

Beijing & Yunnan, China, Jan/Feb 2010.

An at-a-glance list of 361 species of birds & 12 species of mammals recorded.

By Jesper Hornskov ®

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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 mostly on my own field notes, this brief write-up covers the birds & mammals noted by I Graves, I Robinson, A Sun & myself during 23 January – 12 February 2010 at & around Beijing, and at Kunming's Xishan, in the Gaoligongshan & Tengchong areas, near Yingjiang & around Ruili.

Timed as a winter get-away the weather back in NE England seemed bent on retrospectively over-justifying the decision to go on a holiday - instead of being holed up indoors while society sputtered to a halt on account of low temps and snow my two companions found themselves in shirt sleeves (except in Beijing!) for much of each day, photographing a range of sought-after species.

Along the way we adjusted our tactics to pursue the best photographic opportunities - this may have / probably 'cost' us a few species but in addition to the many superb images obtained it allowed us to gain a deeper understanding of some aspects of bird distribution. Or to put it plainly, it was good to be reminded of how different two or even three consecutive mornings can be at the same site even at a time of the year when one wouldn't expect any migration to be in progress.

Thank you all for making this trip so enjoyable!

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Enquiries concerning **Oriental Bird Club's Fundraiser** trips to Yunnan 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.

In the species list the concept "bird-days" is used - it is the avian equivalent of man-hours: for example, separate flocks of ten and 15 Henri's Snowfinches moving through score 25 bird-days, as would the same single individual seen daily for 25 days. The sum of day totals - a handy measure of relative abundance, nothing more.

The sequence of the bird list follows *The Howard and Moore Complete Checklist of the Birds of the World – 3rd Edition* (Dickinson 2003), in my opinion by far the most useful one-volume checklist to date.

Initials in brackets after single-observer sightings does not imply that I have doubts as to the correctness of the ID.

Species list:

Common Hill Partridge *Arborophila torqueola*
25+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Rufous-throated Hill Partridge *Arborophila rufogularis*
Two seen quite well at Gaoligongshan on 28th.

Mountain Bamboo Partridge *Bambusicola fytchii*
5+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Common Pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*
Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates @ Beijing.

Grey Peacock Pheasant *Polyplectron bicalcaratum*
Two heard W of Yingjiang on 7th.

Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna*
A raft of 14 at Kunming on 26th.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*
19 bird-days. Noted at Yingjiang on two dates.

Gadwall *Anas strepera*
250+ at Kunming on 26th.

Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos*
90 N of Beijing on 25th.

Indian Spotbill *Anas poecilorhyncha*
99 at Ruili on 10th.

Chinese Spotbill *Anas zonorhyncha*
One on river N of Beijing on 25th.

Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*
Three at Kunming on 26th.

Common Teal *Anas crecca*
180 at Ruili on 10th.

Common Goldeneye *Bucephala clangula*
Eight N of Beijing on 25th.

Smew *Mergellus albellus*
Superb views of 16 (three males & 13 brown-heads) on 25th.

Goosander *Mergus merganser*
14 bird-days. Noted three dates - N of Beijing on 25th & W of Yingjiang on 6+8th.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* 8)
25 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus*
One in breeding plumage at Ruili on 10th.

Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus*
Five bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus* 9A)
c97 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*
15 bird-days. 14 at Yingjiang on 8th & one at Ruili on 10th.

Great Egret *Ardea alba*
Singles on two dates.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
76 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 56 at Ruili on 10th.

Little Cormorant *Phalacrocorax niger*
94 at Ruili on 10th.

Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*
131 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 66 at Ruili on 10th.

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*
13 bird-days. Noted on six dates, incl N of Beijing on 25th.

Peregrine *Falco peregrinus*
One adult flew S at Gaoligongshan on 28th.

Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*
Eight bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*
Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
One at Kunming on 26th.

Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela*
Four bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event a prolonged looks at a displaying bird at Ruili on 12th.

Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*
2-3 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Shikra *Accipiter badius* 11C**)
One W of Yingjiang on 8th.

Besra *Accipiter virgatus*
Singles on two days in Gaoligongshan.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*
Two on 6th.

Northern Goshawk *Accipiter gentiles*
Three bird-days. Superb views of a pair of adults in Gaoligongshan on 1st, and another adult W of Yingjiang on 4th.

***In addition, unidentified sparrowhawk types were seen on two dates.

Common Buzzard *Buteo buteo japonicus* 11D)
21 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

Upland Buzzard *Buteo hemilasius*
One N of Beijing on 23rd.

Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis*
10-11 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – superb views on several occasions: WOW!

Golden Eagle *Aquila chrysaetos*
One en route N of Beijing on 23rd.

Mountain Hawk Eagle *Spizaetus nipalensis*
Singles on two dates.

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
Eight bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*
Singles on two dates.

Common Crane *Grus grus*
Two N of Beijing on 23rd.

Barred Buttonquail *Turnix suscitator*
Three flushed W of Yingjiang on 6th.

Ibisbill *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*
17 bird-days. Noted on no less than five dates!

River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*
12 bird-days. Noted on four dates W of Yingjiang.

Red-wattled Lapwing *Vanellus indicus*
16 bird-days. Noted on four dates W of Yingjiang.

Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*

34 bird-days. Noted on four dates – quite a bit of displaying going on at Yingjiang on 8th.

Kentish Plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*

20 on 3rd.

Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*

Five at Ruili on 10th.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*

Eight bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*

One at Yingjiang on 3rd.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*

Four seen well at Yingjiang on 3rd.

Common Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*

2,000+ at Kunming on 26th.

River Tern *Sterna aurantia*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Pallas's Sandgrouse *Syrrhaptes paradoxus*

c60 N of Beijing were worth braving the icy winds for...

Blue Hill Pigeon *Columba rupestris*

One N of Beijing on 25th.

Speckled Wood Pigeon *Columba hogsonii*

17 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis*

15 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*

89+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 44 feeding in fields W of Yingjiang on 8th.

Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica*

Six bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on three dates.

Pin-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron apicauda*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenurus*

Two on 7th.

Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia*

7+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Finsch's Parakeet *Psittacula finschii* 24)

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Green-billed Malkoha *Rhopodytes tristis*

Singles on two dates - one on 8th presented itself for extended 'scope viewing in good light completely in the open... WOW!

Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis*

Two seen well ('red iris!') on 6th.

Collared Scops Owl *Otus lettia* 26)

One heard in Gaoligongshan on 27th.

Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica* 27A)

One heard W of Yingjiang on 4th.

Chinese Tawny Owl *Strix nivicola* 27B)

Singles heard on two dates.

Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei*

17 bird-days. Heard-onlies on 11 dates.

Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates, incl one by a puddle on the track in front of the vehicle on 30th.

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*

258+ bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on five dates.

Fork-tailed Swift *Apus pacificus*

c120 bird-days. Noted at Ruili on two dates – main event c110 on 10th.

House Swift *Apus nipalensis* 34)

80 at on 3rd.

Crested Treeswift *Hemiprocne coronata*

Two on 5th.

Red-headed Trogon *Harpactes erythrocephalus*

Single males were seen on three dates – one on 4th proved amazingly cooperative...

Ward's Trogon *Harpactes wardi*

A female at c2,300m in Gaoligongshan on 30th – 'persistence pays off (once you add a little luck)'..

Indian Roller *Coracias benghalensis*

One en route to the airport on 12th was a stylish way to end the trip (a Grey-breasted Prinia sitting up nicely as we had dinner a little later wasn't quite in the same league...).

White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*

Eight bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis*

16 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Crested Kingfisher *Megaceryle lugubris*

Singles noted on three dates, incl N of Beijing on 25th.

***Cheng (1987) listed the species for NW + S Yunnan, and did not map it for W of the Salween.
It is considered a scarce to uncommon resident in adjacent Burma (Robson 2000).

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Blue-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctiornis athertoni*

Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Green Bee-eater *Merops orientalis*

10+ bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

Wreathed Hornbill *Rhyticeros undulatus*

Probably the same pair seen twice W of Yingjiang on 5th - a scarce species in China.

Great Barbet *Megalaima virens*

29 bird-days. This charismatic species was noted on 12 dates.

Golden-throated Barbet *Megalaima franklinii*

27+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – at least one allowed our team photographers to go to work.

Blue-throated Barbet *Megalaima asiatica*

71 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Coppersmith Barbet *Megalaima haemacephala*

Three 'as planned' at Ruili on 10th.

Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus*

11 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

White-browed Piculet *Sasia ochracea*

Four bird-days. Noted at Ruili on two dates.

Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker *Dendrocopos canicapillus*

21 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Stripe-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos atratus*

One male on 9th.

Crimson-breasted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos cathpharius*

Two in Gaoligongshan on 30th.

Great Spotted Woodpecker *Dendrocopos major*

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Lesser Yellownape *Picus chlorolophus*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Greater Yellownape *Picus flavinucha*

Two in Gaoligongshan on 30th.

Grey-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates – three chasing after each other at Botanical Gardens on 24th was a fine sight.

Greater Goldenback *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*

One heard at Ruili on 12th.

Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis*

17 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus dalhousiae*

18+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Silver-breasted Broadbill *Serilophus lunatus*

Superb views of four at Ruili on 11th.

Large Woodshrike *Tephrodornis virgatus*

Ten seen well at Ruili on 11th.

Large Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina macei*

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina melaschistos*

Nine bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Grey-chinned Minivet *Pericrocotus solaris*

12 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Long-tailed Minivet *Pericrocotus ethologus*

c49 bird-days. Noted on four dates – memorable views of a flock of c20 near Tengchong on 2nd...

Short-billed Minivet *Pericrocotus brevirostris*

12 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus speciosus* 37B)

51 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike *Hemipus picatus*

20 bird-days. Noted on three dates./

Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus*

One ssp *confusus* bird noted on 3rd.

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*

49 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Grey-backed Shrike *Lanius tephronotus* 38B)

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates.

*****Long-tailed / Grey-backed Shrike**

Two en route on 31st.

Slender-billed Oriole *Oriolus tenuirostris*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates – one male 'scoped for several minutes on 2nd!

Black-hooded Oriole *Oriolus xanthornus*

Two up in a flowering tree W of Yingjiang on 5th - the species is rarely recorded in China.

Maroon Oriole *Oriolus traillii*

22 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Black Drongo *Dicrurus macrocercus*

Five bird-days. Noted on just two dates – evidently scarce in winter...

Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*

40 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*

91+ bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus*

Nine bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event eight together on 7th, returning again and again to a flowering tree.

Yellow-bellied Fantail *Rhipidura hypoxantha* 43)

54 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis*

51 bird-days. Noted on 15 dates.

Eurasian Jay *Garrulus glandarius*

Three bird-days. One in flight at Great Wall on 25th & two near Tengchong on 2nd.

Azure-winged Magpie *Cyanopica cyanus*

Noted on several occasions in the Beijing area.

Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*

11 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Common Green Magpie *Cissa chinensis*

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae*

30+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Common Magpie *Pica pica*

One at Kunming on 26th was a surprise – lots @ Beijing was *not*.

Eurasian Nutcracker *Nucifraga caryocatactes*

One heard in Gaoligongshan on 28th.

Red-billed Chough *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*

45 N of Beijing on 25th.

Carrion Crow *Corvus corone*

110+ bird-days in the Beijing area.

Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos* 53)

23 bird-days. Noted both in Beijing & in W Yunnan.

'Great' Tit *Parus 'major'* 54)

51 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

***Both ssp *minor* & *subtibetanus*.

Green-backed Tit *Parus monticolus*

24 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 21 at Kunming on 26th.

Yellow-bellied Tit *Parus venustulus*

Six bird-days. This China endemic was noted on two dates.

Yellow-cheeked Tit *Parus spilonotus*

31 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Marsh Tit *Parus palustris*

11 bird-days. Noted at Beijing on two dates.

Yellow-browed Tit *Sylviparus modestus*

15 bird-days. Noted on just two dates at Gaoligongshan.

Fire-capped Tit *Cephalopyrus flammiceps*

Singles on two dates.

Grey-throated Sand Martin *Riparia chinensis* 59B)

c66 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*

330+ bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*

2-4 birds noted on three dates W of Yingjiang - 1st confirmed nesting in China as recently as spring 2009.

Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

45 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus*
46 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica*
66+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Striated Swallow *Cecropis striolata* 64)
Three W of Yingjiang on 6th.

Long-tailed Tit *Aegithalos caudatus vinaceus*
22 bird-days. Noted @ Beijing on two dates.

Black-throated Tit *Aegithalos concinnus*
58 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Mongolian Lark *Melanocorypha mongolica*
120+ at Wild Duck lake on 23rd - TINGALING!

Asian Short-toed Lark *Calandrella cheleensis*
8+ on 23rd.

Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis*
20 on 23rd.

Chinese Hill Warbler *Rhopophilus pekinensis* 71)
9+ bird-days. Noted near Beijing on two dates.

Hill Prinia *Prinia superciliaris* 71A**)
16 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Rufescent Prinia *Prinia rufescens*
Five bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Grey-breasted Prinia *Prinia hodgsonii*
41+ bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Mountain Tailorbird *Orthomus cucullatus*
Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Common Tailorbird *Orthomus sutorius*
46 bird-days. This lowland species was noted on ten dates.

Crested Finchbill *Spizixos canifrons*
38+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Striated Bulbul *Pycnonotus striatus*
16 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Black-crested Bulbul *Pycnonotus flaviventris* 72)
Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus*

68 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Brown-breasted Bulbul *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*

190+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Red-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus cafer*

125 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

Flavescent Bulbul *Pycnonotus flavescens*

42+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

White-throated Bulbul *Criniger flaveolus*

64+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates - main event 34+ W of Yingjiang on 7th.

Grey-eyed Bulbul *Iole propinqua*

5+ on W of Yingjiang on 7th.

Mountain Bulbul *Ixos mcclellandii*

98+ bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

Ashy Bulbul *Hemixos flavala*

51 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Black Bulbul *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*

231+ bird-days. Noted on 15 dates.

***What with three morphs – in addition to all-black(ish) birds, white-breasted ssp *leucothorax* and white-headed birds were seen – this attractive species is a strong 'presence' almost throughout the region covered by our trip.

Striated Warbler *Megalurus palustris*

31-32 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Chestnut-headed Tesia *Oligura castaneocoronata*

22 bird-days. Up to seven birds noted on four dates - two or three were showing unusually well, even coming out into the open to feed on moss-grown rocks in good light (click-click-click).

Slaty-bellied Tesia *Tesia olivacea*

22 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Grey-bellied Tesia *Tesia cyaniventer* 77A)

Seven bird-days. Noted on five dates.

*****Slaty-bellied / Grey-bellied Tesia**

Two on 9th.

Pale-footed Bush Warbler *Cettia pallidipes*

One heard near Ruili on 10th.

Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler *Cettia fortipes*

Singles near Tengchong on two dates.

Grey-sided Bush Warbler *Cettia brunnifrons*

One heard calling near Tengchong on 3rd.

Spotted Bush Warbler *Bradypterus thoracicus*

Singletons heard singing on three dates.

Dusky Warbler *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 93A)

57 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

***All those seen properly were ssp *fuscatus*.

‘Chinese’ Tickell’s Warbler *Phylloscopus occisinensis* 94A)

Two noted on 1st.

Buff-throated Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus subaffinis*

Two photographed near Tengchong on 3rd.

Yellow-streaked Warbler *Phylloscopus armandii*

Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Buff-barred Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus pulcher*

70+ bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Ashy-throated Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus maculipennis*

25 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

Pallas’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus*

26 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event ten at Kunming on 26th.

Eastern Lemon-rumped Warbler *Phylloscopus forresti* 95A)

66 bird-days. Noted on 15 dates.

Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus*

103 bird-days. Noted on 14 dates.

Hume’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei mandellii* 96)

91 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

Greenish Warbler *Phylloscopus trochiloides*

Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Blyth’s Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides* 99)

48+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 29+ near Ruili on 12th.

White-tailed Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus davisoni* 100)

52 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Yellow-vented Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus cantator*

One seen briefly on 12th.

Grey-crowned Warbler *Seicercus tephrocephalus*

19 bird-days. Noted on four dates @ Ruili.

Bianchi's Warbler *Seicercus valentini*

25 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Grey-cheeked Warbler *Seicercus poliogenys*

Eight bird-days. Noted on three dates – outstanding views (and reasonable photographs!) obtained on 31st...

Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus castaniceps*

Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Rufous-faced Warbler *Abroscopus albogularis*

Ten bird-days. Noted on just two dates W of Yingjiang.

Black-faced Warbler *Abroscopus schisticeps*

11 bird-days. Noted in Gaoligongshan on two dates.

Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris*

16 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Puff-throated Babbler *Pellorneum ruficeps*

12 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis* 105) 105A) 105A*)

67 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis*

61 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates – main event was two whistled into view near Ruili on 12th.

Red-billed Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ochraceiceps*

18 bird-days. Noted on four dates – prolonged views (click-click-click) of four near Ruili on 11th.

Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler *Xiphirhynchus superciliaris*

Four bird-days. Noted in Gaoligongshan on three dates - exceptionally good views were obtained of this highly adapted, emblematic species.

Streaked Wren-Babbler *Napothera brevicaudata*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Pygmy Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla*

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Long-tailed Wren-Babbler *Spelaeornis reptatus* 106A)

An obliging individual came out of the deep shadows of a moss-grown gully to have its photo taken...

Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyris ruficeps*

23 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Golden Babbler *Stachyris chrysaea*

16+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps*

14 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event prolonged views of one feeding sideways on oozing trunk trying to blend in with a bunch of Whiskered Yuhinas.

Striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis*

Eight bird-days. Heard-onlies noted on four dates W of Yingjiang.

Chinese Babax *Babax lanceolatus*

13+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

White-throated Laughingthrush *Garrulax albogularis*

A flock of 35+ on 28th.

White-crested Laughingthrush *Garrulax leucolophus*

30+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax monileger*

40+bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush *Garrulax pectoralis*

8+ near Ruili on 12th, associating w/ 10+ Lesser.

Black-throated Laughingthrush *Garrulax chinensis*

Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Pere David's Laughingthrush *Garrulax davidi*

14 bird-days. Noted near Beijing on two dates.

Grey-sided Laughingthrush *Garrulax caerulatus* 109E)

Four seen well in Gaoligongshan on 30th.

Rufous-necked Laughingthrush *Garrulax ruficollis* 110A)

Heard near Ruili on 11th.

White-browed Laughingthrush *Garrulax sannio* 111A)

75+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush *Garrulax erythrocephalus* 112A) 112B)

12 bird-days. Noted in Gaoligongshan on three dates.

Red-tailed Laughingthrush *Garrulax milnei*

Superb views of ten on 9th.

Red-faced Liocichla *Liocichla phoenicea* 112C*)

24 bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 16 on 10th.

Silver-eared Mesia *Leiothrix argenteauris*

132+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Red-billed Leiothrix *Leiothrix lutea*

Ten bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Cutia *Cutia nipalensis*

Eight bird-days. Outstanding views on two dates...

White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis*

24 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Black-eared Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius melanotis*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius aenobarbus*

Two near Ruili on 12th.

White-hooded Babbler *Gampsorhynchus rufulus* 112D)

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Rusty-fronted Barwing *Actinodura egertoni*

65 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Streak-throated Barwing *Actinodura waldeni saturator* 113A)

Two were attracted to a flowering tree at just 2,200m at Gaoligongshan on 30th.

Blue-winged Minla *Minla cyanouroptera*

135 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Chestnut-tailed Minla *Minla strigula*

44 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Red-tailed Minla *Minla ignotinta*

28 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Yellow-throated Fulvetta *Alcippe cinerea*

Nice looks at a flock of c10 on 30th.

Rufous-winged Fulvetta *Alcippe castaneiceps*

23 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

White-browed Fulvetta *Alcippe vinipectus*

Two on 1st.

Spectacled Fulvetta *Alcippe ruficapilla*

21 at Kunming on 26th.

Manipur Fulvetta *Alcippe manipurensis* 115B)

12 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Rusty-capped Fulvetta *Alcippe dubia*

67 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 39 at Kunming on 26th.

Brown-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe poiocephala*

Seven bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

‘Northern’ Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe davidi* 117A)
Five @ Kunming on 26th.

‘Western’ Grey-cheeked Fulvetta *Alcippe fratercula* 117A)

167 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

***In addition, two birds near Ruili on 12th were either this species or Nepal Fulvetta.

Nepal Fulvetta *Alcippe nipalensis*

9+ bird-days. Noted W of Yingjiang on two dates.

Rufous-backed Sibia *Heterophasia annectans*

22 bird-days. This frequently hard-to-find species was noted on no less than four dates and seen very well indeed.

Grey Sibia *Heterophasia gracilis*

46 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 35 on 9th.

Black-headed Sibia *Heterophasia desgodinsi* 119)

Three bird-days. Seen well on two dates...

Beautiful Sibia *Heterophasia pulchella*

56+ bird-days. Noted in Gaoligongshan on three dates.

Long-tailed Sibia *Heterophasia picaoides*

50+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Striated Yuhina *Yuhina castaniceps* 119A)

250+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Whiskered Yuhina *Yuhina flavicollis*

87+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Stripe-throated Yuhina *Yuhina gularis*

15 bird-days. Noted in Gaoligongshan on three dates.

White-collared Yuhina *Yuhina diademata*

60+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 41+ at Kunming on 26th.

Rufous-vented Yuhina *Yuhina occipitalis*

253+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

White-bellied Yuhina *Erpornis zantholeuca* 120)

54 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Vinous-throated Parrotbill *Paradoxornis webbianus* 121)

45 bird-days. Noted near Beijing on two dates.

Brown-winged Parrotbill *Paradoxornis brunneus* 122) 122*)

35 bird-days. Noted near Tengchong on two dates.

Lesser Rufous-headed Parrotbill *Paradoxornis atrosuperciliaris*

7+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

***In addition, three possible **Greater Rufous-headed Parrotbills** *Paradoxornis ruficeps* near Ruili on 11th.

Grey-headed Parrotbill *Paradoxornis gularis* 122A)

73+ bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event a flock of 35+ near Ruili on 12th.

Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops erythropleurus*

29+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Japanese White-eye *Zosterops japonicus*

151+ bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*

18 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Goldcrest *Regulus regulus*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Naga Nuthatch *Sitta nagaensis*

55 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

White-tailed Nuthatch *Sitta himalayensis*

Two at Gaoligongshan on 30th.

Chinese Nuthatch *Sitta villosa*

Six showing well at Beijing on 24th.

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*

14 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Bar-tailed Treecreeper *Certhia himalayana*

Three near Tengchong on 2nd.

Hume's Treecreeper *Certhia manipurensis* 125B*)

Nine bird-days. Noted on five dates.

'Great' (=White-vented) Myna *Acridotheres grandis*

Nine birds recorded on three visits to open country W of Yinjiang.

*****Crested Myna** *Acridotheres cristellatus* [presumed feral]

Two at Beijing on 24th.

Collared Myna *Acridotheres albocinctus*

10+ W of Yingjiang on 8th.

***Intensified agriculture is undoubtedly making survival harder for this restricted-range species.

Black-collared Starling *Sturnus nigricollis*

Two en route on 3rd.

Asian Pied Starling *Sturnus contra*

Ten bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Chestnut-tailed Starling *Sturnus malabaricus*

Singles on two dates.

White-cheeked Starling *Sturnus cineraceus*

Three in flight over C Beijing on 24th.

Blue Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus*

11 bird-days.

***Of these four were definitely yellow-billed – no dark-billed birds were identified.

Long-tailed Thrush *Zoothera dixonii*

One at Kunming on 26th.

White's Thrush *Zoothera aurea* 127)

A stunningly cooperative individual gave unobscured 'scope views and was duly photographed near Tengchong on 3rd.

Black-breasted Thrush *Turdus dissimilis*

30 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Grey-winged Blackbird *Turdus bouboul*

An adult male returning repeatedly to a fruiting tree W of Yingjiang on 7th was all the more of a trip highlight for thrushes being relatively scarce this winter.

Chestnut Thrush *Turdus rubrocanus*

13 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Naumann's Thrush *Turdus naumanni* 133)

Four bird-days – single *naumanni* at Beijing on 23+24th, and two *eunomus* at Kunming on 26th.

Chinese Song Thrush *Turdus mupinensis*

One at Kunming on 26th.

Siberian Rubythroat *Luscinia calliope*

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates – at least a couple 'sat right out'.

Himalayan Red-flanked Bluetail *Tarsiger rufilatus* 134A)

33 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates – several adult males showed well...

***In addition, a couple of female-types at Kunming could have been *cyanurus*...

Golden Bush Robin *Tarsiger chrysaea*

An adult male hopping along in the open - though not for long! - made an impression on 1st.

Oriental Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis*

35 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

Hodgson's Redstart *Phoenicurus hodgsoni*

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Daurian Redstart *Phoenicurus aureus*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Blue-fronted Redstart *Phoenicurus frontalis*

57 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Plumbeous Redstart *Rhyacornis fuliginosa*

58 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

River Chat *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*

20 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

White-tailed Robin *Myiomela leucura*

A superb male near Ruili on 12th.

Little Forktail *Enicurus scouleri*

7-8 bird-days. Noted on two dates... how often does one find a place where three species of Forktail perform in front of the cameras!?

Black-backed Forktail *Enicurus immaculatus*

11 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Slaty-backed Forktail *Enicurus schistaceus*

21 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Spotted Forktail *Enicurus maculates*

Eight bird-days. Noted on four dates.

'Siberian' Common Stonechat *Saxicola 'torquatus'* 138)

38 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

Pied Bushchat *Saxicola caprata*

26 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

Grey Bushchat *Saxicola ferreus*

15 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*

Singletons on two dates.

Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris*

Six bird-days. Singles noted on six dates...

Rufous-gorgetted Flycatcher *Ficedula strophciata*

14 bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

White-gorgetted Flycatcher *Ficedula monileger* 143)

A singleton on 4th - a scarce bird in winter.

***The species was considered merely 'accidental' in China by Cheng (1987); in reality it is less rare: we have recorded up to nine in a day in spring.

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*

Nine bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Slaty-blue Flycatcher *Ficedula tricolor*

16 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

Asian Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassinus*

Singles on two dates.

Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis banyumas*

11 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Rufous-bellied Niltava *Niltava sundara*

One near Tengchong on 3rd.

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*

Nine bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Grey-headed Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*

56 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Brown Dipper *Cinclus pallasii*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates, incl N of Beijing on 25th.

Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event a pair 'scoped W of Yingjiang on 7th.

Golden-fronted Leafbird *Chloropsis aurifrons*

Single males were noted on two dates W of Yingjiang.

Orange-bellied Leafbird *Chloropsis hardwickii*

73 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Plain Flowerpecker *Dicaeum concolor*

One on 5th.

Buff-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum ignipectum*

53 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Chalcoparia singalensis*

A pair feeding on flowers on 5th...

Purple Sunbird *Cinnyris asiaticus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates W of Yingjiang.

Mrs. Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae*

25 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

Green-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga nipalensis*

27 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Black-throated Sunbird *Aethopyga saturata*

13 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates near Ruili.

Fire-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga ignicauda*

35 bird-days. Noted on five dates - 'why do straight-forward flycatching if you have the flying skills to do aerial somersaults?'

Streaked Spiderhunter *Arachnothera magna*

60 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

Russet Sparrow *Passer rutilans*

14+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus*

Quite common – not systematically recorded.

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*

20+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*

78 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Siberian Accentor *Prunella montanella*

11 N of Beijing on 25th.

Maroon-backed Accentor *Prunella immaculata*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis* 156A)

400+ bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event 400+ on 3rd.

Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola*

c6 on 3rd, incl a fine male *calcarata*.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*

18 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* 157)

86 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates – only sspp *leucopsis* & *alboides* were identified.

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus* 159)

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Olive-backed Pipit *Anthus hodgsoni*

93 bird-days. Noted on 13 dates.

Rosy Pipit *Anthus roseus*

c21 bird-days. Noted on just two dates.

Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla*

c28 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

Oriental Greenfinch *Carduelis sinica*

14 bird-days. Seen well near Beijing on two dates.

Black-headed Greenfinch *Carduelis ambigua*

37+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

Dark-breasted Rosefinch *Carpodacus nipalensis*

Four flying over near Kunming on 26th.

Common Rosefinch *Carpodacus erythrinus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates W of Yingjiang – main event six (of which three were adult males!) on 8th.

Dark-rumped Rosefinch *Carpodacus edwardsii*

A male & two females at Gaoligongshan on 1st.

Scarlet Finch *Haematospiza sipahi*

Two different pairs: birdwatching doesn't get much better than 'scoping an adult male of this species - TINGALING!

Chinese Grosbeak *Eophona migratoria*

Six at Beijing on 24th – incl a pair seen feeding on the ground.

Spot-winged Grosbeak *Mycerobas melanozanthos*

Two seen well W of Yingjiang on 4th.

Golden-naped Finch *Pyrrhoplectes epauletta*

Three in Gaoligongshan on 1st.

Pine Bunting *Emberiza leucocephalos*

Ten near Beijing on 23rd.

Eastern Rock Bunting *Emberiza godlewskii*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

Meadow Bunting *Emberiza cioides*

11 N of Beijing on 25th.

Little Bunting *Emberiza pusilla*

159 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

Yellow-throated Bunting *Emberiza elegans*

14 bird-days. Noted on three dates in Yunnan - all but one were adult males!

Black-faced Bunting *Emberiza spodocephala*

c27 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

Pallas's Reed Bunting *Emberiza pallasii* 174) 175)
C15 N of Beijing on 23rd.

Lapland Bunting *Calcarius lapponicus*
300+ N of Beijing on 23rd.

Mammals:

Sequence and taxonomy follows "A Guide to the Mammals of China", Smith & Xie (ed.) 2008.

Northern Tree Shrew *Tupaia belangeri*
One W of Yingjiang on 5th.

***Of the order *Scadentia*, which comprises 'five genera and 20 species' of which only one (of the 15 species in the genus *Tupaia*) occurs in China, Smith (2008) writes 'Few other taxa have proved to be as difficult to classify' – 'most recent treatments consider ['these squirrel-like animals'] most closely allied with Primates, Dermoptera, and Chiroptera'.

Eurasian Red Squirrel *Sciurus vulgaris*
6+ near Beijing on 24th.

Pallas' Squirrel *Callosciurus erythraeus*
Four were identified.

Phayre's Squirrel *Callosciurus phayrei*
One up in flowering tree on 7th.

Anderson's Squirrel *Callosciurus quinquestriatus*
Two were seen well on 7th.

Asian Red-cheeked Squirrel *Dremomys rufigenis*
One in Gaoligongshan on 29th.

***'a semiterrestrial foothills species, generally found at less than 1,500m elevation':
Smith & Xie (2008).

Himalayan (=Western) Striped Squirrel *Tamiops maclellandii*
Two seen well W of Yingjiang on 4th.

Pere David's Rock Squirrel *Sciurotamias davidianus*
Three N of Beijing in 25th.

Black Giant Squirrel *Ratufa bicolor*
At least seven were seen.

Tolai Hare *Lepus tolai*
One N of Beijing on 23rd.

bb

Notes:

- 8) *T. r. poggei* (replaced by ssp *capensis* in Xinjiang (& Tibet?) differ from nominate in iris colour & vocalizations.
- 9A) "Consistent differences between *B. ibis* and *B. coromandus* in breeding plumage, proportions and vocalisations indicate they are better treated as two species": Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.
- 11C**) "Probably better considered a separate species from African races (oldest name *sphenurus*), based on morphology and vocalizations.": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 11D) "The racial group *vulpinus* is very close genetically to nominate *B. b. buteo* and is considered to hybridise regularly with the latter, although it is usually distinctive in appearance, and might also be vocally distinct. *B. [b.] japonicus* is genetically and morphologically more distant, seems to differ vocally as well, and is probably specifically distinct": Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.
- 24) Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) notes that "sympatry with *P. himalayana* not well documented, but no intergrades were noted in review of specimens [...]. Furthermore, differences in plumage and size, as well as markedly distinct vocalisations, support treatment of *finschii* as a distinct species". Dickinson (2003) only tentatively accepted the split.
- 26) "The case, based on acoustic evidence, to split this species [from *O. bakkamoena*] has yet to be convincingly tied to morphology, and vocal repertoire is apparently not yet understood": Dickinson (2003). Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) accepts the split, noting that "much further study and documentation" is required.
- 27A) "Konig *et al.* (1999) split Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica* into two species with Himalayan Wood Owl *Strix newarensis* considered to occur in south-east China. There are few recent records from the region and the status of this species in south-east China is very unclear. Recent recordings from bawangling and Jianfengling in Hainan suggest that the species occurring there is Brown Wood Owl and not Himalayan Wood Owl as indicated": Woodward (2006). Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) do not accept the split as "most (if not all) vocalizations known for these taxa have been heard at a single locality [...], and recordings from S India elicit full territorial response in Himalayas [...]. Furthermore, specimens from s Assam hills are intermediate in size and plumage [...]."
- 27B) "The Indian taxa *biddulphi* and *nivicola* are usually considered races of Tawny, but differ markedly from each other in morphology and song, despite their close geographic approach in the W Himalayas; *nivicola* is thus afforded species status [...]": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 34) split from Little Swift *A. affinis* "but evidence not yet wholly convincing": Dickinson.
- 37B) Split from Orange Minivet *P. flammeus* (endemic to Indian Subcontinent) following Rasmussen & Anderton (2005): "Usually considered part of a highly polytopic, widespread *P. flammeus* complex, which clearly requires revision (Philippine taxa are especially distinct morphologically and vocally)."
- 38B) "As pointed out by Whistler & Kinnear (1933), the treatment of *tephronotus* as a full species is inconsistent with that accorded forms now placed with *L. schach*": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 43) Dickinson: "This species used to be treated in the monotypic genus *Chelidornyx*". No reference given for the decision to include it with *Rhipidura*.
- 53) *intermedius*, *tibetosinensis*, *mandschuricus* & *colonorum*..."There is little doubt that there are two species or more here [in *C. macrorhynchos*]" : Dickinson.
- 54) Dickinson: Three species may be involved – *P. major* (ssp *major* (incl. *kapustini*) in Xinjiang), *P. cinereus* (ssp *commixtus* in S+E China & *hainanus* in Hainan), and *P. minor* (ssp *tibetanus* (apparently incl. Cheng's *subtibetanus* & *artatus*) in SE Tibet – W Sichuan & *minor* in NC+NE China).
- 59B) "Widely disjunct from the much larger, darker Brown-throated Sand-martin *R. paludicola* of Africa, and vocalizations evidently differ markedly, with those of African birds being much harsher and commonly including a very raspy buzz": Rasmussen &

- Anderton (2005).
- 64) Sspp *striolata* (Taiwan) & *mayri* (Yunnan – though the race listed for Yunnan by Cheng (1987) was *stanfordi*). Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) notes that these taxa are “traditionally treated as a distinct species from Red-rumped but almost certainly not sympatric with it (*contra* Baker 1926). Rather, its species status hinges on slight morphological differences, coupled with non-clinally larger size and minor but perceptible vocal differences”.
- 71) DNA studies may reveal this species to be closer to babblers than to warblers.
- 71A) “Perhaps better treated as conspecific with *P. crinigera*; re-evaluation needed.”: Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.
- 71A**) Split from *P. atrogularis* following Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 72) “The *P. melanicterus* group is better treated as a superspecies consisting probably of five allopatric species (as previously recognised): *P. melanicterus* (Sri Lanka); *P. gularis* (W Ghats); *P. flaviventris* (Himalayas and C India to Vietnam); *P. dispar* (Sumatra, Java); and *P. montis* of Borneo. [...] The entire complex requires formal revision.”: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 77A) Alternative English name is “Yellow-browed Tesia”: Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.
- 93A) Martens (2008) aligns *weigoldicus* ‘Dusky Warbler’ with *P. fulgivent*
http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06_Martens.pdf
- 94A) Martens (2008) elevates part of this species to full species status as *P. occisinensis*
http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06_Martens.pdf
 Thus *P. affinis* occurs only in Tibet...
- 95A) Martens *et al.* 2004 (*vide* Rheindt 2006) elevated *forresti*, considered a synonym of *chloronotus* by Cheng (1987), to full species status, splitting it from *chloronotus* (of Nepal) which, with *simlaensis*, becomes Western Lemon-rumped Warbler. The two differ “dramatically in song and mitochondrial DNA (4.2% cytochrome-b divergence)”: Rheindt (2006). Given that the type locality for *forresti* is Lijiang, in Yunnan (Cheng 1987) it is not obvious that “Sichuan Leaf Warbler” is preferable to ‘Eastern Lemon-rumped Warbler’. “Presumably the hitherto unknown border between both species lies somewhere in Yunnan, Burma or north-eastern India.”: Rheindt (2006). *Ahem?*
- 96) Sspp *humei* & *mandellii*. Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) treats both as full species, noting that “although the call of *mandellii* is markedly different from [n nominate] *humei*, the whistled songs of both taxa are variable and often inseparable. While *mandellii* is genetically closer to *humei* than to *inornatus*, it is long-separated from either according to mtDNA (Irwin *et al.* 2001); its status as a full species thus remains equivocal.”
- 99) Sspp *assamensis* (W Yunnan – NW Vietnam & NW Thailand: Olsson *et al.* in press.), *reguloides* (incl. *kashmiriensis*) & *ticehursti* (Langbian Plateau, SC Vietnam: Dickinson) are better considered one species, with *assamensis* perhaps best not recognized though “more yellow below”: Olsson *et al.* in press.
- 100) The taxon *davisoni* (N+W+C Yunnan) is best considered a monotypic species despite only very slight morphological differences & extremely similar songs and calls: Olsson *et al.* 2005. “Burmese *davisoni* have a greyish-olive cast on the mantle so that is less pure than in other races”: Williamson (1967). For this species ‘Davison’s Leaf Warbler’ was the English name of choice for Rheindt (2006), as “retaining ‘White-tailed Leaf Warbler’ as the English name would lead to confusion”.
- 105) Treated as conspecific with the extralimital Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler *P. erythrogenys* by Dickinson because “there is insufficient evidence of sympatry between [sspp] *celatus* & *odicus* to require treatment as two species”. Treated as two species by Robson (2000) & by Grimmett *et al.* (1998).
- 105A) Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) notes that the matter “requires further study; as currently constituted [as a species different from *P. erythrogenys*], black breast-spotting alone unites all taxa placed in *erythrocnemis*, while widely allopatric unspotted forms in E [Burma] and N Thailand (*celatus*, *imberbis*) separated geographically by *P. [erythrocnemis]* *mccllellandi* are considered to constitute *P. erythrogenys*. Several species are probably involved, with [Indian region] *mccllellandi* perhaps one. Vocalisations in Yunnan (PDR) and Taiwan are different from those of *mccllellandi*. In [Indian] region, the very different *P.*

- erythrogenys haringtoni* and *P. erythrocnemis maclellandi* approach each other closely in range, without evidence of intergradation." Further, "Female-type song-notes [of *P. erythrogenys*] in N Thailand (PDR) longer than in Himalayas, and do not support conspecificity of all unspotted forms to the exclusion of all spot-breasted forms.": Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.
- 105A*) Collar (2006) reserves the name Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler for his monotypic *P. maclellandi* of S Assam and W Burma.
- 106A) "Marked morphological differences between *oatesi*, *chocolatinus* and *reptatus*, all usually treated as races of *Spelaornis chocolatinus*, suggest that species status is warranted for each. The songs of *oatesi* and *reptatus* differ significantly, but that of *chocolatinus* is undocumented; further study needed.": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) – "Grey-bellied Wren-Babbler" is the English name used by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 109E) Placed in *Dryonastes* by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 110A) Placed in *Dryonastes* by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 111A) Placed in *Dryonastes* by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005). Song insufficiently described in Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 112A) "Red-headed Laughingthrush *Trochalopteron erythrocephalum*" in Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 112B) 'The newly restricted *erythrocephalus*' *sensu* Collar (2006) is represented in China only by ssp *woodi* of NW Yunnan. 'It shares the crown pattern, back pattern and breast pattern of *nigrimentum* [of E Nepal to N and E Assam: Dickinson (2003)]'... however, 'it possesses the basic throat pattern (absence of black) and the ear-covert structure and pattern of *chrysopterus*', so to get it in with *erythrocephalus* a 'leap of faith' is required as to its vocal characters!
- 112C*) HBW vol 12 (p265) treats *ripponi* (with *wellsi*, of SE Yunnan to NE Guangxi, N Laos & N Tonkin) as Scarlet-faced Liocichla. It differs from Crimson-faced Liocichla *L. phoenicea* (with which *bakeri* is placed – this taxon's range is stated to include W & S parts of N Burma and adjacent W Yunnan; birds from Gongshan are presumed to be nominate *phoenicea*) in 'having crimson of faced replaced by much brighter scarlet extending clearly over eye, onto lores and over malar area to chin, [having] black lateral crown stripe vestigial, crown grayer, underparts paler, [and] undertail browner'. As Ruili, Nabang & S Gaoligongshan birds are *ripponi* (*contra* HBW) *L. phoenicea* may be a Chinese bird species only if the Gongshan birds are indeed that taxon...
- 112D) Collar (2006) supports a (potential) split mentioned by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005): '*torquatus* [...] has very different vocalizations and several morphological distinctions. At Namdapha (SE Arunachal), *G. rufulus* did not respond to playback of *torquatus* tapes (CR)'. Apparently (C Robson verbally: Collar (2006)) 'the vocalizations are constant within these two groupings and entirely different from each other' In China, *rufulus* occurs only in W Yunnan (Dickinson 2003).
- 113A) "*Actinodura waldeni daflaensis* shows complete intermediate characters between the very different *waldeni* and *nipalensis*, and hybrids are known from W Arunachal between *nipalensis* and *daflaensis*. Arguments could be made for treating *daflaensis* as a race of *nipalensis* instead, or for considering all the forms a single species. Vocalisations differ between *waldeni* and *nipalensis*, but insufficient material was available for *daflaensis*.": Rasmussen & Anderton 2005.
- 115B) Collar (2006) asserts that '*A. manipurensis* [which he upholds by "[taking] on trust" from Rasmussen and Anderton (2005) vocal evidence to shore up morphological differences] takes with it the English name Streak-throated Fulvetta, with Grey-hooded Fulvetta for the diminished *A. cinereiceps*'. That's very helpful, Nigel...
- 117A) Zou *et al.* (2007) discovered that ssp *schaefferi* (of northern Vietnam, SE Yunnan, Guizhou & Guangxi) & *davidi* (of Gansu, Shannxi [sic], Sichuan, Guizhou, Hunan, Fujian [error?: if correct this is an isolated population; Fujian is listed also for *hueti*] & NE Yunnan), probably, based on range, with *yunnanensis* (which was excluded from the study as no DNA sample was handy; this taxon was listed for Dali by Cheng (1987) and is probably the one occurring at Kunming – from where no taxa was listed by Cheng (1987)) are better considered one species (morphologically they differ in having a brown, not grey, head, and they lack the prominent black superciliary line found in 'the peripheral taxa'), *fratercula* (E & SE Burma, N & C Laos,

- N Thailand & SW Yunnan) another, *annamensis* (previously considered to belong with Mountain Fulvetta *Alcippe paracensis*) a third, and *morrisonia* (Taiwan), *hueti* (of SE China, 'incl Guangxi, Anhui, Jiangxi, Zhejiang, Fujian & Guangdong') & *rufescentior* (of Hainan) a fourth. The authors concede that a case can be made to consider *morrisonia* a full species: it is c5% diverged from both *hueti* & *rufescentior*.
- 119) Split from extralimital *H. melanoleuca* following Robson (2000) – “however detailed substantiation is needed”: Dickinson. Song of at least nominate *desgodinsi* well different from *H. melanoleuca*'s (as described by Robson). Collar (2006) notes that ‘Smythies was familiar with at least the song of melanoleuca from several parts of [Burma], without remarking on any variation in it, and he explicitly records that when he first heard *desgodinsi* he recognized it as a sibia but of an unfamiliar species’.
- 119A) with *torqueola* split off (Collar 2006) this species (ssp *plumbeiceps*) occurs in China only in W Yunnan (Dickinson 2003).
- 120) “Molecular evidence supports its separation [from *Yuhina* or *Stachyris*], but it may not be a babbler (Cibois *et al.*, 2002)”: Dickinson (2003). Citing the same study, Rasmussen & Anderton (2005) notes that the taxon is “now known [...] to be unrelated to babblers”, and use the English name “White-bellied Erpornis” for the species!
- 121) Includes Ashy-throated Parrotbill. This arrangement “[which retains Brown-winged Parrotbill *P. brunneus* as a separate species] follows a large, careful study of Han (1991), and maps in earlier publications were corrected by Cheng (1993), who endorsed Han’s findings”.
- 122) Dickinson: “despite Han’s study, breeding sympatry with *P. webbianus* requires more evidence”. The two species are well differentiated vocally.
- 122*) it proved a false alarm that HBW (*vide* B Anderson pers. com.) was posed to split *ricketti* (of N Yunnan E of the Yunling Mts: Dickinson 2003) from the nominate. The position of the taxon *styani* (‘N Yunnan W of the Yunling Mts’: Dickinson 2003; ‘Dali region, in NW Yunnan’: HBW vol 12, p 315) would have been unclear... ‘it is more or less intermediate between the other two, but plumage below closer to [*ricketti*]’: HBW vol 12, p 315)
- 122A) Collar (2006) shores up species status for extralimital *margaritae* (of the Da Lat Plateau, Vietnam & Monduliri, Cambodia) by discounting a morphological feature shared with extralimital *rasus* (of Chin Hills, Burma), naming the species Black-headed Parrotbill. Its unique features are ‘jet-black crown, dark-mottled ear-coverts, slightly richer rufous back and slightly shorter tail’.
- 125B*) *discolor* & *manipurensis* highly divergent genetically and vocally (see Collar & Pilgrim 2007) – the former becomes a monotypic species whose range includes ‘S Xizang’ (Zheng *et al.* 2005) while the latter (whose range includes W Yunnan: Zheng *et al.* 2005) groups with extralimital *shanensis* & *meridionalis*.
- 127) Ssp *aurea* & *toratugumi* – the northern forms split from *dauma* on size and voice: Dickinson.
- 133) Ssp *naumanni* & *eunomus*. Dickinson splits the two “based on Russian work” but judging from mixed characters shown by many birds on migration and in winter quarters there is very extensive interbreeding (JH pers. obs.).
- 134A) “Sino-Himalayan *rufilatus* and N Asian *cyanurus* are widely disjunct in breeding ranges. Consistent differences in morphology and song-types over wide areas indicate they are better treated as separate species.”: Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).
- 138) Ssp *maurus*, *przewalskii* & *stejnegeri*. Dickinson: “proposed splits of this complex species seem unsatisfactory if only in how the forms are ascribed to species”.
- 143) Dickinson omitted W Yunnan from the range of this species.
- 156A) this species consists of *tschutschensis* (includes *simillima*), *taivana* & *macronyx*.
- 157) Dickinson evidently consider without merit the idea that *lugens* is a valid species. Alstrom & Mild (2003) also concludes that various factors “suggest that the White Wagtail is best treated as a single species under the BSC”.
- 159) Dickinson treats the *rufulus* group as conspecific with *richardi*, unlike Alstrom & Mild (2003).
- 175) Ssp *lydiae* may be a separate species – Dickinson: “requires further research to determine whether conspecific [with *pallasi* & *polaris*]; atypical in habitat.” It is also becoming

apparent that there are vocal differences: JH *et al.*

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