

Beidaihe area, China: 2-8 Sep 2012.

An at-a-glance list of 143 species of birds recorded.

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

Based on my own field notes, this brief write-up covers the birds noted on a visit to Beidaihe, Hebei, China – the visit was inspired by two highly enjoyable visits in autumn 2011: a four-nights-away extension to the 2011 Oriental Bird Club Fundraiser to NE Tibet

(see http://www.netfugl.dk/trip_reports/asia/China_Beidaihe_Aug2011_JesperHornskov.pdf)

& a 'Pied Harrier Quest' over 12-19 Sep.

(see http://www.netfugl.dk/trip_reports/asia/China_Beidaihe_Sep2011_JesperHornskov.pdf)

Beidaihe - rediscovered in 1985 and almost instantly recognised as THE place to enjoy a superb range of E Asian migrants - had been receiving some poor reviews over the last 3-4 years. To those fortunate enough to have visited in the early days changes are undeniably depressing - the loss of boot-swallowing Radar Marsh, the building-up of both Study Gully & Legation Gully, housing developments between the Dai & Yang rivers...

But in 2011 some good news: the local mudflats had been fenced-off to create an 'Ecological Restoration Area', virtually eliminating disturbance! In terms of ease of access (<2 hours by train from Beijing, or 3 hours by car from Beijing airport) & opportunities to view waders, gulls and terns we were suddenly and unexpectedly back to World Class!

Nonetheless it speaks volumes about the pace of change in China that my wife & I found it prudent to do a recce to nearby Happy Island to assess the impact of 'development' work aimed at attracting non-birding day-trippers from nearby cities such as Beijing, Tianjin, Tangshan & Qinhuangdao.

I recorded 143 species of birds without any undue rushing about or efforts to maximize the daily species count, and despite losing a fair bit of birding time to rain. Everything – the ease of the birdwatching, the outstanding food, and extremely comfortable & convenient accommodations - came together to produce a pleasant & enjoyable short break. Unfortunately the NW wind needed to produce the hoped-for major passage of Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos* didn't materialize.

During autumns 1986-1990 Pied Harriers were recorded over 20 Aug - 22 Oct. Autumn 1986 yielded exceptional counts of 2,874 on 10th & 2,957 on 12 Sep (season total no less than 14,534 bird-days!) – the only subsequent four-digit count was 2,033 on 12 Sep 1988, essentially during 1.5 hours in the morning before the wind changed (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Well, I can always try again!

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Enquiries concerning future **Oriental Bird Club Fundraisers** - to Yunnan, following an updated itinerary, or NE Tibet (our near-annual trips have been very popular) - can be made to Michael Edgecombe, OBC's Promotion Officer, at [mail\(at\)orientalbirdclub.org](mailto:mail(at)orientalbirdclub.org) or directly to this author.

Species list:

In the species list the concept "**bird-days**" is used - it is the avian equivalent of man-hours, the day totals added up – it indicates relative abundance but does not consider the "problem" of lingering birds or, important in a non-scientific context such as a birding holiday abroad, how satisfying the encounters were. 25 bird-days for e.g. Spoon-billed Sandpiper could be one distant flock of migrating birds, gone in a flash, or one bird lingering for 25 days, offering the observers point-blank views anytime in that period...

Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*

Not systematically recorded – occasional ones seen most days...

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*

12 on 5th.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*

16 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Chinese Spotbill *Anas zonorhyncha*

14 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Garganey *Anas querquedula*

Four on 3rd.

*****Teal sp** *Anas crecca / formosa / querquedula*

Ten migr on 8th.

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*

Presumably the same individual on 6+8th.

***A singleton in female-type plumage recorded on 12+13+17+18 Sep 2011 (JH pers obs) was exceptionally early, the previous earliest autumn date being 12 Oct (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

19 at Happy Island on 4th.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*

34 bird-days. Noted on four dates – two on 3+7+8th, and 28 on 6th.

Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis*

One in a reedy ditch at the river S of Beidaihe on 6th.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*

25+ bird-days. Noted on four dates, incl on Happy Island on 4th.

Striated Heron *Butorides striata*

Presumably the same single juvenile present on both 4+5th.

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*

16 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*

73 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 51 on 5th, incl flocks of 16+24 birds arriving in off the sea.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*

Three on 3rd.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*

187+ bird-days. Noted daily – main event 35 on 5th.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*

605+ bird-days. Noted daily – main event 135 on 6th.

***It is a rather extreme example of how quickly a species' fortunes can change that there were no autumn records of this species prior to 1990 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000)!

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*

67 bird-days. Noted almost daily – main event a flock of 32 heading off S at 18h00 on 5th.

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*

Three bird-days. Noted only on 5+6th.

Amur Falcon *Falco amurensis*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event an adult male migr on the mainland near Happy Island on 4th.

Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo*

18 bird-days. Noted on five dates – two hunting in tandem on 3rd memorably failed to catch the bat.

Saker *Falco cherrug*

On 5th a 2nd+ c-y male swept Sandflats and started soaring, offering great views.

***Its 'outer tail feathers were growing so the tail looked shortish (& graduated): proportions more Peregrine *F. peregrinus*-like than is usual' for a Saker...

Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus*

Single birds on four dates.

***On 3rd an adult female arriving from S started quartering edges of Sandflats, flushing out waders.

Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos*

57 bird-days. Noted only on 4+5+6th – on 4th four juveniles migr at Sandflats, one adult male over the mainland near Happy Island & seven (incl three adult males) on Happy Island, on 5th nine migr at Sandflats (incl three adult males, an adult female & one juvenile together at 06h48), and on 6th 36 migr at Sandflats during 06h30-07h30 & one juvenile quartering along the river S of Beidaihe.

Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis*

16 bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event ten on Happy Island on 4th.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*

Two on Happy Island on 4th.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*

Seven on 6th.

Korean Oystercatcher *Haematopus osculans*[^]

One roosting on a sand bar at high tide on 4th, offering great views.

***^vide Inskipp *et al.* (2011) split from *H. ostralegus*. Although only *osculans* was listed for China by Cheng (1987) & Zheng *et al.* (2005) there can be little doubt that birds in Xinjiang (incl six at Ulungur Hu on 22 June 1995: JH per obs) are *longipes* of 'C USSR', wintering 'on the coast of Middle East, India & Sri Lanka' & 'occurs more rarely southwards to E Africa, but has reached S Africa': Hayman *et al.* (1986).

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*

110 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 47 on 5th.

Pied Avocet *Recurvirosta avocetta*

148 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus*

212 bird-days. Noted on 4+5+6th – main event 210 at Sandflats on 5th.

Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event a juvenile landing directly in front of us on 6th.

Grey Plover *Vanellus squatarola*

Six bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Long-billed Plover *Charadrius placidus*

One in flight along the river S of Beidaihe on 6th.

***Rarely recorded along the coast.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

32 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 21 (incl 19 migr) on 5th.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

87 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*

Seven bird-days. Noted on 2+3+5th.

Pintail Snipe *Gallinago stenura*

One in flight over the river S of Beidaihe on 6th.

Swinhoe's Snipe *Gallinago megala*

Two on 3rd.

***On the post-OBC Fundraiser in 2011 we totaled 33 bird-days, seeing this fairly hard-to-get-to-grips-with species on three dates – main event was 20 migr (incl no less than ten together at 09h05) on 31 Aug, and it was no understatement to note in the write-up that it is 'rarely recorded in such numbers'!

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 5 Sep – 6 Oct (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

30 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Eastern Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa melanuroides*

Two at Sandflats on 7th.

'Siberian Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa baueri*'

71 bird-days. Noted daily – main event 30 roosting on a sand bar at high tide on 4th, offering great views but looking rather drab next to the Korean Oystercatcher!

***^vide Inskipp *et al* (2011) split from 'Lapland' Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica*. Both Cheng (1987) & Zheng *et al.* (2005) lists only *baueri* from China. However, *lapponica* breeds E to the Taimyr peninsula and winters E to Red Sea, Persian Gulf, and coasts and islands of W Indian Ocean (BWP vol III, p476) and should be considered certainly in W China. NE Asian birds (*anadyrensis* vide Rasmussen & Anderton (2005)) differ from E-most 'Lapland' (separated as *taimyrensis* vide Rasmussen & Anderton (2005)) 'mainly in much darker (barred) axillaries and upper tail coverts': Rasmussen & Anderton (2005). In addition, back and upper rump dark brown, feathers tipped white; lower rump and upper tail coverts white, barred or spotted with black; under-wing coverts (and axillaries) brown with narrow white bars (BWP vol III, p481).

***N Moores (email 19 Sep 2012) commented: 'without additional details, I would assume that the Barwits you saw were *menzbieri* rather than *baueri*? While both subsp are known to be numerous on northward migration in the Yellow Sea, *baueri* undertakes the cross-Pacific route on southward migration. Therefore, while we do get very occasional *baueri* in autumn in the ROK (singletons that had overwintered in the Yellow Sea?) the vast majority are clearly *menzbieri*.

As *menzbieri* show much white on the uppertail covers and other differences from *baueri* (size, underwing barring, migration strategy, and some differences in range) they seem often to be considered to be part of "western" Bar-tailed Godwit (more or less inseparable from *taimyrensis*?), and *baueri* (if it is to be split) as monotypic. '

'Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*'

31 bird-days. Noted daily – the singleton on 2nd had a 'pure white mid-back wedge', eliminating (?) Siberian Whimbrel (see below).

***^vide Inskipp *et al* (2011) split into three species, incl Siberian Whimbrel *Numenius variegatus* & European Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*.

***'True *variegatus* has darker brown hindneck and mantle, and heavy cross-bars on breast, bars on sides and vent, and only a little pale on belly. In flight, lower back, rump and uppertail coverts are barred, contrasting little with mantle or dark, weakly banded tail. From below, wing-lining and axillaries are completely barred': Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

***spp *alboaxillaris* 'of steppes E of lower Volga, S and SE of Urals' (BWP vol III p484) 'probably intergrade with *phaeopus* somewhere in SE European Russia' (BWP vol III p496).

****variegatus* was listed for 'all [of China] except Xinjiang, Yunnan, Guizhou & Hubei' while *phaeopus* was listed only for Xizang and Xinjiang by Zheng *et al* (2005).

***N Moores (email 19 Sep 2012) commented: '*variegatus* (as suggested by the name) here [ROK] and in Japan too also seem variable in appearance, and esp. to show pretty much a full range of clean white to largely invisible "white rump wedge" in flight. I think the other features (especially? underwings) might be rather more useful in the subspecific/specific ID? I have yet knowingly to see a single Whimbrel in this region with anything but apparently fully barred underwings - and based on proposed ranges would also suspect that nominate *phaeopus* would be extremely uncommon this far east.

***Seeing Whimbrels w/ *phaeopus*-type white rump markings at Beidaihe is not exceptional: of 57 on 27 Aug 2005 'at least the 41 flying together had white rump wedge': JH pers obs.

Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata*

48 bird-days. Noted only over 2-5th – main event 30 on Happy Island on 4th.

Far Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis*

18 bird-days. Noted daily – great views alongside Eurasian Curlew on several occasions, incl on 5th when three headed off S w/ 11 Eurasian Curlews at 09h45...

Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*

Four bird-days. Noted on just three dates.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*

29 bird-days. This graceful wader was noted on five dates...

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*

80 bird-days. Noted daily.

Nordmann's Greenshank *Tringa guttifer*

A confiding juvenile was present over 2-4th... repeated looks ensured that there was no doubt as to the correctness of the ID: the legs yellower than in Common Greenshank, and strikingly shorter in the upper leg (I looked long & hard at a couple of Common Greenshank on 2nd and was pleased to find them both 'standard-issue, w/ Stilt-ey long legs!'), with just half a toe-length's worth of projection beyond the tail tip in flight (unprovoked flight, that is: just about the last thing I wanted was to cause the bird to take off & disappear!), with a jizz recalling the front-heavy, obviously short-legged Terek Sandpiper ('hunched, furtive') with its somewhat heavier bill. The underwing coverts were seen to be snowy white when the bird stretched its wings without taking off, and the call (heard just once or twice – the bird was far less vocal than most Common Greenshanks) was monosyllabic with a quality reminiscent of Whimbrel's.

***It was a great bonus to see this rare species...

***Listed as Endangered by IUCN <http://www.iucnredlist.org/details/106003020/0> : "the species' population is [...] undergoing a very rapid decline"; "surveys conducted at the species' Russian breeding sites in 2010 and 2011 suggest that [the current population estimate of 500-1,000 mature individuals] could be an overestimate (per E. Lappo *in litt.* 2012)".

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

13 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Terek Sandpiper *Xenus cinereus*

Singletons were seen on 3+8th.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Grey-tailed Tattler *Heteroscelus brevipes*

16 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Ruddy Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

One adult on 2nd.

Great Knot *Calidris tenuirostris*

83 bird-days. Noted on five dates – best count 40 on 2nd, but on 7th a close-up adult only just fading from full summer plumage made a more lasting impression.

Sanderling *Calidris alba*

One on 3rd.

Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*

112 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Four bird-days: three on 3rd & one on 8th.

Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta*

Six bird-days. Noted on 3+5th.

Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata*

A single bird on 8th.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*

Four bird-days. Juveniles were noted on 3+5th.

Dunlin *Calidris alpina*

64 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 50 on 2nd.

Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus*

Eight bird-days – six on 3rd & two on 8th.

Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*

4+ bird-days. Singles heard on 2+4+5th & one seen migr on 6th.

Black-tailed Gull *Larus crassirostris*

1,545+ bird-days. Noted daily – main event 375 on 3rd... watching this mean-eyed pirate was a welcome relief for eyes weary from scrutinizing “Great White-headed” Gulls!

Common Gull *Larus canus*

One adult on 3rd.

***Views did not allow subspecific ID – both *heinei* & *kamtschatschensis* occur.

***Two adults on 20 Aug 1996 (JH *et al.* pers obs) were the earliest ever: during autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 2 Sep (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

‘Yellow-legged’ Gull *Larus (cachinnans) mongolicus*

Five bird-days. Identified only on three dates.

Heuglin’s Gull *Larus (fuscus) heuglini* ssp *taimyrensis*[^]

Two 1st c-y birds were identified on 7th.

***[^]*taimyrensis* was considered a synonym (of *heuglini*) by Dickinson (2003) who did not follow the trend of elevating Heuglin’s Gull to full species status.

*****‘Herring’ / ‘Large White-headed’ Gull**

120+ bird-days. 30-50 birds were on Sandflats on at least three dates.

Common Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

Modest numbers were seen daily.

Saunders’ Gull *Larus saundersi*

Excellent views of a 2nd+ c-y on Happy Island on 4th.

Gull-billed Tern *Sterna nilotica*

15 bird-days. Noted on six dates – several nice encounters w/ birds leisuredly feeding & calling...

Caspian Tern *Sterna caspia*

Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Common Tern *Sterna hirundo*

455+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 180 on 3rd.

Little Tern *Sterna albifrons*
15 on Happy Island on 4th.

Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida*
One adult flying S on 6th was the only record...

White-winged Black Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*
275+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 210 on 2nd.
***In addition, four *Chlidonias* terns heading S on 6th were probably also this species...

Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis*
44 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 22 migr on 5th.

Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto*
One on 5th.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*
Three on 4th & one on 5th.

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus*
Six bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event three on Happy Island on 4th.
***In addition, two unidentified cuckoos migr on 5th.

Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*
One on Happy Island on 4th.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*
Seven low over the river S of Beidaihe on 6th treated us to repeated fly-bys, allowing us to eliminate Salim Ali's Swift *Apus salimali*.
***Leader (2011) concluded that the *Apus pacificus* complex should be treated as four species, at least three of which occur in China/Tibet.

Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*
One flying around and eventually heading off out sea at Happy Island on 4th.

Black-capped Kingfisher *Halcyon pileata*
Six bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*
13 bird-days. Noted on five dates – one or two nice looks... though a juvenile 'scoped perching on a reed on 4th was chased off by one of the many Brown Shrikes present, also a juvenile.

Northern Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*
Two on 5th – one, a faint-masked juvenile, showed REALLY well!

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*
Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus*
One on 6th.

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*
102+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 64+ at Sandflats on 5th: up to ten in a single twiggy

bush (incl an adult *lucionensis* showing well)...

Chinese Grey Shrike *Lanius sphenocercus*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates – singletons at Sandflats on 4+5th allowed prolonged 'scope viewing: the former 'sat preening facing into the morning sun, a Brown Shrike nearby for size comparison, before changing perch but remaining nearby'.

Black-naped Oriole *Oriolus chinensis*

Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event one on Happy Island on 4th: it showily landed in a bush directly in front of us.

Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*

55 bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 50 on Happy Island on 4th.

Asian Paradise-flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*

Superb views of a rufous-morph adult on 6th.

Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*

Ten bird-days. Noted on 5+6th.

Common Magpie *Pica pica*

Common – not systematically recorded.

'Eastern' Great Tit *Parus minor*

25+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event a feeding flock of 17 on 6th.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

Common – not systematically recorded... it was interesting to see, on one morning, a flock of 90 bunching up, keeping safe behind and above a Hobby hanging on the breeze ready to stoop.

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*

30+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Fan-tailed Warbler *Cisticola juncidis*

One at the river S of Beidaihe on 6th.

Chinese Bulbul *Pycnonotus sinensis*

40+ bird-days: fairly common & not systematically recorded.

Japanese Marsh Warbler *Megalurus pryeri*

One heard at river S of Beidaihe on 6th.

Pere David's Bush Warbler *Bradypterus davidi*

One on 6th.

Pallas' Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella certhiola*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event three on 4th, with both an adult & a juvenile offering prolonged, unobscured views at close range... the former didn't move off until spooked by a Dusky Warbler!

Thick-billed Warbler *Phragmaticola aedon*

25 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Oriental Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis*

Singles on both 4+6th.

Black-browed Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*
18 bird-days. Noted daily over 4-6th.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus*
51 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 23 on 4th.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*
30 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Arctic Warbler *Phylloscopus borealis*
Singles noted on three dates.

'Two-barred' Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides plumbeitarsus*
16 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Pale-legged Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus tenellipes*
23 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Eastern Crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus coronatus*
Singletons seen well if rather briefly on 6+8th.

Claudia's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus claudiae*
One on 6th.

Vinous-throated Parrotbill *Paradoxornis webbianus*
10+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops erythropleurus*
One heard on 6th.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 20 Aug – 14 Nov. Highest season total 8,601 bird-days in 1986; max count 1,925 on 20 Sep 1987 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Daurian Starling *Sturnus sturninus*
A flock of 21 at Happy Island on 4th.

White-cheeked Starling *Sturnus cineraceus*
Five on 5th.

Eyebrowed Thrush *Turdus obscurus*
Outstanding views of a 1st c-y bird on 4th.

***About as early in the season as one could hope to encounter this classic 'Sibe': during autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 2 Sep – 23 Oct; best season 1987 with 203 bird-days (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Siberian Rubythroat *Luscinia calliope*
Singles on 5+6+8th.

Siberian Blue Robin *Luscinia cyane*
Ten bird-days. Noted on four dates.

'Siberian' Stonechat *Saxicola 'torquatus'*
126+ bird-days. Noted five dates – main event 60 on 4th ...'even on quieter days there always seem to

be a few of these charismatic birds around, flycatching out of a reed bed, hopping about on the sand, or attracting attention by landing atop a distant willow'.

***NOT elevated to full species status by e.g. Svensson *et al.* (2009), who treated 'Eastern Stonechat' as a subspecies group under 'Common Stonechat' and dealt with it in a separate account only 'for practical reasons'.

Sooty Flycatcher *Muscicapa sibirica*

Three bird-days. Identified only on 3+4th.

Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica*

19+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

***In addition, a number of unidentified 'brown' flycatchers were logged...

Yellow-rumped Flycatcher *Ficedula zanthopygia*

Singletons heard on 5+6th.

Red-throated (= Taiga) Flycatcher *Ficedula albicilla*

32 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 26 Aug – 17 Nov. Similar coverage in autumns 1986 & 1987 yielded totals of 224 & 223 bird-days, respectively; max count 26 on 8 Oct 1987 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000). For birds late in the season it could be worth checking for *parva*, which has been recorded elsewhere in NE Asia...

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Fairly common - not systematically recorded.

Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis*

220+ bird-days. Noted daily – main event 119 migr on 5th.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*

46 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Richard's Pipit *Anthus richardi*

47 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 20 Aug – 26 Oct; max count 901 on 10 Sep 1987 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*

Ten bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Pechora Pipit *Anthus gustavi*

Singles on 4+5+8th.

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates from 4th.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 5 Sep – 16 Oct; max count 92 on 24 Sep 1986 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event seven on 5th.

Chinese Grosbeak *Eophona migratoria*

One on 4th.

Tristram's Bunting *Emberiza tristrami*

One on 5th.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

One on 5th.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 11 Sep – end of Nov. Best season 1987 with 2,787 bird-days; max count 245 on 22 Oct 1987 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Yellow-browed Bunting *Emberiza chrysophrys*

One on 6th.

***In addition, a single **Tristram's / Yellow-browed Bunting** on 5th.

Yellow-breasted Bunting *Emberiza aureola*

One on Happy Island on 4th.

Chestnut Bunting *Emberiza rutila*

A group of three adult males migr on 5th.

Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*

Singletons on 5+6th.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 25 Aug – 9 Nov. Best season 1987 with 3,453 bird-days; max count 1,210 migr on 20 Sep 1987, with an additional 6,000+ bunting sp on that date also thought to be this species (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).

Pallas's Reed Bunting *Emberiza pallasi*

Six on 5th & one on 8th.

***During autumns 1986-1990 recorded from 20 Sep – end of Nov. Best season 1987 with 2,417 bird-days; max count 285 on 24 Oct 1989 (JH pers. obs., Williams 2000).