008. These were about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Vega Gull	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	1000 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
Relict Gull	9 first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
'Eastern' Little Tern	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	1 bird with oil on its belly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Little Grebe	12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Black-necked Grebe	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Little Egret	12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Grey Heron	120 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	2 singles in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	20 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
Rusty-rumped Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Dusky Warbler	7 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
Radde's Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
White Wagtail	6, including one <i>ocularis</i> , in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

Buff-bellied Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Common Rosefinch	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
Little Bunting	4 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

Oiled birds

White-winged Black Tern	1 bird with oil on its belly besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
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Saturday 27 September 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguang on Zhong Shan Beilu in Tanggu at 05:15hrs & headed back to the Tianjin Harbour Pools.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 14:26hrs.

Weather

Another decent day, but windier & cooler. It was fairly warm, clear & sunny with temperatures probably rising to about 18°C.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 3.5 hours from 05:50-09:30hrs

2. Recently completed settling tank between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 10:00-10:35hrs.

3. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 15 minutes from about 10:50hrs & just over one hour from 16:00-17:00hrs.

4. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 4.5 hours from 11:15-15:40hrs

Bean Goose	11 were seen in flight at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008. The first of the autumn & a slightly early date.
Common Shelduck	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Eurasian Wigeon	7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Mallard	127 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	11 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Common Teal	45 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	14, including at least three very well marked <i>baueri</i> -types, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Whimbrel	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	840 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 130 roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 710 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Curlew	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 17 near Lujuhe & 72 roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, both Tanggu & about 10 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 1170 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 600 at Lujuhe, both Tanggu & 150 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	250 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Great Knot	252 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Red Knot	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Sanderling	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Temminck's Stint	1950 in coastal Tanggu on the 27/9/2008 – 1820 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 130 on the recently completed settling tank at Lujuhe.
Dunlin	1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	11 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 2 on the settling tank at Lujuhe, both Tanggu & 2 more at Jingqu, Dagang.
Black-winged Stilt	1 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	3600 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these were on a couple of large settling tanks at Lujuhe, Tanggu but other sightings included 120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 40 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 70 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pacific Golden Plover	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Grey Plover	830 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	10,000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these, perhaps 7000 birds, were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu but 2500 were also estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Lesser Sand Plover	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	1280 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. Counts included about 1060 birds in coastal Tanggu with 170 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 178 at Lujuhe, 710 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 221 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mew Gull	1 adult-winter with other gulls besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

'Herring Gull Assemblage'	540 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these, 410 birds, were on one of the settling tanks at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Siberian Gull	2, a summer plumaged adult and a second-winter, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008. Both were photographed.
Vega Gull	10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	60 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.
Saunders's Gull	2 first-winters at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Relict Gull	1890 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. Of these 1550 were at Jingqu, Dagang and 340 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. Seven colour marked birds were noted at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008. Four of these seven birds had orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) – one of these four also had an aluminium band on its left tarsus (lower leg) while two others definitely did not have an aluminium band on either leg. The fourth bird's left leg was never seen! Another bird had a faded (yellow?) band on its right tarsus. Another bird had a yellow band on its left tarsus & no aluminium band anywhere The final bird had a colour band on its right tarsus but this was so extensively covered in mud that the colour could not be determined
Gull-billed Tern	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	161 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. 143 in Tanggu with sightings as follows - two flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 108 on the Lujuhe settling tank at high tide; 23 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang also at high tide. Elsewhere there were 28 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Eastern' Little Tern	11 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. Birds were widely encountered with sightings near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, at Lujuhe, besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & at Jingqu, Dagang.
White-winged Black Tern	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	2 near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Little Grebe	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Great Cormorant	8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Little Egret	83 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. 7 of these at Lujuhe and another 11 were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the remaining 65 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Heron	710 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. 80 of these were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the remaining 630 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Oriental Stork	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Black Drongo	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
White's Thrush	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Sand Martin	10 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	20 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	2 singles near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Dusky Warbler	13 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 near Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
White Wagtail	7 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Eastern Yellow Wagtail	8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	12 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	11 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Little Bunting	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
bunting sp.	5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

Oiled birds

Kentish Plover 1 with oil on its belly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

Colour marked Relict Gulls

Seven colour marked birds were noted at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

Four of these seven birds had orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) – one of these four also had an aluminium band on its left tarsus (lower leg) while two others definitely did not have an aluminium band on either leg. The fourth bird's left leg was never seen!

Another bird had a faded (yellow?) band on its right tarsus.

Another bird had a yellow band on its left tarsus & no aluminium band anywhere

The final bird had a colour band on its right tarsus but this was so extensively covered in mud that the colour could not be determined

Sunday 28 September 2008. Most of the day in the Tanggu-Hangu areas.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu in Tanggu at 05:30hrs & headed back to the Tianjin Harbour Pools. I birded there, but access to several of the pools was awkward as there was a Chinese Government VIP (Wen Jiabao?) and his huge entourage visiting today. After that I headed south a short distance to Lujuhe before turning around & visiting Caihongqiao to the north. I arrived back at the hotel at 15:10hrs. Qingyu went back to Beijing today – Chenchen finished school for the week long autumn break this afternoon.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 14:59hrs.

Weather

Another reasonable day, but more overcast and with poorer visibility than the previous two days. It was just 12°C at 06:00hrs, this had risen slightly 18°C shortly after midday (12:20hrs) but the cloud then dissipated and it quickly warmed up reaching 24°C just 1.5hrs later.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4 hours from 06:00-10:00hrs

2. Intertidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 10:15-11:30hrs.

3. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 2 hours 15 minutes from 12:00-14:30hrs.

Northern Pintail	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Garganey	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Baikal Teal	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Common Teal	378 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 355 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
Common Snipe	1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	13 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	310 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	2000 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 1670 in Tanggu with 1140 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 530 on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were 300+ on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
Common Greenshank	720 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008. I saw no adults today – even in a deliberate search through exactly 150 birds!
Green Sandpiper	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Great Knot	2 juveniles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Sanderling	17 juveniles in coastal Tanggu on the 28/9/2008 – 16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one on the pool at Lujuhe.
Red-necked Stint	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Temminck's Stint	2460 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 2450 in Tanggu with 2340 counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 110 on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were just 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasia Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 9.8 & 0.98% of the entire flyway population. The same publication notes that the previous highest count in China was of 1,638 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 1 May 1990.
Dunlin	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	5 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 4 in Tanggu with three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there was also one at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Pied Avocet	3990 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 3960 in Tanggu with 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 3950 on the three large pools between Lujuhe & Tanggu airport. Elsewhere there were 30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Pacific Golden Plover	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Grey Plover	300 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	9100 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 9050 in Tanggu with 7400 on two of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1650 on the three large pools between Lujuhe & Tanggu airport. Elsewhere there were just 50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	350 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 238 in Tanggu with 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 228 at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were 100+ at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	150 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008. The vast majority of these were at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Siberian Gull	1 adult at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Mongolian Gull	30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008. Birds were almost equally split between Lujuhe, Tanggu & Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Black-headed Gull	1000 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
Relict Gull	2 second-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	17 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	89 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 84 in Tanggu with three over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 81 at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were five at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	1 flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Little Grebe	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Little Egret	18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Grey Heron	260 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
Ashy Minivet	4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Sand Martin	30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	500 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	40 flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.

Dusky Warbler	6 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
Radde's Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
White Wagtail	2 singles flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	3 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	4 singles flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008. Birds were noted over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, at Lujuhe & over Caihongqiao.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Little Bunting	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.

Monday 29 September 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Bilingual on Zhong Shan Beilu in Tanggu at 06:00hrs & headed back to the Tianjin Harbour Pools. I birded there most of the morning before heading south to Jingqu. Arriving at a perfect time on a rising tide (but still almost 3.5 hours before the highest) I didn't spend very long here because long-range visibility was very poor. After that I headed back to Tanggu stopping at a couple of coastal sites on the way back..

Qingyu & Chenchen had come back to Tanggu & all three of us transferred to the 5-star Renaissance Tianjin Hotel & Conference Centre, 29 Second Avenue, Teda, Tianjin (Tel. 022 6621 8888. Fax. 022 6621 9999) where discounted holiday rooms cost 747 yuan/night including two breakfasts.

In the evening we went out to dinner with Tanggu's three Chinese bird watchers – Mr. Xu, Mr Han & Mr Yang.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 15:30hrs.

Weather

The separate forecasts for Tianjin City & Tanggu today gave the temperature range as 11-24°C. However it was much windier today &, at least in the early morning, it felt much cooler. Visibility was also much poorer today being down to about two kilometres all day – less than this at Jingqu!

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4.5 hours from 06:20-11:00hrs

2. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). Just 50 minutes from 11:40-12:30hrs

3. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 1.5 hours from 13:15-14:45hrs.

4. Intertidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 30 minutes from 14:50-15:20hrs.

Mallard	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Common Teal	26 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
duck sp.	100 distant birds at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Common Snipe	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Whimbrel	1 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	700 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. Of these 320 were at Jingqu, Dagang & 350 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Eastern Curlew	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	3200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008. A marked increase on the previous three days!
Common Greenshank	100 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Great Knot	45 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Sanderling	13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Red-necked Stint	41 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Temminck's Stint	2100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Dunlin	1000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The vast majority of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Pied Avocet	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Grey Plover	200 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	9000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The vast majority of these, 7200 birds, were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

Lesser Sand Plover	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The majority of these were about equally split between Jingqu, Dagang & the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Mew Gull	1 second-winter besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	450 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The majority of these (385 birds) were at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Mongolian Gull	50 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The majority of these were at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Pallas's Gull	1 first-winter with other large gulls at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008. Although it was between 300-400 metres distant I was identifiably photographed.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
Relict Gull	2588 at two sites in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. 1625 were counted at Jingqu, Dagang & 963 were counted roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. A sample count of 564 birds at the latter site yielded just five (1%) first winters, 66 (12%) second-winters & 493 (87%) adults. Two birds with yellow flags on their right legs were also noted at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.).
Gull-billed Tern	26 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. Nine of these were in Tanggu – with two besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & seven besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 17 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	201 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. 179 of these were in Tanggu with five besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 148 at Lujuhe & 26 roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 22 at Jingqu, Dagang.
'Eastern' Little Tern	5 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Eurasian Hobby	2 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/9/2008 – one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Grebe	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Little Egret	18 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/9/2008 – 11 at Jingqu, Dagang & seven besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	450 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/9/2008 – 370 at Jingqu, Dagang & 80 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Eurasian Spoonbill	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Oriental Stork	4 again on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	4 near Tanggu town on the 29/9/2008.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Rufous-tailed Robin	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Siberian Rubythroat	3 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 29/9/2008 – two besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Daurian Redstart	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Sand Martin	20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
Barn Swallow	800 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	20 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Dusky Warbler	6 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
Radde's Warbler	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
White Wagtail	5 singles, including four <i>leucopsis</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Richard's Pipit	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	3 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Little Bunting	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
Colour marked Relict Gulls	
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg)	2 with 961 other birds besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.





Tuesday 30 September 2008. All day in the Tanggu & Hangu areas.

The three of us had breakfast at 07:00hrs & Qingyu & me left the Renaissance Tianjin Hotel, Teda with Mr. Xu Yongbin at 08:00hrs. We spent the rest of the day exploring a number of sites that I'd not previously visited to the Northwest of Tanggu. In the early evening we stopped, briefly, at the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu before heading back to the hotel. We arrived at about 17:30hrs.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 15:58hrs.

Weather

The separate forecasts for Tianjin City & Tanggu today gave the temperature range as the same as yesterday - 11-24°C. It was not as windy today & visibility was much improved.

1. Yongding Xin He. 08:30-11:00hrs.

This is the fairly new, man-made river, that swings around the northern side of Beitang Reservoir. Besides seeing a decent number of birds were found an area where several locals were illegally catching songbirds. We spent several hours here – releasing the birds that weren't already dead in the nets, taking the mist nets down & then destroying them & the poles. In all we found about 450 metres of active net!

2. Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu. (39°09.18'N., 117°38.34'E.).

We spent a short time birding along the road that runs along the southern edge of the Yongding Xin He and the northern edge of this reservoir. Currently drained so that the silt deposits could be removed this reservoir previously held over 5000 Great Cormorants! Bird near here today included –

Chinese Grey Shrike	3
Mandarin Duck	1
Light-vented Bulbul	25
Oriental Scops Owl	1 found in the illegal mist nets was later released
Siberian Rubythroat	3
White Wagtail	35 including 23 <i>leucopsis</i> & 4 <i>ocularis</i>
Yellow Wagtail	8
Richard's Pipit	6
Red-throated Pipit	3
Olive-backed Pipit	4
Eurasian Skylark	4
Ashy Minivet	1
Common Rosefinch	8
Tristram's Bunting	2
Little Bunting	40
Yellow-throated Bunting	2
Yellow-browed Bunting	1
Yellow-breasted Bunting	2
Black-faced Bunting	25

3. Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu. (39°09.18'N., 117°38.33'E.).

This site, a large apparently fairly shallow reservoir is 7.5kms from the Hong Fa Huar Hotel in Tanggu is one of three reservoirs that are close together on the northern edge of Tanggu county. The others are Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, visited earlier this morning (but drained) & Beitang Reservoir. Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir is close to the Tanggu to Tangshan Expressway & between there & the Jingjin (Beijing to Tianjin) Expressway. An area near the centre of the lake is currently being developed as a golf course. Birds here included –

Great Crested Grebe	8
Spotted Dove	6

Red-throated Flycatcher	1
Green Sandpiper	14
Grey Heron	35
Chinese Grey Shrike	3
Black-crowned Night Heron	8
White-cheeked Starling	20
Wood Sandpiper	2

4. Yonghe Daqiao (locally also known as Jinhan Bridge) on the Tianjin to Hangu road, Tanggu. (39°11.57'N., 117°32.49'E.).

4.47 kms east of Tanggu town. On the north-western side of the bridge is the Qilihai Wetland, Hangu (but this was not accessible today – the approach road was being upgraded).

5. Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu. (39°12.40'N., 117°35.41'E.).

This was perhaps the best single site that we visited today and was accessed by turning left (west) off the Tanggu to Hangu road about 4-5 kilometres north of the Yonghe Daqiao and between 10-12 kms south of Qinghe Nongchang. The tiny, un-surfaced access road is sign posted (in Chinese) to Xiao Xihe Shuiku. We spent about 1.5hrs here & birds seen included -

Black-tailed Godwit	120
Eurasian Coot	103
Falcated Duck	39
Northern Pintail	3
Eurasian Wigeon	3
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	210
Mallard	100
Northern Shoveler	8
Common Teal	70
Great Crested Grebe	6
Little Grebe	30
Osprey	1
Amur Falcon	4 flew south
Great Cormorant	65
Oriental Pratincole	55 flew high to the south
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 flew south
Chinese Grey Shrike	3
Eurasian Wryneck	1

Leaving Xiao Xihe Reservoir we continued to drive north towards Hangu before turning right (east) towards the village of Ningchegu. There was large wetland besides the Chaobaihe west of Ningchegu.

6. Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, Hangu.

Amur Falcon	45
Temminck's Stint	210
Pied Avocet	50
Marsh Sandpiper	50

7. Pools on northern side of Chaobaihe about one km upstream of Caihongqiao.

Common Teal	450
Baikal Teal	3
Northern Shoveler	2
Mallard	15
Pied Avocet	1650
Marsh Sandpiper	30
Temminck's Stint	30

8. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.).

Common Greenshank	600
Marsh Sandpiper	300
Black-tailed Godwit	10
Temminck's Stint	30
Long-billed Dowitcher	1
Black-tailed Godwit	1 ad.-w
Black-headed Gull	2500

Sites that Mr. Xu recommended we visit another time included –

a. Yingcheng Reservoir, Hangu (just about a 15 minute drive from Caihongqiao) is apparently the most favoured haunt of Black-necked Grebe in Tianjin.

Common Pheasant	4 on the southern side of the Yongding Xin River near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Mandarin Duck	1 near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Gadwall	1 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Falcated Teal	39 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Wigeon	3 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Mallard	140 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 30/9/2008 included about 100 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	230 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 30/9/2008 included about 210 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.

Northern Shoveler	11 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 with eight on Xiao Xihe Reservoir & three on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao.
Northern Pintail	6 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 with three on both Xiao Xihe Reservoir & the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao.
Baikal Teal	3 with other ducks on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao on the 30/9/2008.
Common Teal	720 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 70 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, 450 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & 200 on the Caihongqiao Pool itself.
duck sp.	100 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Wryneck	1 near Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	8 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Oriental Scops Owl	1 in an illegal mist net near Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008 was released and the nets destroyed.
Oriental Turtle Dove	30 near the Yongding Xin He, northern Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Spotted Dove	10 in the area between the Yongding Xin He and Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, northern Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Common Moorhen	5 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Coot	103 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Common Snipe	4 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	130 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 120 besides Xiao Xihe Reservoir & 10 in the salt pans near Caihongqiao.
Whimbrel	1 near the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Spotted Redshank	100 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Most of these were at Caihongqiao.
Marsh Sandpiper	380 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 50 in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, 30 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & about 300 at Caihongqiao itself.
Common Greenshank	650 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (<i>ca.</i> 600 birds) were at Caihongqiao.
Green Sandpiper	14 near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	2 near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Long-billed Dowitcher	1 adult-winter on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/9/2008. This was undoubtedly the same bird that was present here almost one month earlier (30 August – 2 September)!
Temminck's Stint	270 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 210 in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, 30 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & another 30 at Caihongqiao itself.
Dunlin	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	25 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Almost all of these were on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao.
Pied Avocet	1700 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 50 in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, 1650 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & about 20 at Caihongqiao itself.
Grey Plover	15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	5 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Kentish Plover	20 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	55 (in flocks of 20 & 35 birds) flew high to the south over Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-headed Gull	3000 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Almost all of these were on a single large pool immediately northwest of the Caihong Bridge.
Gull-billed Tern	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Caspian Tern	5 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – one over Xiao Xihe Reservoir, three (one adult & two juveniles) near the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe & one at Caihongqiao itself.
'Eastern' Little Tern	2 flew over the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Whiskered Tern	1 adult at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
White-winged Black Tern	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Osprey	1 adult at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-shouldered Kite	2 adults near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008. Mr. Xu told us that Mr. Chen Jianzhong, of Tianjin city & author of the recent <i>Niaolei Tuzhi - Tianjin Yeniao Xinshang</i> . (Photographic Guide to the Wild Birds of Tianjin) (2008) had seen 16 birds at Beidagang, Dagang a few days earlier!
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 juvenile in an illegal mist net near Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008 was released and the nets destroyed.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Amur Falcon	49 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – four flew south high over Xiao Xihe Reservoir & another 45 were in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe.
Little Grebe	55 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Birds were widely encountered with the highest count being 30 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir.
Great Crested Grebe	14 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008 – six on Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu & eight at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
Great Cormorant	70 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (65 birds) were on Xiao Xihe Reservoir.
Little Egret	100 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these were besides the Chaobaihe upstream of the Caihong Bridge.
Grey Heron	100 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Great Egret	1 besides the Chaobaihe upstream of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-crowned Night Heron	8 near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Chinese Grey Shrike	7 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. Four in Tanggu with one near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir & three near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir. Elsewhere there were three around the Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
Black-billed Magpie	20 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Ashy Minivet	1 flew south near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	1 was heard near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Siberian Rubythroat	2 near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Bluethroat	1 was heard at the Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Common Stonechat	8 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	25 in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Sand Martin	15 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

Barn Swallow	200 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Light-vented Bulbul	30 in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	20 in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 was heard at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Dusky Warbler	6 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Vinous-throated Parrotbill	2 were heard at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	3 singles flew south in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
White Wagtail	45 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these, including all of those racially assigned (26 <i>leucopsis</i> & eight <i>ocularis</i>), were in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu.
Yellow Wagtail	80 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (70 birds) were around the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Richard's Pipit	5 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	5 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	4 actively migrating birds were noted in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 flew south over the Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
Common Rosefinch	4 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
Tristram's Bunting	2 with numerous other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 near the Yongding Xin He, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Little Bunting	45 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (40 birds) were with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Yellow-browed Bunting	1 with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Yellow-throated Bunting	2 with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	2 with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	35 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these were with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
bunting sp.	20 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

Wednesday 1 October 2008. Late morning & early afternoon immediately Tanggu.

Qingyu & me had breakfast at 08:00hrs & I left the Renaissance Tianjin Hotel, Teda in Mr. Chen's taxi at 09:00hrs. We headed back to the Tianjin Harbour Pools & I birded there for the rest of the morning and into the early afternoon before heading back to the hotel. Today's long-range visibility was extremely poor.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 04:08 & 16:40hrs.

Weather

The forecast for Tanggu today gave the temperature range as 11-24°C. Visibility was very poor today – the poorest so far on the current visit being down to less than one kilometre!

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). Just over 3 hours from 09:30-12:50hrs

Japanese Quail	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Sanderling	12 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Little Stint	1 moulting adult summer on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008. (Photographed).
Red-necked Stint	18 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	1500+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Dunlin	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	1700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008. One bird with a yellow flag on its right tibia (upper leg). No other band, aluminium or otherwise, was present on either leg. (Photo). According to Heather on behalf of the AWSG emailed me on 11 Jan. 2009 saying that this bird was flagged at the Mai Po Marshes, Hong Kong, approximately 22° 29'N., 114° 2'E., & was one of 8 trapped in autumn-early winter 2004. The resighting was a distance of approximately 1866 km, with a bearing of 10° from the marking location.
[Common Ringed Plover	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard call once over on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008].
Little Ringed Plover	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Grey Heron	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

Brown Shrike	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Grey-backed Thrush	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Red-throated Thrush	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Bluethroat	1 first-winter male besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Common Stonechat	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Sand Martin	4 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	100 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	30 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008. The first day I'd seen deliberate visible passage of this species so far this autumn.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	30 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Lanceolated Warbler	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Manchurian Reed Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	13 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
White Wagtail	17, including five <i>leucopsis</i> & one <i>ocularis</i> , at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	6 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	6 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Little Bunting	3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	38 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
bunting sp.	10 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.



Thursday 2 October 2008. Most of the day around Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance Tianjin Hotel, Teda in Mr. Chen's taxi at 05:30hrs. We headed back to the Caihongqiao Pool. Mr. Xu arrived there at 08:00hrs & we spent some time looking at the waders before I departed & headed back to the hotel to have breakfast with Qingyu & Chenchen. I headed out again at 11:00hrs spending time at Beidagang & Jingqu. I eventually returned to the hotel at 17:00hrs.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 04:46 & 16:52hrs.

Weather

Today's temperature ranged from 16-27°C. Visibility had vastly improved today & the wind stiffened throughout the day.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 3.5hrs from 05:35-09:10hrs.

2. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). 1.5hrs from 12:20-13:40hrs.

3. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 2 hrs from 13:55-16:00hrs

4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 10 minutes from about 14:15hrs.

Greylag Goose	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Mallard	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Northern Pintail	4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Garganey	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Baikal Teal	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – six on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & one on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Teal	200 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – ca.200 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & four on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
duck sp.	210 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Spotted Dove	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Eurasian Coot	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Common Snipe	3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	9 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008. One was apparently a juvenile <i>baueri</i> .
Whimbrel	1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	450 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Spotted Redshank	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	700 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 - these included 610 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
Common Greenshank	210 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & two on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Long-billed Dowitcher	2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008. The two differed slightly in plumage and structure the new, shorter-billed bird (photographed) was more heavily barred on its flanks.
Great Knot	17 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Red Knot	9 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	30 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Pectoral Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008. The second record for Tianjin it was subsequently seen & photographed by Xu Yongbin.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Dunlin	2150 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2100 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Ruff	1 juvenile male on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008. It was also seen, & photographed, by Xu Yongbin.
Pied Avocet	1000 on the pools north of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 2/10/2008.
Pacific Golden Plover	4 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Grey Plover	725 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 1500+ on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & 500+ on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Oriental Pratincole	37 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	200 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 59 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & 100+ on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Mew Gull	2 first-winters in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. The vast majority of these, 240 birds, were besides the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu right at dawn.
Mongolian Gull	30 besides the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	3000 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. The vast majority of these were on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 2/10/2008.
Saunders's Gull	2, an adult-winter and a first-winter, on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Relict Gull	910 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008. Two banded birds were seen at Jingqu, Dagang - one adult with an orange flag on its right tibia (but no aluminium ring anywhere) & another adult with an aluminium ring on its left tarsus.
Gull-billed Tern	16 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & six on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	49 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – three at Caihongqiao, Hangu; nine on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang; 30 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & seven at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Whiskered Tern	117 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Osprey	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Black Kite	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Common Kestrel	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one at Caihongqiao, Hangu & three at Beidagang, Dagang.
Amur Falcon	23 in Dagang on the 2/10/2008 – 15 at Beidagang, Dagang & 8 came in off the sea at Jingqu.
Little Grebe	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Little Egret	77 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 36 at Beidagang & 23 at Jingqu, Dagang; seven besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

Chinese Egret	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Grey Heron	450 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 110 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 10 at Beidagang & 271 at Jingqu, Dagang; 150+ besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Purple Heron	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Great Egret	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – three at Beidagang, Dagang & one besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Great Bittern	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Oriental Stork	4 again on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Chinese Grey Shrike	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Black Drongo	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Common Stonechat	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Sand Martin	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. Almost all of these were with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang.
Barn Swallow	10,000 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. The vast majority of these were with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang.
Red-rumped Swallow	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. Almost all of these were with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang.
Light-vented Bulbul	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one in central Teda, Tanggu & at least four at Beidagang, Dagang.
Zitting Cisticola	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
White Wagtail	5 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	4 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – three of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Bunting	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	1 with light oil on its chest at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	1 with light oil on its chest at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

Friday 3 October 2008. Early morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Renaissance Tianjin Hotel, Teda in Mr. Chen's taxi at 05:30hrs & spent a few hours back at the Harbour Pools.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 05:24 & 17:14hrs.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 1.5 hours from 06:00-07:30hrs

Common Teal	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Spotted Redshank	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Red Knot	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	5 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Dunlin	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Oriental Pratincole	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Relict Gull	2 first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Rufous-tailed Robin	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
White Wagtail	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
Red-throated Pipit	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

Friday 10 October 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu with a new taxi driver, Mr. Hu, at 05:30hrs. Mr. Chen, my usual driver was busy today & had found one of his taxi driver friends as a replacement. I eventually returned to the hotel at 16:30hrs.

High tide

The day's high tides was at 12:30hrs but it wasn't particularly high & the day's strong wind lessened it even further.

Weather

Today's temperature ranged from about 8-20°C. Visibility was superb, with absolutely no cloud cover & impeccable visibility. An already strong northerly wind stiffened throughout the day. Note that Northeast China (Heilongjiang & Jilin were in the first grip of cold weather this autumn – temperatures apparently hadn't risen above freezing the previous day & they were shrouded in dense fog!

Sun rise 06:12hrs

Sun set 17:39hrs

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4 hours from 06:00-10:00hrs

2. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 30 minutes from 10:30-11:00hrs & again for 30 minutes from 15:30hrs

3. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 10 minutes from about 11:15hrs.

4. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.). 2 hrs from 11:40-13:45hrs

5. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 30 minutes from 14:10-14:45hrs

[Ruddy Shelduck	2 birds, possibly this species, were seen extremely briefly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008].
Mallard	17 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Common Teal duck sp.	14 flew north over the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008. 160 unidentified ducks were seen in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008 – 10 of these flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the remaining 150 were on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang.
Short-eared Owl	1 came in off the sea at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Stock Pigeon	1 was seen in flight & latter on the mud at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008. The first record for Tianjin.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	12 on a pool at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	950 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Eastern Curlew	34 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Three were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & all the remainder between Yuren Matou & Jingqu, Dagang.
Spotted Redshank	310 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on 10/10/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. In Tanggu one flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 25 were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe & another 10 were on the now largely dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. The majority of birds were in coastal Dagang with 250+ between Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Wood Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Great Knot	40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Sanderling	83 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. 82 of these were in Tanggu with three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 79 were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe. Further south there was one on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Red-necked Stint	25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008. One full summer plumaged adult was among these.
Temminck's Stint	610 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Dunlin	1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. About 100 of these were in Tanggu with 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & a similar number on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe. Further south there at least 1400 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	6 on a pool at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	2485 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/10/2005 – 35 came in off the sea at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & a single tight flock of 2450 were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Grey Plover	1130 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

Kentish Plover	8500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. 5550 of these were counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while elsewhere in Tanggu there were 1700 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe. Further south there were good numbers (1000-2000 birds in a very rough estimate) on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Lesser Sand Plover	12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. No large concentrations were noted.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Most of these, 120 birds, were seen very distantly on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Vega Gull	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	29 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	800 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Most of these, about 500 birds, were at Jingqu, Dagang where a sample count of 198 birds yielded 54 first-years (27%) & 144 adults (73%).
Saunders's Gull	1 adult on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Relict Gull	1084 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. The vast majority of these (1076 birds) were on the mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu, Dagang. With the high tide not being a particularly high one today a large amount of mud was exposed even when the tide was at its highest & consequently the birds were still very widespread. Further north in Tanggu the was one adult on the now largely dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & seven first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Gull-billed Tern	7 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Three of these were over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other four in the Yuren Matou-Jingqu area, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	23 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Five over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu while the other 18 were in the Yuren Matou-Jingqu area, Dagang.
harrier sp.	1 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
accipiter sp.	2 distant singles came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Common Buzzard	3 (two birds together at Jingqu & a single over Yuren Matou) flew south in Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Amur Falcon	3 singles flew south in Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Saker Falcon	1 first-winter male was seen to catch a small shorebird on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008. What was very probably the same bird was seen a couple of hours later hunting over the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe.
Great Cormorant	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Little Egret	12 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Grey Heron	250 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. The majority of these, 228 birds, were on the edge of the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Spoonbill	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
Oriental Stork	16 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. One was on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & the others, a group of 15 came in off the sea at Yuren Matou, Tanggu at 14:10hrs.
Black-billed Magpie	10 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Red-throated Thrush	1 first-winter female besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Sand Martin	10 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	1000 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 10/10/2008. The vast majority of these passed over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the first three hours of the day.
Red-rumped Swallow	50 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	1 at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	220 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 10/10/2008. The vast majority of these passed over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the first three hours of the day.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
White Wagtail	4, including three <i>leucopsis</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Water Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	22 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Eurasian Siskin	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Pine Bunting	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Little Bunting	1 near Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
bunting sp.	15 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	2 birds both with oil on their chest and bellies were seen on the 10/10/2008 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mongolian Gull	1 first year with oil on its chest was with other large gulls on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

Saturday 11 October 2008. All day in the Hangu-Tanggu area.

I left the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu again with Mr. Hu, at 05:30hrs. I eventually returned to the hotel at 16:15hrs.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 2hrs from 05:50-07:45hrs after which I spent about 30 minutes around a nearby roadside pool.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). Almost 2 hours from 09:15-11:00hrs

3. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujue & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 20 minutes from 11:20-11:40hrs & again for 20 minutes from about 15:15hrs

4. Inter-tidal mudflats between the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu. In all –the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°47.37' - 38°50.33'N. & 117°35.18' - 117°36.92'E.). In all I spent almost three hours here from 12:00-14:45hrs.

I stopped at several sites to view these mudflats today – working my way from south to north. The first stop was accessed by taking a temporary exit off the expressway about 500 metres north of the toll booth. I walked from the road about 500 metres to view the mudflats at 38°47.37'N., 117°35.18'E. – this site is 1.89 kms from Yuren Matou.

High tide

The day's high tides was at 13:23hrs but it wasn't particularly high.

Weather

Today's temperature was forecast to range from about 9–20°C. Visibility was very good, not quite as good as yesterday but still well above average. The wind had abated & it was a glorious autumn day.

Common Shelduck	11 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Falcated Teal	1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Eurasian Wigeon	11 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Mallard	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – 14 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & six on the sea of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	2 on the sea off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Northern Shoveler	1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Northern Pintail	1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Baikal Teal	1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Common Teal	75 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Common Pochard	6 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Common Kingfisher	1 besides the dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Long-eared Owl	1 on beach cliffs about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Short-eared Owl	2 singles in Tanggu on the 11/10/2008 – one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Oriental Turtle Dove	5 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Spotted Dove	1 actively migrating bird flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	570 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Eastern Curlew	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Spotted Redshank	45 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – 26 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & about 20 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujue, Tanggu.
Marsh Sandpiper	60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – nearly all of these were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujue, Tanggu.
Green Sandpiper	1 besides a coastal pool south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/20/2008.
Great Knot	9 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Sanderling	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Dunlin	1250 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008. Nearly all of these (1210 birds) were on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	31 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Black-winged Stilt	3 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	2000 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujue, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Grey Plover	120 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	5000 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/20/2008. These included 3900 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & ca. 1000 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou.
Lesser Sand Plover	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Northern Lapwing	3 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	150 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/20/2008. The majority of these were on the mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	150 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/20/2008.
Siberian Gull	2 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 11/20/2008. One on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other at Lujue.
Vega Gull	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	75 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/20/2008. 15 of these were near Caihongqiao, Hangu & there were also at least 60 in Tanggu with 20 the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 39 at Lujue.
Black-headed Gull	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/20/2008. About 500 of these were on the now dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang while the bulk of the days' birds flew west over Caihongqiao, Hangu immediately before dawn. It appeared that most of the latter had roosted on the mudflats (& possibly a few on the sea) off there.
Saunders's Gull	18 adults on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/20/2008.
Relict Gull	1644 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. Of these there were two first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 23 birds at Lujue & 1620 in the bay between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou. Its likely that most, if not all of these birds were different to the 1076 birds counted on the mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu, Dagang yesterday. With the new moon & the relatively low state of the current high tides some mud remains exposed in most

	of the bays between Haibin Yuchang & Jingqu and the Relict Gulls remain in several (probably discrete) flocks. Its likely that there are indeed over 2720 Relict Gulls already in the Tanggu-Dagang area.
Gull-billed Tern	2 on the on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	23 on the on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Common Tern	1 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 adult flew south over Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 adult flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
accipiter sp.	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Common Kestrel	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008 – one apparent migrant over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other at Haibin Yuchang.
Merlin	1 flew south over Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Little Grebe	8 around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	25 on the sea off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	4 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Little Egret	4 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Grey Heron	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	30 in Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Daurian Redstart	4 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 11/10/2008. All four were males.
Chinese Penduline Tit	5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 11/10/2008. Three were seen at Caihongqiao, Hangu while fly-overs (here assumed to be singles) were heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & south of Haibin Yuchang.
Sand Martin	30 with other hirundines over a large roadside pool north of Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	3500 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008. The vast majority of these (an estimated 3100 birds) were over a large roadside pool north of Caihongqiao, Hangu in the early morning.
Red-rumped Swallow	30 with other hirundines over a large roadside pool north of Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 was heard flying south over the Hongfa Hotel in central Tanggu at 05:30hrs (about 45 minutes before sunrise) on the 11/10/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – four near Caihongqiao, Hangu & one near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Dusky Warbler	26 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 11/10/2008. Of these 13 were near Caihongqiao, Hangu and another 13 in Tanggu with three around Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & eight south of Haibin Yuchang.
Radde's Warbler	2 south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 flew south over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	400 flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
White Wagtail	13, including four <i>ocularis</i> , flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	3 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	30 flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Pine Bunting	3 flew south over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Little Bunting	3 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	8 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	3 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
bunting sp.	10 flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Oiled birds	
Four slightly oiled gulls were seen at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008 -	
Black-headed Gull	1 slightly oiled bird (with a small amount of pale oil on its belly) at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	2 slightly oiled birds at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. One had a small amount of pale oil on its belly the other the same oil on its belly & chest.
Vega Gull	1 slightly oiled bird at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

Sunday 12 October 2008. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu again with Mr. Hu, at 05:30hrs. I eventually returned to the hotel at 15:30hrs.

After yesterday's surprisingly large assemblage south of Haibin Yuchang I spent much of the later morning today (in the lead up to the early afternoon high tide) counting Relict Gulls at the main sites well south of Tanggu town. My strategy worked superbly & I was rewarded by a very high seasonal count. The principal factors affecting this count include not only the fact that I now know my way around much better than previously but equally importantly I have a reliable tide timetable &, because of increased reclamation & landfill working in southern Tanggu there is now easier access to a number of the coastal spots. A single observer, armed with a tide timetable & knowledge of the sites & their access, is now able to visit all the main Relict Gull sites in the Tanggu/Dagang area on a single tide. Today I started at Jingqu, scanning the large southernmost bay to the south – the bay that swings around towards Hebei. This is where the tide comes in first & from here I worked my way north, counting gulls in the very next bay to the north. A series of massive causeways, some stretching for at least five kilometres directly out across the inter tidal mudflats, have effectively divided the coast up in to manageable, separate sections &, while there is certainly movement of Relict Gulls between one bay & the next several of the bigger bays harbour (perhaps on low to medium high tides only?) semi-discrete flocks of gulls. From there I gradually worked my way north before scanning & counting gulls at about five different sites. The last was the area immediately to the south of the canal that Yuren Matou is on the north side of. From here I crossed this canal and

visited a new site – Bai Er Station. This small complex of oil derricks offers an excellent vantage of the extreme southern end of the bay between Yuren Matou & Haibin Yuchang to the north. From here I continued to drive north stopping once more to view the sea at a site adjacent to the very southern end of the now dry pool south of Haibin Yuchang.

There were 52 shell fish gatherers out on the Jingqu, Dagang mudflats today!

High tide

The day's high tides was at 13:55hrs.

Weather

Today was warmer with temperatures forecast to range from about 9-24°C. Visibility was decent with little or no cloud cover slightly more low level haze (pollution!) than the previous two days. Visibility was worse in Dagang being down to about three of four kilometres range at Jingqu in the late morning. Light wind.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 3.5 hours from 06:00-09:40hrs

2. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) 1.5 hrs from 10:15-11:45hrs

3. Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.). 20 minutes from 12:05.

This site is 5.38 kms southwest of the southernmost end of the Pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 17.71 kms north of the southernmost view point at Jingqu, Dagang.

4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 1hr 45 minutes from 12:25– 14:10hrs

5. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 30 minutes from 14:20-14:55hrs.

Japanese Quail	2 singles in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & the other south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Common Shelduck	17 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008 – six (one adult & five juveniles) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 11 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang.
Mallard duck sp.	17 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	100 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Eastern Curlew	1550 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008 – 800 between Jingqu & the southern side of the Yuren Matou canal, Dagang & 750 in the 5.4 km stretch of bay between Bai Er Station & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Spotted Redshank	45 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. Most of these were at Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu.
Marsh Sandpiper	15 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	75 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Green Sandpiper	150 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. The majority of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu.
Great Knot	1 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Dunlin	85 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	2500 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved 1450 in coastal Tanggu with 350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1100 in the bay north of Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were about 1000 between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2, one adult & one juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	68 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Grey Plover	1430 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	1300 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved 300 in the bay north of Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were about 1000 on the mud flats between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang.
Kentish Plover	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	6000 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved <i>ca.</i> 5000 in coastal Tanggu with 3800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 200 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe & <i>ca.</i> 1000 in the bay north of Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were about 1000 on the mud flats between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang.
Northern Lapwing	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	2 near Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	110 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included at least 85 in coastal Tanggu with 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 25 at Lujuhe, 30 on the now dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 15 at Bai Er Station near Yuren Matou.
Mongolian Gull	150 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. Birds were widespread along the coast with the only concentration of note being <i>ca.</i> 80 at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Black-headed Gull	40 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included 35 at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
	1500 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

Saunders's Gull	73 over the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. 28 were counted at Jingqu, Dagang, 25 in the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou on the border between Dagang & Tanggu & 20 in the bay immediately north of Yuren Matou when viewed from the Bai Er Station.
Relict Gull	3244 on the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included 1416 in Dagang with 1285 (in four flocks of 15, 118, 225 & 927 birds) in the Jingqu area & 131 in the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou on the border between Dagang & Tanggu. Further north in Tanggu 1828 were counted in the 5.4 km stretch of bay between the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou) and a couple of kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. Of the latter 670 were at Bai Er itself & the other 1158 were seen about two kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 540 birds at the latter site yielded 506 adults (94%) & 34 second-years (6%). No first-years were present at this site and less than ten birds of that age group were seen all day! The following nine leg flagged or banded birds were noted among the loafing flock on the dry tank south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.) on the 12/10/2008 – 2 birds had orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) 1 bird had an orange flag on its right tibia (upper leg) & a faded, probably yellow, band on its left tarsus (lower leg) 1 bird (photographed distantly) had an orange flag on its right tibia (upper leg) & a dark, possibly dark red, band on its left tarsus (lower leg) 1 bird had a bright yellow band on its left tarsus (lower leg) 1 bird had a dull yellow band on its left tarsus (lower leg) 1 bird had a dull yellow band on its right tarsus (lower leg) 2 birds had aluminium bands on their right tarsus (lower leg)
Gull-billed Tern	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	33 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved 25 in Tanggu with six over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, one at Lujuhe, four at Haibin Yuchang & 14 from the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were 8 at Jingqu, Dagang. 2 separate ringtails flew south near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Hen Harrier	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
accipiter sp.	1 bird, possibly this species, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
[Lesser Kestrel	3 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 12/10/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Amur Falcon	28 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	3 between Jingqu & the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Little Egret	205 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included 152 between Jingqu & the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou, Dagang; 27 in the bay north of the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou) & 15 at Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Heron	4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Eurasian Spoonbill	15 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	2 flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Rook	2 separate first-winters in Tanggu on the 12/10/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other south of Haibin Yuchang.
Taiga Flycatcher	3 singles in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Daurian Redstart	1 bird, assumed here to be a singleton, was heard flying south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Sand Martin	400 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	5 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 bird, assumed here to be a singleton, was heard flying south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	3 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	1 was heard near Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	30 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	20 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	11, including one <i>ocularis</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
White Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	38 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Pine Bunting	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Little Bunting	4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
bunting sp.	
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	1 with a small amount of pale brown oil on its chest at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	1 juvenile with a small amount of pale brown oil on its chest at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

Monday 13 October 2008. Early morning immediately south of Tanggu.

I left the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu again with Mr. Hu, at 05:45hrs & spent a few hours back at the Tianjin Harbour Pools before heading back to the hotel, checking out & catching the 11:00hrs bus back to Beijing. This took the expected two hours & I arrived at the Zhao Gongkou Long Distance Bus Station in Beijing at 13:00hrs. From there I took a bus back to Tongzhou. Note that the bus station is about 400-500 metres from the Liujiayao Subway Station.

High tide

The day's high tides was at 14:21hrs.

Weather

Today was cool early morning with a fairly stiff south-westerly breeze. However it soon warmed up with temperatures forecast to range from about 9-24°C. Visibility was again slightly poorer than yesterday with more low level haze (pollution!) than the previous days.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). Just over 3 hours from 06:15-09:20hrs

Common Shelduck	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Mallard	22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Sanderling	2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	93 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Dunlin	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008. They were the same two birds (an adult & a juvenile) that were present yesterday.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	53 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	15 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Mew Gull	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Vega Gull	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Relict Gull	4 flew north over on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Gull-billed Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Amur Falcon	2 singles were seen from the Jingjintang (Beijing-Tianjin-Tanggu) Expressway not far northwest of Tianjin city on the 13/10/2008.
Large falcon sp.	1 bird, either a Saker or a Peregrine Falcon, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in & around Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Sand Martin	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	30 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	30 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 in & around Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
White Wagtail	3, including two <i>ocularis</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Water Pipit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

Oiled birds

Black-headed Gull	1 with a small amount of pale oil on its belly & chest was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
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Friday 17 October 2008. Afternoon south of Tanggu.

I left Tongzhou at 08:30hrs & took a taxi to Beijing South Railway Station. Hideous traffic in the capital meant that it took me almost 1.5hrs to reach there. I then bought a ticket for what I thought was the first of the four high-speed trains to Tanggu that day – the one at 10:45hrs. However as it turned out they had started an additional fifth service – a train that left Beijing at 06:45hrs. My train was completely full & by the time I arrived – a full 45 minutes before the scheduled departure there were only 10 tickets left – all in economy & none in first class. My economy ticket cost 70 yuan & the train took a mere 55 minutes to reach Tanggu making just one stop, at Tianjin Central, on route. (Note that there are high speed trains shuttling between Beijing & Tianjin every 15 minutes from about 06:15hrs until the mid-evening.

Note that earlier this morning I'd tried to take the coach from Beijing to Tanggu – but was told, at the bus station, that the Jingjintang Expressway was closed due to fog – a recurring problem at this time of year.

Mr. Chen met me at Tanggu railway station & the two of us headed off south to Jingqu. In the early evening I headed back to the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu, eventually arriving at 17:30hrs.

High tide

The day's high tides was at 16:21hrs.

Dawn & dusk

Sun rise 06:19hrs
Sun set 17:29hrs

Weather

Today was warm with the temperature at Jingqu, Dagang being 23°C at 13:00hrs. Visibility was not as bad as I had expected – being about three kilometres at this same site. According to Mr. Chen, however, this morning and the previous two mornings, had been very foggy at Tanggu with this not breaking much until late morning.

1. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) 2.5 hrs from 12:40-15:15hrs

2. Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.). 20 minutes from 15:20.

This site is 5.38 kms southwest of the southernmost end of the Pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 17.71 kms north of the southernmost view point at Jingqu, Dagang.

3. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 25 minutes from 15:55– 16:20hrs

4. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 20 minutes from 16:25-16:45hrs.

Common Pheasant	1 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Greater White-fronted Goose	9 flew north over Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
Common Shelduck	1285 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008. This is by far my highest count in coastal Tianjin being more than three times my previous maximum of 401 birds on 7 November 2001. I know of just one larger count - 1,550 along the coast of Hangu on 13 March 2004 (LJY in the China Bird Report 2004).
Mallard	35, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Common Teal	45, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Tufted Duck	1 male, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Common Goldeneye	1, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
duck sp.	100 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	1090 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/92/2008. These included 345 on the now dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the remaining 745 in Dagang with 285 on the tidal river immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 460 at Jingqu.
Eastern Curlew	13 in the tidal river immediately south of Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	50 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & two near Bai Er Station (immediately north of Jingqu), Tanggu.
Great Knot	201 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Dunlin	1500 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	1410 on the recently impounded pool immediately north of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
Grey Plover	900 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	1000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Northern Lapwing	61 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008 – 31 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & another 30 flew south over Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Black-tailed Gull	65 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008. These included about 20 in Dagang including 15 in the tidal river channel immediately south of Yuren Matou & 46 in Tanggu with six near Bai Er Station and 40 at Haibin Yuchang.
Mew Gull	1 first winter at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	110 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008. The majority of these, 90 birds, were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Mongolian Gull	40 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
Saunders's Gull	95 in Dagang on the 17/10/2008. These involved 26 at Jingqu & 69 in the tidal river mouth immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	3434 on the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 17/10/2008. These included 1473 in Dagang with 1360 birds in a single flock at Jingqu & 113 in the canalized tidal river inlet at Yuren Matou on the border between Dagang & Tanggu. Further north in Tanggu 1961 were counted in the 5.4 km stretch of bay between the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou) and a couple of kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. Of the latter 930 were at Bai Er itself & the other 1031 were seen about two kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 952 birds yielded 894 adults (94%), 43 second-years (5%) & just 15 first-years (2%). Two adultss with orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) were noted among the flock at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	12 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 17/10/2008. One of these was at Jingqu, Dagang & the other 11 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Common Kestrel	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & the other close to the Tianjin Harbour Pools, Tanggu.
Merlin	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	2 on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	179 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Grey Heron	318 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008. These involved 243 in Dagang with 238 at Jingqu & five in the tidal river immediately south of Yuren Matou. Further north there were 75 in Tanggu with 10 at Bai Er Station & 65 on the now dry pool at Haibin Yuchang.

Eurasian Spoonbill	20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Common Stonechat	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	3 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	13 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	150 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
White Wagtail	7, including three <i>ocularis</i> , flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	3 singles flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	25 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Brambling	10 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Pine Bunting	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
Little Bunting	3 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
bunting sp.	10 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.

Oiled birds

Black-headed Gull	1 with a small amounts of pale brown oil on its underparts at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
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Colour banded Relict Gulls

Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg)	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
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Saturday 18 October 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu at 06:00hrs & headed south..

High tide

The day's high tides was at 16:49hrs.

Weather

Today was warm with the temperature at Tanggu, Dagang forecast to be 14-24°C & it was indeed 14°C besides the Tianjin Harbour Pools at 06:35hrs. Visibility was poorer than yesterday – being less then three kilometres at Jingqu.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 4 hours from 06:35-10:35hrs

2. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 45 minutes from 11:00-11:45hrs.

3. Gaoshaling. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.). 20 minutes from 11:50-12:10hrs.

About 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself.

4. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) 2.5 hrs from 12:35-15:15hrs

5. Tidal mudflats about one kilometre north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°47'N., 117°34'E.). 1 hour from 15:25-16:30hrs.

This site is 5.38 kms southwest of the southernmost end of the Pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 17.71 kms north of the southernmost view point at Jingqu, Dagang.

Japanese Quail	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Common Shelduck	100 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Mallard	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
White-winged Scoter	1 on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Common Kingfisher	1 near Gaoshaling close to Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 on the mudflats near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	650 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/20/2008 – most of these (510 birds) were on the mudflats near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Eastern Curlew	5 near Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Spotted Redshank	7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	50 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Green Sandpiper	1 near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the mudflats just north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Great Knot	310 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Sanderling	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	8, including one apparent full summer plumaged adult,
Temminck's Stint	65 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

Dunlin	2620 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/20/2008. These involved 1320 in Tanggu with 1020 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 200 on the recently reclaimed pool near Lujuhe & 100 on the mudflats north of the Bai Er Station. Further south in Dagang there were 1300 between Jingqu & the river mouth at Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	64 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Grey Plover	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/120/2008. These were about equally split between the mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu and those at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Ringed Plover	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	4500 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/20/2008. These involved 4400 in Tanggu with 3550 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 1750 on the recently reclaimed pool near Lujuhe & about 100 on the mudflats north of the Bai Er Station. Further south in Dagang there were about 100 between Jingqu & the river mouth at Haibin Yuchang.
Lesser Sand Plover	12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Mew Gull	1 adult in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, on the Tanggu-Dagang border on the 18/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Siberian Gull	1 adult at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Vega Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Pallas's Gull	1 adult winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008. (Photographed). This is the fourth Pallas's Gull that I have seen in Tanggu & the first one that wasn't a first calendar year bird. All four have been photographed & the previous three sightings were – A juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006 A juvenile moulting to first-winter was on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang on the 8/10/2006. A first-winter with other large gulls at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008. There's at least one other record from the municipality – a single bird at Qililai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 25 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).
Black-headed Gull	500 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Saunders's Gull	38 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. These included 8 on the mudflats just north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu & 30 in Dagang with 12 at Jingqu & 18 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou.
Relict Gull	3100 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. These included over 2300 in Tanggu with 16 (four adults, six second-winters & six first-winters) at Lujuhe & a single flock of 2300 on the Bai Er Station mudflats just before at high tide. Further south there were at least 820 in Dagang with 320 at Yuren Matou and at least 500 in the mist at Jingqu, Dagang. A series of sample counts on the coastal mudflats tallied 557 birds with 515 adults (92%), 36 second-years (6%) & just six first years (1%). Two adults with bright yellow bands on their right tarsus (lower legs) were seen in the flock of 345 birds at Yuren Matou, Dagang. (38°45.9'N., 117°34.1'E).
Gull-billed Tern	2 at Yuren Matou on the Tanggu-Dagang border on the 18/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/102/008. These involved five in Tanggu with 2 at Lujuhe & three more over the Bai Er Station mudflats. Further south there were six at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Kestrel	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Amur Falcon	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008 – one near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang.
Little Grebe	3 on a small pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	315 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Grey Heron	100 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Red-throated Thrush	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Taiga Flycatcher	3 in coastal Tanggu on the 18/10/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two more at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang.
Siberian Rubythroat	4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Daurian Redstart	1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	4 separate birds were heard & not seen flying south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	250 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. The majority of these were at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 with the Barn Swallows at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Radde's Warbler	1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	100 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
White Wagtail	15, including four <i>ocularis</i> , flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	3 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	20 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Brambling	10 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Little Bunting	1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	3 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
bunting sp.	5 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	4 with small amounts of pale brown oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
Colour banded Relict Gulls	
Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg)	2 in the flock of 345 birds at Yuren Matou, Dagang (38°45.9'N., 117°34.1'E) on the 18/10/2008.

Sunday 19 October 2008. Late morning & afternoon south of Tanggu.

I left the Hongfa Garden Hotel (Hongfa Huar Yuan Binguan), Tanggu at 06:00hrs & headed towards Caihongqiao, Hangu. However it soon became obvious that the area outside Tanggu town was shrouded in dense fog with visibility down to less than 50 metres. Bearing this in mind we turned around & headed back to the hotel. I made another attempt at 11:00hrs.

High tide

The day's high tides was at 17:20hrs.

Weather

Today was warm with the temperature at Tanggu, Dagang forecast to be 12-25°C. & it was indeed 14°C besides the Tianjin Harbour Pools at 06:35hrs. Visibility early morning was extremely poor being down to less than 50 metres at 06:15hrs near Beitang. It improved in the afternoon & was then good in built up Tanggu town but visibility was still less than two kilometres around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). Just over two hours from 11:25-13:35hrs

Mallard	23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Tufted Duck	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Marsh Sandpiper	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Wood Sandpiper	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Sanderling	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	73 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Dunlin	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Little Ringed Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	2400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Lesser Sand Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Relict Gull	8c first years on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Grey Heron	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in & around Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	25 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in & around Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	6 on flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

Monday 20 October 2008. Early morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa hotel at 06:00hrs & headed south to the Tianjin Harbour Pools where I birded for about one hour. It was very, very foggy and worsening so I headed straight back to the hotel.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 06:51 & 18:00hrs.

Weather

Today was warm with the temperature at Tanggu, Dagang 14°C at dawn. The forecast was for it to climb from 15°C to 25°C. Visibility early morning was extremely poor being down to less than 300 metres at 06:45hrs. It improved in the afternoon & was then good in built up Tanggu town but visibility was still less than two kilometres around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). One hour from 06:30-07:30hrs

Common Shelduck	4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Dunlin	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Northern Lapwing	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Siberian Gull	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	2 in Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in & around Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
White Wagtail	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.

Brambling	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Little Bunting	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
bunting sp.	4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.

Wednesday 22 October 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa hotel at 05:30hrs & head south to Jingqu. The weather was much better today – visibility was worst at Jingqu in the early morning but even here I was able to see about two kilometres. At the Tianjin Harbour Pools in the late afternoon visibility was excellent.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 09:01 & 19:48hrs.

Weather

The weather was much better today – visibility was worst at Jingqu in the early morning but even here I was able to see about two kilometres. At the Tianjin Harbour Pools in the late afternoon visibility was excellent. It was mild all day - 16°C at Jingqu at 06:45hrs rising to 20°C there by 10:00hrs. There were a couple of brief rain showers during the morning & one intense down pour at about 11:00hrs forcing my premature departure from near Bai Er Station. The strong winds that were forecast for today never materialised.

1. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) 3.5 hrs from 06:30-10:05hrs

I saw two guys who'd erected about 200 metres of mist nets near the high tide shorebird roost here. Although the nets were furled it was clearly shorebirds that they were after. Although I've probably already seen in excess of 20 different guys catching shorebirds in coastal Tianjin this is the first time that I've seen bird catchers focused on shorebirds.

2. Tidal mudflats about one kilometre north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°47'N., 117°34'E.). 20 minutes from 10:45-16:30hrs.

This site is 5.38 kms southwest of the southernmost end of the Pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 17.71 kms north of the southernmost view point at Jingqu, Dagang.

3. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 2 hrs from 11:15-13:15hrs.

4. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 2 hrs 45 minutes from 13:45-16:30hrs

Common Shelduck	64 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 43 at Jingqu, Dagang and 21 in Tanggu with 20 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Eurasian Wigeon	1 with the Mallard flock on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Mallard	35 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 12 at Jingqu, Dagang and 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Northern Pintail	1 flew south with a group of mostly unidentified ducks at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Common Teal	1 flew south with a group of mostly unidentified ducks at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
duck sp.	25 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	7 juveniles, including one apparent <i>baueri</i> , on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	2320 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 1410 between Jingqu and Yuren Matou, Dagang and 910 in Tanggu with 840 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & 70 at Haibin Yuchang.
Spotted Redshank	45 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	190 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 160 between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang and 21 in Tanggu with five on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, 20 at Haibin Yuchang & another five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Great Knot	291 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Red Knot	47 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Dunlin	3190 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 2550 at three sites at Jingqu, Dagang and 640 in Tanggu with just two on the mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er station, 310 on the pool at Lujuhe & 330 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	31 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008 – one of these was with the roosting Dunlin & Kentish Plovers on the tank immediately south of the Yuren Matou 'canal' at Jingqu, Dagang and the other 30 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	3 on the mudflats between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	1150 on the now regular pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 with the Grey Plover flock on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Grey Plover	1185 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	3950 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 1450 at Jingqu, Dagang and 2500 in Tanggu with 600 on the pool at Lujuhe & 1900 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Lesser Sand Plover	12 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008 - one at Jingqu, Dagang 11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Northern Lapwing	22 flew south over Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

Black-tailed Gull	143 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 22 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and 121 in Tanggu with 12 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & 109 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Mew Gull	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved three (two adults and a juvenile) at Haibin Yuchang & three (again two adults and one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	200 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The majority of these were besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Siberian Gull	3 different adults in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008 – two at Jingqu, Dagang & one at Yuren Matou, Dagang.
Vega Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The majority of these were besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Brown-headed Gull	1 first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008. My previous sightings in coastal Tianjin were of an adult winter along the coast road (Hai Fang Gong Lu) about 10 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 & a first summer at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
Black-headed Gull	2300 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The majority of these were in the river mouth immediately north of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Saunders's Gull	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. 25 of these, including two adults & four first-winters, were in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang while the other 15 were on the mudflats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu. These six birds were the only ones aged all day.
Relict Gull	3834 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The vast majority of these, 3515 birds, were in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang during the morning's high tide. There were 250 at Jingqu itself, 740 on a reclamation pool less than one kilometre south of Yuren Matou and 2525 in the river mouth at Jingqu itself. Further north in Tanggu there were 315 on the mudflats about one kilometre north of Bai Er Station and just four at Yuren Matou. Two large sample counts were made today and they produced remarkably similar results. The first count of 562 birds on the reclamation pool south of Yuren Matou produced 536 adults (95%), 24 second years (4%) & just two first years (<1%) while the second count of 1199 birds in the Yuren Matou river mouth produced 1149 adults (96%), 48 second years (4%) & again just two first years (<1%). Taken together 1761 birds were aged & there were 1685 adults (96%), 72 second years (4%) & a paltry four first years (<1%).
	Eight different leg flagged/colour banded adults were noted in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area on the 22/10/2008 –
	Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. Ad. 1
	Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). Other leg not seen. Ad. 2
	Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). Ad. 3
	Yellow band on L tarsus (lower leg) + aluminium band on R. Adult 2
Gull-billed Tern	4 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	13 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Merlin	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	16 came in off the sea high at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008
Grey Heron	121 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The vast majority of these were in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang area.
Eurasian Spoonbill	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Dusky Thrush	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved three at Jingqu, Dagang & five in Tanggu with one north of the Bai Er Station, three at Haibin Yuchang and one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
White-cheeked Starling	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	35 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Yellow-bellied Tit	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Asian Stubtail	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/10/2008 – three at Haibin Yuchang and one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Dusky Warbler	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 flew south near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Eurasian Skylark	40 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
White Wagtail	25, including 12 <i>ocularis</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Richard's Pipit	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	30 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Brambling	30 widespread birds in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. Birds were encountered in parties of between one and five individuals.
Eurasian Siskin	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Pine Bunting	4 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Chestnut-eared Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Little Bunting	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Rustic Bunting	2 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Yellow-throated Bunting	4 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	3 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
Reed Bunting	1 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
bunting sp.	15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.

Colour banded Relict Gulls

Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. Ad.	1
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). Other leg not seen. Ad.	2
Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). Ad.	3

Thursday 23 October 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

Qingyu & me left the Hong Fa hotel at 05:30hrs & head south to Jingqu. It had rained extremely hard overnight and the wind had picked up around midnight and the weather today was much better. Visibility was superb throughout the day.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 10:34hrs.

Weather

It had rained extremely hard overnight and the wind had picked up around midnight and the weather today was much better. Visibility was superb throughout the day. Visibility was superb throughout the day – probably the best I've ever seen it in coastal Tianjin & from Jingqu we could see the large tower of the new power station that they were building in the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park 30 kilometres to the north. From Beidagang we were even able to see the massive TV tower in central Tianjin 47 kilometres away. The only downside was the very strong wind that made it impossible to use the telescope other than from inside the car or at a sheltered spot.

It was colder today – perhaps the coldest day of the autumn (but still unseasonably mild). 10°C at Jingqu at 06:40hrs & 13°C at the Tianjin Harbour Pools at 15:30hrs.

1. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) Almost 2.5 hrs from 06:30-08:50hrs**2. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Just over four hours from 09:05-13:10hrs.**

Today we went right around the reservoir – initially following the usual route & driving west along the southernmost embankment. We followed this right to the very end at Nantai cun (where we arrived at 12:05hrs). We crossed the main river channel over the Wan Jia Matou Bridge on the western side of this village and then followed road signs to (Shuangulin &) Dagang. This high speed route on a good road took us through the small village of Dongtaizi cun after about one kilometre. We continued on, still following signs to Dagang, but eventually turned off after about another ten minutes at a site where this road starts to swing away for the northern Beidagang embankment. We headed south, climbing up on to the top of the embankment after only about 150 metres before turning left and heading towards the looming Dagang powerstation. About five of six kilometres down here there's a small road off down to the right that takes you in to the Beidagang reed farm. I'd seen a large number (1000+) very distant ducks on the pools here & wanted to get closer. There's a barrier across the road here. We asked and were reluctantly given permission to enter – but were only allowed 30 minutes! This simply wasn't enough – many of the roads on the island itself were flooded & I would have had to walk (possibly wade) to the duck site. I couldn't do that in the time available so we headed back out.

Importantly there were a whole series of small signs right around the reservoir stating, in Chinese, that it was illegal to catch birds! These are the first such signs I've seen at this reserve – or indeed anywhere in Tianjin Municipality.

3. Gaoshaling. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.). 30 minutes from 13:40-14:10hrs.

We spent most of our time looking at the gulls on a large pool about three kilometres inland of Haibin Yuchang & one kilometre west of the Gaoshaling 10 yuan toll booth.

4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 5 minutes from about 14:15hrs.**5. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 10 minutes from about 15:30hrs.****6. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). 50 minutes from 15:35-16:30hrs**

Common Shelduck	985 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Mallard	210 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	75 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Common Teal	90 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Common Pochard	610 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Tufted Duck	45 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008 – one with the Mallard flock on the sea at Jingqu & all the others at Beidagang.
duck sp.	1500 very distant birds on an inaccessible pool at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Eurasian Coot	615 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Common Snipe	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	300 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Eastern Curlew	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Spotted Redshank	65 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These included 38 in Dagang with three at Jingqu and 35 at Beidagang and 27 in Tanggu with 10+ at Gaoshaling and 15+ on the pool at Lujuhe.

Common Greenshank	210 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These included 190 in Dagang with 185 at Jingqu and 5 at Beidagang and 20 in Tanggu with 5 at Gaoshaling and 15 on the pool at Lujuhe.
Great Knot	200 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Red Knot	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Sanderling	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.
Dunlin	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The vast majority of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Pied Avocet	1520
Grey Plover	1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Kentish Plover	1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The majority of these appeared to be about equally split between three main sites - Jingqu, Dagang & the Lujuhe pool & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools
Black-tailed Gull	75 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These involved five at Jingqu, Dagang and 70 in Tianjin with two with the Black-headed Gull flock at Gaoshaling, five at Lujuhe and 63 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Mew Gull	2 in Tanggu on the 23/10/2008. An adult at Gaoshaling and a first-winter besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
Vega Gull	2 with other gulls besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	3390 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These included about 420 in Dagang with 120 at Jingqu and 300 at Beidagang. Further north there were at least 3465 in coastal Tanggu with 2600 on a large pool about 1.5 kms west of the Gaoshaling toll booth, 215 at Haibin Yuchang, 100 at Lujuhe & 550 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. A sample count of 720 birds on the pool at Gaoshaling produced 134 first-winters (19%) & 586 adults (81%).
Saunders's Gull	10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008. Only four of these were aged & all of these were adults.
Relict Gull	1500 at Jingqu, Dagang & three first-winters with the Black-headed Gull flock at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008. A sample count of 221 birds at Jingqu produced 1 first winter (<1%), six second-winters (3%) & 221 adults (97%)
Caspian Tern	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Whiskered Tern	1 juvenile at
Hen Harrier	9 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. One ringtail flew south at Jingqu while there were eight (seven ringtails & an adult male) at Beidagang later in the day.
accipiter sp.	15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. Of these 12 were in Dagang with nine were at Jingqu & three at Beidagang. Further north one flew south at Gaoshaling and two did the same at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Common Buzzard	18 flew south in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. Other than one that flew over Jingqu at 06:50hrs the rest were at Beidagang.
Common Kestrel	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These involved two at Beidagang, Dagang & three singles flying south in Tanggu with sightings at Haibin Yuchang, over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools and near Dagu Fort on the southern side of the Haihe Daqiao in Tanggu town.
Amur Falcon	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Merlin	1 flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.
Little Grebe	14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Black-necked Grebe	1 on a pool at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	121 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. These involved 119 at Jingqu & two at Beidagang.
Little Egret	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Grey Heron	162 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The vast majority of these (152 birds) were in Dagang with 78 at Jingqu & 74 at Beidagang. Elsewhere there were ten at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Purple Heron	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Great Egret	5 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. These involved two at Jingqu & three at Beidagang.
Great Bittern	3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Eurasian Spoonbill	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Chinese Grey Shrike	4 widely separate singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
[Eyebrowed Thrush	1 dead bird at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008].
White-cheeked Starling	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	40 flew south in Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
[Pallas's Warbler	1 dead bird at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008].
Eurasian Skylark	30 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
White Wagtail	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	35 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The majority of these were at the two sites I visited in Dagang – Jingqu & Beidagang.
Brambling	65 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. About 60 of these were at Beidagang.
Eurasian Siskin	4 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Little Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
bunting sp.	5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

Friday 24 October 2008. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa hotel at 05:30hrs & head south to Jingqu.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 11:58hrs.

Weather

Another gloriously clear day – long range visibility was slightly down on yesterday but still excellent. It was cooler today (the forecast was for 4-15°C & that was about right. 4°C at Jingqu at 06:30hrs rising to 13°C at Haibin Yuchang in the early afternoon. The wind had dropped and the morning was very pleasant. However the wind strengthened throughout the day and backed around to the southwest during the day. It had not rained since the previous night.

Highlights

A decent day. With the drop in temperature there had been an marked increase in the number of waterfowl. There were also a few new arrivals (all at Jingqu, Dagang) – Ruddy Shelduck, two species of swan, a single Ochre-rumped Bunting and a Bearded Parrotbill. There were more Relict Gulls today, and the diversity of shorebirds continued to drop. In contrast there were very, very few passerines visibly migrating.

1. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) 4.5 hrs from 06:20-11:50hrs

2. Tidal mudflats about one kilometre north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°47'N., 117°34'E.). 20 minutes from 12:10-12:30hrs.

I arrived just 10 minutes after high water but the day's tide was still about one kilometre out. It was a fairly low tide today and the very strong no doubt also had the effect of keeping the water out.

3 Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). Almost 2 hrs from 12:40-14:30hrs.

4. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 5 minutes from 14:35hrs.

5. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). Almost 1.5hrs from 15:00-16:25hrs

Japanese Quail	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Whooper Swan	15, 12 adults and three juveniles, arrived at Jingqu, Dagang at 09:30hrs on the 24/10/2008.
Tundra Swan	11 adults flew south at Jingqu, Dagang at 07:13hrs.
Bean Goose	14 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008. These included three <i>serrirostris</i> 'Tundra Bean Geese' on the mudflats and 11 of unknown form that flew south at 09:29hrs.
Ruddy Shelduck	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. 11 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and the other four off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Common Shelduck	815 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Mallard	400 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Northern Shoveler	9 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Northern Pintail	45 with the other ducks at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Common Teal	40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
duck sp.	955 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Short-eared Owl	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Oriental Turtle Dove	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	1535 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 1180 in Dagang with 990 at Jingqu and 190 in the river channel at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 355 in Tanggu with 295 on the mudflats at the Bai Er Station & 60 off Haibin Yuchang.
Eastern Curlew	3 near Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Spotted Redshank	52 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Common Greenshank	250 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 175 in Dagang with 55 at Jingqu and 120 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 75 in Tanggu with 72 off Haibin Yuchang and three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Great Knot	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Sanderling	43 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang on the 24/10/2008.
Red-necked Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Temminck's Stint	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Dunlin	4220 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 2195 in Dagang with 2150 at the Jingqu area and 45 in the river channel at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 2025 in Tanggu with 710 on the mudflats at the Bai Er Station, 1240 off Haibin Yuchang & 75 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Curlew Sandpiper	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	1200 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. 40 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang while the remaining 1250+ were on the favorite pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu
Grey Plover	1595 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 1355 in the Jingqu area, Dagang. Further north there were 240 off Haibin Yuchang, Tianjin.
Kentish Plover	3000 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. Over half of these (1720 birds) were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu though others were seen on the pool at Lujuhe & on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Bai Er Station, Yuren Matou and Jingqu.

Northern Lapwing	75 flew south at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	37 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 13 in Dagang with five at Jingqu and eight at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 24 in Tanggu with two at Bai Er Station, eight at Haibin Yuchang, three at Lujuhe and just 11 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	220 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. Most of these were in Tanggu with 49 at Haibin Yuchang and 156 at Lujuhe.
Mongolian Gull	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	800 at numerous sites in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Saunders's Gull	17 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 24/10/2008. Only three birds were aged – two adults and one first-winter.
Relict Gull	4241 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 2819 in Dagang with 2159 in four flocks (10, 280, 924 & 945 birds) at Jingqu and 660 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 1422 in Tanggu with 755 north of the Bai Er Station and 667 off Haibin Yuchang.
Caspian Tern	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved two singles at Jingqu, Dagang and five in Tianjin with four on the mudflats between Bai Er Station & Haibin Yuchang and one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Common Kestrel	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & the other at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Little Grebe	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Great Cormorant	137 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 123 at Jingqu, Dagang and 14 that flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu. Birds were in flocks of 3, 5, 5, 14, 17, 28 & 65 birds.
Grey Heron	173 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 162 birds at Jingqu, Dagang and 11 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Great Egret	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Eurasian Spoonbill	5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang at 10:35hrs on the 24/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Northern Orange-flanked Bush Robin	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	6 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
Zitting Cisticola	1 in a small coastal salt marsh south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Dusky Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Pallas's Warbler	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Yellow-browed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
Bearded Parrotbill	1 in a small coastal salt marsh south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008. Possibly the first record for Tianjin.
Eurasian Skylark	20 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
White Wagtail	2, including one <i>leucopsis</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Water Pipit	5 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Brambling	8 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
Little Bunting	1 at Haibin Yuchang on the 24/10/2008.
Ochre-rumped Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
bunting sp.	1 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.

Saturday 25 October 2008. Most of the day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa hotel at 05:30hrs & first headed to Beitang Reservoir on the outskirts of Tanggu. I spent a very short while here before heading south, back to Beidagang. I spent most of the day in the area between there, Jingqu & Yuren Matou returning to Tanggu in the later afternoon. I caught the 17:04hrs high speed train back to Beijing.

High tide

The day's high tide was at 12:58hrs &, with the wind having abated, it was again very high pushing all the shorebirds and gulls in to the relevant bays and the river channel at Yuren Matou.

Weather

Another gloriously clear day – long range visibility was slightly down on yesterday but still excellent. It was slightly warmer than yesterday - perhaps 6-15°C. The wind had dropped and the morning was very pleasant. However the wind strengthened throughout the day and by the later afternoon was again very strong.

Highlights

Another decent day. With the drop in temperature there had been an marked increase in the number of waterfowl. There were also a few new arrivals (all at Jingqu, Dagang) – Ruddy Shelduck, two species of swan, a single Ochre-rumped Bunting and a Bearded Parrotbill. There were more Relict Gulls today, and the diversity of shorebirds continued to drop. In contrast there were very, very few passerines visibly migrating.

1. Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu. 06:00-06:20hrs.

2. Gaoshaling. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.). 50 minutes from 07:10-08:00hrs.

3. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Almost 3.5 hours from 08:10-11:30hrs.

4. Jingqu to south side of Yuren Matou canal, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.) Almost 2 hrs from 11:45-13:35hrs

5. Tidal mudflats about one kilometre north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°47'N., 117°34'E.). 45 minutes from 13:45-14:30hrs.

I arrived just 10 minutes after high water but the day's tide was still about one kilometre out. It was a fairly low tide today and the very strong no doubt also had the effect of keeping the water out.

3 Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 15 minutes from about 14:40hrs.

4. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 15 minutes from 15:00hrs.

Common Pheasant swan sp.	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. 10 birds, seven adults and three juveniles, were seen extremely distantly at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. They appeared at 09:10hrs.
Bean Goose	12 birds, in parties of five & seven, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. The smaller group appeared at 09:50, the slightly larger one 11:22.
Ruddy Shelduck	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Two flew west at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other four were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Shelduck	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. About 40 were on the tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & the other ten on the recently impounded pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Gadwall	2 with other ducks at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Mallard	55 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Of these 15 were on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu and the other 40 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Common Teal	45 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Common Pochard	550 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Ferruginous Pochard NT	5, four males and a female, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. Perhaps only the second record for Tianjin!
Tufted Duck	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
White-winged Scoter	1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. It was on the same pool as the Common Goldeneye and Black-necked Grebes.
Common Goldeneye	115, including 28 males, on a pool at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.
Smew	3 redheads at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
duck sp.	100 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Common Kingfisher	1 near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.
White-naped Crane	21 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. They arrived as one flock at 08:59hrs & were still there when I left 2.5h hours later.
Eurasian Coot	519 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Common Snipe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	1520 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included 1010 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and the remaining 510 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Eastern Curlew	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008 – four in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and three on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Spotted Redshank	110 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The majority of these (102 birds) were with the Pied Avocets on the recently impounded tank at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included about 15 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Five of these were in Tanggu with one near Beitang Reservoir, three between Gaoshaling and the Five Dragon Hotel at Dagang and another near the Bai Er Station. The other two were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Great Knot	113 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Red Knot	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Dunlin	4450 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The vast majority of these were in Dagang with 2700 on the mudflats at three sites at Jingqu & 500 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 1250 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 950,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 0.5% of the entire flyway & world population. Today's count exceeds the staging threshold of 2375 given in the same publication. Barter (2002) estimated that 660,000 birds pass through the Yellow Sea. Eight sites in China have recorded counts in excess of 10,000 birds.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	2 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Pied Avocet	1220 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. 1165 of these were on the regular settling tank at Lujuhe, Tanggu with the remaining 55 on the tide line at Jingqu, Dagang.
Grey Plover	1520 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included 920 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and the remaining 600 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Kentish Plover	1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Birds were widely encountered along the inter-tidal mudflats.
Northern Lapwing	4 flew over Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Black-tailed Gull	98 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included 72 birds in Dagang with two adults at Beidagang where unusual, 12 at Jingqu & 58 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north in Tanggu there were 23 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & three at Lujuhe.
Mew Gull	2 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Siberian Gull	1 adult with other gulls on the mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.
Mongolian Gull	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Pallas's Gull	1 adult-winter with the roosting Relict Gulls on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. It was a different bird to the adult seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Site Pools on the 18 October.

Black-headed Gull	600 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Saunders's Gull	45 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. They were all in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou-Bai Er Station area. Only 21 birds were aged and this produced four first-winters (19%) & 17 adults (or second-winters) (81%).
Relict Gull	4756 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. They were all in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou-Bai Er Station area & specific site counts included – 2540 birds in Dagang with flocks of 350 & 1390 at Jingqu & 800 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 2215 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu. The only other sighting was of a first-winter about eight kilometres inland besides a salt pan at Gaoshaling. None were seen at Haibin Yuchang – either on the dry pool or the sea! Four adult colour banded/leg flagged Relict Gulls were seen among the large flock on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. Ad. 1 Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). Ad. 3
Gull-billed Tern	1 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Caspian Tern	19 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. 11 of these were the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang and the other eight in among the Relict Gulls on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu. Six birds were aged & this produced two first-winters and four adults (67%).
Black-shouldered Kite	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Hen Harrier	6, including just one adult male, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Common Buzzard	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Common Kestrel	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Four of these were at Beidagang, Dagang with the other two being singles near Gaoshaling & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Peregrine Falcon	2 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008 – one at Beidagang, Dagang & the other flew south over the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Little Grebe	12 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Most of these were at Beidagang, Dagang although several were on scattered fish ponds & salt pans near Gaoshaling.
Great Crested Grebe	37 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These involved 11 in Tanggu with eight at Beitang Reservoir and three on scattered fish ponds & salt pans near Gaoshaling. Further south there were 26 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Black-necked Grebe	59 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. They were all on the same pool as the Common Goldeneye & White-winged Scoter.
Great Cormorant	111 in Dagang on the 25/10/2008 – 21 at Beidagang & 90 at Jingqu.
Little Egret	9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Grey Heron	124 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The majority of these were at three sites – Beidagang (32) & Jingqu (47) in Dagang and Haibin Yuchang (28), Tanggu.
Great Egret	18 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Seven of these flew west at Gaoshaling, Tanggu & the other 11 were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Great Bittern	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Chinese Grey Shrike	3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The vast majority of these were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Starling	5 with the White-cheeked Starling flock near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	457 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. 61 birds were aged and this produced 47 adults (77%) & 14 first years (23%).
Chinese Penduline Tit	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Barn Swallow	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Six, including a leucistic bird that was entirely white except for a dusky greyish head, flew west over the pools near Gaoshaling, Tanggu while the other five were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Zitting Cisticola	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Two of these were flying high over the pools near Gaoshaling, Tanggu and the other four were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Two were seen at Beidagang, Dagang and the other flew south near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Eurasian Skylark	30 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	200 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
White Wagtail	2, including one <i>ocularis</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Yellow Wagtail	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Water Pipit	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The majority of these (about 40 birds) were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Brambling	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.
Little Bunting	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Black-faced Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Lapland Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
Oiled birds	
Black-headed Gull	1 badly oiled adult was with the other gulls on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. It had a considerable amount of rich coppery coloured oil over its entire underparts.

Colour banded/leg flagged Relict Gulls

Four adult colour banded/leg flagged Relict Gulls were seen among the large flock on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. **Ad.** 1
Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). **Ad.** 3

Wednesday 17 December 2008. Late afternoon coastal Dagang.

Qingyu & me caught the 12:00hrs train from Beijing Southern Railway Station to Tianjin where we eventually met Mr. Li, the Dagang based driver that we have used several times before. Once he arrived (he was a full 45 minutes later than we expected him to be) we headed off to Dagang. Arriving at just after 14:00hrs we spent the remainder of the afternoon birding at a handful of sites between the Hydrus Hotel & Jingqu.

We checked in at the 3-star Hydrus Hotel immediately opposite the Dagang Power Plant at the northern end of the Beidagang Da Qiao at 17:15hrs. All the discounted rooms full (they cost 180 yuan/night) & ours cost 220 yuan/night. Hydrus Hotel, 2233 South of Jingqi Road, Dagang, Tianjin. Tel.: 022 63348888. Qingyu made the reservation herself.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 06:48 & 18:04hrs.

1. Du Liu Jian He (Duliujian river), Dagang. 14:10-ca.15:00hrs.

This is the canalized river between the power station at Dagang and the coastal sluice/bridge immediately south of Yuren Matou. It was totally ice-free – unlike much of the other open water in the area. I assumed that it received hot water from the Dagang power station outflow & that this was why it was unfrozen.

2. South side of Yuren Matou canal to Jingqu to, Dagang. (38°44.37'-38°46.4'N. & 117°33.89'-117°35.5'E.). Almost 2 hrs from 15:00-16:45hrs

Common Shelduck	103 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Gadwall	1 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Mallard	263 in Dagang on the 17/12/2008 - 202 on the Duliujian River & 61 along the coast between the Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
Northern Shoveler	6, two males & four females, on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Northern Pintail	1 female on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Common Pochard	272 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Tufted Duck	7 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Common Goldeneye	335 on a large pool immediately north of the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Common Merganser	16 on a large pool immediately north of the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Eurasian Coot	14 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	845 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/12/2008.
Grey Plover	230 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/12/2008.
Mew Gull	40 in coastal Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	140 in coastal Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Vega Gull	3 in coastal Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Mongolian Gull	120 in coastal Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Black-headed Gull	100 on a large pool immediately north of the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Saunders's Gull	36 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/12/2008.
Relict Gull	1760 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu on the 17/12/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	2 on a large pool immediately north of the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 17/12/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in Dagang on the 17/12/2008.

Thursday 18 December 2008. Most of the day coastal Dagang.

We left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang at 07:00hrs & spent most of the rest of the day exploring a small number of sites also in Dagang before spending the last 40 minutes of daylight at the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 07:36 & 19:01hrs.

Weather

Misty initially though this had cleared by 09:30hrs producing a fairly clear day – long range visibility was about four or five kilometres.. It was cold early morning -8°C though the temperature soon rose & had reached freezing point as early as 09:15hrs. There was no wind until after 11:00hrs when it picked up slightly.

Highlights

I was surprised at the presence of four species that I'd never seen in coastal Tianjin in winter – Pied Avocet, Black-shouldered Kite, Little & Great Egret. There were also six Oriental Storks also at Beidagang while the coastal Relict Gull numbers remained disappointingly small.

Site 1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.). 07:00-12:00hrs

Site 2. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.). 15:00-15:10hrs

Site 3 Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.).

4. Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.). 20 minutes from 16:15.

Bean Goose	405 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Common Shelduck	90 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Mallard	766 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.

Chinese Spot-billed Duck	374 in Dagang on the 18/12/2008 – 134 at Jingqu & the remaining 240 at Beidagang.
Common Pochard	116 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Tufted Duck	3 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Common Goldeneye	35 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Smew	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Eurasian Hoopoe	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Eurasian Coot	23 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	560 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Dunlin	1120 on the inter-tidal mudflats off the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/12/2008.
Pied Avocet	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/12/2008. This is my first-ever December sighting of this species in Tianjin.
Grey Plover	40 on the inter-tidal mudflats off the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/12/2008.
Mew Gull	180 in coastal Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	150 in coastal Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Vega Gull	2 in coastal Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Mongolian Gull	100 in coastal Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Black-headed Gull	250 in coastal Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Saunders's Gull	243 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Relict Gull	1859 in the area between Bai Er Station, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang. Of these only 183 were at Bai Er Station with the remaining 1676 at Jingqu. Only 78 birds were aged & this produced 42 adults (54%), 11 second-years (14%) & 25 first-winters (25%). Two birds with yellow flags on their right tibia (upper legs) were noted at Jingqu - one adult & one first-winter.
Black-shouldered Kite	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008. This is my first-ever December sighting of this species in Tianjin.
Hen Harrier	5 ringtails at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Common Buzzard	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Upland Kestrel	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Common Buzzard	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
[Saker Falcon	1 bird, possibly this species, was seen distantly & poorly at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008].
Peregrine Falcon	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Little Grebe	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Great Crested Grebe	2 on the Duliujian River, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Little Egret	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008. This is my first-ever December sighting of this species in Tianjin.
Grey Heron	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008. I have only seen singles of this species twice before in Tianjin in December.
Great Egret	26 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008. This is my first-ever December sighting of this species in Tianjin.
Oriental Stork	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008. This is my first-ever December sighting of this species in Tianjin.
Chinese Grey Shrike	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Chinese Penduline Tit	16 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	350 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Water Pipit	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	32 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Meadow Bunting	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Little Bunting	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Pallas's Bunting	210 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Reed Bunting	24 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Ochre-rumped Bunting	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Lapland Bunting	4 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/12/2008.
Colour banded Relict Gulls	
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). Ad.	1
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). 1st-w.	1

Friday 19 December 2008. Early morning coastal Dagang.

We left the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang at 06:45hrs & spent part of the morning exploring a small number of sites also in coastal Dagang before heading north to Haibin Yuchang & from there past Gaoshaling back to Dagang town. We then caught the 10:00hrs public bus back to Tianjin railway station. The slow bus cost 6 yuan/person but made numerous stops & took 1.5hrs to reach Tianjin central station. Arriving at 11:35hrs we purchased two tickets on the 12:00hrs high speed train back to Beijing.

High tide

The day's high tides were at 08:23 & 20:03hrs.

Weather

Very slightly misty early morning, but less so than yesterday. Also not as cold as yesterday – perhaps being minus 5°C shortly after dawn.

Site 1. Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.).

Site 2. Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou, Tanggu. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.).

Site 3 Jingqu inter-tidal mudflats, Dagang. (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.).

Site 4. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.)

Site 5. Complex of roadside pools immediately east of the toll booth between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6'N., 117° 34.6'E.).

Mallard	13 in coastal Tanggu on the 19/12/2008 – 12 north of Yuren Matou & the other one with the diving duck on one of the pools near Gaoshaling (between Haibin Yuchang & Dagang).
Common Goldeneye	625 in near coastal Tanggu on the 19/12/2008 – 361 on a pool near the Bai Er Station toll booth & the other 264 on one of the pools near Gaoshaling (between Haibin Yuchang & Dagang). A sample count of 255 birds at the latter site yielded 63 males (25%) & 192 females.
Smew	2 (a male & a female) on one of the pools near Gaoshaling (between Haibin Yuchang & Dagang) on the 19/12/2008.
Common Merganser	77 on one of the pools near Gaoshaling (between Haibin Yuchang & Dagang) on the 19/12/2008.
Eurasian Curlew	1478 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 19/12/2008. 555 of these were on the mud flats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 923 in Dagang with 238 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou & 685 at Jingqu.
Dunlin	40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 19/12/2008.
Mew Gull	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 19/12/2008.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 19/12/2008.
Vega Gull	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 19/12/2008.
Mongolian Gull	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 19/12/2008.
Black-headed Gull	220 came off the sea (where they had probably been roosting overnight) at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & flew due west inland on the 19/12/2008.
Saunders's Gull	48 on the mud flats in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 19/12/2008. 47 of these were aged & this yielded 38 adults (81%) & just 9 (19%) first-winters.
Common Buzzard	1 over central Tianjin on the 19/12/2008.
Common Kestrel	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 19/12/2008.
Black-billed Magpie	5 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 19/12/2008.
White-cheeked Starling	3 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 19/12/2008.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 19/12/2008.
Buff-bellied Pipit	2 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 19/12/2008.

2009

Wednesday 6 May 2009. Most of day in the Tanggu/Dagang area.

Qingyu & me left Tongzhou at 05h15 & headed to the Zhao Gongkou Long Distance Bus Station in Beijing. Here we caught the first coach of the day to Tanggu – it left at 07h00 (apparently one hour later than normal because of major road works on the expressway on the edge of Beijing). Tickets for the bus cost 51 yuan each (including one yuan for insurance) & we arrived in Tanggu less than two hours later at 08h55. We took a taxi from there to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Bungalow on Zhong Shan Beilu where we checked in. Qingyu had called ahead to Mr Chen (13820791812), our regular Tanggu taxi driver, & he duly arrived to pick us up at the hotel at 10h15. We spent most of the morning & early afternoon at the Tianjin Port Reclamation Pools before heading south to the Lujuhe area followed by Haibin Yuchang, Gaoshaling and the last hour was spent on all to brief visit to Beidagang. Leaving there at 17:45 we headed back to Tanggu. Arriving at the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel we headed back out again for dinner with Mr. Xu Yongbin, a birder/photographer friend who lives in Tanggu.

High tide

13h39 & a height of 3.5 metres.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 2.5 hours from 11h00-13h30

2. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 15 minutes from 15h00.

3 Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu – the now defunct large pool immediately south of the tourist complex & the inter-tidal mudflats. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 5 minutes from 14h20-14h25

4. Complex of roadside pools immediately east of the toll booth between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6'N., 117° 34.6'E.). Almost two hours from 14h40-16h30.

5. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Almost one hour from 16h50-17h45.

Common Pheasant	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Mallard	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Tufted Duck	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
duck sp.	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 single in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Common Kingfisher	4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved two birds at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one near the now dry large pool immediately south of the tourist complex at Haibin Yuchang (both Tanggu) & one at Beidagang, Dagang.
cuckoo sp.	1 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Spotted Dove	1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Whimbrel	3 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Spotted Redshank	5 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Common Redshank	3 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	780 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 750 in Tanggu with 190 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 550 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were 30 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. The vast majority of these (10+ birds) were at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Wood Sandpiper	85 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 65 in Tanggu with 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 35 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were 20 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Ruddy Turnstone	2 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Sanderling	30 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 29 at Gaoshaling.
Little Stint	15 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six at Gaoshaling.
Red-necked Stint	547 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 536 in Tanggu with 393 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 143 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were 11 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Temminck's Stint	35 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 33 in Tanggu with 24 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & nine at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were two at Beidagang, Dagang.
Long-toed Stint	2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	35 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. These involved three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 35 at Gaoshaling.
Dunlin	160 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	350 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 249 in Tanggu with 89 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 260 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were two at Beidagang, Dagang. One with a yellow flag on its left tibia was with the 89 other Curlew Sandpipers on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.) had been flagged in North-west Australia (approx. 19° 0' S, 122° 0' E) sometime since August 1992 & the resighting was a distance of approximately 6461 km, with a bearing of 356°.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Pied Avocet	13 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 11 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu & an apparently territorial pair at Beidagang, Dagang.
Pacific Golden Plover	20 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. These involved 16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & at least four at Gaoshaling.

Kentish Plover	310 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. These included 210 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & at least 50 at Gaoshaling.
Lesser Sand Plover	25 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Oriental Pratincole	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	2 very distant birds flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Black-headed Gull	250 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. Other than a single at Gaoshaling, Tanggu all the others were at Beidagang, Dagang. Ever bird that was aged (100+ birds) were first summers.
Gull-billed Tern	34 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Common Tern	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. Birds were about equally split between three sites - the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & Gaoshaling in Tanggu & Beidagang in Dagang.
Whiskered Tern	850 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. Other than just two at Gaoshaling, Tanggu the remaining ca.850 birds were at Beidagang, Dagang.
White-winged Black Tern	120 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	9, including three adult males, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
[Pied Harrier	2 very distant birds, probably this species were seen at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009].
Eurasian Hobby	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Little Grebe	1 in the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Great Crested Grebe	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Grey Heron	9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Chinese Pond Heron	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 6/5/2009 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other at Gaoshaling.
Black-crowned Night Heron	3 near Dagang town on the 6/5/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	8 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009.
Common Stonechat	3 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	2 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Barn Swallow	25 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 near Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Zitting Cisticola	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
white-eye sp.	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Oriental Reed Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Asian Short-toed Lark	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009.
White Wagtail	1 <i>ocularis</i> besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Yellow Wagtail	5 singles flew north over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Grey Wagtail	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Blyth's Pipit	1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
Little Bunting	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
Black-faced Bunting	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

Thursday 7 May 2009. Most of day in the Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang areas.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel in Mr. Chen's taxi at 06h00. I spent the early morning at Caihongqiao & then headed south. There were some horrendous traffic jams due to works near the Tianjin port – I spent almost 1.5 hours stuck in traffic there on the way south & well over one hour on the way back before Mr. Chen relented & took me back a different route. Despite leaving Jingqu at 17h15 it was a full 2 hours 15 minutes before I arrived back at the hotel!

Weather

Another hot & dry day. A strong southerly wind from about 08h00 persisted until the early evening & the day's temperature probably ranged from about 23-30°C.

High tide

14h40 & a locally good height of 3.7 metres.

Sun rise & sun set

Sun rise 05:05
Sun set 19:06

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). Almost 3 hours from 06h30-09h15.

2. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). This site was only viewed from the speeding taxi!

3. Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.). 1 hour 10 minutes from 12h00-13h10

I was here from 2 hours 40 minutes until 1 hour & 20 minutes before today's high tide.

4. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.) 3.5 hours from 13h45-17h15

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit 13 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

Bar-tailed Godwit	632 at a high-tide roost at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009. Among this high tide roosting flock were four birds with yellow flags on their right tarsi (upper legs). These had all been banded in North-west Australia (approx. 19° 0.0'S 122° 0.0'E) sometime since August 1992.
Whimbrel	17 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved two at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 10 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and five at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Curlew	15 between Bai Er Station, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Eastern Curlew	12 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
curlew sp.	40 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
Spotted Redshank	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Common Redshank	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	1400 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved 365 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; ten at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 800 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	60 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved ten at Caihongqiao, Hangu; five at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 45 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Wood Sandpiper	45 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. The vast majority of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Terek Sandpiper	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved singles at Caihongqiao, Bai Er Station, Tanggu and Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Sandpiper	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Ruddy Turnstone	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	39 at a high tide roost at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Great Knot	8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Red Knot	1320 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009. Among this roosting flock was a single bird with a black over white flag. It had been banded at Chongming Dao, Shanghai (31°27' N, 121°55' E.) sometime since April 2006 & the resighting was a distance of approximately 902 km, with a bearing of 335°, from the marking location.
Sanderling	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Little Stint	12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Red-necked Stint	220 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved 148 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; ca.200 on the pool near Lujuhe & 15 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 44 at Jingqu, Dagang
Temminck's Stint	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Long-toed Stint	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Dunlin	1630 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	410 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved 148 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; ca.200 on the pool near Lujuhe & 15 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 44 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	2 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	6 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Pied Avocet	34 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Pacific Golden Plover	2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Grey Plover	810 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Kentish Plover	110 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. High counts included 45 on a drained pool near Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Lesser Sand Plover	3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	32 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009. All were first-summerers.
Black-headed Gull	150 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Bai Er Station, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009. All of those seen well (100+ birds) were first-summerers.
Relict Gull	248 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 7/5/2009. 193 of these birds (14 second-summerers & 179 first-summerers) were on the inter-tidal mudflats at the Bai Er Station, Tanggu & 55 (six second summerers & 49 first-summerers) were roosting on pool at Jingqu, Dagang. All 248 birds were seen well enough to age and of these 20 (8%) were second summerers & the remaining 228 (92%) were first-summerers. No adults were seen. Seven first-summer birds with orange leg flags on their right tibia (upper legs) were noted. Each flag had two white characters on it. Five flagged birds were noted among the 193 birds at Bai Er Station (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.) and I was able to read three of them - 'A3', 'C5' and '12'. One other bird carried a flag that possibly had '41' on it but the flag appeared to have been put on up-side down or was inverted. The flag on the fifth bird could not be read. Two other flagged birds were seen among the 55 birds at Jingqu, Dagang (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.) and carried flags with '25' & '79' on them. According to Zhang Guogang of the National Bird Banding Center Of China (in litt. 9 May 2009) these seven orange flagged birds were banded in June 2008 at Hongjiannao Lake, Yulin county, northern Shaanxi.
Gull-billed Tern	19 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. Six of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other 13 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Tern	44 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	14 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. Six of these (three pairs) were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other eight were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2 singles came in off the sea in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. The first did so at Caihongqiao, Hangu in the morning & the other did the same at Jingqu, Dagang in the late afternoon.
Common Kestrel	1 adult male at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Peregrine Falcon	1 adult at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Little Grebe	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Grey Heron	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
Chinese Pond Heron	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
Brown Shrike	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	4 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.
Taiga Flycatcher	2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Barn Swallow	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Light-vented Bulbul	18 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 7/5/2009. 16 of these were in a single flock that flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu while the other two were heard in roadside trees near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
white-eye sp.	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
Asian Short-toed Lark	2 were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.
White Wagtail	1 was heard near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.

Yellow Wagtail	15 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Grey Wagtail	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Richard's Pipit	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Red-throated Pipit	1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
Black-faced Bunting	2 were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

Oiled birds

Relict Gull	1 oiled bird was with others at Bai Er Station, Hangu on the 7/9/2009. Its underparts were extensively covered by pale brown oil.
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Friday 8 May 2009. Most of day in the Tanggu & Dagang areas.

I left the Hong Fa Garden Hotel in Mr. Chen's taxi at 05h00. I had intended to have spent the early morning around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools and to head further south after that. However the road block & traffic jam near there meant we spent almost two hours tuck, without moving at all. Even trying an alternative, novel route didn't work & very frustrated I headed back to the hotel at 10:00 – without having seen a single bird & having spent nearly five hours in the taxi. I'd had enough & decided to cut my losses & leave Tanggu. I checked out & took a taxi to Tanggu bus station. I arrived there 20 minutes before the 11:30 coach back to Beijing.

Tuesday 14 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

Qingyu & me left Tongzhou at 05:30hrs & headed to the Zhao Gongkou Long Distance Bus Station in Beijing. Arriving just 30 minutes later we caught the first coach of the day to Tanggu – it left at 07h00 (apparently later than normal because it had rained hard last night!). Our taxi to the bus station cost 80 yuan and tickets for the bus 51 yuan each (including one yuan for insurance). We arrived in Tanggu less two hours later at 09h00. Qingyu had called ahead to Mr Chen (13820791812), our regular Tanggu taxi driver, & he duly arrived to pick us at the spot where we jumped off the bus. We then spent much of the rest of the day birding around the Industrial Park pools before heading to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu.

I was very surprised at the large number of (adult) shorebirds already present (it was only mid-July!) on the reclamation pools. In all I logged 4366 individuals of a total of 21 species including record numbers of both Wood and Curlew Sandpiper.. Not surprisingly for the early date very few juveniles of any species were present. The only exceptions were three local breeders – Little Ringed Plover, Kentish Plover (about 15-20 juvenile) & Black-winged Stilt (two pairs, each with a juvenile). The only juveniles of any other species of wader belonged to two medium range migrants – a single Greater and a single Lesser Sand Plover.

High tide

07h35 at a height of 3.4 metres & again at 20h02 (3.7 metres).

Weather

It had rained hard for much of the previous night in Beijing (but not in Tanggu) & continued to drizzle on & off until we arrived on the coast at 09h00. This kept the dust & the temperatures down to a reasonable level &, even though the skies cleared from late morning it was a pleasant day – but a bit windy. Visibility probably wasn't much over two or three kilometres when we arrived at Tanggu at 09h00 but this had picked up markedly by midday and it was then easy to see for perhaps six or seven kilometres. Temperatures probably ranged from 24-33°C.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Almost 6 hours from 09h45-15h30

Eurasian Hoopoe	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Common Swift	8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Pacific Swift	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	5 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	115 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Common Redshank	7 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	235 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Common Greenshank	105 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	1140 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	510 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. Five leg flagged birds were seen – three with orange, two with yellow.
Long-toed Stint	4 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	315 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Dunlin	40 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	1625 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. One had an orange flag..
Broad-billed Sandpiper	6 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	6, two pairs both with a fully grown juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

Little Ringed Plover	45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. About 15 or 20 juveniles were included in this tally.
Lesser Sand Plover	2, one adult and one separate juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	23, including just one juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	110 birds, including two juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Relict Gull	13, seven first summers & six second summers, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Common Tern	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 from the expressway near Tianjin on the 14/7/2009.
Sand Martin	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	500 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Richard's Pipit	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard poorly, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

Wednesday 15 July 2009. Most of day in the Tanggu/Dagang area.

Qingyu & me left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed north to Caihongqiao, Hangu. We spent the early part of the morning there, returned to Teda for a snack and use of the free internet in Starbucks and then headed back to the Tianjin Port Reclamation Pools for much of the afternoon.

High tide

08h24 at a height of 3.3 metres & again at 20h38 (3.7 metres).

Weather

It was the second day of what's known in China as the '40 hot days'.

It was clearer & significantly hotter than yesterday. Slightly over cast in the early morning (when visibility was down to between two & three kilometres) but clearing lightly by 09h00 & then increasingly hot - 26°C at 05:30hrs rising to 30°C by 10:25 & 33°C by 12h40! Fortunately it was moderately windy.

1. Caihongqiao Pools & inter tidal mud flats, Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). Almost 3 hours from 05h25-09h10.

2. Pool immediately to the west of the main Tanggu to Hangu highway about two kilometres north of the Eco-City Service Park buildings & three kms north of the Caihong Bridge. One hour from 08h10-09h15.

3. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 5 hours from 11h10-16h15

Common Shelduck	1 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Mallard	4 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	88 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Eurasian Curlew	14 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	250 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 165 of these were in coastal Hangu with 20 on the Caihongqiao pools with the other 145 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. The other 95 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Redshank	7, four adults and three juveniles, in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. There were four (one adult apparently accompanied by three juveniles) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu and four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Marsh Sandpiper	2050 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 1850 of these were in coastal Hangu with 380 on the Caihongqiao pools with the other 1450 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	130 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. The vast majority of these, 105 birds, were at the two sites in Hangu.
Green Sandpiper	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	1400 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 375 of these were in coastal Hangu with 155 on the Caihongqiao pools & another 220 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were 1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000-1,000,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 1.4 & 0.14% of the entire flyway population.
Terek Sandpiper	8 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Four of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu and a similar number on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Sandpiper	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	23 adults in Hangu on the 15/7/2009. 15 of these were on the Caihongqiao Pool and the other eight on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge.
Great Knot	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Little Stint	3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. Two of them were photographed.
Red-necked Stint	600 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. At least 50 of these were in coastal Hangu with 28 on & around the Caihongqiao pools & another 20+ on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 550 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Six orange leg flagged birds

	were seen – one with 27 other Red-necks on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other five with 545 other Red-necks on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Temminck's Stint	11 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Nine of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other two were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Long-toed Stint	19 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Four of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other 15 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	400 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Just over 100 of these were in coastal Hangu with 38 on the Caihongqiao pools & another 65 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Dunlin	15 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	1500 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 25 of these were in coastal Hangu with ten on & around the Caihongqiao pools & another 15 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two leg flagged birds were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu – one yellow and the other orange.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	9 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Just one of these was at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other eight were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Black-winged Stilt	360 in coastal Hangu on the 15/7/2009 - 110 of these were on the Caihongqiao pools with the other 250 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. A sample count of just 36 birds at the first site yielded 28 adults (78%) and eight juveniles.
Pied Avocet	360 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. The vast majority of these (330 birds) were on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu.
Little Ringed Plover	40 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	250 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	14, including at least two juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	4 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	650, including just two juveniles, in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 437 of these were in coastal Hangu with 2 over the Caihongqiao pools & another 435 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Only two juveniles were seen.
Relict Gull	14, three first summers & 11 second years or adults, with the Black-headed Gulls on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Common Tern	15 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	35 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
Whiskered Tern	2 adults flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	66 adults flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Little Egret	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Grey Heron	3 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	3 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	115 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 85 of these flew south over the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu while at least another 30 were just south of the Hai He Daqiao in Tanggu later in the day.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 was heard near at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Oriental Reed Warbler	2 singing birds were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	50 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
White Wagtail	1 flew south over the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.

Thursday 16 July 2009. Most of day in the Dagang/Tanggu area.

Qingyu & me left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south to Jingqu, Dagang. We stopped off at Bai Er Station on route before spending a short while at Jingqu itself. After that on to Beidagang, returning to Tanggu via the roadside pools at Gaoshaling & finally some massive reclamation pools at Lu Ju He. We arrived back at the hotel at about 17h30.

High tide

09h24 at a height of 3.3 metres.

Weather

It was overcast & much more comfortable than yesterday. Muggy in the early morning 29°C at 06h15, rising to 33°C by 12:30 but dropping back to 27°C by 14h30 when it was drizzling. It was moderately windy all day.

1. Bai Er Station, Tanggu. (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.). 45 minutes from 06h00-06h45

I was here from 2 hours 40 minutes until 1 hour & 20 minutes before today's high tide.

2. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.) 1 hr from 08h20-09h20

3. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Almost 4 hours from 09h30-13h15.

4. Complex of roadside pools immediately east of the toll booth between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6'N., 117° 34.6'E.). 1 hour 15 minutes from 13h40-13h55.

5. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & the Tianjin Airport Pools, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 2 hours from 14:30-16:30hrs.

Common Pheasant	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Common Shelduck	9 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Common Cuckoo	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Pacific Swift	1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Rock Pigeon	Present but not counted in the Tanggu & Dagang areas on the 16/7/2009.
Spotted Dove	1 near Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Common Moorhen	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Eurasian Coot	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	200 in coastal Tanggu on the 16/7/2009 – these included four at Gaoshaling and about 200 on the pool at Lujuhe.
Bar-tailed Godwit	15 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 12 of these were in Tanggu with tree at Bai Er Station & nine on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were another three at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eurasian Curlew	105 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009 – with 15 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & 90 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Eastern Curlew curlew sp.	4 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	40 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 2460 adults in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (2435 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 25 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu. These internationally important numbers are the most I've ever seen in coastal Tianjin easily surpassing the previous maxima of 465 & 470 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7 & 10/10/2007 respectively. The estimated population of the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count is of between 2.5-10% of the entire flyway population!
Common Redshank	21 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (18 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu and other singles were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu, Jingqu & Beidagang, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	1000 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (ca.800 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 150 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu & 50 near Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	1000 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (ca.900 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 40 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu; 20 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu & 60 at Jingqu, Dagang.
Green Sandpiper	3 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 16/7/2009 – two at Beidagang, Dagang & another over the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Wood Sandpiper	1100 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (ca.1000 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 50 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
Terek Sandpiper	29 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The majority of these (21 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also five at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & another three at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Sandpiper	3 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	618 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (481 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu. Elsewhere there were also 117 at Jingqu & 17 at Beidagang (both Dagang) & three in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
Great Knot	58 adults on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009. Two birds with yellow flags were in this flock.
Red Knot	1 adult on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	20 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Temminck's Stint	1 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	4 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	500 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (ca.500 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 30 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
Dunlin	20 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	1750 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (1730 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 15 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	3 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	410 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (290 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 100 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu & 20 at Beidagang, Dagang.
Pied Avocet	110 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (90 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 20 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
Grey Plover	1 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	520 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 250 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu, 120 at Jingqu, Dagang and another 150 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	11 in coastal Tanggu on the 16/7/2009 – eight at Bai Er Station & the other three on the pool at Lujuhe.
Oriental Pratincole	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	31 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. Nine of these, including two first-summers, were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu; 15 at Jingqu, Dagang & seven at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
Mongolian Gull	1 adult at Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	150 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 24 of these, including the only juvenile of the day, were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
Relict Gull	14 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 14 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & two adults at Jingqu, Dagang.
Gull-billed Tern	4 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. One of these was at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & another three (two adults & an attendant, begging juvenile) at Jingqu, Dagang.
Caspian Tern	5 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. Three of these (two adults & a juvenile) at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & another two adults at Jingqu, Dagang.
Common Tern	30 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 19 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	30 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 17 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

Whiskered Tern	120 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Black-shouldered Kite	1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	3 (an adult male, adult female and an immature male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Common Kestrel	2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Little Grebe	23 (including two birds sitting on nests) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Little Egret	62 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Grey Heron	21 in Dagang on the 16/7/2009 – these involved 21 at Jingqu & just one at Beidagang,.
Great Egret	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Black-crowned Night Heron	31 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Yellow Bittern	4 separate males at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Great Bittern	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009. A very surprising mid-summer record (all four of my previous Tianjin sightings have been between 8-25 October) that is perhaps indicative of local breeding.
Long-tailed Shrike	1 moulting adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009. This, my first record for Tianjin municipality, was photographed & a description taken.
Black-billed Magpie	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Sand Martin	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	300 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The majority of these were in the Jingqu area.
Light-vented Bulbul	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Zitting Cisticola	24 singing birds at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009. This is the most I've ever counted in coastal Tianjin.
Oriental Reed Warbler	10 singing birds at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
Meadow Bunting	1 singing male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

Friday 17 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

Qingyu headed back to Beijing while I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south. I spent all day at just two sites – the reclamation pools at the Tianjin Harbour and those between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang. I finally arrived back at the hotel at about 16h00.

High tide

10h38 at a height of 3.3 metres.

Weather

It rained all day today & sometimes very hard. As a consequence many of the tracks at the two sites I birded were extremely muddy & I did all my birding from the vehicle. Today's temperatures never climbed above 25°C at 06h15, rising to 33°C by 12:30 but dropping back to 27°C by 14h30 when it was drizzling. It was moderately windy all day.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Just over 3 hours from 05:45-09h00

2. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Almost 6 hours from 09h30-15h15.

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	380 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. One bird had a yellow flag with two black characters on its right leg. Unfortunately I was unable to read either of the characters.
Bar-tailed Godwit	3 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	1550 adult adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. There had been a dramatic reduction in the number of birds present since yesterday.
Common Redshank	35 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 32 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 19 birds at the latter site produced three juveniles & 16 adults. This is the largest number of birds I've ever seen in a day in coastal Tianjin.
Marsh Sandpiper	1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (800+) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Common Greenshank	510 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (470 birds) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Wood Sandpiper	650 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. Birds were almost equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Terek Sandpiper	10 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	3 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	1447 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1438 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is the largest number of birds I've ever seen in a day in coastal Tianjin and is probably the largest ever count outside of the species' Indonesian wintering grounds! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 23,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents 6% of the entire flyway population. Bo Hai Wan is well known as an important area for this species.
Great Knot	20 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Red Knot	3 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Little Stint	2 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

Red-necked Stint	290 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 245 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 45 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. One with an orange flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Temminck's Stint	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 17/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	5 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & three on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	970 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 310 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 560 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. One bird with an orange flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Dunlin	15 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 11 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	4530 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 1680 (up slightly from <i>ca.</i> 1500 two days ago) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2850 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Three leg flagged birds were seen today – one with yellow & another with orange on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another with orange on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	13 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – ten on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & three on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Ruff	1 moulting summer plumaged male on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	150 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (130 birds) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Pied Avocet	300 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 250+ on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Grey Plover	1 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	4 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	200 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. Birds were almost equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	5 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Black-tailed Gull	32 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	600 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (550+ birds) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	210 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. One juvenile moulting to first-winter was among them – and this is easily the earliest date that I've ever seen this species in coastal Tianjin. 38 other birds were seen well enough to age, 28 (74%) of these were adults and the other ten were second summers. Almost every bird was in heavy wing moult.
Gull-billed Tern	1 adult on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
Caspian Tern	2 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. At least one of these two birds was an adult.
Common Tern	11 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	5 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	2
Black-tailed Godwit - yellow with 2 black characters	1

Saturday 18 July 2009. Morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south, spending the morning back at the Tianjin Harbour Pools. It was hot & there was little cloud cover after about 09h00 & the considerable amount of heat haze meant that the distant shorebirds (& there were lots of them) were very difficult to identify. I left the site midday & headed back to the hotel.

High tide

12h04 at a height of 3.3 metres.

Weather

The forecast was for the day to start with rain but this to cease quite early and for the afternoon to be overcast. Temperatures were forecast to rise from 24–31°C. It was actually 24°C (just as forecast) at 05:30hrs & it stayed around this until about 09h00 when the overcast skies cleared. It then rapidly warmed up – such that it was already 32°C by the time we left at 12h00.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 6.5 hours from 05:30-12h00

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Common Redshank	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	1300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Common Greenshank	70 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	600 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Little Stint	2 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

Red-necked Stint	980 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009. Seven leg flagged birds were seen today – six orange & one yellow.
Temminck's Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	670 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Dunlin	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	1955 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009. This is the highest count that I've made at this one site. Five leg flagged birds were seen today – three orange & two yellow.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Red-necked Phalarope	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009. A sample count of 124 birds yielded 114 adults (92%) & just ten juveniles.
Little Ringed Plover	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	11, including a juvenile (the earliest that I've ever seen a bird of this age here), on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Relict Gull	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Common Tern	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Whiskered Tern	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Grey Heron	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	15 in & around Tanggu on the 18/7/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	2 singles were heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	100 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in & around Tanggu on the 18/7/2009.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	6
Red-necked Stint - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	2
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	3

Sunday 19 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south. I spent all day at just one site – the reclamation pools between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang & those at Tianjin Harbour. I finally arrived back at the hotel at about 15h45.

High tide

13h26 at a height of 3.3 metres.

Weather

The weather forecast was for temperatures to range from 23-33°C and for the morning to be sunny changing to overcast with thunder showers. Instead it was hot and sunny all day with mid-afternoon temperature just exceeding the forecast.

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Just over 8.5 hours from 06h00-14h40.

Some of the tracks had dried off a bit since my previous visit (in the rain) two days ago & I was able to explore the area more thoroughly. This in itself might explain why several of my counts were higher – but I also thought that there had been a marked influx of birds – especially Black-headed Gulls, Curlew & Marsh Sandpipers and Red-necked Stints. On the down side also thought that the Asian Dowitcher numbers were slightly down on the 1438 I counted here on the 17 July. I didn't count this species thoroughly today.

Chinese Spot-billed Duck	3 flew south over the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	5 singles around the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. All in unusual places these are probably the first migrants I've seen on this trip.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	320 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Eurasian Curlew	10 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Eastern Curlew	4 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
curlew sp.	30 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	1950 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Common Redshank	36 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	4700 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Common Greenshank	1750 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 60,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents 2.9% of the entire flyway population.
Wood Sandpiper	500 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	10 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	10 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	1000+ on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Great Knot	15 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Little Stint	3 separate summer plumaged adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	940 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. Four birds with orange leg flags were noted.
Temminck's Stint	8 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	13 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1040 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. One leg flagged bird was noted – it had a green flag above its right knee and a yellow band below the same knee.
Dunlin	20 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	5350 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. This is the largest day count that I've ever had in coastal Tianjin. Nine flagged birds were seen – four had yellow flags, two orange, one had an orange over a yellow flag above its right knee; another had a white over a yellow flag above its left knee & the ninth bird had an orange flag over what I could only determine to be a 'dark' flag (the latter was covered in mud) above its right knee.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	12 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	560 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	750 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	30 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	400 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	11 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	212, including at least one juvenile, on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	2550, including just one juvenile, on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. This is a marked increase on the previous few days.
Relict Gull	233, including two juveniles, on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Little Gull	1 adult-summer roosting with other gulls on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. (Photographed). Its probably not a coincidence that there had been a marked influx of Black-headed Gulls into the area since yesterday.
Gull-billed Tern	1 adult on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Caspian Tern	3 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
Common Tern	30 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	11 flew south over the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	4 singles around the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. Migrants such as these, and even larger parties of actively migrating birds have been a feature of the last few days. Clearly autumn migration starts early in this species.
Barn Swallow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 19/7/2009.
[Little Bunting	1 bird, possibly this species, was heard over the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009].

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	4
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - green flag above knee, yellow band below knee - both R leg.	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	4
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	2
Curlew Sandpiper – orange over yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - white over yellow - left leg	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange over dark?	1

Monday 20 July 2009. Early morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south, spending the early morning back at the Tianjin Harbour Pools.

High tide

14h36 at a height of 3.7 metres.

Weather

The forecast was for the day to start nice but for this to turn cloudy & temperatures were forecast to rise from 24-34°C. but what actually happened was quite different. Visibility was very poor (less than one kilometre) around Tanggu shortly after dawn & even this worsened during the early morning! It started to rain at 08h45 & this soon became torrential & I decided to quit, phoned Qingyu & the two of us arranged to meet up with some friends in Tianjin.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 6.5 hours from 06h00-09h00

Pacific Swift	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Common Redshank	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Common Greenshank	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

Common Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Long-billed Dowitcher	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009. The fifth record for Tianjin it was unfortunately only seen for about 15 seconds before being flushed by another vehicle that parked up behind us and impatiently honked his horn demanding that we move on.
Asian Dowitcher	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Little Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	1595 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009. Three orange leg flagged birds were seen.
Temminck's Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Dunlin	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009. One with a yellow leg flag was seen.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Relict Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	3
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	1

Wednesday 22 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south. I had intended to start off by looking at the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang but there was another massive traffic jam at the northern end of Haibin Lu (beach road) & I opted to start by birding around the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools. I spent all morning there before discovering that the traffic had started to move. I then headed south & spent much of the remainder of the day at the reclamation pools between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang. I finally arrived back at the hotel at about 16h50.

High tide

16h25 at a height of 4.0 metres.

Weather

There was an impressive partial solar eclipse just after 09h15 this morning – it was apparently a full eclipse (the longest for over 100 years) further south in China.

The weather forecast was for strong thunderstorms in Beijing & Tianjin in the morning & for temperatures to range from 23-33°C. What actually happened was that it was gorgeous first thing - 25°C, no wind & with decent long range visibility (more than 5 kilometres). As the morning progressed however the visibility declined & by 11h00 I could see less than one kilometre. The humidity picked up markedly as well & the mid-afternoon temperatures probably exceeded 34°C.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Just over 6 hours from 05h40-12h00

2. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Just under 4 hours from 12h15-16h00.

Mallard	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 singles around the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	120 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 118 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A juvenile, the first of the autumn, was seen at the first site.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	100 adults n coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. All bar three of these were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Common Redshank	24 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 21 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other three on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Marsh Sandpiper	1200 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 350 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 850, including the first juvenile of the autumn, were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Common Greenshank	250 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 30 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 220 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Wood Sandpiper	450 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 140 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 310 were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Terek Sandpiper	11 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009, Birds were about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Common Sandpiper	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.

Ruddy Turnstone	1 adult male, the first bird of the autumn, was on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. Incredibly it was also the first colour banded Ruddy Turnstone that I've ever seen in Tianjin and had on its right leg a yellow flag below the knee and an orange flag above its knee.
Asian Dowitcher	168 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 166 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Red Knot	3 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two more on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Little Stint	8 summer plumaged adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. There were four widely separate birds around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four others on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Two of the four birds at each site were photographed (poorly). It seems that Little Stints are almost dependably present in coastal Tianjin in early May & again from mid-July until mid-August. It would be interesting to see if the proportions of Red-necked & Little Stints varies during the year – I think that there are relatively more Little Stints in early May & in late July with the proportions declining as Red-necks reach their spring and autumn peaks.
Red-necked Stint	4360 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 4150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. 13 leg flagged birds were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools today – nine with orange flags, two with yellow and two others that had a yellow over a dark (colour undetermined) on their right legs. A single winter plumaged bird, only my second of this autumn, was seen today. Such presumed non-breeding first summers are rare here in autumn (rarer than Little Stint and occur in a proportion of <0.05% i.e. 1:2000).
Temminck's Stint	24 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – eight on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 16 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Long-toed Stint	19 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – eight on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 11 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	990 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 560 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 430 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Dunlin	30 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – just five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 25 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	5950 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 3530 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2420 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Another local record as numbers continue to increase & the species remains the commonest shorebird. 14 colour flagged birds were seen today. 12 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools – eight with yellow flags, three with orange and one had a white flag over a blue flag on its upper left leg and the white flag had the number '26' in black on it. Two more colour flagged birds were seen on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang – one had an orange flag while the other had a dark (possibly green?) flag over a yellow one on its right leg.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	38 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 32 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is a marked increase since last week.
Red-necked Phalarope	1 immaculate adult female (a different bird to the moulting individual seen last week)
Black-winged Stilt	70 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 65 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Pied Avocet	385 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 285 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Six tiny, very recently fledged birds were seen at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Little Ringed Plover	195 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 90 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 105 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is a marked increase since last week.
Kentish Plover	850 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 490 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 360 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is a marked increase since last week.
Greater Sand Plover	15 juveniles in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Peak emigration seems to occur in mid- to late July & its possibly the earliest shorebird to reach its peak in autumn.
Black-tailed Gull	264 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – just two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 262 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Black-headed Gull	800 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. The vast majority of these were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Relict Gull	111 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – just four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 107 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Gull-billed Tern	2 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
Caspian Tern	8 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – two, an adult and a juvenile, over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. All eight birds were aged and there were six adults and two separate attendant juveniles.
Common Tern	139 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 124 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
'Eastern' Little Tern	240 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 190 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 32 birds at the first site yielded 14 adults & 18 juveniles.
Little Egret	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
White-checked Starling	2 singles besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009. This species appears to be the first south bound migrating passerine in autumn.
Barn Swallow	50 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 around the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	2, including an adult male, besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009. Other than White-checked Starling these were the first passerine migrants that I'd seen in coastal Tianjin this autumn.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	9
Red-necked Stint - yellow	2
Red-necked Stint - yellow over dark (right leg)	2
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	8
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	4
Curlew Sandpiper - dark (poss. green?) over yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - white over blue- left leg & black no. '26'	1

Thursday 23 July 2009. Very early morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south to the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools. I spent a very short time here before the skies opened and it rained torrentially. This and the fact that it had also rained very hard throughout much of the night and the wader pools were largely flooded out meant that I called it quits & headed back to the hotel to do some work.

High tide

17h09 at a height of 4.1 metres.

Weather

The weather forecast was for a cloudy morning followed by afternoon thunderstorms in both Beijing & Tianjin & for temperatures to range from 24-29°C. What actually happened was quite different. There had been a huge thunderstorm overnight – impressive amounts of lightening, some huge claps of thunder & masses of rain and the day dawn still very overcast & dark. Even this worsened – worsening to such an extent that it was difficult to see much at all. The skies opened at 07h00 & it rained torrentially. It was cooler today being just 22°C at 05:30hrs.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Just over 2.5 hours from 05h40-07h20

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Whimbrel	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Common Redshank	9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Common Greenshank	70 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009. One bird with an orange leg flag was seen.
Temminck's Stint	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Dunlin	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Caspian Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Common Tern	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Sand Martin	1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange 1

Friday 24 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south. I spent all day at the reclamation pools between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang & finally arrived back at the hotel at about 18h00. Surprisingly a large number of the smaller dirt roads had dried out and some of them were accessible for the first time in a small car. Because of this I was able to explore much more of the area that I ever had before – and it was a revelation! There were over 26,000 shorebirds present here today!

High tide

04:34 (3.6 metres & 17h48 at a height of 4.1 metres.

Weather

A nice day – cooler than it had been in the early morning (22°C) rising to about 30°C as a maximum. Visibility was only OK in the morning (being perhaps three kilometres) but after a short rain shower at about 13h00 it improved markedly and was up to perhaps seven kilometres by the later afternoon (almost as good as it ever gets here!).

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Just over 11 hours from 05h35-16h45.

Common Shelduck	14 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	2 singles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1340 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Just three juveniles were seen.
Bar-tailed Godwit	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Eurasian Curlew	10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Eastern Curlew	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	1050 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Common Redshank	45 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	5600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Just two juveniles were seen.
Common Greenshank	430 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	429 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. All 429 birds were seen well enough to age and there were 426 adults & just three juveniles.
Great Knot	8 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Red Knot	45 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Sanderling	1 summer plumaged adult on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Little Stint	6 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	850 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. 6 orange leg flagged birds were noted.
Temminck's Stint	30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	3930 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Two leg flagged birds were noted – one yellow & one orange.
Dunlin	45 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	10,300 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. They made up almost half of the total number of waders present on the pools today & his is easily highest count I have ever made in coastal Tianjin. Eight leg flagged birds were noted – five yellow & three orange.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	1740 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. 342 birds were aged & this produced 322 adults & just 20 juveniles.
Pied Avocet	1410 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	9 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Seven were seen well enough to age & all seven were juveniles.
Black-tailed Gull	210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	3000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Less than ten juveniles were seen.
Relict Gull	1028 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. This is an unusually early date for so many birds to have returned to Tanggu – my previous highest July count was less than half this number (505 on 26 July 2006) and its even almost 50% higher than any of my August counts. I would not normally have expected to have seen this many birds on the coast until September (another five weeks or so from now). I suspect that the species might have had a very poor breeding season & many failed breeders might have returned to the coast early. (Note that today's count is a minimum count, the gulls were moving around a little bit & were in five or six discrete flocks – the count of 1028 were all in one area & there could actually have been as many as 1346 birds present). The vast majority were adults with quite a few third calendar years also present. Just three juveniles were seen. Three colour flagged/banded birds were noted – two adults had orange flags on their right tibias (upper legs) while the third bird (a first summer in its second calendar year) had an orange band with white characters 'N5' on its right tarsus. The banded birds were at 38°52.97'N., 117°40.57'E. - 8.2 kms due south of Tanggu town centre.
Gull-billed Tern	2 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Caspian Tern	3, including one adult & a separate juvenile, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Common Tern	120 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	320 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	120 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Little Egret	6 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Grey Heron	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	4 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	6
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	5
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	3
Colour banded Relict Gulls	
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. Ad.	2
Orange band white characters on right tarsus.	1 with characters 'N5' in white

Saturday 25 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south. I again spent the entire day at the reclamation pools between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang & finally arrived back at the hotel at about 18h00. I was joined by photographers Zhao Chao, his wife & Mr. Xu from Tanggu from about 11h30.

Weather

A nice day – cooler again in the early morning (22°C) rising to about 28°C as a maximum.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 6 hours from 05h40-11h45

These pools held about 17,000 shorebirds today & this, combined with the 26,000 shorebirds present on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang yesterday, means that Tanggu's coastal reclamation pools are currently holding about 43,000 shorebirds! Perhaps one-third of this staggering number are Curlew Sandpipers, one quarter Red-necked Stints, 15% Marsh & another 15% Sharp-tailed Sandpipers!

2. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 5 hours from 12h15-17h15.

Common Shelduck	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Common Redshank	40 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – seven on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 35 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Marsh Sandpiper	4000 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 550 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 3500 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Common Greenshank	200 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	400 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	20 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	10 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	40, including four juveniles, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Red Knot	4 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Little Stint	10 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – six on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four others on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Two of the birds at the first site were photographed & these are the ninth & tenth individuals that I've photographed this autumn.
Red-necked Stint	9700 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 9000 were estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 700 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. 35 colour flagged birds were noted today &, other than two orange flagged birds on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, all the rest were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Here there were 26 orange flagged birds, two yellow & two with orange over yellow flags.
Temminck's Stint	65 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	7 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	3500 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 1800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about a similar number in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Its likely that there are already in excess of 5500 in the area. One bird with a black over yellow flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Dunlin	60 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 35 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	8000 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 5200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 3000 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Its likely that there are in excess of 15,500 birds in the area! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 180,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 8.6% of the entire flyway population. The highest previous count in China was of 12,489 in North-west Bo Hai Wan on the 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date) cited in Bamford et. al. (2008). Three flagged birds were noted today – one yellow & another orange on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another yellow on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	20 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009. Birds were about equally split between the two sites.
Black-winged Stilt	1500 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 1500 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Pied Avocet	1300 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 1150 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	245 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 205 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Kentish Plover	3000 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 2500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Lesser Sand Plover	1 adult male on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	7 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – four juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & three on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Oriental Pratincole	1 flew south over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009. This was the first migrant I've seen this autumn.
Black-tailed Gull	150 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009
Black-headed Gull	3000 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Relict Gull	1105 including three juveniles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

Gull-billed Tern	2 adults over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Common Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Whiskered Tern	2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	31
Red-necked Stint - yellow	2
Red-necked Stint - dark over yellow	2
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - black over yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	2
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	1

Sunday 26 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan at 05h00 & headed south. I spent all day at the reclamation pools between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang & finally arrived back at the hotel at about 14h30. Surprisingly a large number of the smaller dirt roads had dried out and some of them were accessible for the first time in a small car. Because of this I was able to explore much more of the area that I ever had before – and it was a revelation! There were probably well over 30,000 shorebirds present here today!

High tide

05:24 (3.7 metres & 19h00 at a height of 4 metres).

Weather

A decent day – 23°C in the early morning rising to about 32°C as a maximum. However there was absolutely no wind and it felt much hotter than this. Visibility was only OK (being perhaps five kilometres) all day.

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Just over 7 hours from 06h15-13h30.

Common Shelduck	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	447 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. 155 birds were aged and there was only one juvenile among 154 adults!
Whimbrel	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	420 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Common Redshank	20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	13,100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. This is the highest count of this, and currently of any species of wader, that I've ever made in coastal Tianjin! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000-1,000,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 13 & 1.3% of the entire flyway population!
Common Greenshank	300 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Just seven birds were aged – an this produced a surprisingly high proportion of juveniles – six with just one adult.
Terek Sandpiper	15 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	18 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Eight birds were seen well enough to age & all these were adults.
Ruddy Turnstone	5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Just 26 birds were aged (5 juveniles & 26 adults).
Great Knot	11 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Red Knot	30 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	1850 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Seven orange flagged birds were seen.
Temminck's Stint	25 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. One orange flagged bird was seen.
Dunlin	25 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	5500 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Two flagged birds were seen – one with yellow & the other with yellow over orange.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	25 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	1690 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	1270 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Grey Plover	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	45 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	800 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	247 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	3700 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

Relict Gull	795 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Just three juveniles were seen.
Gull-billed Tern	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Common Tern	15 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	3 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	1 besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	3 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	5 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	7
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow over orange	1

Tuesday 28 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I had fired Mr. Chen off yesterday – he'd been awkward and rude for several days now & today deliberately went out of his way to run over a dog today – which he found highly amusing! So today I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan with a new driver, Mr. Hu (mobile phone no. 13612021039) at 05h00 & headed south. I spent all day at the regular two sites – the reclamation pools at Tianjin Harbour and the others between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang. We started to head back at 16h30 but the traffic on Haibin road was awful again & we didn't reach the hotel until almost 18h00.

High tide

About 07h15 at a height of 4 metres.

Weather

A reasonable day – 26°C in the early morning rising to about 30°C as a maximum. The early morning was heavily overcast & the sky looked threatening and what started as fine drizzle at about 07h30 turned to a torrential thunderstorm from 08h30 until about 10h00. Visibility was poor in the early morning (less than 2 kms) but this improved after the thunderstorm to about four.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 5.5 hours from 05h45-11h15

2. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 4.5 hours from 11h45-16h15.

Eurasian Hoopoe	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Whimbrel	1 was heard over Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Common Redshank	6 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	12,000 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009. Only 400 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while all the rest (11,500+) were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Common Greenshank	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	80 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009. Just 18 birds were aged and 13 of these were juvenile & the other five adult.
Terek Sandpiper	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	6 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	5 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Great Knot	22 adults flew low over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Little Stint	8 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 – four of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other four were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Red-necked Stint	19,400 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 9400 counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 10,000 estimated on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A staggering 55 leg-flagged birds were noted with 31 orange & one yellow on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 20 orange & three yellow on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Temminck's Stint	60 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	6050 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 2700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 3350 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. One with a black over yellow leg flag was on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Dunlin	259 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 74 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 185 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	5650 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 3400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2250 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Six leg flagged birds were noted – two birds one yellow & one dark (possibly green) over yellow were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while four birds – three yellow & one orange were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	34 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 17 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another 17 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Black-winged Stilt	2855 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin. A sample count of 172 birds produced 159 adults and 13 juveniles. The estimated population in the

	entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,00-100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents between 2.9 & 11.4% of the entire flyway & world population. This count is also the highest ever not only in China but on the entire East Asian-Australasian Flyway! The previous highest count for the flyway was an undated report also from North-west Bo Hai Wan of 2000 birds in Barter, M. 2002. Shorebirds of the Yellow Sea: Importance, Threats and Conservation Status. Wetlands International Global Series 9, International Wader Studies 12, Canberra, Australia. The next highest count for China was of 1037 birds in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002.
Pied Avocet	1400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Grey Plover	2 flew over Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Long-billed Plover	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009. Only my second sighting in Tianjin!
Little Ringed Plover	60 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 9400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 6700 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Greater Sand Plover	5 juveniles in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 – four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Black-tailed Gull	110 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Mongolian Gull	1 second calendar year on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	1400 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Relict Gull	110 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Little Gull	1 adult-summer on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009. (Photographed)
Gull-billed Tern	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Common Tern	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	220 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 165 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 55 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
White-winged Black Tern	155 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Common Kestrel	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 – one flew south over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other was in central Teda.
Little Egret	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Chinese Egret	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Grey Heron	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	4 in Tanggu town on the 28/7/2009.
Crested Myna	1 in the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park complex, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 flew south over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Little Bunting	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	51
Red-necked Stint - yellow	4
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - black over yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	4
Curlew Sandpiper – orange	1
Curlew Sandpiper - dark (poss. green?) over yellow	1

Wednesday 29 July 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south & spent all day at the reclamation between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang. There was lots of traffic on the road and it took us a full two hours to reach the site & another 1.5 hours to travel back to the hotel at the end of the day.

High tide

About 08h49 at a height of 3.6 metres.

Weather

A reasonable day – but muggy with little wind and very hot/uncomfortable. Visibility was reduced to between 1-2 kms in the morning & was only slightly better in the afternoon (perhaps 3 kms).

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 46 hours from 07h00-15h00.

I covered this area more thoroughly today than yesterday, spent more time counting the birds and less time searching for flagged individuals. I was particularly keen to get a more accurate count of the numbers of Red-necked Stints, Sharp-tailed and Curlew Sandpipers present and its clear that the first two are still increasing while Curlew Sandpiper is already past its peak and declining.

duck sp.	12 in flight over the southern edge of Tanggu town on the 29/7/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 flew over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	158 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 61 birds were aged and this produced 58 adults and just three juveniles.
Spotted Redshank	540 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Common Redshank	26 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 13 birds were aged and this produced eight adults and five juveniles.
Marsh Sandpiper	8000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Common Greenshank	80 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

Green Sandpiper	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	220 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 13 birds were aged and this produced seven adults & six juveniles.
Terek Sandpiper	10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	6 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 1 leg flagged bird was noted (the first flagged tattler I've ever seen in China) & it had black over white flags on its right leg.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	131 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 15 birds were aged and this produced eight adults and seven juveniles.
Red Knot	5 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Little Stint	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. (Photo - this was the 13 th Little Stint I've photographed at Tanggu so far this autumn).
Red-necked Stint	13,075 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. The increase continues. 12 leg-flagged birds were noted - 11 orange & 1 yellow.
Temminck's Stint	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Long-toed Stint	7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	7100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. The increase continues. 1 orange flagged bird was noted. Its likely that there are over 9800 birds in coastal Tanggu right now – I counted 2700 on the Tianjin Industrial Park Pools yesterday. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 160,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 6.1% of the entire flyway & world population! These are the highest counts outside of the species' Australian wintering grounds and the three previous highest counts in China (taken from Bamford et al. 2008) are 3125 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 28 April 2001, 2855 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date) & 1262 in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002.
Dunlin	210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	4030 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Numbers are now clearly declining. Four flagged birds were noted – one yellow & three orange.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	1850 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Pied Avocet	1200 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Long-billed Plover	1 juvenile on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Amazingly my second record in two days – and only my third ever! (Photo).
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	2 juveniles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	85 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Numbers continue to be well down on previous autumns – perhaps because of a lack of inter-tidal mud flats.
Black-headed Gull	8350 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Saunders's Gull	1 juvenile, most probably the same bird that I saw two days previously, was again on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Relict Gull	450, including just five juveniles, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. One adult with an orange flag was seen.
Little Gull	1 moulting adult-summer on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. It was a different bird to that seen on the Tianjin Industrial Park Pools yesterday – it was in wing moult and missing at least its innermost primary on both wings, at least its outer four primaries were extremely heavily abraded with just their shafts remaining at the tip & it had more extensive white flecking on its black hood. (Photo).
Caspian Tern	2 juveniles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Common Tern	30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	70 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	1 besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	4 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 singing bird was heard near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	11
Red-necked Stint - yellow	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	3
Grey-tailed Tattler - black over white	1
Colour banded Relict Gulls	
Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. Ad.	1

Thursday 30 July 2009. Most of day in the Tanggu & Hangu area.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south & spent the morning around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. In the after noon we headed north – to Caihongqiao where I explored the old coast road & then spent time looking at the pools about two kilometres north of the Eco-city Service Park. These pools are on the west side of the main north-south highway and about 600 metres to the Hangu side of the large petrol station. It took 30 minutes to drive from there back to the hotel at the end of the day.

High tide

About 09h54 at a height of 3.5 metres.

Weather

It was another very hot & muggy day – there was little wind and with temperatures that ranged from 26-32°C it felt uncomfortable and very humid. Worst of all there was very poor visibility all day – starting at less than one kilometre in the morning and improving to probably little more than 1.5 kms as the day went on!

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 7 hours from 06h15-13h15

2. Pool immediately to the west of the main Tanggu to Hangu highway about two kilometres north of the Eco-City Service Park buildings & three kms north of the Caihong Bridge. (29°08.05'N., 117°45.19'E.). 1.5 hours from 14h30-16h00.

I first stopped at this pool just over two weeks ago on the 15 July – and it was productive then but held many more waterfowl at that time.

Chinese Spot-billed Duck	12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Whimbrel	1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Spotted Redshank	25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Common Redshank	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	1480 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 240 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 1240 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Common Greenshank	55 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Wood Sandpiper	75 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 70 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & five at Caihongqiao, Hangu. A sample count of 26 birds yielded eight adults (31%) & 18 juveniles.
Terek Sandpiper	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Common Sandpiper	7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	9 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with two juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & seven at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Little Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Red-necked Stint	12, 090 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 11,990 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. 28 colour flagged birds were noted at the first site – 24 orange, two yellow & two orange over yellow. Its likely that there are over 25,000 Red-necked Stints in coastal Tanggu at the moment – I counted 13,075 yesterday on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 325,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 7.7% of the entire flyway & world population. According to this same publication the highest counts elsewhere in China have been 10,073 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 28 April 2001, 7570 at Jiazhouwan, Shandong on the 4 May 2004, 4285 in North-west of Bo Hai Wan on 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date) & 3380 at Xuwei Saltworks, Jiangsu on 1 May 2004.
Temminck's Stint	84 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 67 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 17 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Long-toed Stint	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2240 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 2170 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 70 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Dunlin	47 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	1735 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 1705 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. Three colour flagged birds were noted at the first site – one yellow & two orange.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	37 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 29 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & eight at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Black-winged Stilt	149 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 129 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Pied Avocet	300 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with about 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & about 100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Little Ringed Plover	192 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 121 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 71 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Kentish Plover	1420 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	67 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Black-headed Gull	45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Relict Gull	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	39 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009. A sample count of 25 birds yielded 22 adults (88%) & just three juveniles.
Common Tern	33 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	245 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009. A sample count of 227 birds yielded 195 adults (86%) & 32 juveniles.
White-winged Black Tern	110 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Little Egret	3 singles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Grey Heron	13 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.

Black-billed Magpie	20 between Tanggu town & Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Sand Martin	1250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Barn Swallow	400 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 in the Caihongqiao area, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	24
Red-necked Stint - yellow	2
Red-necked Stint - orange over yellow	2
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	2

Saturday 1 August 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south & spent all day at the two sets of reclamation – the ones between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang & the ones at the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools. There was again a lot of traffic on the road. There was only once access route in to the first site of the day – it looks as though they have permanently closed the northern access route to none works traffic.

High tide

About 12h21 at a height of 3.4 metres.

Weather

A reasonable day – 27-32°C and very humid with little wind. Visibility was perhaps 3 kms.

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 5.5 hours from 06h50-12h15.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 3 hours 20 minutes from 12h30-15h50

Common Shelduck	5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Spotted Dove	1 singing bird at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	15 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Whimbrel	1 was heard over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
curlew sp.	5 on the mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Spotted Redshank	330 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Common Redshank	11 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	7600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. Three juveniles were seen today.
Common Greenshank	200 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 165 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & about another 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Wood Sandpiper	120 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. 29 birds were aged and this produced 15 adults & 14 juveniles
Terek Sandpiper	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Common Sandpiper	12 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	28 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – with just 23 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & five (three adults & two juveniles) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Red Knot	8 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Little Stint	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – one on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. One of the three birds at the latter site was photographed.
Red-necked Stint	7000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 2000 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. 23 leg-flagged birds were noted – these involved 20 orange with four on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 1 yellow on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; one with a dark (black, dark green or dark blue) flag over a white flag also on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 1 with an orange flag on its tarsus & a yellow flag on its tibia (both on its right leg) also on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Temminck's Stint	85 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Long-toed Stint	7 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – with about 2500 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & another 2500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.. 1 with an orange flag was on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
Dunlin	278 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	3000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 with about equal numbers on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & another 2500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. 1 with an orange flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	40 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	4577 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. 474 birds were aged and this produced 427 adults & 47 juveniles.
Pied Avocet	1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Grey Plover	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	70 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Kentish Plover	2500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

Black-tailed Gull	475 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 464 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Black-headed Gull	2500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Relict Gull	456 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 455 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & just one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Three juveniles were seen. One second-summer with a yellow band on its right tarsus (lower leg) was seen.
Gull-billed Tern	2, including one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Caspian Tern	4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Common Tern	214 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. 74 birds were aged and this produced 71 adults and just three juveniles.
'Eastern' Little Tern	162 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 106 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 56 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Whiskered Tern	1 adult with the White-winged Black Terns on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	815, including the first juvenile of the year, were over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Sand Martin	5 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Barn Swallow	300 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 near the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. The first one of the autumn.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	20
Red-necked Stint - yellow	1
Red-necked Stint - dark (black, dark green or dark blue)/white	1
Red-necked Stint - orange tarsus, yellow tibia both R leg	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	1
Relict Gull - yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). 2nd-w	1

Sunday 2 August 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south & spent most of the day at the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools.

High tide

About 13h30 at a height of 3.4 metres.

Weather

A reasonable day. It had rained very hard overnight and this continued until about 07h00. After that it warmed up (23-32°C) and visibility improved and was about 5 kms by the mid-afternoon. Little wind.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Just over 9 hours from 05h45-15h00

Because of the heavy over rain the muddy edges of the tank that had started to dry out were again damp & good for shorebirds. This meant that the thousands of birds that were distant & in the middle of the huge settling tank yesterday were now mostly around the edge & the viewing conditions were excellent.

Pintail or Swinhoe's Snipe	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009
Whimbrel	13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
curlew sp.	3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Spotted Redshank	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Common Redshank	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	2040 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 11 juveniles were seen.
Common Greenshank	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. The first juvenile of the autumn was also seen.
Green Sandpiper	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 89 birds were aged & this produced 23 adults (26%) & 66 juveniles.
Terek Sandpiper	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Common Sandpiper	8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Ruddy Turnstone	2 adult males flew low over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Little Stint	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Red-necked Stint	11,360 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 50 colour flagged birds were noted today – 44 orange; three yellow; 1 'dark' over yellow; one yellow over blue & one with an orange flag on its tarsus & a yellow flag on its tibia – both on the right leg.
Temminck's Stint	103 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Long-toed Stint	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5630 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 1 with black over orange flag was seen.
Dunlin	130 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

Curlew Sandpiper	4045 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. Two flagged birds were noted – one with yellow, the other orange.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Pied Avocet	300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. Two locally fledged family groups were seen – one with two very tiny day old chicks and the other with three larger but still small & flightless chicks.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Grey Plover	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	74 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	29, including just two adults, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Black-headed Gull	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Caspian Tern	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Common Tern	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Sand Martin	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Barn Swallow	100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Red-necked Stint - orange	44
Red-necked Stint - yellow	3
Red-necked Stint - dark over yellow	1
Red-necked Stint - orange tarsus, yellow tibia both R leg	1
Red-necked Stint - yellow/blue	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - black over orange	1
Curlew Sandpiper - yellow	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange	1

Sunday 3 August 2009. Morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south & spent the morning at the reclamation pools between Lu Ju He & Haibin Yuchang. I returned to Tanggu fairly early, had a shower, checked out & headed to the railway station to catch the last high speed train of the day back to Beijing.

High tide

About 14h32 at a height of 3.5 metres.

Weather

A reasonable day – 26-32°C and very humid with little wind. Visibility was perhaps 4 kms.

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Almost 6 hours from 05h45-11h40.

Access was difficult today & we were asked to leave from two different spots – I was unsure whether there was a visiting dignitary or whether they were actually clamping down on access permanently. There is a good chance that it's the latter since they had recently blocked off the barely driveable track at Lujuhe, had put a chain across the road at the northernmost access point and had just built a large gate across the southern access point at Haibin Yuchang.

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	70 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
curlew sp.	1 was heard on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Spotted Redshank	10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Common Redshank	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	6550 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. 1 leg flagged bird was seen – it had a black flag over a green one on its right leg (it was photographed).
Common Greenshank	4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Green Sandpiper	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. Ten birds were aged & this produced two adults & eight juveniles.
Terek Sandpiper	4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Common Sandpiper	7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 adult male on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	5, two adults and three juveniles, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Sanderling	1 adult on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Little Stint	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Red-necked Stint	8150 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. 24 flagged birds were seen – 23 orange & one yellow.

Temminck's Stint	20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Long-toed Stint	11 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	2420 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. One orange flagged bird was seen.
Dunlin	337 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. One flagged adult summer was seen – it had a black over white flag on its right leg.
Curlew Sandpiper	1640 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. One flagged bird was seen – it had an orange (possibly blue?) on its right leg.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	23 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	4120 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. A sample count of 70 birds yielded 57 adults & 13 juveniles.
Pied Avocet	1730 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Pacific Golden Plover	1 was heard on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Grey Plover	1 was heard on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	45 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Kentish Plover	2000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	522 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Black-headed Gull	1000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Relict Gull	40, including one juvenile, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Caspian Tern	4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Common Tern	85 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	35 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	230 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
White-cheeked Starling	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Sand Martin	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
White Wagtail	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - orange	23
Red-necked Stint - yellow	1
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper - orange	1
Marsh Sandpiper - black/green	1
Curlew Sandpiper - orange over dark(poss. blue?)	1
Dunlin - black/white	1

Friday 7 August 2009. Am Wulingshan, Hebei, late pm Hangu.

Together with Brian Rennie & Marian Thorpe we spent a rather birdless morning on Wulingshan, Hebei. Leaving there at 10h30 we set off to drive to Beijing South Railway Station and arrived 3.5 hrs later – in plenty of time to catch the 15h55 high speed train to Tanggu. Arriving one hour later we took two taxis to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel, checked in, dropped our luggage & then headed almost straight back out. We spent the early evening at Caihongqiao, Hangu. Here we spent time looking at the pools about two kilometres north of the Eco-city Service Park. These pools are on the west side of the main north-south highway and about 600 metres to the Hangu side of the large petrol station.

1. Pool immediately to the west of the main Tanggu to Hangu highway about two kilometres north of the Eco-City Service Park buildings & three kms north of the Caihong Bridge. (29°08.05'N., 117°45.19'E.). 1.5 hours from 18h00-19h30.

There was a lot more water in this tank today – and far fewer shorebirds as a result.

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Spotted Redshank	5 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009. Only one juvenile was seen.
Common Greenshank	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Common Sandpiper	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Red-necked Stint	40 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Temminck's Stint	78 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	35 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Pied Avocet	20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Grey Plover	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	45 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Kentish Plover	25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Oriental Pratincole	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Black-headed Gull	6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Common Tern	8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	45 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Little Egret	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Barn Swallow	50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
Light-vented Bulbul	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

Saturday 8 August 2009. Most of day south of Tanggu.

The three of us (Brian Rennie, Marian Thorpe and me) left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south. We had intended to spent the bulk of the day at the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools but the traffic was horrendous & we decided to access the area via a different route. So we turned around & headed south to Dagang & then on the Dagang to Haibin Yuchang toll road via Gaoshaling. We were allowed to walk around the reclamation pools near Haibin Yuchang – but our vehicle was not allowed inside.

High tide

Early morning – perhaps at about 05h30 & with it being a full moon the tide was high.

Weather

A nice day – clear skies so very hot but some wind to keep it not too unpleasant. There was considerable heat haze from at least 10h00 on. Visibility was probably over seven kilometres.

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 4.5 hours from 07h00-11h30.

Chinese Spot-billed Duck	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Bar-tailed Godwit	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Whimbrel	10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Eastern Curlew	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Spotted Redshank	200 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Common Redshank	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	3500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Common Greenshank	10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Common Sandpiper	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	82 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Red Knot	3 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Red-necked Stint	5500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009. Most birds were too distant or in too much heat haze to check for leg flags & just two flagged birds were seen – one yellow and the other with a yellow flag on its left lower tibia (the latter an unusual location for a flag).
Temminck's Stint	60 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Long-toed Stint	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	5500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Dunlin	110 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	250 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	3500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009. Two family parties (one with two chicks the other with three) were on one of the deeper sand extraction pits at Gaoshaling.
Pied Avocet	500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Grey Plover	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Kentish Plover	1000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Greater Sand Plover	3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	416 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Black-headed Gull	300 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Relict Gull	15 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Caspian Tern	2, one adult & one first year, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Common Tern	130 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	725 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009. Birds were widespread but the bulk were in just two flocks – one close to Haibin Yuchang and the other closer to Lujuhe. Today's count marks a massive increase since last week.
Whiskered Tern	4 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Brown Shrike	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Barn Swallow	100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Light-vented Bulbul	2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Zitting Cisticola	2 were heard between Tanggu & Dagang on the 8/8/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Richard's Pipit	1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Red-necked Stint - yellow	1
Red-necked Stint - yellow on left tibia	1

Wednesday 9 September 2009. Late afternoon south of Tanggu.

Qingyu & me left Tongzhou, Beijing at 09h30 & headed to Beijing South Railway Station. We had hoped to have caught the 10h45 direct train to Tanggu but, by the time we arrived (10h20) there were no tickets left and we were forced to purchase tickets for the next direct train, the one at 12h35. This got us in to Tanggu at 13h20, we went straight to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel, checked in, dropped our luggage & I then headed back out again. Leaving the hotel at 14h10 we met lots of traffic as we headed south and finally arrived at the birding site 1 hour 15 minutes later! I spent the rest of the afternoon there, started back at 18h20 and arrived back at the hotel at about 19h00.

Sun rise and sun set

Sun rise 05h44
Sun set 18h29

High tide

06h07 & 18h13 at heights of 3.7 & 3.9 metres respectively.

Weather

A very nice reasonable day with clear skies in both Beijing & Tanggu. It had rained in the Capital two days earlier and this had leached much of the dust from the atmosphere making for clear skies and good visibility. Tanggu had slightly poorer visibility than Beijing – but at about seven or eight kilometres range it was still good for this area. The temperatures in Beijing were forecast to range from 17-28°C and they were probably very similar to that at Tanggu.

Ornithological features of the day

Things had changed massively since my previous visit almost five weeks earlier. The majority of adult shorebirds had moved south and most seen today were juveniles. There were good numbers of both Temminck's and Long-toed Stints present and there were also already large numbers of Pied Avocets, Kentish Plovers, Mongolian Gulls and Little Egrets.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Just under 3 hours from 15h25-18h20.

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Whimbrel	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Spotted Redshank	1 moulting adult summer on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Common Greenshank	1 was heard on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	180 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Red-necked Stint	800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009. Just one adult was noticed.
Temminck's Stint	544 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Long-toed Stint	69 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Dunlin	80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009. Just two adults (<1% of the total number of birds seen) were noted.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	46 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	315 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Pied Avocet	4775 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Kentish Plover	6,000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Grey-headed Lapwing	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Oriental Pratincole	4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	127 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Mongolian Gull	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Black-headed Gull	2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Relict Gull	13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009. . Only four birds were aged and these involved three first calendar and one second calendar year individuals.
Gull-billed Tern	65 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Common Tern	120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	2670 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Little Egret	36 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Grey Heron	32 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Brown Shrike	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Black Drongo	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Barn Swallow	200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Yellow-browed Warbler	2 were heard on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
Olive-backed Pipit	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

Thursday 10 September 2009. All day south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel again with Mr. Hu at 05h00 & headed south. We had intended to spend the bulk of the day around the coastal pool between the now defunct Lujuhe and Haibin Yuchang but were stopped by police at about 10h30, questioned for ten minutes and then politely asked to leave. This is the second time that this has happened to me at this site (the first was immediately before the start of the Beijing Olympic Games in early August 2008) – and this time they were very firm and told me that there would never be allowed to access this area again! This is very disappointing news as the pools here have been absolutely superb. Obviously I left (we were actually escorted out) and we drove few kilometres south to Lujuhe itself. There were large numbers of shorebirds here & I spent almost another 2.5 hours there before heading back to the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools.

High tide

06h44 & 18h41 at heights of 3.7 & 3.9 metres respectively.

Weather

A fairly nice day – cool and over cast in the morning with visibility down to about five kilometre midday. However things then improved and the late afternoon was very pleasant. Temperatures ranged from 20-27°C.

Ornithological features of the day

There were impressive numbers of shorebirds at both sites today – with record numbers of both Pied Avocet & Kentish Plover as well as good numbers of Marsh Sandpiper and Temminck's Stint. The only oddity was a single Ruff. There were also decent numbers of passerines around today – both as fly-overs in the early morning and grounded birds later in the day.

1. Complex of pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 7 hours 45 minutes from 05h40-13h25.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Almost 3 hours from 13h45-16h40

Common Shelduck	439 on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Mallard	56 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Northern Pintail	3 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Teal	42 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
duck sp.	40 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Eurasian Collared Dove	1 flew south between Lujuhe and Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Snipe	3 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – two flew over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang and another was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	9 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Eurasian Curlew	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Spotted Redshank	3 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	12,965 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – 5320 were on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 1665 more were on the two pools either side of Lujuhe and 5980 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Common Greenshank	1 was heard in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	60 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Terek Sandpiper	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Sandpiper	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – one on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang and the other on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Sanderling	5, including three juveniles, on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Red-necked Stint	3200 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – 2250 of these were on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 300 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 650 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Temminck's Stint	1716 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 250 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 80 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 1386 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Long-toed Stint	48 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	670 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The majority of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang.
Dunlin	1500 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The majority of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang.
Curlew Sandpiper	240 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	103 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 40 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 17 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 46 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Ruff	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	1210 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 134 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 781 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 295 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. 54 birds were aged and this produced 20 adults (37%) & 34 first-winters (63%).
Pied Avocet	10, 638 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 3983 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 2435 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 4220 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Despite there being 555 fewer birds on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools than yesterday. This comprehensive count is by far the largest number I've ever seen in coastal Tianjin and is almost twice my previous maximum. (Previous maxima have been 5350 & 4850 on 1 & 5 Sept. 2008 respectively). The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this total represents between & 10.6 & 42.5% of the entire flyway population. The world population is thought to be between 209,300 & 464,300 Delany & Scott (2002) & these figures were endorsed by Wetlands International (2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so today's count represents between 2.3 & 5% of the entire world population! According to Bamford et al. (2008) the highest counts elsewhere in China have been 8704 at East Dongting Hu NNR on 5 March 2001 & 4567 at Poyang Hu NNR on 1 Feb. 2004. The highest counts during either of

Pacific Golden Plover	the migration seasons were of just 450 in the Huang He NNR on 27 April 1992, 436 in South Bohai Wan on 2 May 2002 and 402 in South-west Bohai Wan also on 2 May 2002. The paucity of large counts in coastal China until recently led Barter (2002) to suggest that most migration is through inland China. Note however that large numbers have recently been discovered wintering at Lianyungang, Jiangsu (Zhang Lin pers. comm. October 2008).
Little Ringed Plover	1 moulting adult summer in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Kentish Plover	230 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 63 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 89 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 78 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
	12,735 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 5320 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 1665 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 5750 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin – previous high counts have included 12,000 on 1 Sept. 2008, 10,000 on 27 Sept. 2008 and 9100 on 28 Sept. 2008. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this total represents 12.7% of the entire flyway population. The world population is thought to be between 266,400 & 457,000 (Delany & Scott 2002) & between 382,700-457,200 by Wetlands International (2006. <i>Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition</i> . Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so today's count represents between 2.8 & 4.8% of the entire world population! From the figures presented in Bamford et al. (2008) today's count would be the second largest ever in the whole of the east Asian flyway – second only to a massive 24,313 in the Huang He NNR on the 6 March 1999.
Oriental Pratincole	41 birds, in parties of 25 and 16, flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	389 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 273 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, seven on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 109 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Mongolian Gull	6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Black-headed Gull	900 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Relict Gull	4 first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	13 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Caspian Tern	3, one adult and two juveniles, in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Tern	35 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	30 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	2000 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The vast majority of these were feeding over the same relatively small pool on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools where they were yesterday. A sample count of 152 birds at this site yielded 147 adults (97%) & just five juveniles (3%).
Pied Harrier	17 birds, including three adult males, flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
accipiter sp.	2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Kestrel	2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Eurasian Hobby	1 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Little Grebe	1 on the sea east of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Little Egret	115 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Grey Heron	23 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Great Egret	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Brown Shrike	6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Ashy Minivet	4 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Black Drongo	1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
White's Thrush	1 besides the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009
Asian Brown Flycatcher	2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Taiga Flycatcher	6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Siberian Rubythroat	5, including two first-winter males, in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Siberian Blue Robin	2 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Stonechat	21 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Sand Martin	2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Barn Swallow	500 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	4 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Dusky Warbler	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Yellow-browed Warbler	22 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
(Two-barred) Greenish Warbler	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
White Wagtail	6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. Only one bird was seen well enough to racially assign and it was <i>leucopsis</i> .
Yellow Wagtail	10 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Richard's Pipit	5 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Pechora Pipit	1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Common Rosefinch	2 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Little Bunting	3 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
bunting sp.	6 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

Friday 11 September 2009. Morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05h30 & headed south to the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools where I spent most of the morning

High tide

07h29 & 19h17 at heights of 3.6 & 3.9 metres respectively.

Weather

The forecast for Tianjin city was for the day to worsen and for it to be windy with light to moderate rain in the afternoon. Temperatures were forecast to drop two or three degrees with the passage of the cold front and for them to range from 15-28°C. However what actually happened at Tanggu was quite different – it was completely overcast and cool until about 10h30 when the cloud disappeared leaving blue skies and hotter temperatures. 18°C when we arrived on site at 06h10 but 26°C there by 11h00. The only part of the weather forecast that was right was the wind – it was much windier today.

Ornithological features of the day

There were fewer shorebirds of most species today – but noticeably more Broad-billed Sandpipers. There was also a modest passage of passerines and half-decent movement of Barn Swallows in to the strong south-westerly wind.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Just over 5 hours from 06h00-11h15

Mallard	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Baikal Teal	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	17, all juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Whimbrel	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Common Redshank	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. The only bird that was seen well enough to age was a juvenile.
Marsh Sandpiper	3500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Common Greenshank	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. 12 birds were aged and these were all juveniles.
Terek Sandpiper	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Common Sandpiper	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Grey-tailed Tattler	1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Asian Dowitcher	4 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Red Knot	2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Red-necked Stint	700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. Just one adult was seen – the same bird that I've seen for the last three days now.
Temminck's Stint	1325 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Long-toed Stint	81 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. This my largest ever count in coastal Tianjin – exceeding the previous maxima of 66 birds on the 30 August 2008 and 69 birds here two days previously.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	220 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Dunlin	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. Just one adult was noted.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	191 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Pied Avocet	3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Pacific Golden Plover	15 flew over on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Grey Plover	4 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Oriental Pratincole	14 flew over on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Mongolian Gull	6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Black-headed Gull	800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Relict Gull	19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. 13 of these were first-winters, four second winters and the other two were adult-winters.
Gull-billed Tern	22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Caspian Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Common Tern	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Little Egret	45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Grey Heron	12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Brown Shrike	5 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Taiga Flycatcher	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Daurian Redstart	1 male besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Common Stonechat	6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Sand Martin	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Barn Swallow	1500 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	2 separate birds were heard high over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. Its likely that many more than two individuals were involved.
Dusky Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Yellow-browed Warbler	6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
White Wagtail	4, including one <i>leucopsis</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Yellow Wagtail	5, including one <i>taivana</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Richard's Pipit	8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Blyth's Pipit	2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
Olive-backed Pipit	3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

Saturday 12 September 2009. All day around Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05h00 & headed south to Jingqu, Dagang. Arriving one hour later I was shocked to see how much it had changed – the reclamation works extended way out to sea, well beyond the low tide line! Disappointed at the lack of mud I still spent three hours here – the tide was already well up in the one remaining bay & all the shorebirds were roosting on one of the reclamation pools. Leaving here I next headed to Beidagang – only to find that the gates were locked and the site inaccessible! I then headed back to Tanggu via Gaoshaling (nothing - too much water in the pools) and Haibin Yuchang. Once back on the coast at Haibin Yuchang I noticed a few Oriental Honey-buzzards, then a few more and then more. Scrambling for a good view point I headed to Haibin Yuchang itself, paid the 10 yuan entrance fee and drove out to the shore. This was a good vantage point to view the raptors as they came in off the sea and headed south-west in to a strong wind but unfortunately the passage of honey-buzzards died after just 45 minutes. From here I next moved on up to Lujuhe and finally the Industrial Park Pools. I left the latter site at 15h30 & arrived back at the Hong Fa Garden Hotel 45 minutes later.

High tide

08h24 & 20h01 at heights of 3.4 & 3.7 metres respectively.

Weather

A glorious day – very clear skies (with visibility being 15 kilometres or more!), hot and sunny but windy with a strong westerly backing to south-westerly wind. This abated somewhat in the later afternoon.

Ornithological features of the day

Impressive numbers of Oriental Honey-buzzards (and small numbers of other raptors) came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang between 10h00-10h45. There were still decent numbers of Pied Avocets at two near coastal sites and an adult Brown-headed Gull on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools was only my fourth in Tianjin.

1. Jingqu, Dagang. (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.) Three hours from 06h00-09h00

2. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Just 15 minutes from 09h25-09h40.

3. Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.). 1 hour and 45 minutes from 10h00-11h45

4. Roadside pools either side of Lujuhe, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 1 hour from 12h20- 13h20.

5. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Almost 2 hours from 13h45-15h30

Japanese Quail	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Common Shelduck	350 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Mallard	20 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Common Teal	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were either on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang or on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu.
duck sp.	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Common Kingfisher	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/2009. All three birds that were aged were juveniles.
Bar-tailed Godwit	13 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Whimbrel	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Eurasian Curlew	815 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Eastern Curlew	2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	6000 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. About 750 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and more than 5000 more were in Tanggu. 4300 of the latter were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe and the bulk of the remainder were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Common Greenshank	120 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. All five birds that were aged were juveniles.
Terek Sandpiper	1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Red Knot	17 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Red-necked Stint	100 juveniles in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Temminck's Stint	150 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Long-toed Stint	4 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Dunlin	825 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. 675 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and about 150 others were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Curlew Sandpiper	25 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	23 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Red-necked Phalarope	3, two juveniles and a winter plumaged bird, on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	600 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these, 550 birds, were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	8800 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. 185 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and all the rest were in Tanggu. 30 of the latter flew south over the sea at Haibin Yuchang; 5420 were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe and the bulk

	of the remainder, 3150 birds, were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Its difficult to believe that the massive complex of pools between Lujuhe and the sea didn't hold lots more Pied Avocets – they held 3983 birds two days previously. Unfortunately they're now private and completely inaccessible!
Grey Plover	25 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Kentish Plover	5500 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu.
Black-tailed Gull	523 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. 387 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and there was an adult at Beidagang. All the rest (145) were in Tanggu with 120 at Haibin Yuchang & 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	30 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Mongolian Gull	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Brown-headed Gull	1 adult-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009. Probably an early date for the Chinese coast this is only my fourth encounter with this species in coastal Tianjin. My previous sightings were of another adult-winter on the coast road ten kilometers south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000; a first-summer at Beidagang, Dagang on 1/5/2007 and a first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Relict Gull	18 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Eight of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and the remaining ten (two adults, six second-winters and two first-winters) were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Gull-billed Tern	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These included 13 at Jingqu, Dagang & 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Caspian Tern	6, including one adult and one juvenile, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Common Tern	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These were about equally split between Jingqu, Dagang & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	80 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These included 55 at Jingqu, Dagang & 20 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	150 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Oriental Honey-buzzard	268 came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009. The passage was short and intense with 265 birds doing so in the 45 minutes immediately after 10h00. Subsequently there were just three stragglers (all at 11h17). 48 birds were aged and this produced 34 adults (71%) and 14 juveniles (29%). This is the second time that I've seen an autumn passage of Oriental Honey-buzzard in coastal Tianjin – and the second time that birds have come in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang! The highest count was of an impressive 571 birds that also flew south-west during a three hour raptor watch at Haibin Yuchang (10h00-13h00) on the 20/9/2004. 66 of the birds on that date were aged & of these 46 (70 %) were adults & 20 (30 %) juvenile – age ratios that are remarkably similar to those of today! The editors of the 2004 China Bird Report subsequently suggested that the 2004 count was a national record – however it isn't since an apparently exceptional 1200 flew north over the Lotus Hill watch point at Beidaihe, Hebei on 17/5/1997 (Dick Newell & Jesper Hornskov et al.) and 648 flew south at Beidaihe, Hebei on 17 September 1990 [Williams, Dr. M. D. (Ed). (2000) <i>Autumn bird migration at Beidaihe, China, 1986-1990</i> . Beidaihe International Birdwatching Society, Hong Kong].
Eastern Marsh Harrier	12 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Three of these were at Beidagang, Dagang; eight came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the final bird flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Harrier	8, including two adult males, in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Three of these came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang; one was at Beidagang, Dagang; three more came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the final bird flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
harrier sp.	4 very distant harriers were seen in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	8 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Northern Goshawk	1 juvenile at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009 – an early date.
accipiter sp.	2 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Common Kestrel	5 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Amur Falcon	9 flew over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Great Cormorant	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Little Egret	40 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These included 21 at Jingqu and six at Beidagang, both Dagang.
Grey Heron	80 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these, 65 birds, were at Jingqu, Dagang.
Purple Heron	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Great Egret	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Brown Shrike	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Birds were seen at Beidagang, Dagang and Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Black Drongo	9 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
White's Thrush	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Taiga Flycatcher	5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Common Stonechat	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Barn Swallow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	10 flew over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
Black-browed Reed Warbler	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Dusky Warbler	11 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
White Wagtail	12, including three <i>leucopsis</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Yellow Wagtail	8, including one <i>taivana</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
Richard's Pipit	8 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Blyth's Pipit	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Olive-backed Pipit	6 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Common Rosefinch	2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Little Bunting	1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
Black-faced Bunting	1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

Sunday 13 September 2009. Morning in Hangu, north of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05h00 & headed north to Caihongqiao, Hangu. Arriving 45 minutes later I was again shocked to see how much it had changed – the reclamation works extended way out to sea, well beyond the low tide line! Disappointed at the lack of mud I still spent six hours here – I left the latter site at 11h40 & arrived back at the Hong Fa Garden Hotel 35 minutes later.

High tide

09h36 & 20h57 at heights of 3.3 & 3.5 metres respectively.

Weather

A glorious day – very clear skies (with visibility being 15 kilometres or more!), hot and sunny but wind with a strong westerly backing to south-westerly wind. This abated somewhat in the later afternoon.

Ornithological features of the day

Decent numbers of both Temminck's Stint & Pied Avocet at Caihongqiao.

Caihong Bridge over the Yongding River on the border of Tanggu and Hangu counties - (39°06.55'N., 117°43.42'E.).

1. Caihongqiao 'Dowitcher Pool', Hangu. (39°06.29'N., 117°44.52'E.). 30 minutes from 05h45-06h15.

2. Recent reclamation pools east of the 'Dowitcher Pool' (39°06.11'N., 117°45.40'E.). Just over 3.5 hours from 06h15-10h45.

Today was the first time that I'd explored the complex of recent reclamation pools immediately to the north of the mouth of the Yongding river. I was very surprised to see how much of the inter-tidal mud flats had already been reclaimed and how much more they were planning to reclaim! There were five pools running east-west along the northern edge of the river mouth – these were all rectangular and of roughly the same size (950 x between 1350-1420 metres²). Besides the approximately 6.5km² that had already been reclaimed the workers were busy on another embankment way out to sea – perhaps another seven or eight kilometres out! Clearly they have large plans for this area – just as they have to the south of Tanggu. The easternmost two pools were still having water pumped in to them.

The vast majority of today's' shorebirds (3600+ birds) were on the westernmost reclamation pool. Almost half of this pool was still flooded with water that was too deep to interest any shorebirds but the other half of the held 1450 Kentish Plovers, 1100 Temminck's Stint, 750 Pied Avocet and 250 Red-necked Stint.

3. Pool immediately to the west of the main Tanggu to Hangu highway about two kilometres north of the Sino-Singapore Eco-City Service Park buildings & three kms north of the Caihong Bridge. (29°08.05'N., 117°45.19'E.). 30 minutes from 11h15-11h45.

This site is almost equidistant from the centre of Hangu (13.7 kilometres to the north) & Tanggu (13.8 kilometres to the south).

Falcatel Teal	1 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	2 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Common Teal	3 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Common Snipe	1 near the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	25 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Eurasian Curlew	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Spotted Redshank	65 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	2800 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. These included 650 on the westernmost reclamation pool, another 1140 on the third pool from the east and 840 on the pool three kilometers north of the Sino-Singapore Eco-City Service Park buildings at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
Common Greenshank	40 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Green Sandpiper	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	20 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Red-necked Stint	720 juveniles on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Temminck's Stint	1395 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. The bulk of these were on the westernmost reclamation pool.
Long-toed Stint	59 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. Just six were on the complex of reclamation pools with the other 53 being on a relatively small pool between there and Caihong Bridge.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	20 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Dunlin	10 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	5 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	11 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Black-winged Stilt	1 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Pied Avocet	1290 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. The bulk of these (750 birds) were on the westernmost reclamation pool. There were also another 35 on the third pool from the east and 380 on the pool three kilometers north of the Sino-Singapore Eco-City Service Park buildings at Caihongqiao, Hangu. Its quite likely that there are over 12,000 Pied Avocets in coastal Tianjin right now!
Pacific Golden Plover	2 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Grey Plover	11 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Little Ringed Plover	30 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Kentish Plover	2500 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. The bulk of these birds (1450) were on the westernmost reclamation pool.

Grey-headed Lapwing	7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009 – four were down on the reclamation pools while another three flew south overhead.
Oriental Pratincole	2 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Black-tailed Gull	55 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	15 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Mongolian Gull	3 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Black-headed Gull	1000 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Gull-billed Tern	86 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Common Tern	12 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	30 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	340 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2 separate adult males flew south over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Common Kestrel	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Little Egret	145 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Grey Heron	93 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Black-billed Magpie	4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Black Drongo	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Eyebrowed Thrush	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Taiga Flycatcher	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Siberian Rubythroat	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Siberian Blue Robin	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Daurian Redstart	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Common Stonechat	19 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Barn Swallow	200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Lanceolated Warbler	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Dusky Warbler	7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Yellow-browed Warbler	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
White Wagtail	20, including three <i>leucopsis</i> , flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Yellow Wagtail	8 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Richard's Pipit	8 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Olive-backed Pipit	4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Red-throated Pipit	2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Common Rosefinch	1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
Little Bunting	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

Monday 14 September 2009. Morning south of Tanggu.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05h30 & headed south to the Tianjin HARBOUR Industrial Park pools where I spent four hours before heading further south to the Lujuhe area. Leaving there at 11h35 I headed back to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Hotel where I arrived at 12h15.

High tide

11h13 at a height of 3.2 metres.

Weather

A reasonable day – rather poor visibility until the late morning when things improved. Visibility was about four or five kilometres first thing in the morning but soon picked up to between eight and ten. It became sunnier as the visibility increased and temperatures rose from 20°C at 06h00 to 23 by 10h00 and 24° by the time I left Lujuhe in the late morning. It was even windier today.

Ornithological features of the day

Shorebird numbers had dropped off quite noticeably since I was last at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools two days previously. Even the numbers of Temminck's Stint & Pied Avocet had declined.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 4 hours from 06h00-10h300

2. Roadside pools either side of Lujuhe, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). 1 hour from 10h30- 11h30.

Mallard	10 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
duck sp.	100 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Marsh Sandpiper	2700 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. c.1000 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other c.1700 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.
Common Greenshank	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Wood Sandpiper	45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Sanderling	5 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Red-necked Stint	840 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 830 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while the other 10 were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. Just three adults were seen.

Temminck's Stint	1296 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 1266 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 30 were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. A very similar number of birds (1325 were counted at the first site three days previously perhaps indicating that number of bird in the area is remaining fairly stable.)
Long-toed Stint	11, ten juveniles and one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	55 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 45 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 10 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.
Dunlin	50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Curlew Sandpiper	35 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. Almost all of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other c.1700 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. Just three adults were noted.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	73, including just one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Red-necked Phalarope	1 juvenile on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. It was different to either of the two juveniles that were present two days previously.
Black-winged Stilt	202 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Pied Avocet	6100 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 700 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 5300 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. The number of birds at the first site had declined massively (from 3150 individuals) since I was there two days previously while those on the Lujuhe pools had dropped by only 120 birds!
Little Ringed Plover	94 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. Most of these were besides the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.
Kentish Plover	5000 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009 with numbers about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.
Black-tailed Gull	161 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 153 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other just eight on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Mongolian Gull	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Black-headed Gull	1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. Most of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Relict Gull	13 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 12 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, while the other (a first winter & the only bird whose age I noted) was on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.
Gull-billed Tern	18 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Caspian Tern	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Common Tern	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
'Eastern' Little Tern	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
White-winged Black Tern	50 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Little Egret	103 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Grey Heron	25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Great Egret	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Brown Shrike	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Siberian Rubythroat	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Common Stonechat	6 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Sand Martin	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Barn Swallow	500 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Dusky Warbler	6 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Yellow-browed Warbler	4 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	15 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
White Wagtail	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Richard's Pipit	1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Blyth's Pipit	2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
Red-throated Pipit	1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

Tuesday 15 September 2009. Tanggu back to Beijing.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 05h30 & started to head north to Caihongqiao, Hangu. However as soon as I reached the edge of Tanggu urban area it was obvious that the rural areas to the north were shrouded in dense fog. Visibility was down to just 30 metres and it would have been pointless to have ventured any further. We turned around and headed back to the hotel, checked out & I caught the first train of the day (08h29) back to Beijing.

2010

Thursday 22 April 2010. Late morning to mid-afternoon south of Tanggu.

Qingyu & me left Tongzhou at 05h30 & headed to Beijing South Railway Station in order to catch the first train of the day to Tanggu – it left at 07h20. Business class tickets for this train cost 80 yuan each & we arrived in Tanggu less than one hour later at 08h14. We took a taxi from there to the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu where we checked in. Qingyu had called ahead to book the hotel & to try & reserve one of our two regular taxis. Unfortunately Mr Chen (13820791812) was busy and Mr. Hu had apparently retired during the winter!

We spent short time around the Tianjin Port Reclamation Pools before heading south to the Lujuhe area followed by Haibin Yuchang,. Leaving there at 15:45 we headed back to Tanggu. Arriving at the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel at 18:45 I headed back out again for dinner shortly afterwards.

High tide

08h12 & a height of 3.6 metres.

Weather

16°C besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools at 10h15 & also at Haibin Yuchang by 12h30. It had rained hard overnight in coastal Tianjin as well as Beijing and remained overcast all day here with the occasional spot of rain.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). 1 hour 15 minutes from 10h10-11h25.

2. Recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Almost four hours from 12h00-15h45.

Common Shelduck	159 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Mallard	2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Red-breasted Merganser	1 male on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Common Merganser	2, a male & female, on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Bar-tailed Godwit	410 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010. One bird had an orange over green flag above the knee on its right leg. The bird was originally flagged in New South Wales (Australia), approx. 32°52'S., 151°47'E., sometime since 2004. The resighting was a distance of approx. 8725 km, with a bearing of 334 degrees, from the marking location.
Whimbrel	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Eurasian Curlew	120 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Marsh Sandpiper	9 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Common Greenshank	110 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Little Stint	19 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Red-necked Stint	87 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Dunlin	130 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Eurasian Oystercatcher	1 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Pied Avocet	65 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Grey Plover	2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Kentish Plover	650 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Black-tailed Gull	2 first-summers on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Mew Gull	14 south of Tanggu on the 22/4/2010. These involved 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools & two others at Haibin Yuchang. 11 birds were aged & this produced one adult, two second-summers & eight first-summers.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools on the 22/4/2010.
Mongolian Gull	3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools on the 22/4/2010.
Black-headed Gull	300 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Relict Gull	34 south of Tanggu on the 22/4/2010. These involved 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools & 11 others at Haibin Yuchang. 30 birds were aged & this produced ten adults, seven second-summers & 13 first-summers.
Common Stonechat	1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Barn Swallow	5 over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	10 in & around Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Citrine Wagtail	2 males flew north over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
Leg flagged shorebirds	
Bar-tailed Godwit - green over orange	1

Friday 23 April 2010. All morning in the Hangu/Tanggu area.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu with a new driver – again Mr. Wang – at 05h00. We drove directly to Caihongqiao, Hangu where I spent most of the morning before heading to Beitang reservoir for a short time. Leaving there just before 13h00 I returned to the hotel & spent the afternoon catching up on some paperwork.

High tide

09h27 & a height of 3.4 metres.

Weather

A much better day. It was clear all day – with a gloriously cloudless, clear blue sky from mid-morning. Temperatures ranged from 9-20°C at Caihongqiao (05h50 & 11h15 respectively) & it was at least a couple of degrees warmer than that during the time I spent at Beitang Reservoir.

1. Recent reclamation pools east of the Caihongqiao, Hangu. (39°06.11'N., 117°45.40'E.). 6 hours from 05h45-11h50.

The reclamation work had gone on apace &, while one of the impounds held a few shorebirds, most were roosting at high tide on a pool that was impounded by the elevated highway that was also being built. These were relatively close and the light was excellent – and among them were nine leg-flagged birds. Highlights here included -

Great Crested Grebe	1 on the sea
Little Stint	18
Red-necked Stint	126
Relict Gull	28 including a few banded/flagged birds

2. Beitang Reservoir, Tangu. 15 minutes from 12h40-12h55.

Birds here included -

Great Crested Grebe	1
Little Grebe	1
Great Cormorant	2
Black-headed Gull	450
duck sp.	60

Common Shelduck	82 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
duck sp.	60 on Beitang reservoir, Tangu on the 23/4/2010 were too distant to identify but possibly included a few Tufted Ducks.
Common Kingfisher	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Rock Pigeon	100 in the Hangu-Tangu area on the 23/4/2010.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Bar-tailed Godwit	431 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. Five leg-flagged birds were seen three had yellow flags, one black over white & the third green. Two of the yellow and the black-over-white flagged bird were photographed. The green flagged bird was flagged in Moreton Bay, near Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, approx. 27°20'S., 153°10'E., sometime since 1991. The resighting was a distance of approx. 8252 km, with a bearing of 332 degrees, from the marking location. The black over white flagged bird was flagged at Chongming Dao, Shanghai, China, approx. 31°27'N., 121°55'E., sometime since April 2006. The resighting was a distance of approx. 931 Km, with a bearing of 337 degrees, from the marking location. The three yellow flagged birds were flagged in Northwest Australia, approx. 19°0'S., 122°10'E., sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approx. 6477 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.
Eurasian Curlew	267 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Eastern Curlew	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Common Redshank	5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Marsh Sandpiper	540 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Common Greenshank	12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Wood Sandpiper	2 were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Ruddy Turnstone	1 male at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Great Knot	266 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. Three yellow flagged birds were noted. One leg flagged bird was photographed. These birds were flagged in North-west Australia, approx. 19°0'S., 122°0'E., sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approx. 6477 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.
Red Knot	17 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. One orange flagged bird was noted & this bird was originally flagged in Victoria (Australia), approx. 38°0'S., 145°0'E., sometime since January 1990. The resighting was a distance of approx. 9015 km, with a bearing of 339 degrees, from the marking location.
Little Stint	18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Red-necked Stint	126 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Temminck's Stint	35 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Dunlin	11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Curlew Sandpiper	81 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Black-winged Stilt	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Pied Avocet	154 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Grey Plover	415 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Little Ringed Plover	7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Kentish Plover	2165 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Greater Sand Plover	19 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	10 in the Hangu-Tangu area on the 23/4/2010. These were about equally split between Caihongqiao, Hangu & Beitang reservoir, Tangu.
Mongolian Gull	3 at Beitang reservoir, Tangu on the 23/4/2010.
Black-headed Gull	1550 in the Hangu-Tangu area on the 23/4/2010. The vast majority of these (1250 birds) were seen at Caihongqiao, Hangu shortly after sunrise & had presumably roosted on the sea offshore.
Relict Gull	28 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. All 28 birds were aged & 21 were in their second calendar year with the other seven in their third calendar year. Five leg flagged or banded second summers were noted – one had an orange flag on its right tibia (upper leg) & an aluminium band on its left tibia (lower leg). Two birds had yellow bands on their on left tarsi (lower leg) while another two birds had aluminium bands on their left tarsi.
Common Tern	3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Pied Harrier	3 singles drifted north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

Little Grebe	1 on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.
Great Crested Grebe	2 singles in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010. One was on the sea off Caihongqiao, Hangu while the other was on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu.
Great Cormorant	2 on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.
Grey Heron	2 besides Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.
Black-billed Magpie	10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010.
White-cheeked Starling	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Chinese Penduline Tit	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Barn Swallow	10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010.
Red-rumped Swallow	1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Asian Short-toed Lark	1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Eurasian Skylark	1 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
White Wagtail	2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Yellow Wagtail	2 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
Buff-bellied Pipit	11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

Leg flagged shorebirds

Bar-tailed Godwit - black over white	1
Bar-tailed Godwit - yellow	3
Bar-tailed Godwit - green	1
Great Knot - yellow	3
Red Knot - orange	1

Colour banded Relict Gulls

Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg), aluminium band lower L. 2nd-s.	1
Yellow band on L tarsus (lower leg). 2nd-s	2
Aluminium band on L leg. 2nd-s.	2

Saturday 24 April 2010. Early morning at Beidagang, Dagang.

I left the Hong Fa Huar Yuan Binguan on Zhong Shan Beilu with Mr. Wang – at 05h00. We drove directly to Beidagang, Dagang where I spent a few hours before discovering that my microphone wasn't working properly. This and my the other two Telinga's I had back in Beijing were all faulty &, as I was leading a tour in a few days, and needed an active mic, I decided that it would be prudent to return to Beijing & try & get a new one. Leaving Beidagang at 08h30 we drove back to Tanggu, I re-packed, checked out & headed back to Tanggu railway station. The next train back to Beijing was at 12h14, I bought one ticket & caught that.

High tide

11h01 & a height of 3.3 metres.

Weather

Another glorious, but rather windy, day. I didn't take any temperature readings however.

1. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Almost three hours from 05h45-08h30.

Japanese Quail	4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Pheasant	4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Falcatel Teal	2, a pair, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Mallard	1 male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Teal	9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Swift	1 was heard over Tanggu town centre on the 24/4/2010.
Rock Pigeon	10 between Tanggu & Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Spotted Dove	1 singing bird at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Whimbrel	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Eurasian Curlew	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Redshank	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Marsh Sandpiper	172 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Greenshank	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Green Sandpiper	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Wood Sandpiper	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Temminck's Stint	69 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Black-winged Stilt	62 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Pied Avocet	36 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Little Ringed Plover	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Kentish Plover	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Oriental Pratincole	21 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Brown-headed Gull	1 adult flew high to the west with a flock of about 80 Black-headed Gulls at Beidagang, Dagang at 05h45 on the 24/4/2010.
Black-headed Gull	450 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Gull-billed Tern	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Tern	35 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

Whiskered Tern	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Common Kestrel	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Little Grebe	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Great Crested Grebe	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Grey Heron	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Great Bittern	1 booming bird was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Black-billed Magpie	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
White-cheeked Starling	23 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Chinese Penduline Tit	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Barn Swallow	10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Zitting Cisticola	9 singing birds were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Asian Short-toed Lark	4 singing birds were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
White Wagtail	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Yellow Wagtail	3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Olive-backed Pipit	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Red-throated Pipit	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Buff-bellied Pipit	4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Brambling	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Little Bunting	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Black-faced Bunting	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
Pallas's Bunting	2 separate singing males at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

Sunday 29 August 2010. Most of day in the Tanggu/Dagang area.

Together with Mr. Song Zhengyi (zqsong@gmail.com mobile. 13801393812) & his 20 year old fluent English-speaking daughter Song Zhuo ([Jill] mobile 13810026141) we left the Home Inn (021-54614638 www.homeinns.com) in Teda (where my single room cost 181 yuan/night) at 06h00 & headed for breakfast in the nearby 24 hour McDonalds. After that we headed south & spent much of the rest of the day at three sites south of Tanggu on the Tianjin coast. After leaving our final site, Beidagang at 15h25 we headed back to Beijing & Mr. Song dropped me off in Tanggu just under two hours later!

The route from Beidagang back to Beijing was as follows-

We explored Beidagang quite thoroughly – driving all the way along the main elevated road that runs west from the southern side of the one kilometre long bridge immediately south of Dagang Power Station. At the very western end of this road it bends to the left (south) & away from the main water channel. We stayed on the well surfaced road here and, after about another three or four kilometres, it came to another sluice gate. About 150 metres beyond here it ended at a T-junction with a larger and busier road. We turned right here. After about another 1.5 kilometres we turned left at the first main crossroads & about 2 kilometres down this road we turned right when posted to the Huanghua to Tianjin Expressway (route G18 and/or G25). There's a toll gate at the entrance to this expressway.

High tide

06h07 & 18h21 a height of 3.7 metres.

Weather

A nice day. It was clear all day Temperatures ranged from 23-28°C.

1. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Almost 3 hours from 07h50-10h45

2. Fairly recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats between the now defunct Lujuhe & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°53.20'N., 117°39.05'E.). Just over one hour from 11h30-12h40.

3. Complex of roadside pools immediately east of the toll booth between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6'N., 117° 34.6'E.). Just 5 minutes early afternoon.

4. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Almost one hour from 13h45-15h25.

Japanese Quail	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Common Pheasant	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Common Shelduck	15 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Common Teal	27 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Eurasian Hoopoe	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Common Kingfisher	1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
cuckoo sp.	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Grey Nightjar	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Rock Pigeon	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Common Snipe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

Eurasian Curlew	60 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of the on the Haibin Yuchang reclamation pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Eastern Curlew	2 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of the on the Haibin Yuchang reclamation pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Spotted Redshank	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Common Redshank	1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Marsh Sandpiper	12500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of these (12,300) birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Common Greenshank	10 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Wood Sandpiper	100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Common Sandpiper	2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Red-necked Stint	12,000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010. All bar about 50 of these birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Eight leg flagged birds were noted – three had orange flags, two yellow, two others had black over while & the final bird had yellow over pale blue.
Temminck's Stint	40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Long-toed Stint	32 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	4200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Dunlin	30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Curlew Sandpiper	620 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. One yellow leg flagged adult was seen.
Broad-billed Sandpiper	55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Black-winged Stilt	350 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010. All bar about 20 of these birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Pied Avocet	2385 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. These involved 820 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while another 1565 were counted the pools north of Haibin Yuchang.
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Kentish Plover	1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. These were about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Oriental Pratincole	60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010. All of those seen well were adults in heavy wing moult.
Black-tailed Gull	300 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	7 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Mongolian Gull	7 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Black-headed Gull	800 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010.
Gull-billed Tern	10 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Caspian Tern	5 adults besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Common Tern	75 in coastal Tanggu on the on the 29/8/2010. 30 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools with the other 45 being besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
'Eastern' Little Tern	510 in coastal Tanggu on the on the 29/8/2010. 25 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools with the other 485 being besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Whiskered Tern	300 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. The vast majority of the day's birds (280+) were at Beidagang, Dagang. About ten of others were over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while another five were over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang both Tanggu.
White-winged Black Tern	650 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of the day's birds (620+) were over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Pied Harrier	5, including just one adult male, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Common Kestrel	1 adult male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Little Grebe	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Little Egret	15 in coastal Tianjin on the on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of these were besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Grey Heron	40 in coastal Tianjin on the on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of these were besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
Great Bittern	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Brown Shrike	36 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Chinese Grey Shrike	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Black-billed Magpie	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Black Drongo	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Grey-streaked Flycatcher	5 including one in almost full juvenile plumage at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Taiga Flycatcher	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Common Stonechat	2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Barn Swallow	300 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. The vast majority of the day's birds were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Red-rumped Swallow	30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Light-vented Bulbul	4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Zitting Cisticola	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Yellow-browed Warbler	3 singles besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Arctic Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
(Two-barred) Greenish Warbler	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	400 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
White Wagtail	2 singles, including one <i>leucopsis</i> , flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
Yellow Wagtail	6 different birds were heard in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010.
Richard's Pipit	2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
Yellow-breasted Bunting	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

Thursday 23 September 2010. Afternoon in coastal Tanggu.

Zhao Chao picked me up in Tongzhou at 08h30, & together with his parent's-in-law, the four of us headed off to Tanggu. We arrived in the late morning & had a short tour around the new port area & the northern river mouth before checking in at the Teda Ibis hotel. After lunch nearby we headed off to the Tianjin Harbour Pools where we spent about 2.5 hours.

Rooms on the cheaper, ground floor at the Hotel Ibis Tianjin Teda, 30 the 3rd Avenue, Teda, Tianjin (tel. 0086 22 5981 5100 & fax: 0086 22 5981 5078) cost 208 yuan/night.

1. River mouth downstream from the Caihongqiao.

2. Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park, Tanggu. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.). Almost 2.5 hours from 15h10-17h45

Common Teal	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Oriental Turtle Dove	2 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
Eurasian Curlew	1 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
Marsh Sandpiper	1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Common Greenshank	1 was heard on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Red-necked Stint	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010. All of those seen well enough to age were juveniles.
Temminck's Stint	1045 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Dunlin	25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Pied Avocet	955 near Tanggu on the 23/9/2010. 70 of these were near the Tanggu river mouth while the other 885 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
Long-billed Plover	1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Kentish Plover	3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Black-tailed Gull	375 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Vega Gull	2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Mongolian Gull	10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Black-headed Gull	1500 in & around Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Common Tern	555 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
'Eastern' Little Tern	2 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
Oriental Honey-buzzard	1 flew south over Teda at 11h05 on the 23/9/2010.
accipiter sp.	1 flew south over Teda at 11h25 on the 23/9/2010.
Little Egret	15 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
Grey Heron	16 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
Brown Shrike	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Black Drongo	2 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
Taiga Flycatcher	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Common Stonechat	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Barn Swallow	40 in & around Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Light-vented Bulbul	3 in central Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Japanese White-eye	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
white-eye sp.	10 were heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Dusky Warbler	4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Yellow-browed Warbler	5 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
(Two-barred) Greenish Warbler	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	20 in & around Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
White Wagtail	2, including one <i>leucopsis</i> , besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Richard's Pipit	1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Olive-backed Pipit	3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
Little Bunting	2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

Friday 24 September 2010. Morning & early afternoon in coastal Tianjin.

We left the Hotel Ibis Tianjin Teda five minutes late at 05h35 & headed south. We spent much of the morning around the reclamation pools north of Haibin Yuchang (though only two pools held any shorebirds). After that we headed off to Beidagang where we spent just under two hours. Leaving there at 13h30 we drove back to Beijing.

1. Pools between the now defunct Lujuhe & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (38°52.11'N., 117°41.37'E.). About 4.5 hours from 06h45-11h15

2. Beidagang, Dagang. (38°44.9'N., 117°28.6'E.). Just under two hours from 11h40-13h30.

Common Pheasant	7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Common Shelduck	22 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Mallard	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Northern Shoveler	4 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Common Teal	235 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Great Spotted Woodpecker	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Eurasian Hoopoe	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

Oriental Turtle Dove	4 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	130 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Eurasian Curlew	2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Spotted Redshank	1015 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 930 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other 85 were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Marsh Sandpiper	1400 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 1390 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while just ten were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Common Greenshank	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Wood Sandpiper	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Red Knot	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Red-necked Stint	35 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Temminck's Stint	230 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Dunlin	130 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Curlew Sandpiper	3 juveniles on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Ruff	1 male on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Pied Avocet	1620 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Pacific Golden Plover	2 singles on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Grey Plover	6 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Little Ringed Plover	20 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Kentish Plover	6350 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Oriental Pratincole	65 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Black-tailed Gull	110 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Mew Gull	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
'Herring Gull Assemblage'	25 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Mongolian Gull	6 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Black-headed Gull	3150 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Relict Gull	5, including two first-winters & three second years, on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Gull-billed Tern	1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Caspian Tern	8 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Common Tern	235 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
'Eastern' Little Tern	8 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Whiskered Tern	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
White-winged Black Tern	1 juvenile flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Osprey	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Eastern Marsh Harrier	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Pied Harrier	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Common Kestrel	3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Amur Falcon	11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Little Grebe	20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Great Crested Grebe	8 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Great Cormorant	11 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Little Egret	58 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 36 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other 22 were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Grey Heron	18 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 150 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other three were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Great Egret	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Black-crowned Night Heron	1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Dalmatian Pelican	1 sub-adult on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010. It was photographed superbly by Zhao Chao & was apparently still present the following day (Han Zheng & Xu Yongbin China Bird Watch Sept. 2010). (38°52.7'N., 117°40.8'E.).
Brown Shrike	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Chinese Grey Shrike	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Black-billed Magpie	15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Ashy Minivet	3 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. Two, presumed singles, were heard flying south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other was at Beidagang, Dagang.
Black Drongo	8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Asian Brown Flycatcher	5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Taiga Flycatcher	6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Blue-and-white Flycatcher	1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Common Stonechat	28 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
White-cheeked Starling	1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Sand Martin	2 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Barn Swallow	300 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010.
Red-rumped Swallow	5 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Light-vented Bulbul	4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
Chestnut-flanked White-eye	10 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010.
white-eye sp.	100 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Dusky Warbler	7 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. Five of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other four were at Beidagang, Dagang.
Yellow-browed Warbler	15 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. These were about equally split between the day's two sites with eight besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the other seven at Beidagang, Dagang.
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	100 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010.
White Wagtail	12, including one <i>leucopsis</i> & one <i>ocularis</i> , in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. Most of these flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu in the early morning.
Yellow Wagtail	8, including one <i>macronyx</i> , besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Grey Wagtail	1 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Richard's Pipit	6 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
Olive-backed Pipit	8 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

Red-throated Pipit
Yellow-browed Bunting
Black-faced Bunting

6 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

Tianjin

2000-2010

bird report

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 22) that particular species was seen, the second figure indicates how many days I spent in the field in coastal Tianjin, the third the highest day count & the fourth the total number of bird-days. Hence the autumn 2004 entry for Common Shelduck reads (4/22 40 61) - birds were noted on 4 of the 22 days I was around Tanggu, with up to 40 individuals on any one date & with a total of 61 bird-days.

The term 'bird-day' is simply the sum of all the day totals – and is a simple indicator of relative abundance.

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*

According to Wang & Chen (2008) Chukar is a common resident in Ji County in northernmost Tianjin.

DAURIAN PARTRIDGE *Perdix dauurica*

JAPANESE QUAIL *Coturnix japonica*

This usually unobtrusive species is a fairly common migrant and uncommon winter visitor. Spring passage through the Municipality apparently peaks in early to mid-May. **Present in summer?** Autumn passage is less conspicuous (birds are then far less vocal) and the possibly ill-defined peak passage period is unknown but possibly occurs in the first half of October. Tianjin is at, or close to, the northern limit of this species' wintering range and small numbers of birds, probably no more than low double-figures, regularly winter at Beidagang, Dagang. The presence of wintering birds clouds the timing of the onset of spring and the end of autumn migration. High counts have included ten at Beidagang on 11 March 2008 – these were possibly all locally wintering birds since the date is perhaps a little too early for the first spring migrants.

Reports by others -

Anderson (2003): Five at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

2001

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 flushed by a Northern Harrier at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2004 - spring

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 1 6)

Single birds were noted on 6 dates – the 5th, 7th, 19th & 21/9 and the 2nd & 3/10/2004. The first & third birds were at Beidagang, all the remainder were around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

2007

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – one at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other at Jing Qu, Dagang.

4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

2 singles in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & the other south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

KOKLASS PHEASANT *Pucrasia macrolopha*

COMMON PHEASANT *Phasianus colchicus*

A fairly common resident that occurs throughout Tianjin but is locally rather scarce and is found at only a handful of sites (e.g. Beidagang, Dagang) in the lowland, coastal plain. Low single figure counts are the norm at these coastal sites. Only rarely encountered away from these sites – I have just two reports away from Beidagang and both were in mid-October perhaps suggesting some small scale, local movements. Considered by Wang & Chen (2008) to breed above 1000 metres (thus restricting it to Ji County in northernmost Tianjin). Heavily persecuted at least at Beidagang.

2006

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

4 (an adult male, adult female & two almost fully-grown juveniles at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2 were heard at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

13 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

4 on the southern side of the Yongding Xin River near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

1 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(2/28 2 3)

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

2010

4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

MUTE SWAN *Cygnus olor*

Rare visitor (passage migrant & early winter visitor) – easily the rarest of the three swans.

Reports by other people -

Tianjin : 16 at Beidagang reservoir during 18 December and 19 December [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: One at **Tuanpowa** Reservoir on 11 Jan. [2006][GJ]. (China Bird Report 2006); up to six more birds (four adults and two immatures) were photographed at Tuanbowa reservoir on 8 March 2006 by someone with the internet name ch0585 and images of these birds can be seen at - <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2007/2007735429809.jpg>

2007

1 immature at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007. My first record of this species anywhere in China except Xinjiang!

WHOOOPER SWAN *Cygnus cygnus*

Reports by other people -

Tianjin : 16 on the beach of Tangu between 14 February and 15 February [2004][LY]; one at Tuanbowa, Jinghai on 15 February [2004][CJZ]; 40 at Qilihai, Ninghe on 7 March [2004][YY]; 15 along the coast of Hangu on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (All China Bird Report 2004).

2002

2 adults at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

A very early adult flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2/10/2004. It was found later the same day settled on one of the southernmost of these tanks.

2006

47 about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou, Tangu on the 18/3/2006– 26 resting on the inter-tidal mudflats & another flock of 21 birds flew north over there in the late afternoon.

2008

15, 12 adults and three juveniles, arrived at Jingqu, Dagang on 09:30hrs on the 24/10/2008.

[BEWICK'S] TUNDRA SWAN *Cygnus [columbianus] bewickii*

Reports by other people -

Tianjin : Six at Beidagang reservoir on 4 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 60 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 18 March [2007][BA]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2007

2, an adult and an immature, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007. An exceptional date and my first sighting of this species in the Tianjin area.

1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2008

11 adults flew south at Jingqu, Dagang at 07:13hrs.

SWAN SP. *Cygnus sp.*

2004

32 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2008

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

10 birds, seven adults and three juveniles, were seen extremely distantly at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. They appeared at 09:10hrs.

SWAN GOOSE *Anser cygnoides*

A scarce, but annual, spring and autumn passage migrant. Often the earliest species of goose on autumn migration.

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites a couple of reports –

Beidagang reservoir, passage migrant, low numbers, November 1998 and March–April 1999 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Reports by other people -

Tianjin: 11 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 18 March [2006][BA]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 was seen well as it flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang at 12:40hrs on the 20 September 2004. This is apparently a typical early autumn date for this globally endangered species. While the species is a rare early autumn migrant in Hebei (its perhaps just about annual at Beidaihe for example) I'm unsure how many previous records there are from Tianjin municipality.

2006

3 flew north, with a party of Bean Geese, over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

2 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006. (Photo).

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

29 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

41 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

27 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

24 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007. They arrived from the east at 06:52hrs.

BEAN GOOSE *Anser fabalis*

'TAIGA BEAN GOOSE'

'TUNDRA BEAN GOOSE' *Anser fabalis middendorffii*

Fairly common spring and autumn passage migrant. Small numbers over-winter most years. The start of spring passage of this and several other species of waterfowl is often in early March and possibly coincides with the ice thaw. The short spring passage peaks in late March and straggling late birds are exceptionally recorded up until mid-April. The first birds of the autumn usually occur towards the end of the first week of October – 11 at Jingqu on the 27 September 2008 were possibly the earliest on record. Slightly more common in autumn than in spring.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 300 at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 16 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): 200 at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: Six at Tuanbowa, Jinghai on 16 November [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

1 flew over Dong Qilihai Shuiku (East Qilihai reservoir) northeast of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2002

850 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2003

At least 140 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2004.

17 at Beidagang on the 26/1/2004.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1 with 17 there on the 26/1/2004.

2006

A flock of 85 birds flew north over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

7 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

18 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 14 were initially on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu with a group of five Lesser White-fronted, but soon flew off south & another four were on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang. All were Tundra Bean Geese *A. f. serrirostris*.

97 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

98 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007. All of those racially assigned were 'Tundra Bean Geese' *Anser fabalis serrirostris*

104 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007. All of those racially assigned were 'Tundra Bean Geese'.

114 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

307 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 255 at Beidagang, Dagang (149 arrived from the north-east between 06:55 & 07:45hrs & two flocks – one of 76 & the other of 30 flew south-west at 14:45hrs & 15:10hrs respectively) & 52 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang at 13:00hrs.

Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

'Tundra Bean Geese' were noted as follows -

48 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. My first encounter with this species in Tianjin in winter - coastal Tianjin is probably the northern limit of this species' winter range.

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

Bean Geese not identified to form were recorded as follows -

11 were seen in flight at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008. The first of the autumn & a slightly early date.

14 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008. These included three *serrirostris* 'Tundra Bean Geese' on the mudflats and 11 of unknown form that flew south at 09:29hrs.

12 birds, in parties of five & seven, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. The smaller group appeared at 09:50, the slightly larger one 11:22.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser albifrons*

2006

19 flew west over the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

4 adults at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

5 (two adults & three first-years) at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007 – they all flew south west in a flock of Bean Geese at 14:45hrs.

2008

9 flew north over Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.

LESSER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE *Anser erythropus* VU

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Six around Beitang on 8 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2006

5 with a flock of 14 Bean Geese on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006. They all flew off south at 06:10hrs.

GREYLAG GOOSE *Anser anser*

2007

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

BAR-HEADED GOOSE *Anser indicus*

SNOW GOOSE *Anser caerulescens*

GOOSE SP. *Anser sp.*

2000

3 were seen over an extensive area of grassland near the Bei Da Gang Shuikou (Bei Da Gang reservoir) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2007

60 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

RUDDY SHELDUCK *Tadorna ferruginea*

Much less frequently encountered than Common Shelduck & more of a winter visitor than a passage migrant.

2000

18, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

140 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. 30 of these were near Liu Xiang Ying 8.5 kms east of the dam on the reservoir's northern side & 110 near Wu Bai Hu mid-way along the reservoir's southern shore).

2004 - spring

1 flew north off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

A single bird was on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on both the 18th & 19/9/2004. September records are very rare at Beidaihe, Hebei – for example there were no records in that month during the five years 1986 - 1990 despite good observer coverage (Williams 2000).

2006

4 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

10 (a single bird and a flock of nine) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

2007

4 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

15 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. 11 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and the other four off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Two flew west at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other four were at Beidagang, Dagang.

[In addition 2 birds, possibly this species, were seen extremely briefly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008].

COMMON SHELDUCK *Tadorna tadorna*

A fairly common spring and more common autumn passage migrant. Significantly larger numbers than those found in Tianjin occur not far away from Tianjin on Happy Island, Hebei.

No records in January, February or June – though its likely that small numbers of birds could be present in at least the first two of these months since there are sightings up to 22 December (six birds in 2002) and again from 10 March (39 in 2008). Note also that modest numbers of Common Shelducks are regular in winter in coastal Liaoning.

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 507 were recorded at the shore in Tangu, Tianjin on 28 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003)

Tianjin: 98 at the beach of Tanggu between 14 February and 15 February [2004][LY]; 1,550 along the coast of Hangu on 13 March [2004][LJY]; 240 on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 1000 at Hangu seashore on 3 April [2005][YY]; 400 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9 April [2005][LHY]; 200 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][WRQ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005)

2000

12 & 180 around Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. The 12 on the first date flew over the Hai Fang Gong Lu about 3 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao while all the birds on the 21st were with other waterfowl on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu.

2001

403 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001. These included 401 at Gaoshaling.

349 near Tanggu on the 6/11/2001. 15 of these flew south off Lu Ju He & the other 334 were at Gaoshaling.

2002

7 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

17 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

2004 - spring

42 at Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse) on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(4/22 40 61)

5-40 birds were noted on four widely scattered dates 5/9-7/10. 8 were on the sea off the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 5/9; 8 more were on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 19/9; 5 flew south over these same settling tanks on the 4/10 & 40 were counted on the 7/10/2004 - 37 on the sea off the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3 on one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.

2006

109 were counted between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & Jing Qu, Dagang - 26 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang itself, 46 at Yuren Matou & 37 at Jing Qu itself on the 17/3/2006.

365 on the sea off Hangu on the 18/3/2006.

3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

9 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

23 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

11 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 - 5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 6 south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

33 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

4 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

35 on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

44 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 17 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 27 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

48 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

54 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

23 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

31 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

24 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 - 1 at Beidagang, Dagang & 23 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

39 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

6 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.

30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 - eight on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the remainder at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

11 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

17 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008 - six (one adult & five juveniles) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 11 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

1285 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008. This is by far my highest count in coastal Tianjin being more than three times my previous maximum of 401 birds on 7 November 2001. I know of just one larger count - 1,550 along the coast of Hangu on 13 March 2004 (LJY in the China Bird Report 2004).

100 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.

4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.

64 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 43 at Jingqu, Dagang and 21 in Tanggu with 20 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

985 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

815 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

50 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. About 40 were on the tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & the other ten on the recently impounded pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu.

2009

(8/28 439 820)

1 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.

9 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.

14 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
439 on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
350 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.

2010

159 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
82 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
15 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
22 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

MANDARIN DUCK *Aix galericulata*

2008

1 near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

GADWALL *Anas strepera*

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 15 at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 29 November 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

2000

20, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

40 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 8 8)

8 at Beidagang on the 19/9/2004.

2006

17 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

4 with the Mallard flock at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

100 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

2 with other ducks at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

FALCATED DUCK *Anas falcata*

2001

4 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 14 24)

1-14 birds were noted on all three days, 18-20/9. All records as follows - 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on all three days the 18-20/9, 13 more at Beidagang on the 19th & 8 flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 5 5)

5 flew south (with a party of 9 Garganey) over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

2006

6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

3 (2 eclipse adult males & a female) on pools at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

5 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

39 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

2, a pair, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

EURASIAN WIGEON *Anas penelope*

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 2 were seen at Qilihai in Ninghe County, Tianjin on 17 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2000

54, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tangu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

6 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, Tangu on the 7/11/2001.

2006

5 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2 with the Mallard flock at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

37 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 35 at Beidagang & 2 at Jing Qu.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 1 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tangu & there were 2 at Beidagang, Dagang.

20 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, Dagang & 15 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

3 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

11 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

1 with the Mallard flock on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 22/10/2008.

MALLARD *Anas platyrhynchos*

Reports by others -

Tianjin : 300 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

3 in the coastal salt marsh besides the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road less than 2 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tangu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

2600 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 – these included 740 at San Jia Dian & 1820 at Liu Xiang Ying.

40 in Tangu on the 7/11/2001.

2002

95 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/12/2002 - 25 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tangu & 70 at Beidagang, Dagang.

50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

68 in the Tangu-Dagang area on the 26/1/2004 - 13 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, 35 near Dagang power station & 20 at Beidagang.

2004 - autumn

(4/22 270 282)

1 male on the sea off the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 5/9. 5 & 6 birds flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2nd & 3/10 respectively. 270 at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004.

2005

(4/11 850 916)

15 at Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang on the 21/12/2005.

1 at the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

850 on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

50 resting on the ice off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

48 on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tangu on the 20/3/2006.

155 on the 29/8/2006 - 5 flew south off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & there were 150 on Beitang Reservoir.

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

270 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

260 near Tangu on the 8/10/2006 – 11 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 250 (almost all males) at Jing Qu, Dagang.

515 at Dagang on the 9/10/2006 - 215 at Jing Qu & 300 at Beidagang.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
433 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 168 at Beidagang & 265 at Jing Qu.
300 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
380 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 150 at Beidagang, Dagang & 230 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
340 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 230 at Beidagang, Dagang & 110 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2008

35 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
1600, with Chinese Spot-billed Ducks, on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. These are surprisingly large numbers so far north in winter but not that 1900 were counted at Niukouyu Res., Fangshan on 18 Jan. 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).
24 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
4 (two pairs) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
4 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
10 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & seven at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
127 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
140 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 30/9/2008 included about 100 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
17 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – 14 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & six on the sea of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
17 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
35, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
35 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 12 at Jingqu, Dagang and 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
210 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
400 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
55 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Of these 15 were on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu and the other 40 at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(7/28 56 95)

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
4 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
56 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
20 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
10 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
1 male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

CHINESE SPOT-BILLED DUCK *Anas zonorhyncha*

Scarce breeding summer visitor. Numbers are augmented by migrants in spring and autumn. Autumn passage probably peaks in the month from mid-October.

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 300 at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 16 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin : 300 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2001

2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
28 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2003

100 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2002

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2004 - spring

20 at Beidagang on the 26/1/2004.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 20 58)

5-20 birds were noted on all five visits that I made to Beidagang in the period 5/9-6/10 & the only sighting away from here was of 2 on the sea south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 in the Mallard flock on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

2006

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
24 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
8 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
20 on Beitang Reservoir on the 29/8/2006.
15 near the railroad crossing at Gangtang, north of Dagang at dusk on the 5/9/2006.
39 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
9 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
7 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
27 (in parties of 6, 7 & 14 birds) over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

30 on the 1/5/2007 - three at Beitang Reservoir & 27 at Beidagang, Dagang.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
620 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
450 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
515 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 - 500 at Beidagang, Dagang & 15 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
430 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1270, with Mallards, on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. These are surprisingly large numbers so far north in winter.
6 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
4 (two pairs) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
11 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
230 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 30/9/2008 included about 210 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
2 on the sea off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
75 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(6/28 88 110)
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
88 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
3 flew south over the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

NORTHERN SHOVELER *Anas clypeata*

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 15 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 18 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).
Tianjin : 300 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

20, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

2 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
8 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)
1 on one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu (midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling) on the 7/10/2004.

2006

65 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. The first birds of the autumn.
9 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
6 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 1 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 5 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
4 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
11 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
27 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

11 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 with eight on Xiao Xihe Reservoir & three on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao.

1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

9 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

2010

4 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

NORTHERN PINTAIL *Anas acuta*

2000

8, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

65 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2003

19 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 3 3)

3 at Beidagang on the 19/9/2004.

2006

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

26 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

32 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

97 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

25 flew south over the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

4 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

6 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 with three on both Xiao Xihe Reservoir & the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

1 flew south with a group of mostly unidentified ducks at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

45 with the other ducks at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 3 3)

3 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

GARGANEY *Anas querquedula*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 26 at Beidagang Reservoir on 16 Apr. [2006][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2001

5 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 3 7)

2 or 3 birds were noted on 3 dates - 2 at Beidagang on the 19th, with 3 & 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 23rd & 25/9/2004 respectively.

2005

(1/11 36 36)

36 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 11 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 25 (in flocks of 3, 9 & 13 birds) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.

2006

22 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

211 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

2 on pools near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

2008

5 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

BAIKAL TEAL *Anas formosa*

A scarce but apparently increasingly frequent early spring & mid-autumn passage migrant. Small numbers (single figure flocks) are the norm but larger flocks, exceptionally of up to 1650 birds, are increasingly frequently recorded. August records such as two at Caihongqiao, Hangu on 29 August 2006 are probably exceptional – the first autumn birds aren't usually encountered until the first week of October, rarely last week September. Autumn numbers rapidly reach a peak around the middle of October though some birds remain in the province at least until the end of November.

Reports by others –

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites reports from five sites (the location of two of which were unknown to them) & a vague series of reports from 'near Tianjin' -

Dongqililai (Doqililai) reservoir, 30 birds, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

near **Tianjin**, collected in 1891 (Hartlaub 1893), October 1900 (two specimens in BNHS), February 1902 (male in BMNH), November 1933, April 1935 and November 1963 (three specimens in ASCN), February c.1942 (Hemmingsen and Guildal 1968);

Tuanpo (Tuanbowa), 30 birds, January 1990 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994), 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Beidagang reservoir, 165 birds, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994), 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Erwangzhuang reservoir (not mapped), 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Dongli lake (not mapped), 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Tianjin: One male and one female at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 9 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2001

60 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11 – 7 of these were at San Jia Dian & the remaining 53 were with other ducks at Liu Xiang Ying.

2003

95 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2006

2 with the Garganey flock at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

2007

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1550 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

350 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

300 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1650 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007. 1350 of these arrived from the south-west at 07:30hrs, repeatedly circled the lake for about 20 minutes & then headed back off the same direction. Surprisingly this was very similar to the number of birds that I'd estimated to be here three days previously on the 7 October & presumably involved the same flock/same birds

2008

2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

3 with other ducks on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao on the 30/9/2008.

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – six on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & one on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

COMMON TEAL *Anas crecca*

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 500 were recorded at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 16 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin : 300 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 1500 at Binhai, Tanggu on 23 Sept. [LHT].

2000

25, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

ca.850 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2003

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - autumn

(10/22 42 158)

2-42 birds were noted on 10 dates 18/9-6/10. 2-23 birds were noted every day on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre 18-25/9 & there was one later count, 3 there on the 3/10. Elsewhere there were 15 & 3 at Beidagang on the 19/9 & 6/10 respectively & 29 (in flocks of 3, 12 & 14 birds) flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9/2004.

2006

130 in Dagang on the 17/3/2006 - 8 flew south over the sea off Jing Qu and another 120 were counted at Beidagang.
32 - 16 over the sea off Hangu & another 16 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
2 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
22 with the Garganey flock at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
107 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
7 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
18 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
25 in flocks of three, seven & 14, on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
39 on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
4 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
22 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 21 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & one with other ducks at Jing Qu, Dagang.
18 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 3 at Jing Qu & 15 at Beidagang.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

29 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 18 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 11 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
126 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
3270 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 - 3200 at Beidagang & 12 at Jing Qu, both Dagang & 60 on the sea near Lu Ju He, Tanggu.
1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 20 flew south over the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & there were still about 1500 at Beidagang, Dagang.
1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 - 1500 at Beidagang, Dagang & 9 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
2500 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
12 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
247 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
45 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
378 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 - 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 355 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
26 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
720 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 - 70 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, 450 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & 200 on the Caihongqiao Pool itself.
200 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 - ca.200 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & four on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
14 flew north over the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
75 with other ducks over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
45, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
1 flew south with a group of mostly unidentified ducks at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
90 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
45 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(3/28 42 75)
42 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were either on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang or on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu.
3 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
27 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
235 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

RED-CRESTED POCHARD *Rhodonessa rufina*

COMMON POCHARD *Aythya ferina*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 194 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin : 200 at Qilihai, Ninghe on 7 March [2004][LHY]; 1,200 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 50 at Beitang, Tanggu on 2 November [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 91 91)

91 at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004.

2006

500 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006. (A similar number were counted here the following day [LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006)).
237 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

35 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
16 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

FERRUGINOUS POCHARD *Aythya nyroca* NT

Reports by others -

Tianjin: At least two different birds were photographed at by someone with the internet name ch0585 at Tuanbowa reservoir on 18 Sept. 2003 and images of this bird can be found at <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2004/200492349877846.jpg>

Tianjin: One at Tuanbowa Reservoir on 2 April [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: Four at Beidagang Reservoir on 16 Apr. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2008

5, four males and a female, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. Perhaps only the third record for Tianjin!

BAER'S POCHARD *Aythya baeri* VU

Reports by others -

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites important non-breeding concentrations from four sites -

Dongqilihai (Doqilihai), 80 birds, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Tuanpo (Tuanbowa), 80 birds, January 1990 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Beidagang, 200 birds, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994), November–December 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);
Yuqiao reservoir (not mapped), November–December 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Tianjin: One at Qilihai, Ninghe County, Tianjin on 17 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

TUFTED DUCK *Aythya fuligula*

Reports by others -

16 at Qilihai, Ninghe County, Tianjin on 17 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin : 100 at Qilihai, Ninghe on 7 March [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: An impressive 745 at Beidagang Reservoir on 19 Mar. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2001

4 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 - 1 at San Jia Dian & 3 at Liu Xiang Ying.

2006

456 on the 18/3/2006 – 6 on Beitang Reservoir & 450 at Beidagang, Dagang.

8 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

7 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 with other ducks on a pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2007

3 males at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2008

1 male, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

45 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008 – one with the Mallard flock on the sea at Jingqu & all the others at Beidagang.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

GREATER SCAUP *Aythya marila*

2005

Tianjin

(1/11 4 4)

4 (two males and two females) in the flock of Common Goldeneye on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

LONG-TAILED DUCK *Clangula hyemalis*

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER *Melanitta fusca*

Tianjin: Two at the drinking water plant on 19 Feb. [2006][LHT in the China Bird Report 2006].

2000

2 on a flooded salt pan just north of Lu Ju He Xiang, south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.

2007

4 on the sea at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

1 on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. It was on the same pool as the Common Goldeneye and Black-necked Grebes.

COMMON GOLDENEYE *Bucephala clangula*

Reports by others -

Tianjin : 100 at Qilihai, Ninghe on 7 March [2004][LHY]; 300 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]; 400 at the beach of Tanggu on 20 November [2004][LJY]. (All reports China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 20 at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing on 26 March [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 116 at the seashore bathing area on 19 Feb. [LHT]; 234 at Qingtuozi, Hangu on 19 Mar. [LHT].

Tianjin: 34 at Beidagang Reservoir on 31 October [2007][KL in China Bird Reports 2007].

2000

6 & 51 in the Tanggu area on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. The 6 were on a flooded salt pan just north of Lu Ju He Xiang, south of Tanggu, on the 20th & the 51 were all in a compact flock on a similar saltpan, with other about 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the following day, the 21/10/2000.

2001

12 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. These included 7 at Liu Xiang Ying.

21 on a huge flooded saltpan 27 kms south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

2002

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

130, 140 & 227 on a roadside pool about three kms south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (of 99 sexed birds 72 were females & 27 males) on the 22nd, 23 & 24/12/2002 respectively.

2003

24 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

125 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang on the 3/1/2004.

15 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang on the 4/1/2004.

7 at Beidagang on the 26/1/2004.

125 & 15 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2005

(3/11 1425 1427)

1 near Tanggu on the 21/12/2005.

1425 on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005. A sample count of 440 birds produced 165 (38%) adult males and 275 (63%) redheads

1 on the inland pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

200 on the 18/3/2006 – 2 on Beitang Reservoir & 200 at Beidagang, Dagang.

70 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2007

1 on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.

2 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

2008

2, with other sawbills, on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. As with all the sawbills most birds apparently winter south of Tianjin municipality – where there's more ice-free fresh water.

1, with other ducks, on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

115, including 28 males, on a pool at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.

SMEW *Mergellus albellus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 97 were seen at Qilihai in Ninghe County, Tianjin on 17 March & 50 at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 9 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003)

Anderson (2003): 3 (one male & seven females) at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin : 100 at Qilihai, Nihe on 7 March [2004][LHY]; 150 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]; 100 at Huanggang reservoir on 15 November [2004][CJZ]. (All reports from 2004).

Tianjin: 228 at Beidagang Reservoir on 19 Mar. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

2, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

20 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 - 2 at San Jia Dian & 18 at Liu Xiang Ying.

2002

1 redhead with a party of 130 Common Goldeneye on a roadside pool about three kms south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on both the 22 & 23/12/2002.

2003

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2005

Tianjin

(1/11 1 1)

1 redhead with the Mallard on the sea off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

2008

2, with other sawbills, on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. As with all the sawbills most birds apparently winter south of Tianjin municipality – where there's more ice-free fresh water.

1 redhead on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

5 redheads at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

3 redheads at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER *Mergus serrator*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Seven along the coast of Hangu on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

12, with other waterfowl, on a saltpan 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang, north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

6 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

2004

2 flew south off Lu Ju He on the 26/1/2004

2 flew south offshore at the Lu Ju He, Tanggu on the 26/1/2004.

2006

8 (one adult male & seven redheads) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

265 on the 18/3/2006 - 45 on Beitung Reservoir & 220 at Beidagang, Dagang.

158 at Beitung Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2010

1 male on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

SCALY-SIDED MERGANSER *Mergus squamatus* EN

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cited one report –

Tianjin (Tientsin), undated (Dement'ev and Gladkov 1951–1954);

COMMON MERGANSER *Mergus merganser*

Reports by others -

Tianjin : 150 at Huanggang reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]; 50 at Beidagang reservoir on 4 April [2004][LHY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 77 redheads at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing on 31 Oct. [2006][ZY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

1 on Dong Qilihai Shuiku (East Qilihai reservoir) northeast of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

1 offshore near the Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

3 males on a roadside pool about three kms south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 23/12/2002.

2003

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

2 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang on the 3/1/2004.

16 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 26/1/2004 - 8 near Dagang power station & 8 more at Beidagang.

2 on a coastal freshwater pool between Haibin Yuchang & Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2004.

16 between Tanggu & Beidagang on the 26/1/2004 – 8 on the river immediately north of Beidagang & 8 at Beidagang itself.

2005

Tianjin

(2/11 48 84)

48 (44 redheads and 4 adult males) on a deepwater pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.
36 (all redheads) on the inland pool at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

290 on the 18/3/2006 – 288 on Beitang Reservoir & 2 at Beidagang, Dagang.
1260 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2008

23 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
166 in Dagang on the 17/1/2008 – 156, with other sawbills, on the Duliujian river & the other ten on the sea off Jingqu. As with all the sawbills most birds apparently winter south of Tianjin municipality – where there's more ice-free fresh water.
5 on the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
2 redheads at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

2010

2, a male & female, on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

DUCK SP. *Anas sp.*

2006

There was a reasonable movement of ducks south over the sea near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006. Besides those specifically identified & detail above I noted another 82 birds in six flocks flying south over the sea off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu. All were too distant to identify. Flock sizes were as follows – 4, 7, 8, 10, 23 & 30 birds.
1500 at Beidagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

500+ at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

880 resting on sea ice off Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
2100 birds, either Mallard or Chinese Spot-billed Ducks, were on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. (See the entries for these two species above). In all there were 2890 large dabbling ducks (all either Mallards or Chinese Spot-billed Ducks) at Jingqu today. These are possibly exceptional numbers this far north in winter?
13 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
3 flew over Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
100 distant birds at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
100 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
210 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
160 unidentified ducks were seen in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008 – 10 of these flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the remaining 150 were on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang.
100 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
100 on the sea off Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
25 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
1500 very distant birds on an inaccessible pool at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
955 on the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.
100 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(5/28 100 183)
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
12 in flight over the southern edge of Tanggu town on the 29/7/2009.
40 with other water fowl on the pools immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
100 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

60 on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010 were too distant to identify but possibly included a few Tufted Ducks.

YELLOW-LEGGED BUTTONQUAIL *Turnix tanki*

Reports by others -

Tianjin : Singles in the suburbs of Tianjin on 24 September, 26 September and 26 October [2004] [YLiAng]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

2004 - autumn

(/22
1 was flushed from the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 5/10/2004.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

EURASIAN WRYNECK *Jynx torquilla*

Reports by others -

Tianjin : One along the coast of Hangu on 10 September [2004][WQ]. (China Bird Report 2004)

2001

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 23/9/2004.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 near Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

GREY-CAPPED PYGMY WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos canicapillus*

RUFOUS-BELLIED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos hyperythrus*

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 5 5)

Singles were noted on five September dates – at Beidagang on the 5th, on the coal carrying conveyor belt bridge immediately to the east of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6th, in flight over Tanggu town centre on the 19th, and singles flew inland over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on both the 22nd & 23/9/04.

2006

1 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER *Dendrocopos major*

2000

2 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of the Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2007

1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

GREY-HEADED WOODPECKER *Picus canus*

2000

1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of the Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2007

1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

EURASIAN HOOPOE *Upupa epops*

A common spring & autumn passage migrant, uncommon breeder. Scarce in winter. Autumn passage is already underway by mid-July when birds are occasionally encountered at unusual coastal sites such as the edges of the reclamation tanks.

Reports by others -

Anderson (2003): Five at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: 19 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 23 December [2005][LY] was an unusually large number for so far north in winter. (Report from China Bird Report 2005).

2000

1 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 2 near Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

1 feeding with Eurasian Skylarks around bare patches in the snow at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2004.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

2 & 5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 3 6)

1-3 birds were noted on three visits that I made to Beidagang 5-26/9.2004.

In addition 2 singles were seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin on the 17/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 18 18)

18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

2 at Beitang Reservoir on the 18/3/2006.

1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.

3 on the 26/7/2006 – 2 at Hangu & 1 at Jing Qu.

1 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Haibinyuchang, one at Yuren Matou & two south of Jing Qu.

5 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2007

2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/3/2008.

2 singles in Dagang on the 3/8/2008 – one at Jingqu & the other at Beidagang.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

1 in Tanggu town on the 31/8/2008.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 in Tanggu town on the 6/9/2008.

8 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

2009

(10/28 5 19)

2 single in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

5 singles around the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. All in unusual places these are probably the first migrants I've seen on this trip.

2 singles around the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.

2 singles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.

1 flew over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

DOLLARBIRD *Eurystomus orientalis*

COMMON KINGFISHER *Alcedo atthis*

Autumn migration commences, but is relatively low-key and unobtrusive other than a few birds start to appear in unusual places, from about the middle of August. Passage peaks sometime during September (?) and continues on a declining scale in to November. Birds are noteworthy after the end of that month and winter records (like the ones in Beijing in recent years – see China Bird Reports) are apparently unknown.

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2 near San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. This site is three kms east of the reservoir's dam on its northern shore.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 flew over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 2 2)

1 flew up the main road in central Teda on the 30/8/2005!

2006

3 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 1 at Yuren Matou & 2 besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

2 singles near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. The first birds I'd seen in coastal Tianjin this autumn.

3 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – two singles at Jingqu & one at Beidagang.

1 besides the Gaoshaling Pool, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

1 besides the dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

1 near Gaoshaling close to Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

1 near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(2/28 4 5)

4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved two birds at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one near the now dry large pool immediately south of the tourist complex at Haibin Yuchang (both Tanggu) & one at Beidagang, Dagang.

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.

2010

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

RUDDY KINGFISHER *Halcyon coromanda*

BLACK-CAPPED KINGFISHER *Halcyon pileata*

2001

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2006

2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

CRESTED KINGFISHER

Reports from other people -

Tianjin: 1 at Fishponds in Lushandao, Nandian, Liming Village, Tianjin on 2 August 2003 (China Bird Report 2003)

LARGE HAWK CUCKOO *Hierococcyx sparveroides*

NORTHERN HAWK CUCKOO *Hierococcyx hyperythrus*

INDIAN CUCKOO *Cuculus micropterus*

COMMON CUCKOO *Cuculus canorus*

Breeds at least at Beidagang, Dagang.

2006

6 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

4 juveniles at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2008

2 (an adult & a juvenile) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 5 5)

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

ORIENTAL CUCKOO *Cuculus [saturatus] optatus**

LESSER CUCKOO *Cuculus poliocephalus*

[CUCKOO sp. *Cuculus sp.*]

2002

1 bird, either an Oriental or Common Cuckoo, flew south the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 1)

Single juvenile cuckoos, possibly Common Cuckoo, were seen at Beidagang on the 19th & 25/9/2004.]

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

ASIAN KOEL *Eudynamys scolopaceus*

1 'a few hundred metres from home' on the 18 May 2012. (Anders Magnusson in litt. 18/5/2012). Possibly the first record for Tianjin.

WHITE-THROATED NEEDLETAIL *Hirundapus caudacutus*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 flew south down the coast & over the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 24/9/2004.

COMMON SWIFT *Apus apus*

2004 - spring

6 in & around Tanggu town on the 2/5/2004.

2009

(1/28 8 8)

8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

2010

1 was heard over Tanggu town centre on the 24/4/2010.

FORK-TAILED SWIFT *Apus pacificus*

2002

1 flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

8 flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2006

1 over Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

100 over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

40 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

15 flew south over Lu Ju He, Tanggu on 1/9/2006.

15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2008

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.

2009

(3/28 1 3)

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

ORIENTAL SCOPS OWL *Otus sunia*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Three on the Tanggu coast on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT in the China Bird Report 2006].

2008

1 in an illegal mist net near Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008 was released and the nets destroyed.

JAPANESE SCOPS OWL *Otus bakkamoena*

EURASIAN EAGLE OWL *Bubo bubo*

LITTLE OWL *Athene noctua*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Tuanbowa Reservoir on 2 April [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Anderson (2003): One at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2005

(2/11 1 2)

1 at Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 22/12/2005.

1 on the coastal breakwater at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

2006

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

1 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

1 was heard outside the Hong Fa Garden Hotel, Tanggu at 05:30hrs on the 10/10/2006.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

BROWN HAWK OWL *Ninox scutulata*

LONG-EARED OWL *Asio otus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 2 were seen at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: One at coast of Hangu on 3 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2003

15 at a daytime roost about five kms along the elevated road at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2007

1 came in off the sea & sat on one of the boats close to shore at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

2008

1 on beach cliffs about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

SHORT-EARED OWL *Asio flammeus*

Occasional winter visitor and passage migrant. Surprisingly there are only a couple of spring records (10 March 2008 & 1 April 2006). More frequent in autumn from the first (an early bird) on 5 September 2006 with light passage possibly peaking during mid- (& possibly more specifically the second week) of October. No records in the second winter period.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 1 Apr. [2006][TZ in China Bird Report 2006

2000

1 flew south along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2006

1 came in high over the sea south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2007

1 was sat on the sea wall at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

1 came in off the sea at Jing Qu, Dagang at 11:10hrs on the 9/10/2007.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

1 came in off the sea at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
2 singles in Tanggu on the 11/10/2008 – one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

GREY NIGHTJAR *Caprimulgus indicus*

2006

1 on the edge of Tanggu at dusk on the 4/9/2006.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

ROCK PIGEON *Columba livia*

2005

Tianjin

(3/11 +++ ++)

'Present' at several site between Tanggu and Dagang on the 22/12/2005 but not systematically recorded.

Present but not counted between Tanggu and Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

Present between Tanggu and Dagang on the 24/12/2005

2006

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 27/7/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 28/7/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

'Present' but not counted in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006.

'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006.

'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 7/9/2006.

'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.

100 in & around Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 8/7/2006.

2007

Present but not counted between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

'Present' but not counted south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.

'Present' in the Teda-Caihongqiao, Hangu areas on the 5/8/2007.

'Present' in & around Teda & Tanggu on the 7/8/2007.

100 in Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007

2008

30 between Dagang & Tianjin city on the 11/3/2008.

20 in & around Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.

20 in & around Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.

2009

Present but not counted in the Tanggu & Dagang areas on several dates.

2010

100 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010.

10 between Tanggu & Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010.

HILL PIGEON *Columba rupestris*

STOCK PIGEON *Columba oenas*

2008

1 was seen in flight & latter on the mud at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008. The first record for Tianjin.

Note that there are several reports from Bidaihe, Hebei – observed in October 1990 Bidaihe, where max. 5 in the Lotus Hill on 10/26/1990 Lotus Hills (Williams 2000) and also on Happy Island were one on 12/10/2001 (Schiermacher-Hansen 2002).

ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE *Streptopelia orientalis*

Reports by others –

Tianjin: 30 were seen at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March with 44 there on 25-27 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2000

20 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 near Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2004 - spring

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(8/22 5 15)

1 or 2 birds were noted on seven dates & there was one additional higher count, 5 at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004. There was no obvious change in the species' status during the period that I was around Tanggu. Birds were regularly present at Beidagang with 2 singles there on the 5th, 1 on the 25th & 5 on the 26/9.

Elsewhere apparent coastal migrants were noted on the 7th (1 flew north), 18th (1 flew south), 21/9 (2 singles both flew south), 2nd (2 flew south) & 3/10/2004 (1 flew south). Of these 7 coastal migrants 6 were noted over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 over the Lu Ju He fish ponds.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006 was in a location suggestive of it being a migrant.

4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

2 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

2 singles near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – one over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools & the other at Jing Qu.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 1 came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & there were 6 more at Beidagang, Dagang.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

30 near the Yongding Xin He, northern Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

5 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

1 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

2010

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

2 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.

4 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

SPOTTED DOVE *Streptopelia chinensis*

2002

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2004 - autumn

(5/22 10 16)

2 at Beidagang on both the 25th & 26/9 with a single bird in Tanggu town centre on the 5/10/2004.

Elsewhere 1 & 10 birds, the latter a surprisingly high count, were seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin on the 3rd & 17/9/2004 respectively.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 in central Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

2006

2 singles in Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.

2 singles south of Tanggu towards Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

2007

6 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

2 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

10 in the area between the Yongding Xin He and Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, northern Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

1 actively migrating bird flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(3/28 1 3)

1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

1 near Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.

1 singing bird at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

2010

1 singing bird at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

RED COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia tranquebarica*

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE *Streptopelia decaocto*

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

2005

Tianjin

(1/11 2 2)

2 on the southern edge of Tanggu on the 30/8/2005.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 flew south between Lujuhe and Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

GREAT BUSTARD *Otis tarda* VU

Reports by others -

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites reports from one site, the location of which was unknown to them –

Fengzhuang (not mapped), 21 birds (three of which were killed by a hunter), November 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Tianjin: One at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 15 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

SIBERIAN CRANE *Grus leucogeranus* CR

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cited one report –

Qilihai reservoir, reported by local people, March 1999 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Three adults and one juvenile at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 26 Mar. [2006][CW]. (China Bird Report 2006).

DEMOISELLE CRANE *Grus virgo*

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus*

2007

2 adults on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

HOODED CRANE *Grus monacha* VU

RED-CROWNED CRANE *Grus japonensis* EN

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites one report –

Beidagang reservoir (not mapped), seven, November 1998 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Seven at Dahuangpu on 28 Dec. [2006][MG]. (China Bird Report 2006).

COMMON CRANE *Grus grus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One flew over Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 1 Nov. [2006][ZY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2007

2 adults on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

WHITE-NAPED CRANE *Grus vipio* VU

Reports from others -

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites reports from three sites –

Yuqiao reservoir, three, January 1992 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Dongqilihai (Doqilihai), two, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Beidagang reservoir, two, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Tianjin: 12 at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing during 26-27 March [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2006

86 on recently burnt fields of reed stubble at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

29 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006 - (12 in the same field where birds were seen yesterday, and another 17 birds flew north overhead).

2008

21 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008. They arrived as one flock at 08:59hrs & were still there when I left 2.5h hours later.

EASTERN WATER RAIL *Rallus indicus*

WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN *Amaurornis phoenicurus*

BAILLON'S CRAKE *Porzana pusilla*

RUDDY-BREASTED CRAKE *Porzana fusca*

BAND-BELLIED CRAKE *Porzana paykullii* NT

WATERCOCK

Reports by other people -

Tianjin: Vocalizations were reported at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 15 July 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

COMMON MOORHEN *Gallinula chloropus*

Present in summer at Beidagang, Dagang & probably breeds.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 5 11)

2, 5 & 4 at Beidagang on the 19th, 25th & 26/9/2004 respectively.

2006

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

6, including some recently & locally fledged juveniles, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

5 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

EURASIAN COOT *Fulica atra*

Present in summer at Beidagang, Dagang & probably breeds.

Reports by other people -

Tianjin: 30 were seen at Beidagang Reservoir in Dagang, Tianjin on 12 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 30 at Tuanpowa Reservoir on 14 November [2004][CJZ]; 20 at Beidagang Reservoir on 18 December [2004][CJZ].
(Both reports from China Bird report 2004).

Tianjin: A very impressive 4500 at Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 1-2 Nov. [2006][ZY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 742 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 21 October [2007][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 92 112)

92 & 20 at Beidagang on the 19/9 & 6/10/2004 respectively.

2006

320 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2008

103 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

615 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

519 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 3 3)

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

EURASIAN WOODCOCK *Scolopax rusticola*

SOLITARY SNIPE *Gallinago solitaria*

PINTAIL SNIPE *Gallinago stenura*

SWINHOLE'S SNIPE *Gallinago megala*

2002

[1 bird, possibly this species, near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.]

PINTAIL or SWINHOLE'S SNIPE *Gallinago stenura* or *G. megala*

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 5 6)

A flock of 5 & a single bird were seen in flight at Beidagang on the 5th & 19/9/2004 respectively.

2005

(1/11 17 17)

17 birds flew south during the 30/8/2005 – a single bird over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, 13 over Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 3 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2006

1 flew over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

69 birds in just two flocks (22 & 47 birds) flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2007

1 bird, thought to probably be a Swinhoe's Snipe was seen, heard & tape recorded on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.

2008

4 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

1 calling bird flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

1 flew over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
3 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

COMMON SNIPE *Gallinago gallinago*

Tianjin: 19 at Hangu on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

10 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

3 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
3 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
1 heard on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(12/22 18 54)

1-5 birds were widely encountered along the coast on 11 dates & there was one additional higher count, a flock of 18 was seen in flight at Beidagang on the first visit I made there – the 5/9/2004. The most regular site (& the site that I watched most regularly!) the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks held 1-5 birds on 10 dates. Away from here & Beidagang there were 3 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks on the 7/9, 3 flew south over the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9 & 2 flew south over the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 2 2)

2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
1 flew south at Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
8 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
2 singles flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

12 on the 1/5/2007 – 1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu & 11 at Beidagang, Dagang.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 was heard in flight over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
2 singles over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
4 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
7 birds, in three different groups, were seen in flight over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
4 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(2/28 3 4)

3 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – two flew over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang and another was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
1 near the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

JACK SNIFE *Lymnocyptes minimus*

'EASTERN' BLACK-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa [limosa] melanuroides**

A very common migrant through coastal Tianjin – an area that occasionally supports in excess of 1% of the estimated 160,000 Black-tailed Godwits using the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (Barter 2002) during both the northbound and southbound migrations. Spring migration through coastal Tianjin starts in early March (typically during the second week of that month) and peaks in early to mid-April with three figure counts not being unusual until the end of the first week of May and stragglers continue to pass through until at least the end of May. Surprisingly this peak is significantly earlier than that in northwest South Korea, where the species is particularly numerous. Here the spring peak is not until May. Many more birds move through coastal Tianjin during the northbound, spring migration than in autumn and there was a particularly strong passage in 2005 when high counts included 2000 at Hangu on 3 April [YY]; 2000 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9 April with 10,000 there a week later on 16 April [LHY]. The region's highest count, a massive 18,000 birds at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April also 2005 [WRQ], is more in line with peak counts at Asan Man, northwestern South Korea in the eastern Yellow Sea (Barter 2002). The smaller southbound migration is already well under way by mid-July (& possibly commences at the start of that month or even earlier). Numbers appear to vary hugely from year to year but passage probably peaks in mid-late August (all four of my four-figure counts are from the period 29 August to 4 September 2006 with the maximum of 2250 birds being on the first date when I discovered the flock). Adults still form the vast majority of birds at this time (four counts between 29 August & 4 September have yielded between 94-99% adults [$n = 2379$]). The last birds of the autumn are normally recorded around mid-October but passage occasionally continues until the last week of that month (and probably later) with 75 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 21 October being a large flock for this late in the season. During both migration seasons Black-tailed Godwits are only occasionally found on the inter-tidal mudflats and typically frequent inland, non-tidal, wetlands such as salt pans, fish ponds and temporarily drained reservoirs. The species is easily overlooked because of this preference.

Any leg flagged observations.

Barter et al. (2001): Recorded just 234 birds in coastal Tianjin between 10-14 May 2000 (a mere 0.4% of all the shorebirds they identified). They noted, however, that their survey occurred after the spring, north-bound, peak of this species. They broke their counts down & logged all 234 birds at unspecified [probably non-coastal] miscellaneous location(s) away from the three main count areas.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 624 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 16 March 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 2000 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][YY]. Between Shanggulin and Hangu there were 2000 on 9 April and 10,000 on 16 April [2005][LHY]; a massive 18,000 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][WRQ]; 200 near Beitang on 3 May [2005][CJZ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 316 at Hangu on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL]. 80 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 100 near Beitang on 8-9 September [2007][TJL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

36 flew over salt pans 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 75 did a similar thing near the Cai Hong Qiao toll bridge, north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

2002

3 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

20 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 85 193)

Birds were recorded on six erratically scattered dates between 5/9-7/10. By far the most favoured site was the pool at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling where 2, 50, 17 & 85 (the latter in flocks of 6 & 79) birds were seen on the 5th, 19th & 25/9 & 7/10 respectively. Remarkably few birds were seen on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks with the only sightings there being of 7 & 24 on the 18th & 19/9 respectively. The only other sighting was of a flock of 8 that flew south down the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9/2004.

2005

(2/11 587 804)

217 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 9 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & there were 208 on the pool near Gaoshaling (about 1 km inland of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang). A sample of 157 birds at the latter site were aged & this produced 148 (94%) adult & 9 (6%) juveniles.

587 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

2006

2 at Yuren Matou on the 18/3/2006.

51 near Tanggu on the 25/7/2006 - 12 at Hangu, 37 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 2 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

405 on the 26/7/2006 - 351 at Hangu & 54 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

30 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.

72 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. Very few (<6) juveniles were present.

2250 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
1 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
2000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Very, very few juveniles were seen (probably less than 10).
'Present' pre-dawn on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 1/9/2006.
1255 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
1000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. A sample count of 149 birds yielded 5 juveniles (3%) & 144 adults (97%).
1 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
3 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
400 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
23 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
74 on the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
22 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

66 on the 30/4/2007 - 55 at Caihongqiao (two flocks of 15 birds flew south offshore & a group of 25 were in the neighbouring salt pans); three over the inter tidal mudflats two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; eight at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
595 south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007 - 565 at Beidagang, Dagang; 30 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang.
80 birds (apparently all adults) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
137 (4 juveniles & 133 adults) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
366 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
579 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
13 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
64 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
26 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
162 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
341 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
210 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
11 on inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
65 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
25 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 - 24 adults on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other bird, my first juvenile of the autumn, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
4, including one juvenile, on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu the 3/8/2008.
65 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 - 60 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
60 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
218 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
125 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
60 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
73 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008. Of these there were 71 adults (97%) & just two juveniles - the latter the first of that age I'd seen so far this autumn.
14 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 - ten Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four more at Gaoshaling.
298 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
282 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 - one at Jingqu, Dagang & 281 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. 171 birds were aged and these produced 162 adults (95%) & nine (5%) juveniles.
13 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
89 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 - 68 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 21 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
13 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
130 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 - 120 besides Xiao Xihe Reservoir & 10 in the salt pans near Caihongqiao.
9 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
12 on a pool at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
1 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(25/28 1340 3566)

13 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
5 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
200 in coastal Tanggu on the 16/7/2009 - these included four at Gaoshaling and about 200 on the pool at Lujuhe.
380 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. One bird had a yellow flag with two black characters on its right leg. Unfortunately I was unable to read either of the characters.
4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
320 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
120 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 - two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 118 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A juvenile, the first of the autumn, was seen at the first site.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
1340 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Just three juveniles were seen.
400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
447 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. 155 birds were aged and there was only one juvenile among 154 adults!
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
158 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 61 birds were aged and this produced 58 adults and just three juveniles.

5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
15 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
70 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
20 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
9 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
17, all juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/2009. All three birds that were aged were juveniles.
25 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
130 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

BAR-TAILED GODWIT *Limosa lapponica*

Although a very common migrant through coastal Tianjin the area does not support internationally important numbers (in excess of 1% of the estimated 325,000 Bar-tailed Godwits using the East Asian-Australasian Flyway [Barter 2002]) during either the northbound and southbound migrations. The highest numbers noted locally were the 2321 individuals Barter et al. (2001) logged during their 10-14 May 2000 survey. This was the ninth commonest shorebird present accounting for 4.1% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 210 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 1646 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & 465 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei.

Northbound passage commences about three weeks later than Black-tailed Godwit and occurs from the start of April to the end of May with a peak during mid-April to early May.

The significantly smaller autumn passage is already well under way by the third week of July (& the first birds possibly occur by the second week of that month or earlier). Peak south bound migration occurs between mid-August to early September during which time double-figure counts are the norm and there are just two three-figure counts (128 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8 and 101 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008). Scarce by mid-October (except in 2000 when 200 birds were seen south of Tanggu on the 20th and a similar number to the north on the following day) & unrecorded in November.

Barter (2002) noted that *baueri* passes through the Yellow Sea earlier than *menzbieri* departing the Yalu Jiang, Liaoning by mid-May and then being replaced by *menzbieri*. All band recoveries and leg-flag sightings in autumn have been of *menzbieri*, confirming that few, if any *baueri* use the Yellow Sea on southbound migration and this subspecies probably flies non-stop across the Pacific to New Zealand and eastern Australia. Its likely that this same situation occurs in Tianjin.

Any leg flagged observations.

Migration ecology and morphometrics of two Bar-tailed Godwit populations in Australia

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Abstract

Bar-tailed Godwits (*Limosa lapponica*) are long-distance migratory shorebirds. About a third of the global population migrate to Australia during the non-breeding season where they occur mainly in the north-west and east. Using measurements of bill, wing, tarsus and total-head (head and bill), we show that birds from the two main Australian non-breeding regions belong to separate populations. Individuals in north-western Australia are subspecies *L. l. menzbieri*, which breeds in north-eastern Russia, whereas those in south-eastern Australia are subspecies *L. l. baueri*, which breeds in northern and western Alaska. Resightings and recoveries of marked birds showed that there is little exchange between the two populations on the non-breeding grounds. They also take different routes during northward migration: *L. l. menzbieri* was more frequent on staging areas in the western Yellow Sea and largely absent from Japan, whereas *L. l. baueri* was more numerous in the eastern Yellow Sea and was often recorded in Japan. *L. l. baueri* left on northward migration 1–2 weeks earlier than *L. l. menzbieri* and gained more body mass before departure, presumably in preparation for a longer migratory leg. Our data suggest that on northward migration, *L. l. menzbieri* and *L. l.*

baueri make direct flights of 5400–6200 km and 8200–8500 km, respectively, to reach staging areas in East Asia. The route of *Limosa l. menzbieri* on its southern passage is similar to that of northward migration, with stop-overs in East Asia. *Limosa l. baueri*, however, make an ~10 400-km non-stop flight across the Pacific Ocean from Alaska to eastern Australia, one of the longest non-stop migratory flights known amongst birds. A higher proportion (0.0044%) of Bar-tailed Godwits than any other shorebird in coastal Tianjin carry leg flags and, with 19 sightings, it is the second most commonly observed leg-flagged shorebird in the area (second only to the much commoner Red-necked Stint of which just over half as many [0.0024%] carry flags). 15 of the 19 sightings (six between 30 April – 2 May & nine between 6 August – 4 September) are from Northwest Australia and the other four from Chongming Dao, Shanghai between 1-31 August. One of the latter, seen near Caihongqiao, Hangu on both the 26 & 31 August 2008, was banded approximately 932kms to the south during the previous year's spring migration (on 15 April 2007). All 13 autumn flag sightings were in 2008 suggesting that many others have been missed.

During both migration seasons Bar-tailed Godwits are only occasionally found away from the inter-tidal mudflats.

Tianjin: 70 along the coast between Hangu to Shang'gulin, Tianjin on 1-2 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: The Hangu coast had 208 on 17 April [2004][LHY] and 80 on 22 August [2004][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin : 15 near Beitang on 3 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 210 at Hangu on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL]; 15 at Tanggu on 23-24 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 20 at Tanggu on 2-3 May [2007][CW]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

200 south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & a similar number north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

80 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

20 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

20 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

15 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

14 on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

2004

600 between Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse), Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the river immediately north of Beidagang on the 2/5/2004. I saw two colour flagged birds in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – both had a single yellow flag above their right leg.

500 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(5/22 10 22)

Remarkably few birds were seen. Four of the five encounters were with birds on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang where there were 3, 10, 1 & 7 on the 4th, 5th & 7/9 & the 7/10 respectively. The only sighting away from here was of a single bird at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 24/9/2004.

2005

(3/11 86 174)

83 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

86 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 85 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 flew south over Gaoshaling.

5 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 on a pool near Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

2006

15 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.

42 on the 26/7/2006 - 15 at Hangu & 27 at Jing Qu.

10 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.

10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

6 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

4 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

34 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. About one-third of these birds were juvenile.

35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

10 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

8 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

20 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

685 on the 30/4/2007 - 65 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 30 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 205, including three birds with yellow flags on their right tarsi, on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.). These three birds were flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E, sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6436 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.; 55 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 330 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

About 150 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 – these included 7 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 105 (including another yellow leg-flagged bird on the

tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.). This bird was flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6436 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.

4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

87 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 80 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

15 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

65 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

20 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

30 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

45 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

450 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 15 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 435 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

110 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

23 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008. One colour flagged bird was noted it had a black over a white flag.

20 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008. The black over white colour flagged bird that I saw yesterday was still present.

15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

10 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

8 on the salt pans near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. One of these had a yellow leg-flag.

3 besides the fishponds near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008. One bird was colour flagged with black over white on its right leg. The white flag was inscribed V8. This bird was banded on Chongming Dao, Shanghai (approx. 31°27'N., 121°55'E.) on 15 April 2007. The resighting was a distance of approximately 932 km, with a bearing of 337°, from the marking location.

128 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008. Five leg flagged birds were present in this high-tide roosting flock, four with yellow flags & one black over white. The latter was only seen briefly & distantly & there's a possibility that it also had some characters written on the white flag.

10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008. Among them was the bird seen six days earlier, on the 26 August, with black over white leg flags on its right leg. The white flag was inscribed V8.

15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

101 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. Of these a high tide roosting flock of 61 birds at Jingqu, Dagang contained two yellow flagged birds. Elsewhere there were 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

68 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008. Among this flock were two birds with yellow leg flags.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

14, including at least three very well marked *baueri*-types, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008. One was apparently a juvenile *baueri* – the first juvenile *baueri* that I've seen in China. **Describe this bird.**

20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

1 on the mudflats near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

7 juveniles, including one apparent *baueri*, on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(10/28 632 671)

632 at a high-tide roost at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009. Among this high tide roosting flock were four birds with yellow flags on their right tarsi (upper legs).

These had all been banded in North-west Australia (approx. 19° 0.0'S 122° 0.0'E) sometime since August 1992.

1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

15 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 12 of these were in Tanggu with tree at Bai Er Station & nine on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were another three at Jingqu, Dagang.

3 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.

3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

13 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

410 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010. One bird had an orange over green flag above the knee on its right leg. The bird was originally flagged in New South Wales (Australia), approx. 32°52'S., 151°47'E., sometime since 2004. The resighting was a distance of approx. 8725 km, with a bearing of 334 degrees, from the marking location.

431 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. Five leg-flagged birds were seen three had yellow flags, one black over white & the third green. Two of the yellow and the black-over-white flagged bird were photographed.

The green flagged bird was flagged in Moreton Bay, near Brisbane, Queensland, Australia, approx. 27°20'S., 153°10'E., sometime since 1991. The resighting was a distance of approx. 8252 km, with a bearing of 332 degrees, from the marking location.

The black over white flagged bird was flagged at Chongming Dao, Shanghai, China, approx. 31°27'N., 121°55'E., sometime since April 2006. The resighting was a distance of approx. 931 Km, with a bearing of 337 degrees, from the marking location.

The three yellow flagged birds were flagged in Northwest Australia, approx. 19°0'S., 122°10'E., sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approx. 6477 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.

LITTLE CURLEW *Numenius minutus*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 1800 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season. Barter (???) found impressively large numbers staging in Shandong during northbound migration.

Listed as having occurred at two sites in Tianjin - 26 Sept. (no year) Beitang reservoir & Tanggu (no date) by Wang Qishan, Ma Ming and Gao Yuren *Fauna Sinica Vol. 5* (2005) Science Press, Beijing.

2007

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

2008

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

WHIMBREL *Numenius phaeopus*

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 126 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.2% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 73 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, just 1 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 37 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 15 at unspecified miscellaneous location(s).

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 550 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 50 at the coast of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 12 near Beitang on 27 April [2005][Zyong]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 263 at Jingqu, Dagang on 13-14 May [2006][LY]; 34 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 20 at Hangu on 5 May [2007][WRQ]; ten near Beitang on 8 September [2007][LJia]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2007).

2000

1 about 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

40 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

40 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

100 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

50 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

150 from Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre south to the river immediately north of Beidagang on the 2/5/2004.

80 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(10/22 150 465)

There were three-figure counts on each of the first three days that I was on the coast with 100, 150 & 100 birds being estimated near the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3rd, 4th & 5/9 respectively. Numbers dropped off dramatically after the end of my first visit to Tanggu (this visit ended on the 7/9/2004) & I had only 25 bird-days after that date. Although birds were dependably present until the start of the fourth week of September the last bird was seen on the 24/9/2004. Its thought that the number of Whimbrel around Tanggu had presumably peaked much earlier than my first Tanggu visit – perhaps even in late July or early August. Almost all sightings were of birds on the inter-tidal mudflats somewhere down the coast, none were seen on any of the settling tanks.

2005

(4/11 15 27)

8 on the 28/8/2005 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 6 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.

15 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the pools near Tanggu airport, 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 flew over the pools near Gaoshaling.

3 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 2 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 was again on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

2 singles on the 26/7/2006 - 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 1 at Jing Qu.

4 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.

7 on the river at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

4 on the 29/8/2006 – 3 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

12 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Of the two seen well, one was a juvenile, the other an adult.

20 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

22 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 2 at Haibinyuchang & 14 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 6 south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

10 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

8 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
4 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1 was heard at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2007

15 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 10/4/2007.
About 8 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 – these included 3 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
12 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 9 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
1 was heard on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/10/2007.
1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.

2008

8 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
8 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
4 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
3 singles flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
97 in coastal Tianjin on 29/8/2008 – of these three were on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other 94 at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
47 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – two near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & a flock of 45 flew high to the south, as if migrating, over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 14:50hrs.
10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
18 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
1 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
1 near the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao on the 30/9/2008.
1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2009

(12/28 17 53)

3 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
17 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved two at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 10 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and five at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
1 was heard over Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
1 was heard over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

EURASIAN CURLEW *Numenius arquata*

In spring peak numbers probably occur in April.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 350 and coastal Tianjin supports in excess of this threshold during the northbound and southbound migrations as well as the non-breeding season.

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 52 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. They noted, however, that their survey occurred after the spring, north-bound, peak of this species. They broke their counts down & logged none between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 15 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) and 37 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei. They state that Beijing Normal University count data confirm that Eurasian Curlew occurs in internationally important numbers in the hinterland [i.e. on the fish and shrimp ponds and salt pans away from the inter-tidal mudflats].

Barter (2002):

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 221 were recorded at the seashore in Hangu, Tianjin on 28 March & 50 at the seashore in Tang'gu, Tianjin on 12 April (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: Regular counts on the Tanggu coast included 316 on 14 February [2004][LY] and 286 on 20 November [2004][LJY]; 100 at the coastland of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 563 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on 6 March [2005][WN]; 215 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 503 at Hangu on 17-18 September [2005][LHY]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 5957 at Jingqu, Dagang on 18-19 Feb. [LY]; 500 at Jingqu, Dagang on 19 Nov. [LHT]. 550 on Happy Island, Laoting on 11 Oct. [JH].

Tianjin: 300 on the Tanggu coast on 18 March [2007][BA]; 300 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2007).

2000

800 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 (including 320 on coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Gang Gong Lu coast road). There were also 100 north of the city on the following day, the 21/10/2000.

2001

'Present' in a flock of 500 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. Perhaps 90% of these birds were thought to be Eurasian.

'Present' in a flock of 600 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. As yesterday perhaps 90% of these birds were thought to be Eurasian.

250 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001,.

300 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001,.

250 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001,.

2002

15 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

80 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

288 at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

615 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/12/2002 - 365 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & 250 about two kilometres south of there.

10 from Haang Lu south of Tanggu on the 24/12/2002.

2003

1 from Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/1/2003.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

100 on the impound near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre on the 3/1/2004.

300 between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the river immediately north of Beidagang on the 2/5/2004.

300 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 500 1712)

2-500 birds were noted on all 22 days I was around Tanggu (3/9 – 8/10) & there was a marked increase in the number of birds in the area during that period, this increase being particularly noticeable after the middle of the fourth week of September. Low double-figure counts (10-50 birds, average = 25 birds/day) were the norm until the 24/9 when the first three-figure count (120 birds) was made. Three-figure counts were the norm during my third & final visit to Tanggu in early October with particularly high counts being 300 on the 2nd & 500 on the 7/10/2004. Birds could be encountered virtually anywhere down the coast (none were seen at Beidagang however) with particularly favoured areas being the inter-tidal mudflats between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport, Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & especially the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of there. Up to 70 birds regularly used the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks as a high tide roost.

2005

(9/11 750 1715)

15 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – all at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.

91 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

166 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

82 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 81 on or over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

320 at Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang on the 21/12/2005.

40 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

750 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

250 resting on the ice off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

450 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

600 on the 18/3/2006 – with large counts at Hangu & also at the site about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou.

60 on the 25/7/2006 – 30 at Lu Ju He & 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

260 on the 26/7/2006 - 50 at Hangu & 210 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

528 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 308 at Yuren Matou; 40 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 60 near Lu Ju He & 120 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

750 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

345 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

320 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

535 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Almost all the birds seen in flight were adults in heavy wing moult.

723 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

320 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

390 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

1300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – the bulk of these (1150) were on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

300 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

1300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1050 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.& 250 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.

40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
1220 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1720 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
1000 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
1400 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

950 on the 30/4/2007 - 270 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 15 at Lu Ju He, Tanggu; 130 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 30 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 490 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
About 500 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - 300 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 120 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
2775 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 775 at a high tide roost on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & ca.2000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
520 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
2750 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 730 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 130 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1890 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
2790 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 630 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 320 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1840 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
600 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
400 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
300 on the inter-tidal mud flats near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
1350 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
640 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 140 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 500 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
910 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
700 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

720 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008.
715 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008.
420 on the 10/3/2008 - 10 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 410 at Jingqu, Dagang.
100 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 - the vast majority were on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang.
20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 was heard in flight over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
405 on the inter-tidal mudflats at on the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
430 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
495 roosting at high tide near the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
300 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
360 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
50 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
620 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
3 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 - 35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & a flock of about 15 landed briefly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
480 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
45 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
750 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
950 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 - 560 at Jingqu, Dagang & 350 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
450 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
270 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
840 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 130 roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 710 at Jingqu, Dagang.
350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
700 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. Of these 320 were at Jingqu, Dagang & 350 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
450 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
950 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
570 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1550 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008 - 800 between Jingqu & the southern side of the Yuren Matou canal, Dagang & 750 in the 5.4 km stretch of bay between Bai Er Station & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
1090 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/92/2008. These included 345 on the now dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the remaining 745 in Dagang with 285 on the tidal river immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 460 at Jingqu.
650 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/20/2008 - most of these (510 birds) were on the mudflats near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
2320 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 1410 between Jingqu and Yuren Matou, Dagang and 910 in Tanggu with 840 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & 70 at Haibin Yuchang.
300 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
1535 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 1180 in Dagang with 990 at Jingqu and 190 in the river channel at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 355 in Tanggu with 295 on the mudflats at the Bai Er Station & 60 off Haibin Yuchang.
1520 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included 1010 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and the remaining 510 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

2009

(8/28 815 971)

15 between Bai Er Station, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
14 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
105 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009 - with 15 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & 90 at Jingqu, Dagang.
10 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

10 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
815 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

120 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
267 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
60 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of the on the Haibin Yuchang reclamation pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
1 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

EASTERN CURLEW *Numenius madagascariensis*

In spring peak numbers probably occur in April.

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 26 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. They noted that the spring, north-bound, peak of the species probably occurred before their survey. They broke their counts down & logged none between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, none between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & all 26 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei..

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 380 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 7 were recorded at the seashore in Hangu, Tianjin on 1-2 October 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 50 at the coast of Hangu on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 70 at Huanggang Reservoir on 9 April [2005][GJ]; two between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; two near Beitang on 3 May [2005][CJZ]. At Hangu there were 30 on 3 May [2005][CJZ] and 18 on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: Ten near Beitang on 28-29 Apr. [2006][CJZ] was the only double-figure count in spring. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 500 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL] – an exceptionally high local count. (China Bird Report 2007)

2000

20 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000, these included 10 on the coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Gang Gong Lu coast road.

2001

'Present' in a flock of 500 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. Perhaps 10% of these birds were thought to be Eastern Curlews.

'Present' in a flock of 600 unspecified curlews in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. As yesterday perhaps 10% of these birds were thought to be Eastern Curlews.

2002

2 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

10 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/5/2004.
10 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 55 203)

Much less common than Eurasian Curlew (with only 203 compared to 1712 bird-days) but, as with that species, birds were noted on all 22 days I was around Tanggu (3/9 – 8/10). Eastern Curlew appears to be a significantly earlier migrant than Eurasian Curlew (& is probably totally absent in winter – there might not even be any November records) & there was a noticeable decrease in the number of birds around Tanggu during the period I was there. Although day counts ranged from 1-55 birds single-figure counts were the norm & were only exceeded on three of the 22 dates - with 55 birds on the 4th (these included 21 at Cheng Tou Gu - a small coastal, fishing village about 18.5kms north-north-east [31°] of Tanggu) & 50 (most on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang) on the 5/9. The only other double-figure day count was of 10 on the 24/9/2004. As with Eurasian Curlew birds could be encountered virtually anywhere along the coast, though once again none were seen at Beidagang &, more surprisingly, none ever joined the high tide roost on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2005

(3/11 81 84)

81 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.
2 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other was with the Eurasian Curlews at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.
1, with the Eurasian Curlew flock, on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
4 on the 26/7/2006 - 2 at Hangu & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
4 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 2 at Yuren Matou & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
19 at Hangu on the 27/7/2006 – 15 on the river & 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats
21 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
25 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 2 at Haibinyuchang & 18 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 5 south of Jing Qu.
5 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

4 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
26 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
23 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
6 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
10 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
3 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/10/2007.
25 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 15 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
3 on the inter-tidal mud flats near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
11 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
17 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
2 in a flock of about 15 Eurasian Curlews that landed briefly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
7 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
12 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
34 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Three were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & all the remainder between Yuren Matou & Jingqu, Dagang.
2 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
45 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. Most of these were at Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu.
13 in the tidal river immediately south of Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
5 near Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
3 near Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
7 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008 – four in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and three on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

2009

(6/28 12 25)

12 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
4 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
4 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
2 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of the on the Haibin Yuchang reclamation pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

curlew sp. *Numenius sp.*

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 254 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.4% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 114 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, none between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & 140 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei.

2004

120 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Cai Jia Pu on the 4/9/2004. This site is a coastal fishing village about 7 kms north of the aircraft carrier & 23.8 kms north-east (46°) of Tanggu.

2006

210 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

2008

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

2009

(6/28 40 119)

40 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
40 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
30 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
5 on the mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
1 was heard on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

SPOTTED REDSHANK *Tringa erythropus*

Return autumn passage is already well under way by mid-July and peak numbers occasionally occur at that time when the Tianjin coast supports internationally important numbers

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 24 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged all 24 birds at unspecified [probably non-coastal] miscellaneous location(s).

2460 adults in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (2435 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 25 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu. These internationally important numbers are the most I've ever seen in coastal Tianjin easily surpassing the previous maxima of 465 & 470 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7 & 10/10/2007 respectively. The estimated population of the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count is of between 2.5-10% of the entire flyway population!

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 400 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during southbound migration.

Tianjin: 90 were seen at Qililai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 18 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 50 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 169 at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY] was the highest spring report. (China Bird Report 2006)

Tianjin: 100 at Beidagang on 3 October [2007][WRQ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

450 in salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 – these included a flock of 22 between Lu Ju He Xiang & Hai Bin Yu Chang & a very large party of 420 about 13 kms south of the Dong Feng Da Qiao (& about 0.5 km north of the Xie Hong Zha Qiao – 7 kms north of the border with Hebei). About 20 more birds were seen in similar habitat north of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

1 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

2002

1 adult-summer at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002. Gaoshaling on the 29/8/2008.

2003

12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

1 flew north over the river culvert near Tanggu airport on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(12/22 314 360)

Birds were typically scarce & remarkably concentrated at one particular site - the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. Records spanned the period 5/9 – 7/10 (and hence covered virtually the entire time that I was in the Tanggu area). Immediately around Tanggu as few as 1-5 birds were noted on only 9 dates. The three higher counts were all from the Bei Wei Ti Lu site where there were 15, 314 & 15 birds on the 19th & 25/9 & 7/10/2004 (& thus accounted for 96% of all the bird-days).

2005

(3/11 7 15)

2 over Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

6 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 2 south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 4 juveniles on the pool near Gaoshaling.

7 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 5 juveniles on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 2 (a summer plumaged adult & a juvenile) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.

2006

1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

25 on the 25/7/2006 – 6 at Hangu, 3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 14 at Gaoshaling

110 on the 26/7/2006 - 64 at Hangu; 35 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 6 at Jing Qu & 5 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

4 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.

6 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

15 on the 29/8/2006.

2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All 11 were moulting summer plumaged adults.

5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

2 near Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

70 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/9/2006.

76 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

70 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

330 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 310 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 20 near Jing Qu, Dagang.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
95 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/4/2007 – six on salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu & one on the pools at Jing Qu, Dagang.
3 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
125 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
60 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
27 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 23 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
109 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
465 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 455 at Beidagang & 10 at Jing Qu.
150 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
210 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 210 at Beidagang, Dagang & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
470 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
At least 10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
24 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
320 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
280 adults near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 250 around the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. The majority of these were on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
60 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 40 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
50 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 35 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
60 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 50 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & two at Jingqu, Dagang.
30 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
65 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
136 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
140 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
175 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 17 near Lujuhe & 72 roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, both Tanggu & about 10 at Jingqu, Dagang.
310 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
100 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Most of these were at Caihongqiao.
40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
310 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on 10/10/2008.
45 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – 26 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & about 20 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
15 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
45 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
65 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These included 38 in Dagang with three at Jingqu and 35 at Beidagang and 27 in Tanggu with 10+ at Gaoshaling and 15+ on the pool at Lujuhe.
52 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.
110 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The majority of these (102 birds) were with the Pied Avocets on the recently impounded tank at Lujuhe, Tanggu.

2009

(25/28 2460 9863)

5 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
115 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
250 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 165 of these were in coastal Hangu with 20 on the Caihongqiao pools with the other 145 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. The other 95 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2460 adults in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (2435 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 25 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu. These internationally important numbers are the most I've ever seen in coastal Tianjin easily surpassing the previous maxima of 465 & 470 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7 & 10/10/2007 respectively. The estimated population of the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count is of between 2.5-10% of the entire flyway population!
1550 adult adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. There had been a dramatic reduction in the number of birds present since yesterday.
150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
1950 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
100 adults n coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. All bar three of these were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
1050 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
420 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
540 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
330 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
5 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
200 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
1 moulting adult summer on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
3 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
65 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
1015 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 930 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other 85 were at Beidagang, Dagang.

COMMON REDSHANK *Tringa totanus*

An uncommon bi-annual migrant. Spring records span the period early April to mid- May while the possibly larger autumn southbound passage is already well underway by mid-July & probably peaks at the end of that month when day counts of over 30 birds are not uncommon. **The last birds of the autumn are usually recorded when???**

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 7 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. All seven birds were noted at unspecified miscellaneous location(s).

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 650 but, despite comments to the contrary, coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Tianjin: 4 were seen at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 9 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 50 on the Hangu seashore on 5 September [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2001

20 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

4 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

1 juvenile at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2004

1 on a freshwater pool near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 2 4)

A very scarce, apparently early migrant, shorebird with 1 or 2 birds being noted on only three dates, all of which were between 4-7/9. 2 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Cai Jia Pu (a site about 7 kms north of the aircraft carrier & 23.8 kms north-east [46°] of Tanggu town centre) on the 4th; 1 at Beidagang on the 5th & 1 on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9/2004.

2005

(2/11 3 5)

3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

2 on the pools near Tanggu airport on the 29/8/2005.

2006

1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.

1 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

8 on the 29/8/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

6 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

24 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2007

1 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.

2 singles at Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

2 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Normally scarce in coastal Tianjin (& Hebei) today's count is one of the highest I've ever

had in the area. My previous maximum was on a very similar date & involved 20 around Tanggu on the 6 August 2007.
 7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
 3 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
 2 singles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
 6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
 6 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
 3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
 1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
 12 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
 1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
 3 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

2009

(22/28 45 324)

3 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
 6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
 7 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 7, four adults and three juveniles, in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. There were four (one adult apparently accompanied by three juveniles) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu and four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 21 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (18 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu and other singles were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu, Jingqu & Beidagang, Dagang.
 35 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 32 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 19 birds at the latter site produced three juveniles & 16 adults. This is the largest number of birds I've ever seen in a day in coastal Tianjin.
 9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 36 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 24 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 21 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other three on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 45 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 40 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – seven on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 35 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 6 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
 26 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 13 birds were aged and this produced eight adults and five juveniles.
 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
 11 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
 2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. The only bird that was seen well enough to age was a juvenile.

2010

5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
 1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

MARSH SANDPIPER *Tringa stagnatilis*

Autumn passage is already well under way by mid-July & probably commences at the start of the month or, more likely towards the end of June. It accelerates rapidly and by the end of July Marsh Sandpiper is often the commonest wader in coastal Tianjin. Peak numbers are typically recorded between mid-August and early September & there's usually an increasingly obvious, & fairly rapid, decline in the number of birds present from about the start of the last week of September & stragglers remain in the area until **when???** Numbers often fluctuate quite markedly from one day to the next. Maxima in recent autumns have included 5200 on **what date???** 2006; 3550 on the 8 Aug. 2007 & 16,500 on the 1 Sept. 2008. The first juveniles are occasionally recorded towards the end of July (earliest 22 July 2009 and 2 August 2008) but are not seen regularly until the end of August.

13,100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. This is the highest count of this, and currently of any species of wader, that I've ever made in coastal Tianjin! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000-1,000,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 13 & 1.3% of the entire flyway population!

Any leg flagged observations.

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 2425 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the eighth commonest shorebird present accounting for 4.3% of all those shorebirds identified. They counted 17 birds between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) otherwise the remaining 2408 were logged, according to the map, away from the coast in northern Hangu. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 900 individuals.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 900 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir in Tianjin on 12 April while 2082 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 22 April 2003 was the highest count of the year in the whole of China! (China Bird Report 2003)

Tianjin: Hangu seashore: 100 on 25 April [2004][LHY], 300 on 22 August [2004][LY] and 100 on 10 September [2004]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 100 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][CJZ]; an incredible 12,000 on Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][WRQ]; 505 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 200 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 169 at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY] was the highest spring report. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: At Hangu 500 on 14 April [2007][ZYo] and 1000 on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2000

75 in salt pans between Lu Ju He Xiang & Hai Bin Yu Chang, south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 4 in similar habitat north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

700 in Tanggu (with 300 at the high tide roost besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre & 400 elsewhere) on the 5/9/2001.

600 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

600 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

780 but less than 20 juveniles on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

700 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

600 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

20 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

60 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

140 on the 2/5/2004 – most on the freshwater pools near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre

100 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(20/22 5200 26888)

After Kentish Plover (57,630 bird-days) this was the second commonest shorebird at Tanggu, just exceeding Red-necked Stint (24443 bird-days). On a couple of days in early September Marsh Sandpiper was actually the commonest shorebird around the town. Numbers fluctuated quite markedly from one day to the next. Up to 1000 birds were counted on the settling tanks near the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao in the first week of September but once I'd 'discovered' the pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre this latter site is where all subsequent large counts were made such that of the 5000 birds that I estimated on the 7/9 perhaps 700 were on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks & the rest were at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Moderate four-figure counts (1000-5200 birds average = 2425 birds/day) were the norm (once I'd 'discovered' the second site) from the end of the first week of September until mid-way through the last week of that month. Although numbers continued to fluctuate quite dramatically from one day to the next throughout the period there was an increasingly obvious, & fairly rapid, decline in the number of birds present from about the start of the last week of September & a marked exodus from 1600 on the 25th to only 40 on the 26/9. By the time that I made my third visit to Tanggu (2-8 October) there were even fewer birds remaining with singles on two dates & none at all on two others! Unfortunately I aged very few birds - a sample count of 162 on the 17/9 produced only 9 (6%) first-years & 153 (94%) adults. The proportion of first-years increased rapidly after this date, but I've no statistics. Rather few birds were noted away from the two main sites - the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao & particularly the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2005

(5/11 1450 5680)

1040 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

900 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

1390 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 1036 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 55 on the pools near Tanggu airport, 30 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 265 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

1450 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 580 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county, 835 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & about 35 others on other pools north end of the Cai Hong Bridge.

2006

4650 on the 25/7/2006 - 3000 at Hangu, 1300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools, 150 at Lu Ju He, 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 150 at Gaoshaling 7150 on the 26/7/2006 - 6200 at Hangu; 880 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 50 at Jing Qi; 20 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

600 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - these included 80 at Beidagang & 500 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

2000 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

5520 on the 29/8/2006 - 1420 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 4100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

720 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Still very few birds were juvenile.

2000 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 - 1800 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 200 others between there, Lu Ju He, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu.

1515 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

2730 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 - 980 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1850 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. Most of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 - 300 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, 2000 at Gaoshaling & 1000 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

1600 at Hangu on the 7/9/2006 - 1400 on the Caihongqiao Pools & 200 more on the neighbouring mudflats.

100 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

850 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 - 830 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 120 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

2300 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 - 1920 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 80 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 300 near Jing Qu, Dagang.

10 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

1800 on the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

20 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

600 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

320 on the 30/4/2007 - 240 on salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 80 on pools at Jing Qu, Dagang.
675 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/5/2007 - 25 near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu; 420 at Beidagang, Dagang; 185 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 45 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang;
2685 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. Several juveniles were seen, but the vast majority of birds were adults.
3450 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2600 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 600 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 250 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
3550 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007. One bird (out of the 2680 counted on the first pool) had a yellow flag above the 'knee' on its right leg which had been attached in Victoria, Australia (approx. 38° 0' S, 145° 0' E) sometime since January 1990. Caihongqiao is approx. 9016 km at 339° from the marking location.
1125 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 70 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 825 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 230 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
370 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 240 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 130 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
220 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
1290 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 - 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1250 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
1020 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 - 480 at Beidagang, 410 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 130 at Jing Qu.
235 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 10 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, 25 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 200 at Beidagang, Dagang.
210 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 - 200 at Beidagang, Dagang & 10 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
30 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
'Several' were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1020 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 - 700 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 320 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
450 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 - 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 80 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 320 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
400 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
720 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
3970 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 - 740 (just 20 more than yesterday) around the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu; 580 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & the other 2650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One juvenile, my first of the autumn, was at the first site.
2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 1500 in Tanggu with 740 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 320 on the Tanggu airport pool & 420 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Counts further south in Dagang included 340 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang (38°42.85'N., 117°33.89'E.). where there was also a colour flagged bird that had black over orange. Heather on behalf of Clive Minton of the AWSG provided the following details. The bird had been flagged in Java (Indonesia) (approximate co-ordinates 7° 4'S., 114°2'E. sometime since 2007 & the resighting was a distance of approximately 5103 km, with a bearing of 4° from the marking location.
2700 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 - 350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 - 500 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2500+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
1300 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
3500 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 - 850 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
11,200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. By far the largest day count I've ever made at this site, or anywhere in China for that matter! Previous maxima have included 7150 on 26 July 2006 & 5520 on 29 August also 2006 & 5000 on 7 September 2004.
5000 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 - 4500+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 300 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
5000 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 - 500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 4500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
6000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 - ca.4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 300 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 1200 on the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe - all three sites in Tanggu. This latter site was not counted previously & these birds were likely in addition to those counted in the very high count two days ago. Further south there were 500 at Jingqu, Dagang.
4000 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 - 210 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 4000 were estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
16,500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008. 13,500 of these were on four of the largest Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 900, 1430, 2600 & 8500 birds on them respectively). In addition there were another 2500 on the recently created coastal pool at Lujuhe. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin & indeed anywhere in China! I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper, Pied Avocet & Kentish Plover in coastal Tanggu today!
160 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
500 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 - 400 at Jingqu & 100 at Beidagang.
700 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 - 40 at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang & 600 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
6000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
9500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
1150 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 - 440 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & ca.700 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 1170 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 600 at Lujuhe, both Tanggu & 150 at Jingqu, Dagang.
2000 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 - 1670 in Tanggu with 1140 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 530 on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were 300+ on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
3200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008. A marked increase on the previous three days!
380 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 - 50 in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, 30 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & about 300 at Caihongqiao itself.
1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
700 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 - these included 610 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.
1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
75 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

2009

(28/28 13,930 112,515)

780 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 750 in Tanggu with 190 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 550 at Gaoshaling.

Elsewhere there were 30 at Beidagang, Dagang.

1400 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved 365 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; ten at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 800 at Jingqu, Dagang.

235 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

2050 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 1850 of these were in coastal Hangu with 380 on the Caihongqiao pools with the other 1450 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1000 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (*ca.* 800 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 150 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu & 50 near Jingqu, Dagang.

1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (800+) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

1300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

4700 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

1200 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 350 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 850, including the first juvenile of the autumn, were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

5600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Just two juveniles were seen.

4000 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 550 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 3500 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

13,100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. This is the highest count of this, and currently of any species of wader, that I've ever made in coastal Tianjin! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000-1,000,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 13 & 1.3% of the entire flyway population!

12,000 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009. Only 400 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while all the rest (11,500+) were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

8000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

1480 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 240 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 1240 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

7600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. Three juveniles were seen today.

2040 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 11 juveniles were seen.

6550 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. 1 leg flagged bird was seen – it had a black flag over a green one on its right leg (it was photographed).

250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009. Only one juvenile was seen.

3500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

12,965 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – 5320 were on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 1665 more were on the two pools either side of Lujuhe and 5980 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

3500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

6000 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. About 750 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and more than 5000 more were in Tanggu. 4300 of the latter were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe and the bulk of the remainder were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2800 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. These included 650 on the westernmost reclamation pool, another 1140 on the third pool from the east and 840 on the pool three kilometers north of the Sino-Singapore Eco-City Service Park buildings at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

2700 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. *c.* 1000 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other *c.* 1700 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.

2010

9 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

540 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

172 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

12500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of these (12,300) birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

1400 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 1390 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while just ten were at Beidagang, Dagang.

COMMON GREENSHANK *Tringa nebularia*

Return autumn passage is early and peak numbers are often encountered in mid-July.

The Tianjin coast supports internationally important numbers on southbound migration & in winter. (what about spring?).

1750 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. The estimated population in the

entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 60,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008.

Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents 2.9% of the entire flyway population.

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 290 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.5% of all those shorebirds identified. They noted, however, that their survey probably occurred after the spring, north-bound, peak of this species.

They broke their counts down & logged 21 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 37 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 42 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 190 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 550 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during the southbound migration.

Tianjin: 1027 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 207 at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY] was the spring maximum; 70 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 20 at Tanggu on 2-3 May [2007][CW]; 200 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2000

120 in salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & a similar number in similar habitat north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

60 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

50 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

1 or 2 on all three days, the 6th, 7th & 8/11/2001, near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.

1 or 2 on all three days, the 6th, 7th & 8/11/2001, near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.

1 or 2 on all three days, the 6th, 7th & 8/11/2001, near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.

2002

80 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

50 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

20 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

2004

50 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

40 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 500 1040)

Birds were noted on all 22 days I was in the Tanggu area. Most day counts were of low double-figures (10-30 birds) & there were only two counts in excess of 50 - & both of these were in the first week of September. The two higher counts are as follows - 500 were estimated on the 4/9 - these included 120 at Cheng Tou Gu (a small coastal, fishing village 18.5kms north-north-east [31°] of Tanggu) & 350 Cai Jia Pu (another coastal fishing village about 7 kms north of the aircraft carrier & 23.8 kms north-east [46°] of Tanggu). 200 were estimated in total at several sites south of Tanggu the following day. Discounting these two high counts there was a gradual, & barely perceptible, decline in the number of Common Greenshank in the Tanggu area throughout the period 3/9-8/10/2004.

2005

Tianjin

(5/11 45 129)

45 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 - only 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 more at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & the other 41

4 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

39 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 13, 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 5 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

40 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - nearly all on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.

1 was heard over on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

30 on the 25/7/2006 - 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 20 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

85 on the 26/7/2006 - 25 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu; 35 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 10 at Jing Qu & 15 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

80 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 4 at Beidagang, 50 at Yuren Matou & 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

50 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

45 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

55 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

452 were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 31/8/2006. This is by far the largest count I've ever had in coastal Tianjin.

150 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

770 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 - 30 at Haibinyuchang & 152 at Yuren Matou both Tanggu with 590 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

6 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

712 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

1300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 - 1250 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang & 50 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.

200 on the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

120 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

1250 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

600 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 40 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools; 20 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 500 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

850 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

100 on the salt pans immediately to the north of the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

290 on the 30/4/2007 - the only large count was of 180 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

About 50 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - these included 5 at Beitang, Tanggu; 15 at Beidagang, Dagang.

45 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1425 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 65 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 10 at Lu Ju He, Tanggu & 1350 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1650 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 135 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 375 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1150 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1325 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1120 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 170 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

105 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

131 on the inter-tidal mud flats near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

670 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 - 42 at Beidagang & 630 at Jing Qu.

200 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 30 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, 140 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 30 at Beidagang, Dagang.

520 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 20 at Beidagang, Dagang & 500 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
400 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 25 at Beidagang, Dagang & the rest on the inter-tidal mud flats in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area.
Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

650 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 350 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu & 260 south of Haibin Yuchang.
180 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 165 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 5 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
31 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
56 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 3 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & another 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. Of these 265 were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
380 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
170 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 150 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
120 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Most of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
491 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
490 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 480 at Jingqu & 10 at Beidagang.
80 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 15 at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang & 20 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
110 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
150 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
250 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
720 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008. I saw no adults today – even in a deliberate search through exactly 150 birds!
100 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
650 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (*ca.*600 birds) were at Caihongqiao.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
210 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. In Tanggu one flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 25 were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe & another 10 were on the now largely dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. The majority of birds were in coastal Dagang with 250+ between Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – nearly all of these were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
50 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
50 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
190 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 160 between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang and 21 in Tanggu with five on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, 20 at Haibin Yuchang & another five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
210 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These included 190 in Dagang with 185 at Jingqu and 5 at Beidagang and 20 in Tanggu with 5 at Gaoshaling and 15 on the pool at Lujuhe.
250 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 175 in Dagang with 55 at Jingqu and 120 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 75 in Tanggu with 72 off Haibin Yuchang and three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
100 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included about 15 at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(28/28 1750 5502)

15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. The vast majority of these (10+ birds) were at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
60 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved ten at Caihongqiao, Hangu; five at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 45 at Jingqu, Dagang.
105 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
130 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. The vast majority of these, 105 birds, were at the two sites in Hangu.
1000 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (*ca.*900 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 40 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu; 20 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu & 60 at Jingqu, Dagang.
510 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (470 birds) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
70 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
1750 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 60,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents 2.9% of the entire flyway population.
30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
250 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 30 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 220 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
70 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
430 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
200 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
300 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
80 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
55 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
200 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 165 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & about another 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. The first juvenile of the autumn was also seen.
4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
10 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
1 was heard on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
1 was heard in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
120 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
40 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

110 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
10 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
1 was heard on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

GREEN SANDPIPER *Tringa ochropus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 13 at Qililai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 7 August 2003 (China Bird Report 2003)

Tianjin: 15 near Beitang during 8-9 September [2007][LJia]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.
2 at San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
1 heard over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(11/5 3 15)

1-3 birds were noted on 11 dates & records spanned virtually the entire period that I was in the Tanggu area. Most sightings were from around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks where birds were almost dependably present until the start of the fourth week in September. Elsewhere 1 or 2 birds were seen on three dates at Beidagang.

2005

(3/11 3 6)

3 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
2 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

3 on the 25/7/2006 – 2 at Hangu & 1 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools
3 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.
1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006.
1 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Small scale passage continues.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
4 (a single and a flock of three) flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
1 near the Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
1 was heard at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other at Beidagang, Dagang.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008. Presumably a transient since there was virtually no un-frozen open water.
1 on the river in central Tanggu on the 20/1/2008.
1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
5 on the 3/8/2008 – 3 over the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & two singles in Dagang – one at Jingqu & the other at Beidagang.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
12 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – one at Jingqu & 11 at Beidagang.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
14 near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
1 besides a coastal pool south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
1 near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
7 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Five of these were in Tanggu with one near Beitang Reservoir, three between Gaoshaling and the Five Dragon Hotel at Dagang and another near the Bai Er Station. The other two were at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(8/28 6 15)

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
3 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 16/7/2009 – two at Beidagang, Dagang & another over the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
1 was heard over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

WOOD SANDPIPER *Tringa glareola*

If other observers' counts are to be believed this species is significantly commoner in spring with migration spanning the period from at least mid-April until early June and with peak numbers occurring in early May.

Wood Sandpiper is one of the earliest southbound migrants - return passage is already well under way by mid-July and peaks before the end of that month, when mid-three are not infrequent and occasional low four figure day counts of up to 1400 birds not unknown. There's a steady decline through September and Wood Sandpiper is increasingly scarce during October with the latest, a single bird on 20 October 2000, being a full 10 days later than any other sighting.

1400 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 375 of these were in coastal Hangu with 155 on the Caihongqiao pools & another 220 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were 1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000-1,000,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 1.4 & 0.14% of the entire flyway population.

Reports by other people -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 295 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.5% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged just 2 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, none between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), none in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 293 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere.

Tianjin: Ten were present at Hangu seashore on 12 September [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 20 near Beitang on 27-28 April 2005 [Zyong]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 96 at Beitang Reservoir on 13-14 May [2006][LY] was the spring maximum. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: A very impressive 2000 at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ] was by far the largest count in China this year and was surely a local record and all the more remarkable considering that only 17 were seen there four days earlier [2007][PH & WQY]; 30 near Beitang on 8-9 September [2007][LJia]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

1 six kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang, south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.

2001

10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

20 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001 – these included ca. 10 at Beidagang, Dagang.

2002

10 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

2 – at least 1 juvenile at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004

20 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

15 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(21/22 24 174)

Wood Sandpipers were surprisingly uncommon around Tanggu in autumn 2004 & although birds were noted on every day except the last (8/10) I was around Tanggu more than half of the day counts were single figure ones & the maximum was a mere 24 birds. There was a noticeable decline in the number of birds throughout the period & one of the very last individuals (a bird on the 6/10/2004) had a badly broken leg. Nearly all sightings were from the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2005

(5/11 40 82)

18 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

10 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 4 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

40 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – most of these were on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.

9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

360 on the 25/7/2006 – 350 flew south over Hangu & 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools

20 on the 26/7/2006 - 15 at Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 26/7/2006.

10 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.

5 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

20 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

10 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

1 heard pre-dawn on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 1/9/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

2 singles at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

30 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

21, including a flock of 16 birds, flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

4 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

17 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 others flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

15 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

640 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 40 on & around Caihongqiao, Hangu; 120 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 480 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

180 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. Birds were equally split between Tanggu & Dagang with 90 in Tanggu (25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 55 on the Tanggu airport pool & 10 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang) & 90 in Dagang (10 at Beidagang & all the rest at Jingqu).

700 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 685 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

450 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 400+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

65 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

400 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 30 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

600 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

400 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 350+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 30 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

600 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – about 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the remainder on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

300 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.

600 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the remainder were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008. The vast majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

10 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

180 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

45 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 10 on the inter-tidal mud flats at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

2 near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

2009

(28/28 1400 8775)

85 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 65 in Tanggu with 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 35 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were 20 at Beidagang, Dagang.

45 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. The vast majority of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

1140 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 1400 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 375 of these were in coastal Hangu with 155 on the Caihongqiao pools & another 220 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were 1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000-1,000,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 1.4 & 0.14% of the entire flyway population.
 1100 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (ca.1000 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 50 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
 650 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. Birds were almost equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 600 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 500 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 450 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 140 of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 310 were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 400 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
 400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Just seven birds were aged – an this produced a surprisingly high proportion of juveniles – six with just one adult.
 80 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009. Just 18 birds were aged and 13 of these were juvenile & the other five adult.
 220 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 13 birds were aged and this produced seven adults & six juveniles.
 75 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 70 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & five at Caihongqiao, Hangu. A sample count of 26 birds yielded eight adults (31%) & 18 juveniles.
 120 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. 29 birds were aged and this produced 15 adults & 14 juveniles
 350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 89 birds were aged & this produced 23 adults (26%) & 66 juveniles.
 50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. Ten birds were aged & this produced two adults & eight juveniles.
 20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
 50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 180 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009,
 60 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. 12 birds were aged and these were all juveniles.
 25 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. All five birds that were aged were juveniles.
 20 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
 45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

2 were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
 100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
 1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

TEREK SANDPIPER *Xenus cinereus*

Autumn migration is already underway by mid-July.

Reports from other people -

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 500 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 31 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. They noted, however, that their survey probably occurred after the spring, north-bound, peak of this species. They broke their counts down & logged 7 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, none between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 17 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 7 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere.

Tianjin: Five at Hangu seashore on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004)

Tianjin: 18 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 15 near Beitang during 8-9 September [2007][LJia]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

20 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
 10 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 heard near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
 10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
 10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
 10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
 5 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.
 6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

5 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.
 3 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(12/22 10 30)

Small numbers of birds were noted on just over half of the days that I was around Tanggu 3/9-8/10 with 10 & 6 (nearly all on the inter-tidal mudflats near the northern side of the Nanjiang Da Qiao) on the 4th & 5/9 respectively being the two highest counts. After the end of the first week of September 1-4 birds were

noted less regularly though passage undoubtedly continued after I'd left the area on the 8/10/2004. Away from the Nanjiang Da Qiao mudflats birds were quite regularly encountered on the inter-tidal mud flats adjacent to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2005

(3/11 13 21)

5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

13 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 11 on the pools near Tanggu airport.

2006

5 on the 25/7/2006 - 1 flew south over Hangu & 4 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

2 on the 26/7/2006 - 1 at Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

7 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.

38 (16 on the river & 22 on the inter-tidal mudflats) at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

5 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Haibinyuchang, three at Yuren Matou & one at Jing Qu.

5 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

6 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

1 flew over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

15 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 10/4/2007 - four at Caihongqiao, five south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, two at Yuren Matou & four at Jing Qu

5 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007.

16 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

103 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 101 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

2008

5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

2 were heard over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

5 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

7 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & another calling bird flew over the Hong Fa hotel in central Tanggu at 18:40hrs.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

8 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

4 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.

4 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – two on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – one over the Lujue impound, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & two on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & two near Bai Er Station (immediately north of Jingqu), Tanggu.

2 on the mudflats just north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

2009

(23/28 29 194)

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved singles at Caihongqiao, Bai Er Station, Tanggu and Jingqu, Dagang.

9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

8 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Four of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu and a similar number on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

29 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The majority of these (21 birds) were on the pool at Lujue, Tanggu although there were also five at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & another three at Jingqu, Dagang.

10 on the complex of pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.

11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

10 on the complex of pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

11 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009, Birds were about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

20 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

20 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

15 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
10 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
4 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

COMMON SANDPIPER *Actitis hypoleucos*

Autumn migration is already underway by mid-July.

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted six individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. **They noted, however, that their survey probably occurred after the spring, north-bound, peak of this species.**

All six birds were at unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s).

Tianjin: Seven at Beidagang Reservoir on 21 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 36 at Beitang Reservoir on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 20 near Beitang during 8-9 September [2007][LJia]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

2 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.
100 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2001

8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004

1 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(9/22 4 17)

1-4 birds were noted on four dates 4/9-4/10/2004.

2005

(4/11 17 20)

1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.
1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
17 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – all of these were on the pools near Tanggu airport.
1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

2006

15 on the 25/7/2006 – 6 at Hangu, 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools, 2 at Lu Ju He, 3 at Gaoshaling
24 on the 26/7/2006 - 12 at Hangu; 8 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 4 at Jing Qu.
4 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
6 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
5 on the 29/8/2006 – 2 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 1 on Beitang Reservoir & 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools.
3 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
1 heard on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
3 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu
1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
1 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2007

2 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - 1 heard at Beitang, Tanggu; 1 at Beidagang, Dagang.
3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

2008

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
8 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
6 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
3 around the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

1 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
1 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

2009

(22/28 12 120)

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
3 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
3 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
10 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
10 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
6 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
6 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
12 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – one on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang and the other on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

2010

2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

GREY-TAILED TATTLER *Tringa brevipes*

Autumn migration is already underway by mid-July.

Reports from other people -

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 450 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Tianjin: Both records received were at Hangu seashore - ten on 22 August [LY] and five on 10 September [WQ]. (Both from China Bird Report 2004).

2001

2 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

4 adults at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.
5 – four of which were the same birds as yesterday - on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(8/22 5 18)

1-5 birds were noted on eight dates 4-24/9/2004. Birds were seen at four different sites though only single birds were encountered at two of these - Cai Jia Pu 23.8 kms north-east (46°) of Tanggu on the 4th & Lu Ju He on the 5/9. The two favourite sites were the inter-tidal mudflats adjacent to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & a small complex of freshwater pools near the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Up to 4 birds were noted on any one day at both of these latter sites.

2006

2 on the 25/7/2006 – 1 at Hangu & 1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
10 on the 26/7/2006 - 3 at Hangu; 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 1 at Jing Qu & 1 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
24 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 23 at Yuren Matou & 1 at Lu Ju He.
1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
1 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
1 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Both were juveniles.
42 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
18 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – seven at Haibinyuchang, nine at Yuren Matou & two at Jing Qu.

1 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2007

18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

37 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 22 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 was heard at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

3 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

6 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 - 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

3 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 - 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

38 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

5 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.

1 juvenile, the first that I'd seen this autumn, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

5 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 - one at Jingqu, Dagang & four on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

2009

(17/28 18 78)

1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.

1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

1 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.

5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

4 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

18 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Eight birds were seen well enough to age & all these were adults.

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.

5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 1 leg flagged bird was noted (the first flagged tattler I've ever seen in China) & it had black over white flags on its right leg.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

RUDDY TURNSTONE *Arenaria interpres*

Autumn migration probably commences in late July.

Reports from others -

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 310 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 32 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.5% of all those shorebirds identified. All 32 birds were seen in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) not in the three main survey areas.

Tianjin: Seven at Hangu seashore on 25 April [2004][LHY] and three there on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Five near Beitang on 3 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: Regular along the coast in spring & again in late July-early Sept. but the only double figure count received was 15 near Beitang on 28-29 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006)

Tianjin: 15 at Tanggu on 2-3 May [2007][CW] is probably a local record. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

1 - the same bird as yesterday on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

2 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

1 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 26/9/2004 was the only record.

2005

(2/11 4 8)

4 on pools near the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

4 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 25/7/2006.

4 on the 26/7/2006 - 2 at Hangu & 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools

1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2007

1 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/4/2007.

2 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

2008

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

4 on the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

1 besides the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

2009

(9/28 5 16)

2 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.

1 adult male, the first bird of the autumn, was on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. Incredibly it was also the first colour banded Ruddy Turnstone that I've ever seen in Tianjin and had on its right leg a yellow flag below the knee and an orange flag above its knee.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

2 adult males flew low over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

1 adult male on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

2010

1 male at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER *Limnodromus scolopaceus*

Vagrant with five records – three of them in autumn 2008 and another in early autumn 2009.

Previous record

One was superbly well photographed (where?) on 5 May 2007 by someone with the internet name ch0585 and the image can be viewed at - <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2007/20076301353877.jpg>

2008

Three different birds were noted at Caihongqiao, Hangu during the autumn & these represent the second to fourth records for Tianjin Municipality. The first bird was seen during 30 August – 2 September, a different bird was present on the 30 September and this was joined by a third individual on the 2 October.

1 winter-plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008. Probably the second record for Tianjin (one was seen, and photographed, in Tanggu sometime in 2006) it was photographed & a description taken. It was also twitched, unsuccessfully, from Beijing by Chen Liang, Wang Qin & two of their friends!

Yesterday's bird was still on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008. It was successfully twitched by five Beijing birders, including Chen Liang, today.

1 bird, now in its fourth day, was still on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

1 adult-winter on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/9/2008. This was not the same bird that was present here almost one month earlier (30 August – 2 September) – it had a much shorter bill and was more heavily barred on its flanks.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008. The two differed slightly in plumage and structure the new, the shorter-billed bird (photographed) that was seen yesterday was more heavily barred on its flanks.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009. The fifth record for Tianjin it was unfortunately only seen for about 15 seconds before being flushed by another vehicle that parked up behind us and impatiently honked his horn demanding that we move on.

ASIAN DOWITCHER *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

Uncommon spring and fairly common autumn migrant. South bound passage is already underway by early-July and probably peaks between the middle of that month & the start of August when counts of up to 1447 birds (the highest in the whole of China) have been logged.

1447 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1438 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is the largest number of birds I've ever seen in a day in coastal Tianjin and is probably the largest ever count outside of the species' Indonesian wintering grounds! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 23,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents 6% of the entire flyway population. Bo Hai Wan is well known as an important area for this species.

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 966 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the tenth commonest shorebird present accounting for 1.7% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 140 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, none between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 244 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 582 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) that according to their map were in northern Hangu. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 180 individuals. Based on the fact that the Tianjin area held exceptionally high numbers of this species compared to the rest of the Yellow Sea region, Japan & South Korea the authors speculated that Curlew Sandpiper, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Asian Dowitcher are following an inland migration route through China, with the Bohai Wan coast lying on the most easterly part of flight path.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 230 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

Tianjin: 47 at Hangu seashore on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 500 on saltpans near Caihongqiao, Hangu on 1 May [2005][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 351 at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. 17 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: Five near Beitang on 8-9 September [2007][TJL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

9 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

18 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 juveniles near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

6 adults at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

1 adult on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 40 98)

2-40 birds were noted on each of the first six days that I was at Tanggu. Birds were noted on all five days of my first visit (3-7/9) & again on the 17/9 – the very first day of my second visit. 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 7/9 were the only ones seen away from the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. Numbers at the latter site declined from 40 (32 juveniles [80%] & 8 adults [20%]) on the 3rd through 21 on the 4th, 19 (16 juveniles [84%] & 3 adults [16%]) on the 14th, 12 on the 5th to 4 on the 6/9. There were still 2 birds, an adult & a juvenile, there on the 17/9/2004.

2005

(2/11 85 122)

37 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – 4 adults on the pools & a flock of 33 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

85 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 84 birds were seen with other shorebirds, especially Black-tailed Godwits, on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Hangu county. 47 birds were aged, before the entire flock flew, and of these there were 21 adults (45%) & 26 juveniles (55%). In addition a single juvenile flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.

2006

162 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

256 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

75 at Beidagang on the 27/6/2006.

A massive 813 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. Of these only 9 (1%) were juveniles!

523 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006. A sample count of 323 birds produced 92 adults (28%) & 231 juveniles (72%).

381 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Again the majority of birds were juveniles.

Heard pre-dawn on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 1/9/2006.

370 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006. A sample count of 241 birds revealed 188 juveniles (78%) & 53 adults (22%).

95 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. A sample count of 51 birds yielded 49 juveniles (96%) & 2 adults (4%).

23 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

40 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

6 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2007

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

28 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu on the 1/5/2007.

25 birds (apparently all adults) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

322 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 317 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

14 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

29 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

2008

28 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

A very impressive 1390 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008. A sample count of 174 birds produced 158 adults (91%) & only 16 juveniles (9%). My previous highest count on the Tianjin coast was of 813 birds, also at Caihongqiao, Hangu on a very similar date - the 28 July 2006. The world population of Asian Dowitcher has recently been estimated to be only 23,000 (Wetlands International. 2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so this count at Hangu represents just over 6% of the entire old world population!

120 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 115 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

570 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

345 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 305 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

250 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
 850 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
 349 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008. A small sample count of 48 birds produced 39 juveniles & nine adults.
 53 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. 34 of these (64%) were adults, 19 juveniles.
 14 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 11 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 2 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
 28 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 27 (12 adults & 15 juveniles) on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other (a juvenile) was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
 14 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. Of these only one was an adult, the other 13 being juveniles.
 11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

2009

(19/28 1447 4246)

39 at a high tide roost at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
 3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 23 adults in Hangu on the 15/7/2009. 15 of these were on the Caihongqiao Pool and the other eight on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge.
 618 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (481 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu. Elsewhere there were also 117 at Jingqu & 17 at Beidagang (both Dagang) & three in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
 1447 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1438 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is the largest number of birds I've ever seen in a day in coastal Tianjin and is probably the largest ever count outside of the species' Indonesian wintering grounds! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 23,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents 6% of the entire flyway population. Bo Hai Wan is well known as an important area for this species.
 1000+ on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 168 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 166 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 429 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. All 429 birds were seen well enough to age and there were 426 adults & just three juveniles.
 40, including four juveniles, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
 210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Just 26 birds were aged (5 juveniles & 26 adults).
 5 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
 131 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. 15 birds were aged and this produced eight adults and seven juveniles.
 9 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with two juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & seven at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 28 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – with just 23 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & five (three adults & two juveniles) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
 2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 5, two adults and three juveniles, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
 82 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 4 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

GREAT KNOT *Calidris tenuirostris*

Reports by other people -

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 3800 but coastal Tianjin does not support quite this number during any season.

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 3610 individuals, just short of Internationally Important numbers, in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the sixth commonest shorebird present accounting for 6.3% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged none between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 384 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei. Birds 'distinctly preferred' the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei where 3226 birds were logged. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 3200 individuals.

Tianjin: 187 were seen Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 30 at Hangu on 17 September [205][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 20 near Beitang on 8 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 50 at Tanggu on 2-3 May [2007][CW]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

200 in salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

30 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

40 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

60 adults at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

140 adults on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

100 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

7 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

300 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. Two colour flagged birds were noted in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – one had a

yellow flag above its right leg, the other a black flag above its right leg.
300 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 9 10)

9 & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 7th & 18/9/2004 respectively were the only sightings.

2005

(2/11 11 16)

5 juveniles on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

11 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 5 on the near coastal pool actually at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang itself. All were juveniles.

2006

385 between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.

438 on the 26/7/2006 - 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 417 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. One bird at the latter site had a yellow flag on its right leg.

500 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 264 at Yuren Matou; 180 at Lu Ju He & 50 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

4 flew south at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

9 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All nine birds were juvenile.

45 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

7 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

206 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

257 south of Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 240 on the mudflats off Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 17 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

6 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

618 on the 30/4/2007 - 585 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 33 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

9 on the Tanggu-Dagang coastline on the 1/5/2007 - 3 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 3 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 3 on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.

27 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 19 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 8 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

18 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

299 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – these involved 244 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 55 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

25 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

370 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

70 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

435 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 10/10/2007.

2008

240 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 40 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.

15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

11 summer plumaged adults on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.

1 summer plumaged adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

4 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

13 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

73 juveniles on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

3 juveniles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

3 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

3 juveniles, probably the same birds as yesterday, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

252 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

2 juveniles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

45 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.

17 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

9 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

15 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

201 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

310 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.

291 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

200 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

113 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(8/28 58 143)

8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.

1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

58 adults on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009. Two birds with yellow flags were in this flock.

20 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.

15 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

8 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

11 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

22 adults flew low over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.

2010

266 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. Three yellow flagged birds were noted. One leg flagged bird was photographed. These birds were flagged in North-

west Australia, approx. 19°0'S., 122°0'E., sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approx. 6477 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.

RED KNOT *Calidris canutus*

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 14,277 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the commonest shorebird present accounting for 25.1% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 6160 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 146 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 7958 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & just 13 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 2000 individuals. Compared to other area in the Yellow Sea and to both South Korea & Japan the Tianjin coast held significantly higher numbers of Red Knot.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 2200 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during the northbound migration.

Tianjin: 355 on Hangu coast on 17 April [2004][LHY]; three on Hangu coast on 10 September [2004][WQ in China Bird Report 2004].

Tianjin: Five at Shanggulin to Hangu during 16-17 April [2005][LHY], 300 near Beitang on 3 May [2005][CJZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 645 at Jingqu, Dagang on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 500 at Tanggu on 2-3 May [2007][CW]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2001

20 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

150 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

40 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

40 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

40 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

3 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

2004

500 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. Two colour flagged birds were noted in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – one had a yellow flag above its right leg, the other an orange flag above its right leg.

400 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(4/22 2 6)

1 or 2 birds were noted on four dates. All records as follows - 2, including at least 1 juvenile, on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 5th with another bird there on the 7th; 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9 & 2 flew south, with a flock of 6 Marsh Sandpipers, over one of the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 29 30)

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

29 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

2006

3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 25/7/2006.

16 on the 26/7/2006 - 8 at Hangu; 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

4 at Yuren Matou on the 27/6/2006.

1 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

2 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All three were juvenile.

580 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

22 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

2007

1670 on the 30/4/2007 - 55 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 125 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu (38°43.53'N., 117°34.12'E.) – these included two leg-flagged birds (one had a white flag on its right tarsus & had been flagged in the Auckland area, North Island (NZ), approximate co-ordinates 37deg 0min S, 175deg 0min E sometime since 22 December 1991. The re-sighting was a distance of approximately 10271 km, with a bearing of 319 degrees, from the marking location. The second Red Knot had an orange flag on its right tarsus & had been flagged in Victoria (Australia), approximate co-ordinates 38deg 0min S, 145deg 0min E sometime since January 1990. This resighting was a distance of approximately 8982 km, with a bearing of 339 degrees from the marking location.). There were also 1490 Red Knot at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1535 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 - 1450 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu, Dagang. These including three colour flagged birds - one with a yellow flag on its right tibia, the other two had single orange flags on their right tibia; 85 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu. The orange leg flagged birds were flagged in Victoria (Australia), approximate co-ordinates 38deg 0min S, 145deg 0min E sometime since January 1990. The resighting was a distance of approximately 8977 km, with a bearing of 339 degrees, from the marking location. The yellow leg flagged bird was flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6430 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.

4 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 more on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

24 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 4 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

135 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

95 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 10/10/2007.

2008

90 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 85 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 5 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
95 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
3 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
48 summer plumaged adults on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
3 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
1600 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
592 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 14 juveniles at Jingqu, Dagang & 578 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
14 (13 juveniles & one adult) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
11, 10 juveniles & one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
9 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
47 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(12/28 1320 1441)

1320 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009. Among this roosting flock was a single bird with a black over white flag. It had been banded at Chongming Dao, Shanghai (31°27' N, 121°55' E.) sometime since April 2006 & the resighting was a distance of approximately 902 km, with a bearing of 335°, from the marking location.
1 adult on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
3 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
3 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two more on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
45 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
4 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
30 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
5 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
8 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
3 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
17 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

17 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. One orange flagged bird was noted & this bird was originally flagged in Victoria (Australia), approx. 38°0'S., 145°0'E., sometime since January 1990. The resighting was a distance of approx. 9015 km, with a bearing of 339 degrees, from the marking location.
1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

SANDERLING *Calidris alba*

Small numbers (typically low single figures) are dependably present in late April-early May. Much more common in autumn Sanderling is one of the latest shorebirds during autumn migration. The first birds of the autumn (adults) reappear at the start of August and low, single figure counts are the rule from then until late September when a period of more intense passage commences. There's a peak in mid-to late October during which period high double & occasionally low triple figure counts have been made. Adults dominate early passage with the first juveniles not being recorded until the start of September.

Williams (2000) noted that there had been a significant decline in the number of birds passing Beidaihe, Hebei during both migration seasons since Hemmingsen's assessments during 1942-1945 and its likely that a similar decline has occurred in coastal Tianjin.

Birds can be widely encountered but two of the three highest counts have come from non-tidal sites where the species is easily overlooked.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 220 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 2 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. Both birds were in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern border with Hebei.

Tianjin: Three at Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: One at Hangu on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: Three at Tanggu on 2-3 May [2007][CW]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

100 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. These included 10 on coastal mudflats 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Gang Gong Lu coast road but the highest concentration was in the coastal salt pans between 2 & 8 kms south of the city, where parties of 44, 27 & 10 were logged.

2001

4 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
4 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.
4 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2004

1 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(4/22 2 5)

1 or 2 birds were noted on four dates. All sightings were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & were as follows - 1 juvenile on the 7th, 2 separate juveniles on the 18/9, a moulting adult on the 3rd & a winter plumaged adult on the 4/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 2 3)

2 on the pool near Tanggu airport on the 29/8/2005.

1 moulting adult on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.

2006

4 (one adult & three juveniles) on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first birds of the autumn.

2 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.

3 juveniles on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

2 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu on the 1/5/2007.

1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

2008

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.

1 moulting adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.

2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

9 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008. Other than 100 birds here on the 20 October 2000 I have no other local count in excess of six birds! The three figure count is probably exceptional in recent years.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

17 juveniles in coastal Tanggu on the 28/9/2008 – 16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one on the pool at Lujuhe.

13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

12 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

83 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. 82 of these were in Tanggu with three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 79 were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe. Further south there was one on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.

43 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(6/28 30 44)

30 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 29 at Gaoshaling.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.

1 summer plumaged adult on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

1 adult on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

5, including three juveniles, on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

5 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

WESTERN SANDPIPER *Calidris mauri*

Vagrant.

2008

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008. First seen at about 07:45hrs it was watched for only about one minute before all the birds on the pool took flight. It wasn't seen again but I managed to obtain a couple of poor photographs & some brief field notes. The first record for Tianjin & only the second or third for the whole of mainland China!

SPOON-BILLED SANDPIPER *Calidris pygmaeus*

Rare passage migrant.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 40 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

2004 - autumn

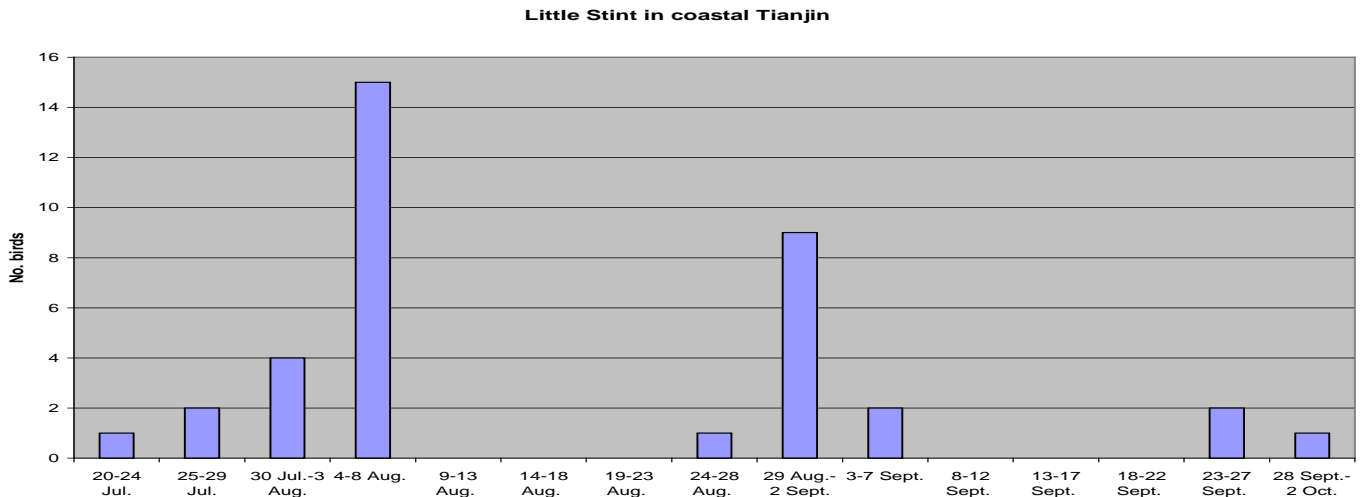
(2/22 1 2)

Two different birds were noted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks – an adult-winter with about 4000 other shorebirds on one of the largest pools (the pool where all the Sharp-tailed Sandpipers & Pied Avocets were & where the largest numbers of Dunlin & Kentish Plovers were counted) on the 7/9. It was not considered to be even loosely accompanying any of the thousands of Red-necked Stints that were noted nearby. Seen at about 70 metres distance it was remarkably obvious & could be readily re-found after every time the shorebird flock took flight. Entirely grey with darker upper rear ear-coverts & a rectangular paler post-ocular supercilium (a plumage not shared by any of the Red-necked Stints that I'd seen over the

previous few days) the bird's distinctive spatulate bill was by far its most obvious feature. It spent much of its time preening almost belly deep in the water. The second bird, a juvenile moulting to first-winter, was actively feeding in association with the main Red-necked Stint flock on the primary shorebird tank on the 5/10/2004. Watched for about 10 minutes it could not be re-found once the flock had been momentarily 'spooked' & taken flight. Like the adult it was remarkably obvious & since it couldn't be re-found I thought that it had most probably moved on. (Both birds were photographed).

LITTLE STINT *Calidris minuta*

Up until the end of 2008 I've had 126 bird-days of Little Stint in coastal Tianjin with 89 of these on just six spring dates (1-3 May) and the remaining 37 between 21 July-1 October in autumn.



Tianjin: Five at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2002

1 adult summer – photographed by Richard Patient - on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

3 adult-summers on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002. Yesterday's bird was still present along with two others. Richard Patient also managed to digiscope one of these new birds.

2004

3 with about 28 Red-necked Stints on a brackish coastal pool about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. (All three birds were photographed). An uncommon spring & mid-autumn passage migrant in the Hebei/Tianjin coastal strip. (This species is no longer a rarity in eastern China – I've personally seen about 17 Little Stints in Hebei since my first, at Beidaihe in May 1989).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

An adult moulting out of summer plumage, was seen on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on both the 23rd & 24/9/2004. It was digiscope & I have three poor images of the bird.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 adult-summer was seen & photographed on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

2006

1 adult summer at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

1 summer plumaged adult at Hangu on the 26/7/2006. A different bird to that seen yesterday.

There are at least 19 records of Little Stint from neighbouring Hebei province (all except one are in the period late April to late May, the exception is a worn-adult summer plumaged bird reported by Gerd Rotzoll 25 Aug. 1999 [Rotzoll Trip Report: Beidaihe (P.R. China), August 22 - September 3, 1999]. Almost all of the Hebei records are, like that of Rotzoll, from Beidaihe. I've personally seen 15 different spring Little Stints in Hebei (all were seen by good numbers of other observers & about six of them were photographed). I've also seen six birds previously at Tanggu – up to three in late August 2002 (one on the 30th & three on the 31st – two of which were digiscoped by Richard Patient). I saw three more adults near Tanggu on the 2nd May 2004 (all three of which were digiscoped).

2007

22 at Dagang on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beidagang, Dagang; 21 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang (38°39.88'N., 117°32.63'E.). An impressive count & undoubtedly the highest ever count in eastern China – indeed anywhere in China outside of Xinjiang! I took identifiable photos of at least seven different birds. Amazingly there were only 187 Red-necked Stints on this same pool!

1 adult summer on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.

2 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007. The closer of the two birds was photographed.

2008

A remarkable 30 birds were seen in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – one on the Caihongqiao pool, Hangu (photo) & the remaining 29 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu. 12 of the latter were also photographed. Significantly the only other large count in coastal Tianjin occurred on this very same date – 1/5/2007 when 22 birds were logged in coastal Dagang.

11 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 5 on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang (one was identifiably photographed) & 6 others on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu (there were seven birds on this same pool the previous day).

23 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008. 20 on the small, southern pool with 325 Red-necked Stints & the other three were on the larger, northern pool with 415 Red-necks. Birds on the latter pool were significantly more distant & its likely that several more Little Stints were missed.

- 2 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008. One of them was photographed.
- 1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
- 1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008. It was photographed.
- 2 single summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
- 9 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008. This is easily my highest ever autumn day count in China away from Xinjiang! Five different birds were photographed.
- 1 summer plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. This was the thirteenth bird that I'd seen in coastal Tianjin during my current visit (1-6 August) &, like nine of the others, it was also photographed.
- 1 moulting summer plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008. (Photo).
- 1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008. Photographed & a description taken. This very well marked bird was the first juvenile I'd seen in Tianjin and is probably the first sighting of this age anywhere in eastern China.
- 2 separate summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008. One of them was photographed.
- 2 separate summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008. At least one of these was different to those seen yesterday making at least five different individuals in the area during my second autumn visit to Tanggu. I've now seen at least 18 birds during the autumn as a whole & my 53 in coastal Tianjin so far this year! [I saw 13 different birds on my previous autumn visit (1-6 August) & at least 35 during my spring visit (1-3 May)].
- 2 moulting adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. The first bird was seen by four other observers while I managed to photograph the second.
- 1 moulting adult summer on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008. (Photographed).

2009

(16/28 15 83)

- 15 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six at Gaoshaling.
- 12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
- 3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. Two of them were photographed.
- 2 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
- 2 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
- 3 separate summer plumaged adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
- 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
- 8 summer plumaged adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. There were four widely separate birds around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four others on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Two of the four birds at each site were photographed (poorly). It seems that Little Stints are almost dependably present in coastal Tianjin in early May & again from mid-July until mid-August. It would be interesting to see if the proportions of Red-necked & Little Stints varies during the year – I think that there are relatively more Little Stints in early May & in late July with the proportions declining as Red-necks reach their spring and autumn peaks.
- 6 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
- 10 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – six on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four others on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Two of the birds at the first site were photographed & these are the ninth & tenth individuals that I've photographed this autumn.
- 8 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 – four of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other four were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
- 1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. (Photo - this was the 13th Little Stint I've photographed at Tanggu so far this autumn).
- 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
- 4 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – one on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. One of the three birds at the latter site was photographed.
- 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
- 1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

2010

- 19 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
- 18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

The Hebei records that I am aware of are include -

- 1988:** 1 was seen by Killian Mullarney & Dan Zetterström sometime in May.
- 1989:** 1 on the Henghe res. fishponds 28/4-2/5 found & identified by P.I. Holt & subsequently seen by Andy Marshall, Alan Dean & Paul Hyde et al. Rob Innes & Mike Crosby also saw another Little Stint on the Henghe res. on the 6/5 – this was thought to have probably been a second bird.
- 1994:** Singles on the Sandflats at Beidaihe on the 5th & 18/5 (both P. I. Holt, Martin Williams/Sunbird et al.) & a third bird at the Dapuhe on the 18/5/1994. (John Wright, Martin Williams/Sunbird et al.)
- 1997:** 1 adult summer with Red-necked Stints besides the 'saltpans hotel' near Leting on the 13/5/1997. (P. I. Holt/Sunbird et al.). The eighth or ninth regional record (five of the previous records have also been found by the same observer suggesting that this species is more regular than currently thought).
- 1999:** 1 on the Sandflats, Beidaihe on the 25 Aug. 1999 (Gerd Rotzoll). [Rotzoll Trip Report: Beidaihe (P.R. China), August 22 - September 3, 1999].
- 2001:** 1 at the Yanghe, Beidaihe on the 20/5/2001. (P. I. Holt/Sunbird et al.).
- 2002:** In the best spring ever at Beidaihe for this species there were three records & four birds - 1 was on the Sandflats on the 8/5 ; 1 at the Yanghe on the 9/5 with 2 there on the 19/5/2002 (all P. I. Holt, James Lidster/Sunbird et al.). Three of these four birds were photographed by either James Lidster or Matthew Deans. Perhaps the 13th - 16th regional records.
- 2004:** 2, with a party of about 10 Red-necked Stints, on the Sandflats at Beidaihe on the 9/5. (P. I. Holt/Sunbird et al.). One of these two birds was photographed by PIH & later by Pete Coe. 1, with a large party of Red-necked Stints, close to Baliqiao near Lao Yu Jian on the 10/5/2004. (P. I. Holt/Sunbird et al.). These were perhaps the 17th - 19th records for Hebei.

RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis*

An abundant spring and autumn migrant through coastal Tianjin. The area regularly supports in excess of 1% of the estimated 315,000 Red-necked Stints that use the East Asian-Australasian Flyway (Barter 2002) during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

Spring migration through coastal Tianjin probably starts in the second week of April and peaks in mid- to late May with four figure counts not being unusual until the end of the third week of May. Stragglers continue to pass through until at least the start of June

The heavier southbound migration is already well under way by mid-July & possibly commences at the start of that month (or even earlier?). Numbers vary hugely from year to year no doubt depending partly on the conditions of the available habitat and partly on breeding success and the proportions of adults and juveniles moving. It appears that adult Red-necked Stints typically reach a peak in coastal Tianjin in the last few days of July & the first half of August and that the first juveniles usually appear right at the start of August. There's then an accelerating change in the proportions of juveniles to adults with the exact timetable apparently being determined, to a large extent, by breeding success in the Arctic. In years of poor breeding success the adults migrate south earlier than usual and there are relatively few juveniles to follow them. In autumn 2004 (a year with particularly successful breeding and a large number of juveniles) [can I cite someone here](#) adults predominated until sometime between the 7-17 September (I was absent from the area during that period). In autumn 2006, a year of poor breeding success, there were relatively few adults present during the later period & juveniles were already dominant by 4 September while a count on this same date in 2004 still yielded 98% adults! Hence in autumn 2006 this switch from mostly adults to mostly juveniles took place earlier (perhaps by as much as two weeks) than it did in 2004. In autumn 2006 this switch from predominantly adults to predominantly juveniles occurred very abruptly (sometime between 30 August & 4 September).

13,075 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. The increase continues. Its likely that there were over 22,500 Red-necked Stints in coastal Tanggu during this period – I counted 9400 yesterday on the Tianjin Industrial Park Pools. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 325,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 6.9% of the entire flyway & world population. According to this same publication the highest counts elsewhere in China have been 10,073 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 28 April 2001, 7570 at Jiaozhouwan, Shandong on the 4 May 2004, 4285 in North-west of Bo Hai Wan on 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date and possibly a typo) & 3380 at Xuwei Saltworks, Jiangsu on 1 May 2004.

In recent years its unfortunate that I have been absent from the region during the middle of August when the peak passage probably occurs (all four of my 2006 four-figure counts are from the period 29 August to 4 September with the maximum of 2250 birds being on the first date when I discovered the flock). Adults still formed the vast majority of birds at this time (four counts between 29 August & 4 September have yielded between 94-99% adults [n = 2379]). The last birds of the autumn are normally recorded around mid-October but passage occasionally continues until the last week of that month (and probably later) with 75 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 21 October [what year????] being a large flock for this late in the season. More birds move through coastal Tianjin during the southbound, autumn migration and there was a particularly strong passage in 2008 when high counts included [\[redacted\]](#). During both migration seasons Red-necked Stints are only occasionally found on the inter-tidal mudflats and typically frequent inland, non-tidal, wetlands such as salt pans, fish ponds, reclamation pools and temporarily drained reservoirs. The species can be easily overlooked because of this preference.

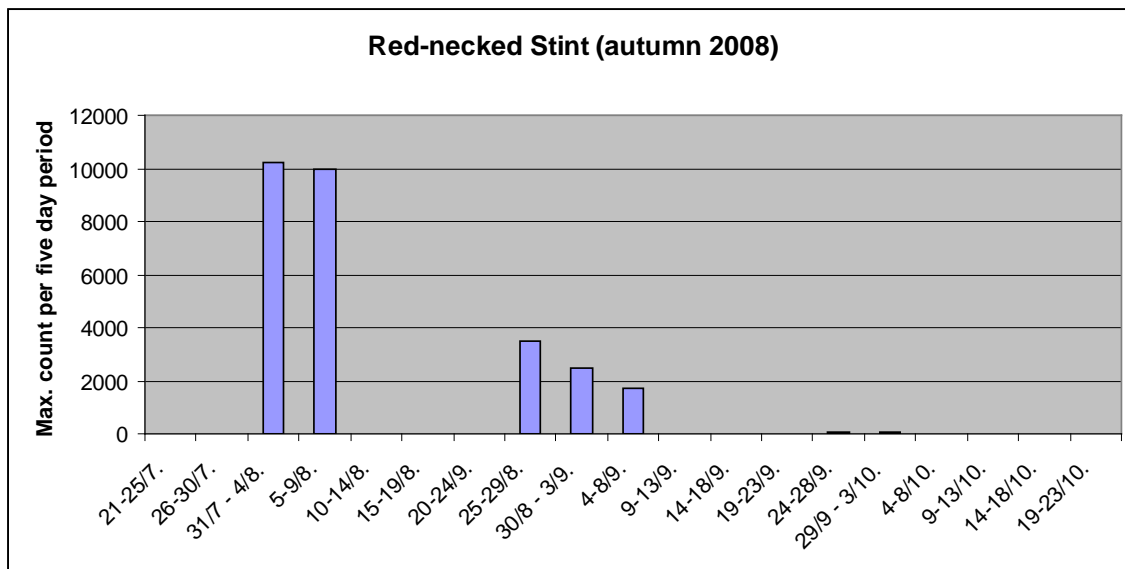
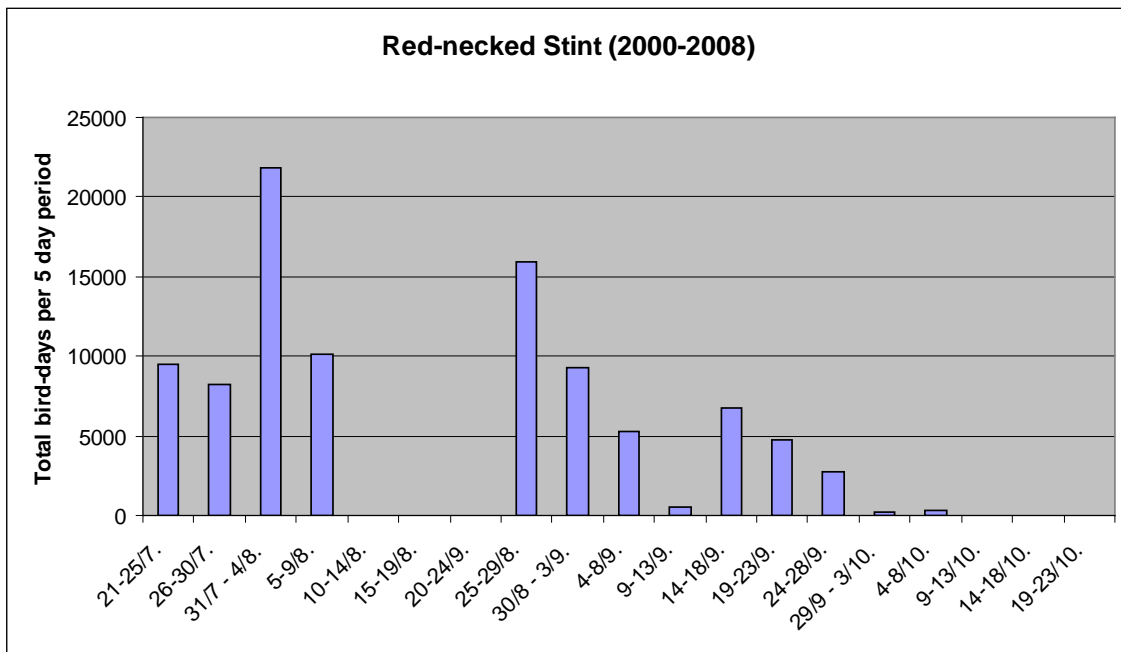
In autumn 2006 southbound passage of Red-necked Stints was apparently already on the decline when I started my observations on 25 July. I estimated 4000 birds that day, counted 3760 the following day & estimated 3000 on the 27 July. I then left the area returning again on 29 August when numbers had nearly halved - with 2500 Red-necked Stints being logged on both the 29th & 30 August.

Red-necked Stint is my most commonly encountered leg-flagged shorebird on the Tianjin coast &, up to and including autumn 2008, it accounted for 325 (86%) of my 379 sightings of colour banded shorebirds in the area. Almost all of these leg-flagged birds were banded in Australia. 256 birds (79%) had orange flags and were from Victoria. Just one of these sightings was in spring (2 May 2004) with all the others coming from between 21 July-18 September. There was a pronounced peak in the number of orange leg-flagged birds seen during the first week of August during which seven-day period a total of 96 orange-flagged birds were seen.

56 yellow flagged birds (17% of the total number of leg flagged Red-necked Stints seen) were noted with just two in spring (1 & 2 May) and the remaining 54 in autumn between 21 July-7 September. These birds, from Northwest Australia, possibly peak slightly later in autumn than birds from Victoria.

Five birds with orange-over-yellow (from South Australia) flags have been noted with sightings on 4, 5, 28 & 29 August & 23 September.

Three birds with yellow-over-orange (from Southwest Australia) flags have been noted with sightings on 3 & 30 August & 7 September).



Reports from others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 4285 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the fifth commonest shorebird present accounting for 7.5% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 698 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 2188 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), none in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 1399 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere. Three leg-flagged birds were seen amongst many thousands of shorebirds scanned for flags. They comprised one Red-necked Stint from north-western Australia and two Curlew Sandpipers from south-eastern Australia.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 3150 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

Tianjin: 10 near Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on 27-28 April [2005][Zyong]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 1004 at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. 180 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2000

1 on a coastal mud bank with other shorebirds, including a solitary Red-necked Stint, about 1.5 kms south of the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road, immediately south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

435 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
200 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1000 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

5200 birds at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.. 719 birds were aged, 648 (90%) were adult & 71 (10%) juvenile. 9 adults carried leg-flags. 6 had orange flags above the knee on their right legs. 2 had yellow flags above the knee on their right legs. 1 had an orange flag above & a yellow flag below the knee on its right leg.

Not counted – but several thousand birds were present on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002. 6 adult birds bore colour flags. 3 had orange flags above their right 'knee'. 3 had yellow flags above their right 'knee'.

About 4000 birds were present on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.. 4 adults birds bore colour flags. 3 had orange flags above their right 'knee'. 1 had yellow flag above their right 'knee'.

600 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

100 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

140 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004 – a surprisingly high number for this early in May! At Beidaihe, Hebei day counts of Red-necked Stints probably don't start to approach three-figures until near the peak migration – towards the end of the third week of May onwards (until the end of the first-week of June?).

103 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004 – all on the inter-tidal mudflats near the river culvert close to Tanggu airport.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 4500 24443)

Third only to Kentish Plover & Marsh Sandpiper in terms of the number of bird-days, Red-necked Stint was an abundant autumn migrant at Tanggu. Numbers declined throughout the period I was there (3/9-8/10) & its thought that the actual number of birds present in the area peaked sometime in August & even before I made my first visit to the area. Nevertheless there were still huge numbers present on the coastal impounds right through until the end of September. During my first visit to Tanggu (between the 3rd & 7th of September) Red-necked Stint was easily the commonest shorebird & this was especially true once I'd 'discovered' the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 6/9. During this period day counts ranged from 800-4500 birds & averaged 2260 birds/day.

The number of birds present in the area dropped off only slightly during the rest of that month but quite dramatically after the end of September. Low three-figure counts (consistently in the range of 150-182 birds) were made on the first five days of my last visit – the 2-6/10. After that numbers declined even further with 88 on the 7th & only five birds on the 8/10/2004. No-doubt part of the decline was hastened by the fact that the species' favourite pool was being rapidly drained & was undoubtedly less attractive to this & other shorebirds towards the end of my stay.

A reasonable number of leg-flagged adults were noted -

3/9/2004: 8 – 5 orange, 3 yellow.

4/9/2004. 12 – 6 orange, 6 yellow.

5/9/2004. 6 – 4 orange, 2 yellow.

6/9/2004. 8 – 6 red, 2 yellow.

7/9/2004. 18 – 13 had orange, 4 had yellow & 1 bird had a yellow over orange.

18/9/2004. 2 orange.

23/9/2004. 1 with orange over yellow. This bird had apparently been banded in the south east of South Australia (approx. 38° 0.0'S 140° 0.0'E) sometime in April 1999. The re-sighting was a distance of approximately 8857 kms with a bearing of 343° from the marking location.

The birds with orange leg flags were flagged in Victoria (Australia) (approx. 38° 58'S 117° 44'E) sometime since January 1990. The re-sightings were at a distance of approximately 9002 kms with a bearing of 339° from the marking location.

The birds with yellow leg flags were flagged in North-west Australia (approx. 19° 0.0'S 122° 0.0'E) sometime since August 1992. The re-sightings were at a distance of approximately 6462 kms with a bearing of 356° from the marking location.

Even assuming that there was maximum duplication this gives a minimum of 20 colour flagged birds (13 orange, 6 yellow & 1 yellow over orange) during my first visit (3-7/9/2004) & far fewer, just 3 different birds (2 orange & 1 orange over yellow) on the first few days of my second visit (the 18th & 23/9/2004 respectively).

A large number of birds were aged – adults were massively dominant in early September with juveniles accounting for only 1 or 2% of the birds aged on the first two days I was present at Tanggu – the 3rd & 4/9. The number & proportion of juveniles was already noticeably on the increase by the end of the first week of September (& the end of my first visit to Tanggu). By the time I returned on the 17/9 there had been a complete reversal in the proportions of adults & juveniles present - & during the five attempts that I made to age a large number of birds in the period 17-25/9 I noted that between 88-99% of the birds were now juveniles. Even fewer adults remained in the area in early October – up to 2 adult birds were noted on each day & one particular bird, an adult with a missing foot, was present daily from the 3-6/10/2004 & accounted for 4 of the 7 bird-days of adults in the first week of that month!

Table 1: Age ratios of Red-necked Stints at 2004 - autumn in September – October 2004.

	Total	% 1 st year	% adult	Number aged
3 Sept. '04	3000	1%	99%	2000+
4 Sept. '04	2000	2%	98%	1108
5 Sept. '04	1000	7%	93%	543
6 Sept. '04	800	7%	93%	1121
7 Sept. '04	4500	10%	90%	1056
17 Sept. '04	1800	93%	7%	3253
18 Sept. '04	2500	88%	12%	455
21 Sept. '04	1000	98%	2%	494
23 Sept. '04	2000	99%	1%	450
25 Sept. '04	1000	99%	1%	151
2 Oct. '04	170	99%	1%	170
6 Oct. '04	171	99%	1%	171

Note the marked reversal in the proportions of juveniles & adults present sometime in mid-September.

2005

(5/11 5950 20714)

1490 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005. 18 colour-flagged birds were noted – 12 had orange flags, 6 yellow. 5950 birds were counted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005. A sample count of 796 birds gave 788 adults (99%) 9& 8 juveniles (1%). I saw 25 colour flagged birds today – the most I've ever seen on a single day at this site. 18 birds had orange leg flags, six had yellow & a single bird had orange over yellow.

Ca.5000 birds were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Only a few birds were seen away from here. Only 9 colour flagged birds were seen – 7 orange & 2 yellow.

4600 birds were estimated during the 30/8/2005 – virtually all of these were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. A sample count of 474 birds gave 446 adults (94%) & 28 juveniles (6%). I saw 12 colour flagged birds today - 10 birds had orange leg flags, one had a yellow & another yellow over orange.

3200 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005. I saw 8 colour flagged birds today - all had orange leg flags.

2006

4000 on the 25/7/2006 – 3000 at Hangu & 1000 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools. 12 leg-flagged birds were noted. 5 birds at Hangu had orange leg flags & 7 birds on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools had leg flags (four had orange, one yellow & a single bird had black over white).

3760 on the 26/7/2006 - 3550 at Hangu; 150 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 20 at Jing Qu & 50 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Six leg-flagged birds were noted at Hangu – five with orange & 1 with a yellow flag.

3000 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 80 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3000 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools. One bird at the latter site had an orange leg flag.

1500 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. 7 leg flagged birds were seen – 6 had orange & one had yellow over orange. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

2500 on the 29/8/2006 – 250 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2250 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools. A sample count of 216 birds at the second site produced 15 juveniles (7%) & 201 adults (93%). Seven leg flagged birds were noted in a flock of 1200 that were close enough to see well at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools – six of these had orange flags while the seventh bird had a yellow flag on its right leg & a green one on its left.

2500 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006. A sample count of 415 birds at the produced 18 juveniles (4%) & 397 adults (96%). Three birds with orange leg flagged were noted among these 415 birds.

450 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

450 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

500 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 450 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. A sample count of 108 birds yielded 67 juveniles (62%) & 41 adults (38%). This was the first time this autumn that juveniles had out-numbers adults. Two yellow leg flagged birds were noted on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

1000 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. A sample count of 178 birds yielded 148 juveniles (83%) & 30 adults (17%).

300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 20 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang & 280 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

150 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006. A sample count of 43 birds produced 37 juveniles (86%) & 6 adults (14%).

800 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006. A sample count of 421 birds produced 372 juveniles (88%) & 49 adults (12%). One orange leg flagged bird was seen.

100 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 60 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

71 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

35 on the 30/4/2007 – these included 12 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & another 12 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

213 on the Dagang coast on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beidagang, Dagang; 187, including one with a yellow leg flag on its right tibia, on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang (38°39.88'N., 117°32.63'E.); 5 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 20 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu. The Jing Qu leg flagged bird was flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E sometime since August 1992. The resighting was a distance of approximately 6430 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location.

913 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. 13 of them carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs which had been attached in Victoria, Australia (approx. 38° 0' S, 145° 0' E) sometime since January 1990. Caihongqiao is approx. 9016 km at 339° from the marking location

1725 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 920 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 765 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang. 18 out of 585 birds seen well were noted at the Caihongqiao Pools carried colour flagged birds - 16 carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs while the other two bore a yellow flag in the same place. The yellow leg flagged birds had been banded in North-west Australia (approx. 19° 0' S, 122° 0' E) sometime since August 1992. Caihongqiao is approx. 6477 km at 356° from the marking location.

870 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007. 10 birds carried orange leg flags above the knee of their right legs.

810 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007. Of the 630 birds seen well 9 leg flagged individuals were noted – seven had orange flags above their right 'knees' while two had yellow flags in the same place.

5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.

6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

23 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

3 juveniles on a pool on the edge of Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

1650 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 1635 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu. The vast majority of the latter (1350 birds) were too distant & not seen well enough to eliminate Little Stint!

1550 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 120 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 112 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 1320 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One of the 112 birds on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.) had an orange leg flag on its right leg.

740 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 280 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 700+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Six orange colour flagged birds were noted – four on the Caihongqiao Pools & the other two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

A massive 10,250 birds were counted near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 280 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 20 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 9950 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. The vast majority of birds at the latter site were on just three of the settling tanks with 6450 on the largest tank, 2550 on the next largest & 700 on another. My previous high counts in coastal Tianjin were both almost four weeks later in late August & involved 5200 on the 29 August 2002 & 5950 on the 28 August 2005. The world population of Red-necked Stint has recently been estimated at 315,000 birds (Wetlands International. 2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so today's count represents just over 3% of the entire world population! 23 colour flagged birds were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu – one yellow & 22 orange.

600 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 320 at Jingqu, Dagang & 250 on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools Five colour-

flagged birds were logged – one with a yellow leg flag & another with an orange flag on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.); 3 leg-flagged birds (one orange, one yellow & the third had a yellow flag above its knee & an orange flag below) were on a coastal pool at Jingqu (38°42.9'N., 117°33.9'E.).

10,000 were estimated on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008! Nine colour flagged birds were noted – seven orange, one yellow & one orange over yellow.

10,000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008. 15 colour-flagged were noted – 13 orange, one yellow & one orange above the knee & yellow below. Still no juveniles had been seen.

250 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008. Several juveniles were seen as were two orange flagged birds.

3500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. A sample count of 651 birds yielded 583 adults (90%) & 68 (10%) juveniles. 13 leg-flagged birds were seen & they all bore orange flags.

2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008. A sample count of 467 birds yielded 457 (98%) adults & just ten juveniles (2%) – a markedly different proportion to yesterday! Three leg-flagged birds were logged – two orange & one undetermined/ distant & possibly covered in mud.

2500 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & all the others on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Five colour-flagged birds were seen (four orange & one yellow) at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang. Four leg flagged birds were logged – two orange in a party of 200 birds on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one orange, one yellow in a flock of 120 birds at Jingqu, Dagang.

2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008. Four colour flagged birds were noted – three orange & one black. A very small number (69) of birds were aged & of these 32 (46%) were adults & 37 (54%) juveniles.

400 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – these were almost equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the Lujuhe impound. A sample count of just 114 birds at the latter site yielded 15 adults (13%) & 99 juveniles (87%).

3 (two juveniles & one adult) on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

22 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – four juveniles at Jingqu, Dagang & 18 birds (nine adults & an equal number of juveniles) in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu. 41% of today's birds were adults.

1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008. 480 birds were aged & of these 184 were adult (38%) & 296 juvenile. One orange leg flagged bird was among these 480 birds.

1700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. 1031 birds were aged & 226 of these were adults (22%), the remaining 805 being juveniles. Two orange leg flagged birds were seen.

350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. 115 birds were aged and only three of these (3%) were adults! Among the un-aged bulk a single orange flagged bird was seen.

95 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 85 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. All these were aged & only 10% of these (10 birds) were adults.

15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

41 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

18 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

5 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008. One full summer plumaged adult was among these.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

8, including one apparent full summer plumaged adult,

6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(28/28 19400 106237)

547 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 536 in Tanggu with 393 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 143 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were 11 at Beidagang, Dagang.

220 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved 148 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; ca.200 on the pool near Lujuhe & 15 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 44 at Jingqu, Dagang

510 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. Five leg flagged birds were seen – three with orange, two with yellow.

600 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. At least 50 of these were in coastal Hangu with 28 on & around the Caihongqiao pools & another 20+ on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 550 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Six orange leg flagged birds were seen – one with 27 other Red-necks on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other five with 545 other Red-necks on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

20 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.

290 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 245 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 45 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. One with an orange flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

980 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009. Seven leg flagged birds were seen today – six orange & one yellow.

940 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. Four birds with orange leg flags were noted.

1595 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009. Three orange leg flagged birds were seen.

4360 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 4150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. 13 leg flagged birds were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools today – nine with orange flags, two with yellow and two others that had a yellow over a dark (colour undetermined) on their right legs. A single winter plumaged bird, only my second of this autumn, was seen today. Such presumed non-breeding first summers are rare here in autumn (rarer than Little Stint and occur in a proportion of <0.05% i.e. 1:2000).

800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009. One bird with an orange leg flag was seen.

850 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. 6 orange leg flagged birds were noted.

9700 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 9000 were estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 700 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. 35 colour flagged birds were noted today & other than two orange flagged birds on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, all the rest were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Here there were 26 orange flagged birds, two yellow & two with orange over yellow flags.

1850 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Seven orange flagged birds were seen.

19,400 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 9400 counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 10,000 estimated on the pools between Lujuhe

& Haibin Yuchang. A staggering 55 leg-flagged birds were noted with 31 orange & one yellow on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 20 orange & three yellow on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

13,075 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. The increase continues. 12 leg-flagged birds were noted - 11 orange & 1 yellow.

12, 090 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 11,990 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. 28 colour flagged birds were noted at the first site – 24 orange, two yellow & two orange over yellow. Its likely that there are over 25,000 Red-necked Stints in coastal Tanggu at the moment – I counted 13,075 yesterday on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 325,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 7.7% of the entire flyway & world population. According to this same publication the highest counts elsewhere in China have been 10,073 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 28 April 2001, 7570 at Jiazhouwan, Shandong on the 4 May 2004, 4285 in North-west of Bo Hai Wan on 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date) & 3380 at Xuwei Saltworks, Jiangsu on 1 May 2004.

7000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 2000 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. 23 leg-flagged birds were noted – these involved 20 orange with four on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 1 yellow on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; one with a dark (black, dark green or dark blue) flag over a white flag also on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 1 with an orange flag on its tarsus & a yellow flag on its tibia (both on its right leg) also on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

11,360 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 50 colour flagged birds were noted today – 44 orange; three yellow; 1 'dark' over yellow; one yellow over blue & one with an orange flag on its tarsus & a yellow flag on its tibia – both on the right leg.

8150 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. 24 flagged birds were seen – 23 orange & one yellow.

40 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

5500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009. Most birds were too distant or in too much heat haze to check for leg flags & just two flagged birds were seen – one yellow and the other with a yellow flag on its left lower tibia (the latter an unusual location for a flag).

800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009. Just one adult was noticed.

3200 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009 – 2250 of these were on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 300 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 650 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. Just one adult was seen – the same bird that I've seen for the last three days now.

100 juveniles in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

720 juveniles on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

840 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 830 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while the other 10 were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. Just three adults were seen.

2010

87 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

126 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

12,000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010. All but about 50 of these birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Eight leg flagged birds were noted – three had orange flags, two yellow, two others had black over white & the final bird had yellow over pale blue.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010. All of those seen well enough to age were juveniles.

35 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

TEMMINCK'S STINT *Calidris temminckii*

The first autumn migrants are already noted by the middle of July and, respectable three-figure counts are frequent by late August but, at least in autumn 2008, numbers didn't reached a peak until relatively late in the season (between the last week of, or late September and the first week of October). There's usually an intense period of peak passage during mid- to late September - 10-30 of that month. Numbers drop of quite rapidly, especially after the end of the first week of October, and the species is scarce after the end of the third week of that month. Its likely that stragglers remain until the very end of that October and probably even in to early November (though the current latest sighting is 24 Oct. (2008).

2460 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 2450 in Tanggu with 2340 counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 110 on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were just 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's figure represents between 9.8 & 0.98% of the entire flyway population. The same publication notes that the previous highest count in China was of 1,638 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 1 May 1990.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 20 between Shanggulun and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 13 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 100 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 15-16 Apr. [2006][LJY] and 50 there on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 25 near Beitang during 8-9 September [2007][LJia]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

6 (two parties of 3 birds) in salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 2 in similar habitat north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

6 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

8 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

8 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 453 2676)

The large number of Temminck's Stints present at Tanggu in autumn 2004 was one of my biggest surprises. Low double-figures (ranging from of 10-56 birds & averaging = 26 birds/day) were present in the area during my first visit in the first week of September. Numbers had dramatically increased by the time I returned in the middle of the third week of September & three-figure counts were then the norm. Particularly high counts in this period included 453 on the 18th & 245 on the 21/9. Impressive numbers of Temminck's Stints were still present (range of 35-284 birds & average = 127 birds/day) even on my third visit from 2nd to the 8th in early October. The vast majority of sightings throughout the entire period were from just two sites with up to 144 birds being present on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 17/9 & a massive 453 birds on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9/2004.

A bizarre-looking partial albino that was clean white except for patchy greyish-brown feathers scattered on its rear crown, nape, mantle & scapulars & with bright orange legs & bill was seen on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 26/9/2004.

2005

(5/11 234 599)

3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

62 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

78 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 72 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport & 4 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

222 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 7 on the pool at Qing Tuozhi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 215 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

234 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

3 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

11 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

22 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

25 on the 29/8/2006 – 18 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 7 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools.

17 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/8/2006.

25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

25 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

268 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 238 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. Only one juvenile was seen.

95 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. Five juveniles were seen today.

390 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 251 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang & 139 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

95 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

210 on the edge of the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

688 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 498 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 190 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

753 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 670 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 83 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

585 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

1 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

187 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 4 at Beitang, Tanggu; 183 at Beidagang, Dagang.

41 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

74 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 47 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 25 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

33 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

780 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 51 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 730 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

42 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

807 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 52 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 755 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

615 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 30 at Beidagang, 580 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 5 near Jing Qu.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.

11 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

20 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

67 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 20 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 36 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

35 – all on one pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

35 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 28 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

58 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 54 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

63 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

340 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 260 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

461 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The three highest local counts are 688 on 7 September 2006, 780 on 2 October 2007 & 753 on 4 October 2006.

230 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

822 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 239 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 583 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

150 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south

of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). There were also about 80 at Jingqu, Dagang.

620 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 195 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 425 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

510 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – the majority of birds (423) were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & there were also 80 on the Lujuhe impound.

269 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

50 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

50 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

615 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

2210 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – a massive 2150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 60 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. My previous highest count locally was little over one-third of this number - 822 birds on the 30 August this year.

1950 in coastal Tanggu on the 27/9/2008 – 1820 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 130 on the recently completed settling tank at Lujuhe.

2460 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 2450 in Tanggu with 2340 counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 110 on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were just 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

2100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

270 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 210 in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, 30 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & another 30 at Caihongqiao itself.

1500+ on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

610 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

85 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

93 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

65 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

73 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(27/28 1716 7186)

35 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 33 in Tanggu with 24 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & nine at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were two at Beidagang, Dagang.

6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

11 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Nine of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other two were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 17/7/2009.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

8 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

24 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – eight on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 16 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

65 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

25 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

60 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.

50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

84 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 67 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 17 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

85 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

103 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

20 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

78 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

60 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

544 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

1716 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 250 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 80 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 1386 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1325 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

150 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1395 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. The bulk of these were on the westernmost reclamation pool.

1296 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 1266 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 30 were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. A very similar number of birds (1325 were counted at the first site three days previously perhaps indicating that number of bird in the area is remaining fairly stable.)

2010

35 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

69 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

1045 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

230 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

LONG-TOED STINT *Calidris subminuta*

Autumn migration is already well under way by mid-July when low double figures of birds are dependably present. Numbers seem relatively stable until mid- to late August when a slight increase is apparent. Peak passage (of up to 81 birds) occurs between late-

August and mid-late September & birds are increasing scarce after the fourth week of September. October sightings are noteworthy & not annual with the latest being two birds on 8 October 2006.

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 1 individual in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was at unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) away from their three main count areas.

Tianjin: 50 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 12 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003). *Remarkably early for such a large count.*

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(16/22 7 29)

1-7 birds were noted on most days that I was around Tanggu 3/9 – 8/10/2004. There was a very slight decline in the number of birds present during the period & once again the vast majority of records came from the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2005

(5/11 36 96)

11 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

14 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

18 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

36 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.

17 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

1 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

5 on the 26/7/2006 - 4 at Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

3 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

5 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

16 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

3 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

3 singles in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 1 at Beidagang, Dagang; 1 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 adult on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.

2008

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

22 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 8 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & another 8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

8 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

2 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

7 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The largest ever local count of this locally uncommon species is of just one more bird, 36, on a very similar date (the 30 August 2005).

5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

66 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – eight on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 56 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – five on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

11 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – seven on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & four on the Lujuhe impound.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

2009

(27/28 81 421)

2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

4 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

19 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Four of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other 15 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

4 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.

5 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & three on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

13 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

19 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – eight on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 11 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

7 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 8 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
 7 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
 15 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 7 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 11 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
 3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 69 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
 48 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 81 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. This my largest ever count in coastal Tianjin – exceeding the previous maxima of 66 birds on the 30 August 2008 and 69 birds here two days previously.
 4 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
 59 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. Just six were on the complex of reclamation pools with the other 53 being on a relatively small pool between there and Caihong Bridge.
 11, ten juveniles and one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

32 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

PECTORAL SANDPIPER *Calidris melanotos*

2008

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008. The second record for Tianjin it was subsequently seen & photographed by Xu Yongbin. The first record was also of a bird that was photographed at Beitang Beach on the 27 April 2006 by someone with the internet name .The image can be viewed at <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2006/20065236080.jpg>

SHARP-TAILED SANDPIPER *Calidris acuminata*

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 2855 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and noted that this was the seventh commonest shorebird present accounting for 5.0% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged none between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, none between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 910 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 1945 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) that according to their map were in northern Hangu. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 1700 individuals. Based on the fact that the Tianjin area held exceptionally high numbers of this species compared to the rest of the Yellow Sea region, Japan & South Korea the authors speculated that Curlew Sandpiper, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Asian Dowitcher are following an inland migration route through China, with the Bohai Wan coast lying on the most easterly part of this flight path.

7100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Its likely that there were over 9800 birds in coastal Tanggu during that period – I counted 2700 on the Tianjin Industrial Park Pools yesterday. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 160,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 6.1% of the entire flyway & world population! These are the highest counts outside of the species' Australian wintering grounds and this is more than treble the highest count in the whole of China away from Tianjin. The three previous highest counts in China (Bamford et al. 2008) are 3125 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 28 April 2001, 2855 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date and possibly a typo) & 1262 in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 1600 and coastal Tianjin supports in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migration seasons.

Tianjin: 21 between Shanggulun and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 30 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]. (Both records from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 200 near Beitang on 28-29 Apr. [2006][CJZ] was the highest spring count; 38 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 50 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

3 adults, 1 bird had an orange flag above its right 'knee', on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004

12 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(7/22 106 216)

Birds were noted on seven dates between the 3/9 & 4/10. Single birds were noted on four dates, a party of 4 on another date & there were also two significantly larger flocks. Birds were regularly & dependably encountered during my first visit to Tanggu in early September but singles were noted on only three widely scattered dates after the 7/9. All records as follows - 4 on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3rd, 106 on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling on the 5th, 1& 102 back on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 6th & 7/9 respectively. After that date singles were noted on the 18th & 26/9 and the 4/10/2004.

2005

(5/11 555 948)

59 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

75 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

135 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 83 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 38 on the pool near Tanggu airport & 14 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

555 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 365 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county, 42 on other pools between there & Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 148 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

124 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

420 on the 25/7/2006 – 280 at Hangu, 120 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 20 at Gaoshaling

568 on the 26/7/2006 - 306 at Hangu; 247 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 5 at Jing Qu & 10 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

55 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 27/7/2006.

525 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

574 on the 29/8/2006 – 445 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 119 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

224 on the 30/8/2006 – 166 near Jing Qu, Dagang & 58 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

958 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. A sample count of 63 birds produced 51 adults (81%) & 12 juveniles (19%). One bird among this flock of 958 had a yellow leg flag.

150 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

566 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

190 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 125 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 65 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

215 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

50 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 15 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang & 35 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

96 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

30 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

9 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2007

5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

22 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 5 at Beidagang, Dagang; 15 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 1 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 1 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

512 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. One had a white leg flag above the knee of its right leg.

877 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 585 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 70 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 222 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

220 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

292 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – six at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining four were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.

113 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 54 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 65 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

A very impressive 2070 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 1750 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 320 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One yellow colour-flagged bird was noted on the Caihongqiao Pools. This is count easily more than double my previous high counts on the Tianjin coast which were 958 on the 31 August 2006 & 877 on the 6 August 2007.

2925 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 550, mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats today, at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 335 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 2040 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Its likely that there were many, many more on the mud flats at Caihongqiao where 1750 were counted yesterday. Its also likely that there's little overlap between these three main sites & assuming this the actual number of birds currently in the Tanggu-Hangu area is probably in excess of 4000 birds! I arrived at these numbers by summing the three larger counts (1750 on the Caihongqiao pool yesterday, 335 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 2040 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu today). The world population of Sharp-tailed Sandpiper has recently been estimated to be 160,000 birds & 4000 birds equates to about 2.5% of the world population!

700 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 365 in Tanggu with 220 on one of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 131 on the Tanggu airport pool, & just 14 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Further south there were 174, including one bird with an orange leg flag, on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang (38°42.85'N., 117°33.89'E.).

5900 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 1600 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 4300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu! Four juveniles, the first of the autumn, were seen at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

5000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 600 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & at least 4500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One yellow flagged bird was seen on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu.

1290 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. One orange & one yellow leg flagged birds were seen.

4000 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 1040 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & about 3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

8850 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. This is the largest ever local count of this species & is in what's turning out to be an exceptional year for it. One orange flagged bird was seen.

4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008. One black over yellow colour flagged bird was seen but probably not much more than 20% of the 4000 birds present could be checked for the presence of leg flags.

5500 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 5000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One yellow colour-flagged bird was seen at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

7000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – ca.4000 were very roughly estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 150 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 2700 on the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujue – all three sites in Tanggu. This latter site was not counted previously & these birds were likely in addition to those counted in the very high count two days ago. Further south there were 350 at Jingqu, Dagang.

4500 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 610 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 4000 birds were estimated to be on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two colour flagged birds were noted today – one yellow among the 610 birds on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & one with black over orange on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

9500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 7500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2000 on the Lujuhe impound! Record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh Sandpiper, Pied Avocet & Kentish Plover!

269 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. One black over yellow colour flagged bird was present.

30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

70 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

2300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

2009

(28/28 7100 53270)

35 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. These involved three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 35 at Gaoshaling.

25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

315 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

400 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Just over 100 of these were in coastal Hangu with 38 on the Caihongqiao pools & another 65 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

500 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (ca.500 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 30 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.

970 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 310 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 560 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. One bird with an orange flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

670 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

1040 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. One leg flagged bird was noted – it had a green flag above its right knee and a yellow band below the same knee.

500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

990 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 560 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 430 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

3930 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Two leg flagged birds were noted – one yellow & one orange.

3500 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 1800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about a similar number in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Its likely that there are already in excess of 5500 in the area. One bird with a black over yellow flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

5000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. One orange flagged bird was seen.

6050 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 2700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 3350 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. One with a black over yellow leg flag was on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

7100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. The increase continues. 1 orange flagged bird was noted. Its likely that there are over 9800 birds in coastal Tanggu right now – I counted 2700 on the Tianjin Industrial Park Pools yesterday. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 160,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 6.1% of the entire flyway & world population! These are the highest counts outside of the species' Australian wintering grounds and the three previous highest counts in China (taken from Bamford et al. 2008) are 3125 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 28 April 2001, 2855 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date) & 1262 in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002.

2240 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 2170 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 70 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

5000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – with about 2500 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & another 2500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.. 1 with an orange flag was on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

5630 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. 1 with black over orange flag was seen.

2420 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. One orange flagged bird was seen.

20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

5500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

670 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The majority of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang.

220 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

20 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

55 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 45 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 10 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.

12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

4200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

DUNLIN *Calidris alpina*

Being a very common passage migrant and fairly common winter visitor Dunlins can be seen in coastal Tianjin in every month with the possible exception of June. Nevertheless Barter et al. (2001) noted that Dunlin is the most abundant shorebird in the Yellow Sea as a whole and remarked that numbers in coastal Tianjin are comparatively low compared to other counts in the region. They speculated that perhaps the sub-species occurring in the Bohai Wan area had mostly passed through by mid-May when their census occurred.

Both migrations appear to be protracted affairs and although the presence of wintering birds clouds the timing of both the onset of the northbound and the end of the southbound migration it appears that spring passage has probably already commenced by mid-March. Northbound migration through both South Korea and China peaks during late April to mid-May (Barter 2002).

Returning, southbound birds are already present in coastal Tianjin by mid-July but numbers remain modest until the start of September though I've had one outstandingly high count during that period (975 on 6 August 2007). 1350 birds counted on the 5 September 2006 marks the start of a period of slightly more intense passage but it's the last week of that month before four-figure counts become the norm and there appears to be a peak during mid-October. Southbound migration appears to be smaller than

northbound. Note also that, in South Korea, southbound migration peaks in September (Barter 2002). They had no information for that season from China but from my observations this is significantly earlier than the peak passage in coastal Tianjin. Sometime between mid- and late October Dunlin numbers surpass those of Kentish Plover and it is then the commonest shorebird in the area.

Barter (2002) noted that *arctica* (breeds in northern Alaska) occurs in the Yellow Sea and speculated that three others - *sakhalina* (breeds Chukotka), *kistchinski* (breeds Kamchatka, northern coast of Sea of Okhotsk and north Kurile Islands) and *actites* (breeds north Sakhalin) also occur.

4450 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The vast majority of these were in Dagang with 2700 on the mudflats at three sites at Jingqu & 500 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 1250 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 950,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 0.5% of the entire flyway & world population. Today's count exceeds the staging threshold of 2375 given in the same publication. Barter (2002) estimated that 660,000 birds pass through the Yellow Sea. Eight sites in China have recorded counts in excess of 10,000 birds.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 9500 but coastal Tianjin does not support anywhere near this number during any season.

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 4980 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was their fourth commonest shorebird present accounting for 8.8% of all the shorebirds they identified. They broke their counts down & logged 2670 between San Jin Tuo (the northern border with Hebei) & Tanggu, 860 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 1250 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern border with Hebei & 200 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere. According to Barter et al. (2001) Dunlin numbers in coastal Tianjin are also comparatively low compared to other counts in the Yellow Sea region and they speculated that perhaps the sub-species occurring in the Bohai Wan area has mostly passed through by mid-May.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 570 were noted at Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 100 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][CJZ in the China Bird Report 2005].

Tianjin: 2466 at Jingqu, Dagang on 18-19 Feb. [2006][LY]; 1400 at Tajia He Estuary on 19 Nov. [2006][LHT]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 300-500 on the Tanggu coast on 18 March [2007][BA]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

2000 south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. The highest concentration was on the 'Saunders's Gull mudflats' about 6 kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang where 1000 birds were estimated though there were also 400 in the salt pans between 2 & 8 kms south of Tanggu. In contrast only 100 birds were estimated north of the city on the following day, the 21/10/2000.

2001

480 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001

'Present' in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001

90 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001,.

120 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001,.

100 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001,.

2002

20 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

300 - all adults at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

300 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

1000 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

200 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

83 at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

45 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 22/12/2002.

2004

8 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/1/2004.

654 on the 26/1/2004 - 7 on the mudflats off Tanggu airport & 647 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

1200 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

1000 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 2500 13017)

5-2500 birds were noted on all 22 days that I was in the Tanggu area 3/9 - 8/10. Low double-figure counts were the norm in early September but there was a marked increase once I'd 'discovered' Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks &, although numbers fluctuated widely, day counts after the 7/9 averaged about 750 birds/day. There were five four-figure counts, the highest of which was 2500 on the 23/9/2004. There was possibly a gradual decline in the number of birds present around Tanggu after the middle of the last week in September.

2005

(9/11 2165 5300)

35 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

810 on the 28 September - 755 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 55 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.

750 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 699 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

400 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.
90 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.
700 on the 21/12/2005 – apart from 5 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu all the rest were at Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang.
150 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.
2165 were counted as they flew north from their high tide roost over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.
200 resting on the ice off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

1600 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
1000 in the area between the site six kilometres north of Yuren Matou, Yuren Matou itself & Jing Qu on the 18/3/2006.
15 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.
60 on the 26/7/2006 - 35 at Hangu; 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 15 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
8 on the 27/7/2006 - 4 at Yuren Matou & 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
7 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
310 on the 29/8/2006 – 120 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 190 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
40 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All of those seen well were juvenile.
65 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
90 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 44 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 46 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. All birds were adults.
1350 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
300 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1700 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1600 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang. & 100 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
100 on the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
1550 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
20 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
4200 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
1000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – most of these were at Jing Qu, Dagang.
1000 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
200 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

1800 on the 30/4/2007 - 120 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 1030 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 640 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
810 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 560 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 250 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
15 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
975 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 950 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
3500 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 70 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 1100 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2300 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
3230 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 720 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2500 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
920 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 320 on the inter-tidal mud flats near on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 600 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
1550 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, 40 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 1500 at Jing Qu.
1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
1500 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
2000 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

665 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
760 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008.
1545 on the 10/3/2008 – 110 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1435 at Jingqu, Dagang.
385 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 275 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu & 100 south of Haibin Yuchang.
1300 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 880 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 367 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 50 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
3 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 1 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
18 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
4 summer plumaged adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 1 on & around the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. All four birds were adults.
125 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. All adults.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
650 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
325 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 285 were in coastal Tanggu with 25 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 30 on the Lujuhe impound & 230 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 45 at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
650 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
580 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
400 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008 – 385 at Jingqu, Dagang & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
725 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
 1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
 1000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The vast majority of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
 2150 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 50 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 2100 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
 1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. About 100 of these were in Tanggu with 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & a similar number on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe. Further south there at least 1400 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
 1250 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008. Nearly all of these (1210 birds) were on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
 2500 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved 1450 in coastal Tanggu with 350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1100 in the bay north of Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were about 1000 between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang.
 500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
 1500 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
 2620 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/20/2008. These involved 1320 in Tanggu with 1020 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 200 on the recently reclaimed pool near Lujuhe & 100 on the mudflats north of the Bai Er Station. Further south in Dagang there were 1300 between Jingqu & the river mouth at Haibin Yuchang.
 500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
 3190 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 2550 at three sites at Jingqu, Dagang and 640 in Tanggu with just two on the mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er station, 310 on the pool at Lujuhe & 330 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
 2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The vast majority of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
 4220 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 2195 in Dagang with 2150 at the Jingqu area and 45 in the river channel at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 2025 in Tanggu with 710 on the mudflats at the Bai Er Station, 1240 off Haibin Yuchang & 75 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
 4450 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The vast majority of these were in Dagang with 2700 on the mudflats at three sites at Jingqu & 500 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 1250 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

2009

(27/28 1630 5974)

160 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
 1630 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
 40 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 15 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
 20 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
 15 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 11 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 20 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 30 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – just five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 25 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 45 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 60 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 35 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 25 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 259 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 74 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 185 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
 47 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
 278 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
 130 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 337 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. One flagged adult summer was seen – it had a black over white flag on its right leg.
 110 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
 1500 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The majority of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang.
 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
 825 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. 675 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and about 150 others were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
 10 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

130 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
 130 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

CURLEW SANDPIPER *Calidris ferruginea*

Very common, sometimes abundant in spring & autumn.

8000 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 5200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 3000 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Its likely that there are in excess of 15,500 birds in the area! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 180,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 8.6% of the entire flyway population. The

highest previous count in China was of 12,489 in North-west Bo Hai Wan on the 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date and possibly a typo) cited in Bamford et. al. (2008).

Spring passage usually commences in the second week of April with the last stragglers being recorded just in to the start of June. There's an intense peak in mid-late May when Barter (2001) counted an impressive 12,489 individuals in coastal Tianjin during the four days 10-14 May 2000. Curlew Sandpiper was then the second commonest shorebird present in the region accounting for 22.0% of all the shorebirds they identified. Other high spring counts have included 5000 at Beidagang, Dahang on 5 May 2007 [WRQ cited in China Bird Report 2007]. Spring passage through Bohai Wan involves the only internationally important numbers in the whole of the Yellow Sea region during either migration season (Barter 2002). Although huge numbers undoubtedly move through China their migration is believed to be on a broad, overland front that's centred further west – this is particularly true for the autumn, southbound movement. The temporal pattern of Curlew Sandpiper's occurrence in Tianjin in spring is very similar to that of Red-necked Stint.

Curlew Sandpiper is one of the first shorebirds to reappear and to peak in autumn. The first birds usually reappear in late June or early July with a peak shortly afterwards in the last week of July or perhaps as late as the first week of August. **Maximum counts during this period (412 on 26 July 2006 & 512 on 2 August 2008 being the two highest) are significantly smaller than, and involve less than 10% of, the spring maxima. A surprising feature of the southbound movement is that very few juveniles occur - of 2386 birds aged in autumn only 175, or 7.3%, have been juvenile.** The first birds of this age group appear in the first week of August but adults still dominate until the end of the first-week of September - a full month later. Late birds occur throughout September (but I have no double-figure counts after the end of the first week) with very few occurring in October (just 16 bird-days until the latest on the 24 October 2008).

With ten sightings Curlew Sandpiper is the fourth most regularly encountered leg-flagged shorebird in coastal Tianjin & I've seen one in spring & nine in autumn. Five were from Northwest Australia (four between 26 July & 4 August & the fifth on 30 August), four from Victoria (singles on 2 May, 26 July, 1 & 31 August) & one from Southwest Australia (30 August).

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 12,489 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the second commonest shorebird present accounting for 22.0% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged none between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 1734 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 4290 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 6465 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) that according to their map were in northern Hangu. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 2500 individuals. Three leg-flagged birds were seen amongst many thousands of shorebirds scanned for flags. They comprised one Red-necked Stint from north-western Australia and two Curlew Sandpipers from south-eastern Australia. Based on the fact that the Tianjin area held exceptionally high numbers of this species compared to the rest of the Yellow Sea region, Japan & South Korea the authors speculated that Curlew Sandpiper, Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Asian Dowitcher are following an inland migration route through China, with the Bohai Wan coast lying on the most easterly part of flight path.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 1800 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports in excess of this threshold during the northbound migration.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 38 at Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 14 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 30 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 306 at Qingtuozhi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: A phenomenal 5000 at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ]. This is undoubtedly a local record & occurred in a year when there was no other count in the municipality in excess of 93 birds! (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

10 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2004

250 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. One leg-flagged bird was noted in the large wader flock about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang – it had an orange flag above its right leg.

105 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(15/22 5 29)

1-5 birds were noted on 15 dates with records virtually spanning the entire period that I was on the coast & ranging from the 3/9 – 6/10. 8 of the 29 bird-days involved adults, 21 juveniles. All records as follows - single adults on the 3rd & 4/9. 3, 2 adults & a juvenile, on the 5/9 (& these, unlike all the other sightings that were either on the settling tanks adjacent to the northern end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao or the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre, were on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling). 5, 2 adults & 3 juveniles, on the 7/9. Single juveniles on the 18th & 22nd with 3 juveniles on the 23rd, 1 on the 24th, 3 again on the 25th & 26/9. On the 2nd & 3/10 there was a summer-plumaged adult & a juvenile present with single juveniles being noted on the last three days of the survey – 4-6/10/2004.

2005

(5/11 40 71)

40 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

12 (10 adults & 2 juveniles) on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

8 (including only two juveniles) near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 4 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 4 more on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

29 on the 25/7/2006 – 21 at Hangu, 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 2 at Gaoshaling
412 on the 26/7/2006 - 384 at Hangu; 12 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 2 at Jing Qu & 14 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Two leg flagged birds were noted at Hangu – one had an orange flag, the other yellow.
7 on the 27/7/2006 - 2 at Yuren Matou & 3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
167 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.
15 on the 29/8/2006 – 12 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
4 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All three were adults.
2 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
14 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006. More than half of these birds were juveniles.
3 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
18 (one adult & 17 juveniles) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2007

28 on the 30/4/2007 - 15 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 13 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
93 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 28 at Beidagang, Dagang; 18 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 37 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang; 9 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 1 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
55 birds (54 adults & one juvenile) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
32 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
1 juvenile on a pool on the edge of Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

155 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 90 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 65 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu.
380 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 60 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 305 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
40 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
73 summer plumaged adults in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 23 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two colour flagged birds – one yellow & the other orange were noted at the Caihongqiao Pools.
512 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 1 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 505 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 99 in Tanggu with 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 14 on the Tanggu airport pool & 45 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Further south in Dagang there were 38 on the freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
315 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 310 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
260 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & at least 250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two yellow flagged birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
15 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008. Both were adults.
91 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. 78 of these (86%) were adults, the remaining 13 (14%) juvenile.
15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
25 (24 adults & one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008. Surprisingly considering how few adults were seen two colour flagged birds were noted – one yellow & the other yellow over orange. The latter was a colour combination I hadn't noted in this species before (but I'd seen three Red-necked Stints with yellow over orange previously).
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
38 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 37 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One orange flagged bird was among the 37 birds (36 adults & one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
15 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – seven on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & eight on the Lujuhe impound. Of these 12 were adults and the other three juveniles.
1 adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
3 juveniles in one of the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
3 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
36 (29 adults & seven juveniles) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
6, three adults & three juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
4 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
2, an adult & a juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008. They were the same two birds (an adult & a juvenile) that were present yesterday.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(28/28 10300 69635)
350 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 249 in Tanggu with 89 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 260 at Gaoshaling. Elsewhere there were two at Beidagang, Dagang. One with a yellow flag on its left tibia was with the 89 other Curlew Sandpipers on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. (38°57.6' N., 117°43.7' E.) had been flagged in North-west Australia (approx. 19° 0' S, 122° 0' E) sometime since August 1992 & the resighting was a distance of approximately 6461 km, with a bearing of 356°.
410 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. These involved 148 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; ca.200 on the pool near Lujuhe & 15 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu and 44 at Jingqu, Dagang.
1625 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. One had an orange flag..
1500 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 25 of these were in coastal Hangu with ten on & around the Caihongqiao pools & another 15 on the

roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two leg flagged birds were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu – one yellow and the other orange.

1750 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (1730 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 15 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.

4530 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 1680 (up slightly from ca.1500 two days ago) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2850 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Three leg flagged birds were seen today – one with yellow & another with orange on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another with orange on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

1955 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009. This is the highest count that I've made at this one site. Five leg flagged birds were seen today – three orange & two yellow.

5350 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. This is the largest day count that I've ever had in coastal Tianjin. Nine flagged birds were seen – four had yellow flags, two orange, one had an orange over a yellow flag above its right knee; another had a white over a yellow flag above its left knee & the ninth bird had an orange flag over what I could only determine to be a 'dark' flag (the latter was covered in mud) above its right knee.

1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009. One with a yellow leg flag was seen.

5950 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 3530 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2420 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Another local record as numbers continue to increase & the species remains the commonest shorebird. 14 colour flagged birds were seen today. 12 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools – eight with yellow flags, three with orange and one had a white flag over a blue flag on its upper left leg and the white flag had the number '26' in black on it. Two more colour flagged birds were seen on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang – one had an orange flag while the other had a dark (possibly green?) flag over a yellow one on its right leg.

300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

10,300 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. They made up almost half of the total number of waders present on the pools today & his is easily highest count I have ever made in coastal Tianjin. Eight leg flagged birds were noted – five yellow & three orange.

8000 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 5200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 3000 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Its likely that there are in excess of 15,500 birds in the area! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 180,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. *Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites*. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 8.6% of the entire flyway population. The highest previous count in China was of 12,489 in North-west Bo Hai Wan on the 12 April 2000 (a surprisingly early date) cited in Bamford et. al. (2008). Three flagged birds were noted today – one yellow & another orange on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another yellow on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

5500 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Two flagged birds were seen – one with yellow & the other with yellow over orange.

5650 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 3400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 2250 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Six leg flagged birds were noted – two birds one yellow & one dark (possibly green) over yellow were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while four birds – three yellow & one orange were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

4030 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Numbers are now clearly declining. Four flagged birds were noted – one yellow & three orange.

1735 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 1705 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu. Three colour flagged birds were noted at the first site – one yellow & two orange.

3000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 with about equal numbers on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & another 2500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. 1 with an orange flag was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

4045 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. Two flagged birds were noted – one with yellow, the other orange.

1640 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. One flagged bird was seen – it had an orange (possibly blue?) on its right leg. 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

250 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009. Just two adults (<1% of the total number of birds seen) were noted.

240 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. Just one adult was noted.

25 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

5 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

35 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. Almost all of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other c.1700 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. Just three adults were noted.

2010

81 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

620 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. One yellow leg flagged adult was seen.

3 juveniles on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

BROAD-BILLED SANDPIPER *Limicola falcinellus*

A fairly common migrant with coastal Tianjin holding relatively modest but still internationally important concentrations of this attractive shorebird.

Little is known about the timing, duration and intensity of spring migration but according to Phil Round (*in litt.* 9 Sept. 2009) some Australian ornithologists counted '5000 Broad-billed Sandpipers in the Gulf of Bohai this spring [2009], within which were no fewer than 7 Thai-flagged birds. In the end I think they logged 23 Thai-flagged birds within a couple of weeks- most Broad-bills but with at least one each of Bar-tailed Godwit and Curlew Sandpiper.'

Autumn migration is protracted with birds already being present by mid- July and small numbers lingering until the middle of the last week of October most years. The peak is probably in late August to mid-September with all five three figure counts (highest 257 on 29 August 2002) occurring between 29 August – 22 September.

The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 25,000 (Bamford M., Watkins D., Bancroft W., Tischler, G. and Wahl, J.. 2008. *Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites*. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count represents 1% of the entire flyway & world population. The highest ever count in China are of 1476 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on the 1 Sept. 1991, 729 at the Yalu Jiang NNR, Liaoning on 2 May 1999, 124 in North-west Bo Hai Wan on 12 April 2000 and 115 at Shuangtaizhihekou NNR, Liaoning on 12 May 1998 (Bamford et al. 2008).

Reports by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 124 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.2% of all those shorebirds identified. All 124 birds were in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) outside the three main coastal count areas.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 180 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during the southbound migration.

Tianjin: 50 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ in the China Bird Report 2006].

2000

5 on a coastal mud bank with other shorebirds, including 420 Kentish Plovers, 40 Dunlin & single Little & Red-necked Stints etc. about 1.5 kms south of the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road, immediately south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

8 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

28 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

5 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

257 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

25 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 135 992)

Between 5 & 135 birds were noted on every day that I was in the Tanggu area 3/9 – 8/10. Numbers fluctuated widely from one day to the next with a possible peak occurring around the start of the fourth week of September. There were two three figure counts – 135 on the 18th & 101 on the 22/9/2004 & there was a noticeable decrease during my third & final visit to Tanggu in the first week of October. Rather few birds were aged though of the 25 birds that were seen on the 6/9, 21 were aged – 18 were juvenile (86%), 3 adult (14%). A similar proportion of the 85 birds that were seen & aged on the 17/9 were juveniles (73 birds or 86%) & adults (12 birds or 14%) while the vast majority of the 85 birds that I counted on the 21/9 were juvenile & I only noticed one adult.

2005

(5/11 42 134)

26 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

28 – 27 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1 on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.

19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

19 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.

42 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005. 27 birds were aged – 17 adults & 10 juveniles.

2006

7 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

25 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

6 on the 27/7/2006 - 1 at Yuren Matou & 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

19 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

63 on the 29/8/2006 – 6 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 57 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Both were juvenile.

1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

93 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 63 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools. Almost all these birds were juveniles.

30 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

4 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

4 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

27 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 7 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

15 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 - 10 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 5 at Jing Qu, Dagang

54 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

21 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

5 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu on the 1/5/2007.

9 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

2008

1 flew north over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

29 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 24 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

45 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 42 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

5, including my first juvenile of the autumn, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

15 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

17 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

27 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. 1 bird with what appeared to be a black leg flag was seen. It was watched at 50 metres range for about 10 minutes & the flag really did look black as opposed to being covered in mud!

4 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 2, an adult & a juvenile, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 others on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 61 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
 9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
 176 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
 8 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
 216 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 215 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 14 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 11 on the Lujuhe impound.
 1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
 1 juvenile at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
 108 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. Very few adults were seen today (probably less than 20 birds).
 92 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
 24 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
 11 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. These involved 7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 2 on the settling tank at Lujuhe, both Tanggu & 2 more at Jingqu, Dagang.
 5 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 4 in Tanggu with three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one on the pool at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there was also one at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
 31 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
 68 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
 53 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
 64 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
 31 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008 – one of these was with the roosting Dunlin & Kentish Plovers on the tank immediately south of the Yuren Matou 'canal' at Jingqu, Dagang and the other 30 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(28/28 191 806)

1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
 7 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
 6 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 9 adults in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. Just one of these was at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other eight were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 3 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
 13 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – ten on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & three on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 12 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 8 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 20 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009. Birds were about equally split between the two sites.
 25 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 38 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 32 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is a marked increase since last week.
 34 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 17 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another 17 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
 37 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 29 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & eight at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 40 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 23 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
 2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 46 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
 103 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 40 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 17 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 46 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
 191 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
 23 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
 11 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
 73, including just one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

RUFF *Philomachus pugnax*

Reports from others -

Tianjin: 17 between Shanggulun and Hangu on 9-10 April [2005][LHY] with 38 there on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: An impressive six at Hangu on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL in the China Bird Report 2006].

Tianjin: One at Tanggu on 2 May [2007][CW]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2007

1 adult female at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007. A rarity in eastern China.
1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

2008

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008. (Photographed). My third sighting in Tianjin – my two previous encounters were also of single birds on these same reclamation pools & were on the 5 August & 6 October 2007,
2 separate juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. The second bird was seen by five other observers.
2 juveniles on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 26/9/2008. They were seen to fly off high to the south, loosely associating with a party of Marsh Sandpipers, in the early evening.
1 juvenile male on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008. It was also seen, & photographed, by Xu Yongbin.

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 moulting summer plumaged male on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2010

1 male on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE *Phalaropus lobatus*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 1000 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 12 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: Two near Beitang during 8-9 September [2007][TJL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 7/9/2004.

2007

2 moulting summer plumaged adults were on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.

2008

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. It was subsequently seen by several other observers.

2009

(4/28 3 6)

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

1 immaculate adult female (a different bird to the moulting individual seen last week)

3, two juveniles and a winter plumaged bird, on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.

1 juvenile on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. It was different to either of the two juveniles that were present two days previously.

GREY PHALAROPE *Phalaropus fulicaria*

GREATER PAINTED-SNIPE *Rostratula benghalensis*

EURASIAN OYSTERCATCHER *Haematopus o. osculans*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 100 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Tianjin: Two at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 21 October (2007)[ZL]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2002

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 flew south near the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 19/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

2006

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

2007

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.

2008

1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.

3 on the mudflats between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

2 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 2 2)

2 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.

2010

1 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

IBISBILL *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*

BLACK-WINGED STILT *Himantopus himantopus*

Breeds at Beidagang. (Barter 2001).

Migration is already well under way by mid-July and peaks towards the end of that month.

2855 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin. A sample count of 172 birds produced 159 adults and 13 juveniles. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,00-100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents between 2.9 & 11.4% of the entire flyway & world population. This count is also the highest ever not only in China but on the entire East Asian-Australasian Flyway! The previous highest count for the flyway was an undated report also from North-west Bo Hai Wan of 2000 birds in Barter, M. 2002. Shorebirds of the Yellow Sea: Importance, Threats and Conservation Status. Wetlands International Global Series 9, International Wader Studies 12, Canberra, Australia. The next highest count for China was of 1037 birds in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002.

Reported by others –

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 44 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. All 44 birds were in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) outside the three main coastal count areas.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 200 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports in excess of this threshold during the southbound migration.

Tianjin: 25 at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 12 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 30 at Beidagang Reservoir of Dagang on 4 April [2004][LHY]; 200 at Hangu seashore on 22 August [2004][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 500 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][CJZ]; 1025 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9-10 April [2005][LHY]; 1500 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][WRQ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 1310 at Hangu on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL]; 300 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 500 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

4 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

2004

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(10/22 150 342)

1-150 birds were noted on 10 dates from the 3/9 (my first day in the Tanggu area) until the 26/9 (the last day of my second visit). None were seen during my third visit to Tanggu in October. There was a noticeable decline in the number of birds present throughout the period with between 20 & 150 being noted on all five days during my first visit (3-7/9), but less than 20 birds on only five out of the 10 days of my second visit (17-26/9).

55 on the 3/9 – all were on a pool with deeper water adjacent to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre about 1.5 kms south of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. 20 in total with birds on several pools to the north Tanggu on the 4/9. 150 on the 5/9 – nearly all of which were on the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. 50 more on the same deep water pool adjacent to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre about 1.5 kms south of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6/9 & 20 at the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9. During my second visit there were 20 again on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling on the 19th & again on the 25th, 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 20th, 4 were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21st & the last birds were 2 at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004.

2005

(5/11 739 1107)

28 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

70 - 24 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remainder on roadside pools between there, Tanggu airport & the Lu Ju He fishponds.

739 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 37 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 65 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 on the pool

at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 625 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
250 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.
20 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

530 on the 25/7/2006 – 150 at Hangu, 240 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 140 at Gaoshaling
850 on the 26/7/2006 – 630 at Hangu; 150 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 50 at Jing Qu & 20 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 173
birds at Hangu yielded 155 adults (90%) & 18 juveniles (10%).
600 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 – 320 at Beidagang & 300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
720 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
2965 on the 29/8/2006 – 2015 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 950 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
50 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
600 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
1200 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 950 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 250 others between there, Lu Ju He, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu.
800 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
1350 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 900 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 450 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the Tanggu Harbor Pools.
500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
130 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

About 450 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007. These included 324 at Beidagang, Dagang & 20 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang.
760 (including several juveniles) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
1770 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 – 750 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 850 on pools near the Tanggu River Mouth; 20 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial
Park Pools, Tanggu & 150 on or near the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
750 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

25 on pools at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
170 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
200 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – the vast majority of these, 1176 birds, were on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools.
190 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 50 in Tanggu with birds on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, on the Tanggu airport pool
& on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Further south there were about 140 in Dagang with 87 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu & 45 at
Beidagang.
200 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 55 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remainder on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
210 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 60 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
120 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
300 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
830 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The local highest count is a massive 2965 on the 29 August 2006.
300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
500 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 100 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
400 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited – Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south
of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
450 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 165 actually on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu while another 61 birds flew high & purposefully to the south (in flocks of
six, 15 & 40 birds that really looked as if they were in the process of migrating). Elsewhere there were about 230 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park
Pools, Tanggu.
285 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 230 were in coastal Tanggu with 110 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 40 on the Lujuhe impound, 60
on the Gaoshaling pools & 20 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 55 at Jingqu, Dagang.
27 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
50 in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 30 at Jingqu & 20 at Beidagang.
700 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – counts included 15 at Jingqu, Dagang & 678 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling,
Tanggu.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
1 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
25 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Almost all of these were on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao.
6 on a pool at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
3 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(27/28 4577 26207)
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
6 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
6, two pairs both with a fully grown juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
360 in coastal Hangu on the 15/7/2009 – 110 of these were on the Caihongqiao pools with the other 250 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the
Caihong Bridge. A sample count of just 36 birds at the first site yielded 28 adults (78%) and eight juveniles.
410 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (290 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 100 in the
Gaoshaling area, Tanggu & 20 at Beidagang, Dagang.
150 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (130 birds) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
560 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

70 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – five on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 65 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 1740 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. 342 birds were aged & this produced 322 adults & just 20 juveniles.
 1500 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 1500 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 1690 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 2855 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009..
 1850 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
 149 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 129 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 4577 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. 474 birds were aged and this produced 427 adults & 47 juveniles. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents between 4.6 & 18.3% of the entire flyway population. This count is also the highest ever not only in China but on the entire East Asian-Australasian Flyway! The previous highest count for the flyway (excluding my counts in Tianjin) was an undated report also from North-west Bo Hai Wan of 2000 birds in Barter, M. 2002. Shorebirds of the Yellow Sea: Importance, Threats and Conservation Status. Wetlands International Global Series 9, International Wader Studies 12, Canberra, Australia. The next highest count for China was of 1037 birds in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002
 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 4120 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009. A sample count of 70 birds yielded 57 adults & 13 juveniles.
 35 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
 3500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009. Two family parties (one with two chicks the other with three) were on one of the deeper sand extraction pits at Gaoshaling.
 315 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
 1210 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 134 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 781 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 295 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. 54 birds were aged and this produced 20 adults (37%) & 34 first-winters (63%).
 250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
 600 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these, 550 birds, were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu.
 1 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
 202 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 62 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
 350 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010. All but about 20 of these birds were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

PIED AVOCET *Recurvirostra avosetta*

Pied Avocet is an abundant spring and autumn migrant through coastal Tianjin moving through the region in internationally important numbers that far exceed any other site in the entire Yellow Sea area (Barter 2002). During both north and southbound migration the Tianjin coast has supported in excess of 16% of the East Asian Flyway population of an estimated 30,000 birds. With the bulk of this population breeding inland in Northeastern China and Mongolia and wintering in southern and eastern China, especially near Lianyungang, Jiangsu (where local birders have recently discovered upwards of 10,000 birds wintering – Zhang Lin pers. comm. October 2008) and in the Yangtze floodplain, Pied Avocet is a relatively short distance migrant. In keeping with several other similar relatively short distance migrant shorebirds such as Kentish Plover and Northern Lapwing, its spring migration is early and autumn migration late.

Spring migration commences in early March and peaks in early to mid-April when up to 5000 birds have been recorded at Hangu (3 April 2005 CJZ in China Bird Report 2005). Other high counts have included 2500 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9-10 April the same year (LHY in China Bird Report 2005). A small number of birds often remain in the area until mid-May (and possibly later but there are insufficient observations at that time of year). An intriguing observation of 40 at Jingqu, Dagang on 2 May 2008 involved birds that were mostly paired and gave the impression of perhaps breeding or planning to breed here. Autumn migration is very protracted and is already underway by mid-July.

In autumn 2006 there appeared to be two peak passage periods – the first during the last week of August (when up to 2780 birds were logged in the Hangu-Tanggu area) and a slightly larger peak during the first half of October (when up to 3475 birds were recorded in this same area).

In 2006 there were already very large numbers of birds in the area during the last week of July – with 1385 counted on the 26th. A sample count two days later established that the vast majority of birds (93%) were still adult. Its possible that 2006 was a particularly bad year for breeding Pied Avocets and that many of these early migrants were failed breeders.

On migration through coastal Tianjin Pied Avocet is extremely gregarious with a remarkable concentration of birds in a small number of very large flocks. During the autumns of 2000-2008 I recorded Pied Avocet on 136 occasions and more than three-quarters (75.9%) of the total number of **how many bird days in autumn** bird days involved birds that occurred in flocks of over 1000 individuals. There is insufficient spring data but its likely that Pied Avocet is predominantly found in equally large flocks.

5350 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – exactly 4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 275, 300 & 3425 birds being logged on three of the large pools). Slightly further south there were another 1300 on the Lujuhe impound! I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Kentish Plover in coastal Tanggu today! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000 -100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 5 & 21% of the entire

flyway population! This is apparently the second highest count ever in China while all the other high counts of this species in China have involved winteringbirds and the four largest counts are 8704 at East Dongting Hu NNR, Henan on 5 March 2001, 4567 at Poyang Hu NNT, Jiangxi on 1 January 2004, 1942 at Baiding Hu (possibly Jiangxi?) on 1 February 2004 and 1758 at Mai Po Marshes, Hong Kong on 13 January 1996. Note however that large numbers have recently been discovered wintering at Lianyungang, Jiangsu (Zhang Lin pers. comm. October 2008).

but very locally encountered migrant – birds are absent along much of the coastline preferring recently reclaimed settling tanks, salt pans or fish or shrimp ponds to open mudflat and as a consequence is easily overlooked.

A fairly early spring migrant.

Quite large numbers of Pied Avocets were already on the move when I made my first autumn 2006 visit to coastal Tianjin.

Proportion of birds in flocks of -

Give break down in to years – how many bird days were logged each year?

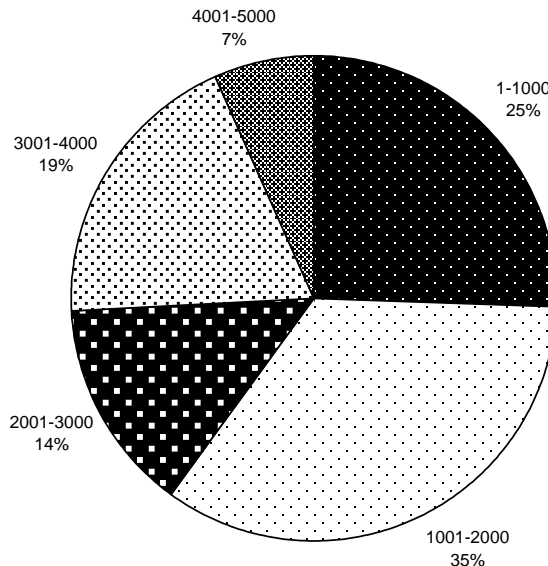
Flock sizes (pers. obs. only) – Up to & inc. 13 Oct. 2008

1, 1, 1, 2, 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 6, 6, 6, 6, 7, 9, 10, 10, 10, 10, 12, 12, 13, 13, 15, 15, 15, 15, 15, 16, 17, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 20, 23, 23, 24, 25, 25, 26, 27, 28, 30, 30, 30, 30, 30, 32, 32, 34, 35, 35, 40, 40, 40, 45, 45, 45, 45, 45, 48, 50, 50, 50, 50, 50, 60, 66, 70, 85, 100, 120, 120, 125, 160, 190, 200, 215, 220, 234, 260, 275, 275, 300, 320, 327, 355, 405, 450, 450, 450, 452, 460, 500, 500, 510, 600, 650, 743, 770, 800, 840, 880, 920, 980, 1000, 1100, 1120, 1125, 1150, 1200, 1300, 1320, 1430, 1650, 1700, 1800, 1950, 1990, 2000, 2000, 2000, 2075, 2450, 2800, 2830, 3085, 3150, 3425, 3950, 4850

2008

4, 4, 6, 10, 10, 15, 15, 20, 20, 30, 30, 32, 35, 40, 50, 50, 50, 70, 120, 125, 200, 215, 275, 300, 405, 450, 800, 800, 920, 1000, 1150, 1200, 1300, 1430, 1650, 1700, 1800, 1950, 2000, 2000, 2000, 2450, 2800, 2830, 3085, 3425, 3950, 4850

Proportion of Pied Avocets in flocks of various sizes



Reports by other people -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 3 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. All three birds were in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) outside the three main coastal count areas.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is just 300 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports well in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

Tianjin: 277 at Hangu seashore on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 5000 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][CJZ]; 2500 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9-10 April [2005][LHY]; 1000 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][HP]; 500 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 1000 near Beitang on 8 Apr. [2006][CJZ]; 1123 at Duliujian He on 19 Nov. [2006][LHT]. (Both reports from the China Bird Report 2006).

2000

269 & 2 around Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. The birds on the first date were in just two flocks on salt pans besides the Jingqi Lu, south of Tanggu. The first party was of 234 birds & was seen about 13 kms south of the Dong Feng Da Qiao (& about 0.5 km north of the Xie Hong Zha Qiao – 7 kms north of the border with Hebei) while the second party of 35 birds was near the Gang Tang Gong Lu (1 km south of the Guangang Gongyuan – Guangang forest park) about 18 kms southwest of Tanggu. The 2 birds on the 21/10/2000 were seen on salt pans near the village of Cheng Tou Gu Gang (north of Tanggu).

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

40 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

48 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(12/22 743 3184)

Between 1 & 743 birds were noted on 12 dates & all sightings were between the 7/9 & 7/10. The Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks were particularly attractive for this species & this is where all but one of the early-mid September three-figure counts was made. Particularly high counts here included 452, 743, 600, 600 & 450 on the 7th, 18th, 19th, 20th & 21/9 respectively. Elsewhere there were at least 100 on the complex of pools between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin also on the 19/9. Numbers dropped off dramatically after the 21/9 &, although birds were still recorded daily until the last day of my second visit (the 26/9), encounters were erratic on my third visit in early October (there were 33 on the 3rd – 1 down on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 32 others flew south over there before reappearing in the mouth of the Hai He at low tide. My last sighting was of 40 on the 7/10/2004 – 12 on the mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 28 on the pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu & midway between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.

2005

(4/11 71 163)

71 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005. Of these only 20 birds were 'grounded' on one of the pools – the remainder were visibly migrating south – in parties of 12, 16 & 23 birds.

49 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 23 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 26 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

30 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 20 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

3 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

62 on the 18/3/2006 - 6 at Beitang Reservoir, 9 at Hangu, 2 at Yuren Matou & 45 flew north over Jing Qu.

830 on the 25/7/2006 – 770 at Hangu, 45 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 15 at Gaoshaling

1385 on the 26/7/2006 - 1320 at Hangu; 20 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 30 at Jing Qu & 15 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

50 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 6 at Beidagang & 45 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

1125 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. A sample count of 237 yielded 220 adults & 17 juveniles.

2780 on the 29/8/2006 – 1900 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 880 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

650 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 510 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 140 others between there, Lu Ju He, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu.

450 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

2100 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 980 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1120 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – these included 355 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

800 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the Tanggu Harbor Pool.

500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

120 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

410 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 190 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 220 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

595 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 510 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 85 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

3475 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 3150 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 327 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

20 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2075 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

43 at Dagang on the 1/5/2007 - 24 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang; 17 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang; 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

68 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 45 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1045 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 840 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 27 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 275 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

320 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 320 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

700 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 66 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 650 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

500 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 34 at Beidagang & 460 at Jing Qu.
6 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
260 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
15 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 10/10/2007.

2008

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
40 on one pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008. Most birds were obviously paired & were perhaps planning to breed here?
4 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
15 flew south over Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
7 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
215 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008 – a marked increase on the previous few days.
4 flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
1170 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3085 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. The local highest count is a slightly higher 3475 birds that were seen on the 8 October 2006 while all the other high counts were also in 2006 and involve 2780 on 29 August, 2100 on 4 September & 2075 on 10 October 2006.
2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
2500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited with 1800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 50 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 450 on the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). Further south there were 200 at Jingqu, Dagang.
2840 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 2830 were counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other 1950 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
5350 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – exactly 4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 275, 300 & 3425 birds being logged on three of the large pools). Slightly further south there were another 1300 on the Lujuhe impound! I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Kentish Plover in coastal Tanggu today!
32 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
30 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
4850 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
1200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
920 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
530 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 405 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 125 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
3600 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these were on a couple of large settling tanks at Lujuhe, Tanggu but other sightings included 120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 40 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 70 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
3990 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 3960 in Tanggu with 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 3950 on the three large pools between Lujuhe & Tanggu airport. Elsewhere there were 30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
1700 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – 50 in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, 1650 on the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao & about 20 at Caihongqiao itself.
1700 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008. One bird with a yellow flag on its right tibia (upper leg). No other band, aluminium or otherwise, was present on either leg. (Photo). According to Heather on behalf of the AWSG emailed me on 11 Jan. 2009 saying that this bird was flagged at the Mai Po Marshes, Hong Kong, approximately 22° 29'N., 114° 2'E., & was one of 8 trapped in autumn-early winter 2004. The resighting was a distance of approximately 1866 km, with a bearing of 10° from the marking location.
1000 on the pools north of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 2/10/2008.
800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
2485 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/10/2005 – 35 came in off the sea at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & a single tight flock of 2450 were on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe.
2000 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1430 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
15 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
1410 on the recently impounded pool immediately north of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
1150 on the now regular pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
1520 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The majority of these were on the Lujuhe pool, Tanggu.
1200 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. 40 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang while the remaining 1250+ were on the favorite pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu
1220 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. 1165 of these were on the regular settling tank at Lujuhe, Tanggu with the remaining 55 on the tide line at Jingqu, Dagang.

2009

(28/28 10638 47665)

13 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. These involved 11 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu & an apparently territorial pair at Beidagang, Dagang.
34 near Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
360 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. The vast majority of these (330 birds) were on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu.
110 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The vast majority of these (90 birds) were on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu although there were also 20 in the Gaoshaling area, Tanggu.
300 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 250+ on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009. A sample count of 124 birds yielded 114 adults (92%) & just ten juveniles.
750 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
385 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 285 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Six tiny, very recently fledged birds were seen at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
1410 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

1300 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & about 1150 in a partial survey of the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

1270 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

1400 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.

1200 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

300 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with about 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & about 100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009. Two locally fledged family groups were seen – one with two very tiny day old chicks and the other with three larger but still small & flightless chicks.

1730 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

4775 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

10, 638 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 3983 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 2435 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 4220 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Despite there being 555 fewer birds on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools than yesterday. This comprehensive count is by far the largest number I've ever seen in coastal Tianjin and is almost twice my previous maximum. (Previous maxima have been 5350 & 4850 on 1 & 5 Sept. 2008 respectively). The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 25,000-100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this total represents between & 10.6 & 42.5% of the entire flyway population. The world population is thought to be between **209,300 & 464,300 Delany & Scott (2002) & these figures were endorsed by Wetlands International (2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition.* Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands)** so today's count represents between **2.3 & 5% of the entire world population!** According to Bamford et al. (2008) the highest counts elsewhere in China have been 8704 at East Dongting Hu NNR on 5 March 2001 & 4567 at Poyang Hu NNR on 1 Feb. 2004. The highest counts during either of the migration seasons were of just 450 in the Huang He NNR on 27 April 1992, 436 in South Bohai Wan on 2 May 2002 and 402 in South-west Bohai Wan also on 2 May 2002. The paucity of large counts in coastal China until recently led Barter (2002) to suggest that most migration is through inland China. Note however that large numbers have recently been discovered wintering at Lianyungang, Jiangsu (Zhang Lin pers. comm. October 2008).

3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

8800 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. 185 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and all the rest were in Tanggu. 30 of the latter flew south over the sea at Haibin Yuchang; 5420 were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe and the bulk of the remainder, 3150 birds, were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Its difficult to believe that the unsurveyed but massive complex of pools between Lujuhe and the sea didn't hold lots more Pied Avocets – they held 3983 birds two days previously. Unfortunately they're now private and completely inaccessible!

1290 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. The bulk of these (750 birds) were on the westernmost reclamation pool. There were also another 35 on the third pool from the east and 380 on the pool three kilometers north of the Sino-Singapore Eco-City Service Park buildings at Caihongqiao, Hangu. Its quite likely that there are over 12,000 Pied Avocets in coastal Tianjin right now!

6100 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 700 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 5300 on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe. The number of birds at the first site had declined massively (from 3150 individuals) since I was there two days previously while those on the Lujuhe pools had dropped by only 120 birds!

2010

65 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

154 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

36 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

2385 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. These involved 820 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while another 1565 were counted the pools north of Haibin Yuchang.

955 near Tanggu on the 23/9/2010. 70 of these were near the Tanggu river mouth while the other 885 were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1620 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER *Pluvialis fulva*

Reported by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 2 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. All three birds were in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) outside the three main coastal count areas.

Tianjin: 10 were seen at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 14 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: One near Beitang on 3 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: Two between Qingtuozi and Chengtougou on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 12 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

1 flew over the coastal salt pans about 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

5 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

1 heard on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

1 heard on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

1 flew north over the river culvert near Tanggu airport on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(13/22 22 80)

1-22 birds were noted on 13 dates 4/9 – 6/10. Low single figure counts were the norm (with singles being noted on four dates & 3 or 4 birds of five more). The highest counts were 19 & 22 that flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 19/9 & 6/10 respectively. 69 of the 80 bird days were of birds flying over – all except one of the grounded birds were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks where 3 or 4 birds were noted on three dates - the 22nd, 25th & 26/9. Elsewhere there was 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 1 2)

1 was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

1 was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

2006

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. All three were moulting summer plumaged adults. The first of the autumn.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

11 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006 - a flock of nine & two birds that were only heard & were logged as singles.

8 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

2007

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

1 flew high to the south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 was heard over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

6 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang & 1 at Jing Qu.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

1 adult on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

4 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

9 birds, a single and then a flock of eight, flew high to the south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

7 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

1 with the Grey Plover flock on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2009

(7/28 20 42)

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.

20 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. These involved 16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & at least four at Gaoshaling.

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

1 was heard on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

1 moulting adult summer in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

15 flew over on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

2 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

2 singles on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

GREY PLOVER *Pluvialis squatarola*

Barter et al. (2001): Counted Internationally Important numbers - 6493 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 and this was the third commonest shorebird present accounting for 11.4% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 2230 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 3151 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 1096 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 16 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 1000 individuals.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 1250 and coastal Tianjin regularly supports in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

1800 in coastal Tianjin on the 2 May 2004 and this was the commonest shorebird between Tanggu & the river immediately north of Beidagang. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 125,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so today's count represents 1.4% of the entire flyway population! Bo Hai Wan is well known as being an important site for this species with Barter (2002) estimating that c.80% of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway population passing through the Yellow Sea on northward migration. Other high counts in the area have included 6493 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000, 3550 in South Bo Hai Wan on 2 May 2002,

2972 in North Bohai Wan on 2 May 2002 & 1994 in the Shi Jiu Tuo (Happy Island)/Daqing He area, Hebei on an unspecified date (all in Bamford et al. 2008).

Reports by other people -

Tianjin: 105 at Hangu seashore on 17 April [LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 40 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 774 at Jingqu, Dagang on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

220 in salt pans about 10 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 10 in similar habitat north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

350 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001

'Present' in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001

200 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

725 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

300 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

200 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

200 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

400 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

400 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

15 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

303 at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

395 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/12/2002 - 358 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & 35 more about two kilometres south of there.

2004

1800 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. Grey Plover was the commonest shorebird between Tanggu & the river immediately north of Beidagang.

1500 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(20/22 300 1293)

1-300 birds were noted almost every day that I was around Tanggu 3/9 – 8/10 though there was no obviously discernible pattern in their occurrence. Low double-figure counts of 10-50 birds were made on nine dates & low three-figure counts of 100-140 birds on five dates. The highest count, 300 on the 7/10/2004, was from the most favoured area - the inter-tidal mudflats either side of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Up to 120 birds regularly used a high tide roost at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks until the tanks became too dry towards the end of September.

2005

(6/11 400)

40 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – 1 at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & the remaining 39 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He.

50 were estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

248 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

400 on the 21/12/2005 – 348 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and 50 at Du Liu Jian Hekou.

10 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

60 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

2006

45 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

800 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou.

45 on the 25/7/2006 – 30 at Lu Ju He & 15 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

30 on the 26/7/2006 - 15 at Hangu & 15 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

15 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.

15 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

220 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

85 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

325 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Only 2 of these 325 birds (<1%) were juveniles!

520 between Yuren Matou, Tanggu & Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

300 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

720 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 200 at Haibinyuchang & 150 at Yuren Matou both Tanggu with 370 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

250 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

800 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

20 on the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

30 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

80 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

550 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

400 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

40 on the salt pans immediately to the north of the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

1505 on the 30/4/2007 - 110 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 130 at Lu Ju He, Tanggu; 70 on the inter-tidal mud flats south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 80 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 1115 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

950 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 901 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 45 on the tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

32 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

130 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 75 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

55 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
1380 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 340 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1030 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
1790 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 140 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1630 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
50 on the inter-tidal mud flats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
1430 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
400 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
1500 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
1500 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

85 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008
240 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008.
510 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
930 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 - 120 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 810 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
800 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
6 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
10 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
60 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
140 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
650 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang on the 1/9/2008.
15 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
450 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
300 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
45 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
830 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
300 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
200 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.
15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
725 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
1130 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
120 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1300 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved 300 in the bay north of Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were about 1000 on the mud flats between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang.
900 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
400 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. These were about equally split between the mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu and those at Jingqu, Dagang.
1185 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
1595 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 1355 in the Jingqu area, Dagang. Further north there were 240 off Haibin Yuchang, Tianjin.
1520 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included 920 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and the remaining 600 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

2009

(13/28 810 866)
810 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
1 at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
1 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
2 flew over Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
1 was heard on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
4 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
25 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
11 flew over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

2 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
415 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
6 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

COMMON RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius hiaticula*

2008

[1 bird, possibly this species, was heard call once over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008].

LONG-BILLED PLOVER *Charadrius placidus*

2006

1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006. My first coastal Tianjin record.

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009. Only my second sighting in Tianjin!

1 juvenile on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Amazingly my second record in two days – and only my third ever! (Photo).

2010

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

LITTLE RINGED PLOVER *Charadrius dubius*

Reported by others -

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 250 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during both the northbound and southbound migrations.

300 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu on the 18/9/2004. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 25,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 1.2% of the entire flyway population! Other than a count of 4658 at Yancheng NNR, Jiangsu on 15 October 1990 the next highest count in China is of 1000 in North-west Bohai Wan on 12 April 2000 (Barter, M., Riegen, A. & Xu, Q. 2003. Shorebird numbers in Bohai Wan during northward migration. *The Stilt* 44: 3-8).

Tianjin: 887 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 22 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: Recorded at Beidagang Reservoir of Dagang on 4 April [2004][LHY]; 50 at Hangu seashore on 22 August [2004][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004)

Tianjin: 100 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 120 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: A very impressive 1000 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 16 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 100 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

45 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. 25 of these were at Fang Qiao Zhao.

20 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

4 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

15 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 300 1337)

Between 2 & 300 birds were noted every day that I was around Tanggu from the 3/9 – 8/10 & there was a dramatic decline in the number of birds present in the area during that period. It's felt likely that the peak passage of this species occurred in August, even before I made my first visit to the area. Three figure counts were the norm in early to mid-September with the highest count, 300 on the 18/9, marking the end of this heavy passage. After that date numbers dropped off dramatically with 50 or fewer being noted from then until the month end. Single figure counts were the norm during my third visit to Tanggu in the first week of October. Up to 150 birds were present on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao during the first few days of September, all the remaining high counts came from the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2005

(5/11 34 81)

20 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – all on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

34 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 13 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 4 on pools near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 17 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

8 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – mostly on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

10 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

5 at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

23 on the 26/7/2006 - 17 at Hangu & 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

4, including one locally fledged bird, at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

32 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. Quite a few (presumably locally fledged?) juveniles were seen today, as on all the previous few days.

10 in the Tanggu/the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006.

12 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

15 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
20 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
166 on the pools immediately to the west of Dagang Power Plant, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
8 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
35 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
10 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
3 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 – 1 flew south at Jing Qu & 2 at Beidagang.

2007

42 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 2 at Beitang, Tanggu; 39 at Beidagang, Dagang; 1 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang.
40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
55 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 15 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu
25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
31 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 29 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
6 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
76 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 72 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
136 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 134 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 2 at Jing Qu.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.
10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
13 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
37 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – 6 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the other 31 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
175 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 95 on the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools & 68 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
75 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These involved 68 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang.
135 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 128 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. One badly oiled bird was seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
225 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – 210 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Yesterday's badly oiled bird was still on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
15 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
115 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
250 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 43 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & all the rest around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
100 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & about 80 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
100 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 80 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other 20 on the Lujuhe impound.
43 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
75 in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
275 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
65 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
60 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
5 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
In addition 1 badly oiled bird was seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

2009

(26/28 245 1779)

45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
40 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
4 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
30 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

195 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 90 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 105 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is a marked increase since last week.

40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

245 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 205 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

45 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

60 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.

50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

192 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 121 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 71 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

70 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

74 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

45 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

45 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

230 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 63 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 89 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 78 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

30 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

94 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. Most of these were besides the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.

2010

7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

20 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

KENTISH PLOVER *Charadrius alexandrinus*

In spring peak numbers probably occur in early April.

In spring coastal Tianjin supports internationally important numbers (950 individuals) of Kentish Plover while in autumn the area regularly supports in excess of 10% of the East Asian Flyway's population of this species.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 950 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during the northbound and regularly well in excess of this number during the southbound migration seasons.

12,000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 7650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 650, *ca.*3000 & *ca.*4000 being recorded on the three largest pools)! Slightly further south another 3500 were estimated to be on the Lujuhe impound & 600 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang. I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Pied Avocet in coastal Tanggu today! The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is 100,000 (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this combined total represents 12% of the entire flyway population! This is probably the second largest count ever in China - the largest count for China and the entire flyway is 24,313 in the Huang He NNR, Shandong on the 6 April 1999. Other high counts in China are 7880 at Chongming Dongtan NNR, Shanghai on 14 Marsh 2001 & 5550 in the Shi Jiu Tuo (Happy Island)/Daqing He area, Hebei on 30 August 1994 [note the close proximity of the date].

Reported by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 261 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.5% of all those shorebirds identified. They noted, however, that their survey occurred after the spring, north-bound, peak of this species. They broke their counts down & logged 88 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 103 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 2 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 68 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere. They state that Beijing Normal University count data confirm that Kentish Plover occurs in internationally important numbers in the hinterland [i.e. on the fish and shrimp ponds and salt pans away from the inter-tidal mudflats].

Tianjin: 500 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 28 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 500 at Hangu seashore on 7 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 200 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][CJZ]; 800 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9-10 April [2005][LHY]; 300 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][WRQ]; 200 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 1000 near Beitang on 8 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 400 near Beitang on 8-9 September [2007][TJL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

2000 in salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10 (including 420 on coastal mudflat 1.5 kms from the northern end of the Hai Gang Gong Lu coast road) & 200 in similar habitat north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

5500 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

'Present' on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

1700 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

2000 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

700 on the settling tank besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 68/11/2001.

2002

2000 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

3000 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

3000 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

'000s on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

1000 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

300 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

400 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

100 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 7000 57630)

Overall Kentish Plover, with more than double the number of bird-days as the second commonest species, Marsh Sandpiper, was easily the commonest shorebird around Tanggu & accounted for a massive 42% of the 137,203 total shorebird bird-days. However this dominance was not the case throughout the entire period that I was present (3/9 – 8/10) as, while it was still very common in early September (day counts during my first visit ranged from 800-4000 birds & averaged 1460 birds/day), it was not quite as common at that time as Red-necked Stint (whose numbers ranged from 800-4500 & averaged 2260 birds/day). This situation had reversed by the time I returned for my second visit on the 17th September & massive numbers of Kentish Plovers were then present. Numbers fluctuated widely from one day to the next, which in itself suggesting a rapid turn over of birds, but no obvious trend was noted. During the month from the 7th September there was an average of over 3100 birds/day in the area! There were five counts of 4000 birds or more, the highest of which 7000, was on the 18/9. The two settling tanks, the one near the Nanjiang Da Qiao & the complex of ones near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre, produced the vast majority or records but there were up to 400 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 24/9, about 200 on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling on the 22/9 & at least 200 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He on the 2/10/2004.

2005

(5/11 5500 15400)

1400 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – 850 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remaining 550 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He.

6000 – 4600 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 1400 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.

Ca.5500 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 4500 were estimated on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 65 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 42 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 840 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 35 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

5000 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 4500 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & most of the remainder on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.

About 3000 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

170 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

300 on the inter-tidal mud flats between Jing Qu & the site six kilometres north of Yuren Matou on the 18/3/2006.

1 was heard at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

125 on the 25/7/2006 – 15 at Hangu, 70 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools and 40 in the Lu Ju He – Tianjin Haibin Yuchang area

3050 on the 26/7/2006 - 750 at Hangu; 55 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 50 at Jing Qu & 2200 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

1000 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. These included 50 at Yuren Matou, 600 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

730 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

2500 on the 29/8/2006 – 150 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

4550 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

1700 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

2500 south of Tanggu on the 1/9/2006 – 1400 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools & about 1100 others between there, Lu Ju He & especially on the mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jing Qu.

700 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

2500 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2000 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

3000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 -

500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – almost all of these were on the Tanggu Harbor Pools.

2000 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2000 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

600 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 400 on the Caihongqiao area, Hangu & 200 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

4100 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 2300 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 800 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 2000 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

6500 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

5000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 1500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 212 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 284 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 430 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 190 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1000 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

1500 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

30 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

140 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 2 at Beitang, Tanggu; 58 at Beidagang, Dagang; 51 on the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang.

1500 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

6000 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007. These included 1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 450 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 4000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

2000 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

6500 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 180 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 2600 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 1500 immediately

south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
4500 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 500 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 4000 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
450 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
3300 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 300 on & near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3000 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3200 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 35 at Beidagang, 1200 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 2000 at Jing Qu.
1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
2000 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
2000 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

3 on the 10/3/2008 – two at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & the other at Beidagang, Dagang.
15 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. Group sizes were as follows – one, one, five & eight.
1900 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 700 at Caihongqiao, Hangu, 800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu & 400 south of Haibin Yuchang.
1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008 – 400 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, 25 others on a freshwater pool also at Jingqu, Dagang & 1100 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
450 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – with about equal numbers (500) on both the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2500 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Birds were present at all three sites but weren't counted at any of them. The Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu held the largest numbers.
2500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. The majority of these were at Jingqu, Dagang.
3000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – less than 200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 2800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 – about 250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & all the rest on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
100 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1950 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited - Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.
2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – 200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & all the rest around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – very few on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu while about 2000 were estimated to be around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
12,000 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – 7650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (with 650, *ca.*3000 & *ca.*4000 being recorded on the three largest pools)! Slightly further south another 3500 were estimated to be on the Lujuhe impound & 600 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang. I logged record numbers of this species as well as of Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpiper and Pied Avocet in coastal Tanggu today!
5 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1000 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
2000 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – counts included 25 at Jingqu, Dagang & in Tanggu district there were 1000+ on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & a similar number in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
4000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
7200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
10,000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these, perhaps 7000 birds, were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu but 2500 were also estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
9100 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 9050 in Tanggu with 7400 on two of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 1650 on the three large pools between Lujuhe & Tanggu airport. Elsewhere there were just 50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
9000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The vast majority of these, 7200 birds, were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
20 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 1500+ on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & 500+ on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
8500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. 5550 of these were counted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while elsewhere in Tanggu there were 1700 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe. Further south there were good numbers (1000-2000 birds in a very rough estimate) on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jingqu.
5000 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. These included 3900 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & *ca.*1000 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou.
6000 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved *ca.*5000 in coastal Tanggu with 3800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 200 on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe & *ca.*1000 in the bay north of Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were about 1000 on the mud flats between Jingqu & Yuren Matou, Dagang.
1000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
1000 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
4500 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/20/2008. These involved 4400 in Tanggu with 3550 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 1750 on the recently reclaimed pool near Lujuhe & about 100 on the mudflats north of the Bai Er Station. Further south in Dagang there were about 100 between Jingqu & the river mouth at Haibin Yuchang.
2400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
3950 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 1450 at Jingqu, Dagang and 2500 in Tanggu with 600 on the pool at Lujuhe & 1900 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The majority of these appeared to be about equally split between three main sites - Jingqu, Dagang & the Lujuhe pool & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools
3000 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. Over half of these (1720 birds) were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu though others were seen on the pool at Lujuhe & on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Bai Er Station, Yuren Matou and Jingqu.
1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Birds were widely encountered along the inter-tidal mudflats.
In addition 1 with oil on its belly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

2009

(28/28 12965 57020)

310 in Tanggu on the 6/5/2009. These included 210 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & at least 50 at Gaoshaling.

110 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. High counts included 45 on a drained pool near Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009. About 15 or 20 juveniles were included in this tally.

250 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.

520 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 250 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu, 120 at Jingqu, Dagang and another 150 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu.

200 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. Birds were almost equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

400 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

850 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 490 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 360 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. This is a marked increase since last week.

400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

600 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

3000 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – 2500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 500 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

800 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 9400 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 6700 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

3000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

1420 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.

2500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

2000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

25 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

1000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

6,000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

12,735 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 5320 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, 1665 on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 5750 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. This is my highest ever count in coastal Tianjin – previous high counts have included 12,000 on 1 Sept. 2008, 10,000 on 27 Sept. 2008 and 9100 on 28 Sept. 2008. The estimated population in the entire East Asian-Australasia Flyway is between 100,000 birds (Bamford M, Watkins D, Bancroft W, Tischler G and J Wahl. 2008. Migratory Shorebirds of the East Asian - Australasian Flyway; Population Estimates and Internationally Important Sites. Wetlands International - Oceania. Canberra, Australia) so this total represents 12.7% of the entire flyway population. The world population is thought to be between 266,400 & 457,000 (Delany & Scott 2002) & between 382,700-457,200 by Wetlands International (2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) so today's count represents between 2.8 & 4.8% of the entire world population! From the figures presented in Bamford et al. (2008) today's count would be the second largest ever in the whole of the east Asian flyway – second only to a massive 24,313 in the Huang He NNR on the 6 March 1999.

3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

5500 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these were on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe, Tanggu.

2500 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009. The bulk of these birds (1450) were on the westernmost reclamation pool.

5000 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009 with numbers about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.

2010

650 on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

2165 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. These were about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

3000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

6350 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

LESSER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius mongolus*

Barter et al. (2001): Counted 351 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for 0.6% of all those shorebirds identified. They broke their counts down & logged 5 between San Jin Tuo (the northern birder with Hebei) & Tanggu, 310 between Tanggu & Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou), 31 in the area between Yuren Matou (Ta Jia Hekou) & Qikou on the southern birder with Hebei & 11 in unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) elsewhere. 1% of the estimated flyway population was stated to be 350 individuals.

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 600 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

5 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004

10 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 2 7)

A mere 1 or 2 birds were noted on six dates between the 5/9 & 4/10. All my sightings were from the two settling tanks, the one near the Nanjiang Da Qiao & the complex of ones near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre, & are detailed as follows - 2 first-winters on the 5th, 1 first-winter on the 6th, single un-aged birds on the 17th, 18th & 23/9 & a final first-winter on the 4/10/2004.

2006

4 summer plumaged adults south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 – 2 at Yuren Matou & 2 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

2 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
11 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
2 summer plumaged adults on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.
1 summer plumaged adult on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
3 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

1 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.
1 juvenile on a pool on the edge of Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
3 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

2008

16 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/5/2008.
1 summer plumaged adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
4, three moulting adults & a juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
12 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008 - one at Jingqu, Dagang 11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
In addition 1 first-summer on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu had a large patch of dark oil on its belly.

2009

(6/28 25 33)

25 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
2, one adult and one separate juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
1 on the pool at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 16/7/2009.
1 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
1 adult male on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

GREATER SAND PLOVER *Charadrius leschenaultii*

Reports by other people -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 1 individual in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. The bird they saw was in an unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location away from their three main count areas.

Tianjin: 50 at Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 12 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 31 at Qingtuozi-Chengtougu on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 200 at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ]. An impressive number and undoubtedly a local record. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

3 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2006

1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.
2 at Jing Qu on the 26/7/2006.
44 on the 27/7/2006 - 39 at Yuren Matou & 5 at Lu Ju He.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006.

2007

33 on the 30/4/2007 - 2 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 31 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2 juveniles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 juvenile at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.

2008

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools, Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.

3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/5/2008.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.

26 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.

6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.

3 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

5 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

7 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.

1 badly oiled juvenile was near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

2 juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

In addition an oiled bird was seen near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

2009

(20/28 29 166)

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

23, including just one juvenile, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

14, including at least two juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

11 in coastal Tanggu on the 16/7/2009 – eight at Bai Er Station & the other three on the pool at Lujuhe.

5 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009 – three on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

11 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

9 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

15 juveniles in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – nine on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. Peak emigration seems to occur in mid- to late July & its possibly the earliest shorebird to reach its peak in autumn.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

9 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Seven were seen well enough to age & all seven were juveniles.

7 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009 – four juveniles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & three on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

5 juveniles in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 – four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & one on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

2 juveniles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

29, including just two adults, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

2010

19 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

sand plover sp.

2002

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

ORIENTAL PLOVER *Charadrius veredus*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 700 but coastal Tianjin does not support any where near this number during any season.

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 24 at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 27 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2008

1 apparent first-summer female on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/5/2008. My first sighting in Tianjin & only the second I've ever seen in China – the first being an injured bird on the Sand Flats at Beidaihe Qinhuangdao, Hebei in late May about ten years ago.

NORTHERN LAPWING *Vanellus vanellus*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 600 but coastal Tianjin does not support this number during any season.

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 108 were recorded at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 17-18 March & 50 at Tuanbowa in Jinghai, Tianjin on 9 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 50 at Tuanbowa Reservoir of Jinghai on 14 November [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 183 at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing on 26-27 March [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 56 at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing between 31 Oct. and 1 Nov. [2006][ZY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

3 & 150 around Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. The birds on the first date were on mudflats near the northern end of the Hai Fang Gong Lu (the coast road immediately south of Tanggu) while the 150 on the 21/10/2000 were all near the Dong Qilhai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 55 108)

Three flocks were noted - 26 birds were down on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/9, 27 flew south over there on the 2/10 & the final flock of 55 birds flew south over Tanggu town in the early afternoon of the 3/10/2004.

2006

1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats off Jing Qu, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

7 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

25 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

30 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2008

3 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

3 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

2 near Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou), Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

61 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008 – 31 on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & another 30 flew south over Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.

22 flew south over Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

75 flew south at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

4 flew over Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

GREY-HEADED LAPWING *Vanellus cinereus*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 100 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during the southbound migration.

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 101 at Qilhai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 26 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

64 flew south past the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002. They were in parties of 1, 22 & 41 birds.

2004 - autumn

(7/22 91 256)

Surprisingly few birds were noted on only seven dates between the 6/9 & 2/10. 98% (251 out of 256) of the bird-days were of birds actually flying south & all records as follows – 87 flew south on the 6th, 2 flew south on the 7th, 30 flew south on the 18th, 91 flew south on the 19th, 41 flew south on the 20th, 1 was down on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks 26/9 & 4 were down on the inter-tidal mudflats off Tanggu airport on the 2/10/2004. Group sizes were 1, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 5, 6, 6, 6, 6, 7, 7, 9, 12, 15, 16, 17, 22, 32, 32 & 43 & showed no obvious change during the period.

2005

(2/11 2 3)

1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

2 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

2006

1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

132 flew south in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. Flocks were the following sizes – 2, 3, 7, 7, 13, 21, 29 & 50.

16 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006. Flock sizes were as follows - 1 (heard only & logged as a single), 2 & 12.

18 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

5 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

2008

25 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 16:45hrs on the 29/8/2008.

2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

207 flew south in Dagang on 3/9/2008 – 187 at Jingqu & 18 at Beidagang. Flock sizes were as follows – two, two, three, six, eight, 13, 13, 17, 17, 24, 25, 34 & 43.

2 singles flew south in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one over Jingqu, Dagang & the other over the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

2009

(2/28 7 11)

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009 – four were down on the reclamation pools while another three flew south overhead.

ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE *Glareola maldivarum*

Taken from Barter (2002) & in turn from Bamford (???) the 1% criterion used to identify internationally important sites for shorebirds is 750 and coastal Tianjin occasionally supports in excess of this threshold during the southbound migration. Note

however that, with the recent discovery of huge numbers wintering in (where in) Australia the figure for this species' total population would be revised markedly up & its likely that Tianjin would no-longer qualify.

Reported by others -

Barter et al. (2001): Counted just 9 individuals in coastal Tianjin during 10-14 May 2000 accounting for <0.1% of all those shorebirds identified. All nine birds were at unspecified miscellaneous [probably non-coastal] location(s) away from the three main count sites. Breeding was suspected at Beidagang.

Tianjin: 50 were seen at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 12 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 100 at Hangu seashore on 12 September [2004][LXY]. (China Bird Report 2004)

Tianjin: 300 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16-17 April [2005][LHY]; 50 at Beidagang Reservoir on 2 May [2005][CJZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 903 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 15-16 Apr. [2006][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 200 at Beidagang on 3 October (2007)[WRQ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

720 on levees between roadside salt pans about one hour's drive south of Tanggu (3 kms north of the border with Hebei & about 8kms north of Qikou) on the 7/9/2001.

2002

5 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(11/22 105 233)

Sightings spanned there period 4-26/9 & there were 10 dates with records of between 1 & 35 birds & one additional, significantly higher count. Beidagang was by far the most favoured site with 11, 'several', 30 & 105 birds there on the 5th, 19th, 25th & 26/9 respectively. Away from here all my encounters were with birds actively migrating. All remaining records were as follows - 4 flew south over Cheng Tou Gu (a small coastal, fishing village about 18.5kms north-north-east [31° of Tanggu) on the 4/9; 2 flew south high over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7th; 20, in parties of 3, 3 & 14 birds, did the same there on the 18th, as did 10 birds on the 19th. 35 birds were noted on the 20th - 10 at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 25 (in flocks of 11 & 14 birds) at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. A single bird was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21st while 8 birds, all in one flock, flew south over there on the 23rd. 7 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 24th &, besides the 30 at Beidagang on the 25/9/2005, 1 also flew south over Lu Ju He.

2005

(2/11 3 4)

3, an adult & two apparently attendant juveniles, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

1 adult was roosting besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

2006

20 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. All the ones seen well were adults moulting some of their flight feathers. Several birds were seen carrying food - presumably to feed their young,

2 near the railroad crossing at Gangtang, north of Dagang at dusk on the 5/9/2006.

119 over Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

115 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006. Two flocks were seen - one of 15 birds, the other of 100.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

1 was heard flying south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

13 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 12 at Beidagang, Dagang.

36 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

26 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

1 injured bird at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1 injured bird, the same bird as yesterday, at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

7 on the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

7 near the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

21 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

15 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

33 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

62 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

30 near the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

30 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

720 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008. Eight birds flew south while all the rest were resting on a sandy area at the eastern end of the reserve.

55 (in flocks of 20 & 35 birds) flew high to the south over Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

37 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

2009

(8/28 41 74)

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

1 flew south over the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009. This was the first migrant I've seen this autumn.

4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

41 birds, in parties of 25 and 16, flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

14 flew over on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
2 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

21 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010. All of those seen well were adults in heavy wing moult.
65 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

BLACK-TAILED GULL *Larus crassirostris*

A non-breeding summer visitor to coastal Tianjin. The first birds typically appear in early April but numbers don't really start to increase until early June when there's an influx. Very few first year birds occur in Tanggu & while there appears to have been a massive increase in Ne China in at least the last 15 years the numbers of birds at this site have remained fairly stable for at least the last three. The number of birds present reaches a protracted & apparently fairly stable peak between late July & early September after which there's a gradual decline. The last birds are generally recorded towards the end of October and mid-winter records are very rare.

One was photographed at Hangu Beach on 19 Dec. 2006 by someone with the internet name ch0585 and an image of this bird can be seen at <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2005/20051205765469.jpg>

Tianjin: 15 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][WRQ]; 58 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 100 near Beitang on 8-9 September [2007][TJL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

200 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 50 north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1215 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001 respectively. These included 880 at the high tide roost besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, 20 at a drainage channel 3 kms north of Lu Ju He, 170 at Lu Ju He, 122 at Hai Bin Yuchang & 23 at Du Lu Jian He.

'Present' in the Tanggu area on the 6/9/2008.

6 on the coast near the border with Hebei on the 7/9/2001.

2002

780 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

567 (only 3 juvenile) at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

600 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

'Present' but not counted on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

400 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

100 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

8 (7 first-years & 1 second-year) south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

3 first-summer on a near coastal pool about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 1500 8870)

Between 20 & 1500 birds were noted every day that I was around Tanggu 3/9 – 8/10 & there was a slight decline in the number of birds present during this period. Most day counts were in the region of 300-600 birds & there were only two four-figure counts – 1000 on the 4th & 1500 on the 5/9/2004. The majority of the higher counts were made at low tide when birds were feeding out on the inter-tidal mudflats & in this manner about 1200 of the ca. 1500 estimated on the 5/9 were on the inter-tidal mud flats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Other favoured areas of mudflat were off Lu Ju He & the majority of the 800 birds counted on the 21/9 were here. Elsewhere about 1000 birds were seen north of Tanggu on the 4/9 & these included 60 at Cheng Tou Gu (a small coastal, fishing village about 18.5kms north-north-east [31°] of Tanggu) & 253 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Cai Jia Pu (another coastal fishing village, this time about 7 kms north of the aircraft carrier & 23.8 kms north-east (46°) of Tanggu). Very few birds were noted at the high tide roost on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks or with the other gulls at the Lu Ju He fishponds.

Birds might well have (occasionally or regularly?) roosted out on the sea - the majority of the 50 birds seen on the 4/10 appeared as though they were planning to roost on the sea immediately to the south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Winter plumaged adults dominated with first-years (juveniles & first-winters combined) being in a distinct minority (see table 2). The proportion of the latter age group varied from 2-8% (n =1321). All five counts that I made were in the period 24/9 – 7/10 &, not surprisingly, there was no noticeable change in the proportions of these two age classes in this very short period.

Table 2: Age ratios of Black-tailed Gulls noted at 2004 - autumn in September & October 2004

	Total	% 1 st year	% adult	Number aged
24 Sept. '04	600	7%	93%	196
25 Sept. '04	400	2%	98%	86
5 Oct. '04	70	4%	96%	46
6 Oct. '04	400	8%	92%	303
7 Oct. '04	900	5%	95%	690

2005

(5/11 1000 2280)

500 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – no more than 10 around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 220 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He & 270 at a high tide roost at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang. Only one juvenile was seen.

755 – 43 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 14 on pools near Tanggu airport & 698 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

Ca.1000 birds were estimated between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang today. Counts included 72 roosting besides on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 123 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 120 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 40 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 311 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 65 on the pool near Gaoshaling & 555 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon. There was undoubtedly some duplication in these counts.

200 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – common & widespread.

15 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

1114 on the 25/7/2006 – 2 over the pools at Hangu, 25 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools, 832 between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 255 on a pool about 800 metres inland from Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

1572 on the 26/7/2006 - 32 at Hangu; 108 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 658 (including one leucistic bird) at Jing Qu; 644 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 30 at Lu Ju He. **One apparent second summer (third calendar year) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools had an orange band on its right leg.** (Photo).

1240 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 44 at Beidagang; 320 at Yuren Matou; 430 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 50 near Gaoshaling, 90 at Lu Ju He & 310 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

120 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

467 on the 29/8/2006 – 50 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 417 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

677 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 356 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 320 near Lu Ju He.

150 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

960 between Tanggu & Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006. 115 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools, 75 on the Tanggu airport pools, 80 besides the Lu Ju He fishponds, 280 on the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, 170 at Yuren Matou & 240 at Jing Qu Dagang.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

158 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

1070 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 250 at Haibinyuchang & 220 at Yuren Matou, both Tanggu and 602 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.

100 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

550 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 250 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.& 300 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.

50 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.

600 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 21 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 292 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 50 on the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu; 130 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 40 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang & 70 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

1020 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 – 570 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 550 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu.

1140 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 25 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 212 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 284 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 430 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 190 at Jing Qu, Dagang. A sample count of 124 birds besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang yielded 123 adults & just one first-year!

300 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

8 first-summerers at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.

4 first-summerers in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 – two tidal mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu & two more on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.

55 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

735 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 54 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 126 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 95 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 205 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 355 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang. **One adult with 204 other birds at the high tide roost at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, coastal Tianjin (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) had a dark green band above its left knee.**

150 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

80 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

378 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 87 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 8 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 43 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 240 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

735 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 48 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 220 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 465 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

135 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

78 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 35 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

223 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 43 at Jing Qu & 180 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

326 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 76 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu, 65 on the pools at Gaoshaling & 195 at Jing Qu.

65 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

80 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 first-summer on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/8/2008 – with about equal numbers around both the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

45 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 39 at Caihongqiao, Hangu (mostly on the inter-tidal mudflats) & 6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1152 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. Of these 669 were in Tanggu - 301 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 348 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 20 on the Tanggu airport pool & the remaining 483 were at Jingqu, Dagang.

205 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 39 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 166 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

85 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

285 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

660 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 270 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 390 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

1527 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited today with 140 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 632 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 35 the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). Further south there were 520 at Jingqu, Dagang.

40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

300 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – 135 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & about 160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1523 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 715 were in coastal Tanggu with 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 20 on the Lujuhe impound &

660 at Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 808 at Jingqu, Dagang. Amazingly this is just four birds fewer than I counted in this same area four days previously!

45 roosting during the early morning high tide around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

150 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 148 at Jingqu & two at Beidagang. Black-tailed Gull 1168 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – 283 at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou and an impressive 845 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

230 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008 – 184 at Jingqu & about 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

240 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – 68 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 170 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

1280 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. Counts included about 1060 birds in coastal Tanggu with 170 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 178 at Lujuhe, 710 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 221 at Jingqu, Dagang.

350 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 238 in Tanggu with 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 228 at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were 100+ at Caihongqiao, Hangu.

400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The majority of these were about equally split between Jingqu, Dagang & the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

200 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 59 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & 100+ on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. No large concentrations were noted.

150 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. The majority of these were on the mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

110 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included at least 85 in coastal Tanggu with 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 25 at Lujuhe, 30 on the now dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 15 at Bai Er Station near Yuren Matou.

16 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

65 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008. These included about 20 in Dagang including 15 in the tidal river channel immediately south of Yuren Matou & 46 in Tanggu with six near Bai Er Station and 40 at Haibin Yuchang.

20 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.

143 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved 22 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang and 121 in Tanggu with 12 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & 109 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

75 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These involved five at Jingqu, Dagang and 70 in Tianjin with two with the Black-headed Gull flock at Gaoshaling, five at Lujuhe and 63 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

37 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 13 in Dagang with five at Jingqu and eight at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 24 in Tanggu with two at Bai Er Station, eight at Haibin Yuchang, three at Lujuhe and just 11 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

98 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These included 72 birds in Dagang with two adults at Beidagang where unusual, 12 at Jingqu & 58 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north in Tanggu there were 23 on the mudflats immediately north of Bai Er Station & three at Lujuhe.

2009

(26/28 523 4188)

32 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009. All were first-summerers.

4 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.

31 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. Nine of these, including two first-summerers, were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu; 15 at Jingqu, Dagang & seven at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.

32 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.

11, including a juvenile (the earliest that I've ever seen a bird of this age here), on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

212, including at least one juvenile, on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

264 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – just two on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 262 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

210 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

150 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009

247 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

110 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.

85 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. Numbers continue to be well down on previous autumns – perhaps because of a lack of inter-tidal mud flats.

67 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.

475 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 464 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 11 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

522 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

416 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

127 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

389 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. These involved 273 on the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, seven on the pools either side of Lujuhe and 109 more on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

523 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. 387 of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and there was an adult at Beidagang. All the rest (145) were in Tanggu with 120 at Haibin Yuchang & 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

55 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

161 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 153 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other just eight on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.

2010

2 first-summerers on the mudflats off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

300 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

375 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

110 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

MEW GULL *Larus canus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 18 March & 50 at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 6 December 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 437 on (the coast?) on 14 February [2004][LY]; 400 at Hangu seashore on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 200 at Tanggu on 8-9 January [2005][LHY]; 353 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on 6 March [2005][WN]; 20 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9-10 April [2005][LHY]. 48 were already back at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (All reports China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 950 at Jingqu, Dagang on 18-19 Feb. [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

Less than 10 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

2 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

30 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

60 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

70 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

400 birds inc. individuals assumed to be *heinei* & others to be *kamtschatschensis* south of Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

860 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/12/2002 - 10 near the northern end of the Nanjiang Daqiao, 550 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, 300 more about two kilometres south of there & six near Haibin Yuchang.

150 from Haang Lu south of Tanggu on the 24/12/2002. Only about 8 first-winters were racially assigned & all appeared to be *L. c. heinei*. Conversely all the adults had pale irides, white wedges invading the inside of the black primary tip & all were therefore assumed to be *L. c. kamtschatschensis*. Also, when seen well, most second-winters, also had pale irides. Of a sample of 96 birds - 89 were adult-winters, four were 2nd-winters & three were 1st-winters.

2003

50 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/1/2003. Of the 16 aged birds six were adult-winters, five were 2nd-winters & five 1st-winters.

20 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/11/2003.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

600 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 100 on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

320 south of Tanggu on the 26/1/2004 - 15 besides the river culvert about 10 kms south of Tanggu, 65 on the mudflats off Tanggu airport, 20 on the mudflats off Lu Ju He (statue of small horse) & about 220 off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

2004 - autumn

(12/22 3 18)

1-3 birds were noted on 12 dates from the 7/9 until I left the Tanggu area at the start of the second week in October. All records as follows - 1 second year on the 7th; 3, an adult & two first-years, on the 18th; an adult-winter on the 20th; 3 & 1 on the 22nd & 23rd respectively; single second years on the 24th & 26/9; an adult on the 2nd; 2, an adult & a first-winter, on the 3rd; 1 on the 4th; 1 juvenile on the 6th; 2, an adult & a juvenile, on the 7/10. In all there were 5 records of first-years, 3 of second-years, 5 of adults & 5 where I didn't take any notes on their ages. There were six bird-days for individuals that I assigned to *L. c. heinei* between 18/9 - 7/10/2004.

2005

(4/11 150 450)

80 on the 21/12/2005 - 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and 30 at Du Liu Jian Hekou.. 40 first-winters were noted as being *L. c. heinei*.

80 on the 22/12/2005 - these included 30 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and about 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.

140 on the 23/12/2005 - these included 80 on pools south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and 40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang. Several apparent *kamtschatschensis* were photographed at the first site.

150 on the 24/12/2005 - about 50 at Jing Qu, Dagang and 100 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

2006

45 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu on the 17/3/2006.

300 on the 18/3/2006 - including ca.100 on pools just north of Yuren Matou and another 120 on the inter-tidal mudflats about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

10 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 4 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu.

Seven of these birds were first-years (juveniles or first-winters).

2007

1 juvenile *heinei* on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 first-winter *heinei* at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

280 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008

250 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008.

55 on the 10/3/2008 - 30 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 25 at Jingqu & one at Beidagang, Dagang.

1 adult-winter with other gulls besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

1 second-winter besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

2 first-winters in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 - one at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

1 first winter at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.

1 adult in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, on the Tanggu-Dagang border on the 18/10/2008.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved three (two adults and a juvenile) at Haibin Yuchang & three (again two adults and one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2 in Tanggu on the 23/10/2008. An adult at Gaoshaling and a first-winter besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2010

14 south of Tanggu on the 22/4/2010. These involved 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools & two others at Haibin Yuchang. 11 birds were aged & this produced one adult, two second-summers & eight first-summers.

1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

GLAUCOUS GULL *Larus hyperboreus*

2004

1 first year at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 26/1/2004.

SLATY-BACKED GULL *Larus schistisagus*

'HERRING GULL ASSEMBLAGE'

2000

50 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 30 north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2002

6 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

2003

10 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/11/2003.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

20 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 3/1/2004.

3 flew high west over at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

2004 - autumn

(18/22 100 484)

1-100 birds were noted most days that I was around Tanggu, 3/9 – 8/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 100 100)

1 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

100 on the 24/12/2005 – 10 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and 90 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2006

15 between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu on the 17/3/2006.

40 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly on the pools just north of Yuren Matou.

150 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

20 in the Tanggu-the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006.

20 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

25 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

40 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 35 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

60 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 -

10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.

30 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.

10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.

10 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.

400 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – most of these were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu.

400 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 – 40 at Jing Qu, Dagang & most of the others besides the fish ponds at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.

600 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 20 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 110 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 400 at the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 30 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 40 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

20 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.

25 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

15 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

10 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 4 at Beidagang & 6 at Jing Qu.

25 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.

20 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

10 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

30 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008

45 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008.

410 on the 10/3/2008 – 15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 15 at Jingqu & the other 380+ at Beidagang, Dagang.

80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

6 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2008.
 6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
 61 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
 30 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
 30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
 4 roosting during the early morning high tide around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
 20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
 6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
 20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
 50 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008. These were about equally split between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 540 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. The vast majority of these, 410 birds, were on one of the settling tanks at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
 150 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008. The vast majority of these were at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
 450 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The majority of these (385 birds) were at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
 300 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. The vast majority of these, 240 birds, were besides the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu right at dawn.
 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
 150 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Most of these, 120 birds, were seen very distantly in the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
 150 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
 150 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. Birds were widespread along the coast with the only concentration of note being ca.80 at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
 30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
 110 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008. The majority of these, 90 birds, were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
 50 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
 200 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The majority of these were besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 100 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
 220 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. Most of these were in Tanggu with 49 at Haibin Yuchang and 156 at Lujuhe.
 30 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(7/28 100 228)

2 very distant birds flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
 100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
 20 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
 30 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
 15 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
 55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools on the 22/4/2010.
 10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010. These were about equally split between Caihongqiao, Hangu & Beitang reservoir, Tanggu.
 7 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
 25 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

SIBERIAN GULL *Larus heuglini taimyrensis*

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [206][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2004 - autumn

(7/22 3 13)

1-3 birds were noted on about one-third of the days that I was in the Tanggu area & all the sightings were between 20/9 & 7/10. All sightings, except one, were of birds among the gathering of large gulls at the Lu Ju He fishponds & are as follows - 3 juveniles on both the 20th & 21st; single juveniles on the 24th & 25/9; 2 adults, or near adults, on the 2/10 - the first was on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the second besides the Lu Ju He fishponds; 2, a summer adult & a first-summer moulting to second-winter, on the 6th & the same moulting first summer again on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 adult with other gulls on a frozen shrimp pond about one kilometre south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. (Photo).

2006

2 adults at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2007

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

2008

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
 2, a summer plumaged adult and a second-winter, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008. Both were photographed.
 1 adult at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
 2 adults in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. One on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other at Lujuhe.
 1 adult at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
 3 different adults in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008 - two at Jingqu, Dagang & one at Yuren Matou, Dagang.
 1 adult with other gulls on the mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.

VEGA GULL *Larus vegae*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 2 were seen at Qililai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March, 30 at the shore in Tangu, Tianjin on 1 October & 20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 6 December 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 371 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on 6 March [2005][WN]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 29 on the Tangu coast on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 17-18 March [2007][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

30 in Tangu on the 5/9/2001.

70 in Tangu on the 6/9/2001.

400 in Tangu on the 6/11/2001.

200 in Tangu on the 7/11/2001.

80 in Tangu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

6 (5 ad-w & 1 2nd-w) on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

8 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

40 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2003

5 at Haibin Yuchang, Tangu on the 4/1/2003.

2004

1 adult-winter at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 26/1/2004.

2004 - autumn

(18/22 670 3446)

Up to 670 birds were noted nearly every day that I was in the Tangu area 3/9 – 8/10 &, although numbers varied erratically from one day to the next, there appeared to be an overall increase in the number of birds present in the area during the period. Once again the vast majority of birds were at the Lu Ju He fishponds. The three highest counts were 600 on the 2nd (nearly all were besides the Lu Ju He fishponds), 670 on the 6th (of which about 650 birds were besides the Fishponds) & 650 on the 8/10/2004 (again with 600+ besides the Fishponds).

2005

(4/11 8 14)

1 adult-winter at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tangu on the 21/12/2005.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

8 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

10 between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu on the 17/3/2006.

20 near Tangu on the 18/3/2006.

40 at Beitang Reservoir, Tangu on the 20/3/2006.

4 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

1 on the Tangu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

47 besides the Lu Ju He fishponds, Tangu on the 5/9/2006.

4 in the Tangu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tangu.

10 near Teda, Tangu on the 7/9/2006.

4 in the Tangu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.

250 near Tangu on the 4/10/2006 – most of these were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tangu.

200 south of Tangu on the 7/10/2006 – several at Jing Qu, Dagang & most of the others besides the fish ponds at Lu Ju He, Tangu.

300 near Tangu on the 8/10/2006 – most of these were besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds.

2007

5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.

2008

25 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tangu area on the 16/1/2008

45 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tangu area on the 17/1/2008.

3 over the river in central Tangu on the 20/1/2008.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 27/8/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 6/9/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 7/9/2008.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 26/9/2008.

10 in the Tangu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.

7 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 10/10/2008.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 11/10/2008.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 13/10/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 18/10/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 22/10/2008.

2 with other gulls besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tangu on the 23/10/2008.

In addition 1 slightly oiled bird at Lujuhe, Tangu on the 11/10/2008.

2010

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

MONGOLIAN GULL *Larus mongolicus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 239 were recorded at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 5-8 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 207 on the Tanggu seashore on 14 February [2004][LY]; 40 at Hangu seashore on 13 March [2004][LJY]. Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 1000 at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing on 26-27 March [2005][YY]; 100 at Hangu on 3 April [2005][YY]; 60 at Huanggang Reservoir on 11 April [2005][HP]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 80 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 1 Mar. [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 20 at Beidagang on 3 October [2007][WRQ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

45 inc. 10 first-winters & at least 3 2nd-winters south of Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

44 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/12/2002 - 4 near the northern end of the Nanjiang Daqiao & 40 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.

47 from Haang Lu south of Tanggu on the 24/12/2002.

6 on route to Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

2003

4 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/1/2003.

2004

6 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 4/1/2004.

79 on the 26/1/2004 - 15 besides the river culvert about 10 kms south of Tanggu, 10 on the mudflats off Tanggu airport, 6 on the mudflats off Lu Ju He (statue of small horse) & 42 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 6 flew high over Beidagang.

1 first-year near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 8 12)

All sightings were at the Lu Ju He Fishponds where there were 8 (mostly first- & second-year birds) on the 21/9, 2 on the 24/9 & 2 more on the 6/10/2004.

2005

(7/11 25 77)

12 - 2 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 4 on pools near Tanggu airport & 6 either on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang or besides the Lu Ju He fishponds.

17 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 4 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

7 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 6 on the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

5 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 21/12/2005..

25 in Tanggu district on the 22/12/2005 - 20 flew over the Bei Tang Reservoir and another 5 were on a shrimp pond near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

6 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 23/12/2005.

5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

3 on the 25/7/2006 - 1 at Hangu, 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

4 on the 26/7/2006 - 1 at Hangu, 2 at Jing Qu & 1 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

2 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 27/7/2006.

1 juvenile on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

15 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

1 juvenile besides the Lu Ju He fishponds, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.

2 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2007

1 first-summer on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

2008

375 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

8 with other gulls on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 - with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

60 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.

30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008. Birds were almost equally split between Lujuhe, Tanggu & Caihongqiao, Hangu.

50 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. The majority of these were at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
30 besides the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
29 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
75 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/20/2008. 15 of these were near Caihongqiao, Hangu & there were also at least 60 in Tanggu with 20 the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 39 at Lujuhe.
40 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included 35 at Lujuhe, Tanggu.
15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
40 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The majority of these were besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

In addition oiled birds were noted on the following occasions -

- 1 first year with oil on its chest was with other large gulls on the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
- 2 slightly oiled birds at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. One had a small amount of pale oil on its belly the other the same oil on its belly & chest.
- 1 juvenile with a small amount of pale brown oil on its chest at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

2009

(8/28 40 72)

1 adult at Jingqu, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
1 second calendar year on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
3 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools on the 22/4/2010.
3 at Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.
7 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
6 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

PALLAS'S GULL *Larus ichthyaetus*

Rare, but probably annual, passage migrant. Up to the end of 2008 there have been just five records, all involving single birds. One at Qilihai, Ninghe on 25 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003) was the only one in spring. I've personally seen four birds, three first years and one adult-winter, and all were photographed. All records as follows -

Reported by others -

One at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 25 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2006

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006. (Photo).
1 juvenile moulting to first-winter was on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006. (Photo).

2008

1 first-winter with other large gulls at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008. Although it was between 300-400 metres distant I was identifiably photographed. I have seen only two others in Tianjin before. Both were in Tanggu in autumn 2006 & both were photographed - a juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006 & a juvenile moulting to first-winter was on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang about five weeks later on the 8/10/2006. There's at least one other record from the municipality - a single bird at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 25 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).
1 adult winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008. (Photographed). This is the fourth Pallas's Gull that I have seen in Tanggu & the first one that wasn't a first calendar year bird. All four have been photographed & the previous three sightings were -
A juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 29/8/2006
A juvenile moulting to first-winter was on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang on the 8/10/2006.
A first-winter with other large gulls at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
1 adult-winter with the roosting Relict Gulls on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. It was a different bird to the adult seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Site Pools on the 18 October.

There's at least one other record from the municipality - a single bird at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 25 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

BROWN-HEADED GULL *Larus brunnicephalus*

2000

An adult winter with Black-headed Gulls along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) about 10 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. My first sighting of this species in Tianjin & possibly the first record for the municipality.

2007

1 first summer flew west at 11:40hrs low over the lake at Beidagang on the 1/5/2007. It was with a flock of eight first-year Black-headed Gulls.

2008

1 first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008. My previous sightings in coastal Tianjin were of an adult winter along the coast road (Hai Fang Gong Lu) about 10 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 & a first summer at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 adult-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009. Probably an early date for the Chinese coast this is only my fourth encounter with this species in coastal Tianjin. My previous sightings were of another adult-winter on the coast road ten kilometers south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000; a first-summer at Beidagang, Dagang on 1/5/2007 and a first-winter at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2010

1 adult flew high to the west with a flock of about 80 Black-headed Gulls at Beidagang, Dagang at 05h45 on the 24/4/2010.

BLACK-HEADED GULL *Larus ridibundus*

Juveniles are present from at least mid-July.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 1,202 at Tanggu on 26 November [2004][LJY].

Tianjin: 2000 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]; 756 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (Both records in China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 2600 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 1-2 Apr. [2006][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 500 at Hangu on 3 November [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

1000 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & a similar number north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

2000 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

2000 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

ca.600 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. (this included c80 at San Jia Dian & 300 near Wu Bai Hū).

1600 south of Tanggu on the 6/11/2001 respectively.

2000 south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001 respectively. The count included 650+ on mudflats 2kms south of Lu Ju He (& 1 km north of Hai Bin Yuchang).

1000 south of Tanggu on the 8/11/2001 respectively.

2002

800 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

400 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

300 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

500 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

300 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

300 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

10 in Tanggu Port itself on the 21/12/2002

80 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/12/2002 - 60, mostly flying south-east, presumably leaving a roost site near the northern end of the Nanjiang Daqiao & 20 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre.

10 from Haang Lu south of Tanggu on the 24/12/2002.

20 on route to Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

2003

30 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/1/2003.

15 between Tianjin & Tanggu on the 29/11/2003.

40 on the 30/11/2003.

2004

600 & 50 on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively. 15 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 26/1/2004.

2004

15 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 26/1/2004.

150 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

150 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 27160 10000)

Birds were noted every day that I was in the Tanggu area 3/9 – 8/10 & most day counts were of between 200-1500 birds. There were two significantly higher counts however, with 10,000 & 8,000 on the 6th & 7/10 respectively. On these dates nearly all of the birds (9500+ on the 6th & 7500 on the 7th) were on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. At Lu Ju He shortly after dawn on the 7/10/2004 there was a steady passage of birds heading southeast & inland & I surmised that they might have roosted on the sea to the north of Lu Ju He & were heading inland on to one of the large pools. The vast majority of birds were adult (the opposite of the situation inland at Miyun reservoir, Beijing during the same period (pers. obs)).

Table 3: Age ratios of Black-headed Gulls noted at 2004 - autumn in September & October 2004

	Total	% 1 st year	% adult	Number aged
24 Sept. '04	1000	6%	94%	230
25 Sept. '04	3000	0%	100%	117
2 Oct. '04	4000	3%	97%	322
6 Oct. '04	10000	7%	93%	575
7 Oct. '04	8000	2%	98%	748

2005

(9/11 2500 3160)

40 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – most on the near coastal pools immediately inland from Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
185 on 28/8/2005 – 45 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 55 on pools near Tanggu airport 85 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
2500 birds were estimated between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the Gaoshaling pool on the 29/8/2005.
200 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - common & widespread.
25 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.
100 on the 21/12/2005 – including 50 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
30 on the 22/12/2005 – nearly all of these were on a shrimp pond near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
40 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 23/12/2005.
40 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/12/2005.

2006

160 between Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou & Jing Qu on the 17/3/2006.
300 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
20 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
1000 on the 25/7/2006 – with the largest gathering being 800 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools
2000 on the 26/7/2006 including 1000 at Hangu & 700 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
920 were estimated south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. These included 50 at Beidagang, 20 at Yuren Matou, 50 in the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang/Gaoshaling area and 500 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
3000 in the Tanggu-the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006. 16 out of 400 birds at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools had some oil on them.
1000 between Tanggu, Lu Ju He, Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou (all in Tanggu) and Jing Qu (Dagang) on the 30/8/2006.
400 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
2000 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
500 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
2000 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006.
2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 -
400 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – most of these were on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu.
1000 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.
200 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006
1000 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – most of these were either at the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu or Jing Qu, Dagang.
2500 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
3000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
1500 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 – 1200 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 300 at Beidagang.
300 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

30 on the 30/4/2007 - 15 at Caihongqiao, Hangu and a similar number near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
200 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 80 at Beitang, Tanggu; 15 at Beidagang, Dagang; 74 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu.
230 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
1200 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007.
200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
200 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
1250 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 40 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 300 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 400 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 500 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
500 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007.
40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
60 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
300 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 50 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 250 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
670 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 150 at Beidagang, 20 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 500 at Jing Qu.
700 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
500 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 300 at Beidagang, Dagang & 200 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
500 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 16/1/2008.
15 on the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
30 besides the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
10 over the river in central Tanggu on the 20/1/2008.
280 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/3/2008.
25 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 5 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 20 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
300 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008. As with the following species all of those seen well enough were non-breeding first-summers.
13 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
340 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
2600 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Birds were present at all three sites but were only specifically counted at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu where there were 2250 birds. Three juveniles were seen today – the first of the autumn.
2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. The majority of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
5400 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 5150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. 6 birds with varying amounts of oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
3500 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008. The vast majority of these were around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
1200 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. An unusually large number of oiled birds (19) were noted on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu – all had oil on their breasts and many also on their bellies as if they'd picked it up while swimming on the water (perhaps at an overnight roost?).
1500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008. As yesterday an unusually large number of oiled birds (14) were noted that had oil on their breasts and many also on their bellies as if they'd picked it up while swimming on the water (perhaps at an overnight roost?).
900 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 4000 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited – the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu) & at Jingqu, Dagang.

400 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008.

500 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – very few at Caihongqiao, Hangu & about 500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

7750 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 4280 were in coastal Tanggu with 1750 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, just 10 on the Lujuhe impound, 520 on the Gaoshaling pools & 2000 in the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 3450 at Jingqu, Dagang.

40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

500 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1500 in the Dagang-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The majority of these, 1200 birds, were on one of the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu.

500 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008. The vast majority of these on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

1000 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.

2000 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.

1000 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.

1500 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.

3000 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Almost all of these were on a single large pool immediately northwest of the Caihong Bridge.

500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

3000 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. The vast majority of these were on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 2/10/2008.

200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

800 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Most of these, about 500 birds, were at Jingqu, Dagang where a sample count of 198 birds yielded 54 first-years (27%) & 144 adults (73%).

2000 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008. About 500 of these were on the now dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang while the bulk of the days' birds flew west over Caihongqiao, Hangu immediately before dawn. It appeared that most of the latter had roosted on the mudflats (& possibly a few on the sea) off there.

1500 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

500 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

1000 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.

500 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.

200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.

2300 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The majority of these were in the river mouth immediately north of the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

3390 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These included about 420 in Dagang with 120 at Jingqu and 300 at Beidagang. Further north there were at least 3465 in coastal Tanggu with 2600 on a large pool about 1.5 kms west of the Gaoshaling toll booth, 215 at Haibin Yuchang, 100 at Lujuhe & 550 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. A sample count of 720 birds on the pool at Gaoshaling produced 134 first-winters (19%) & 586 adults (81%).

600 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

800 at numerous sites in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.

In addition oiled birds were noted on the following occasions -

- 1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008 was extensively smeared with pale oil.
- 6 with varying amounts of oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
- 14 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
- 1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
- 8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
- 1 with light oil on its chest at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
- 1 with light oil on its chest at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
- 1 slightly oiled bird (with a small amount of pale oil on its belly) at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
- 2 birds both with oil on their chest and bellies were seen on the 10/10/2008 – one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
- 1 with a small amount of pale brown oil on its chest at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
- 1 with a small amount of pale oil on its belly & chest was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
- 1 with a small amount of pale brown oil on its underparts at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
- 4 with small amounts of pale brown oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
- 1 badly oiled adult was with the other gulls on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. It had a considerable amount of rich coppery coloured oil over its entire underparts.

2009

(28/28 8350 36201)

250 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. Other than a single at Gaoshaling, Tanggu all the others were at Beidagang, Dagang. Ever bird that was aged (100+ birds) were first summers.

150 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Bai Er Station, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009. All of those seen well (100+ birds) were first-summerers.

110 birds, including two juveniles, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

650, including just two juveniles, in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 437 of these were in coastal Hangu with 2 over the Caihongqiao pools & another 435 on the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge. Elsewhere there were at least 200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Only two juveniles were seen.

150 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 24 of these, including the only juvenile of the day, were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

600 in coastal Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. The vast majority of these (550+ birds) were on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

2550, including just one juvenile, on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. This is a marked increase on the previous few days.

40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

800 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009. The vast majority of these were on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.

150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

3000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. Less than ten juveniles were seen.

3000 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

3700 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

1400 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.

8350 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
2500 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
1000 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
300 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2000 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
900 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
800 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
1500 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
1000 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
1000 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. Most of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2010

300 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
1550 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010. The vast majority of these (1250 birds) were seen at Caihongqiao, Hangu shortly after sunrise & had presumably roosted on the sea offshore.
450 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
800 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010.
1500 in & around Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
3150 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

SLENDER-BILLED GULL *Larus genei*

2006

1 summer plumaged adult south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. Probably the first record for Tianjin. (Photo).

SAUNDERS'S GULL *Larus saundersi*

Reports by others -

See also Yang Liu, Paul Holt and Zheng-wang Zhang Wintering Records of Saunders's Gull in Bohai Bay, China J. Yamashina Inst. Ornithol., 38: 100-103, 2007 Yamashina Institute for Ornithology 100.

L. CAO, M. A. BARTER and X. WANG Saunders's Gull: a new population estimate. Bird Conservation International (2008), 18:301-306 Cambridge University Press.

The globally threatened ('Vulnerable') Saunders's Gull *Larus saundersi* has a small, declining population occupying highly-threatened habitats mainly along the coasts of China, the Korean Peninsula and Japan. The availability of recent count data from key non-breeding regions has provided an important opportunity to re-estimate the species' population size and this is now believed to be a minimum of 14,400 birds, which is more than 70% higher than the mid-point of the current estimated range (7,100-9,600). However the apparent population increase is almost certainly due to increased survey effort. It is likely that the population is continuing to decline given the significant threats to habitats and high human disturbance levels occurring across the species' range. There are increasing opportunities for coordinated counts of Saunders's Gulls along the Chinese coastline and these data, combined with those being collected annually from other parts of the non-breeding range, should allow improved population estimates to be obtained and the generation of much-needed population trend information.

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cited one report –

Tanggu, April 1935 (specimen in ASCN), reported to probably be breeding in the area (G. J. Carey in Wang Hui and Sai Daojian 1996), but this has never been confirmed (G. J. Carey *in litt.* 2000);

Tianjin: Records between Tanggu 15 on 21 February [2004][WQ] and 36 on 20 November [2004][LJY]; 30 at Beidagang Reservoir of Dagang on 18 December [2004][CJZ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004). I questioned the latter report in litt. to Liu Yang.

Tianjin: One at Tanggu on 8-9 January [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 941 at Jingqu, Dagang on 18-19 Feb. [2006][LY] was a local record. At Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang there was one on 1-2 Apr. [2006][TZ], 15 on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ], and two during 11-12 Nov. [2006][CYZ]. Rare away from the coast, these records are probably exceptional. At Tanggu there were 61 on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu], 15 on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. At Hangu two on 15-16 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 21 October [2007][ZL] – very rare at this non-coastal site; six at Hangu on 3 November [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

59 (5 first-winters, 1 still in virtually complete adult-summer plumage & the rest apparently adult-winters with possibly some second-winters present but too distant to distinguish) along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu, & 6 kms south of the tourist resort of Hai Bin Yu Chang, on the 20/10/2000.

2001

148 on inter-tidal mudflats within 26 kms south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001. 1 first-winter about 9 kms south of the city and another 147 at a second site between

22 & 26 kms south of the city (38° 48.55' N., 117° 35.52' E.). All but 30 of these 147 birds were adults (or 2nd-winters – though most were too distant to distinguish these two age groups & no actual second winters were identified). One of these first-winters bore a colour ring. I requested information via the OrientalBirding email discussion group & Hiraoka Takashi of the Collection Room of the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology, Konoyama 115, Abiko, Chiba Pref., Japan 270-1145. (Phone:+81-471-82-1101, Fax: +81-471-82-1106 replied on behalf of Mr. Ozaki, the head of the bird migration research center, at the Yamashina Institute. 'YG' was banded on 21st June 2001, at the Shuangtaihekou National Nature Reserve Liaoning, China, (40.50 N., 121.35 E.) as a chick. A colour flagging project of Saunders's Gull has been conducted since 1996 by the Chinese National Bird Banding Center & Shuangtaihekou National Nature Reserve in conjunction with two Japanese sponsors - Kitakyushu-city & the Yamashina Institute for Ornithology. Every year, 100-200 Saunders's Gull (mainly chicks) were banded with colour flag with two letters (such as :01-99,A1-Y9,AA-YY). The sight record south of Tanggu is, according to Mr Hiraoka's correspondence the first evidence that the Shuangtaihekou birds spending this season at the south of Bo Hai.

2002

176 in coastal Tanggu on the 21/12/2002 -two adult-winters near the at the high tide wader roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & 174, inc. a 'decent proportion' of 1st-winters about one kilometre south of Haibin Yuchang.

126 along about 5 kms of inter-tidal mudflats between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/12/2002.

121 from Haang Lu south of Tanggu on the 24/12/2002 – 63 at Lujue & within 2 kms to the north of there. (57 ad.-w – inc. at least a couple of 2nd-w with brown hue to the primary coverts & possibly also the alula. 6 1st-w.) Elsewhere there were 68 more at the traditional Saunders's Gull site further south – where the colour flagged bird was seen in 2000.

2003

29 (25 adults & four 1st-winters) at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/1/2003.

2004

12 & 4 (all first-winters) on the mudflats immediately around Haibin Yuchang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

1 first-winter at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 26/1/2004.

1, first-summer, on a brackish tidal lagoon immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2, first-summers, on a brackish tidal lagoon immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

9,(4/22 2 5)

1 or 2 birds were noted on four widely scattered dates. All records as follows - 1 juvenile moulting to first-winter, presumably a locally fledged bird, was seen over the inter-tidal mudflats about 1 km north of Tanggu airport on the 4/9. 1 first-winter was hunting crabs over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 24/9. 1 first-winter was seen off Lu Ju He on the 2/10 & 2 winter plumaged adults were on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(4/11 864 1113)

173 at Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang on the 21/12/2005. A high proportion (not assessed) of these were first-winters.

20 on the inter-tidal mudflats within seven kilometres south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

864 were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005! A massive count – the scale of which was totally unexpected. This is possibly the highest count anywhere in China away from the two main breeding colonies of Shuangtaizi, Liaoning and Yancheng, Jiangsu. A sample count of 122 birds were aged and this produced 117 (96%) adults and a paltry 5 (4%) first-winters!

56 on the 24/12/2005 – 55 resting on the ice at Jing Qu, Dagang and 1 ad-w at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

2006

16 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Yuren Matou on the 17/3/2006.

26 on the 18/3/2006 – 1 at Hangu & 25 at Yuren Matou

1 juvenile at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006.

1 juvenile on the inter-tidal mudflats at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

1 juvenile moulting to first-winter on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

1 first-winter on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

6 (two adults & four first-winters) at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

13 (10 adults & 3 first-winters) at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

3 adults at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

6 first summers on the 30/4/2007 - 2 first-summers on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 1 first-summer at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 3 first-summers at Jing Qu.

2 birds (juveniles moulting to first-winter) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 first-winter at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

13 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.

3 first-winters at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

8 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

85 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008

116 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang area on the 17/1/2008. Earlier 80 birds were seen at Yuren Matou, Tanggu but some, if not all of these, were probably later seen at Jingqu & these were not included in the total.

2 first-years (one of which was almost entirely juvenile) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

3, two adults & a first-winter, at one of the high tide gull roosts at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

5 (two adults & three first years) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

3 (two first-winters & an adult-winter) at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

15 (seven adults & eight juveniles) at the high tide gull roost at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
 2 first-winters at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
 2, an adult-winter and a first-winter, on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
 1 adult on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
 18 adults on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
 73 over the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. 28 were counted at Jingqu, Dagang, 25 in the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou on the border between Dagang & Tanggu & 20 in the bay immediately north of Yuren Matou when viewed from the Bai Er Station.
 95 in Dagang on the 17/10/2008. These involved 26 at Jingqu & 69 in the tidal river mouth immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
 38 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. These included 8 on the mudflats just north of Bai Er Station, Tanggu & 30 in Dagang with 12 at Jingqu & 18 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou.
 40 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. 25 of these, including two adults & four first-winters, were in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang while the other 15 were on the mudflats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu. These six birds were the only ones aged all day.
 10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008. Only four of these were aged & all of these were adults.
 17 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 24/10/2008. Only three birds were aged – two adults and one first-winter.
 45 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. They were all in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou-Bai Er Station area. Only 21 birds were aged and this produced four first-winters (19%) & 17 adults (or second-winters) (81%).

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 juvenile on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 1 juvenile, most probably the same bird that I saw two days previously, was again on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

RELICT GULL *Larus relictus*

See especially –

Liu, Y., Z.W. Zhang, Y. Zhang and H.C. Su. (2003). Record congregation of Relict Gulls *Larus relictus* during the migration season. *Oriental Bird Club Bulletin* 38: 41-42.

Yang Liu, Paul I. Holt, Jin-Yu Lei, Yu Zhang and Zheng-wang Zhang. (2006). Distribution, Numbers and Age Structure of Relict Gull *Larus relictus* in Bohai Bay, China. *Waterbirds* 29(3):375-380.

First juveniles of the autumn were seen on the following dates –

2002	30 August
2004	22 August
2005	29 August
2006	31 August
2007	I was not present
2008	28 August

Juanli Sin (Alastair Benn's wife) has a photograph of a juvenile moulting to 1st-w taken at Beidaihe on 13 Aug. 2005 on the BirdGuides website <http://www.birdguides.com/pictures/default.asp?mode=search&r=1&sp=000533>

When do the first post-breeding adults return? These already form the bulk of birds in the area in late July/early August so presumably failed breeders come back in early to mid-July?

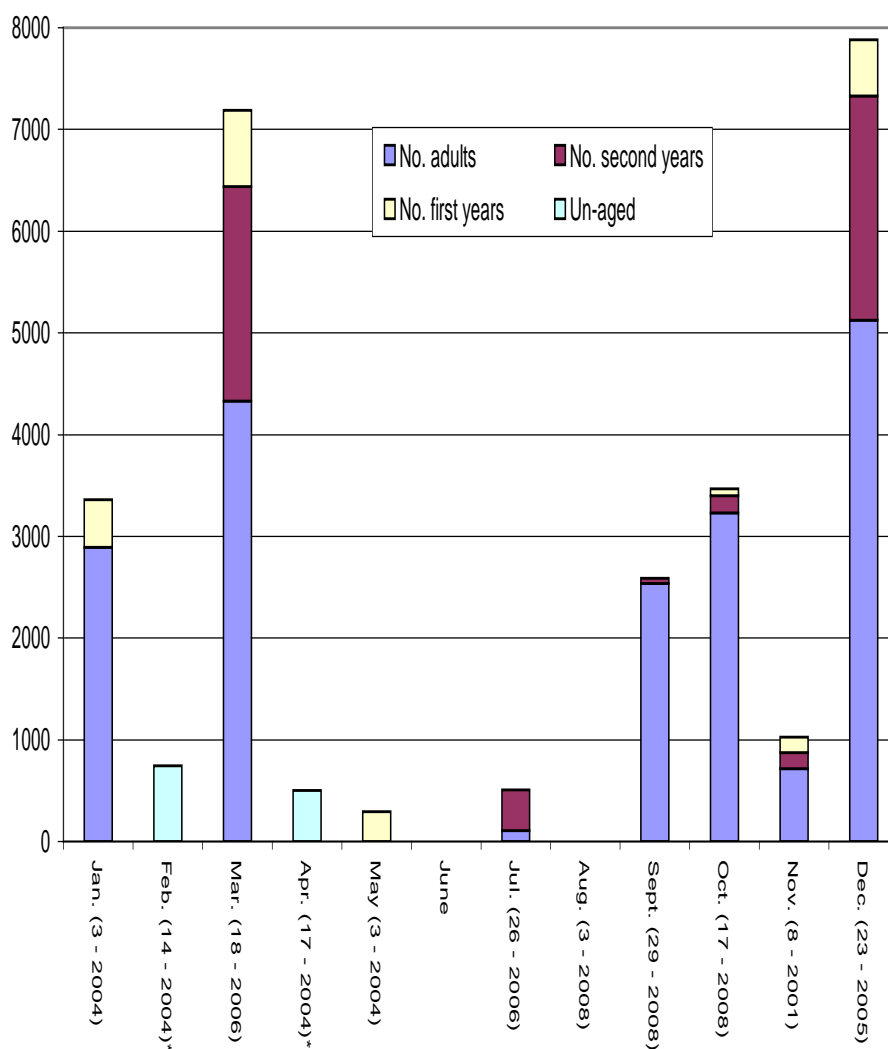
Yang et al. (2006) demonstrated that, in 2004, Relicts Gull numbers reached a peak in January and decreased in February with reasonably high number still being present until April. None were found in June 2004 and the first records (in Bohai Bay) of the autumn were 40 birds (at Tanghai, Hebei) on 2 August 2004. They suggest that many birds had vacated the preferred area in January 2005 due to hard weather. I would doubt this – and suggest that their surveys were incomplete since it wasn't until late December 2005 that the main site, at Jingqu, Dagang was discovered. Relict Gulls move about locally quite a lot. This is especially true during the winter period when significant portions of the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tianjin can be covered in shifting wind drifted sea ice and are therefore unsuitable for Relict Gulls. At other times of year the height of the tides can be another significant factor – birds being concentrated at fewer sites during periods of particularly high tides.

Away from coastal Tianjin at most mainland sites in coastal Hebei (pers. obs.) (but perhaps not Happy Island), Shandong (pers. obs.), Rudong in Jiangsu (Zhang Lin pers. com. October 2008 & pers. obs. Jan. 2009) and Shanghai (Zhang Lin pers. com. October 2008) the majority of encounters are with first years and a similar situation pertains in South Korea (pers. obs.) check situation in Hong Kong. Its likely that first year birds disperse more widely than adults.

The current massive reclamation project in coastal Tanggu-Dagang and the associated increased disturbance of their roosting and feeding sites by selfish harvesters who now also have a reduced area to work is likely to have a seriously detrimental affect.

According to Zhang Guogang of the National Bird Banding Center Of China, Beijing (in litt. 9 May 2009) all five adult gulls tracked by satellite transmitter returned to the Hongjiannao Lake in Yulin county, northern Shaanxi in the early April 2009.

Monthly maxima and age groups of Relict Gulls in coastal Tianjin



Reported by others -

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cited several reports –

Dagu (Taku, Takou, etc.), south of Tanggu (Tangzing), first-year collected, October 1934, four collected, April 1935 (B. F. King in Cheng Tso-hsin 1987, Duff *et al.* 1991, Zhang Yinsun *et al.* 1991);

Bohai bay near **Beidagang**, c.30 daily, April 1999 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Tianjin: 1645 were recorded at the seashore in Tianjin from Hangu to Tang'gu on 28 March & 15 at Gaoshaling in Tang'gu, Tianjin on 12 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: South of Tanggu there were 747 on 14 February [2004][LY]; 50 on 21 February [2004][WQ]; 530 at 13 March [2004][LJY]; five on 20 November [2004][LJY]; **2,700 on 18 and 10 December** [2004]. One report between Hangu seashore, 58 including, one first-winter on 17 April [2004][LHY]; one very fresh juvenile there on 22 August [2004][LY]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Two at Tanggu on 8 January [2005][LHY]; at Hangu there were 20 on 3 April [2005][CJZ] and 27 on 17 September [2005][LHY]; at Huanggang Reservoir six on 9 April [2005][GJ] and 25 on 11 April [2005][WRQ]; between Shanggulin and Hangu 33 on 9 April [2005] (including 30 breeding plumaged birds) [LHY] and 200 on 16 April [2005][LHY]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 123 on the Tanggu coast on 18 March [2007][BA]; 23 near Beitang on 8-9 September [2007][LJia]; 23 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]; 110 at Beidagang on 23 September [2007][ZY0]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

An extraordinary 185 birds were counted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. Strangely however only 1 was seen north of the city on the following day (a first-winter near the village of Cai Jia Pu). Birds were seen as follows –

2 (both first winters)	on mud flats 2 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao
111 (76 1 st -w; 4 2 nd -w & 31 ad-w)	between 2 & 10 kms south of the Nan Jiang Da Qiao
57 (4 1 st -w; 53 ad-w)	near Lu Ju He Xiang
13 (all 13 ad-w)	Hai Bin Yu Chang
2 (both ad-w)	6 kms south of Hai Bin Yu Chang

This gives a total of 185 Relict Gulls for the 20/10/2000. 82 of which were first-winters (44%), 4 second-winters (though others may well have been over-looked) (2%) & 99 adult-winters (54%). Most were observed feeding or roosting around the edges of the near coastal salt pans & (unlike the Black-headed Gulls with which they loosely associated) none were seen swimming in the flooded pans themselves.

2001

559 south of Tanggu on the 5/9/2001 included 19 (17 ad.-w. & 2 2nd-w) at Gaoshaling, 1 ad-w south off Lu Ju He & 541 (massively dominated by adults) at a high tide roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre. One of the second-winters at Gaoshaling carried a bright yellow colour ring on its left leg & an aluminium ring on its right leg.

784 all at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre south of Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. A couple of sample counts were made – note the higher proportion of 2nd-years on the salt pan. Is this significant?

	'Settling tank'		Salt pan		Total
1 st -year	3	2%	4	3%	2% 1 st -year
2 nd year	29	20%	53	36%	28% 2 nd -year
adult	112	78%	91	61%	70% adult
Total	<u>144</u>		<u>148</u>		

20 on a salt pan about 10 kms south of Tanggu, & about 1 km north of Lu Ju He, the 6/10/2001 These involved 16 1st-winters, 3 2nd-w & 1 ad-w.

882 south of Tanggu on the 7/11/2001. These included 853 that were counted, with other gulls (c500 Black-headed, c50 Mew, c10 Black-tailed and c50 'large white-headed' gulls) at a high tide roost ca.850 metres east of the Tianjin Port Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, 7.67 kms Sse of Tanggu. A sample count of 282 birds in this flock produced 22% 1st-w, 8% 2nd-w & 70% ad-w. A further 29 birds (19 1st-w, 6 2nd-w & 4 ad-w.) were on the same salt pan 10 kms south of Tanggu as the previous day.

1026 on a rising, moderately high tide south of Tanggu on the 8/11/2001. The birds were concentrated along a short stretch of mudflat and shoreline about 850 metres east of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics centre. Several sample counts were made & about 14-15% of these birds were 1st-w., 15-16% were 2nd-w. & 70% (515 of 735 birds) were ad.-w. Most of the birds were loafing/roosting and were either swimming or standing knee deep in the sea. As the tide retreated some of those roosting on the tide line were left high and dry & I was then able to check to see if they were ringed. A surprisingly high proportion of immatures, especially first-winters, bore rings and the details are as follows –

5 out of 18 1st-w & 2 2nd-w had a yellow ring on their left leg & an aluminium ring on their right leg. Another 4 of the 18 1st-w lacked the coloured ring but still had the aluminium ring on their right leg. Another 2nd-w lacked the aluminium ring (!) but had a yellow ring on its right leg. Two other birds lacked the colour ring but had aluminium bands on their right legs. No adult birds bore rings.

I posted a request for information to the OrientalBirding email discussion group and Simba Chan replied forwarding a message from Qian. He stated that the NBBC (National Bird Banding Centre of China) have conducted banding programs on Relict Gull in the last three years (presumably 1999, 2000 & 2001) at Eerdusi in Inner Mongolia and that the birds I observed at Tanggu probably originated from there.

	Total	% 1 st -year	% 2 nd -year	% adult	no. aged
5 th Sept. 2001	559				
6 th Sept. 2001	784	2%	28%	70%	292
6 th Oct. 2001	20				
7 th Oct. 2001	853	22%	8%	70%	282
8 th Oct. 2001	1026	14-15%	15-16%	70%	515

Note the small proportion of first-years at Tanggu in early September.

2002

20 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

255 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

286 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002. Most birds were too distant to age reliably though a sample count of 27 birds gave 18 (66%) ad-w, 9 (33%) 2nd-w. Not included in this sample was a first 1st-w – the first bird of the year that I'd seen here this autumn.

299 birds on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002. These involved 1 juvenile & the rest were roughly two-thirds adult, one-third 2nd-year.

62 birds on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002. 42 were aged. 31 ad-w (74%), 10 2nd-w (24%) & 1 1st-w. (2%) 2 ad-w bore rings - 1 had a yellow ring above its left foot. The other had an aluminium ring above its right foot.

224 birds on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002. 44 were aged. 43 ad-w. (98%) & 1 2nd-w. (2%).

64, at the high tide roost on the settling tank near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 21/12/2002.

3 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/12/2002 – a first-winter near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & two singles near Lujue.

222 from Haang Lu south of Tanggu on the 24/12/2002. 2 (an ad-w & a 2nd-w at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre roost & 220 on tidal mudflats at the 'traditional Saunders's Gull site south of Gaoshaling)

2003

1 first-winter at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/11/2003.

2004

An exceptional 3362 birds were logged at four coastal sites south of Tanggu on the 3/1/2004. All but five of these birds were within a seven kilometre stretch of inter-tidal mudflat immediately around Haibin Yuchang & about 18 kms south-south-west of Tanggu. All records as follows - 5 with other gulls on the impound near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre; 355 birds at Lu Ju He (60 on the tidal mudflats & 295 more flew north in an extremely compact, tight flock); 1742 were counted on the mudflats about 1-2 kms north of Haibin Yuchang (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.); 1260 on the tidal mudflats within 3 kms south of Haibin Yuchang & 19.7 kms south-south-west of Tanggu. (38° 50.0' N., 117° 36.8' E.). Of these 3362 birds a reasonable proportion (2092 birds or 62%) were seen well enough to divide in to two age groups - adults/2nd-winters & first-winters. 1789 (86%) were adults/2nd-winters & 303 (14%) were first-winters. Amazingly not a single bird was seen on the coastal road where well over 3000 birds were counted the previous day! I was there 4 hours earlier today & the tide was noticeably higher & no mud was exposed but even so I was surprised not to find any Relict's roosting with the other small parties of gulls I found!

1569 south of Tanggu on the 26/1/2004 - 2 adults flew south off Tanggu airport, 35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Lu Ju He (Statue of small horse) & 1532 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

265 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. All but two birds were first-years (99%), 1 adult-w (<1%) & 1 second-yr (<1%). 1 (first-year) at the river culvert south of Tanggu Airport; 2 (both first-years) at the Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse); 157 (1 adult-winter - with absolutely no signs of a summer plumage hood, 1 fully hooded second-summer & 155 first-years) with no other gulls near high tide besides the small 'river mouth' at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 105 with about 150 Black-headed Gulls on a small brackish coastal pool about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

292 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004 - all were first years. 8 on the mudflats off the river culvert close to Tanggu airport, 37 at Lu Jiao He/Lu Ju He (statue of small horse), 174 on the mudflats off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 73 on the mudflats between 3-5 kms south of there.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 1582 5251)

Birds were noted on all 22 days that I was in the Tanggu area (3/9 - 8/10) but numbers fluctuated very widely from one day to the next. This erratic daily variation was no-doubt partly influenced by where I was birding on any one particular day, but even at what proved to be the best site (the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang), number fluctuated between one visit & the next for no obvious reason.

It appears that there was an overall increase in the number of Relict Gulls present in the area throughout the autumn (& this increase probably continues until the onset of very cold weather in late December or January when a few birds might move out of the area). There also appears to be a disproportionate increase in the number of first-year birds around Tanggu during September. This age group accounted for 5-6% of the birds present at the start of September & slightly over one-third of those present towards the end of that month & during early October.

Not only are there temporal differences in the age ratios of Relict Gulls around Tanggu there are also marked spatial ones. There are significant differences in the ratios of the three age groups between the three main Tanggu sites that I visited (the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling). While there is complete overlap, & all age groups can be encountered at any of the main sites, it appears that first-winter birds may prefer different areas & different habitats to more mature birds.

All three of the highest Relict Gull counts were made at the same site - the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. There were 519, 546 & 1333 birds here on the 4th & 5/9 & the 7/10 respectively. The vast majority of birds here have always been adults & autumn 2004 was no exception, adults accounting for between 82-85% of the birds present, second years between 10-15% & first-winters only 3-5%. [The data is as follows - two sample counts made here on the first date, the 4/9, produced between 4-5% first-years with the remaining birds being either second-years or adults (they were simply too distant to distinguish reliably). Two more sample counts, both with remarkably similar results to the first, were made the second time I visited this site, on the 5/9. One of these two counts (n = 397) produced 333 adults (84%), 41 second-years (10%) & 23 first-years (6%) while the second count (n = 369) gave remarkably similar proportions of the different age groups & tallied 315 adults (85%), 37 second-years (10%) & 17 first-years (5%). Summing these two counts produces a total of 766 birds - 648 adults (85%), 78 second-years (10%) & 40 first-years (5%). The third & final large count at this site was made on the 7/10 (n = 273) & produced 7 first-winters (3%), 41 second-winters (15%) & 225 adult-winters (82%).]

The second most regular site that Relict Gulls were seen near Tanggu in autumn 2004 were the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. Numerous counts were made here, with large numbers being present especially in mid-September when the pools were wetter & more attractive to this & several other species of gull. Rather few birds were noted during my first visit (3-7/9) to Tanggu largely because I simply didn't find the best site & of the 31 birds that were aged 5 (16%) were first-years, 3 (10%) second-years & 23 (74%) adults. Larger & more significant numbers of birds were present here on my second visit (17-26/9) & I made six three-figure counts during this period, the highest of which was of 381 birds on the 18/9. Moreover a good number of birds (n = 1569) were aged & of these 577 (38%) were first-years, 160 (10%) second-years & 832 (53%) were adults. These pools were much drier when I made my third visit to Tanggu (2-8/10) &, as in early September, very few gulls of any species were present. I logged only 33 bird-days for Relict Gull - & these 27 (82%) were first-years, 1 (3%) second-year & 5 (15%) were adults.

The third best site was the complex of, presumably saline, pools about 5 kms inland & besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. Although I only saw birds at this 'Km post 8' site on two dates virtually all of the ones I did see were first-years. There were 5 birds (all first-years) here on the 25/9 & 111 (a surprisingly large number) on the 7/10. On the latter date there were 5 birds (1 adult-winter, 2 second-winters & 2 first-winters) on the easternmost pool about 1 kms west of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (& a similar distance east of Gaoshaling) & 106 birds [104 first-winters (98%), 1 second-winter (1%) & 1 adult-winter (1%)] on the large pool near the oil derricks at Km 8. At both sites very few birds were actually swimming on the water (as the majority of the 8000 Black-headed Gulls on the same pools were doing) rather they were actively feeding around the edge of both pools. The age ratios were dramatically different to those calculated at a large coastal count made on the same day.

Very few Relict Gulls were seen away from these three main sites -

4 un-aged birds of Lu Ju He & 50 (7 first-years & 43 adults/second years) off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 4/9. 5 first-years, on a pool at Haibin Yuchang on the 5/9. 30 un-aged birds were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9. 53 un-aged birds on pools about 1 km north of Tanggu airport on the 24/9. On the 2/10 there were 310 birds noted during an incomplete count of small gulls roosting on the approaching high tide either on the inter-tidal mudflats or the sea itself between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He settling tanks. A sample count of 155 birds on these latter mudflats produced 37 first-winters (24%), 22 second-winters (15%) & 96 adult-winters (62%). 8 were seen in the evening of the 4/10 flying offshore south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre - 5 first-winters flew north, 1 flew south & another was on the sea while a second-winter also flew north. 68 on the Tanggu airport mudflats on the 5/10 - 27 first-winters (40%), 13 second-winters (19%) & 28 adult-winters (41%). 14 first-winters on the Tanggu airport pools on the 6/10.

Note that no Relict Gulls have ever been seen consorting with the other gulls besides the complex of fishponds at Lu Ju He.

Note also that, while I tried to age as many birds as possible, I sometimes found this difficult, usually because many birds were simply too distant. While first winters are remarkably distinctive, even at extreme range when their dark, almost black, tertials can be particularly conspicuous, second-year birds are more difficult to separate from adults. When close these two age classes are relatively easily distinguished at least in early September to early October. The bills of second years are duller & blacker, lacking the reddish or claret hue found on most, if not all, of the adults & adults also have brighter redder legs. There are also pronounced & especially obvious differences in primary moult between these two age classes in early September to at least early October. Virtually all of the adult Relict Gulls I saw in early September were in very heavy primary moult, many had either dropped all of their outer primaries or had dropped all except the outer most one (or very rarely two). If this outermost primary was still retained it was invariably ragged & often the white mirror had completely worn away. Primaries 9, 8 & possibly sometimes p7 were invariably short & re-growing. At rest the tips of the folded wing were often so short & stunted as to be invisible beneath the tertials, the moulting wings giving the bird a very short, truncated or stubby rear end. Even in early October the majority of adults were still in heavy primary moult & still showing this truncated profile. Second year birds were all still full-winged (even in early October) & hence had prominent primary projections at rest. The 4 or 5 primaries that were visible beyond the tertials on these second-winters were dark (blackish) & many of them had small, sometimes tiny, white tips. Even in early October no second winter birds were seen in heavy primary moult with the truncated rear ends so typical of adults at this time of year.

First visit: early September (3-7/9).

Day counts ranged from 1-551 birds. Two high counts were made & both were from the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. Away from here single birds were seen on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3rd & 6/9 & 29 birds on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9.

All 37 birds that were seen on the two complexes of settling tanks close to Tanggu were aged & there were 5 first-years (14%), 3 second-years (8%) & 29 adults (78%). It's thought that the population that use these tanks as a high tide roost contains a higher proportion of first-years than is present on the inter-tidal mudflats. Away from these settling tanks many more birds were seen, & many more aged, on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & here first-years accounted for 5 or 6%, second-years 10% & adults 84-85% of the total number of birds observed.

Combining the numbers of all birds that were aged during this visit (n = 1637) produced 5% or 6% first-winters, 10% second-winters & 84% adults.

All records as follows –

1 first-year on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9.

528 on the 4/9 - 4 of Lu Ju He, 50 (7 1st-yrs & 43 adults/second yrs) off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 519 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 4/9. Sample counts at the latter site gave 453 adults (including second-years as these are difficult to distinguish at the ranges many of the birds are seen) & 26 1st-years. A subsequent count gave 295 adults & 11 1st-years.

551 on the 5/9. Of these 546 were concentrated by the rising tide on the inter-tidal mud flats at the regular site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. When the tide flooded the last of the mud the majority of birds flew north up the coast (to roost where?). Two sample counts were made here – the first (n = 397) gave 333 adults (84%), 41 second-years (10%) & 23 first-years (6%) while the second count (n = 369) gave remarkably similar proportions of the different age groups with tallied 315 adults (85%), 37 second-years (10%) & 17 first-years (5%). 5 more birds, all first-years, were counted on a pool at Haibin Yuchang itself.

1 first-year on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6/9.

29 (23 adults, 3 second-years & 3 first-years) on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9.

Second visit: mid-September (17-26/9).

I expected to see many more Relict Gulls around Tanggu now than earlier in the month but surprisingly I didn't & day counts only ranged from 3-377 birds. The reason for this was undoubtedly due to the fact that I only visited the 'traditional Relict Gull site' on the inter-tidal mud flats at the regular site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang once, on the 24/9, & on that day only saw 23 birds! Because I failed to find the large numbers of Relicts that must have been somewhere down the coast all the higher counts that I made were from the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

Combining the numbers of all birds that were aged during this visit (n = 1574) produced 37% first-winters, 10% second-winters & 53% adults.

All records as follows –

3, all first-winters, on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 17/9.

381 at a high tide roost on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9. Two sample counts were made & the first of 343 birds gave 80 (23%) first-years, 44 (13%) second-years & 219 (64%) adults. The second sample count of 283 birds gave 97 (34%) first-years, 26 (9%) second-years & 160 (57%) adults. Taken together this gives 626 birds - 177 (28%) first-years, 70 (11%) second-years & 379 (61%) adults.

About 350 birds were roosting at high tide on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 19/9. Two sample counts were made the first one of 183 birds gave 63 (34%) first-years, 13 (7%) second-years & 107 (58%) adults. The second sample count of 263 birds gave 68 (26%) first-years, 27 (10%) second-years & 168 (64%) adults. Taken together this gives 446 birds - 131 (29%) first-years, 40 (9%) second-years & 275 (62%) adults.

350 on the 20/9 - 320 birds were estimated to be using the high tide roost at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & at least another 30 were on the inter-tidal mudflats at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. A sizeable sample count was made at the first site & this produced the following ratios – 25% first-years, 13% second-years & 62% adults.

377 birds were noted on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/9. One sample count, of 150 birds, was made & this produced the following results – 72 first-years (48%), 21 second-years (14%) & 57 adults (38%).

50 on or near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 22/9. Only 34 birds were aged – 18 first-years (53%), 2 second-years (6%) & 14 adults (41%).

184 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 23/9. 149 birds were aged & this produced the following results – 98 first-years (66%), 15 second-years (10%) & 46 adults (31%).

210 on the 24/9 – 23 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 53 on pools about 1 km north of Tanggu airport & 134 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. 121 birds at the latter site were aged & there were 49 first-winters (40%), 12 second-winters (10%) & 60 adult-winters (50%).

24 on the 25/9 – all were first winters. It was extremely low tide when I visited the settling tanks today & hence there were no birds using the high tide roost there. However there were 19 birds feeding elsewhere on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 5 more about 6-7 kms inland on pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling.

11 – all were on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. There was 1 adult-winter & 10 first-winters. Despite being there at a very high tide this was another very disappointing count of Relict Gull & I can only assume that the larger number of birds that I was seeing here no more than a week earlier & now roosting somewhere else.

Third visit: early October (2-8/10)

Other than a reasonable number of birds that were counted on the rising tide either on the inter-tidal mudflats or the sea itself between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He on the first dates & a massive count at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' on the inter-tidal mud flats at the regular site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 7/10 rather few Relict Gulls were noted. The number of birds using the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks had continued to drop since the start of September & no more than 11 birds used it now.

Combining the numbers of all birds that were aged during this visit (n = 827) produced 37% first-winters, 13% were second-winters & 49% adults – remarkably similar proportions to my mid-September visit.

All records as follows –

ca 400 birds were noted on the 2/10 – although 92 birds were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats at the mouth of the Hai He river the major count was made during an incomplete count of small gulls roosting on the approaching high tide either on the inter-tidal mudflats or the sea itself between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, Tanggu airport & Lu Ju He. A sample count of 155 birds on these latter mudflats produced 37 first-winters (24%), 22 second-winters (15%) & 96 adult-winters (62%).

74 birds were noted on the receding tide on the inter-tidal mudflats at the mouth of the Hai He on the 3/10. 59 of these birds were aged & there were 28 first-winters (47 %), 11 second-winters (19 %) & 20 adult-winters (34 %).

18 on the 4/10 – 10 first-winters on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the remainder were seen in the evening flying offshore south of there – 5 first-winters flew north, 1 flew south & another was on the sea while a second-winter also flew north. In contrast to both Black-tailed & Black-headed Gull it didn't appear that more than perhaps the single bird were planning to roost on the sea south of the settling tanks.

71 on the 5/10 – 3 first-winters on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 68 on the Tanggu airport mudflats. All the latter were also aged & there were 27 first-winters (40 %), 13 second-winters (19 %) & 28 adult-winters (41 %).

48 on the 6/10 – 11 (all first-winters) on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 14 (all first-winters) on the Tanggu airport pools & 33 (32 first-winters & 1 adult-winter) on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling. A combined total of 47 first-winters & 1 adult!

An impressive 1582 birds were noted on the 7/10 – the vast majority were seen at the regular site about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. All records as follows (importantly its thought that there was very little duplication between sites) - 5 (1 second-winter & 4 first-winters) on the mudflats about 1 km south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 1333 were counted at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang. The vast majority of these birds were adults & a sample count of 273 birds produced 7 first-winters (3 %), 41 second-winters (15 %) & 225 adult-winters (82 %). Its undoubtedly not a coincidence that this site is also, later in the season, the best site local to Tanggu for Saunders's Gull. 111 birds were counted on the complex of pools besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. 5 (1 adult-winter, 2 second-winters & 2 first-winters) were counted on the easternmost pool about 1 kms west of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling while 106 birds were counted on the large pool near the oil derricks at km 8. At both sites very few birds were actually swimming on the water (as the majority of the 8000 Black-headed Gulls on the same pools were doing) rather they were actively feeding around the edge of both pools. The age ratios were dramatically different to coastal counts &, at the second pool. I logged 104 first-winters (98 %), 1 second-winter (1 %) & 1 adult-winter (1 %)! 109 birds were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & the southern end of the impounds at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. 68 of these birds were aged & this produced 21 first-winters (31 %), 18 second-winters (26 %) & 29 adult-winters (43%). Lastly 24 birds, all first-winters, were counted besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. In summary 481 birds were aged - & this produced 162 first-winters (34 %), 63 second-winters (13 %) & 256 adult-winters (53%) but note that a low proportion of the large flock of predominantly adults at the main site were aged & that this will skew these ratios.

8 (5 adult-winters, 1 second-winter & 3 first-winters) on the inter-tidal mudflats near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 8/10.

2005

(8/11 7880 13461)

5 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – an adult-summer flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 4 others (2 adult-summer, a first-summer & an un-aged bird (either an adult or second-summer) were at the high tide Black-tailed Gull roost at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang.

1 adult-winter on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

152 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 1 first summer (a bird with an apparently broken wing) on the pool near Tanggu airport, 11 (8 adult & 3 second-winters) on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 139 (all either adult- or second-years) on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1 first-winter on the pool near Gaoshaling. This gives 147 adults (97%), 4 second calendar years (3%) & one first calendar year (<1%).

23 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - 13 (11 adults, one second year & one first-winter) flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 10 (8 adults & two second years) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks. This gives 19 adults (83%), 3 second years (13%) & 1 first year (4%).

360 on the 21/12/2005 – 322 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and 28 at Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang. A sample count of 118 birds at the first site produced 97 first-winters (82%), 12 second-winters (10%) and 9 adult-winters (8%). 14 banded birds were seen (13 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang and a single bird at Du Liu Jian Hekou) and all of these were first-winters. Six birds (including the bird at Du Liu Jian Hekou) carried both a single yellow leg flag on one leg (the right leg on four birds, left leg on the other) with an aluminium band on the other leg. Another eight birds just carried aluminium bands. In all I could confidently assess perhaps just over 100 birds at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang for the presence or absence of leg flags/bands so seeing 13 banded birds at that site alone meant that just over 10% of the birds were banded. Liu Yang was confident that all of these birds were from a fairly recently established colony in Shaanxi.

5000 – 6000 birds were estimated on the inter-tidal mudflats within seven kilometres south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, Dagang on the 22/12/2005. This is easily the largest ever count of wintering Relict Gulls anywhere in the world.!

7880 were counted on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005! A massive count – the scale of which was again unexpected! This figure is a reliable and accurate count (see count details and methods above) and I feel that I counted almost all of the Relict Gulls on these mudflats. A sample count of 1522 birds produced 992 (65%) adult winters, a surprising number 426 (28%) second-winters and a paltry 104 (7%) first-winters.

40 resting on the ice at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/12/2005.

2006

4950 between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Yuren Matou and Jing Qu on the 17/3/2006. Specific counts were – 265 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 75 at Yuren Matou & 4610 at Jing Qu. A sample count of just 63 birds at the last site yielded 35 adults (56%), 23 second-years (37%) and five first-years (8%).

7200 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Hangu & Jing Qu, Dagang on the 18/3/2006 - 410 at Hangu, 12 at Yuren Matou, a massive 6100 at Jing Qu & 720 about six kilometres north of Yuren Matou. A sample count of 164 birds at the latter site yielded 104 adults (63%), 40 second-years (24%) & 20 first-years (12%).

1 moulting adult-summer on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 25/7/2006.

505 on the 26/7/2006 - 2 at Hangu (both were second calendar years moulting from first-summer to second winter); 3 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools; 491 at Jing Qu & 9 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. No juveniles were seen. With the tide being extremely high all the birds at Jing Qu were on two pools both about one kilometre inland. Six leg-flagged or banded birds, all adults, were noted at Jing Qu. The four combinations were as follows – one bird had a yellow band on its left leg; one bird had a yellow band on its left and a red flag on its right leg; one bird had a red flag on its right leg; 3 birds had aluminium bands on their right legs.

503 at Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006. A sample count of 121 birds yielded 96 second calendar years (79%) & 25 adults (21%).

86 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006. All were third calendar year birds (second years moulting to adult-winters).

8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. One first-winter & seven moulting older immatures.

773 at two sites between Tanggu & Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006 – 48 on the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang Pools & 725 at Jing Qu, Dagang. Only one first calendar year bird was seen.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

1152 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 406 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 287 in the bay between Yuren Matou & Jing Qu & 459 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu. Only one first winter was seen, a bird at Yuren Matou. One adult with a yellow band was at Jing Qu, Dagang.

5 on the pools at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/9/2006.

1880 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006 – 1780 on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang & 98 (including two first-winters – the only ones of the day) on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

890 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 97 on the pool immediately south

of Tianjin Haibinyuchang & 785 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2590 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 – 1950 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 640 on the pool immediately to the south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu.

2000 south of Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 700 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 1300 at Jing Qu, Dagang. Extremely few first years were seen & a sample count of 234 birds at the first site yielded 210 adults (90%), 23 second-years (10%) & only one first-winter (<1%)

1230 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

35 on the 30/4/2007 - one first summer flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 25 first-summer on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; three first-summer on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; six first-summer at Jing Qu.

20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 3 (two first-summer and another bird that was either an adult-summer or a second-summer) at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu; 17 first-summer on the mud flats at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.

4 heavily moulting birds (either second-summer moulting to adult winter or adults moulting from summer to winter plumage) were seen distantly at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

326 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 318 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2335 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 383 the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 1950 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2100 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - one first-winter on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 300 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & at least 1800 at Jing Qu, Dagang. 1 first-winter on the on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

3 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

1420 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 1300 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 120 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

2975 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 550 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 2425 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2010 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2830 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

26 the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang to Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 16/1/2008

820 on the inter-tidal mudflats in the Jingqu, Dagang/Yuren Matou, Tanggu area on the 17/1/2008. The concentration of huge amounts of sea ice in the bays that are usually preferred by this species has possibly resulted in the bulk of the population moving slightly further south.

259 on the 10/3/2008 – 12 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 247 at Jingqu, Dagang.

69 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/5/2008 – 51 on the mudflats off Caihongqiao, Hangu & the remaining 18 were at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. Two second-summer were seen, all the rest were 1st-summer.

76 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008. Only four of these were on the inter-tidal mudflats the remaining 72 were on a single large freshwater pool just back from the coastline.

19 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – 14 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

740 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. All sightings as follows – 15 in Tanggu with 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pool, 2 on the Tanggu airport pool, 8 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere 725 were counted at Jingqu, Dagang.

20 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – one first summer flew north over the mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. 2 with oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

1 adult-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008.

2 (an adult & a first-winter) roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

538 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – three roosting with other gulls besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 535 roosting at two separate high tide sites at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.

1276 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – two on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the remaining 1274 in three discrete high tide roosting flocks at Jingqu, Dagang. The first group was at 38°42.794'N., 117°33.926'E. Only four first-winter birds were seen – the vast majority being adults and a sample count of 259 birds at Jingqu yielded just one first-winter (<1%), 16 second-winter (6%) & 242 adults (93%). Five orange flagged adults were also seen at Jingqu, Dagang – four among a roosting party of 591 birds & one in another roosting flock of 321 birds. All five birds were flagged on their right leg. (Note that probably less than half of the birds in these two flocks were seen well enough to check for the presence of leg flags – some were swimming, some standing on just their left leg or others were so tightly packed as to be obscured from full view.

867 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008. Three roosting flocks (of 42, 70 & 755 birds) were noted – all at the same three sites as two day's previously. Five orange colour flagged birds were seen in the larger of the three flocks.

1189 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. Of these 1164 birds (in discrete high-tide roosting parties of four, 460 & 695 birds) were at Jingqu, Dagang. In Tanggu district there were three on the inter-tidal mudflats about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou, 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & a single first-winter with about 1200 Black-headed Gulls on one of the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling. Six orange flagged birds were seen among the large roosting flock at Jingqu. Only six first-winter were seen during the day.

666 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008. Birds were seen in four discrete high tide roosting flocks – of 20, 70, 186 & 390 individuals. Only five first winter were seen in total while 175 birds were aged & this produced 164 adults (94%) and just 11 second years (6%). Four birds with orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) were seen – two were in the flock of 390 birds & two others in the flock of 186. This latter flock was seen very well – all the birds in it were well separated & were all standing and I was able to clearly see the legs on nearly all of them (actually I could see the right leg on 168 birds). Two birds in this flock had yellow leg flags & another nine had bands on their right tarsus (lower leg) – two of these bands were bright yellow while the other seven were essentially colourless but appeared to be extremely faded yellow bands.

1 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

9 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

1890 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. Of these 1550 were at Jingqu, Dagang and 340 on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. Seven colour marked birds, all adults, were noted at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

Four of these seven birds had orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) – one of these four also had an aluminium band on its left tarsus (lower leg) while two others definitely did not have an aluminium band on either leg. The fourth bird's left leg was never seen!

Another bird had a faded (yellow?) band on its right tarsus.

Another bird had a yellow band on its left tarsus & no aluminium band anywhere

The final bird had a colour band on its right tarsus but this was so extensively covered in mud that the colour could not be determined

2 second-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

2588 at two sites in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. 1625 were counted at Jingqu, Dagang & 963 were counted roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu. A sample count of 564 birds at the latter site yielded just five (1%) first winter, 66 (12%) second-winter & 493 (87%) adults. Two adults with yellow flags on their right legs were also noted at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.).

910 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008. Two banded/flagged adults were seen at Jingqu, Dagang - one adult with an orange flag on its right tibia (but no aluminium ring anywhere) & another adult with an aluminium ring on its left tarsus.

2 first-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

1084 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. The vast majority of these (1076 birds) were on the mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu, Dagang. With the high tide not being a particularly high one today a large amount of mud was exposed even when the tide was at its highest & consequently the birds were still very widespread. Further north in Tanggu there was one adult on the now largely dry pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & seven first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1644 in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008. Of these there were two first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 23 birds at Lujuhe & 1620 in the bay between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou. Its likely that most, if not all of these birds were different to the 1076 birds counted on the mudflats between Yuren Matou & Jingqu, Dagang yesterday. With the new moon & the relatively low state of the current high tides some mud remains exposed in most of the bays between Haibin Yuchang & Jingqu and the Relict Gulls remain in several (probably discrete) flocks. Its likely that there are indeed over 2720 Relict Gulls already in the Tanggu-Dagang area.

3244 the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included 1416 in Dagang with 1285 (in four flocks of 15, 118, 225 & 927 birds) in the Jingqu area & 131 in the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou on the border between Dagang & Tanggu. Further north in Tanggu 1828 were counted in the 5.4 km stretch of bay between the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou) and a couple of kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. Of the latter 670 were at Bai Er itself & the other 1158 were seen about two kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 540 birds at the latter site yielded 506 adults (94%) & 34 second-years (6%). No first-years were present at this site and less than ten birds of that age group were seen all day!

The following nine leg flagged or banded adults were noted among the loafing flock on the dry tank south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu (38°50.33'N., 117°36.92'E.) on the 12/10/2008 –

2 birds had orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg)

1 bird had an orange flag on its right tibia (upper leg) & a faded, probably yellow, band on its left tibia (lower leg)

1 bird (photographed distantly) had an orange flag on its right tibia (upper leg) & a dark, possibly dark red, band on its left tibia (lower leg)

1 bird had a bright yellow band on its left tarsus (lower leg)

1 bird had a dull yellow band on its left tarsus (lower leg)

1 bird had a dull yellow band on its right tarsus (lower leg)

2 birds had aluminium bands on their right tarsus (lower leg)

4 flew north over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

3434 on the inter-tidal mudflats in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 17/10/2008. These included 1473 in Dagang with 1360 birds in a single flock at Jingqu & 113 in the canalized tidal river inlet at Yuren Matou on the border between Dagang & Tanggu. Further north in Tanggu 1961 were counted in the 5.4 km stretch of bay between the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou) and a couple of kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. Of the latter 930 were at Bai Er itself & the other 1031 were seen about two kilometers south of Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 952 birds yielded 894 adults (94%), 43 second-years (5%) & just 15 first-years (2%). Two adults with orange flags on their right tibia (upper leg) were noted among the flock at Jingqu, Dagang.

3100 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. These included over 2300 in Tanggu with 16 (four adults, six second-winters & six first-winters) at Lujuhe & a single flock of 2300 on the Bai Er Station mudflats just before at high tide. Further south there were at least 820 in Dagang with 320 at Yuren Matou and at least 500 in the mist at Jingqu, Dagang. A series of sample counts on the coastal mudflats tallied 557 birds with 515 adults (92%), 36 second-years (6%) & just six first years (1%). Two adults with bright yellow bands on their right tarsus (lower legs) were seen in the flock of 345 birds at Yuren Matou, Dagang. (38°45.9'N., 117°34.1'E).

8 first years on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

3834 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The vast majority of these, 3515 birds, were in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang during the morning's high tide. There were 250 at Jingqu itself, 740 on a reclamation pool less than one kilometre south of Yuren Matou and 2525 in the river mouth at Jingqu itself. Further north in Tanggu there were 315 on the mudflats about one kilometre north of Bai Er Station and just four at Yuren Matou. Two large sample counts were made today and they produced remarkably similar results. The first count of 562 birds on the reclamation pool south of Yuren Matou produced 536 adults (95%), 24 second years (4%) & just two first years (<1%) while the second count of 1199 birds in the Yuren Matou river mouth produced 1149 adults (96%), 48 second years (4%) & again just two first years (<1%). Taken together 1761 birds were aged & there were 1685 adults (96%), 72 second years (4%) & a paltry four first years (<1%).

Eight different leg flagged/colour banded adults were noted in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area on the 22/10/2008 –

Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. **Ad.** 1

Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). Other leg not seen. **Ad.** 2

Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). **Ad.** 3

Yellow band on L tarsus (lower leg) + aluminium band on R. **Adult** 2

1500 at Jingqu, Dagang & three first-winters with the Black-headed Gull flock at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008. A sample count of 221 birds at Jingqu produced 1 first winter (<1%), six second-winters (3%) & 221 adults (97%)

4241 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 2819 in Dagang with 2159 in four flocks (10, 280, 924 & 945 birds) at Jingqu and 660 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 1422 in Tanggu with 755 north of the Bai Er Station and 667 off Haibin Yuchang.

4756 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. They were all in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou-Bai Er Station area & specific site counts included – 2540 birds in Dagang with flocks of 350 & 1390 at Jingqu & 800 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou. Further north there were 2215 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu. The only other sighting was of a first-winter about eight kilometres inland besides a salt pan at Gaoshaling. None were seen at Haibin Yuchang – either on the dry pool or the sea! Four adult colour banded/leg flagged Relict Gulls were seen among the large flock on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008

Orange flag on R tibia (upper leg). No aluminium band anywhere. **Ad.** 1

Yellow band on R tarsus (lower leg). **Ad.** 3

In addition 2 with oil on their underparts were seen on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

2009

(23/28 1105 4922)

248 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 7/5/2009. 193 of these birds (14 second-summer & 179 first-summer) were on the inter-tidal mudflats at the Bai Er Station, Tanggu & 55 (six second summer & 49 first-summer) were roosting on pool at Jingqu, Dagang. All 248 birds were seen well enough to age and of these 20 (8%) were second summers & the remaining 228 (92%) were first-summer. No adults were seen. Seven first-summer birds with orange leg flags on their right tibia (upper legs) were noted. Each flag had two white characters on it. Five flagged birds were noted among the 193 birds at Bai Er Station (38°46.69'N., 117°34.97'E.) and I was able to read three of them - 'A3', 'C5' and '12'. One other bird carried a flag that possibly had '41' on it but the flag appeared to have been put on up-side down or was inverted. The flag on the fifth bird could not be read. Two other flagged birds were seen among the 55 birds at Jingqu, Dagang (38°44.37'N., 117°33.89'E.) and carried flags with '25' & '79' on them. According to Zhang Guogang of the National Bird Banding Center Of China (in litt. 9 May 2009) these seven orange flagged birds were banded in June 2008 at Hongjiannao Lake, Yulin county, northern Shaanxi.

13, seven first summers & six second summers, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

14, three first summers & 11 second years or adults, with the Black-headed Gulls on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

14 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 14 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & two adults at Jingqu, Dagang.

210 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. One juvenile moulting to first-winter was among them – and this is easily the earliest date that I've ever seen this species in coastal Tianjin. 38 other birds were seen well enough to age, 28 (74%) of these were adults and the other ten were second summers. Almost every bird was in heavy wing moult.

8 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 233, including two juveniles, on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 111 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – just four on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 107 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 1028 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009. This is an unusually early date for so many birds to have returned to Tanggu – my previous highest July count was less than half this number (505 on 26 July 2006) and its even almost 50% higher than any of my August counts. I would not normally have expected to have seen this many birds on the coast until September (another five weeks or so from now). I suspect that the species might have had a very poor breeding season & many failed breeders might have returned to the coast early. (Note that today's count is a minimum count, the gulls were moving around a little bit & were in five or six discrete flocks – the count of 1028 were all in one area & there could actually have been as many as 1346 birds present). The vast majority were adults with quite a few third calendar years also present. Just three juveniles were seen. Three colour flagged/banded birds were noted – two adults had orange flags on their right tibias (upper legs) while the third bird (a first summer in its second calendar year) had an orange band with white characters 'N5' on its right tarsus. The banded birds were at 38°52.97'N., 117°40.57'E. - 8.2 kms due south of Tanggu town centre.
 1105 including three juveniles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
 795 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009. Just three juveniles were seen.
 110 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
 450, including just five juveniles, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. One adult with an orange flag was seen.
 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009.
 456 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 455 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & just one on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. Three juveniles were seen. One second-summer with a yellow band on its right tarsus (lower leg) was seen.
 40, including one juvenile, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
 15 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 13 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009. . Only four birds were aged and these involved three first calendar and one second calendar year individuals.
 4 first-winters on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. 13 of these were first-winters, four second winters and the other two were adult-winters.
 18 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Eight of these were at Jingqu, Dagang and the remaining ten (two adults, six second-winters and two first-winters) were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 13 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009. 12 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, while the other(a first winter & the only bird whose age I noted) was on the pool immediately south of Lujuhe.

2010

34 south of Tanggu on the 22/4/2010. These involved 23 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park pools & 11 others at Haibin Yuchang. 30 birds were aged & this produced ten adults, seven second-summers & 13 first-summers.
 28 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010. All 28 birds were aged & 21 were in their second calendar year with the other seven in their third calendar year. Five leg flagged or banded second summers were noted – one had an orange flag on its right tibia (upper leg) & an aluminium band on its left tibia (lower leg). Two birds had yellow bands on their on left tarsi (lower leg) while another two birds had aluminium bands on their left tarsi.
 5, including two first-winters & three second years, on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

Banded Relict Gulls:

18 Sept. '04:	3 banded birds 3 adults	2 with yellow ring on left leg. 1 with aluminium ring on right leg.
19 Sept. '04:	12 banded birds. 9 adult 3 first-winter	5 with yellow ring on left leg. 4 with aluminium ring on right leg. 3 with aluminium ring on right leg.
20 Sept. '04:	8 banded birds. 6 adult 2 first-winter	3 with yellow ring on left leg. 2 with aluminium ring on right leg. 1 with undetermined ring colour (covered in mud). 1 with yellow ring on right leg. 1 with aluminium ring on right leg.
21 Sept. '04:	2 banded birds. 2 adult	2 with yellow ring on left leg.
23 Sept. '04:	11 banded birds. 8 adult 3 first-winter	6 with yellow ring on left leg. 1 with aluminium ring on right leg. 1 with yellow ring on left & aluminium ring on right leg. 3 with aluminium ring on right leg.
24 Sept. '04:	1 banded bird. 1 adult	1 with yellow ring on left leg.
2 Oct. '04:	4 banded birds. 3 adult 1 first-winter	1 with aluminium ring on right leg. 2 with yellow ring on left & aluminium ring on right leg. 1 with aluminium ring on left leg.
3 Oct. '04:	3 banded birds. 1 adult 2 first-winter	1 with yellow ring on left leg. 1 with yellow ring on left leg. 1 with aluminium ring on right leg.

Table 4: Age ratios of Relict Gulls noted at Tanggu autumn 2000-2004

	Total	% 1styear	% 2ndyear	% adult	Number aged
20 Oct. '00	185	44%	2%	54%	185
5 Sept. '01	559				
6 Sept. '01	784	2%	28%	70%	292
6 Nov. '01	20				
7 Nov. '01	882	22 %	8 %	70%	282
8 Nov. '01	1026	14-15%	15-16%	70%	515
21 Dec. '03	64				
24 Dec. '03	222		1	1	2
3 Jan. '04	3362	14%		86%	2092
2 May '04	265	99%	<1%	<1%	
3 May '04	292	100%			
4 Sept. '04	528	5%	???	95%	479
5 Sept. '04	551		10%	84%	397
7 Sept. '04	29	10%	10%	79%	29
17 Sept. '04	3	100%			3
18 Sept. '04	381	28%	11%	61%	626*
19 Sept. '04	350	29%	9%	62%	446*
20 Sept. '04	350	25%	13%	62%	
21 Sept. '04	377	48%	14%	38%	150
22 Sept. '04	50	53%	6%	41%	34
23 Sept. '04	184	66%	10%	31%	149
24 Sept. '04	210	40%	10%	50%	121
25 Sept. '04	24	100%	0%	0%	24
26 Sept. '04	11	91%	0%	9%	11
2 Oct. '04	400	24%	15%	62%	155
3 Oct. '04	74	47%	19%	34%	59
4 Oct. '04	18	94%	6%	0%	18
5 Oct. '04	71	40%	19%	41%	68
6 Oct. '04	48	98%	0%	2%	48
7 Oct. '04	1582	34%	13%	53%	481
8 Oct. '04	8	63%	13%	38%	8

Note the increasing proportion of first-years at Tanggu through September & the almost total lack of anything other than that age-group in May.

Table 5: Age ratios of Relict Gulls noted at 2004 - autumn 2000-2004. Same data as previous table, now arranged in calendar order.

	Total	% 1styear	% 2ndyear	% adult	Number aged
3 Jan. '04	3362	14%		86%	2092
2 May '04	265	99%	<1%	<1%	
3 May '04	292	100%			
4 Sept. '04	528	5%	???	95%	479
5 Sept. '04	551		10%	84%	397
5 Sept. '01	559				
6 Sept. '01	784	2%	28%	70%	292
7 Sept. '04	29	10%	10%	79%	29
17 Sept. '04	3	100%			3
18 Sept. '04	381	28%	11%	61%	626*
19 Sept. '04	350	29%	9%	62%	446*
20 Sept. '04	350	25%	13%	62%	
21 Sept. '04	377	48%	14%	38%	150
22 Sept. '04	50	53%	6%	41%	34
23 Sept. '04	184	66%	10%	31%	149
24 Sept. '04	210	40%	10%	50%	121

25 Sept. '04	24	100%	0%	0%	24
26 Sept. '04	11	91%	0%	9%	11
2 Oct. '04	400	24%	15%	62%	155
3 Oct. '04	74	47%	19%	34%	59
4 Oct. '04	18	94%	6%	0%	18
5 Oct. '04	71	40%	19%	41%	68
6 Oct. '04	48	98%	0%	2%	48
6 Oct. '01	20				
7 Oct. '01	853	22 %	8 %	70%	282
7 Oct. '04	1582	34%	13%	53%	481
8 Oct. '01	1026	14-15%	15-16%	70%	515
8 Oct. '04	8	63%	13%	38%	8
20 Oct. '00	185	44%	2%	54%	185
21 Dec. '03	64				
24 Dec. '03	222		1	1	2

FRANKLIN'S GULL *Larus pipixcan*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 adult-winter was seen with other gulls at the high tide roost on the settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 18/9/2004. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.). It was watched for only about five minutes from 09:30hrs at about 120 metres range & was in a tiny flock of gulls – a flock that contained several Black-headed & a couple of Relict Gulls. Unfortunately we didn't see it leave, it presumably took flight while I was changing the lens on my telescope, but several digital photos & some brief field notes were taken. This is apparently the first record for China.

LITTLE GULL *Larus minutus*

A scarce autumn passage migrant through coastal Tianjin. In neighbouring Hebei province the majority of sightings are during the spring and Little Gull should be looked for in coastal Tianjin during that period also.

Little Gull is extremely rare further south in coastal China – e.g. there is still only one sighting (an historic record) from Shanghai (Zhang Lin pers. comm.. 1 November 2008).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

Adult winter 'phalaroping' i.e. spinning & picking insects off the surface of the water, on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tank on the 18/9/2004.

Adult winter with large numbers of Black-headed Gulls on the 'Km 8 Oil Derrick pool' besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling on the 7/10/2004. (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.). (The second bird was photographed).

Although there are perhaps in excess of six spring & at least five autumn records for coastal Hebei (mostly if not all in the Beidaihe/Happy Island area) these are possibly the first records for Tianjin municipality.

2006

2 second-winters on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006. Both were photographed.

2008

1 summer plumaged adult with the Black-headed Gulls on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. I've had three previous sightings of Little Gulls in Tianjin, all have been in Tanggu & later in the autumn. These records are as follows - an adult-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18 September 2004; an adult-winter near Gaoshaling on the 7 October 2004 & two second-winters together on the Industrial Park Pools on the 1 September 2006.

2 separate summer plumaged adults (one of which was first seen two days ago) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008. They differed slight in plumage, one bird starting to moult out some of the black feathers from around the base of its bill, & both were photographed.

1 second-winter on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

1 juvenile on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008. Photographed but sadly it disappeared before any of the other observers arrived on site.

1 juvenile, the same bird as yesterday, was seen again on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. It was again photographed.

2009

(3/28 1 3)

1 adult-summer roosting with other gulls on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. (Photographed). Its probably not a coincidence that there had been a marked influx of Black-headed Gulls into the area since yesterday.

1 adult-summer on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009. (Photographed)

1 moulting adult-summer on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009. It was a different bird to that seen on the Tianjin Industrial Park Pools yesterday – it was in wing moult and missing at least its innermost primary on both wings, at least its outer four primaries were extremely heavily abraded with just their shafts remaining at the tip & it had more extensive white flecking on its black hood. (Photo).

The previous Hebei Little Gull records are -

Cheng:

1943: Hemmingsen: p295 description of a juv. or 1st-w bird 8 & 9/10/1943. He details 1 other record in N. China - "(remains of one; party of about 30 on 6/6/1921). - Kolthoff (1932, p176).

1992: Bradshaw, C. G. and Rowlands, J. A. (1992). *Autumn migration at Beidaihe, Hebei Province, China 25th September - 10th November 1992*. Unpublished. They saw a juv. moulting to 1st-w in SF/Heng Ho area 29 & 30/9 - apparently 2nd record for the area.

One of the early Sunbirders saw a bird at the Luanhe estuary on way to HL.

1994: - spring (Williams - spring summary): summer plumage adult was feeding off LP 3/5.

1996: 1 first-summer at Lao Yu Jian 13/5/1996 (P. I. Holt / Sunbird et al.). This is about the fifth local record for this species - it appears to be a rare (not quite annual) late spring migrant in the region.

1997: 1 first-summer was loafing on exposed mud in the Daqinghe estuary on the 14/5 (Gary Armstrong, P. I. Holt / Sunbird et al). Another first-summer bird flew north off Lighthouse Point on the 19/5/1997 (Paul Hyde). An adult winter on the Sandflats 1/10/1997. (P. I. Holt / Sunbird et al.).

2000: 1 2nd year reservoir, Beidaihe 14/5/2000 (Erik Hirshfeld/AviFauna)

2001: A first-winter was at the Shijuituo (Happy Island) high tide wader roost on the 28/9 and an adult-winter flew north past Lighthouse Point, Beidaihe on the 3/10/2001 (P. I. Holt / Sunbird et al.).

Elsewhere in north-eastern China I've also seen the species in Jilin - an adult-summer at Xianghai NNR on the 23/5/1993.

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE *Rissa tridactyla*

Tianjin: One first-winter at Tanggu on 8-9 January [2005][WN]. (China Bird Report 2005).

GULL-BILLED TERN *Gelochelidon nilotica*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 15 at Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. Autumn reports between the Hangu seashore included 40 on 22 August [2004][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 10 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 50 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 50 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

6 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 2 north of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

30 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

70 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

10 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

20 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

15 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

60 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. Most were along the coast between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & about 5 kms south of there.

50 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(18/22 30 190)

1-30 birds were noted on most of the days that I was around Tanggu 3/9 – 7/10 with records spanning virtually the entire period I was there. There was a steady decline in the number of birds present throughout the period with between 5-30 birds being noted on all five days of my first visit (3-7/9), slightly fewer birds (4-20) on nearly all of the 10 days of my second visit (17-26/9) and very few (singles on three dates, 2 on one date & 10 birds on the 3/10) being present on my third visit (2-8/10). Favourite sites included near the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao, the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

2005

(5/11 36 76)

3 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 – 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more off Lu Ju He.

36 - 33 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.

24 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 5 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 13 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon.

8 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – with 6 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 2 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

1 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 25/7/2006.

30 on the 26/7/2006 - 6 at Hangu; 16 at Jing Qu & 8 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

9 on the 27/7/2006 - 3 at Yuren Matou & 6 (including one juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

12 (7 on the river channel & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats) at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

82 on the 29/8/2006 – 63 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 19 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

9 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

8 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

45 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

18 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 14 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

10 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.

17 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

23 on the 8/9/2006 - 16 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang & 8 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.

6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

3 singles near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – with birds over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu, the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu & Jing Qu, Dagang.

77 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

17 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 7 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 1 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 8 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

273 on the 30/4/2007 - 3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 30 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 31 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu; 194 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

168 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 3 at Beidagang, Dagang; 55 over the mud flats four kilometres south of Jing Qu; 110 at the high-tide wader roost near Jing Qu.

58 (including several juveniles still accompanied by their parents) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

37 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 21 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 6 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 10 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

31 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 16 immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

63 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 29 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & at least 34 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

4 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 1 was heard over the inter-tidal mud flats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 were seen on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

10 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

12 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu to Jing Qu, Dagang area on the 10/10/2007.

2008

19 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

42 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

4 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

8 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

2, an adult & an attendant juvenile, at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

9 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008 – 3 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other 6 at Jingqu, Dagang.

6 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

6 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.

4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

16 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

10 between the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & Jingqu, Dagang in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.

84 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

50 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

30 over the inter-tidal mudflats at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

15 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

20 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.

10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

2 singles on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

17 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

26 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. Nine of these were in Tanggu – with two besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & seven besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 17 at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

16 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & six on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

7 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Three of these were over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other four in the Yuren Matou-Jingqu area, Dagang.

2 on the on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
5 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
2 at Yuren Matou on the Tanggu-Dagang border on the 18/10/2008.
4 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
1 in the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(23/28 86 366)

34 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
19 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. Six of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other 13 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
4 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. One of these was at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & another three (two adults & an attendant, begging juvenile) at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 adult on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
1 adult on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
2 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
2 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
2 adults over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
39 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009. A sample count of 25 birds yielded 22 adults (88%) & just three juveniles.
2, including one adult, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
65 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
13 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
22 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These included 13 at Jingqu, Dagang & 25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
86 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
18 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
10 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
1 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

CASPIAN TERN *Sterna caspia*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Hangu seashore on 17 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).
Tianjin: 15 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9-10 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).
Tianjin: 33 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9-10 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).
Tianjin: 28 at Hangu on 14-15 April [2007][ZYo]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

190 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000. These included two roosting flocks that totalled 156 birds (with 'good numbers of juveniles) between Lu Ju He Xiang & Hai Bin Yu Chang & another party of 20 birds on the beach about 6 kms south of the latter site. There were lesser numbers, 39, in the salt pans north of Tanggu on the following day, the 21/10/2000.

2001

45 in Tanggu, including 42 at Hai Bin Yuchang, on the 5/9/2001.
222 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001. These involved 4 at Wu Lu Zhong Xin, 38 at Gaoshaling, 176 at Du Lu Gian He & 4 at Beidagang).
41 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001. These involved 1 at Lu Ju He, another 21 on mudflats 2 kms south of there & 20 at Gaoshaling.
62 in Tanggu on the 7/11 there were 15 on mudflats at the Saunders's Gull site 24 kms south of Tanggu, 5 more over the huge flooded saltpan 2 kms further south and 42 at the apparently regular site, mud banks in the Du Liu Jian river.

2002

10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
1 heard on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
5 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.
4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

1 flew south over the tide-line about 3 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(18/22 135 506)

A fairly common late autumn coastal migrant, Caspian Terns were noted most of the days that I was in the Tanggu area 3/9-8/10 & there was a slight increase in the number of birds present during this period (though the peak passage time was not established). 1 at Beidagang on the 18/9 was the only bird seen any distance from the coast otherwise most birds were seen either on the inter-tidal mudflats or roosting immediately inland at high tide. There were three counts in excess of 50 birds - 65 on the 20/9 nearly all of which were on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang; 135 on the 24/9 - 22 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 105 on pools at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 7 at Lu Ju He & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks; 89 on the 7/10 - 22 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang, 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 3 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 2 kms north of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 5 over the Lu Ju He Fishponds & 29 on the mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport.
45 birds were seen on the 6/10/2004 & these included 33 (21 adults, 7 first-years & 5 un-aged) on the Tanggu airport pools, 5 (all un-aged) over the Lu Ju He Fishponds & 7 (6 adults & 1 first-year) on the Tianjin Haibin Yuchang pools. Hence of the 35 aged birds 27 (77 %) were adults & 8 (23 %) first-years.

2005

(3/11 44 54)

8 on the 28/8/2005 – 3 on pools near Tanggu airport & 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
44 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 5 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 3 roosting at the Lu Ju He fishponds, 7 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 19 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 9 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Tianjin Haibin Yuchang-Lu Ju He & Tanggu airport at low tide later in the afternoon. There was quite likely some duplication in these sightings.
2 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 1 flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2006

11 on the 26/7/2006 - 8 at Hangu & 3 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
5 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 27/7/2006.
9 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
22 on the 29/8/2006 – 10 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
62 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 59 about two kilometres up the river channel from Yuren Matou & 3 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
17 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Birds were practically absent from the Tanggu-Hangu coastline in late July/early August (& were perhaps still in the breeding colonies rearing young). I expect numbers to increase throughout September to a peak sometime in early October.
14 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
5 (four adults & one juvenile) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
43 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 38 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
29 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
6 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
8 on the 8/9/2006 – 3 over the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang & 5 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
3 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.
218 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 216 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & singles besides the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu & at Jing Qu, Dagang.
1 was heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
229 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - 1 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 207 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 5 over the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 14 on the mudflats immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
7 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 5 at Jing Qu & 2 at Beidagang.

2007

2 on the mud flats about two kilometres south of Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
12 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 11 at Beidagang, Dagang.
3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 2 (an adult and an attendant, begging juvenile) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & two more (another adult and an attendant, begging juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
207 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 201 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 6 at Jing Qu, Dagang. 50 birds at the first site were aged & this produced 41 adults (82%) & 9 first-years (18%).
141 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 4 (two adults & two first-winters) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 4 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 130 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
26 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 4 at Jing Qu & 22 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
36 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 11 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & 25 near Jing Qu, Dagang.
2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
72 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007 – 66 about one kilometer up the Duliujian River from the pumping station & the rest on the inter-tidal mud flats near the river mouth.

2008

1 calling juvenile flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
5, three adults & 2 attendant juveniles, on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2008.
1 adult flew over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
27 roosting at high tide besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
25 in the gull & tern roost besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – an adult with an attendant juvenile at Caihongqiao, Hangu & another adult with an attendant juvenile over Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
4 on the 31/8/2008 with an adult & an attendant juvenile, at both the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
28 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. 26 of these were in Tanggu with one over the Lujuhe impound & 25 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. The other two birds, an adult & an attendant juvenile, were at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
24 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one adult at Jingqu, Dagang & 23 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
4 (three adults & a juvenile) on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
161 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. 143 in Tanggu with sightings as follows - two flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools; 108 on the Lujuhe settling tank at high tide; 23 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang also at high tide. Elsewhere there were 28 at Jingqu, Dagang.
89 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008 – 84 in Tanggu with three over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 81 at Lujuhe. Elsewhere there were five at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
201 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008. 179 of these were in Tanggu with five besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 148 at Lujuhe & 26 roosting at high tide on the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. Elsewhere there were 22 at Jingqu, Dagang.
5 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – one over Xiao Xihe Reservoir, three (one adult & two juveniles) near the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe & one at Caihongqiao itself.
49 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – three at Caihongqiao, Hangu; nine on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang; 30 on the large pool immediately south of

Haibin Yuchang & seven at Lujuhe, Tanggu.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

23 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. Five over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu while the other 18 were in the Yuren Matou-Jingqu area, Dagang.

23 on the on the inter-tidal mudflats between Haibin Yuchang & Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

33 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These involved 25 in Tanggu with six over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, one at Lujuhe, four at Haibin Yuchang & 14 from the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou). Further south there were 8 at Jingqu, Dagang.

12 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 17/10/2008. One of these was at Jingqu, Dagang & the other 11 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

11 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. These involved five in Tanggu with 2 at Lujuhe & three more over the Bai Er Station mudflats. Further south there were six at Jingqu, Dagang.

13 in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved two singles at Jingqu, Dagang and five in Tianjin with four on the mudflats between Bai Er Station & Haibin Yuchang and one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

19 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. 11 of these were the river mouth at Yuren Matou, Dagang and the other eight . in among the Relict Gulls on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately north of the Bai Er Station, Tanggu. Six birds were aged & this produced two first-winters and four adults (67%).

2009

(15/28 8 49)

5 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. Three of these (two adults & a juvenile) at Bai Er Station, Tanggu & another two adults at Jingqu, Dagang.

2 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009. At least one of these two birds was an adult.

3 adults on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

8 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – two, an adult and a juvenile, over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & six on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. All eight birds were aged and there were six adults and two separate attendant juveniles.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

3, including one adult & a separate juvenile, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.

2 juveniles on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.

4 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

4 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

2, one adult & one first year, on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

3, one adult and two juveniles, in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

6, including one adult and one juvenile, at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

5 adults besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.

8 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

CHINESE CRESTED TERN *Sterna bernsteini* CR

2008

1 adult on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008. Photographed and a description taken this was the first record for Tianjin. Found at 13:00hrs it flew off northwest almost two hours later at 14:55hrs and wasn't seen again. Sadly this was just 15 minutes before Mr. Han from Tianjin, the first of the three twitchers to chase the bird, arrived.

Coincidentally the only other 'extralimital' record of Chinese Crested Tern since 1998 was one at Chongmingdao also on the 5 September (2004). (Zhang KJ, Yu X, Gan XJ, David SM. 2004. Chinese Crested Tern at Chongming Dao, Shanghai, China. *BirdingASIA*, 2:66).

COMMON TERN *Sterna hirundo*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 12 April & 50 on the way from Shanggulin to Hangu along the seashore, Tianjin on 1 October 2003 were the first & last birds recorded in China that year! (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 70 were noted at Hangu seashore on 12 September [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 30 near Beitang on 27-28 April [2005][ZYong]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 30 Apr. [2006][GJing]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 200 near Beitang during 8-9 September [2007][LJia]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

200 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. These included 60 at the high tide roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, 40 at Lu Ju He & 66 besides the Lu Ju He drainage channel.

100 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

30 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

550, with a huge number of Whiskered Terns, over Beidagang, Dagang during heavy rain in the early evening of 2/5/2004.

2 on the mudflats about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(9/22 18 35)

Birds were noted on 8 dates & were encountered daily during my first visit (3-7/9) but only infrequently during my second. Six of the nine encounters were with singles, a party of 3 was seen on the 20/9 & a flock of 18 on the 7/9. The last bird, a single, was on the 24/9. All records as follows - 1 on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9. 8 on the 4/9 & these included 7 on a complex of small pools near Cai Jia Pu (a coastal site 23.8 kms north-east [46°] of Tanggu). Singles on the 5th & 6/9 & then 18 on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9. After that there was 1 on the 18th, 3 on the 20th & singles on both the 23rd & 24/9/2004.

2005

(5/11 258 557)

43 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005.

225 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

258 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 105 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 25 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 63 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 15 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 50 on the pool near Gaoshaling.

25 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 - with about equal numbers over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

6 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

55 on the 25/7/2006 - 4 at Bei Tang Reservoir, 2 at Hangu & 50 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

53 on the 26/7/2006 - 25 at Hangu; 8 at Jing Qu & 20 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

30 in total south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. These included 10 at Beidagang.

35 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

119 on the 29/8/2006 - 48 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 71 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

43 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

43 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

346 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006. 145 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools, 20 on the Tanggu airport pools & 181 at Jing Qu Dagang.

126 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

10 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.

10 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

5 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

5 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 9/9/2006.

2007

15 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.

17 in the Dagang area on the 1/5/2007 - 5 at Beidagang, Dagang; 12 on the riverside pool at the southern edge of Dagang.

28 (including several juveniles still accompanied by their parents) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

113 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 10 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 91 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

22 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

11 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

18 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

30 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

247 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/8/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 - 4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 26 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

178 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

310 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 - 130 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 180 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

250 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Most were in the gull & tern roost besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

30 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.

20 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 - with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

476 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 420 were in coastal Tanggu with 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 182 at high tide on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & another 190 at high tide on a pool not far north of Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 56 at Jingqu, Dagang.

3 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

120 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The vast majority of these were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

1 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(27/28 214 1171)

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

44 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

15 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.

30 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 19 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

11 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.

3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 30 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 139 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 124 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 120 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
 15 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 20 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
 30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
 33 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009 – with 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 214 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. 74 birds were aged and this produced 71 adults and just three juveniles.
 5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 85 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
 8 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
 130 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 120 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
 35 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
 20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These were about equally split between Jingqu, Dagang & the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 12 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 35 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
 75 in coastal Tanggu on the on the 29/8/2010. 30 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools with the other 45 being besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
 555 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
 235 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

'EASTERN' LITTLE TERN *Sternula [albifrons] sinensis**

Tianjin: 10 at Beidagang Reservoir on 2 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 50 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

750 south of Tanggu on the 5/9/2001. These included 140 at the high tide roost near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Handling Centre, 50 besides the Lu Ju He drainage channel, 350 (in flocks of 210, 50, 40, 30 & 20) 3 kms south of Hai Bin Yuchang. Several smaller parties were noted elsewhere.

'Present' but were not counted south of Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

50 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
 200 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
 50 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
 480 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
 30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.
 10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

100 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.
 30 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(15/22 120 498)

1-120 birds were noted on all five days of my first visit & all 10 days on my second with the last sighting being on the 26/9. None were seen on my third visit to Tanggu in early October. All sightings as follows – 6 on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9; 100 on the 4/9 - 35 at Cheng Tou Gu (a small coastal, fishing village about 18.5kms north-north-east [31°] of Tanggu, 20 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Cai Jia Pu another coastal fishing village, about 7 kms north of the aircraft carrier & 23.8 kms north-east (46°) of Tanggu & others elsewhere. 50, 20 & 90 – all on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 5th, 6th & 7/9 respectively. 4 on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 17/9. 120 on & around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9. 40 on the 19/9 – with most on the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & a few at Beidagang. 40 again on the 20/9. 10, 1 & 12 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21st, 22nd & 23/9 respectively. 1 on the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 24/9 & 2 at Beidagang on both the 25th & 26/9/2004.

2005

(5/11 202 431)

60 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005.
 105 on the 28/8/2005 - 93 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 7 on pools near Tanggu airport 5 on the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
 202 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 45 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 7 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 117 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 18 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 on the pool near Gaoshaling.
 55 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 9 over the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & 46 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
 9 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

215 on the 25/7/2006 – 5 at Bei Tang Reservoir & 210 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang
 355 on the 26/7/2006 - 175 at Hangu (15 over the inter-tidal mudflats & 160 in the river channel 500 metres upstream of the Rainbow Bridge); 20 at Jing Qu & 160 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
 750 in total at several coastal sites between Tanggu & Yuren Matou on the 27/7/2006. 40 at Beidagang; 306 at Yuren Matou; 310 on the long pool immediately

south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 10 at Lu Ju He & 85 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.
 68 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
 251 on the 29/8/2006 – 130 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 121 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools
 142 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 20 at Yuren Matou & 122 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
 64 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Numbers are already starting to decline slightly.
 1040 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006. 364 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools, 36 on the Tanggu airport pools, 30 on the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, 410 at Yuren Matou & 200 at Jing Qu Dagang.
 80 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
 153 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.
 250 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. These included 100 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 120 south of Jing Qu, Dagang.
 100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 – 20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang & 80 on the Tanggu Harbour Pool.
 80 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
 50 on the 8/9/2006 – 15 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang & 35 on the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang.
 55 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – 30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 20 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.
 8 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
 3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

2007

15 between Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/4/2007.
 30 on the 1/5/2007. These included - 4 at Beitang, Tanggu; 22 at Beidagang, Dagang.
 189 (including several juveniles still accompanied by their parents) at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
 217 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 140 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 57 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
 120 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
 100 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
 3 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2008

10 in the Hangu/Tanggu area on the 1/5/2008.
 20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
 264 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
 430 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008. Apart from 8 at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other 422 were at Caihongqiao, Hangu where the majority of birds were seen in three discrete groups with parties of 30, 190 & 197. The adults were feeding close in shore & returning to feed their offspring. Three sample counts of one of these groups yielded between 28-32% juveniles.
 140 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 3/8/2008. These included 116 in Dagang with 65 at Jingqu & 51 at Beidagang.
 465 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 – 155 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 310 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 200 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008. The vast majority of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
 130 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – 110 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 365 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
 720 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – 160 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 240 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 320 in the river immediately upstream from Yuren Matou.
 300 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Most were in the gull & tern roost besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
 15 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
 40 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – with again about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 395 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 275 were in coastal Tanggu with 35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 140 at high tide on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & another *ca.* 100 at high tide on a pool not far north of Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 120 at Jingqu, Dagang.
 10 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
 350 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 310 at Jingqu & 40 at Beidagang.
 80 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The vast majority of these were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
 3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
 11 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. Birds were widely encountered with sightings near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, at Lujuhe, besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & at Jingqu, Dagang.
 5 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
 2 flew over the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(27/28 725 2471)

15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. Birds were about equally split between three sites - the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & Gaoshaling in Tanggu & Beidagang in Dagang.
 14 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. Six of these (three pairs) were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other eight were at Jingqu, Dagang.
 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 35 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
 30 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. 17 of these were at Bai Er Station, Tanggu.
 5 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/7/2009.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
 10 on the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
 10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.
 240 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009 – 50 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 190 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang. A sample count of 32 birds at the first site yielded 14 adults & 18 juveniles.
 15 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
 320 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 40 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
 40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 220 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 with 165 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & 55 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang.
 70 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

245 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/7/2009. A sample count of 227 birds yielded 195 adults (86%) & 32 juveniles.
162 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009 – 106 on the pools & mud flats between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang & 56 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.
20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
35 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
725 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009. Birds were widespread but the bulk were in just two flocks – one close to Haibin Yuchang and the other closer to Lujuhe. Today's count marks a massive increase since last week.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
30 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
35 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
80 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These included 55 at Jingqu, Dagang & 20 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
30 on the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

510 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. 25 of these were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools with the other 485 being besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
2 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
8 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

WHISKERED TERN *Chlidonias hybrida*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 50 were recorded at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 15 July 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 50 at Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 23 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: The highest spring & autumn counts were 63 at Beitang Reservoir on 13-14 May [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 30 at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

8 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

2004

At least 6500 over Beidagang, Dagang during heavy rain in the early evening of 2/5/2004. Although large numbers (550) of Common Terns were counted at the same site not a single White-winged Black Tern was logged!

1 flew north over the tide line near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 125 149)

Birds were noted on six widely scattered dates between 4-26/9. Beidagang accounted for over 90% of the bird-day totals. All records as follows - 2 on a complex of small pools near Cai Jia Pu (a coastal site 23.8 kms north-east [46°] of Tanggu) on the 4/9. 10 near Tanggu on the 5/9. 125 at Beidagang on the 19/9. A sample count of 96 birds on this date produced 65 adults (68 %) & 31 juveniles (32 %). This proportion of almost twice as many adults as juveniles was very different to the pattern found in White-winged Black Tern (see below). 1 juvenile flew south over the coast at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9. 6 & 5 at Beidagang on the 25th & 26/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 6 6)

6 on the 28/8/2005 – 4 (2 adults & 2 juveniles) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more adults flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He.

2006

55 on the 25/7/2006 – 8 at Bei Tang Reservoir, 7 at Hangu & 40 over marshland south of Tanggu. All were adults.

1 summer plumaged adult at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

280 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

6 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

4 over Beitang Reservoir on the 29/8/2006.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

3 south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

70 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

5 birds flew high to the south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

2008

2 singles flew north over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

4 adults near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 – one came in off the sea at Caihongqiao, Hangu & three others were besides the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools.

1200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

4 flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

20 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – four flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another three did the same over the Lujuhe impound.

220 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 adult at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

117 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

1 juvenile at the extreme western end of Beidagang on the 23/10/2008.

2009

(7/28 850 980)

850 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009. Other than just two at Gaoshaling, Tanggu the remaining ca.850 birds were at Beidagang, Dagang.
2 adults flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
120 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
1 adult with the White-winged Black Terns on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
4 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

2010

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
300 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. The vast majority of the day's birds (280+) were at Beidagang, Dagang. About ten of others were over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools while another five were over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang both Tanggu.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

WHITE-WINGED BLACK TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Inclement weather, and especially drizzle, brings an influx during both migration seasons.

Juveniles, first recorded on 4 August in 2008 (the fact that there were two birds present the following day suggests that this is not a particularly early date), are usually uncommon until mid-September. However birds of this age class already accounted for 17% of the large number (2900) of White-winged Blacks present on 29 August 2005 but only 3% of those present on this same date the following year!

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 20 were recorded at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 15 July 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 200 at Hangu seashore on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 63 at Hangu on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2001

400 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
300 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

5 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
300 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
40 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
40 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
3 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(11/22 1500 2852)

This species was significantly more common than Whiskered Tern – it was recorded on nearly twice as many days, there were nearly 20 times as many bird days & the individual daily maximum was 12 times higher. Birds were noted on 11 dates from when I arrived at Tanggu on the 3rd until the last day of my second visit, the 26/9. All records as follows - 4, including at least 1 adult & at least 1 juvenile, on the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9. 60 on the 4/9 - 10 on a complex of roadside saltpans about 2 kms north of the Caihong Da Qiao north of Tanggu & 50 more on a complex of small pools near Cai Jia Pu (a coastal site 23.8 kms north-east [46°] of Tanggu). 200 on the 5/9 – nearly all were seen over the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. 5 flew high to the south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 6th & there were 30 on coastal pools close to there the following day. 42 on the 18/9 & a massive 1500 on the 19/9. On the latter date there were about 5 at both the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & Beidagang with all the rest over the complex of fish ponds between Lu Ju He, Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. A sample count of 196 birds here produced 168 adults (86 %) & 18 juveniles (9 %). Note that there was a significantly smaller proportion of juveniles (9 % as against 32 %) compared with Whiskered Tern & the fact that some of the latter may have bred locally is possibly significant. 2 & 1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 20th & 21/9. 1000 were estimated to be on the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling on the 25/9. A sample count of 491 birds here produced 446 adults (91 %) & 45 first-years (almost all juveniles) (9 %). 8 were at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004.

2005

(5/11 2900 3267)

21 south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005.

143 on the 28/8/2005 – 119 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 13 over the pools near Tanggu airport & 11 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats between Lu Ju He & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

An impressive 2900 birds were counted south of Tanggu on 29/8/2005. These included 47 on or south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 6 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 3 on the pool at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, 7 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a massive 2845 on the pool near Gaoshaling! I aged 387 birds at the latter site & this produced 320 adults (83%) & 67 juveniles (17%).

200 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – nearly all of these were over roadside pools north of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county.

3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

15 – mostly at Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

600 on the 26/7/2006 - including 110 at Hangu; 390 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools & 178 at Jing Qu.

825 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006 - 5 at Beidagang; 80 at Yuren Matou & 740 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools.

145 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006. All of the birds seen on the coast in the last few days had been adults.

510 on the 29/8/2006 – 360 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 150 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools. A sample count of 226 birds at the first site produced 223 adults (99%) & only 3 juveniles (1%)!

40 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. As with the previous species inclement weather and especially drizzle brings an influx of birds. Juveniles are scarce until mid-September.

200 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

80 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

230 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – 40 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 190 south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

30 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 6/9/2006.
70 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
120 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
180 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.

2007

350 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.
720 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007 - 150 over the inter-tidal mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 200 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 20 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 350 over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.
30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
5 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
288 besides the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
825 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
30 in Dagang on the 3/8/2008. The majority (25+) were at Beidagang but several were also seen at Jingqu.
190 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008 - 20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 170, including the first juvenile I'd seen this autumn, on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
895 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 - 710 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 185 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu. Two juveniles were seen today - all the rest were adults.
400 around the salt pans at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
1350 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 - 270 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1080 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2250 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
500 south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 - 300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 80 besides the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & 120 in the river immediately upstream from Yuren Matou.
500 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Most were on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2950 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
3100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
650 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008. Of these 400 were in coastal Tanggu with 300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, 50 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & another 50 at high tide on a pool not far north of Yuren Matou. Elsewhere there were 250 at Jingqu, Dagang.
20 on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
400 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 - almost all of these were at Jingqu with just three at Beidagang.
300 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. The majority of these were at two sites - the complex of roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu & on the pools immediately outside the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang.
300 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
1650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
650 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
1 bird with oil on its belly on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(21/28 2670 7492)

120 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
66 adults flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
11 flew south over the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.
120 adults on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.
5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
155 adults on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
40 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
110 adults at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
815, including the first juvenile of the year, were over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
55 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
230 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
45 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2670 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
2000 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. The vast majority of these were feeding over the same relatively small pool on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools where they were yesterday. A sample count of 152 birds at this site yielded 147 adults (97%) & just five juveniles (3%).
350 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
150 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
340 at various sites around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
50 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

650 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of the day's birds (620+) were over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
1 juvenile flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

BLACK TERN *Chlidonias niger*

OSPREY *Pandion haliaetus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One at Dagang reservoir of Dagang District, Tianjin on 12 April while 2 at Qilihai, Ninghe County, Tianjin on 15 July 2003 were the only ones reported in the whole of China during the summer period. (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir on 4 April [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Two on the Hangu coast on 9 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2000

1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 adult at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

ORIENTAL HONEY-BUZZARD *Pernis ptilorhyncus*

Tianjin: One at Hangu coast on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Tianjin on 18 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(3/22 571 574)

Birds were noted on only three dates & all sightings were in the four day period 17-20/9. All records as follows - 1 was seen from the train on the western edge of Tianjin on the 17/9 - it flew high to the south-east. 3, 1 adult & 2 juveniles, flew south over the settling tanks near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 19/9. An impressive 571 birds flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9/2004. 66 birds were aged & of these 46 (70 %) were adults & 20 (30 %) juvenile.

2007

2 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 - one flew south at Beidagang & the other came in off the sea at Jing Qu.

1 came in off the sea at 12:20hrs at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2009

(1/28 268 268)

268 came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009. The passage was short and intense with 265 birds doing so in the 45 minutes immediately after 10h00. Subsequently there were just three stragglers (all at 11h17). 48 birds were aged and this produced 34 adults (71%) and 14 juveniles (29%).

This is the second time that I've seen an autumn passage of Oriental Honey-buzzard in coastal Tianjin - and the second time that birds have come in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang! The highest count was of an impressive 571 birds that also flew south-west during a three hour raptor watch at Haibin Yuchang (10h00-13h00) on the 20/9/2004. 66 of the birds on that date were aged & of these 46 (70 %) were adults & 20 (30 %) juvenile - age ratios that are remarkably similar to those of today! The editors of the 2004 China Bird Report subsequently suggested that the 2004 count was a national record - however it isn't since an apparently exceptional 1200 flew north over the Lotus Hill watch point at Beidaihe, Hebei on 17/5/1997 (Dick Newell & Jesper Hornskov et al.) and 648 flew south at Beidaihe, Hebei on 17 September 1990 [Williams, Dr. M. D. (Ed). (2000) *Autumn bird migration at Beidaihe, China, 1986-1990*. Beidaihe International Birdwatching Society, Hong Kong].

2010

1 flew south over Teda at 11h05 on the 23/9/2010.

PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* VU

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International states 'Unconfirmed reports from outside the range documented by Cheng Tso-hsin (1987), and which therefore require confirmation, are from Tianjin and Beijing municipalities, undated (Wilder in Thomas 1978)'.

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 adult and 1 juv. were seen roosting on the ice of Qilihai reservoir, Ninghe, Tianjin on 8 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE *Elanus caeruleus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One at Yihe Village, Xiqing District on 20 February [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004). This same individual, a second calendar year, was photographed at the same site on 13 March 2004 by someone with the internet name ch0585 & an image of it can be found at http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2004/2004517155130_0459.jpg

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir on 1 Mar. [2006][LY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2008

2 juveniles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 adults near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008. Mr. Xu told us that Mr. Chen Jianzhong, of Tianjin city & author of the recent Niao lei Tuzhi - Tianjin Yeniao Xinshang. (Photographic Guide to the Wild Birds of Tianjin) (2008) had seen 16 birds at Beidagang, Dagang a few day's earlier!
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

BLACK KITE *Milvus migrans lineatus*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 12 12)

12 that flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9/2004 were the only ones logged. All 6 birds that were aged were juveniles.

2007

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

2008

1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE *Haliaeetus leucoryphus* VU

WHITE-TAILED EAGLE *Haliaeetus albicilla* NT

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One adult male at Huangguang Reservoir on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004). Sexing as a male was peculiar!

One juvenile was photographed at Tianjin Peking Kong Wetland on 15 Jan. 2005 at by someone with the internet name ch0585 and images of this bird can be found at - <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2005/200511754577957.jpg>

CINEREOUS VULTURE *Aegypius monachus* NT

EURASIAN MARSH HARRIER *Circus aeruginosus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 female was at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang District on 20 April 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

EASTERN MARSH HARRIER *Circus spilonotus*

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir on 4 May [2004][LHY]; one at Hangu seashore on 29 August [2004][WN]. (Both reports in China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: One at Hangu coast on 9 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Hangu coast on 15 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 juvenile flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(15/22 9 42)

Single figure counts were made on 15 of the 22 days & records spanned virtually the entire time that I was in the Tanggu area 3/9-8/10. Although the highest count was made on the 20/9/2004 this species was surprisingly poorly represented in the raptor passage that occurred that day (but see the entry for harrier sp. below).

Up to 5 birds were dependably present at Beidagang throughout the period.

2005

(3/11 1 3)

1 'cream-crown' flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

1 male flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

1 was seen from the train between Tanggu & Tianjin on the 31/8/2005.

2006

1 flew south high over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

13, including two adult males, at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
2, an adult male & a juvenile, flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
1 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 juveniles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
3 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
1 flew southwest over the complex of roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
1 flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2009

(5/28 12 28)

9, including three adult males, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
2 singles came in off the sea in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009. The first did so at Caihongqiao, Hangu in the morning & the other did the same at Jingqu, Dagang in the late afternoon.
3 (an adult male, adult female and an immature male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
12 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Three of these were at Beidagang, Dagang; eight came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the final bird flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2 separate adult males flew south over the reclamation pools at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

PIED HARRIER *Circus melanoleucos*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Hangu seashore on 20 November [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004). An exceptionally late report- possibly incorrectly identified.

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir on 21 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Dahuangpu NR, Wuqing on 31 Oct. [2006][ZY]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ]; three at Hangu Coastal on 15 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 6 19)

Being recorded on less than half as many days & with less than half as many total bird-days Pied Harrier was significantly out-numbered by Eastern Marsh Harrier. All records as follows - 2 on the 4/9. 2, a ringtail & a near adult male, at Beidagang on the 4/9. 5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9. 3, including two immature males, flew south during the 19/9. 6 flew south, of which 4 were adult or near-adult males, on the 20/9 & lastly 1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 5/10/2004.

2006

2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
5 (two adult males & three ringtails) came in off the sea at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
5, including three adult males, flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
4 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2008

1 adult male flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2009

(2/28 17 25)

17 birds, including three adult males, flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
8, including two adult males, in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Three of these came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang; one was at Beidagang, Dagang; three more came in off the sea at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the final bird flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

In addition 2 very distant birds, probably this species were seen at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

2010

3 singles drifted north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
5, including just one adult male, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

PALLID HARRIER *Circus macrourus* NT

HEN HARRIER *Circus cyaneus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 4 at Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin on 29 December 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): 1 female at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir on 4 April [2004][LHY]; one at Hangu seashore on 11 September [2004] was an early record & I questioned this in litt. to Liu Yang [HP]; one at Beidagang Reservoir on 18 December [2004][CJZ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Two at Tanggu on 23-24 Sept. [LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: Five at Beidagang on 31 October [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

3 were seen over an extensive area of grassland near the Bei Da Gang Shuikou (Bei Da Gang reservoir) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

1 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

7, including one adult male, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

8, including two adult males, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

4 (two adult males & two ringtails) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

3 & 2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

4 (1 adult male & 3 ringtails) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2005

(2/11 5 6)

1 ringtail near the south end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 21/12/2005.

5 (two adult males and three ringtails) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

5 (1 adult male & a ringtail) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

2007

3 ringtails at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

3 (one adult male & two ringtails) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

4 (three ringtails & an adult male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

5 (four ringtails & one adult male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

3 (two ringtails and an adult male) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

2 separate ringtails flew south near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

9 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. One ringtail flew south at Jingqu while there were eight (seven ringtails & an adult male) at Beidagang later in the day.

6, including just one adult male, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

HARRIER SP. *Circus sp.*

2004 - autumn

(3/22 30 55)

Unidentified harriers were noted on the three days 19-21/9. All records as follows - 23 on the 19th (these included about 10 birds, singles & small parties, that flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & about 13 at Beidagang). 30 birds flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9 & 2 singles flew south on the 21/9/2004.

2008

1 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

2009

4 very distant harriers were seen in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

CHINESE SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter soloensis*

JAPANESE SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter gularis*

Tianjin: Two near Beitang on 17 September [2007][CKL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(3/22 15 19)

1 at Beidagang on the 5th, 3 flew south on the 19th & 15 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9/2004. (See accipiter sp. below).

2007

1 flew north over the trackside pool on route to Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.

1 juvenile in an illegal mist net near Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008 was released and the nets destroyed.

1 adult flew south over Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK *Accipiter nisus*

2004 - autumn

(4/22 33 37)

Singles were seen on the 4th, & 18/9, 2 birds on the 19/9 & 33 flew south-west during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9/2004. (See accipiter sp. below).

2006

1 flew north low over the sea off Hangu on the 18/3/2006

1 over the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first bird of the autumn.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 came in off the sea at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.

1 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2008

1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

1 adult flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 8 8)

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

NORTHERN GOSHAWK *Accipiter gentilis*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 juvenile flew south over the Lu Ju He fishponds on the 24/9/2004.

2007

1 adult came in off the sea at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 juvenile at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009 – an early date.

ACCIPITER SP. *Accipiter sp.*

2004 - autumn

(2/22 81 87)

6 on the 19th & 81 flew southwest during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9/2004.

2007

2 singles came in off the sea at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

1 bird, probably a Eurasian Sparrowhawk, was seen near Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

2 distant singles came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. Of these 12 were in Dagang with nine were at Jingqu & three at Beidagang. Further north one flew south at Gaoshaling and two did the same at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2009

(2/28 2 4)

2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

2010

1 flew south over Teda at 11h25 on the 23/9/2010.

GREY-FACED BUZZARD *Butastur indicus*

COMMON BUZZARD *Buteo buteo*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 5 at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 17-18 March, 5 at Xigu Park, Hongqiao, Tianjin on 1 October & 5 at Tuanbowa, Jinghai County, Tianjin on 26 October 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2000

1 & 2 near Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. The bird on the first date flew purposefully south over the salt marsh along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) while both of the birds on the 21/10/2000 were near Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of the city.

2002

1 from the train near Tianjin on the 21/12/2002

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 at Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 22/12/2005.

2006

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

3 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – two flew south at Beidagang & the other came in off the sea at Jing Qu.

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

3 (two birds together at Jingqu & a single over Yuren Matou) flew south in Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

18 flew south in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. Other than one that flew over Jingqu at 06:50hrs the rest were at Beidagang.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

UPLAND BUZZARD *Buteo hemilasius*

Tianjin: One at Dahuangbao NR on 26 March [2005][YY]; two at Beidagang NR on 23 December [2005][LY]. (Both records from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Nankai University on 30 August [2007][ZAH]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2004

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on both the on the 3rd & 4/1/2004.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004. The three birds that were aged were all juveniles.

2005

(1/11 2 2)

2 in Dagang district on the 22/12/2005– 1 at Beidagang and the other flew south near the coast close to the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river.

2006

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

2008

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

ROUGH-LEGGED BUZZARD *Buteo lagopus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 4 at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on May 17-18 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): One at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: Two at Beidagang NR on 23 December [2005][LY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

1 was photographed at Beidagang on 22 Dec. 2006 by someone with the internet name ch0585 and an image of it can be found at - <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2007/2007630849619.jpg>

2003

1 male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

3, including one adult male, one juvenile female & 1 unspecified, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2004

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

2005

(1/11 2 2)

2 on the 22/12/2005– 1 flew south over Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu and the other was at Beidagang, Dagang.

2008

1 adult male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Apparently a scarce but annual winter visitor to this site.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. It was the same adult male that we saw yesterday.

1 about midway between Beidagang & Tanggu on the 19/1/2008

GREATER SPOTTED EAGLE *Aquila clanga* VU

STEPPE EAGLE *Aquila nipalensis*

IMPERIAL EAGLE *Aquila heliaca* VU

GOLDEN EAGLE *Aquila chrysaetos*

LESSER KESTREL *Falco naumanni* VU

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites one report –

Tianjin (Tientsin), adult female collected, undated (Hartlaub 1893);

2008

[1 bird, possibly this species, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008].

COMMON KESTREL *Falco tinnunculus*

Reports by others -

Anderson (2003): One at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

2000

8 & 6 near Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively.

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

1 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

1 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

1 over Tianjin Railway Station on the 29/11/2003.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

2 between Tanggu & Beijing on the 4/1/2004.

2 & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(13/22 3 21)

1-3 birds were noted on 13 dates. Most sightings were of single birds. No obvious pattern, either temporal or spatial was discernable & although a number of birds seemed to be 'resident' in the area few apparent migrants were noted. All records as follows - 1 was seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin on the 3/9. 3 on the 5/9 – 2 seen over the settling tanks at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao & the other over the complex of pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. 1 flew south over the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9. 2 again near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling

tank on both the 17th & 18/9. 2 on the 19th – 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & the other at Beidagang. Only 3 flew southwest during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9. 1 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 24/9. 1 near Tanggu town centre on the 2nd, 2 singles elsewhere near Tanggu on the 3rd, 1 over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 4th, 1 flew over the Hong Fa Huar Yuan hotel in central Tanggu on the 5th & the last bird, another single, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 6/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 4 7)

3 on the 21/12/2005 – 2 close to Tanggu town and 1 near Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang.

4 on the 22/12/2005 – 2 near the Rainbow Bridge, Tanggu, 1 at Beidagang, Dagang and 1 near the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian river, also Dagang.

2006

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

1 adult male at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

2 singles flew south in the Tanggu area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Haibinyuchang & the other at Yuren Matou.

4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

5 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – one over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other near the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

2 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 – one near Lu Ju He, Tanggu & the other at Jing, Qu, Dagang.

3 singles near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other was at the Lu Ju He Fishponds.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.

2 singles on the 1/5/2007 - 1 at Beitang, Tanggu; 1 at Beidagang, Dagang;

1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

1 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 3/10/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 near Dagang on the 16/1/2008.

1 near Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – one over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other high over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 came in off the sea immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

1 near Tianjin town on the 5/9/2008.

1 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 7/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

2 near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

1 near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

4 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one at Caihongqiao, Hangu & three at Beidagang, Dagang.

1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008 – one apparent migrant over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other at Haibin Yuchang.

3 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 12/10/2008.

2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & the other close to the Tianjin Harbour Pools, Tanggu.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. These involved two at Beidagang, Dagang & three singles flying south in Tanggu with sightings at Haibin Yuchang, over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools and near Dagu Fort on the southern side of the Haihe Daqiao in Tanggu town.

2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008 – one at Jingqu, Dagang & the other at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Four of these were at Beidagang, Dagang with the other two being singles near Gaoshaling & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

2009

(8/28 5 15)

1 adult male at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.

2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009 – one flew south over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the other was in central Teda.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.

2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

1 adult male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

AMUR FALCON *Falco amurensis*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 40 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, Tianjin on 14 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang NR on 21 May [2005][CJZ]; one on the Hangu coast on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at near Beitang on 28 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: Exceptional numbers at Beidagang, Dagang in October with 300 on 3 (2007)[WRQ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

1 & 2 near Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. The bird on the first date, an adult female, was seen over an extensive area of grassland near the Bei Da Gang Shuikou (Beidagang reservoir) south of Tanggu while the two on the 21/10/2000 were seen near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou northwest of Tanggu.

2004

1 flew north over the beach off Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(11/22 131 364)

Birds were noted on exactly half of the days I was around Tanggu 3/9 – 8/10. Other than 89 visible migrants that were noted on the 20/9 – a day of marked raptor passage rather few other active migrants were noted. Apart from a decent count from the Beijing to Tanggu train on the 17/9, Beidagang, a traditionally good site for this species, hosted all the other higher counts & sightings here alone accounted for 266 (73%) of the total number of bird-days. There appeared to be a concentration of records in the last week of September – but this might simply reflect the fact that I visited Beidagang twice in this period. All records as follows - 1 juvenile that flew south high over the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9 was my only sighting during my first visit to Tanggu (3-7/9). 46 birds were counted from the train between Beijing & Tianjin on the 17/9 – they were in two discrete areas – 19 birds were seen at the first site (between 20-35 minutes by train south-east of the capital) & 27 more were noted at the second (between 50-60 minutes from Beijing & between 20-30 minutes before Tianjin). 6 on the 19/9 – 4 at Beidagang & 2 others between there & Tanggu. 89 flew southwest during the three hour raptor watch at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (10-13:00hrs) on the 20/9. 1 juvenile was over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 24/9. There were 114 at Beidagang on the 25th - many of these birds were seen very well & a large number (n = 92) were aged & sexed. Of these there were 29 adult males (32%), 40 adult females (43 %) & 23 juveniles (25 %). There were 131 at Beidagang the following day (26/9) & I thought that the increase from yesterday's count of 114 birds probably reflected the fact that we explored more areas. 124 birds were aged & sexed & there were 56 adult males (45%), 46 adult females (37 %) & 22 juveniles (18 %). 1 juvenile flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2/10. 1 adult female flew south on the 4/10. 3 un-aged birds flew south over the Tanggu airport mudflats on the 5th & there were 17 again at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004. All the latter birds were aged/sexed & there were 10 adult males (59 %), 1 adult female (6 %) & 6 (35 %) juveniles.

2006

1 flew south near Dagang on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

1 flew south over at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2 single adult males flew south on the 8/10/2006 – one over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

480 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

885 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007. It was foggy here today – hence the low count.

1350 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007. It was again very foggy here – hence the low count compared to most of those made in the previous few days.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008 was the first I'd seen this autumn.

49 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008 – four flew south high over Xiao Xihe Reservoir & another 45 were in the Ningchegu wetland on the northern side of the Chaobaihe.

23 in Dagang on the 2/10/2008 – 15 at Beidagang, Dagang & 8 came in off the sea at Jingqu.

3 singles flew south in Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

1 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

2 singles were seen from the Jingjintang (Beijing-Tianjin-Tanggu) Expressway not far northwest of Tianjin city on the 13/10/2008.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008 – one near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 9 9)

9 flew over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.

2010

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

MERLIN *Falco columbarius*

Reports from others -

Tianjin: One on the Hangu coast on 9 April [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: A pair at Hangu coastal on 9 November [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

1 adult male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 adult male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

Single birds were noted on two consecutive dates in early October - 1 flew south over the Tanggu airport mudflats on the 5th & 1 was seen at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 flew north up the coastal breakwater at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

2008

3 (one adult male & two females) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. The two females were hunting with a pair of Hen Harriers.

1 flew south over Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

1 flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.

EURASIAN HOBBY *Falco subbuteo*

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 11 Nov. [2006][CZY] was unusually late. (China Bird Report 2006).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

Surprisingly a juvenile that flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 19/9 was the only sighting around Tanggu during the entire period that I was there 3/9 – 8/10/2004.

2006

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.

2007

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

2008

1 adult flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

2 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/9/2008 – one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

1 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

SAKER FALCON *Falco cherrug* EN

2002

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 flew north over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the very last day that I was in the area, the 8/10/2004.

2006

1 juvenile at Hangu on the 26/7/2006 took a small shorebird. (Photos)

2008

1 first-winter male was seen to catch a small shorebird on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008. What was very probably the same bird was seen a couple of hours later hunting over the recently impounded inter-tidal mudflats at Lujuhe.

PEREGRINE FALCON *Falco peregrinus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang District, Tianjin on 14 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): One at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 juvenile flew south over Lu Ju He on the 4/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 adult over the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 23/12/2005.

2006

1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

1 adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 adults in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008 – one at Beidagang, Dagang & the other flew south over the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 adult at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.

LARGE FALCON SP. *Falco sp.*

2008

1 bird, either a Saker or a Peregrine Falcon, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

LITTLE GREBE *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

An uncommon local breeder on water bodies throughout the Municipality and an uncommon passage migrant. Spring migration occurs from late March to early May. Local breeders disperse in August and birds are then increasingly widespread until autumn migration peaks between early September and mid-October. Large numbers can then congregate at favoured sites such as Beidagang, Dagang where e.g. 360 on 5 September 2004. Small numbers of birds remain throughout the winter on areas of unfrozen water e.g. the Duliujian river near Dagang Power Station where 16 on 18 January 2008.

2001

1 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

15 on a saltpan c15 kms south of Tanggu on the 5/11/2001.

2004

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - autumn

(5/22 360 880+)

There was a noticeable increase during the period & up to 360 birds were noted on all five visits to Beidagang. Most of the birds were on the large lake on the southern side of the main road & embankment & close to the entrance gate. All records as follows – 200, 320, 'several', 'several' & 360 on the 5th, 19th, 25th & 26/9 & the 6/10/2004. None were seen away from Beidagang.

2006

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

25 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

2 on a pool on the edge of Tanggu town on the 1/9/2006.

10 on a small pool near Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

152 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

4 near Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.

2 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.

71 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

34 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

16 on the Duliujian River near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

13 on a fishpond at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

10, including several locally fledged juveniles, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

4 near Tianjin town on the 5/9/2008.

12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.

55 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. Birds were widely encountered with the highest count being 30 on Xiao Xihe Reservoir.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.

8 around Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

3 on a small pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.

14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

12 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Most of these were at Beidagang, Dagang although several were on scattered fish ponds & salt pans near Gaoshaling.

2009

(4/28 23 26)

1 in the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
23 (including two birds sitting on nests) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
1 on the sea east of Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2010

1 on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.
11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

RED-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps grisegena*

*Rare mid-spring and late autumn passage migrant with currently just two records – one coastal, one not. Future sightings should be anticipated anytime between **spring when at Beidaihe?** and mid-October to early December.*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 at Tuanbowa, Jinghai County, Tianjin on 16 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: One on the coast between Shanggulin and Hangu on 16 April [2005][LHY in the China Bird Report 2005].

GREAT CRESTED GREBE *Podiceps cristatus*

Although unconfirmed Great Crested Grebe is probably an uncommon local breeder in Tianjin. It is also a fairly common spring and autumn migrant and is scarce in winter. Spring passage commences in early March and peaks at the end of that month with presumed breeders lingering in small parties at favoured sites such as Beitang reservoir, Tanggu and Beidagang, Dagang at least until mid-May. Birds can reappear at these same sites from late July (e.g. four at Beitang reservoir on 25 July 2006) with the modest autumn peak occurring from the last week of October until mid- or late November. High autumn counts have included 177 at Beidagang on 6 October 2004. Although most reports are from areas of fresh water the species is regularly also encountered on the sea. Small numbers of birds remain throughout the winter on areas of unfrozen water e.g. the Duliujian river near Dagang Power Station.

Reports by others -

Anderson (2003): 5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

2000

12 in a coastal salt pan along the coastal road North-east of Tanggu (7 kms south of Cai Jia Pu & 3 kms north of Cheng Tou Gu Yu Gang) on the 21/10/2000.

2001

8 on Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.
5 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

2004 - spring

1 near Dagang power station on the 26/1/2004.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004 – 1 on the river immediately north of Beidagang & 4 at Beidagang itself.

2 on Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 177 376)

Birds were noted on three dates, again there was a noticeable increase in the number of birds in the area during the period & once again nearly all sightings were from Beidagang. All records as follows - 49 at Beidagang on the 5th & 150 (16 on a pool between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin & all the rest at Beidagang) on the 19/9 & 177 at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004.

2006

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
70 on the 18/3/2006 – 55 on Beitang Reservoir & 15 at Beidagang.
72 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
4 at Bei Tang Reservoir on the 25/7/2006.
3 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
12 on Beitang Reservoir on the 29/8/2006.
6 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
16 on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 9/9/2006.
1 on one of the pools near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

39 at Beitang, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
2 on one of the larger freshwater pools at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 6/8/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
2 flew south over the sea at Jing Qu, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 on a freshwater pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
1 flew south low over the sea off the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. The first of the autumn.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
14 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008 – six on Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu & eight at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
25 on the sea off Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
2 on a pool at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

37 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. These involved 11 in Tanggu with eight at Beitang Reservoir and three on scattered fish ponds & salt pans near Gaoshaling. Further south there were 26 at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(1/28 6 6)

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

2010

2 singles in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010. One was on the sea off Caihongqiao, Hangu while the other was on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

8 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

HORNED GREBE *Podiceps auritus*

Rare passage migrant with currently just three reports – one in late April & the others in early to mid-November. All involved parties of two or three birds on reservoirs.

Reported by others -

Tianjin: Three at Beitan on 27 April [2005][ZYong]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: Two at Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 1 Nov. [2006][ZY]; two at Beidagang Reservoir, on 11 Nov. [2006][CYZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

BLACK-NECKED GREBE *Podiceps nigricollis*

An uncommon passage migrant, occurring annually in both seasons but slightly more common and occasionally in larger flocks, in spring. The small number of spring records [five reports involving one, four, four, seven and 35 birds] span the period 20 March to 21 May (with four on Beidagang reservoir, Dagang on the latter date) and with a possible peak in mid-April. No large concentrations like those at Beidaihe, Hebei where up to 800 birds have been logged on a single day in mid-April have been recorded in Tianjin. The eight autumn sightings of one, two, five, five, six, eight, ten & 20 birds have been between 19 September and 18 November and showed no obvious pattern or peak. Birds are only occasionally encountered on the sea.

Tianjin: Five at Huanggang Reservoir on 15 November [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Four on the seafront between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9 April [2005][LHY]; seven at Beitang on 27 April [2005][ZLi]; four at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 21 May [2005][CJZ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 35 on the Hangu coast on 15 Apr. [2006][ZL]; one at Beidagang Reservoir on Nov. 18 [2006][WFQ]; two at Qintuozi on 18 Nov. [2006][WFQ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2000

14 in flooded salt pans south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000 – 6 together just north of Lu Ju He Xiang & 8 just north of Hai Bin Yu Chang.

2001

20 on a saltpan 10 kms south of Tanggu (& 1 km north of Lu Ju He) the 6/11/2001.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 10 16)

1-10 birds were noted on three dates with the first & early sighting being on the 19/9. All records as follows - 10 together on a pool between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin on the 19/9. On the 2/10 we were shown a captive bird had been caught, that morning, in one of the coastal fishing nets at Lu Ju He. It appeared unharmed but the 'owner' told us that it was destined for the pot. 5 on the 'Km 8 Oil Derrick pool' besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling on the 7/10/2004.

2006

1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2008

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

1 on a pool at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 23/10/2008.

59 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. They were all on the same pool as the Common Goldeneye & White-winged Scoter.

GREAT CORMORANT *Phalacrocorax carbo*

A common migrant. Spring records span the period 17 March to 3 May with recent maxima of 910 at Beitang Reservoir on 20 March 2006 and 497 at Qililai, Ninghe on 8 April 2003. Autumn passage starts in late July or early August (earliest 28 July 2005 & 3 August 2008) but birds aren't usually regular until the end of that month. Numbers peak in mid-October when up to 315 have been recorded on the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang and there are no November sightings. Beitang reservoir is currently the best site, at least in the coastal plain, for Great Cormorant. Xu Yongbin told me (30 September 2008) that up to 5000 birds have been recorded at Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu.

Flock sizes up to & inc. 2007 (pers. obs. only)

Spring

2, 2, 4, 13, 22, 910

Autumn

1, 1, 1, 1, 2, 3, 3, 3, 4, 4, 5, 5, 5, 5, 5, 6, 7, 7, 7, 7, 8, 9, 9, 11, 12, 14, 17, 20, 21, 27, 30, 30, 34, 52, 60, 85, 95,

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 497 at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 8 April; 85 flew over Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 15 August 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2000

82 & 30 around Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. On the first date we saw parties of 2, 5 & 75 birds. (The last mentioned flock was seen near the Guangang Gongyuan) about 18 kms southwest of Tanggu.

2002

3 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

4 on a pool on the inland side of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

6 on a near coastal pool about 2 kms north of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(8/22 65 104)

1-65 birds were noted on eight dates & records spanned the entire period that we were around Tanggu 3/9 – 8/10. All sightings as follows - 1 near Tanggu town on the 4/9. 12 on the 19/9 – 7 between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin & 5 at Beidagang. 65 on the 20/9 – 5 on the near coastal fish ponds between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & a flock of about 60 birds flew high to the south off the latter site. 5 flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 23/9. 5 & 1 flew south off the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2nd & 3/10 respectively. 12 on the 6/10 – 7 flew over the complex of pools at Km 8 besides the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Shang Gu Lin towards Gaoshaling & 5 more at Beidagang. 3 flew south over the inter-tidal mudflats at the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang, 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 6 7)

6 on the 28/8/2005 – 4 (2 adults & 2 immatures) flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & 2 more immatures flew south over Lu Ju He.

1 juvenile near the Lu Ju He fish ponds on the 29/8/2005.

2006

19 - 17 (in flocks of 4 & 13) flew north over Jing Qu & there were also 2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

54 on the 18/3/2006 – 30 at Beitang Reservoir, 2 flew north at Hangu & 22 at Beidagang, Dagang.

910 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

69 on the 29/8/2006 – 17 flew south off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 52 on Beitang Reservoir.

85 flew east over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

7 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

17 (in flocks of 3 & 14 birds) on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

9 on Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 9/9/2006.

11 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

9 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

33 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 21 flew south at Jing Qu & 12 at Beidagang.

2007

95 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

34 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

47 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 27 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu & 20 at Beidagang, Dagang.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

70 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (65 birds) were on Xiao Xihe Reservoir.

10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

4 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

28 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

179 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

315 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.

16 came in off the sea high at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008

121 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. These involved 119 at Jingqu & two at Beidagang.

137 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 123 at Jingqu, Dagang and 14 that flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu. Birds were in flocks of 3, 5, 5, 14, 17, 28 & 65 birds.

111 in Dagang on the 25/10/2008 – 21 at Beidagang & 90 at Jingqu.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

2 on Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.

11 on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

LITTLE EGRET *Egretta garzetta*

*An increasingly common passage migrant and presumed summer visitor. Much more common in autumn - I have no spring records!. Breeding, while likely to be already occurring, is currently unproven in the Municipality. Autumn records span the period from at least late July to 12 October with numbers fluctuating widely during this season possibly indicating a pronounced movement through the area. Autumn migration probably peaks in late August-early September (with three of the four autumn peaks during 2004-2008 occurring during that period). Recent maximum counts have shown a fairly noticeable, almost year-by-year, increase and have included 132 at Beidagang on 5 September 2004, 129 on the Caihongqiao, Hangu mudflats on 7 September 2006, 156 in coastal Hangu on 4 October 2007 and 132 in Dagang three days later and 350 in coastal Hangu on the 31 August 2008. **Status away from the coastal plain.***

2001

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(8/22 132 175)

Numbers fluctuated widely, Beidagang produced the only large count & accounted for 82% of all the bird-days. Birds were noted almost daily until the 19/9 but on only one subsequent date. All records as follows - 7, all juveniles, on the edge of the salt marsh adjacent to the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 3/9. 10 near Tanggu on the 4/9. 132 at Beidagang on the 5/9! 4 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tanks on the 7/9. Fewer birds were noted on my second visit to the Tanggu area in mid-September with 7 on the 17th - 1 was seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin - it was about 5 minutes west of Nancang & 6 more birds, all juveniles, were seen on the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank. 2 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18th. 10 on the 19/9 - 2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & 8 at Beidagang. 3 late birds at Beidagang on the 6/10/2004.

2005

(3/11 4 9)

4 on the 28/8/2005 - 3 flew south off Lu Ju He & another flew south across the river at Nan Jiang Da Qiao.

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

4 near Nanjiang Da Qiao, Tanggu on the 30/8/2005.

2006

30 in the river channel 500 metres upstream of the Rainbow Bridge at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

16 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

68 in the river channel at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

59 on the 29/8/2006 - 44 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 15 near Beitang Reservoir.

53 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 30/8/2006 - 9 at Jing Qu, Dagang, 4 near Yuren Matou, 29 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 11 near Lu Ju He, Tanggu.

6 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

25 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

4 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006.

75 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. The only significant count was of 64 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

35 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/9/2006 - 28 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, 6 on the Gaoshaling Pools & 1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools.

129 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 8/9/2006.

5 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006.

2 singles near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2 singles near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 - one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other at the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

45 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/8/2007.

1 juvenile, with a juvenile Chinese Egret, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

59 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 3 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 12 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 43 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

40 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 6 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 27 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

156 in coastal Hangu on the 4/10/2007 - 11 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & another 145 in the river immediately upstream from the Caihongqiao bridge.

3 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

132 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 - 80 on a pool on the edge of Dagang town & 52 at Jing Qu.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - most of these were at Beidagang, Dagang.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

12 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

55 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008. These included just one in Tanggu - a juvenile on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang. The remaining 54 birds were in Dagang with 8 at Jingqu & 46 at Beidagang.

3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

2 singles in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008 - 1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu & 1 was on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

42 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.

15 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

63 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

71 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

350 in Hangu on the 31/8/2008 - 33 on the Caihongqiao Salt Pans & 350 on the Yongding River immediately upstream of the Caihong Bridge.

110 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

40 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

143 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 - 60 at Jingqu (including a flock of 35 birds that came in high off the sea) & 83 at Beidagang.

50 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 - 30 at Jingqu, Dagang & 20 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

20 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.

12 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

83 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. 7 of these at Lujuhe and another 11 were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the remaining 65 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
18 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
18 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/9/2008 – 11 at Jingqu, Dagang & seven besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
100 in Hangu on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these were besides the Chaobaihe upstream of the Caihong Bridge.
77 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 36 at Beidagang & 23 at Jingqu, Dagang; seven besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
12 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
4 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
3 between Jingqu & the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(13/28 145 567)

6 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
62 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
6 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
3 singles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
36 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
115 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
45 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. These included 21 at Jingqu and six at Beidagang, both Dagang.
145 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
103 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

15 in coastal Tianjin on the on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of these were besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
15 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.
58 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 36 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other 22 were at Beidagang, Dagang.

CHINESE EGRET *Egretta eulophotes*

A rare, though apparently increasing and already probably annual, autumn migrant with all eight reports spanning the period 21 July-8 October. The temporal spread of these records with one in late July, one in early & another in late August, one in early September and four in early October is more likely to represent my activity and its thought that most Chinese Egrets probably occur in the Municipality most frequently in early autumn (August-September). Spring records are to be expected since this is when the majority of the (many more) sightings in Qinhuangdao and Leting counties in coastal neighbouring Hebei have occurred (PIH pers. obs.). Exclusively coastal or near coastal.

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One at the seashore of Hangu, Tianjin on 29 August [2004][WN]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2001

1 juvenile at Hai Bin Yuchang, besides the turning to Gaoshaling & 3 kms south of Lu Ju He & c18 kms south of Tanggu (38° 50.90' N., 117° 36.80' E.) on the 5/9/2001.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 about one kilometre south of Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005 later flew off north-west.

2007

1 juvenile, with a juvenile Little Egret, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
1 flew south with Little Egrets along the coast near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu at 06:20hrs on the 4/10/2007.
2 with other egrets at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007 with probably the same bird seen later on the road side pools not far south of there.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.

GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

A common passage migrant – much more common in autumn than spring. Uncommon, an perhaps restricted to the coastal plain, in winter when birds are occasionally recorded near areas of unfrozen, open water. Tianjin probably lies at, or close to, the northern limit of this species' winter range. Spring passage has already commenced by the start of the second week of March and continues through until mid-late May, peaking [when?]. Autumn passage is much more substantial and spans the period from at least 21 July until at least mid-November. There's a period of more pronounced passage from the the last few days of August until the middle of the third week of October and this is most intense from the very start of September to the end of the first week of

October when high counts of 650 (1 September 2008) and 710 (27 September 2008) have occurred. Most high counts are of birds on the inter-tidal mud flats at Jingqu, Dagang.

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 150 on the Hangu coast on 17 September [2005][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 200 on the Tanggu coast on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

152 & 30 around Tanggu on the 20th & 21/10/2000 respectively. On the first date there were parties of 10, 12 (x2), 20 (x2), 36 & 42.

2001

5 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

34 on a saltpan 2 kms south of Lu Ju He & 1 km north of Hai Bin Yuchang on the 6/11/2001.

1 on a saltpan 2 kms south of Lu Ju He & 1 km north of Hai Bin Yuchang on the 7/11/2001.

2002

10 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2004 - spring

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(18/22 66 278)

Birds were noted almost daily throughout the entire period that I was around Tanggu 3/9 – 8/10. There was no obvious change in the species' status during the period. Almost half (8) of the day counts were single-figure counts & there were only five day counts in excess of 20 birds. All records as follows - 1 near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre about 1.5 kms south of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 3/9. 30 on the 4/9. 30, mostly at Beidagang, on the 5/9. 2 on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9. 26 on the 18/9 - most were on the ground but 3 birds were observed flying high to the south. 40 on the 19/9 – mostly on the fishponds between Lu Ju He, Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. 10 on the 20/9. 15 on the 22/9. 12 on or around the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 23/9. 6, 10 & 10 on the 24th, 25th & 26/9 respectively. 4 on the tide line south of the Tanggu impounds on the 2/10. 4 birds, a group of 3 & a single, took off at dusk from the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & flew south down the coast on the 3/10. 4 & 2 on the Tanggu airport mudflats on the 4th & 5/10 respectively. 66 at Beidagang on the 6/10 & 6 near Tanggu on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(6/11 21 44)

4 juveniles on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

1 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.

21 south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 - 3 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks, 2 on the pool near Tanggu airport, 12 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 4 near Gaoshaling.

15 on the inter-tidal mudflats off Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005.

2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

1 immature on a frozen fishpond about one kilometre south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 23/12/2005.

2006

1 came in high off the sea at Hangu on the 18/3/2006.

1 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2 on the 25/7/2006 – singles at Hangu & flying south high over Tianjin Haibin Yuchang

35 on the 26/7/2006 - 32 at Hangu & 3 on the long pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

24 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

13 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

101 on the 29/8/2006 – 19 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 82 at Beitang Reservoir.

86 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 8 in the river channel about two kilometres upstream of Yuren Matou & 78 on the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

51 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006. Ill-defined south-bound passage is already well under way by the last week of August and gatherings of up to 50 or 80 birds are then not infrequent. Birds actively migrating can be seen early and late in the day throughout August and September these same birds are often resting up at regular near coastal sites e.g. Beitang Reservoir (especially the safe, central island), the Caihongqiao Pools at Hangu & the pools around Tianjin Haibinyuchang or on the inter-tidal mudflats during the rest of the day.

25 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

320 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. The only significant count was of 284 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

85 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

212 on the mudflats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

50 on the mudflats south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

50 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006 – most of these were on the mudflats at Hangu.

215 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006 – 10 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 15 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 30 on the Tanggu Airport Pools, Tanggu; 30 besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds, Tanggu; 10 on the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibinyuchang & 120 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

240 south of Tanggu on the 7/10/2006 – 185 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 55 besides the fish ponds at Lu Ju He, Tanggu.

185 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – 75 besides the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu; 70 besides the pool immediately south of Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & 50 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

150 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 - 60 at Jing Qu & 90 at Beidagang.

2007

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

62 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

120 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007.

30 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

337 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 30 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 3 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 34 on the roadside pool

immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 270 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
252 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 43 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu, 119 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 60 on the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
26 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
12 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
15 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
355 in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007 – 170 at Beidagang & 185 at Jing Qu.
267 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 – 7 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 32 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu; 107 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 121 at Beidagang.
274 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 72 at Beidagang, Dagang & 202 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
168 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 58 at Beidagang, Dagang; 14 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 96 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 near Dagang on the 16/1/2008. Probably rare in Tianjin in winter.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
137 on one of the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.
35 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
50 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008. The vast majority of these were on the mudflats at Jingqu.
30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
145 roosting at high tide on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
30 on the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
50 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
45 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
30 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
650 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
80 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
200 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 177 at Jingqu & 20+ at Beidagang.
140 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008. Of these 77 birds were at Jingqu, Dagang while in Tanggu district there were ten on the inter-tidal mudflats about two kilometers north of Yuren Matou, 43 on the inter-tidal mudflats immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & about ten in the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling.
40 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
120 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
710 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008. 80 of these were besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu & the remaining 630 were at Jingqu, Dagang.
260 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 28/9/2008.
450 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/9/2008 – 370 at Jingqu, Dagang & 80 besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
100 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
450 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – 110 at Caihongqiao, Hangu; 10 at Beidagang & 271 at Jingqu, Dagang; 150+ besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
250 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. The majority of these, 228 birds, were on the edge of the mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008.
205 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008. These included 152 between Jingqu & the canalized river inlet at Yuren Matou, Dagang; 27 in the bay north of the Bai Er Station (immediately north of Yuren Matou) & 15 at Haibin Yuchang.
318 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008. These involved 243 in Dagang with 238 at Jingqu & five in the tidal river immediately south of Yuren Matou. Further north there were 75 in Tanggu with 10 at Bai Er Station & 65 on the now dry pool at Haibin Yuchang.
100 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 18/10/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
121 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. The vast majority of these were in the Jingqu-Yuren Matou area, Dagang area.
162 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The vast majority of these (152 birds) were in Dagang with 78 at Jingqu & 74 at Beidagang. Elsewhere there were ten at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
173 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008. These involved 162 birds at Jingqu, Dagang and 11 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
124 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The majority of these were at three sites – Beidagang (32) & Jingqu (47) in Dagang and Haibin Yuchang (28), Tanggu.

2009

(14/28 93 320)

9 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 7/5/2009.
3 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
21 in Dagang on the 16/7/2009 – these involved 21 at Jingqu & just one at Beidagang.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.
3 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
13 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
32 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
23 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
12 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
80 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. The majority of these, 65 birds, were at Jingqu, Dagang.
93 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
25 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

2 besides Beitang reservoir, Tanggu on the 23/4/2010.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the on the 29/8/2010. Almost all of these were besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
16 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.

18 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. 150 of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other three were at Beidagang, Dagang.

PURPLE HERON *Ardea purpurea*

A surprisingly uncommon passage migrant – much scarcer than Grey Heron and, as with that species, autumn records dominate. The very few spring records (three sightings of between one and four birds) span the period mid-April to the 23 May and the 18 autumn sightings, of between one and 33 birds, the period 29 July to 9 October.

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One along the seashore of Hangu on 11 September [2004][WXL in the China Bird Report 2004].

Tianjin: Three at Beidagang Reservoir on 23 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin : Four on the Hangu coast on 15 Apr. [2006][ZLi]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2001

6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - spring

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 5 25)

1-5 birds were noted on six widely scattered dates 5/9 – 6/10. Nearly all the sightings were from Beidagang with 5 there on the 5th, 19th, 25th & 26/9 & a single on the 6/10. Elsewhere 4 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 2 2)

2 juveniles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

2006

16 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

1 flying south with two Grey Herons over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

7 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

1 juvenile with the Grey Herons & Little Egrets on the edge of the salt marsh at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

33 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – a flock of 28 came in off the sea at Jingqu & 5 at Beidagang.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

GREAT EGRET *Casmerodius albus*

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 2 6)

2 birds were noted on three dates 5-24/9. All records as follows - 2 flew south over the settling tanks at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 5/9. 2 on a pool near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on both the 20th & 24/9/2004.

2006

2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

3 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 besides the Duliujian river, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Rare in winter - I've previously seen this species wintering in coastal Jiangsu but this is my first ever sighting in Tianjin municipality in winter.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 besides the Chaobaihe upstream of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

4 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – three at Beidagang, Dagang & one besides the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

5 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. These involved two at Jingqu & three at Beidagang.

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

18 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Seven of these flew west at Gaoshaling, Tanggu & the other 11 were at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(4/28 7 12)

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

[EASTERN] CATTLE EGRET *Bubulcus [ibis] coromandus*

INTERMEDIATE EGRET *Mesophoyx intermedia*

2006

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

CHINESE POND HERON *Ardeola bacchus*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 4 4)

4 were seen flying south-east over Tanggu town in the early evening of the 18/9/2004.

2006

1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

2009

(2/28 2 4)

2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 6/5/2009 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other at Gaoshaling.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.

LITTLE HERON *Butorides striatus*

2006

1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006.

2008

1 flew high to the south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 06:25hrs on the 1/9/2008.

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON *Nycticorax nycticorax*

2004 - autumn

(3/22 5 7)

1-5 birds were noted on three dates 6-26/9. All records as follows - 5 juveniles flew south over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6/9. 1 flew north-west high over the Lu Ju He fishponds on the 24/9 & 1 juvenile/1st-winter flew south at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 flew over Tanggu town centre on the 21/7/2005.

2006

1 adult flew north over Hangu on the 25/7/2006.

11 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006 – 3 in the shorebird pools & 8 on the inter-tidal mudflats!

35 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. Most of the ones seen well were juveniles & its possible that they bred in one of the small coppices lining the embankment road.

2 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

304 flew south near the railroad crossing at Gangtang, north of Dagang in just 15 minutes (18:50-19:05hrs) at dusk on the 5/9/2006. It was a clear, cloudless & still night with an almost totally full moon but it wasn't clear whether these birds were actually migrating or simply heading towards Beidagang to feed.

50 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 adult at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

2008

1 juvenile flew over central Tanggu around midday on the 1/8/2008.

3 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

2 adults on the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

8 near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(3/28 31 35)

3 near Dagang town on the 6/5/2009.

1 from the expressway near Tianjin on the 14/7/2009.

31 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

2010

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

YELLOW BITTERN *Ixobrychus sinensis*

2006

1 over marshland south of Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.

22 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. Nearly all of these were seen as they flew one direction or the other over the embankment road.

2008

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 4 4)

4 separate males at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

VON SCHRENCK'S BITTERN *Ixobrychus eurhythmus*

2006

3 separate males were seen as they flew over the embankment road at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

GREAT BITTERN *Botaurus stellaris*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, Tianjin on 12 April & 3 at Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin On 16 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: Two at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 2 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 24 at Nandagang on 2 Apr. [2006][TZ]; two on the Hangu coast on 15 Apr. [2006][ZLi]; three at Beidagang Reservoir on 11 Nov. [2006][CYZ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2006

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009. A very surprising mid-summer record (all four of my previous Tianjin sightings have been between 8-25 October) that is perhaps indicative of local breeding.

2010

1 booming bird was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010 – a suspiciously early date for so many & I suspect that they had bred at here.

GREATER FLAMINGO *Phoenicopterus ruber*

BLACK-HEADED IBIS *Threskiornis melanocephalus* NT

EURASIAN SPOONBILL *Platalea leucorodia*

Numbers possibly peak in mid-October.

The apparent recent, and continuing increase in numbers observed in coastal Tianjin is in line with recent observations in neighbouring coastal Hebei and with increasing numbers wintering in the Yangtze River Valley (both PIH *pers. obs.*).

Reports by others –

Tianjin: Two in Beidagang Reservoir on 4 April [2004][LHY]; seven along the seashore of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

2006

2 on the mud flats off the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

1 first-winter at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

6 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006 – two first-winters flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & 4 (two adults, a first-winter & a first summer) on the mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

3 first-winters on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 2/10/2007.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 2 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

6 (two adults & four first-winters – a family party?) on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

6, two adults & four first-winters, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

6, two adults & four first-years, on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

72 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

43 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

51 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

7 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

7 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.

2 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/10/2008.

4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

20 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang at 10:35hrs on the 24/10/2008.

DALMATIAN PELICAN *Pelecanus crispus* CR

Reports by others –

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife

International cites reports from one site plus an unspecified, rather vague report from ‘near Tianjin’ -

‘near **Tianjin**’ (Tientsin), one, autumn 1863 (David 1867), one collected, October 1933 (Seys and Licent 1933–1934 in Hemmingsen and Guildal 1968);

Beidagang reservoir, five, January 1991 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Tianjin: Three in Beidagang Reservoir in March [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2010

1 sub-adult on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010. It was photographed superbly by Zhao Chao & was apparently still present the following day (Han Zheng & Xu Yongbin China Bird Watch Sept. 2010). (38°52.7'N., 117°40.8'E.).

BLACK STORK *Ciconia nigra*

ORIENTAL STORK

Reported by others -

BirdLife International (2001) *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International cites several reports –

Yuqiao reservoir: four, January 1992 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Qilihai (Dongqilihai): four, January 1991 (Lu Jianjian *in litt.* 1992);

Dagu (Taku): reported once by Père David, nineteenth century (Wilder 1924d), and a specimen collected nearby in November

1944 (Hemmingsen and Guildal 1968);

Tuanpo (Tuanbowa): 13 birds, January 1990, five, January 1993 (Waterbird Specialist Group 1994);

Beidagang reservoir, 15 birds, January 1991 (Lu Jianjian 1990), c.800 birds, March 1999, c.70 remained into April (Zhang Zhengwang *in litt.* 1999), November–December 1998 and February–April 1999 (Zhang Shuping *et al.* 1999);

Tianjin (Tientsin): adult female collected, undated (Hartlaub 1893);

Tianjin: 1 juv. at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March; 9 flew north at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 26 March; 2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, Tianjin on 12 April; there was still: one at Tuanbowai, Jinghai, Tianjin on 9 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: One at the Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing on March 26 [2005][YY]; one at the Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on May 2 [2005][CJZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang District on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu]; 11 at Nandagang on 2 Apr. [2006][TZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang on 26 October 2008 (Xu Yongbin pers. comm. to Wang Qingyu).

2008

45 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

48 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. (38°44.01'N., 117°22.65'E). 13 metres above sea level. With a world population recently estimated at a mere 3,000

birds (Wetlands International. 2006. *Waterbird Population Estimates – Fourth Edition*. Wetlands International, Wageningen, The Netherlands) today's count represents 1.6% of that! Incredibly however an amazing c.800 birds were recorded at Beidagang in March 1999, c.70 of which remained into April. (fide Zhang Zhengwang BirdLife International [2001] *Threatened birds of Asia: the BirdLife International Red Data Book*. Cambridge, UK: BirdLife International).

4 on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.

4 again on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 29/9/2008.

4 again on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

16 in the Tangu-Dagang area on the 10/10/2008. One was on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jingqu, Dagang & the others, a group of 15 came in off the sea at Yuren Matou, Tangu at 14:10hrs.

LESSER FRIGATEBIRD *Fregata ariel*

CHRISTMAS ISLAND FRIGATEBIRD *Fregata andrewsi* CR

RED-THROATED LOON *Gavia stellata*

BLACK-THROATED LOON *Gavia arctica*

FAIRY PITTA *Pitta nympha* VU

TIGER SHRIKE *Lanius tigrinus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 2 at orchard of East Suburb Airport, Tianjin on 17 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003). (Two Bull-headed Shrikes were noted here on the same day!)

BULL-HEADED SHRIKE *Lanius bucephalus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 2 at orchard of East Suburb Airport, Tianjin on 17 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003). (Two Tiger Shrikes were noted here on the same day!)

2007

1 first-winter at Yuren Matou, Tangu on the 10/10/2007.

BROWN SHRIKE *Lanius cristatus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 30 along the coast of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 20 at Beidagang Reservoir on 21 May 2005 [CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 24 at Beidagang Reservoir on 9 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2001

6 in Tangu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tangu on the 28/8/2002.

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tangu on the 29/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(7/22 25 55)

3-25 birds were noted on all five days of my first visit to Tangu (3-7/9) but on only two subsequent dates. All records as follows - 8 in low scrub near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 3/9. 5, 10, 25 & 3 near Tangu on the 4th, 5th, 6th & 7/9 respectively. 2 at Beidagang on the 19th & 2 singles flew south-west over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 23/9/2004.

2005

(4/11 3 9)

3 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

3 in total at various sites south of Tangu on the 29/8/2005.

1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.

2 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

2 separate juveniles at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
7 on the 29/8/2006 - 6 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools
106 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006 – 63 at Jing Qu, Dagang, 14 at Yuren Matou, 23 between there & the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 6 besides these same pools.
4 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
15 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
6 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
1 near Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 8/9/2006.

2007

1 first-winter at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2008

1 at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
4 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/8/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
17 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
225 in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Birds were present at all four major sites that I visited – 38 at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, ‘several’ near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang & ‘several’ more besides the intertidal mudflats between Tanggu airport & the now defunct Lujuhe (all three sites in Tanggu). However the largest concentration was at Jingqu, Dagang where I counted 192 birds!
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with about equal numbers around Caihongqiao, Hangu & around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008 – with about equal numbers on the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
15 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – 3 at Jingqu & 12 at Beidagang.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
5 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

2009

(7/28 6 17)

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
5 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

36 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

LONG-TAILED SHRIKE *Lanius schach*

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 moulting adult at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009. This, my first record for Tianjin municipality, was photographed & a description taken. Apparently the second record for Tianjin.

GREAT GREY SHRIKE *Lanius excubitor*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjing on 8 March 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

CHINESE GREY SHRIKE *Lanius sphenocercus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, Tianjin [no date – sometime probably in autumn 2003]; 2 November to 21 December one at Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): Three at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: Two on the coast between Shanggulin and Hangu on 13 March [2004][LJY]; three along the coast of Hangu on 11 September [2004][WXL]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

2000

1 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2002

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.
3 (two seen & one other only heard) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on both the 3rd & 4/1/2004.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 3 11)

1-3 birds were noted throughout the period I was in the Tanggu area (5/9 – 6/10). 9 of the 11 bird-days were from Beidagang with 3, 2 seen & another only heard, there on the 5th & 2, 3 & 1 on the 25th & 26/9 & the 6/10 respectively. Elsewhere 1 was hunting over the salt marsh besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 7/9 & 1 was besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 18/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 3 3)

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005. (PIH, Liu Yang & Wang Qingyu)

2006

1 at Haibinyuchang, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.
2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
[In addition one bird, possibly this species, was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006].

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
4 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Birds were seen multiple times & are very wide ranging however I'm confident that I saw at least four birds – possibly as many as six!
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
7 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. Four in Tanggu with one near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir & three near the Huang Gang Yi Ku Reservoir. Elsewhere there were three around the Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.
4 widely separate singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

2010

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

EURASIAN JAY *Garrulus glandarius*

RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*

AZURE-WINGED MAGPIE *Cyanopica cyanus*

2004 - autumn

(0/22 6 10)

None were seen in Tianjin Municipality but several were noted in Beijing - 6 on route from Tongzhou to Beijing Railway Station on the 3/9 & 4 more near Beijing Railway Station on the 17/9/2004.

2007

20 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE *Pica pica*

2000

1 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

6 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
'Present' at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

10 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2003

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.
10 between Tianjin & Tanggu on the 29/11/2003.
30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 – spring

7 between Tianjin & Tanggu on the 3/1/2004.
3 & 30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
12 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3 others near Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.
1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(10/22 40 128)

1-40 birds were noted on almost half of the days I was in the Tanggu area 3/9 – 8/10. All sightings as follows - 6 from the train between Beijing, Tianjin & Tanggu on the 3/9. 1 near Tanggu on the 4/9. 5, 20, 25 & 40 at or on route to Beidagang on the 5th, 19th, 25/9 & 6/10 respectively. 4 & 6 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 7th & 17/9 respectively. 20 & 1 near Tanggu on the 19/9 & 5/10/2004 respectively.

2005

(5/11 15 30+)

Several birds were heard around the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

4 near Dagang on the 21/12/2005.
15 on the 22/12/2005 – nearly all at Beidagang, Dagang.
5 near Dagang on the 23/12/2005.
4 near Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

15 in total between Tanggu, Jing Qu & Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.
20 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
8 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
5 on the 25/7/2006.
6 on the edge of Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
6 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
5 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
1 near Tanggu on the 29/8/2006.
5 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
10 near Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
5 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
4 near Tanggu on the 7/10/2006.
10 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
9 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
20 near Tanggu, coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
25 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
10 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

40 in Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
30 in the Beidagang, Dagang area on the 18/1/2008.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
20 in the Yuren Matou, Tanggu & Jingqu-Beidagang, Dagang areas on the 10/3/2008.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
10 in & around Tanggu/Teda on the 1/5/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/8/2008.
6 near Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
2 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
3 in Tanggu on the 6/8/2008.
3 near Tanggu on the 26/8/2008.
1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
4 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 29/8/2008.
2 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 30/8/2008.
2 on the edge of Tanggu town on the 31/8/2008.
3 widely scattered singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
4 singles at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

5 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
15 between Jingqu, Dagang & Tianjin town on the 5/9/2008.
5 in Tanggu town on the 6/9/2008.
5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
4 near Tanggu town on the 29/9/2008.
20 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
10 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
30 in Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
15 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
5 in & around Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
5 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
15 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
5 in & around Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
2 in Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The vast majority of these were at Beidagang, Dagang.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.

2009

(10/28 20 91)

8 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.
3 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
15 in & around Tanggu on the 18/7/2009.
3 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
4 in Tanggu town on the 28/7/2009.
20 between Tanggu town & Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009. Birds were seen at Beidagang, Dagang and Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
4 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

DAURIAN JACKDAW *Corvus dauuricus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 30 at Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin on 15 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 20 at Yihe, Xiqing on 22 February [2004][YY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

200, with other corvids, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2003

300 in a mixed corvid flock between Tianjin & Tanggu on the 29/11/2003.

ROOK *Corvus frugilegus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 20 at Beidagang Reservoir on 18 December [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

Several (perhaps 10?), with other corvids, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2003

At least 10 between Tianjin & Tanggu in the large mixed corvid flock on the 29/11/2003.

2006

1 in flight over Beitang Reservoir on the 18/3/2006.

2008

2 flew south at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

CARRION CROW *Corvus corone*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 100 from Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin on 16 November 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 300 in the city on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

Several, with other corvids, near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

2 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2003

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

LARGE-BILLED CROW *Corvus macrorhynchos*

2004 - autumn

(0/22 1 1)

None were seen in Tianjin Municipality but a single bird was noted near Beijing Railway Station in central Beijing on the 3/9/2004.

COLLARED CROW *Corvus torquatus*

BLACK-NAPED ORIOLE *Oriolus chinensis*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 'Present' 14 September 2003 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang, Tianjin (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 20 at Jinghai on 23 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 2 2)

2 at Beidagang on the 25/9/2004 was the only sighting.

2006

1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2008

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008. The first of the autumn.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

BLACK-WINGED CUCKOOSHRIKE *Coracina melaschistos*

ASHY MINIVET *Pericrocotus divaricatus*

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

1 was heard high over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(9/22 39 111)

1-39 birds were noted on almost half of the days I was in the Tanggu area & all records were in the period 17/9 – 5/10. There were low single figure counts (of 1-5 birds) on five of these nine days & moderate double-figure counts on the remaining four days. Most encounters were with birds actively migrating south & flock sizes were as follows – 17 individuals were heard & not seen & were assumed to be singles, otherwise there were 11 sightings of definite singles & flocks of 2, 2, 2, 3, 3, 4, 8, 9, 17 & one of 31. All sightings were as follows - 1 was heard over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 17/9. 5 on the 19/9 - 4 birds, two singles & a couple, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre & another flew over at Beidagang. 3 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 20/9. A single bird flew south over the Lu Ju He fishponds on the 21/9. At least 39 birds flew south on the 24/9, the day of peak passage. 16 flew south on the 25/9. 11 at Beidagang on the 26/9. 4 presumed singles were heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 4th & a flock of 31 birds flew south over there the following day, the 5/10/2004.

2006

1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 was heard over the Teda International Hotel, Teda on the 1/5/2007.

1 flew south over the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.

7 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 6 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

2 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

2008

4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

1 flew south near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 4 4)

4 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2010

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. Two, presumed singles, were heard flying south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other was at

BLACK DRONGO *Dicrurus macrocercus*

2004 - autumn

(5/22 22 35)

1 near Tanggu town on the 4/9. 6 singles were seen at various sites between the Nanjiang Da Qiao & the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/9. 22 on the 19/9 – 3 at Beidagang with all the rest being birds visibly migrating & flying south. 3 singles at Beidagang on both the 25th & 26/9/2004.

2006

2 over the Tianjin Haibinyuchang Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.

4 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – two at Haibinyuchang, Tanggu & two more at Jing Qu, Dagang.

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.

1 flew south over the Lujuhe impound, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

3 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2009

(4/28 9 12)

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.

1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

9 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

2 near the Tanggu river mouth on the 23/9/2010.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

ASHY DRONGO

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 at orchid of East Suburb Airport, Tianjin on 3 October 2003 which was a record for Tianjin (Presumably this means the first record for Tianjin? (China Bird Report 2003).

BOHEMIAN WAXWING

Reported by others -

Tianjin: Recorded at Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin on 23 November 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: Four at Nankai University on 22 March [2004][DiDi]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 15 at Hebin Park, Tanggu on 10 February [2007][CJN]. (China Bird Report 2007). Birds were also present there on the 9 Feb. when they were photographed by someone with the internet name ch0585 and images can be viewed at - <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2007/20076298473102.jpg>

JAPANESE WAXWING *Bombycilla japonica* NT

BROWN DIPPER *Cinclus pallasii*

WHITE-THROATED ROCK THRUSH *Monticola gularis*

Tianjin: One was photographed at Tuanbowa on the 18 Sept. 2003 by someone with the internet name ch0585 and images of it can be viewed at – <http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2004/200492349504754.jpg>

One at Beidagang Reservoir on 21 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

BLUE ROCK THRUSH *Monticola solitarius*

BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH *Myophonus caeruleus*

SIBERIAN THRUSH *Zoothera sibirica*

WHITE'S THRUSH *Zoothera aurea*

2008

1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 besides the coastal pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 10/9/2009

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.

SCALY THRUSH *Zoothera dauma*

GREY-BACKED THRUSH *Turdus hortulorum*

2007

1 male near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

2008

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

CHINESE BLACKBIRD *Turdus mandarinus**

EYEBROWED THRUSH *Turdus obscurus*

2004

(1/5 1 1)

1 flew over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6/9/2004.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

[1 dead bird at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008].

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

PALE THRUSH *Turdus pallidus*

BROWN-HEADED THRUSH *Turdus chrysolais*

Tianjin: One at Beidagang on 31 October [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

RED-THROATED THRUSH *Turdus ruficollis*

Reports by others-

Tianjin: One at Tuanpowa reservoir, Jinghai on 14 November [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2006

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

1 first-winter female besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

RUFOUS-TAILED THRUSH *Turdus naumanni*

2001

1 near San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001. Not subspecifically identified.

2003

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003. All were racially assigned – four were of the nominate form *T. n. naumanni* 'Naumann's Thrush' while the other was an adult male 'Dusky Thrush' *T. n. eunomus*.

2004- spring

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004 - two were seen well enough to racially assign & both were 'Naumann's Thrushes' *T. n. naumanni*.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 bird showing characters of *T. n. naumanni* 'Naumann's Thrush' was seen at the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 2 2)

2 near the centre of Teda, Tanggu on the 22/12/2005.

2007

1 *eunomus* at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

NAUMANN'S THRUSH *Turdus naumanni*

DUSKY THRUSH *Turdus eunomus*

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

CHINESE THRUSH *Turdus mupinensis*

Reports from others -

Tianjin: One on Tanggu beach on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

THRUSH SP.

2008

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 was heard in flight over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

GREY-STREAKED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa griseisticta*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One on coast of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2001

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2008

1 juvenile at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2010

5 including one in almost full juvenile plumage at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

DARK-SIDED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa sibirica*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One on coast of Hangu on 5 September [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Five at Nankai University on 13 May [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 20 at Beidagang Reservoir on 30 August [2007][ZAH]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 near the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 17/9/2004.

2005

(2/11 3 5)

3 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

2 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

2006

1 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

3 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa latirostris*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Two on the coast of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 30 at Beidagang Reservoir on 21 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 20 and five at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang District on 30 August [2007][ZAH] and 16 September [2007][KL] respectively. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(7/22 3 12)

1-5 birds were noted on almost one-third of the days I was in the Tanggu area & records spanned the period from my first full day to the last day of my final visit – 4-26/9/2004. 7 of the 12 bird-days were from Beidagang.

2006

2 singles in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – one at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & the other south of Jing Qu, Dagang. The first of the autumn.

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2007

1 first-winter at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

13 separate individuals were heard flying south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

4 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

5 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

2 singles around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

15 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – one at Jingqu & 14 at Beidagang.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 2 2)

2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2010

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

YELLOW-RUMPED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula zanthopygia*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Two at Nankai University on 13 May [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2008

1 male at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

NARCISSUS FLYCATCHER *Ficedula narcissina*

GREEN-BACKED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula elisae*

1 'a few hundred metres from home' on the 18 May 2012. (Anders Magnusson in litt. 18/5/2012). Possibly the first record for Tianjin.

MUGIMAKI FLYCATCHER *Ficedula mugimaki*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: A single seen on the outskirts of Tianjin on 17 May [2004][Yliang]. (China Bird Report 2004).

RED-THROATED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula albicilla*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: A single on coast of Hangu on 29 August [2004][WN]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Six at Nankai University on 13 May [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 30 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9 Sept. [2006][TZ]; 30 at the beach of Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One and six at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ] and 16 September [2007][KL] respectively. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

15 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(17/22 8 39)

Easily the commonest flycatcher, 1-4 Red-throateds were noted almost every day & there was one higher count, 8 at Beidagang (easily the best single site for this & most passerines) on the 5/9. Birds were noted on 14 of the 15 days I was in the area up to & including the last day of my second visit, the 26/9 but on only three of the 7 October days. The last was a single bird on the 5/10/2004.

2005

(2/11 2 4)

2 first-winters south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005 – 1 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

2 first-winters besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.

2006

6 besides the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first birds of the autumn.

18 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. These included 11 south of Jing Qu, Dagang.

4 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

1 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

2007

1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

4 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – three around the Lujue impound, Tanggu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

27 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 – three at Jingqu & 24 at Beidagang.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

2 singles in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & the other near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu.

1 was heard near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.

2 separate first-winters in Tanggu on the 12/10/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other south of Haibin Yuchang.

3 in coastal Tanggu on the 18/10/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & two more at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang.

2009

(5/28 6 17)

2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.

6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

BLUE-AND-WHITE FLYCATCHER *Cyanoptila cyanomelana*

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

GREY-HEADED CANARY FLYCATCHER *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One recorded in April [2007][YLi]. **When & where?** The first record for Tianjin. (China Bird Report 2007).

RUFOUS-TAILED ROBIN *Luscinia sibilans*

2004 - autumn

(3/22 1 3)

3 singles were noted & all were during my third & final visit to Tanggu. All records as follows - single birds (two first-winters & one un-aged) were seen near the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2nd, 3rd & 6/10/2004.

2007

1 first-winter at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

SIBERIAN RUBYTHROAT *Luscinia calliope*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: Two at Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 23 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One or two on or close to the coast on six dates 16 September to 10 October. [2007][num. obs.]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.

1 male – the same bird as yesterday on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(9/22 11 31)

Records spanned the period 18/9 - 5/10. 1-3 birds were noted on seven of the nine dates & there were two higher counts – 7 on the 18th & 11 on the 26/9/2004. On the latter date 9 were heard at Beidagang & 2 were seen besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

2006

1 first-winter south of Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 male near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 first-winter female besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

3 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 29/9/2008 – two besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other near the large pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.

2 near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

1 near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

2009

(4/28 5 10)

5, including two first-winter males, in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

3 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*

Tianjin: Three at Tanggu beach on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: Three at Beidagang on 3 October [2007][WRQ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(6/22 1 6)

6 singles were noted on 6 dates, 18/9 – 4/10/2004.

2006

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 was heard at the Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

1 first-winter male besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

SIBERIAN BLUE ROBIN *Luscinia cyane*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 at Xigu Park, Hongqiao, Tianjin on 22 May & three (1 male and 2 females) there on 7 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: A single on coast of Hangu on 22 August [2004][LY]; a pair on of Hangu on 10 September [2004][WQ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: Seven at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9 Sept. [2006][TZ]; seven on Tanggu beach on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2001

2 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2, 1 adult male & 1 first-winter in a small patch of coastal scrub near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(5/22 1 5)

5 singles were noted on 5 widespread dates, 6/9 – 3/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 first-winter besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 30/8/2005.

2006

3 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

1 on the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 1/9/2006.

8 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

2 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

2008

1 male besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

16 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2009

(2/28 2 3)

2 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

NORTHERN ORANGE-FLANKED BUSH ROBIN *Tarsiger cyanurus*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 first-winter was seen on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the very last day I was in the Tanggu area, the 8/10/2004.

2006

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – one on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

3 singles in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. These involved three at Jingqu, Dagang & five in Tanggu with one north of the Bai Er Station, three at Haibin Yuchang and one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

DAURIAN REDSTART *Phoenicurus auroreus*

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

2 single adult males were noted on 2 early October dates - 1 in the low coastal scrub south of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 3rd & the other besides the Lu Ju He Fishponds on the 6/10/2004.

2006

3 single, widely scattered males were seen south of Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.
1 female at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.
1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

2007

2 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/10/2007.
3 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 1 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Yuren Matou.
1 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
4 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 11/10/2008. All four were males.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

2009

(2/28 1 2)
1 male besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

PLUMBEOUS WATER REDSTART *Rhyacornis fuliginosus*

COMMON STONECHAT *Saxicola torquata stejnegeri*

Tianjin: 20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9 Sept. [2006][TZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 100 and 40 at Beidagang on 5 May [2007][WRQ] and 3 October [2007][WRQ] respectively; 30 near Beitang on 17 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

4 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

3 coastal migrants south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.
1 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(16/22 4 36)
1-4 birds were noted almost daily 4/9 – 6/10/2004.

2005

(3/11 3 6)
3 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.
2 near the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.
1 on the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

2 south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
6 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
23 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
2 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – one on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

6 in coastal Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.
2 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008 – singles near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
4 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
10 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
7 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
8 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.

2009

(6/28 21 70)

3 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
21 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
15 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
19 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
6 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
28 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

PIED WHEATEAR *Oenanthe pleschanka*

RED-BILLED STARLING *Sturnus sericeus*

Tianjin: Two at Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 23 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

PURPLE-BACKED STARLING *Sturnus sturnina*

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

COMMON STARLING *Sturnus vulgaris*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Baidagang reservoir on 26 October [2004][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

15, with White-cheeked Starlings, near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2007

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

2008

5 with the White-cheeked Starling flock near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008.

WHITE-CHEEKED STARLING *Sturnus cineraceus*

Tianjin: 300 at Beidagang Reservoir, Jinghai on 16 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

1 flew south about 2 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 70 were seen, with about 15 Common Starlings, near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

4 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

'Present' in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

75 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001. They were all at Liu Xiang Ying (8.5 kms east of the dam along the reservoir's northern edge).

2002

85, in flocks of 2, 17 & 66 birds, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2004 - autumn

(3/22 23 25)

Coastally birds were only noted on three late September dates - 1, the first coastal migrant I had seen this autumn, flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/9. 1 at Beidagang on the 25/9 & 23, either at Beidagang or between Tanggu & there, on the 26/9/2004.

Elsewhere 2 were seen from the train between Beijing & Tianjin on the 3/9 & about 150 birds were seen from the same journey on the 17/9/2004. About 130 of the latter were in one large flock about 35 minutes after leaving Beijing.

2005

(2/11 5 6)

1 near Tanggu town centre on the 21/7/2005.

5 on the 22/12/2005 - 4 near the centre of Teda, Tanggu and 1 at Beidagang, Dagang.

2006

6 - all at Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.

10 on the 18/3/2006 - mostly near Beitang Reservoir.

4 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

6 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

18 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

10 at Beitang, Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.

9 on the edge of Tanggu on the 4/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

31 Tanggu on the 2/8/2008 - 28 at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other 3 were besides the northern Teda industrial wasteland pools.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 4/8/2008.

25 in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

457 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 25/10/2008. 61 birds were aged and this produced 47 adults (77%) & 14 first years (23%).

2009

(11/28 115 138)

2 near Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

115 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009. 85 of these flew south over the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu while at least another 30 were just south of the Hai He Daqiao in Tanggu later in the day.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

2 singles were heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

4 singles around the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009. Migrants such as these, and even larger parties of actively migrating birds have been a feature of the last few days. Clearly autumn migration starts early in this species.

2 singles besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009. This species appears to be the first south bound migrating passerine in autumn.

1 besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.

1 besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.

2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.

2010

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

23 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

CRESTED MYNA *Acridotheres cristatellus*

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 in the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park complex, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.

WALLCREEPER *Tichodroma muraria*

EURASIAN TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*

Tianjin: One at Ziyun Park on 18 November [2007][LM]. (China Bird Report 2007).

WINTER WREN *Troglodytes troglodytes*

CHINESE PENDULINE TIT *Remiz consobrinus*

Tianjin: One at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 21 May [2005][CJZ] & five there on 23 December [2005][LY]. The latter is at or close to the northern limit of the species wintering range in China. (China Bird Report 2005).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1?)

1 bird, possibly this species, was heard near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/9/2004.]

2005

(1/11 1 1)

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005. Thought at the time to be a late date. (PH, Liu Yang)

2006

'Several' were heard at Beidagang on the 17/3/2006.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

3 singles were heard over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

90, in a single flock, flew south low over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

120 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2 were heard (possibly both in flocks?) over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

At least one was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

103 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007. Four birds were heard & not seen otherwise flocks of the following sizes were noted – 2, 3, 22, 30 & 42.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007. It flew south.

Several were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Coastal Tianjin is probably the northern limit of this species' winter range.

94 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Birds were in groups of the following sizes – three singles, two, four, ten & there were two larger flocks – 26 & 45 birds.

55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

2 singles were heard flying north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

5 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 11/10/2008. Three were seen at Caihongqiao, Hangu while fly-overs (here assumed to be singles) were heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & south of Haibin Yuchang.

1 bird, assumed here to be a singleton, was heard flying south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

4 separate birds were heard & not seen flying south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

35 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.

2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

2010

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

MARSH TIT *Poecile palustris*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 8 were noted at Qilihai NR. of Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

COAL TIT *Periparus ater*

YELLOW-BELLIED TIT *Periparus venustulus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 50 spring migrants were located in suburb of Tianjin on 18 April [2004][Yliang]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2007

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

GREAT TIT *Parus major*

2001

1 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2008

1 was heard in gardens near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

LONG-TAILED TIT *Aegithalos caudatus*

SAND MARTIN *Riparia riparia*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 500 at Beidagang Reservoir on 15 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(14/22 25 106)

Birds were noted on almost two-thirds of the days that I was in the Tanggu area & records spanned 4/9 – 7/10 – virtually the entire period I was there. Low single-figure day counts were the norm, there were four double-figure counts the highest of which was 25 on the 18/9/2004.

2005

(3/11 1300 1300)

5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 21/7/2005.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

1300 in Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu on the 30/8/2005. Around 1130 birds were counted on wires in the village centre & the remaining 170 were counted over the salt pans on the edge of the village. Only about 4-5% of those seen on the wires were adult!

2006

16 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

3 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

2 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

5 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

2 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 5/9/2006.

3200 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang in 1 hour 15 minutes on the 6/9/2006. 3095 of these were counted flying west-south-west in 1 hour 15 minutes. Birds were counted from 07:30-08:45hrs and averaged almost 50 birds/minute during the busiest part of this period!

50 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

20 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

44 with a large assemblage of Barn Swallows near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

1 was heard at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

200 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 – 50 flew south over Jing Qu & 150 with other hirundines at Beidagang.

2007

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.

40 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.

20 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

3 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

300 over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

2350 were counted on wires at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008. A sample count of 280 birds revealed almost equal numbers of adults (49%) & first-years (51%).

100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.

400 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

2 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

10 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.

10 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

10 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.

20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.

15 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

4 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

100 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. Almost all of these were with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang.

10 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

30 with other hirundines over a large roadside pool north of Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

2009

(10/28 1250 1270)

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.
1250 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
5 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
4 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

2 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

BARN SWALLOW *Hirundo rustica*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1200 at Qilihai Reservoir of Ninghe, Tianjin on 14 August 2003 with 1% race *mandschurica*. (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 300 near Hangu coast on 22 August [2004][LY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

15 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001

2002

8 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.
10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.
20 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
20 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2004 - spring

100 coastal migrants south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.
30 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(21/22 500 3740)

10-500 birds were noted on 21 of the 22 days I was in the Tanggu area, the only day birds weren't logged was the very last day, the 8/10, a day when I only birded for a few hours. Numbers fluctuated widely from one day to the next & there was no discernible change in the species' status during these five weeks.

2005

(5/11 300 540)

At least 300 flew south during the morning of 21/7/2005 – mostly over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.
50 flew south near Tanggu during the 28/8/2005.
50 flew south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.
100 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – mostly over the saltpans on the edge of the Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
40 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

20 in & around Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.
200 in & around Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
200 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006. This was the first day that a (very small) number of birds were seen actually migrating south down the coast.
50 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
50 in & around Tanggu on the 29/8/2006.
30 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
40 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
20 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
10 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
30 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
100 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
150 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
300 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
30 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
80 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006.
2100 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
10 flew south at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
50 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
1000 near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006. Very few (<10) birds were noted near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu in the early morning but as soon as the weather started to worsen large numbers of birds appeared over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu and areas to the south of there.
120,000 birds were estimated in Dagang on the 9/10/2006 with particularly impressive numbers of birds were noted at Beidagang. 2500 roosting on wires at Jing Qu but the really massive numbers were at Beidagang where a strong southerly passage was already taking place when I arrived at 09:00hrs. This continued until late afternoon. I made 13 five minute counts of this passage throughout the day. Passage was initially relatively slow with 800-1000 birds/five minute period until midday when it increased and appeared to peak in the early afternoon (when 1400-1500 birds/five minute period were noted).

By 15:00hrs the movement had dropped back to between 800-950 birds/five minute period & passage had practically ceased one hour later. A conservative estimate of the number of birds moving would be about 15,000 birds/hour for 7 hours = 105,000! More birds appeared in the evening & about 20,000 birds were estimated to be roosting in the reed beds here!

20 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

10 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.

20 south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.

40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2007.

100 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/8/2007.

40 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

100 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/8/2007.

40 birds flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – most of these were near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu in the early morning.

1500 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.

200 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

300 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007. Most of these were over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the mid-afternoon.

100 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007.

400 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.

150 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007.

150 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.

10 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

50 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

50 in the Hangu/Tanggu areas on the 1/5/2008.

50 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008.

20 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

50 over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

100 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.

50 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

150 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008.

300 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 5/8/2008.

10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.

100 in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008.

30 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

50 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

40 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with about equal numbers around Caihongqiao, Hangu & around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

20 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.

30 in & around Tanggu on the 2/9/2008.

100 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

30 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.

30 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008.

20 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

15 near Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

20 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.

300 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.

500 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.

800 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.

200 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

100 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

10,000 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. The vast majority of these were with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang.

20 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

1000 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 10/10/2008. The vast majority of these passed over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the first three hours of the day.

3500 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008. The vast majority of these (an estimated 3100 birds) were over a large roadside pool north of Caihongqiao, Hangu in the early morning.

400 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

30 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

250 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008. The majority of these were at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

40 flew south in Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

6 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/10/2008.

11 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Six, including a leucistic bird that was entirely white except for a dusky greyish head, flew west over the pools near Gaoshaling, Tanggu while the other five were at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(27/28 1500 5525)

25 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.

500 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

100 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.

300 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

100 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 18/7/2009.

50 in coastal Tianjin on the 19/7/2009.

50 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools on the 20/7/2009.

50 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/7/2009.

50 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/7/2009.

50 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/7/2009.

100 in coastal Tanggu on the 25/7/2009.

50 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 28/7/2009.
50 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
400 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/7/2009.
300 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
100 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
50 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
50 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
100 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
200 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
500 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
1500 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
100 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
200 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
500 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

5 over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 23/4/2010.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
300 in coastal Tanggu on the 29/8/2010. The vast majority of the day's birds were at Beidagang, Dagang.
40 in & around Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
300 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010.

RED-RUMPED SWALLOW *Cecropis daurica*

2001

6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - spring

Only 2 coastal migrants were noted south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. This perhaps implied that this is an earlier migrant than Barn Swallow?
1 heard south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(16/22 250 630)

Significantly less common than Barn Swallow, both in terms of total bird-days & number of days Red-rumped Swallows were particularly scarce around Tanggu in early September (2 at Beidagang on the 5/9 were the only ones seen on my five day long first visit). Numbers increased from mid-September &, although low double-figure day counts were the norm right up until the end of my third & last visit, there were two higher counts – 250 birds, including two sizeable flocks, one of 50 & the other of about 110 birds, flew south on the 20/9. This day was the first day that this species had predominated over Barn Swallow (only 50 of the latter were recorded). The second high count was of 200 noted flying south on the 6/10/2004.

2005

(3/11 40 42)

1 flew south over Lu Ju He, south of Tanggu on the 21/7/2005.
1 over the Gaoshaling pool, south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.
40 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – all in & around Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.

2006

50 in & around Tanggu on the 25/7/2006.
40 in & around Tanggu on the 26/7/2006.
10 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
25 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
5 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
5 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
10 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
5 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
25 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
20 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
50 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
10 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
5 flew south near Tanggu during the 4/10/2006.
5 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
2 over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
50 with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
5 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

20 near Tanggu on the 30/4/2007.
10 south of Tanggu on the 1/5/2007.
20 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
6 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
7 flew south at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/10/2007.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 over the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools on the 1/5/2008.
2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
 10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
 5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
 5 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
 5 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
 10 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
 5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
 4 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
 10 in Beitang village north of Tanggu on the on the 2/9/2008.
 5 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
 30 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
 10 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
 1 over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
 30 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008. The first day I'd seen deliberate visible passage of this species so far this autumn.
 40 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008. Almost all of these were with other hirundines at Beidagang, Dagang.
 50 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
 30 with other hirundines over a large roadside pool north of Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
 5 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
 2 with the Barn Swallows at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
 1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2009

(16/28 10 60)

1 near Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
 2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.
 1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
 10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 16/7/2009. The majority of these were in the Jingqu area.
 2 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
 4 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/7/2009.
 3 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
 4 over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.
 5 in the Caihongqiao area, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
 4 in coastal Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
 2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
 5 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
 4 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 10 flew over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/9/2009.
 1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
 5 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

ASIAN HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon dasypus*

2008

2 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu at 12:50hrs on the 6/9/2008. Seen by four other observers including Chen Liang this is possibly the first record for Tianjin.

NORTHERN HOUSE MARTIN *Delichon urbicum*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Singles on the Hangu coast between 11 and 12 September [2004][HP]. (China Bird Report 2004).

GOLDCREST *Regulus regulus*

LIGHT-VENTED BULBUL *Pycnonotus sinensis*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 4 at Qingtuozi of Hangu on 25 March 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 40 at Tuanbowa Reservoir, Jinghai on 23 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: Seven at Beidagang on 16 September [2007][KL]; 25 at Hebin Park, Tanggu on 18 November [2007][LiM]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

2 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2004 - spring

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(4/22 12 28)

1-12 birds were noted on four of the five visits I made to Beidagang with 11, 1, 12 & 4 there on the 5th, 19th & 26/9 & 6/10/2004 respectively. None were seen away from here!

2006

1 was heard outside the Hong Fa Garden Hotel in Tanggu town on the 20/3/2006.

1 was heard outside the Hong Fa Garden Hotel on the 25/7/2006.

20, mostly pairs, at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006. Many birds were still singing and several were seen carrying food (presumably to feed young still in the nest).

1 was heard on the edge of Tanggu on the 4/9/2006.

2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

2 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

2 in central Teda on the 4/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

2 in gardens near the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

10 in & around Tanggu on the 1/5/2008.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008. Significantly five birds came in off the seat Jingqu, Dagang at 08:25hrs!

2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

1 in central Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

6 flew south, all together, at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

2 in Tanggu on the 6/8/2008.

3 in Beitang village north of Tanggu on the on the 2/9/2008.

30 in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – one in central Teda, Tanggu & at least four at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(7/28 18 30)

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

18 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 7/5/2009. 16 of these were in a single flock that flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu while the other two were heard in roadside trees near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

1 was heard near at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

1 singing bird was heard near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/7/2009.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.

2 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.

2010

4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

3 in central Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/9/2010.

ZITTING CISTICOLA *Cisticola juncidis*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Eight at the coast of Hangu on 15 Apr. [2006][ZLi]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One or two at Beidagang Reservoir on four dates 17 March [2007][ZL] to 21 October [2007][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 3 4)

1 & 3 were noted at Beidagang on the 25th & 26/9/2004 respectively.

2006

10 at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

14 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

15 in Dagang on the 3/8/2008. Other than a single singing bird at Jingqu all the others were at Beidagang.

1 singing bird was heard over the inter-tidal mudflats at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008!

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

1 in a small coastal salt marsh south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Two of these were flying high over the pools near Gaoshaling, Tanggu and the other four were at Beidagang, Dagang.

2009

(3/28 24 28)

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
24 singing birds at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009. This is the most I've ever counted in coastal Tianjin.
2 were heard between Tanggu & Dagang on the 8/8/2009.

2010

9 singing birds were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

WHITE-BROWED CHINESE WARBLER *Rhopophilus pekinensis*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 very vocal bird was heard & later seen at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004.

CHESTNUT-FLANKED WHITE-EYE *Zosterops erythropleurus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 500 at Binhai, Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: 50 at TEDA on 18 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2000

3 parties of fly-overs were noted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & others were heard near the Dong Qilhai Shuikou, northwest of the city, on the 21/10/2000.

2004 - spring

1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(15/22 500 'thousands')

Undoubtedly the commonest passerine migrant with records spanning the period 18/9 – 8/10 when I left the Tanggu area. On a good many days numerous birds, probably numbering several hundreds, flew high to the south. Most of those that were seen were in flocks of 30-50 birds but many others were heard & could not be seen.

2006

1 was heard over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

300 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

Heard at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

1 was heard flying south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

70 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

40 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 30 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 5 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

Numerous other unseen birds were heard.

100 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.

40 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

Several birds were heard over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – several flew over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

100 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

20 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

1 was heard in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 was heard flying north over the Tianjin Port Industrial Park pools on the 1/5/2008.

2 singles flew north at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

20 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

40 flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.

20 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

20 in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

30 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.

5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

1 was heard flying south over the Hongfa Hotel in central Tanggu at 05:30hrs (about 45 minutes before sunrise) on the 11/10/2008.

1 bird, assumed here to be a singleton, was heard flying south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/008.

2009

(1/28 2 2)

2 separate birds were heard high over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009. Its likely that many more than two individuals were involved.

2010

10 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

10 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010.

JAPANESE WHITE-EYE *Zosterops japonica*

2010

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

WHITE-EYE SP. *Zosterops sp.*

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.

1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.

2010

10 were heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

100 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

ASIAN STUBTAIL *Cettia squameiceps*

2008

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

JAPANESE BUSH WARBLER *Cettia diphone*

DAVID'S BUSH WARBLER *Bradypterus davidi**

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2007

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

BROWN BUSH WARBLER *Bradypterus luteoventris*

LANCEOLATED WARBLER *Locustella lanceolata*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: First-calendar year juveniles were reported from Beidagang Reservoir of Tianjin on 14 September 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 5 14)

1-5 birds were noted on six dates, 18/9 – 6/10/2004.

2006

1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

2009

(2/28 1 2)

1 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

RUSTY-RUMPED WARBLER *Locustella certhiola*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: Reported from Xigu Park of Hongqiao, Tianjin on 31 May and 7 September 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

Singles were noted on two dates at the end of the first week of September - 1 was heard in reeds besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6th & another bird showed superbly as it was sheltering behind an embankment on the coastal pools close to the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 7/10/2004.

2006

3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006. One of these was in an illegal bird catcher's mist net!

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2008

2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 1/9/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other near the Lujuhe impound.

2 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 singles in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008 – one was heard near the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu & the other was seen in the ornamental garden right inside the Hydrus Hotel, Dagang.

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

BLACK-BROWED REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT et al.]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

1 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & another near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of the city, on the 21/10/2000.

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks, Tanggu on the 28/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 10 21)

Birds were noted on six dates, 6-26/9. 1-4 birds were noted on five of these dates & there were at least 10 at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

2 singles near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

1 was heard at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

5 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008 – four near Caihongqiao, Hangu & one near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.

4 in coastal Tanggu on the 22/10/2008 – three at Haibin Yuchang and one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

MANCHURIAN REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus tangorum* VU

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2008

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

ORIENTAL REED WARBLER *Acrocephalus orientalis*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Six at Beitang on 17 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 2 3)

1 or 2 birds were noted on only two dates, both during the first week of September. 2 were heard at Beidagang on the 5th & another was heard in reeds besides the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6/9/2004.

2006

2 singing birds were heard at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.
1 in scrub besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2008

1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

2009

(3/28 10 13)

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
2 singing birds were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
10 singing birds at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

THICK-BILLED WARBLER *Acrocephalus aedon*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 1 in Xigu Park of Hongqiao, Tianjin on 1 October 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 in a small patch of coastal scrub at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 at Beidagang on the 5/9/2004 was the only record.

2006

3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2008

2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 26/8/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

DUSKY WARBLER *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 30 at Hangu on 15 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007). One photographed at 271 Hospital, Tianjin on 9 April 2004 by someone with the internet name ch0585. An image of this bird can be seen at - http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2004/2004517162336_0975.jpg

2000

1 was heard in a reed bed near the Dong Qilhai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 in a small patch of coastal scrub at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 16/9/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

1 coastal migrant south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(19/22 11 55)

Birds were noted virtually daily throughout the entire period that I was around Tanggu (3/9 – 8/10) & Dusky Warbler was the second commonest *phylloscopus* & one of the commonest 'grounded' passerine migrants. 1-4 birds were noted on 17 dates & there were two higher day counts – 8 on the 19/9 & 11 on the 3/10/2004.

2006

1 at the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
2 singles in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006 – 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other besides the Tanggu Harbour Pools. These were the first birds of the autumn.
15 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. These included 7 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 6 south of Jing Qu, Dagang.
3 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
1 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
2 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
45 on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
15 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
3 singles near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu, 2 near the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 3 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
7 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 4 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
6 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
2 were heard near Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
7 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 - 4 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 besides the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
11 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - 3 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 3 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 5 at Beidagang, Dagang.
9 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 - 7 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
11 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 - 5 at Beidagang, Dagang; 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

2 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with singles at both Jingqu & Beidagang.
7 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
13 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 27/9/2008.
6 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
6 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
6 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
13 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
26 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 11/10/2008. Of these 13 were near Caihongqiao, Hangu and another 13 in Tanggu with three around Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & eight south of Haibin Yuchang.
3 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
3 singles at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
2 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(5/28 11 29)

4 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
11 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
7 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
6 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
7 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. Five of these were on the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu while the other four were at Beidagang, Dagang.

YELLOW-STREAKED WARBLER *Phylloscopus armandii*

RADDE'S WARBLER *Phylloscopus schwarzi*

Tianjin: One at Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT et al.]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: Three at Beidagang on 16 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(2/22 1 2)

Typically Dusky & Radde's Warblers would have been expected to have occurred in approximately equal numbers so it was very surprising that I only encountered 2 Radde's - single birds that were heard in scrub near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre on the 19th & heard at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004.

2006

1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

2007

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
2 south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.

PALLAS'S LEAF WARBLER *Phylloscopus proregulus*

Tianjin: One at Hangu on 15 Apr. [2006][ZLi et al.]; five at Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT et al.] were exceptionally early.
(Both records from China Bird Report 2006).

2000

1 in a small area of reeds along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) about 2 kms south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2004 - spring

2 coastal migrants south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 2 4)

A mid-late autumn migrant the first 2 birds were seen in coastal scrub north of Tanggu airport on the 5th & 2 more were noted on the 6/10/2004 – 1 on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other at Beidagang.

2006

10 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

6 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

4 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 3 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 3 more at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

3 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

7 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 3 at Beidagang, Dagang & 4 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

17 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 8 at Beidagang, Dagang; 8 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007 & 3 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.

6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

1 at Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

8 in coastal Tianjin on the 11/10/2008.

10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

13 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.

6 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.

11 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.

2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

[In addition one dead bird at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008].

CHINESE LEAF WARBLER *Phylloscopus yunnanensis*

YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER *Phylloscopus inornatus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: 30 at Beidagang on 16 September [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2001

10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

4 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

2 coastal migrants south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

1 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(20/22 20 118)

Easily the commonest *phylloscopus* & one of the commonest 'grounded' passerine migrants birds were noted virtually every day 3/9 – 7/10. 1-10 birds were noted on 18 dates & there were 2 slightly higher counts – 20 & 15 on the 5th & 19/9/2004 respectively. There was an overall reduction in the number of birds present around Tanggu throughout the period.

2005

(4/11 6 18)

6 on the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

5 in total at various sites south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.

3 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – 1 in Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu & the other 2 besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks.

4 on the edge of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

1 in scrub besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
15 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
5 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/9/2006.
10 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/9/2006
35 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006. 20 of these were at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
15 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
4 besides the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
10 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
6 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 9/9/2006.
2 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

40 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 9 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 8 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu; 8 near the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & 15 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 10 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 15 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
12 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
1 was heard near Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
14 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 - 9 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 5 near the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
2 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

2 singles near the hotel in central Teda on the 1/5/2008.
1 in the gardens of the Teda International Hotel & Club, Teda on the 1/5/2008.
5 in the Tanggu & Teda area on the 3/5/2008.
10 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 31/8/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
5 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
12 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with about four at Jingqu & eight at Beidagang.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 27/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
5 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1 was heard near Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
6 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
8 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(6/28 22 54)
2 were heard on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
22 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
6 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
4 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

3 singles besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
5 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
15 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. These were about equally split between the day's two sites with eight besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu and the other seven at Beidagang, Dagang.

ARCTIC WARBLER *Phylloscopus borealis*

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(2/22 15 16)

Birds were noted on just two dates - there were 15 at Beidagang on the 5th & another late bird there on the 26/9/2004.

2005

(2/11 1 2)

1 on one of the embankments between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
1 near the inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 29/8/2005.

2006

1 besides the Tanggu Harbour Pools on the 4/9/2006. The first bird of the autumn.
3 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – two at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & one south of Jing Qu, Dagang.
3 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006. One of these was in an illegal bird catcher's mist net!

2007

1 was heard near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

2008

1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
2 singles around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.
2 in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
1 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
3 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008 – one besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & the other two at Jingqu, Dagang.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 5/9/2008.
2 singles besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

2010

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

(TWO-BARRED) GREENISH WARBLER *P. t. plumbeitarsus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 3 at Qilihai Reservoir of Ninghe, Tianjin on 6 October 2003 (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 30 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 9 Sept. [2006][TZet al.]; 30 at Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT et al.]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2004 - autumn

(5/22 9 19)

Records spanned the period 4/9 – 3/10 & most sightings were at Beidagang. Birds were most regular on my first visit to Tanggu during the first week of September & 1 was heard near Tanggu on the 4th, 9 were at Beidagang on the 5th & another bird was heard near Tanggu on the 6/9. 3 more were heard at Beidagang on the 19/9 & a late bird was noted on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 3/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 in scrub besides the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

2006

2 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – singles at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & south of Jing Qu, Dagang. The first of the autumn.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

2010

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

PALE-LEGGED LEAF WARBLER *Phylloscopus tenellipes*

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

EASTERN CROWNED WARBLER *Phylloscopus coronatus*

CHESTNUT-CROWNED WARBLER *Seicercus castaniceps*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at downtown Tianjin in April [2007][YLi]. **If not an escape this would be the first record for Tianjin and would be better with a full date.** (China Bird Report 2007).

PLAIN LAUGHINGTHRUSH *Garrulax davidi*

BEARDED PARROTBILL

2008

1 in a small coastal salt marsh south of Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008. Possibly the first record for Tianjin.

VINOUS-THROATED PARROTBILL *Paradoxornis webbianus*

2003

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2007

1 was heard at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

2008

2 were heard at Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.

REED PARROTBILL *Paradoxornis heudei*

Reports by others -

Seen at Beidagang, Dagang in December 2002 (See OBC Bulletin?)

Tianjin: One at the outskirts of the city on 20 September [2004][Yliang]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2002

At least seven birds, one party of six & another party was heard but not followed up, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

2008

11 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. They were all in a single flock in the reeds close to the derelict, frame of a pumping station right near the end of the track. (38°43.66'N., 117°26.58'E.). Only the second time that I've encountered this species in Tianjin municipality!

LESSER WHITETHROAT *Sylvia curruca*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at Tanggu Park on 15 February [2007][CJN]. Perhaps only the second record for Tianjin and an unusual date for an east coast vagrant. (China Bird Report 2007).

MONGOLIAN LARK *Melanocorypha mongolica*

Other reports include – one was photographed somewhere in Tianjin on the 25 April 2004 at by someone with the internet name of ch0585. Images of this bird can be seen at - http://www.cnbird.org.cn/mysite/jpg/2004/200442910541_1165.jpg

2007

1 at Beidagang on 7/20/2007.

2008

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008 a surprising date & Only my second ever sighting in Tianjin (my previous encounter was also with a singleton on the more typical date of 7 October [2007]).

GREATER SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella brachydactyla*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 'One or several recorded in Jinghai Tuanbowa, Tianjing on 23 November, with number neglected. Finally 20 had been seen in Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjing on 6 December 2003.' (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 25 on the Hangu coast on 15 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2006).

ASIAN SHORT-TOED LARK *Calandrella cheleensis*

Tianjin: Birds were present at Beidagang reservoir with one on 6 May [2004][CJZ] and 100 there at 18 December [2004][CJZ]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 30 & one at Beidagang Reservoir on 1 Mar. [2006][LY] & 9 Sept. [2006][TZ] respectively; five on the Hangu coast on 15 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (All reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2000

15 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/9/2001.

2002

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

100, in parties of up to 50 birds, at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

2 & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

6 singing birds along the coast between the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre & about 4 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/5/2004.

3 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 6 19)

1-6 birds were noted on six dates 19/9 – 7/10. Surprisingly none were encountered at Beidagang & most records probably relate to genuine migrants. All sightings as follows – 3 singles were noted on the 19th, the first was a definite migrant that flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre while the other two birds were seen over the fishponds between Lu Ju He & Gaoshaling. 6 flew over the Lu Ju He fishponds on the 21/9. 2 & a flock of 5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 2nd & 4/10 respectively. 1 was heard over the Lu Ju He Fishponds on the 6th & 2 singles were seen on the 7/10/2004 – a singles over the traditional 'Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang, 30 at Tianjin Haibin Yuchang & another again at the Lu Ju He Fishponds.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 was heard over the impounds at the 'traditional Relict Gull site' about 5 kms south of Haibin Yuchang on the 21/7/2005.

2006

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

2 were heard at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

2 at Hangu on the 26/7/2006.

1 was heard at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.

1 besides the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

1 near Teda, Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.

8 (three singles & a flock of five) at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 singles south of Tanggu on the 30/4/2007 – 1 near Lu Ju He and the other near the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.

3 on the 1/5/2007 – one heard at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu & two heard at Beidagang, Dagang.

2 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

2 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

2008

250 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. By far the commonest passerine today!

200 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

1 was heard over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 1/8/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/8/2008.

1 was heard at Jingqu, Dagang on the 1/9/2008.

2 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with singles at both Jingqu & Beidagang.

1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

4 flew south over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

1 flew south near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. Two were seen at Beidagang, Dagang and the other flew south near the Bai Er Station, Tanggu.

2009

(3/28 3 6)

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.

2 were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.

1 flew south over the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.

2010

1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

4 singing birds were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

CRESTED LARK *Galerida cristata*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One at Jinghai Tuanbowa, Tianjing, on 23 November 2003.' (China Bird Report 2003).

EURASIAN SKYLARK *Alauda arvensis*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 100 were seen on 5-7 March 2003 in Qilihai of Ninghe, Tianjin. ' (China Bird Report 2003).

2000

100 along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & a similar number near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of the city on the 21/10/2000.

2001

10 over San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2002

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

75 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

400 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

18 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2004 - autumn

(13/22 700 1655)

Nearly all encounters were with birds actively migrating south & the species was noted on just half of the days that I was around Tanggu with records spanning the period 18/9 – 8/10. Birds were scarce during September, with singles figures being noted on five dates & one higher count (20, mostly south over the Lu Ju He fish ponds, on the 21/9). There'd been a marked increase by the time I returned at the start of October & three figure counts were then the norm. The highest counts were 700 & 500 on the 2nd & 6/10/2004 respectively.

2005

(1/11 10 10)

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

10 immediately south of Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.

25 on the 18/3/2006 – with birds seen in flight at Beitang Reservoir, Hangu, Beidagang & Jing Qu.

6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.

20 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

50 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

70 flew south near Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

20 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

40 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 25 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu.

20 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 - 15 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & at least one at Jing Qu, Dagang.

25 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

6 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

600 flew south in Dagang, coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007. The majority of these (540 birds) were seen moving over Beidagang during the four hours that I was there (06:45-11:00hrs).

600 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 80 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 30 at Jing Qu, Dagang & at least 500 were estimated at Beidagang, Dagang.

110 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 100 at Beidagang, Dagang & 10 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

100 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 flew over Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

520 flew northwest at Beidagang, Dagang during the morning of the 11/3/2008.

3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.

3 singles flew south in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

4 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.

220 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 10/10/2008. The vast majority of these passed over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the first three hours of the day.

400 flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

30 flew south in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.

30 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

150 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.

100 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.

25 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.

6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
40 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
30 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
20 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
30 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

2010

1 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.

HORNED LARK *Eremophila alpestris*

RUSSET SPARROW

EURASIAN TREE SPARROW *Passer montanus*

2000

100, northwest of Tanggu (primarily near the Dong Qililai Shuikou) on the 21/10/2000.

2002

30 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2002.
20 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
Present – but not counted on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2003

10 in Tanggu on the 29/11/2003.
300 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

50 & 400 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.
400 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
100 south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.
'Present' south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 200 1520)

Up to 200 birds were noted on every day that I was around Tanggu. Most birds were seen in & immediately around Tanggu town itself though there were regularly up to 80 near Lu Ju He. No evidence of migration, such as birds in unusual sites, was noted.

2005

(9/11 100 300+)
20 in & around Tanggu town on the 21/7/2005.
20 in & around Tanggu on the 28/8/2005.
30 in total at various sites south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.
50 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2005 – mostly in & around Sheng Tou Gu, Hangu.
20 in Tanggu town centre on the 31/8/2005.
20 near Tanggu on the 21/12/2005.
100 between Tanggu and Dagang on the 22/12/2005.
Present but not counted between Tanggu and Dagang on the 23/12/2005.
Present between Tanggu and Dagang on the 24/12/2005.

2006

'Present' but not systematically recorded around Tanggu on the 17/3/2006.
30 near Tanggu on the 18/3/2006.
20 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
40 on the 25/7/2006.
100 on the 26/7/2006.
100 south of Tanggu on the 27/7/2006.
50 between Tanggu & Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
'Present' in & around Tanggu but not counted.
'Present' but not counted in & around Tanggu on the 29/8/2006.
'Present' south of Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
'Present' but not counted near Tanggu on the 4/9/2006.
'Present' in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
'Present' near Tanggu/Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
'Present' but not counted in & around Tanggu on the 7/9/2006.
'Present' but not counted in & around Tanggu on the 8/9/2006.
'Present' but not counted in the Tanggu area on the 4/10/2006.
150 in & around Tanggu on the 8/10/2006.
'Present' but not counted at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
'Present' but not counted in the Tanggu area on the 10/10/2006.

2007

Present, but not counted, in the Hangu, Tanggu & Dagang areas on the 30/4/2007.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007.
30 between the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & Tanggu on the 4/10/2007.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007.

50 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/10/2007.
50 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.
300 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007

2008

50 near Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 16/1/2008.
150 in the Beidagang, Jingqu (both Dagang) & Yuren Matou (Tanggu) areas on the 17/1/2008.
700 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. 550 of these were in a single flock at the second of the tow sites I visited.
30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
80 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
20 in & around Tanggu/Teda on the 1/5/2008.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/5/2008.
10 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
50 in & around Tanggu on the 1/8/2008.
50 in & around Tanggu on the 2/8/2008.
20 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 3/8/2008.
20 in the Hangu-Tanggu area on the 4/8/2008.
10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.
20 between Tanggu & Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
20 in the Hangu-Tanggu areas on the 26/8/2008.
20 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
10 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
20 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
10 near Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 31/8/2008.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 1/9/2008.
20 in & around Tanggu on the 2/9/2008.
50 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with birds at both Jingqu & Beidagang.
100 in the Dagang--Tanggu area on the 4/9/2008.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008.
20 in & around Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
20 in & around Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
30 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
10 near Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
40 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
20 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 29/9/2008.
100 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
20 in & around Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
100 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
10 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 10/10/2008.
40 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
20 in coastal Tanggu-Dagang on the 12/10/2008.
40 in & around Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
10 in & around Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
10 in & around Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
30 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
200 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(15/28 50 310)

30 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 6/5/2009.
20 in coastal Tianjin on the 7/5/2009.
50 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 15/7/2009.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.
10 in & around Tanggu on the 18/7/2009.
10 around the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009.
5 in coastal Tanggu on the 26/7/2009.
20 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/7/2009.
40 near the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009.
10 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 2/8/2009.
30 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/8/2009.
30 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
10 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
10 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
15 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

10 in & around Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.
40 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
400 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

20 in &around Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
100 in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010.

FOREST WAGTAIL *Dendronanthus indicus*

2001

1 flew south in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
1 was heard over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
1 heard on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2005

(2/11 1 2)

1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
1 flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

2006

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

2008

2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008 – one over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu in the morning & the other over Jingqu, Dagang in the late afternoon.
1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
3 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

WHITE WAGTAIL *Motacilla alba*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 7 *ocularis* at Qilihai of Ninghe, Tianjin on 7 October 2003.' (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: Six *ocularis* near Beitang on 2 November [2007][KL]. (China Bird Report 2007)

2000

2, 1 of which was identified as *M. a. ocularis*, along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

6 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 at Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
4 including 2 *M. a. leucopsis*. on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
30 – including 1 *M. a. oculari*. on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

3 north bound coastal migrants were heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(22/22 60 288)

A common & conspicuous diurnal migrant, birds were noted on every day that I was around Tanggu & there was a gradual increase in the number of birds encountered throughout the period. Scarce in early September (1-5 birds, total 13 bird-days in the five days 3-7/9) increasing numbers were noted during my second visit (17-26/9) an increase that continued at least through the first week of October. Although there were 50 birds on the 19/9 single-figure day counts were still the norm during the 10 days of my second visit (n = 120, average 12 birds/day) but low double-figure counts of 10-20 birds plus one higher count of 60 on the 2/10 were the rule by the time of my third visit from the 2-8/10/2004 (n = 155, average 22 birds/day). Although most birds weren't racially assigned two different subspecies were seen. *M. a. leucopsis* (10/22 4 21) occurred from 19/9 – 7/10 & was easily the commoner of the two while *M. a. ocularis* (2/22 3 4) was seen on the 21st (3 birds) & 23/9/2004 (1 bird)

2005

(3/11 10 18)

10 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
5 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.
3 flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

2006

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
10 on the 18/3/2006 – mostly at Beidagang, Dagang.
6 at Beitang Reservoir, Tanggu on the 20/3/2006.
1 at Hangu on the 28/7/2006.
2 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
6 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
5 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
2 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
4 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
8 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

20 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
2 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
2 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

3 *ocularis* at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
5 birds were heard (counting each heard as a single) in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.
125 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 3/10/2007 – 112 of these were counted over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the day. All of those racially identified (only about 20 birds) were *ocularis*.
15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
4 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007. 2 of these were *ocularis*.
6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
29 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 20 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 4 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 5 at Beidagang, Dagang.
12 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
6 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

4 singles flew northwest at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. Three birds were seen well enough to racially assign and all three were *leucopsis*.
15 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
4 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
3, including at least 1 *leucopsis*, at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/8/2008.
1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 4/8/2008.
1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008.
6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
5 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
4, including one *leucopsis*, in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 2/9/2008.
3 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
7 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
16, including three *leucopsis*, around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. The majority of birds were seen actively flying southwest.
6, including one *ocularis*, in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
7 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
2 singles flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
5 singles, including four *leucopsis*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
45 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these, including all of those racially assigned (26 *leucopsis* & eight *ocularis*, were in the area around the Huang Gang Yi & Er Ku Reservoirs, Tanggu.
17, including five *leucopsis* & one *ocularis*, at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
5 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
4, including three *leucopsis*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
13, including four *ocularis*, flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
11, including one *ocularis*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
3, including two *ocularis*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
7, including three *ocularis*, flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
15, including four *ocularis*, flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
25, including 12 *ocularis*, in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
2, including one *leucopsis*, in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
2, including one *ocularis*, in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(9/28 20 47)

1 *ocularis* besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
1 was heard near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/5/2009.
1 flew south over the roadside pool about three kilometres north of the Caihong Bridge, Hangu on the 15/7/2009.
1 on the pools between Lujue & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 3/8/2009.
6 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009. Only one bird was seen well enough to racially assign and it was *leucopsis*.
4, including one *leucopsis*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
12, including three *leucopsis*, in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
20, including three *leucopsis*, flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
2 singles, including one *leucopsis*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/8/2010.
2, including one *leucopsis*, besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
12, including one *leucopsis* & one *ocularis*, in coastal Tianjin on the 24/9/2010. Most of these flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu in the early morning.

CITRINE WAGTAIL *Motacilla citreola*

Tianjin: Three at Hangu beach on 15 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 first-winter was seen well on the edge of one of the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 25/9/2004.

2010

2 males flew north over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/4/2010.

EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla tschutschensis**

Reports from others -

Tianjin: 50, including *macronyx* and *taivana*, along the coast of Hangu on 11 September [2004][WXL]. (China Bird Report 2004).

Tianjin: 100 at Beidagang Reservoir on 2 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2001

10 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

20, including 2 *M. f. macronyx*, in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

10 at Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

10 flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

1 north bound coastal migrant was heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(21/22 50 218)

2-20 birds were noted on 20 dates & there was one higher count, 50 on the 19/9/2004. Numbers appeared to peak in the third week of September. Most encounters were with flying over, actively migrating birds & hence very few were subspecifically identified. Only 8 birds were racially assigned with single *M. f. macronyx* (4/22 1 4) & incredibly single *M. f. simillima* (4/22 1 4) on the 19th, 20th & 25/9 & the 3/10/2004!

2005

(4/11 50 140)

30 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

40 in total at various sites south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.

50 birds flew south near Tanggu during the 30/8/2005.

20 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

3, including one *taivana*, near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.

10 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

5 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

5 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.

10 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

5 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

10 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.

5 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006 – two were seen well enough to racially assign & they were both *taivana*.

1 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.

3 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007.

16 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.

2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.

6 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

20 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

7 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 3 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

7 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

5 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.

15 came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.

10 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao pools, Hangu on the 5/8/2008.

10, including two *simillima*, in coastal Tianjin on the 26/8/2008. About 8 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & the other two flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.

10 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

10 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

15 at various sites in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008. Three birds were seen well enough to racially & all three were *simillima*.
 10, including two *simillima*, the only birds racially assigned in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008. About equal numbers were seen around the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
 6 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
 15 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
 10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
 15 in Dagang on the 3/9/2008 with about ten flying south at Jingqu & five Beidagang.
 5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 4/9/2008.
 2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
 18 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
 42, including two *simillima*, around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008. As with White Wagtail the majority of birds were seen actively flying southwest.
 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
 8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
 3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
 4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
 80 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (70 birds) were around the Chaobaihe Pools one kilometer upstream of Caihongqiao, Hangu.
 2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
 20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 2/10/2008.
 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
 2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
 1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
 2 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
 2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(6/28 15 51)

5 singles flew north over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
 15 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
 10 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
 5, including one *taivana*, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
 8, including one *taivana*, in coastal Tianjin on the 12/9/2009.
 8 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

2 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
 3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
 6 different birds were heard in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2010.
 8, including one *macronyx*, besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

GREY WAGTAIL *Motacilla cinerea*

2000

1 flew south, over the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

1 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
 3 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

2 at Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
 2 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
 1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.

2004 - spring

1 north bound coastal migrant was heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(12/22 8 29)

All records spanned the period 18/9 – 6/10. Once again most encounters were with flying over, actively migrating birds. More birds were noted in the middle/end of September than in the first week of October. 1-4 birds were noted on seven dates & there was one higher count, 8 on the 18/9/2004.

2005

(3/11 3 6)

2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
 1 flew south over the pool at Gaoshaling, south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.
 3 singles flew south near Tanggu during the 30/8/2005.

2006

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 29/8/2006.
 1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
 2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
 1 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
 1 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
 4 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
 3 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
 2 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
 2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

2007

2 flew north over the Caihongqiao, Hangu mud flats on the 30/4/2007.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 3/10/2007.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
1 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2008

2 singles came in off the sea at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 30/8/2008 – with one over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu & the other over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
1 flew south over the Lujuhe impound, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
1 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.

2009

(5/28 2 6)

2 singles in coastal Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
1 flew south over the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 1/8/2009. The first one of the autumn.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

1 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
1 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

RICHARD'S PIPIT *Anthus richardi*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 'Some recorded at Tuanbowa, Jinghai, Tianjin on 2 November 2003. (China Bird Report 2003)

Tianjin: Singles were reported along the coast of Hangu during 29 August and 12 September [2004][LHY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2000

1 flew south, over the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10/2000.

2001

15 in Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.
30 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

10 at Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
8 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 31/8/2002.
30 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

6 north bound coastal migrants were heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(21/22 50 224)

Birds were noted virtually daily 3/9 – 8/10. Once again most encounters were with flying over, actively migrating birds. Numbers appeared to peak in the middle to third week of September. Single figure day counts were the norm & there were only four days when more than 10 birds were logged, the highest count being on the 18/9/2004 when 50 were seen.

2005

(4/11 6 19)

2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.
5 in total at various sites south of Tanggu on the 29/8/2005.
6 birds flew south near Tanggu during the 30/8/2005.
6 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
15 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.
4 over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/9/2006.
10 fly-overs in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.
15 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
30 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
10 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.

- 2 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
- 1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
- 1 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
- 3 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
- 5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

- 1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
- 1 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/8/2007.
- 2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 8/8/2007.
- 25 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 8 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu, 6 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools & a similar number flew south over the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
- 46 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
- 11 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
- 14 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
- 4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
- 7 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 3 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang.
- 9 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 7 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
- 8 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
- 3 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

- 3 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
- 2 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
- 1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 6/8/2008. My first of the autumn.
- 7 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
- 14 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 28/8/2008 – eight over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools & another six over the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang.
- 4 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
- 2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
- 13 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
- 8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
- 10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.
- 5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
- 2 in waste ground immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.
- 2 in coastal Tianjin on the 5/9/2008 – one flew south at Jingqu, Dagang & the other was walking on the mud of one of the settling tanks at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
- 14 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
- 31 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
- 1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 26/9/2008.
- 12 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
- 2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
- 3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
- 5 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
- 3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
- 4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
- 1 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
- 3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
- 3 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
- 3 singles flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
- 6 on flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
- 2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

2009

(7/28 8 33)

- 2 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
- 1 on the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 8/8/2009.
- 5 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
- 8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
- 8 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
- 8 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
- 1 in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.
- In addition 1 bird, possibly this species, was heard poorly, flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 14/7/2009.

2010

- 2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.
- 1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
- 6 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

BLYTH'S PIPIT *Anthus godlewski*

2001

- 1 flew south in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

- 1 was heard over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

- 1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 31/8/2005.

2006

- 1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.
- 1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 1/9/2006.
- 1 flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.
- 1 flew south over Lu Ju He, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.

2007

- 1 near the pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 30/4/2007.

2008

- 2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.

2009

- (4/28 2 6)
- 1 at Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 6/5/2009.
- 2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
- 1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
- 2 singles flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT *Anthus hodgsoni*

2000

- 4 near Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu on the 21/10/2000.

2001

- 10 in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.
- 1 flew over the Yuqiao Reservoir's dam on the 5/11/2001.

2002

- 2 at Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
- 1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
- 10 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

- 2 north bound coastal migrants were heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(19/22 50 179)

Birds were noted virtually daily 5/9 – 8/10 & once again most encounters were with flying over, actively migrating individuals. 1-10 birds were noted on 17 days & there were two higher counts, 50 & 25 on the 18th & 19/9/2004 respectively. Other than these two counts there was no clearly discernible pattern & no obvious increase or decrease in the number of birds present around Tanggu during the period.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

- 1 flew south over the pool at Qing Tuozi/Fu Yu Zhi Lu, at the northern end of the Cai Hong Bridge, Tanggu county on the 30/8/2005.

2006

- 2 singles flew south in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006 – the first over Yuren Matou, Tanggu & the second south of Jing Qu. The first of the autumn.
- 1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.
- 2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
- 1 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
- 2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 9/9/2006.
- 5 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
- 5 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
- 5 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
- 4 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
- 4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

- 4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
- 15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 10 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 2 were the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
- 27 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
- 11 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
- 1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 5/10/2007.
- 8 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
- 4 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
- 7 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 3 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 3 at Beidagang, Dagang.
- 7 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 5 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
- 23 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 17 at Beidagang, Dagang, 4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 2 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
- 1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

- 5 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
- 8 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
- 5 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
- 1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.
- 1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/9/2008.
- 1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 5/9/2008.
- 1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
- 4 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.
- 3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.

6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
3 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
5 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
6 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 2/10/2008.
3 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
2 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
3 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(6/28 6 19)

1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
1 was heard over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 9/9/2009.
4 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/9/2009.
6 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
4 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

2010

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
3 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.
8 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

PECHORA PIPIT *Anthus gustavi*

2002

1 very vocal bird flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 3 9)

1-3 birds, all singles, were noted on six dates from my arrival in Tanggu on the 3rd until the 20/9. All encounters were with flying over, actively migrating individuals & are as follows - 2 singles flew up river over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank on the 3/9. 1 flew south over the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 4/9. Singles flew south over the settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao on the 6th & 7/9. 3 singles flew south on the 18/9 & another single flew south over Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 20/9/2004.

2005

Tianjin

(1/11 2 2)

Singles flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on both the 30th and 31/8/2005.

2006

2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

2007

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
1 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 30/8/2008.
1 flew southwest over the roadside pools between Haibin Yuchang & Gaoshaling, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

RED-THROATED PIPIT *Anthus cervinus*

Tianjin: Two at Beidagang Reservoir on 2 May [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2001

1 flew south in Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 was heard at the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.
6 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - spring

1 north bound coastal migrant was heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(19/22 34 108)

Once again most encounters were with flying over, actively migrating individuals & birds were noted virtually every day I was at Tanggu (records spanned the period 4/9 – 8/10). Singles were noted on six dates & single-figure counts on an additional 10 dates. The only double-figure counts were 34, 12 & 10 on the 18th, 21st & 25/9/2004 respectively – an eight day period that accounted for 74 birds-days (69% of the total).

2006

4 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
1 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
8 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
2 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
2 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
3 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
11 in the Dagang area on the 9/10/2006 – 6 flew south over Jing Qu & 5 at Beidagang.
3 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
8 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 5 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 went over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools & 2 over the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
61 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
2 in coastal Tianjin on the 6/10/2007 – 1 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & 1 besides the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
3 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
6 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 2 over the Gaoshaling Pools; 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 2 at Beidagang, Dagang.
8 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 7 at Beidagang, Dagang & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
6 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

4 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
4 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
3 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 6/9/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
11 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
4 singles flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008. Birds were noted over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, at Lujuhe & over Caihongqiao.
3 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
4 actively migrating birds were noted in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.
2 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
4 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008 – three of these were at Caihongqiao, Hangu & the other at Jingqu, Dagang.
2 on the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/10/2008.

2009

(5/28 2 7)

1 was heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
2 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 14/9/2009.

2010

6 flew south over the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.
1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

ROSY PIPIT

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 'Several were recorded around Beidagang Reservoir of Tianjin; then on 14 April 2003.' (China Bird Report 2003).

WATER PIPIT *Anthus spinoletta blakistoni*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 6 around Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 17 March & several at Beidagang Reservoir, Tianjin on 12 April 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): Two at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: The earliest record in autumn ang.[in the whole of China!] was between **Tianjin:** One along the coast of Hangu on 29 August [2004][WN in the China Bird Report 2004]. I questioned this report in litt. to Liu Yang.

Tianjin: 10 at Beidagang Reservoir on 23 December [2005][CJZ]. (China Bird Report 2005).

2000

2 fly-overs were noted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 3 others did the same near the Dong Qilihai Shuihou, northwest of the city, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

2 flew over Yuqiao Reservoir's dam on the 5/11/2001.
1 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.
2 in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

1 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

33 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2005

Tianjin

(2/11 7 8)

1 at Du Liu Jian Hekou, Dagang on the 21/12/2005.

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

2 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

2008

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008. There are some subtle differences in the habitat preferences of the two wintering pipits at Beidagang. Most Water Pipits are singletons & the species is noticeably less gregarious than Buff-bellied Pipit & all Water Pipits I saw were found besides areas of open water whereas the Buff-bellieds were usually in areas of burnt stubble.

35 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.

5 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

BUFF-BELLIED PIPIT *Anthus rubescens japonicus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 'Some reported around Beidagang Reservoir of Tianjin on 12 April & 3 around Tuanbowa Reservoir on 9 November 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): 15-20 at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: The earliest returning autumn sighting [in the whole of China] were from **Tianjin:** One along the coast of Tanggu on 3 September [2004][PH]. (China Bird Report 2004). **This is an error.**

Tianjin: 50 between Shanggulin and Hangu on 9 April [2005][LHY]; 20 at Beidagang Reservoir on 23 December [2005][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: five at Beidagang Reservoir on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu] & 20 recorded near Beitang on 8 Apr. [2006][CJZ]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

2000

20+ (mostly fly-overs) were noted along the coast road (the Hai Fang Gong Lu) south of Tanggu on the 20/10 & 40 northwest of the city, primarily near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

25 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001 included 23 at San Jia Dian.

1 in Tanggu on the 6/11/2001.

1 in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

2002

75 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/12/2002 - 3 flew high south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu & 75 were estimated at Beidagang, Dagang.

2 flew over at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004 - spring

2 & 15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively.

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

2004 - autumn

(7/22 25 62)

2-25 birds were noted on all 7 days of my third visit to Tanggu, 2-8/10 & once again most encounters were with flying over, actively migrating individuals. Single-figure counts were made on five dates & there were 25 on the 2nd & 12 on the 7/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 20 20)

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

5 flew south on the Tianjin coast from Hangu, south to Tanggu & Dagang on the 4/10/2006.

3 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

2 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

20 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.
6 over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 10/10/2006.

2007

1 flew north at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
4 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 – 3 over of these were seen over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu & one went over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu.
36 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu during the first 2.5hrs of the 3/10/2007.
22 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
7 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
34 flew south during the 8/10/2007 – 19 were counted in the 1.5hrs I was at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu; 3 at Jing Qu, Dagang & 12 at Beidagang, Dagang.
26 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 22 at Beidagang, Dagang & 4 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
40 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 36 of these flew south at Beidagang, Dagang.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. In China Buff-bellied Pipit winters primarily in the lower Yangtze Valley and its likely that Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is probably at, or very close to, the regular northern limit of this species' winter range.
24 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.
10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.
1 flew north at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 1/5/2008.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
1 flew south over the Xiao Xihe Reservoir, Hangu on the 30/9/2008.
6 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
22 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
30 flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
38 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 13/10/2008.
25 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
20 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
8 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
30 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.
35 in coastal Tianjin on the 23/10/2008. The majority of these were at the two sites I visited in Dagang – Jingqu & Beidagang.
15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
50 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008. The majority of these (about 40 birds) were at Beidagang, Dagang.

2010

11 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 23/4/2010.
4 were heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

SIBERIAN ACCENTOR *Prunella montanella*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 2 in the airfield orchard in the east suburb of Tianjin (No date – other than 2003). (China Bird Report 2003).

2006

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

CHAFFINCH *Fringilla coelebs*

BRAMBLING *Fringilla montifringilla*

2000

2 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

1 flew over San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.

1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

2007

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.

7 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.
10 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
10 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
30 widespread birds in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008. Birds were encountered in parties of between one and five individuals.
65 in Dagang on the 23/10/2008. About 60 of these were at Beidagang.
8 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 25/10/2008.

2010

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

GREY-CAPPED GREENFINCH *Carduelis sinica*

2000

1 flew south over the Hai Fang Gong Lu coast road about 2 kms south of Tanggu, on the 20/10/2000.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

[2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1?)

1 bird, possibly this species, was heard over the Nanjiang Da Qiao settling tank.]

2007

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

COMMON REDPOLL

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 3 were seen at Qilihai in Ninghe, Tianjin on 8 March 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

2001

1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

EURASIAN SISKIN *Carduelis spinus*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: One at the outskirts of the city on 7 May [2004][Yliang]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2001

2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2003

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2008

2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.

1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

4 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

COMMON ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 2 were seen at orchard near airport in the east outskirt of Tianjin on 9 October 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

2001

1 at Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 was heard at the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 29/8/2002.

4 were heard on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 17/9/2002.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 2 9)

1 or 2 birds were noted on 9 widely scattered dates 4/9 – 7/10/2004. All encounters were with flying over, actively migrating individuals.

2005

Tianjin

(2/11 4 5)

1 was heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

4 birds flew south near Tanggu during the 30/8/2005.

2006

5 singles flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

1 at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on the 6/9/2006.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

1 flew south over Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/9/2006.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2006.
1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
1 flew south at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
2 flew south at Beidagang, Dagang on 10/10/2007.

2008

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.
2 singles flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
2 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 29/8/2008.
1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
4 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(3/28 2 5)

2 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
1 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.

CHINESE BEAUTIFUL ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus davidianus*

PALLAS'S ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus roseus*

RED CROSSBILL *Loxia curvirostra*

HAWFINCH *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

YELLOW-BILLED GROSBEAK *Eophona migratoria*

2002

1 near the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

PINE BUNTING *Emberiza leucocephala*

Reports from others -

Tianjin: Five along the Hangu coast on 13 March [2004][LJY]. (China Bird Report 2004).

2004 - autumn

(1/22 2 2)

2 singles flew south on the 6/10/2004 – the first bird flew over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks & the other over the Lu Ju He Fishponds.

2006

1 near Jing Qu, Dagang on the 4/10/2006.
1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.

2007

9 flew west at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.
2 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 with singles at Beidagang, Dagang & at Jing Qu, Dagang.
4 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – 2 at Beidagang, Dagang & 2 more at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

2008

2 flew northwest at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
3 flew south over Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
2 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 17/10/2008.
4 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

GODLEWSKI'S BUNTING *Emberiza godlewskii*

MEADOW BUNTING *Emberiza cioides*

2003

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

2 heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2006

2 singing birds were heard at Beidagang on the 27/7/2006.

2007

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

2009

(1/28 1 1)

1 singing male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 16/7/2009.

TRISTRAM'S BUNTING *Emberiza tristrami*

2008

2 with numerous other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

CHESTNUT-EARED BUNTING *Emberiza fucata*

2004 - autumn

(1/22 1 1)

1 at Beidagang on the 26/9/2004 was the only sighting.

2006

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

1 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang on the 2/10/2007.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.

1 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

1 near the Yongding Xin He, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.

LITTLE BUNTING *Emberiza pusilla*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 500 were seen at Qilihai, Ninghe, Tianjin on 25 March 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Tianjin: 100 at Dahuangbao Reserve on 26 March [2005][YY]; one at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 21 May [2005][CJZ].

(Both reports from China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 80 at Beidagang Reservoir on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu *et al.*]. (China Bird Report 2006).

2000

10 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

10 at Yuqiao Reservoir on the 5/11/2001.

1 flew south in Tanggu on the 7/11/2001.

1 flew south in Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

60 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.

4 seen south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004..

2 south of Tanggu on the 3/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(6/22 4 10)

A surprisingly poor showing with 1-4 birds being noted on only six dates 18/9 – 6/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 30 30)

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/3/2006.
5 on the 18/3/2006 – 1 at Hangu & 4 at Beidagang, Dagang.
4 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
2 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.
3 near the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 8/10/2006.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.
4 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 2/10/2007.
6 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
2 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
15 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
15 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 - 8 at Beidagang, Dagang & 7 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 near the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.
4 in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 26/9/2008.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/9/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 29/9/2008.
45 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these (40 birds) were with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
3 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
3 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
1 near Lujuhe, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
3 around the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
3 singles in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
1 at Gaoshaling near Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 18/10/2008.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
5 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
1 at Haibin Yuchang on the 24/10/2008.
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(5/28 3 8)

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/7/2009.
3 in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.
1 at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 13/9/2009.
In addition 1 bird, possibly this species, was heard over the complex of pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 19/7/2009.

2010

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
2 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 23/9/2010.

YELLOW-BROWED BUNTING *Emberiza chrysophrys*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: The earliest record in autumn was from **Tianjin:** One on the Hangu coast on 10 September [2004][WQ in the China Bird Report 2004].

2008

1 with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

2010

1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

RUSTIC BUNTING *Emberiza rustica*

2001

2 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001.

2003

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2008

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

2 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

YELLOW-THROATED BUNTING *Emberiza elegans*

2008

2 with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

4 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 22/10/2008.

YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING *Emberiza aureola*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: One on the Hangu coast on 22 August [2004][LY in the China Bird Report 2004].

Tianjin: Three at the seashore of Tanggu on 23 Sept. [2006][LHT]. (China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One near Beitang on 8 September [2007][LJ]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2004 - autumn

(8/22 2 11)

1 or 2 birds were noted on eight dates 5/9 – 3/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 1 1)

1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 29/8/2005.

2006

1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

2008

3 at Jingqu, Dagang on 29/8/2008.

1 in waste ground immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 4/9/2008.

2 with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.

2009

(1/28 2 2)

2, including an adult male, besides the pools between Lujuhe & Haibin Yuchang on the 22/7/2009. Other than White-cheeked Starling these were the first passerine migrants that I'd seen in coastal Tianjin this autumn.

2010

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 29/8/2010.

CHESTNUT BUNTING

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 9 at the Orchid Garden of East Surbub Airport of Tianjin on 30 August; 1 female here again on 9 October 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

2008

1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/9/2008.

BLACK-FACED BUNTING *Emberiza spodocephala*

2000

6 near the Dong Qilihai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

2 at Tanggu on the 5/9/2001.

2 at Tanggu on the 6/9/2001.

2002

1 on the Tianjin Port Settling Tanks on the 30/8/2002.

2004 - spring

1 heard south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(11/22 4 21)

1-4 birds were noted on 11 dates 5/9 – 7/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 2 2)

2 singles were heard over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre settling tanks on the 28/8/2005.

2006

2 singles flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

2 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

2 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.
6 near Tanggu on the 4/10/2006.
2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.
5 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2006.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

9 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2007 - 7 on the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu; 1 on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu & 1 near the roadside pool immediately south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang.
2 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 3/10/2007.
1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 4/10/2007.
5 flew north over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.
3 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.
35 in coastal Tianjin on the 8/10/2007 - these included about 30 at Beidagang, Dagang.
5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2007.
21 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 - 15 at Beidagang, Dagang; 5 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.
4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/10/2007.

2008

1 male at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008. Probably one of the northernmost records in China this winter.
2 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 2/5/2008.
1 near the pool immediately south of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 29/8/2008.
1 besides the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 26/9/2008.
3 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.
1 flew south in the Tanggu-Hangu area on the 28/9/2008.
35 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008. The vast majority of these were with other buntings on the edge of some small cotton fields near the Huang Gang Er Ku Reservoir, Tanggu on the 30/9/2008.
38 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.
10 in coastal Tianjin on the 2/10/2008.
8 near Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 11/10/2008.
4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.
2 in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 19/10/2008.
2 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
3 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 22/10/2008.
1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2009

(4/28 2 6)
2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 6/5/2009.
2 were heard at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 7/5/2009.
1 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.
1 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 12/9/2009.

2010

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.
1 besides the pools north of Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 24/9/2010.

PALLAS'S BUNTING *Emberiza pallasii*

Reported by others -

Tianjin: 18 at Qililai of Ninghe, Tianjin on 18 March, 30 at Tuanbowa of Jinghai, Tianjin on 16 November & 50 at Beidagang Reservoir of Tianjin on 6 December 2003. (China Bird Report 2003).

Anderson (2003): 50+ at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: 30 along the coast of Tanggu on 21 February [2004][WQ in the China Bird Report 2004].

Tianjin: Ten at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 23 December [2005][LY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: 80 at Beidagang Reservoir on 8 and 9 Jan. [2006][DLu *et al.*] and 30 there on 1 Mar. [2006][LY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006)

2000

6 near the Dong Qililai Shuikou, northwest of Tanggu, on the 21/10/2000.

2001

6 at Liu Xiang Ying, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001.
1 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.
15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.
40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.
50 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

4 & 300 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively. This was by far the commonest & most conspicuous bird there on the second visit.

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 26/1/2004.
Singles were heard at Beidagang on the 19th & at Lu Ju He on the 25/9/2004.

2005

(1/11 15 15)

15 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2006

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/3/2006.

1 flew south over Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 5/9/2006. The first of the autumn.

3 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on 5/10/2006.

4 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 7/10/2006.

8 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 9/10/2006.

2007

4 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 1/5/2007.

1 near the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 6/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 7/10/2007.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

3 in coastal Tianjin on the 9/10/2007 – 2 at Beidagang, Dagang & 1 at Jing Qu, Dagang.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 10/10/2007 – singles at Beidagang, Dagang & at Yuren Matou, Tanggu.

2008

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

110 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. A significantly higher count than yesterday – not only because I explored further afield but there were simply more Pallas's Buntings today (and slightly fewer Reed Buntings).

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

10 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

320 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. The second commonest passerine here today & most of these flew northwest.

3 in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.

1 at Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 17/10/2008.

3 singles flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.

2 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

2010

2 separate singing males at Beidagang, Dagang on the 24/4/2010.

REED BUNTING *Emberiza schoeniclus*

Reported by others -

Anderson (2003): One at Beidagang, Dagang on 6/12/2003.

Tianjin: 50 at Dahuangbao NR on 26 March [2005][YY]. (China Bird Report 2005).

Tianjin: One at Hangu on 15 Apr. [2006][ZL]; one at Dahuangbao NR, Wuqing on 31 Oct. [2006][ZY]. (Both reports from China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One or two at Beidagang Reservoir, Dagang on 17 March [2007][ZL]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

1 heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3/1/2003.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 30/11/2003.

2004

1 heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004.

2007

1 at Jing Qu, Dagang on the 8/10/2007.

2 at Yuren Matou, Tanggu on the 10/10/2007.

2008

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008. Again Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is probably at or very close to the northern limit of this species' winter range.

30 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008.

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

20 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

1 in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.

OCHRE-RUMPED BUNTING *Emberiza yessoensis*

Reports by others -

Tianjin: Singles respectively at Beidagang Reservoir on 8 Jan. [2006][DLu et al.] and 1 Mar. [2006][LY]; one at Nandagang on 2 Apr. [2006][TZ]; one at Hangu on 15 Apr. [2006][ZL]. (All reports in China Bird Report 2006).

Tianjin: One at Beidagang, Dagang on 17 March [2007][ZL]; four or five at Beidagang Reservoir on 18 March [2007][BA]. (China Bird Report 2007).

2002

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

2004

2 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2004 – 1 seen & the other only heard.

2008

6 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Again Beidagang, coastal Tianjin is probably at or very close to the northern limit of this species' winter range.

3 singles at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008.

1 at Jingqu, Dagang on the 24/10/2008.

LAPLAND BUNTING *Emberiza lapponicus*

Tianjin: 50 on the outskirts of Tianjin on 28 October [2004][Yliang in the China Bird Report 2004].

2001

1 flew over San Jia Dian, Yuqiao Reservoir, on the 5/11/2001.

2 flew south over the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre, Tanggu on the 8/11/2001.

2002

25 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2002.

5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 23/12/2002.

2003

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 4/1/2003.

4 at Beidagang, Dagang singles on the 30/11/2003.

2004

2 & 5 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 3rd & 4/1/2004 respectively – all were single fly-overs.

2005

(1/11 7 7)

7 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 22/12/2005.

2008

55 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 17/1/2008.

280 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 18/1/2008. Most of these birds were in two flocks – one that I estimated contained about 40 birds & the other a massive 230!

40 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 19/1/2008.

1 was heard at Beidagang, Dagang on the 10/3/2008.

90 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 11/3/2008. The third commonest passerine here today all were in small parties of between one and 12 birds & all were actively migrating northwest.

1 at Beidagang, Dagang on the 25/10/2008.

bunting sp.

2004 - spring

At least 100 north bound coastal migrants were noted south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004.

2004 - autumn

(14/22 40 236)

The vast majority (83%) of buntings were not identified to species with 2-40 unspecified buntings being noted almost daily from the 18/9 – 8/10/2004.

2005

(1/11 5 5)

5 birds flew south near Tanggu during the 30/8/2005.

2006

3 singles flew south in the Tanggu-the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu area on the 29/8/2006.

2 singles flew south over the roadside pool south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu on the 30/8/2006.

10 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 31/8/2006.

10 between Tanggu & Dagang on the 1/9/2006.

10 in the Tanggu-Dagang area on the 5/9/2006.

8 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pools, Hangu on the 7/9/2006.

2007

5 in Changhong Park, Tianjin city on the 11/10/2007.

2008

20 flew over the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 3/5/2008.

1 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/8/2008.

6 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 28/8/2008.

2 flew south at Caihongqiao, Hangu on the 30/8/2008.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 31/8/2008.

1 flew south over the Caihongqiao Pool, Hangu on the 2/9/2008.

6 flew southwest over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 7/9/2008.

5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 27/9/2008.

20 in the Tanggu-Hangu areas on the 30/9/2008.

10 flew over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 1/10/2008.

15 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 10/10/2008.
10 flew south in coastal Hangu-Tanggu on the 11/10/2008.
5 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 12/10/2008.
10 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 17/10/2008.
5 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 18/10/2008.
4 flew south over the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools, Tanggu on the 20/10/2008.
15 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 22/10/2008.
5 flew south at Jingqu, Dagang on the 23/10/2008.
1 flew south in coastal Tianjin on the 24/10/2008.

2009

(1/28 6 6)

6 flew south in coastal Tanggu on the 10/9/2009.

Mammals

Eurasian Badger

2004

1 road killed badger sp., possibly this species, was on the main coast road adjacent to Tanggu airport south of Tanggu on the 2/5/2004. (Photo)

Cape Hare

(1/22 1 1)

1 at Beidagang on the 25/9/2004.

Siberian Weasel

(2/22 2 3)

1 weasel sp., probably this species, was seen at Beidagang on the 25th & 2 weasels, again probably this species, were seen there the following day, the 26/9/2004.

bat sp

(3/22 105+)

'Present' but not counted near Tanggu town on the 3/10. During the early evening of the 4/10 75 bats were counted, on the right side of the vehicle only, on the drive between the southern end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao & edge of Tanggu town. At least two different species were seen – the vast majority were small pipistrelle-sized bats but 2 large ones were also seen. Note that large (& probably similar?) numbers of bats had been noted every other rainless night that we drove back to the hotel late – but today was the first time that I'd counted them. 30 more were between the Nanjiang Da Qiao & Tanggu town centre the following evening, the 5/10/2004.

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LEG FLAGGED SHOREBIRDS IN COASTAL TIANJIN

On behalf of the Australasian Wader Studies Group, Clive Minton (AWGS, c/o Clive Minton, 165 Dalgetty Rd., Beaumaris, VIC 3193, Australia. (Phone/Fax: 61 3 9589 4901. Email: mintons@ozemail.com.au) supplied the following details on my leg flag sightings.

Orange leg flagged birds were flagged in Victoria (Australia), approximate co-ordinates 38deg 0min S, 145deg 0min E, sometime since January 1990.

The Tanggu Harbor Industrial Park pools are approximately 9001 km with a bearing of 339 degrees, from the marking location in Victoria while Hangu is 9016 km on this same bearing.

Yellow leg flagged birds were flagged in North-west Australia, approximate co-ordinates 19deg 0min S, 122deg 0min E, which uses the flag combination Yellow, sometime since August 1992.

The Tanggu Harbor Industrial Park pools are approximately 6478 km, with a bearing of 356 degrees, from the marking location in North-west Australia while Hangu is 6493 kms on this same bearing.

Yellow over orange leg flagged birds e.g. Red-necked Stint at Hangu on 28 July 2006 was flagged in Southwest Australia, approximate co-ordinates 31deg 59min S, 115deg 49min E, sometime since December 1999.

The Tanggu Harbor Industrial Park pools are approximately 7895 kms with a bearing of 2 degrees from the marking location in Southwest Australia while Hangu is approximately 7910 km.

Black over white leg flagged bird e.g. the Red-necked Stint at the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools on the 26 July 2006 was flagged at Chongming Dao, Shanghai, China, approximate co-ordinates 31deg 27min N, 121deg 55min E, since April 2006.

The Tanggu Harbor Industrial Park pools are approximately 918 km, with a bearing of 337 degrees, from the marking location at Chongming Dao.

Red-necked Stint

Leg flagged birds were noted at two sites in Tianjin municipality, N. China in late July 2006. All of the birds I saw (flagged or not) during these four days were adults.

The following birds were noted at Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North China (39° 05.1' N., 117° 45.1' E)

5 out of 3000 birds on the 25/7/2006 had orange leg flags.

6 out of 3550 birds on the 26/7/2006 had flags- 5 had orange, one yellow

7 out of 1500 birds on the 28/7/2006 had flags - 6 had orange & one had yellow over orange

The following birds were noted on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.)

6 out of 1000 birds on the 26/7/2006 had leg flags. - four had orange, one yellow & a single bird had black over white

1 out of 350 on the 27/6/2006 had an orange flag

The following birds were noted on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools south of Tanggu, coastal Tianjin, North China (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.)

7 of 1200 birds on the 29/8/2006 had leg flags - six of these had orange flags while the seventh bird had a yellow flag on its right leg & a green one on its left. A sample count of 216 birds at this same site produced 15 juveniles (7%) & 201 adults (93%).

3 out of 2500 birds on the 30/8/2006 had orange leg flags. A sample count of 415 birds at this same site produced 18 juveniles (4%) & 397 adults (96%).

2 out of 340 birds on the 4/9/2006 had yellow leg flags. A sample count of 108 birds yielded 67 juveniles (62%) & 41 adults (38%). This was the first time this autumn that juveniles had out-numbers adults.

The following birds were noted on the inter-tidal mudflats at Jing Qu, Dagang, Tianjin, North China. (38°40.0'N., 117°34.1'E.).

1 out of 800 birds on the 8/9/2006 had an orange flag. A sample count of 421 birds produced 372 juveniles (88%) & 49 adults (12%).

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper

The following birds were noted at Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North China (39° 05.1' N., 117° 45.1' E)

1 out of 958 birds on the 31/8/2006 had a yellow leg flag. A sample count of 63 birds produced 51 adults (81%) & 12 juveniles (19%).

Curlew Sandpiper

2 out of 384 birds (all adults) at Hangu, coastal Tianjin, North China (39° 05.1' N., 117° 45.1' E) on the 26/7/2006 had leg flags. One had an orange flag, the other yellow.

Great Knot

One in flock of 417 near Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.) on the 26/7/2006 had a yellow flag.

Black-tailed Gull

One apparent second summer (third calendar year) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.) on the 26/7/2006 (a day when a record 1572 birds were counted in the area) had an orange band on its right leg.

I noticed in China Bird Watch:48 April 2006 that two colour-ringed birds were noted by Zhang Xixian in Shandong in March 2006. A bird with a white band was seen at Changdao, Shandong on the 10 March & a bird with a red band in Laizhou, Shandong on 20 March.

Relict Gull

Six leg-flagged or banded birds were noted at Jing Qu, Dagang, Tianjin, North China (38°41.86'N., 117°34.83'E.) on the 26/7/2006. The four combinations were as follows – one bird had a yellow band on its left leg; one bird had a yellow band on its left and a red flag on its right leg; one bird had a red flag on its right leg; 3 birds had aluminium bands on their right legs.

Site co-ordinates

Caihongqiao/Qing Tuozi, Hangu county, . (39° 05.1' N., 117° 45.1' E)

Tanggu town centre.

Settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. (38° 58.6' N., 117° 43.0' E.).

Bei Tang Reservoir, Tanggu county, . (39°06.7'N., 117°39.5'E.) 0 metres asl.

Entrance to the settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. The 'Blue House' – Lan Fangzi. (38° 57.4' N., 117° 42.5' E.).

Settling tanks/impounds near the Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Handling Centre. (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.).
The site is 7.5 kms south-east of Tanggu town centre.

Small bridge over a channel on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats 1 km north of Tianjin Airport. (38° 54.2' N., 117° 40.0' E.).

This site is 11.4 kms almost directly due south (186°) of Tanggu town centre; 2.33 kms north-east (221°) of Lu Ju He; 7.02 kms south-west (232°) of the 'Blue House' (Lan Fangzi) & 11.4 kms almost directly due south (184°) of Tanggu town centre.

Seawall immediately east of the uncompleted JinJin Expressway. (38° 55.4' N., 117° 40.1' E.).

This site is 0.41 kms north-east (48°) of the previous site (the small bridge & river channel); 1.17 kms north-east (47°) of Tanggu airport; 2.75 kms north-east (31°) of Lu Ju He & 11.1 kms almost directly due south (185°) of Tanggu town centre.

Seawall immediately east of Tanggu airport. (38° 53.9' N., 117° 39.7' E.).

This site is 1.57 kms north-east (51°) of Lu Ju He; 7.78 kms south-west (232°) of the 'Blue House' (Lan Fangzi) & 12.0 kms almost directly due south (188°) of Tanggu town centre.

Lu Ju He – the scenic tourist spot with the donkey statue. (38° 53.2' N., 117° 39.0' E.).

This site is 13.4 kms almost directly due south (191°) of Tanggu town centre. Its also 2.29 kms in a direct line from here to the previous site (the small bridge on the edge of the inter-tidal mudflats 1 km north of Tianjin Airport).

Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.)

Easternmost 'gull pool' on the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.).
About 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself.

Second stop at the complex of roadside pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.).
This site is adjacent to a couple of small oil derricks at Km 8.

Inter-tidal mudflats about 5 kms south of Tianjin Haibin Yuchang. (38° 48.8' N., 117° 35.8' E.).

This site is 22.3 kms almost directly due south (202°) of Tanggu town centre & 9.05 kms south-west (216°) of Lu Ju He.

Yuren Matou/Du Liu Jian Hekou. (38°46.4'N., 117°35.5'E.)

Beidagang, Dagang. (38° 44.9' N., 117° 28.6' E.).

This land mark (about 200 metres inside the entrance gate) is 33 kms south-west (216°) of Tanggu town centre.

Tian Ma Cai Chuan Chang. (39° 05.1' N., 117° 43.8' E.).

Cheng Tou Gu. (39° 08.6' N., 117° 47.3' E.).

Cai Jia Pu. (39° 10.5' N., 117° 50.2' E.).

Jing Qu inter-tidal mudflats south of the pumping station at the mouth of the Du Liu Jian River (38°41.9'N., 117°34.8'E.)

From here it is
16 kilometres north to Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
35.1 kilometres @ 117° to Tanggu town centre, Tianjin.
76.2 kilometres @ 241° to Cangzhou town centre, Hebei.

Settling tank at the north-western end of the Nanjiang Da Qiao. (38° 58.6' N., 117° 43.0' E.).

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LEG FLAGGED BIRDS IN COASTAL TIANJIN

Numerous leg flagged shorebirds were noted in coastal Tianjin and a couple species of leg flagged gull -

Black-tailed Gull

One apparent second summer (third calendar year) on the Tianjin Harbor Industrial Park pools south of Tanggu, Tianjin, North China (38° 57.6' N., 117° 43.7' E.) on the 26/7/2006 (a day when a record 1572 birds were counted in the area) had an orange band on its right leg.

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Easternmost 'gull pool' on the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.).
About 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself.

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16 kilometres north to Tianjin Haibin Yuchang, Tanggu.
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Tianjin Haibin Yuchang (38° 52.1' N., 117° 38.1' E.)

Easternmost 'gull pool' on the Bei Wei Ti Lu between Gaoshaling & Shang Gu Lin. (38° 50.9' N., 117° 36.6' E.).

About 1 km inland of Haibin Yuchang & a similar distance east of Gaoshaling itself.

Second stop at the complex of roadside pools between Shang Gu Lin & Gaoshaling. (38° 50.6' N., 117° 34.6' E.).

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Cheng Tou Gu. (39° 08.6' N., 117° 47.3' E.).

Cai Jia Pu. (39° 10.5' N., 117° 50.2' E.).

Tianjin Bulk Cargo Logistics Centre 38 ° 56.37' N., 117° 42.17' E.
(7.67 kms Sse of Tanggu)

Lu Ju He 38 ° 53.12' N., 117° 39.02' E.
(13.3 kms south of Tanggu)

Saunders's Gull site 38 ° 48.55' N., 117° 35.52' E.
(22-26 kms Ssw of Tanggu, 9 kms Sse of Lu Ju He)

Sites in Tianjin municipality

Yu Qiao reservoir dam, Jixian 40 ° 02.20' N., 117° 26.46' E. 21 m

San Jia Dian. 40 ° 03.17' N., 117° 28.23' E.
(Yu Qiao reservoir)

Liu Xiang Ying. 40 ° 03.44' N., 117° 32.29' E.
(Yu Qiao reservoir)

Wu Bai Hu.
(Yu Qiao reservoir)

40 ° 00.13' N., 117° 34.48' E.

Descriptions

Long-billed Dowitcher *Limnodramus scolopaceus* at Caihongqiao, Hangu on 30 & 31 August 2008.

Found & identified by Paul I. Holt on the first date. Seen by Chen Liang, Wang Qing & three other Beijing birders on the second date. Photographed (or rather digi-scoped) on both dates by PIH who has over forty recognisable images of the bird showing a variety of identification features.

Found at 06:15hrs on the first date & watched, on & off, for about one hour until I left the site at 09:20hrs. I watched it again for over one hour the following day. It was again first seen at about 06:15hrs on this second date & was still present when I, and most other observers, left the site shortly after 10:00hrs.

Mostly viewed at a range of between about 60-70 metres & almost exclusively using my tripod mounted telescope on magnifications of 30-60x. It was seen in flight three times but each time for no more than ten seconds or so.

There were over 1000 other shorebirds of a variety of species present on the same pool for comparison. On the second date these were –

'Eastern' Black-tailed Godwit	73 (71 adults & two juveniles)
Whimbrel	2
Spotted Redshank	65
Marsh Sandpiper	210
Wood Sandpiper	20
Long-billed Dowitcher	
Asian Dowitcher	23 (12 adults & 11 juveniles)
Great Knot	2 juveniles
Red-necked Stint	2
Temminck's Stint	195
Long-toed Stint	4
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	610
Curlew Sandpiper	1 adult
Broad-billed Sandpiper	1
Black-winged Stilt	140
Pied Avocet	40

This is a species I'm familiar with having seen many hundreds in North America, three vagrants in the UK, three other birds in mainland China (two together at Qilihai, Changli, Hebei & single bird at Koko Nur, Qinghai). I was also fortunate enough to identify a well seen bird at Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Bharatpur, Rajasthan that was the first for India.

I am also familiar with the two primary confusion species - Asian & particularly Short-billed Dowitcher.

Identification & structure

A distinctive, dark brownish-grey, compact, rather uniformly plumaged snipe-like shorebird. It was clearly significantly smaller than the neighbouring Asian Dowitchers – perhaps being only about two-thirds of their size and appearing close in body bulk to the Spotted Redshank also present (but with significantly shorter legs). It was dwarfed by the *melanuroides* Black-tailed Godwits also present appearing much darker, dirtier browner-grey than any of them.

The bird's Snipe-like jizz was distinctive (as a Nearctic dowitcher) appearing heavy, squat and thick-set with a hump-shouldered, flat backed, particularly deep chest, short stout necked relatively small headed long-billed shorebird. The bird had a typical dowitcher lengthy back-sloping forehead profile & there was a slightly bulging vent & with a peculiar truncated-looking rear end with short wings and tail.

Plumage

The overall impression was of an unremarkably patterned, even dowdy bird that was rather uniformly dark brownish-grey above and on the breast, faintly vertically barred brown on the flanks, paler bellied and with a white vent that was barred blackish posteriorly this breaking down in to spotting on the undertail coverts. The upperpart feathers were quite uniform – their fringes not being very much paler than the feather centres & hence any hint of a scaly appearance was muted. It had buffish-white supraloral supercilia that contrasted well with a blackish loreal stripe that tapered, Common Snipe-like, from the eye to the base of the bill. The supercilia faded out within one-eye's width of the rear of the eye itself. In all the upperpart hue was similar to that of a Temminck's Stint. Some of the larger, lower scapulars and greater coverts did have darker feather centres and paler brown fringes tending to create a slight scaly pattern but this wasn't eye-catching.

The crown was just very slightly darker than the neck and upperparts.

The flanks, and especially the fore-flanks, were similar to but very slightly paler than the dull, dark brownish-grey breast. There were about eight rows of vertical wavy barring down the flanks that became more prominent (broadening & darkening over a white background) towards the bird's vent. The undertail coverts appeared spotted dark brown (or even blackish).

The tail was copiously cross-banded with black & white the relative proportions of which were probably equal but in all honesty this was difficult to discern. In flight the bird's Spotted Redshank-like white 'V' up the centre of its back contrasted markedly with its dark wings & also with its dark-looking tail. The toes protruded very, very slightly beyond the tip of the tail in flight & the bird appeared significantly darker & dingier than any of the Spotted Redshanks present. There was an almost imperceptible very narrow whitish trailing edge to the inner primaries and secondaries – in the fleeting impressions I had of this feature it was more noticeable on the underwing (this was subsequently confirmed in my photographs).

The underwing coverts and axillaries (visible in flight and when the bird occasionally raised its wings to stretch or preen) were very heavily & apparently uniformly barred

Bare parts

The legs were a dull yellowish-olive & similar to those of both Marsh & Sharp-tailed Sandpipers but more yellowish, less olive than both these species. The blunt-tipped bill was stout and approximately 2.5 to three times the length of the head. The distal third drooped very slightly – though this was never obvious. The bill appeared entirely dark to me though some observers, including Chen Liang, reported a palish base.

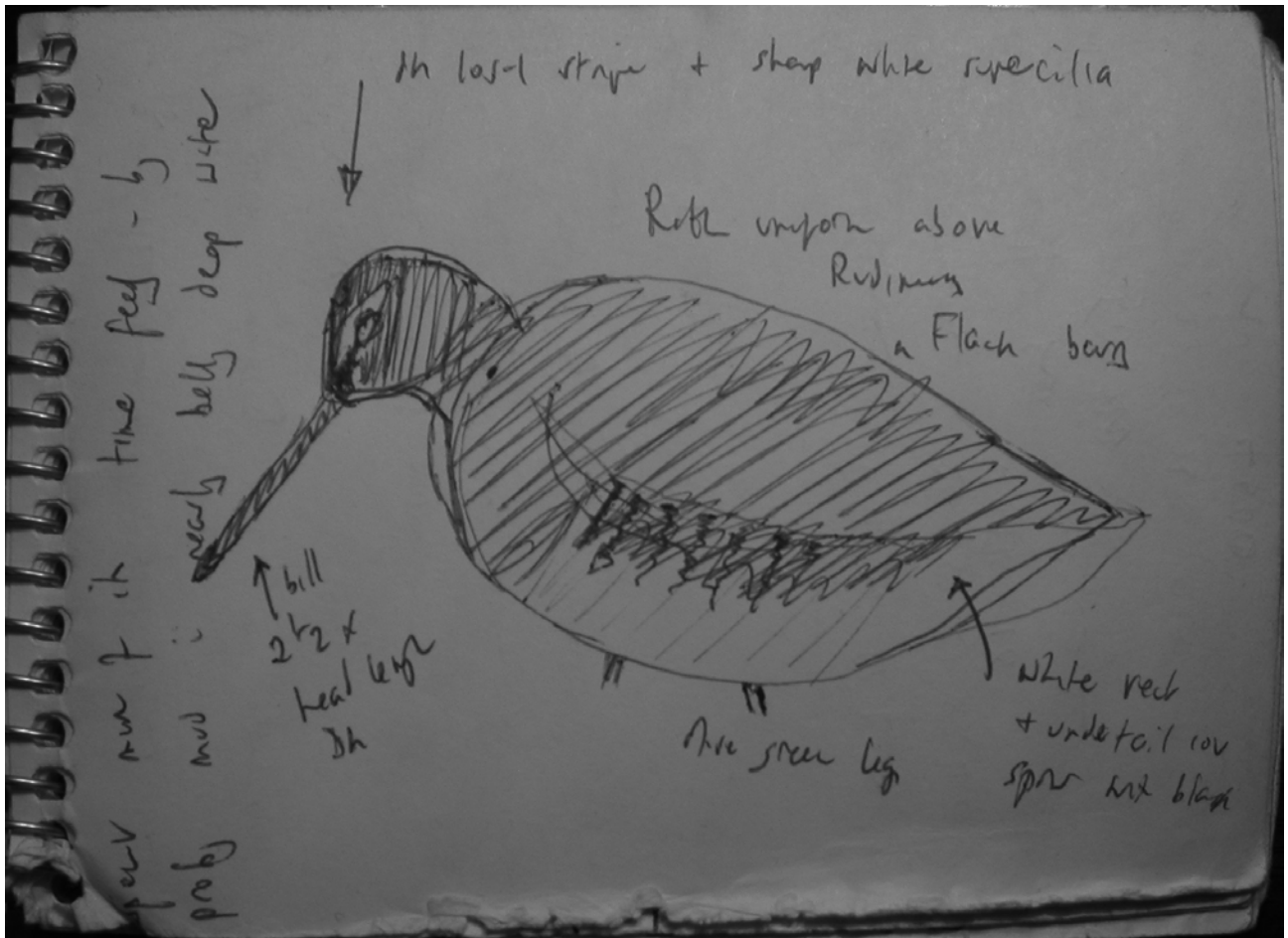
Feeding action

It spent much of its time probing mud in near belly deep water. At times a relatively slow, methodical feeder – never ran around in the almost hysterical fashion that many of the neighbouring Marsh Sandpipers did.

Sadly it remained silent throughout the observation – even when spooked or flushed but Black-tailed Gulls.

I remain 100% confident of the bird's identification.





Juvenile Little Stint *Calidris minuta* on the Tianjin Harbour Pools on the 29 August 2008.

Found & identified by Paul I. Holt but not seen by any other observer

Photographed, or rather digi-scoped, by PIH who has a massive 146 recognisable images of the bird showing a variety of identification features.

The initial impression of an incredibly bright rufous-chestnut stint grabbed my attention & I went on to check a number of other features. In no particular order they are -

1. The entirely black centred upper three & lower two rows of scapulars lacking any internal anchor markings, shaft streaks or chevrons.
2. Very prominent mantle & scapular 'V's or braces. The lower 'V' was formed by prominent whitish fringes to the lower web of the upper row of lower scapulars. The upper webs of these same feathers were all extremely narrow and chestnut. The mantle 'V', and to a lesser extent, the scapular 'V' was very obvious when the bird was walking head on or when crouched.
3. The smaller wing coverts (usually obscured by the drooping lower scapulars) were all obviously chestnut fringed.
4. Prominent whitish split-supercilium.
5. Rufous or tawny wash to breast sides.
6. Structural differences included -
 - a. Finer tipped bill with slight arch to the lower mandible & entirely lacking an hint of a bulbous or swollen tip.
 - b. Proportionately longer & subtly slimmer, legs.
 - c. Shorter tail – the folded primaries fell level with the tail tip while on all the juvenile Red-necked Stints I looked at the tail extended very slightly beyond the wing tip.







Adult Chinese Crested Tern *Sterna bernsteini* on the Tianjin Harbour Pools on the 5 September 2008.

Found & identified by Paul I. Holt but not seen by any other observer, except Mr Chen my taxi driver!

I spent much of late August & early September 2008 birding at the Tianjin Harbour Industrial Park Pools (Lin Gang Gong Yie Qu)(38°55.97'N., 117°46.92'E.), a massive reclamation project at the southern side of the mouth of the Haihe river and 15 kilometres southeast of Tanggu town centre in coastal Tianjin, Ne China. At about 13:00hrs on the 5 September I heard an unusual call and, recognising it as that of a large *sterna* tern, I hurriedly looked in its direction and was stunned when I saw the culprit, an adult Chinese Crested Tern *S. bernsteini*, resting about 60 metres offshore!

The tern remained in the area for the next two hours spending its time loafing on a series of floating iron pipes out in the deeper water harbour in the centre of the reclamation project. It flew short distances a couple of times and loosely associated with a party of Black-headed Gulls *Larus ridibundus* and the occasional Common *S. hirundo* and White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*. Using a tripod mounted telescope on magnifications of up to 60x I had lengthy, decent looks at the bird which was typically about 120 metres distant (never again after the initial brief view was it as close as 60 metres). During this time I was able to take a large number of, mostly poor but identifiable, digiscoped images, some field notes and a sketch.

Unfortunately at 14:55hrs, 15 minutes before the first person to twitch it arrived, it took flight more purposefully and headed off high to the southwest & it was never seen again...

Size & structure

A mid-sized tern it was clearly much larger than the Common Tern that once sat near it and more closely resembled the neighbouring Black-headed Gulls in size. It had a long and slender, slightly decurved and dramatically patterned bill with the tiniest, almost imperceptible gonydeal angle. There was a subtly bulging vent & difficult to see forked tail.

Bare parts.

Dull black legs – the bird's left leg and foot were slightly withered.

Dark eye.

The bird's most eye-catching feature was its dramatically patterned, lengthy bill. The latter was judged in the field to be about as long as the length of the bird's head minus its wispy crest or about three times the loral distance. The distal two-thirds were yellow and the tip, starting from the very shallow gonys, was black. The border between the two was slightly diffuse and the extreme tip of the bill had a tiny, but remarkably obvious, white tip.

Plumage.

Head

The forehead and crown were white but, when viewed head-on, the latter could be seen to be lightly flecked, or peppered, blackish. The dark eye appeared isolated on a rather white face except that there was a narrow blackish crescent in front of, but not abutting, the eye. This crescent wasn't obvious but served to make the narrow, and what would otherwise have been imperceptible, white eye-crescents noticeable. The head's most obvious feature was the prominent, sharply defined, wispy black crest. At times the rear crown feathers appeared glossy, at others they didn't and very occasionally some of these feathers had a brownish hue. Some of the lanceolate nape feathers extended beyond the rear of the bird's head by a distance at least as large as the length of the black bill tip. The leading edge of the black nape was particularly sharply demarcated. The shape of the bird's crest, whether sticking out horizontally at the rear or drooping down varied and probably depended on its posture and/or mood.

Upperparts

Uniform pale greyish with a faint bluish hue. The folded wing coverts were very slightly paler. It was difficult to be certain but the rump appeared concolourous with the upperparts while the tail was definitely white. The bird's tail was rarely visible and was never seen well. Appearing wholly white and quite deeply forked the distance between the short central feathers and the longest, wispy outer ones, was judged to be slight less than the length of the bird's bill. The central tail possibly fell adjacent to the tip of the bird's shortest visible primary (P4) while the longer, wispy outermost tail feathers fell about two thirds of the way down the bird's primary projection and level with the tip of P2.

Wings

Blackish hue or bloom to the outer four primaries. The tips of each of these four outer primaries were equally spaced & each had a prominent white shaft. All four of these primaries appeared browner & a trifle worn when viewed from below. The fifth primary was paler & cleaner grey than the rest of the upperparts & appeared as if it had possibly been recently renewed. The bird stretched as if to preen only a couple of times & I was unable to discern any suggestion of ongoing moult & it was only when the bird flew that I could see that its innermost primary was missing. Greyish tongues extended well up the outer web of P2

In one particularly brief view as the bird stretched I had the fleeting impression that its greater primary coverts had a slight brownish hue.

