

BAIHUALING and NABANG, YUNNAN



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26 April - 4 May 2014

Having birded quite extensively in China over the past decade, we had visited Yunnan a number of times, but never before in spring. The potential of Hornbills, Pittas, rare Babblers, Myzornis, Ward's Trogon and the seemingly impossible Sclater's Monal was finally too much not to take on. We decided to go for an "all-in / full-on week" at the optimal time at the end of April. We focused on two main areas, Baihualing in the Gaoligongshan mountain range and the few remaining lowland forests around Nabang on the Burmese border. We recorded 283 species during in total and the trip turned out to be a great success exceeding even our wildest expectations!

Weather

The ridge at Gaoligongshan was cool and windy at 3,100m and only a few degrees C at night. Lower down around Baihualing temperatures were much more comfortable at around 20°C. It seemed like we were just in the period when the first rains of the season were about to set in.



Nabang was dry and hot, reaching 35°C. Quite a difference compared to the -21°C we experienced looking for owls in Wuerqihan, Inner Mongolia just a month before.



Logistics

Transportation and accommodation was well arranged by Wang Qingyu, email address qingyu3@hotmail.com. The only serious logistical glitch during the week was Jocko's flight being canceled from Shanghai, unfortunately a common feature of traveling by air in China these days.

Distances can easily be found at Google Earth, but to give some rough time indications: Tengchong - Baihualing 3 hrs, Baihualing - Nabang 6.5 hrs, Nabang - Tengchong 3.5 hrs.

We did quite a lot of walking during the week, 140 km to be precise.

One practical thing to be noted is that km-signs on the road above Nabang have been changed. For example, what used to be km 64 (top of the good forest) is now km 211. Basically you need to add "147" to the old readings mentioned in some good reports.

Sclater's Monal

Our original idea with this trip was to find and see Sclater's Monal. Rare, classified as Vulnerable, always remotely located and absolutely stonking. After lengthy emails and discussions with the Chinese birding elite and extremely knowledgeable and helpful Sclater's-researcher Luo Xu about potential sites, historical records and permits for foreigners, the facts on the table were that it was not accessible for us in China.

A few areas in the central and Northern parts of Gaoligongshan are known to hold breeding Sclater's but due to their proximity to the Burmese border, it seems currently very difficult (at least for foreigners) to get permits to access them. A couple of high altitude valleys in South-East Xizang should also be interesting, again with their own challenges in terms of permits and outside China there are of course Arunachal and Mishmi in India.

Sclater's Monal was actually seen a few times in the Baihualing pass area some ten+ years ago. Common present knowledge seemed to be that it had been hunted and now was extinct in the Southern Gaoligongshan.

However, as you will see further down, we were extremely lucky and did find an adult calling male claiming territory. This may now be the easiest (it's all relative...) place in the world to see this species. We trust birders heading up there in the future will treat this information with due caution and act accordingly so as not to create any un-necessary disturbance to this spectacular species.

Chris' China 1,000

Getting 40+ new China birds on this trip was "not entirely beyond the realms of possibility" for Chris, but none of us really thought it was practically feasible. The very last morning

started at 998 and the high adrenaline feeling as if “the World Cup final had gone to penalties”. Success and 1,000 birds on the China list came in the last hour at Nabang with a singing Green Cochoa. With the pressure off, Chris can now enjoy birding in China again!

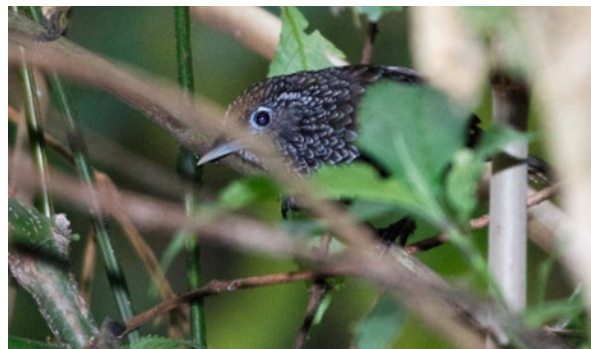
Daily digest

Saturday 26th April

With Fred arriving in Kunming from Europe at lunchtime and Jocko’s flight from Shanghai cancelled, Chris was left to his own devices for the Hume’s Pheasant and Giant Nuthatch twitch. The overnight base was Chuxiong, a 3.5 hour drive from Kunming where Chris had arrived the previous evening. From Kunming it’s a 30 minute drive to Zixishan. With little site information and limited time available, the best strategy seemed to be to concentrate on an area of rather open pine forest with little understory, reminiscent of Doi Chiang Dao in Northern Thailand where both of the target species also occur. It wasn’t long before a female Hume’s Pheasant was flushed from 20 yards giving superb and prolonged flight views as it shot off into the valley below. Within two hours of dawn, 2 pairs of Giant Nuthatches, several flocks of Yunnan Nuthatches and a singing Ultramarine Flycatcher were also all on the list. After breaking the Hume’s news to the Hong Kong birders, Chris returned to Kunming to meet up with Jocko and Fred. From here we flew to Tengchong and then drove the three hours to Baihualing where we checked in at the Reserve Station just before midnight.

Sunday 27th April

We spent the day along the right hand (drivable) track from Da Lu Chang past the Jing Cha clearing and back down again. An impressive dawn chorus started the morning well and birds were active and quite vocal during most of the day. Yellow-throated Fulvettas were much more numerous compared to our previous visit in November 2005 and a gleaming Asian Emerald Cuckoo at 2,300m was great sight. Late afternoon birding on the first km of the track above Da Lu Chang produced the fantastic trio of Gould’s Shortwing, Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler and a singing Purple Cochoa!



Monday 28th April

An early start saw us posted at the Jiujiyezi clearing by first light. A flyby parakeet sp. raised pulses, but a Yellow-rumped Honeyguide secured a great start of the day. Our target location was the pass at 3,100m along the 1,000 year-old “Tea-horse trail” aka the

“Southern Silk Road”. A local ranger with mules brought our gear and some food to the top which made the 1,400m altitude climb more pleasant.

Bird activity was good all along the trail and we walked and birded slowly through the world-class forest. We managed to lure a Grey-bellied Wren-babbler out from hiding (by playing the song of Naga Wren-babbler) incredibly in precisely the same thicket we’d seen one back in 2005!



We reached the pass by late afternoon and set up camp amid gale force winds and dark clouds building up around us. To our surprise we were not alone up in the ridge. A young scientist, Mr Li Quan a.k.a. “Mouse Man” was also up there together with his assistant, studying the impact of climate change on small mammals. He’d been there for three weeks, each day with clear skies and little wind. Over dinner, he claimed to have seen what was probably a calling Sclater’s Monal on a rock at the western side of the pass, at around eight o’clock in the morning two days earlier. Before dark we scouted the area where he’d seen the bird and had a lengthy discussion about how to maximize our chances for the coming day.

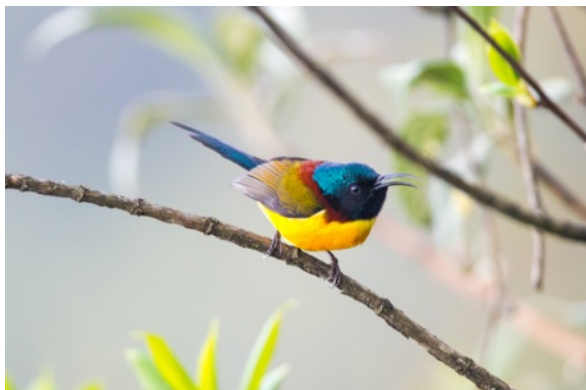


Tuesday 29th April

In the middle of the night, the season’s first monsoon rains combined with massive thunder and lightning enhanced by fierce storm force winds pounded our camp. It is to be noted that while the English member of the group benefitted from the relative luxury of a tent, the more hardcore Swedish contingent camped under a simple tarp, their ambition to be “close to nature” being absolutely fulfilled. To make things even worse, at daybreak we were basically inside a cloud with close to zero visibility and with howling winds from west, all our efforts to hear or see the potential Monal were obviously in vain.



By afternoon, the weather and bird activity had improved. Two Crimson-browed Finches, some Striated and a Scaly Laugher cheered us up. Down by the WW2 bunker on the western side of the pass, a Fire-tailed Myzornis brought us that invincible victorious feeling you get on some birding trips. The skies cleared up and we put in quite a few hours listening and scanning the ridges for the potential Monal. A hardy Scaly-breasted Wren-babbler was singing until late in the evening, proving that high altitude is no match for some small birds.



Wednesday 30th April

To quote Bjorn Anderson: “after rain comes sunshine”. We woke up to a morning with much less wind, no rain and good visibility. Just as we crossed the top of the pass heading down the beginning of the trail on the western side in the first rays of dawn, we heard the magical, lonely, fluty and far reaching call of a male Sclater’s Monal!!! Although very different to the recordings currently available on Xeno-canto, it was quite reminiscent of Chinese Monal heard by Jocko at Tangjiahe a few years ago. Absolute panicky euphoria ensued. Almost immediately we found the bird on a huge rock, relatively far away against

the horizon, looking all black except as if it had been painted with a single stroke of a really broad brush of white paint down its back. Insane! Soon it had walked behind a rock and disappeared. Another half minute later it suddenly jumped out from the cliff and glided across the valley in front of us like a Red Bull wing suit-jumper (but more horizontally), displaying its unique profile of small head, relatively short tail, very broad wings and with the white back sharply visible! Slam dunk!



Flushed with success, we decided to head down into the forest while it was still early. A quick look at the Myzornis again, before packing our gear for the trek down. When walking through lichen and moss clad rhododendron and oak forest, one knows pretty much anything can happen. Indeed, at 2,660m Jocko pulled a calling male Ward's Trogon out of his hat to everyone's great satisfaction. After some fleeting glimpses of a most-likely female Ward's Trogon here in 2005, it felt excellent to finally get this exclusive bird firmly on the China list. A Himalayan Cutia further enlivened our descent and we added a few more species to our growing list in the secondary forest along the road above Baihualing.

After a welcome late afternoon shower and beer at the Reserve Station, we drove off towards Nabang, arriving by midnight.



Thursday 1st May

We arrived at the Xi Ma trail head well before dawn. Still in pitch black darkness we enjoyed the chilling call of a Spot-bellied Eagle-owl by the very first hairpin bend 100 meters along the trail. Violet Cuckoo, a calling Ruddy Kingfisher, Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle and Hooded Pittas on the trail confirmed we were in a rewarding patch of forest.

The big starling tree just south east of Nabang town delivered well and at km 231.5 on the road above Nabang we heard a Grey Peacock-pheasant at dusk.



Friday 2nd May

We decided to start the morning higher up at km 211 and then walk back down towards km 215. A very impressive and long dawn chorus kept expectations high. Coral-billed Scimitar-babblers looked good and a huge fruiting tree by the base of the road leading up to Rong Shu Wang held Thick-billed and Pin-tailed Green Pigeons. Down by km 231.5 we got great views of a Pale-headed Woodpecker in the bamboo. However, not a single Hornbill showed, despite a long afternoon vigil by a great viewing point high on the Xi Ma trail.



Saturday 3rd May

Despite good bird activity on the Xi Ma trail, again no Hornbills materialized but a booming Barred Buttonquail at dawn was welcome. At this point it was time for Fred to leave for the long journey back to Sweden. Jocko and Chris carried on and although quality new birds were becoming harder to come by, the highlight of the day was finding breeding Wire-tailed Swallows by the river south-east of the town, just before the road starts winding uphill.



Based on rumours mentioned in an older trip report, we spent the afternoon on a “wild-peacock-chase”. We drove south from km 208 down a valley and up on the other side. Our vehicle couldn't really navigate the steep sandy track so we got out and walked. We found good forest along the ridge between 3 and 7km from the main road, but after that the forest seemed completely trashed with signs of recent (illegal) logging. Two Jerdon's Bazas were good and the surprise find of the trip was a Daurian Starling in semi-forested scrub. But we concluded that Green Peacocks are most likely not around any longer.



Sunday 4th May

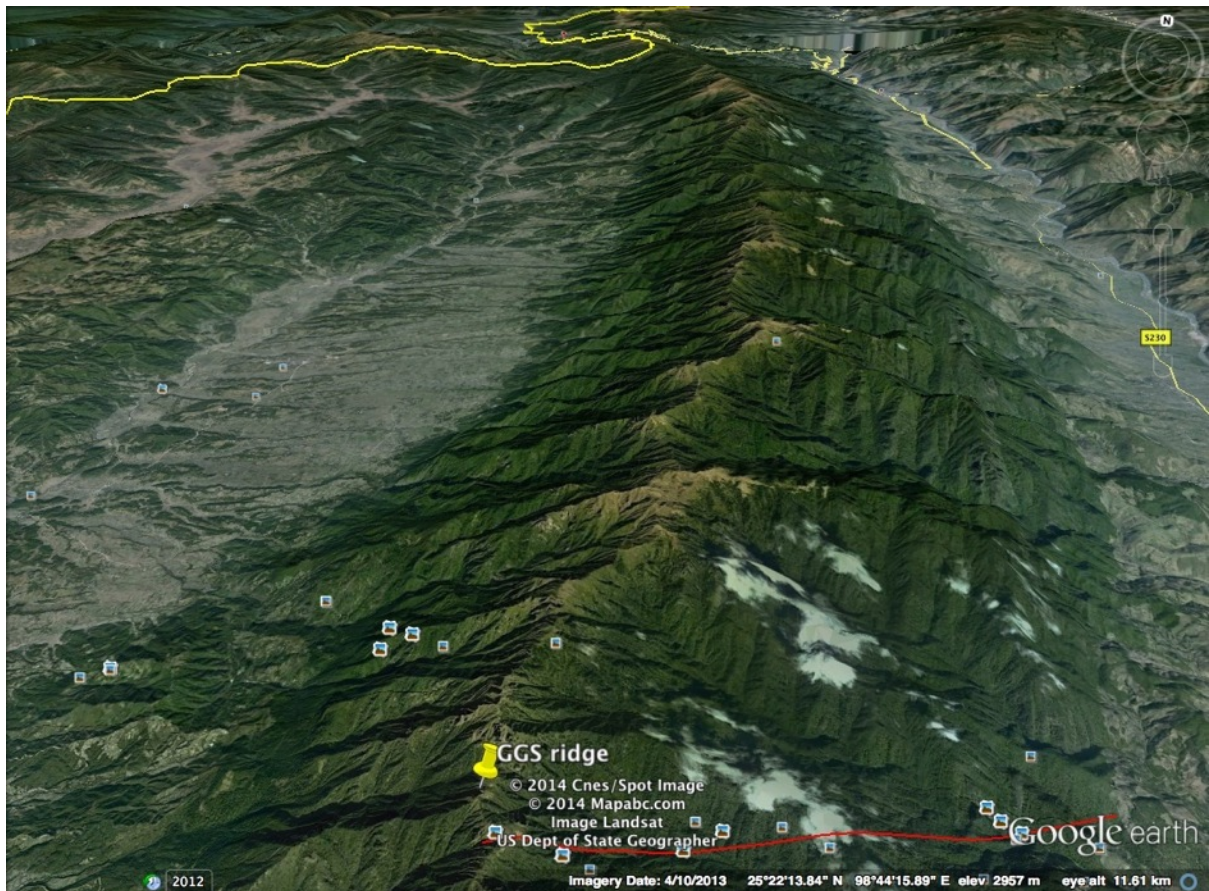
The heat was on for Chris to land the 1000th bird on his China list. After thoroughly analyzing at least thirty Grey Treepies over the past few days, a well deserved Collared Treepie finally caved in and gave good but short views early morning at Rong Shu Wang. A Green Cochoa at km 212 broke the sensational limit and finally relieved Mr Champion of the high stress and hard pressure brought on by this half-life long struggle!



On the way back to Tengchong airport we first made a quick stop by the river near Yingjiang. Small Pratincoles were breeding everywhere and a pair of Black-headed Munias looked like miniature Helmet Vangas. Then a half-hour rush through Laifengshan Park brought us the expected Oriole, Parrotbill, Thrush and Liochicla. A fitting finish to a magnificent trip in one of Asia's absolutely finest birding areas!



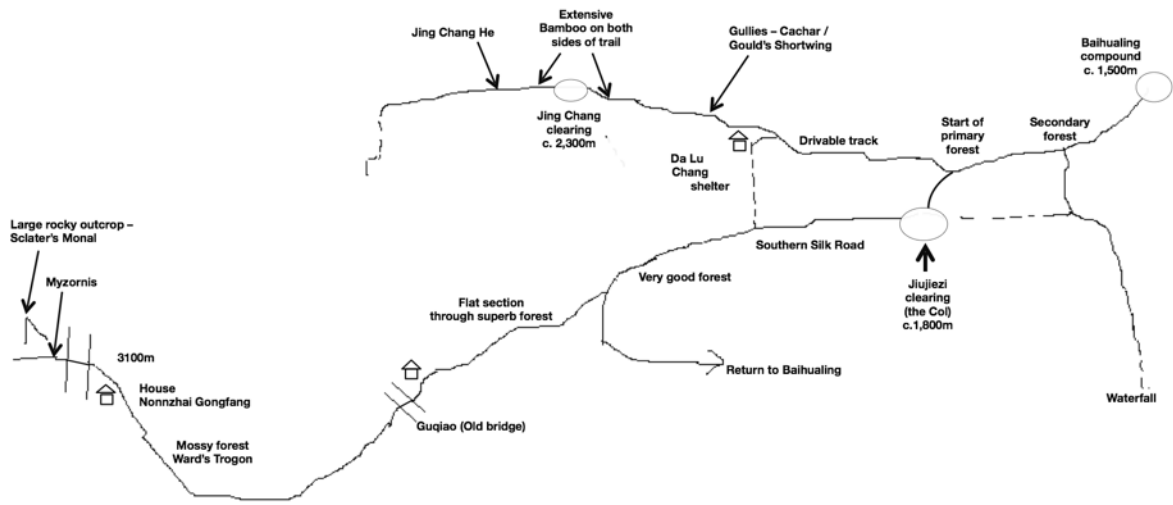
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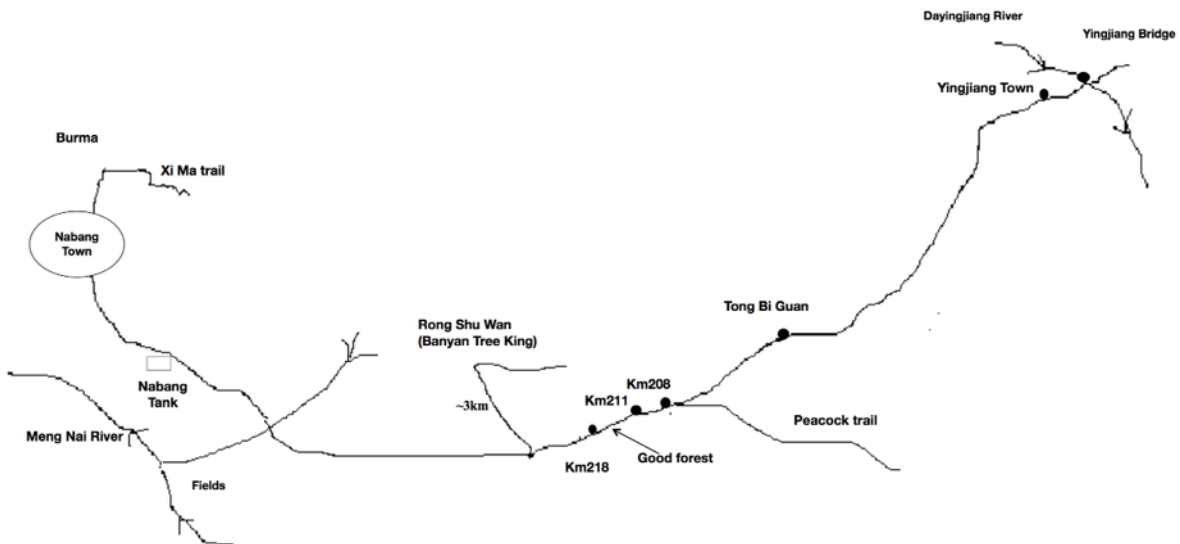
Gaoligongshan mountain range, as seen in Google Earth from South to North. The altitude of the ridge is quite constant 3000-3300m. The red line is very roughly indicating the trail up from Baihualing.



Zixishan area. At junction A (N 24° 59.707' E 101° 25.015') when coming from Chuxiong, turn left at the sign to Hong Qiang Cun.



Baihualing area



Nabang area

Birding sites around Nabang

Xi Ma trail

From the Bian Chui hotel, drive up the road to a 'T' junction. Turn left here and after 50 meters turn right at another 'T' junction. This road becomes a dirt track, which heads out of town alongside a river that marks the border between China and Myanmar. Our driver was able to take his 2WD vehicle the 2-3 kms along this track all the way to the trailhead of the Xi Ma trail, from where the trail first leads off to the right and then winds up through secondary forest, we birded only the first 4 kms. This is the best site for Hornbills, which have been seen by others flying in from Myanmar to feed on fruiting trees on the Chinese side, but none were seen by us despite our best efforts. Hooded Pittas provided compensation and this trail delivered some of our best birding in Nabang.

Nabang tank

This is a small but obvious square reservoir about 5 km from Nabang. A drivable track leads from here to the Meng Nai River. About 400m west of the Nabang tank is a large banyan tree by the road, which holds breeding starlings and mynahs. The wires in this area are good for bee-eaters and Ashy Woodswallow. Where the Meng Nai River crosses the main road, we had breeding Wire-tailed Swallows.

Rong Shu Wang

This is a small area but holds some good forest. From the car park, bird the short trail which heads off to the right where some steep steps go up to a huge banyan tree. The 3km access road is also worth birding. A large fruiting tree at the junction of the road to Rong Shu Wang was attracting many birds while we were there.

Road above Nabang

There is good forest between km posts 211 and 218 along the road from Nabang to Yingjiang. Although the birding here is good, the road can be rather busy, with large lorries carrying huge logs from Myanmar. Another good area was around km 231.5 where we had Pale-headed Woodpecker in the bamboo, this is also a past stake-out for Collared Falconet, though perhaps only in winter. The 'Peacock trail' heads south at around km 208 and is drivable only really with a 4WD, we found decent forest around 4-7km along this track from the main road.

Species List

26 April Zixishan, travel to Baihualing (BHL)
 27 April BHL, trail between Da Lu Chang (DLC) and Jing Chang He (JCH)
 28 April BHL to ridge
 29 April Ridge
 30 April Ridge to BHL, drive to Nabang
 1 May Xi Ma (XM), Rong Shu Wang (RSW), Road above Nabang (RAN), Nabang Tank (NT)
 2 May RAN, RSW, XM
 3 May XM, NT, Meng Nai River (MN), Peacock Trail (PT)
 4 May RSW, RAN, Dayingjiang River (DR), travel to Tengchong (TC), Laifengshan Park (LP)

		26- Apr	27- Apr	28- Apr	29- Apr	30- Apr	1- Ma y	2- Ma y	3- Ma y	4- Ma y	Notes
Hill Partridge	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>		hd	1 seen + hd	hd	hd					1-3 heard daily at GGS
Rufous-throated Partridge	<i>Arborophila rufogularis</i>		2 hd				1 hd XM		1 hd XM		
Temminck's Tragopan	<i>Tragopan temminckii</i>		2	1							
Sclater's Monal	<i>Lophophorus sclateri</i>					1					1 adult male heard and seen on rocky outcrop just beyond ridge
Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>						1 hd XM	1 XM	1 hd XM	3 hd RAN	
Mrs. Hume's Pheasant	<i>Syrnaticus humiae</i>	1									Female flushed in the pine forest
Grey Peacock-Pheasant	<i>Polyplectron bicalcaratum</i>						1 hd RAN				Heard at km231.5
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>						1 NT				
Chinese Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola bacchus</i>						1 NT				
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>						1 NT			2 en route to TC	
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>									1 en route to TC	
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>						3 NT	1 NT	1 NT	10 en route to TC	

Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>							1 RA N	1 RA N	1 NT, 1 PT		
Jerdon's Baza	<i>Aviceda jerdoni</i>		1							2 PT		
Black Baza	<i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>							1 RS W				
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>							1 hd RA N				
Mountain Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i>						1					
Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle	<i>Lophotriorchis kienerii</i>							1 XM				
Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malaiensis</i>		2							1 PT		
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>							1 RS W				
Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>									1 XM		
Himalayan Buzzard	<i>Buteo burmanicus</i>						1				1 en rou te to TC	
White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amauornis phoenicurus</i>							1 NT				
Barred Buttonquail	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>									1 hd XM		Heard at dawn from fields below the XM trail
River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>							5 nea r NT			4 DR	In Nabang area, seen on the MN river
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>										2 DR	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>										1 hd DR	
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>							10 NT				
Small Pratincole	<i>Glareola lactea</i>										20 DR	Several pairs breeding on the wide sandy banks of the DR north of the bridge
Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>										1 DR	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>								3 NT			

Speckled Wood Pigeon	Columba hodgei					3 above BH L					
Spotted Dove	Spilopelia chinensis						few	1 NT	2 NT	4 DR	
Barred Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia unchall			2			1 XM		2 XM, 2 RAN		
Common Emerald Dove	Chalcophaps indica						com	com	com		
Thick-billed Green Pigeon	Treron curvirostra							4 RAN	6 RAN	2 RAN	Coming into large fruiting tree on RAN at junction to RSW
Pin-tailed Green Pigeon	Treron apicauda							10 RSW	6 RAN	2 RAN	
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	Treron sphenurus			1 hd							
Mountain Imperial Pigeon	Ducula badia							12 XM	10 XM	5 RSW	
Greater Coucal	Centropus sinensis						1 NT	1 XM			
Green-billed Malkoha	Phaenicophaeus tristis						1 RAN	1 XM	1 XM		
Asian Koel	Eudynamis scolopacea					1 hd					
Asian Emerald Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx maculatus		1								
Violet Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus						1 XM				Seen on first major bend on XM trail 200m from trail head
Banded Bay Cuckoo	Cacomantis sonneratii							1 hd RSW			Heard at dawn
Plaintive Cuckoo	Cacomantis merulinus						2 NT		1 hd NT	1 DR	
Fork-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo	Surniculus dicruroides						com	com	com	com	Commonest cuckoo, heard throughout the day
Large Hawk-Cuckoo	Hierococcyx sparverioides		sev hd				sev hd	sev hd	sev hd	sev hd	
Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo	Hierococcyx nasicolor						1 hd RAN				

Lesser Cuckoo	Cuculus poliocephalus		3hd								
Indian Cuckoo	Cuculus micropterus		1				hd	hd	hd	hd	3-5 heard daily in Nabang area
Himalayan Cuckoo	Cuculus saturatus		1	hd	hd	hd			hd		
Common Cuckoo	Cuculus canorus			1hd		hd		sev	sev	sev	Several seen flying very high, presumably on migration
Mountain Scops Owl	Otus spilocephalus		1hd BHL								Heard from the BHL compound
Spot-bellied Eagle-Owl	Bubo nipalensis						1hd xm				Heard at 5:30am, 45 mins before first light before first major bend on XM trail
Collared Owlet	Glaucidium brodiei								2PT		
Asian Barred Owlet	Glaucidium cuculoides									1hd RS W	
Himalayan Swiftlet	Aerodramus brevirostris			3							
Asian Palm Swift	Cypsiurus balasiensis						20NT	20NT	5NT, 10XM		
Cook's Swift	Apus cooki		10	5	10	5					
House Swift	Apus nipalensis					5	sev	sev	10RA N	20RA N	
Ward's Trogon	Harpactes wardi					1hd					Heard in mossy forest c2,700m
Ruddy Kingfisher	Halcyon coromanda						2hd XM		1hd XM		
White-throated Kingfisher	Halcyon smyrnensis						1XM 1NT	1XM, 1RA N, 1NT	1XM		
Pied Kingfisher	Ceryle rudis								1NT		
Blue-bearded Bee-eater	Nyctornis athertoni						2XM, 1RA N	1XM	1XM	1RS W	
Green Bee-eater	Merops orientalis						30NT	10NT	10NT		
Blue-tailed Bee-eater	Merops philippinus				1		2NT				
Chestnut-headed Bee-eater	Merops leschenaulti						15	10	16	4	

Eurasian Hoopoe	Upupa epops						2 NT	2 NT, 1X M	4 NT		
Great Barbet	Megalaima virens		com hd	sevh hd				sevh hd	sevh hd	sevh hd	
Golden-throated Barbet	Megalaima franklinii		2, com hd	hd		hd			1 PT	2 LP	
Blue-throated Barbet	Megalaima asiatica			com		com	com	com	com	com	
Blue-eared Barbet	Megalaima australis						2 XM	2 hd RAN, RS W			
Yellow-rumped Honeyguide	Indicator xanthonotus			1							Seen well at the Col
Speckled Piculet	Picumnus innominatus						1 RS W, 1 RAN				
White-browed Piculet	Sasia ochracea						1 RS W				
Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	Dendrocopos canicapillus								4 PT	2 LP	
Stripe-breasted Woodpecker	Dendrocopos atratus						1 RAN			2 LP	
Darjeeling Woodpecker	Dendrocopos darjellensis					2					
Greater Yellownape	Chrysophlegma flavinucha									1 RAN	
Lesser Yellownape	Picus chlorolophus					1					
Pale-headed Woodpecker	Gecinulus grantia							1 RAN			Seen in bamboo at km231.5 RAN
Bay Woodpecker	Blythipicus pyrrhotis			1 hd							
Rufous Woodpecker	Micropternus brachyurus						1 XM	1 RS W			
Common Kestrel	Falco tinnunculus						1 XM				

Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus								1 PT	1 RAN	
Parakeet sp.				1 at Col				1 XM			
Long-tailed Broadbill	Psarisomus dalhousiae								1 hd RS W	1 XM	
Hooded Pitta	Pitta sordida							2 seen, 1 hd XM	1 seen, 1 hd XM	3 seen, 1 hd XM	Seen very well on the first km of the XM trail
Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	Hemipus picatus							1 RAN		1 PT	
Large Woodshrike	Tephrodornis virgatus							1 XM			
Ashy Woodswallow	Artamus fuscus							4 NT	2 NT	2 NT	
Large Cuckooshrike	Coracina macei									2 PT	
Black-winged Cuckooshrike	Coracina melaschistos							1 XM			1 LP
Scarlet Minivet	Pericrocotus speciosus								6 RS W	few	few
Brown Shrike	Lanius cristatus							1 XM 3 RAN	4	6	2 DR
Burmese Shrike	Lanius colluriooides							1 NT			
Long-tailed Shrike	Lanius schach							2 NT	1 NT		
White-bellied Erpornis	Erpornis zantholeuca							few		4 PT	6 RAN
Blyth's Shrike-babbler	Pteruthius aeralatus			hd		hd		1 RAN		1 PT	
Black-eared Shrike-babbler	Pteruthius melanotis					1 hd					
Slender-billed Oriole	Oriolus tenuirostris										1 hd LP
Maroon Oriole	Oriolus traillii							4	several hd	2 seen several hd	hd
Black Drongo	Dicurus macrocercus							20 NT	20 NT	15 NT	

Ashy Drongo	Dicrurus leucophaeus		2			1					
Bronzed Drongo	Dicrurus aeneus						co m	co m	co m	co m	
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus remifer							1 RS W			
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	Dicrurus paradiseus						1 XM				
White-browed Fantail	Rhipidura aureola			1					4 PT		
Asian Paradise Flycatcher	Terpsiphone paradisi							1 RS W			
Eurasian Jay	Garrulus glandarius									1 LP	
Common Green Magpie	Cissa chinensis						1 RS W				
Grey Treepie	Dendrocitta formosae		1 hd				5	15	10	hd	
Collared Treepie	Dendrocitta frontalis									2 RS W	Eventually a pair seen on the last day in the Nabang area
Eurasian Magpie	Pica pica					1				2 en route to TC	
Large-billed Crow	Corvus macrorhynchos								1 PT		
Yellow-bellied Fantail	Chelidorhynchus hypoxantha		1								
Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	Culicicapa ceylonensis		8	few			4 RA N	5 RA N	2 PT	4 RA N	
Yellow-browed Tit	Sylviparus modestus					1					
Rufous-vented Tit	Periparus rubidiventris			1 hd							
Cinereous Tit	Parus cinereus					1				1 LP	
Yellow-cheeked Tit	Machlophus sibilans			2			1 RA N	1 RA N	1 PT		
Crested Finchbill	Spizixos canifrons						3 RA N	1 RS W	5 PT	3 RA N	
Striated Bulbul	Pycnonotus striatus		10				4 RA N	3 RA N		2 RS W	

Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flaviventris</i>						1 XM	2 XM			
Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>									1 RAN	
Brown-breasted Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus xanthorrhous</i>								1 PT		
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>		2			1	com	com	com	com	
Flavescent Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flavescens</i>						1 RAN		3 PT, 2 RAN	3 RS W	
White-throated Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus flaveolus</i>						1 XM	1 RS W			
Mountain Bulbul	<i>Ixos mcclllandii</i>		6	few				4 RAN			
Ashy Bulbul	<i>Hemixos flavala</i>						1 XM	2 RAN	4 PT		
Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>						com	com	com	com	
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>						3 NT		1 NT		
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>			3		2	sev	sev	sev	sev	
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>									3 NT	2 adults and one young where the MN river crosses the road west of the NT
Striated Swallow	<i>Cecropis striolata</i>						20	40	sev	sev	
Pygmy Wren-babbler	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>		1 hd	few hd		few hd					
Yellow-bellied Warbler	<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>									10 RS W	
Black-faced Warbler	<i>Abroscopus schisticeps</i>		1			1					
Mountain Tailorbird	<i>Phyllergates cuculatus</i>		sev hd	sev hd			hd	hd	hd	hd	
Broad-billed Warbler	<i>Tickellia hodgsoni</i>					2					
Brown-flanked Bush Warbler	<i>Horornis fortipes</i>								2 hd PT	1 hd LP	
Aberrant Bush Warbler	<i>Horornis flavolivaceus</i>			1 hd							

Grey-bellied Tesia	Tesia cyaniventer		1 see n, 8 hd				hd							
Slaty-bellied Tesia	Tesia olivea		1 hd											
Grey-sided Bush Warbler	Cettia brunnifrons			10 hd	10 hd									
Chestnut-headed Tesia	Cettia castaneocoronata		1											
Black-throated Bushtit	Aegithalos concinnus	50	1	20								20 LP		
Alpine Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus occisinesis					2								
Yellow-streaked Warbler	Phylloscopus armandii						2							
Buff-barred Warbler	Phylloscopus pulcher						hd							
Ashy-throated Warbler	Phylloscopus maculipennis			1			1							
Yellow-browed Warbler	Phylloscopus inornatus			hd			hd							
Hume's Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus humei	hd	2 hd											
Large-billed Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus magnirostris						2 hd							
Blyth's Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus reguloides						1							
Davison's Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus davisoni			sev			sev	co m	co m	co m	co m		Very common except at the higher elevations	
Sichuan Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus forresti		4	3										
Bianchi's Warbler	Seicercus valentini			sev	sev	sev							Recorded at all elevations at GGS	
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	Seicercus castaniceps		1				1							
Russet Bush Warbler	Locustella mandelli									1 hd PT				
Striated Grassbird	Megalurus palustris							6 NT		8 NT				

Hill Prinia	<i>Prinia superciliaris</i>					2 seen, 1 hd above BHL					
Grey-breasted Prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>									8 DR	
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>						sev	sev	sev	sev	
Black-streaked Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus gravivox</i>									1 TP	
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>		2	hd		1					
Red-billed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps</i>						3 XM	1 RS W		6 RS W	
Coral-billed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ferruginosus</i>							1hd RS W, 4 RA N			
Spotted Wren-Babbler	<i>Spelaeornis formosus</i>		1 hd	hd							
Grey-bellied Wren-Babbler	<i>Spelaeornis reptatus</i>			1							
Cachar Wedge-billed Babbler	<i>Sphenocichla roberti</i>		3								3 seen superbly well in a gully with 1 km of DLC
Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>						5 XM	3hd RS W			
Rufous-fronted Babbler	<i>Stachyris rufifrons</i>			hd							
Rufous-capped Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis ruficeps</i>		sev hd	hd			5 hd XM	6 hd XM	few	few	
Golden Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis chrysaea</i>		1 hd					hd RA N/ XM	6 PT		
Scaly-breasted Wren Babbler	<i>Pnoepyga albiventer</i>				2hd						Recorded in low scrub 200m down from the ridge
Yellow-throated Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe cinerea</i>		20			5					Small flocks encountered on several occasions

Rufous-winged Fulvetta	Alcippe castaneiceps		5			4					
Rusty-capped Fulvetta	Alcippe dubia		1	2		2					
David's Fulvetta	Alcippe davidi		com	sev		sev					
Manipur Fulvetta	Fulvetta manipurensis			hd		few					
White-hooded Babbler	Gampsorhynchus rufulus							2 RAN			
Puff-throated Babbler	Pellorneum ruficeps						5 hd XM	3 hd RS W		2 hd RS W	
White-crested Laughingthrush	Garrulax leucolophus						6 hd RS W	sev hd	sev hd	sev hd	Several groups heard XM, RAN and RSW
Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush	Garrulax monileger							4 RS W			
Striated Laughingthrush	Garrulax striatus			1 seen, sev hd	hd	hd					Mostly at higher altitudes
Blue-winged Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron squamatum			1 seen, sev hd							Mostly at lower altitudes
Scaly Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron subunicolor				1 hd						Heard near the house just below the ridge
Assam Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron chrysopterum				1						
Red-tailed Laughingthrush	Trochalopteron milnei			1 + hd							
Himalayan Cutia	Cutia nipalensis					1					
Blue-winged Minla	Minla cyanouroptera		4	few		few	2 XM			2 LP	
Red-tailed Minla	Minla ignotincta			few		2				20 LP	
Chestnut-tailed Minla				few		2					
Scarlet-faced Liocichla	Liocichla ripponi									1 LP	

Rusty-fronted Barwing	Actinodura egertoni		10	sev		4					
Streak-throated Barwing	Actinodura waldeni					1					Seen in the mossy forest at about 2,800m
Silver-eared Mesia	Leiothrix argentauris					1		8 hd RA N	10 RA N	8 RA N	
Red-billed Leiothrix	Leiothrix lutea		10								
Grey Sibia	Heterophasia gracilis						3 RA N	1 RA N	2 RA N		
Black-headed Sibia	Heterophasia desgodinsi	10	2								
Beautiful Sibia	Heterophasia pulchella		4	2		10					
Long-tailed Sibia	Heterophasia picaoides			4					4 XM		
Fire-tailed Myzornis	Myzornis pyrrhura				1	1					Seen in low scrub 100m down after crossing the ridge from the house
Golden-breasted Fulvetta	Lioparus chrysotis		1								
White-browed Fulvetta	Fulvetta vinipectus				4				8 PT		
Manipur Fulvetta	Fulvetta manipurensis			hd							
Brown Parrotbill	Cholornis unicolor				4						
Brown-winged Parrotbill	Sinosuthora brunnea									1 LP	
Fulvous Parrotbill	Suthora fulvifrons				10						In bamboo near the house below the ridge
White-breasted Parrotbill	Psittiparus ruficeps							3 RS W			
Striated Yuhina	Yuhina castaniceps						co m	co m	co m	co m	
Whiskered Yuhina	Yuhina flavicollis		8	few							
Stripe-throated Yuhina	Yuhina gularis			10	10						
White-collared Yuhina	Yuhina diademata				2						
Rufous-vented Yuhina	Yuhina occipitalis					2					

Oriental White-eye	Zosterops palpebrosus						3 XM	few	few	few	
Chestnut-vented Nuthatch	Sitta nagaensis								4 PT	2 RS W	
Yunnan Nuthatch	Sitta yunnanensis	30									Several flocks of 5-8 birds seen
Velvet-fronted Nuthatch	Sitta frontalis								6 PT		
Giant Nuthatch	Sitta magna	4									2 pairs seen in pines at the Humes's Pheasant site
Treecreeper sp.		1									
Collared Myna	Acridotheres albocinctus						20 NT	8 NT			At large fruiting tree 400 yards west of the NT
Common Myna	Acridotheres tristis								2 Nabang town		
White-vented Myna	Acridotheres cinereus						4 NT	4 NT	6 NT		At large fruiting tree 400 yards west of the NT
Vinous-breasted Starling	Acridotheres burmannicus						6 NT				At large fruiting tree 400 yards west of the NT
Pied Starling	Gracupica contra								1 NT		At large fruiting tree 400 yards west of the NT
Daurian Starling	Agropsar sturninus								1 PT		A vagrant in Yunnan?
Chestnut-tailed Starling	Sturnia malabarica				1		10 NT	1 NT	4 NT	2 DR	At large fruiting tree 400 yards west of the NT
Orange-headed Thrush	Geokichla citrina						1 seen, 1 hd XM	1 RAN	1 XM		
Plain-backed Thrush	Zoothera mollissima		2 hd								
Scaly Thrush	Zoothera dauma				1						Seen just below the ridge
Black-breasted Thrush	Turdus dissimilis				1					1 RS W, 3 LP	
Chinese Thrush	Turdus mupinensis	2			1						
Purple Cochoa	Cochoa purpurea		1 hd								Calling at dusk around 1km along train from DLC
Green Cochoa	Cochoa viridis									1 hd RAN	Near km212, RAN

Blue Whistling Thrush	Myophonus caeruleus							2 RA N		2 RA N	
Oriental Magpie-Robin	Copsychus saularis						few	few	few	few	
White-rumped Shama	Copsychus malabaricus						1 XM	2 XM, 1 RA N	3 XM		
Brown-breasted Flycatcher	Muscicapa muttui									1 LP	
Ferruginous Flycatcher	Muscicapa ferruginea		1								
Hill Blue Flycatcher	Cyornis banyumas						3 see n, 15 hd	sev			
Large Niltava	Niltava grandis		1 see n, 10 hd					1 RA N		1 LP	
Verditer Flycatcher	Eumyias thalassinus						1 RA N	1 RA N	7 PT	4 RA N	
Gould's Shortwing	Heteroxenicus stellatus		1								Seen well at dusk around 1km along train from DLC
Lesser Shortwing	Brachypteryx leucophris		6 hd	hd		hd		1 RA N			
White-browed Shortwing	Brachypteryx		1								
White-tailed Robin	Myiomela leucura		1	hd		hd					
Himalayan Bluetail	Tarsiger rufilatus		2								
Golden Bush Robin	Tarsiger chrysaeus			1		2					
Slaty-backed Forktail	Enicurus schistaceus						1 RA N	1 RA N	1 RA N		
White-crowned Forktail	Enicurus leschenaulti							1 RA N			
Snowy-browed Flycatcher	Ficedula hyperythra		1								
Little Pied Flycatcher	Ficedula westermanni						2 RA N		4 PT	4 RA N	
Ultramarine Flycatcher	Ficedula superciliaris	1									Seen well at Hume's Pheasant site

Pygmy Flycatcher	Muscicapella hodgsoni		1					1 RA N	1 RA N		
Blue-fronted Redstart	Phoenicurus frontalis	1									
Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush	Monticola rufiventris				2						
Pied Bush Chat	Saxicola caprata				1	few		2 RS W		6 DR	
Grey Bush Chat	Saxicola ferreus		2		1					1 LP	
Golden-fronted Leafbird	Chloropsis aurifrons							1 XM	2 XM		
Orange-bellied Leafbird	Chloropsis hardwickii						1 XM, 1 RA N		2 RA N		
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	Dicaeum ignipectus		4								
Ruby-cheeked Sunbird	Chalcoparia singalensis							1 XM			
Green-tailed Sunbird	Aethopyga nipalensis			4							
Black-throated Sunbird	Aethopyga saturata								1 XM	1 RA N	
Streaked Spiderhunter	Arachnothera magna		1				few	few	few	few	
Russet Sparrow	Passer rutilans									2 tp	
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	Passer montanus						sev	sev	sev	sev	
White-rumped Munia	Lonchura striata						1 XM				
Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata									2 DR	
Black-headed Munia	Lonchura malacca									2 DR	
Forest Wagtail	Dendronanthus indicus						1 XM	1 RS W			
White Wagtail	Motacilla alba				1	few	few	few	few	few	

Paddyfield Pipit	Anthus rufulus							6 NT		2 NT	
Olive-backed Pipit	Anthus hodgsoni									2 PT	
Crimson-browed Finch	Carpodacus subhimachalus			2							Adult male and juv male in low bushes 100m down from the house
Red Crossbill	Loxia curvirostra			20							
Tibetan Serin	Spinus thibetana		300								3 flocks of around 100 birds seen, presumably migrating flocks
Eurasian Siskin	Spinus spinus		1								1 seen clearly, probably more