

# Manchuria (& Beijing) 4-12 May 2011

***An at-a-glance list of 166 species of birds 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 noted on a visit by W Farrelly, I Graham, R Graham, A Huitfeldt, E Klim, R Klim, L Larsson, G Pettersson & myself. to Manchuria & E-most Inner Mongolia in search of waterfowl, cranes & Jankowski's Bunting, very likely E Asia's most endangered species.

Having allowed for 'interesting' weather and difficulties in locating Jankowski's Bunting the visit was a day longer than in 2010. For most of us, the trip presented an opportunity for a bit of extra birdwatching at what is frequently a very rewarding time in E/NE China: on the morning of our departure all but two of us covered the Huairou area, and after Manchuria two group members pushed on to Fujian for Chinese Crested Tern while another two remained in Beijing to combine some local birding with a bit of sightseeing. The outing on 4<sup>th</sup> added 17 species to the 167 recorded in Manchuria – for want of what else to do with them, and to make it easier for future travellers to decide if it might be worth their while to extend their visit by a day or two, these are included in the list.

Thank you all for making this trip so enjoyable!

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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 Oriental Plovers 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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition* (Dickinson 2003), in my opinion by far the most useful one-volume checklist to date.

Initials in brackets after some 'non-leader' sightings does not imply that I have doubts as to the correctness of the ID.

## **Species list:**

### **Daurian Partridge** *Perdix dauurica*

Just two were seen – less time was spent in appropriate habitat than on previous trips...

### **Japanese Quail** *Coturnix japonica*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

### **Common Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus*

14 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*In addition, nine were recorded near Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Swan Goose** *Anser cygnoides*

70+ bird-days. This graceful species was noted on three dates.

### **Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*

c625 bird-days. Although the bulk of the staging birds had already departed (comparatively early: in 2010 we saw >3,000 birds in one day) we obtained superb views of both ssp *serrirostris* & *middendorffii* – noted on four dates.

### **Greylag Goose** *Anser anser*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates.

### **Greater White-fronted Goose** *Anser albifrons*

117+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

### **Lesser White-fronted Goose** *Anser erythropus*

144+ bird-days. This sought-after species was seen on three dates – unsurpassable views allowed us to thoroughly familiarize ourselves with it...

### **Whooper Swan** *Cygnus cygnus*

20 [WF] on 9<sup>th</sup>.

### **Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*

43 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

### **\*\*\*Mandarin Duck** *Aix galericulata*

Superb views of seven birds N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **Gadwall** *Anas strepera*

88+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

### **Falcated Duck** *Anas falcata*

29 bird-days. This superb duck was noted on five dates – on 9<sup>th</sup>, a bit of deft maneuvering at the edge of the reeds secured unobscured 'scope views at point blank range!

### **Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

20 paired-up birds were noted on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

43 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

\*\*\*An additional six birds were seen N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Chinese Spotbill** *Anas zonorhyncha*

60 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*

51+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*

55 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

26 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Baikal Teal** *Anas formosa*

195 bird-days. This enigmatic duck was noted on two dates – quite satisfying ‘scope views were had once we cranked up the zoom: WOW!

**Common Teal** *Anas crecca*

c422 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina*

113+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

Six birds on 11<sup>th</sup> was all...

**Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula*

Two on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-breasted Merganser** *Mergus serrator*

A pair in flight on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

38 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*In addition, 3+ were recorded near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps grisegena*

One in summer plumage at Xianghai reserve – rarely recorded in China.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps cristatus*

c89 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps nigricollis*

58 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Eurasian Spoonbill** *Platalea leucorodia*

26 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Eurasian Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*

6+ bird-days. Noted on four dates – most were heard-onlies but at least one showed itself...

**\*\*\*Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Three near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Chinese Pond Heron** *Ardeola bacchus*

Seen near Huairou on both 4+12<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey Heron** *Ardea cinerea*

19 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\*An additional 16+ were seen N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*

19+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – superb views on 7<sup>th</sup>, when we were able to 'scope birds assembling at a small colony.

**\*\*\*Great Egret** *Ardea alba*

Two en route near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**\*\*\*Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

One en route near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*

Three bird-days. Noted on just two dates.

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

Six bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*In addition, one was seen N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Amur Falcon** *Falco amurensis*

100 bird-days. Noted almost daily – WOW! views on a number of occasions...

**Saker** *Falco cherrug*

Three on 10<sup>th</sup> – exactly what we'd climbed that hill hoping for...

\*\*\*In addition, a large falcon seen on 6<sup>th</sup> was almost certainly also this species (rather than Peregrine *F. peregrinus*)

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

One migr on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Marsh Harrier** *Circus spilonotus*

14 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Hen Harrier** *Circus cyaneus*

One 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y bird on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Pied Harrier** *Circus melanoleucos*

Four 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y birds were noted.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

Singles were noted on two dates.

\*\*\*An additional single was seen N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Buzzard** *Buteo (buteo) japonicus*

Four bird-days. The last of the season's N-bound migrants...

\*\*\*DNA evidence has emerged that *Buteo buteo* is NOT the closest relative of '*japonicus*'.

**Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga*

One immature bird was seen well on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Bustard** *Otis tarda*

No less than 36 were counted on 7<sup>th</sup> – most were males, and many were doing the famous inside-out, fluff of feathers display!

**Eastern Water Rail** *Rallus indicus*

Two obliging individuals were 'scoped on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

Two on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Coot** *Fulica atra*

14 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Siberian Crane** *Grus leucogeranus*

Noted on three dates, with a max count of 2,700 on 8<sup>th</sup> – a hard-to-beat spectacle, and cheering that more is nowadays done to protect these magnificent birds' staging areas.

**White-naped Crane** *Grus vipio*

6+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – at least two breeding pairs at Xianghai reserve...

**Common Crane** *Grus grus*

11 on 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Hooded Crane** *Grus monacha*

12 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Red-crowned Crane** *Grus japonensis*

Noted only at Xianghai reserve - two nesting pairs.

**Eurasian Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus*

One on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

325+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirosta avosetta*

44 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Northern Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*

c45 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Grey-headed Lapwing** *Vanellus cinereus*

57 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*

48 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**\*\*\*Long-billed Plover** *Charadrius placidus*

Two N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup> did their best to elude us...

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*

53 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus*

Singletons were noted on three dates.

**Lesser Sand Plover** *Charadrius mongolus*

Four [AH, LL, GP] on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Plover** *Charadrius veredus*

Four birds 'just over the border' on 10<sup>th</sup> – display-fighting in early morning sunshine these magnificent birds came close to upstaging even the Siberian Cranes...

**Eurasian Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*

One [WF] on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Pintail Snipe** *Gallinago stenura*

Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates – several satisfying encounters...

**Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago*

85+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Asian Dowitcher** *Limnodromus semipalmatus*

One on 6<sup>th</sup> – busily feeding 'sewing machine' style at reasonable range.

**Eastern Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa (limosa) melanuroides*

24 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**\*\*\***On the 2010 we saw a Western Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* in flight with a bunch of 'Easterners' – it was pretty obvious!

**\*\*\***Eastern Black-tailed Godwit is "a small and dark version of 'Western', with a similarly patterned but slimmer, shorter bill, a small but more prominent whitish supercilium between darker crown and eye-stripe.[...] Much less sexually dimorphic than 'Western'. Breeding male has darker chestnut head, neck, breast and sides, with closer-spaced, finer blackish barring on underparts, including vent, than breeding male 'Western', and more heavily black-blotched upperparts with broader golden or rufous edgings. Breeding female usually somewhat duller. Non-breeding adult is essentially dark grey with white lower underparts; darker grey than non-breeding 'Western'[...]. Juvenile is shorter-billed than adult; has weaker cinnamon tinge than juvenile 'Western', finely notched dark-and-golden scapular- and tertial-edges, barring not streaking on flanks, and looks all-dark above as tertials and mantle feathers wear. [...] distinct white wing-stripe and rump somewhat narrower than than in 'Western'": Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Little Whimbrel** *Numenius minutus*

One migr in the morning of 11<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The bird tried to evade detection by giving a Whimbrel-like contact / alarm call rather than the distinctive, rising display call that we'd been listening out for!

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*

Two birds present on both 9+11<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*

17 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*

14 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*

c30 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*

165 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*

19 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*

23+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*

395+ bird-days. Noted daily – regrouping, mixed flocks of Wood & Marsh Sandpipers, kept flighty by a quartering harrier, was a highlight of 8<sup>th</sup>!

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*

19 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*

43 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Long-toed Stint** *Calidris subminuta*

Instructive views of a single bird on 8<sup>th</sup>...

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper** *Calidris acuminata*

Singles were seen well on two dates.

**Oriental Pratincole** *Glareola maldivarum*

c90 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Common Gull** *Larus canus*

Four 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y *heinei* birds on Windy Beach on 9<sup>th</sup>... we duly took the trouble to eliminate *kamtschatschensis*!

**'Yellow-legged' Gull** *Larus (cachinnans) mongolicus*

Three bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Heuglin's Gull** *Larus heuglini taimyrensis*

Three bird-days. Adults were noted on two dates.

\*\*\*In addition, unidentified 'Herring' Gulls were noted on two dates – four birds in total.

**Common Black-headed Gull** *Larus ridibundus*

420+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 295 on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*

81 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Little Tern** *Sterna albifrons*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida*

14 on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**White-winged Black Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Blue Hill Pigeon** *Columba rupestris*

Four on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, five were seen N of Beijing on 3<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*

38+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*In addition, two N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decaocto*

Six bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\***Spotted Dove** *Streptopelia chinensis*

Three bird-days. Noted N of Beijing on both 4+12<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Owl** *Athene noctua*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates – one 'scoped on 9<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Ssp *plumiceps* may merit full species status: R Klim pers. com.

**Long-eared Owl** *Asio otus*

One seen well on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Needletail** *Hirundapus caudacutus*

Four on 7<sup>th</sup>, incl one which passed close to where we were enjoying a field breakfast...

**Common Swift** *Apus apus*

Three on 9<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 10+ over Beijing station on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Fork-tailed Swift** *Apus pacificus*

One over the hotel on 9<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*  
Nine N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Crested Kingfisher** *Megaceryle lugubris*  
One [IG] N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*  
29 bird-days. Noted daily...

**Northern Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*  
Seven bird-days. Noted on two dates – no less than five among grounded migrants on 7<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos canicapillus*  
One seen well N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos major*  
One on 8<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*In addition, two near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker** *Picus canus*  
One on 10<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*In addition, three – incl two seen well – N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Chinese Grey Shrike** *Lanius sphenocercus*  
Four bird-days. Noted on two dates – two 'scoped on 7<sup>th</sup> was the 1<sup>st</sup> of many memorable sightings that day...

**Eastern Azure-winged Magpie** *Cyanopica cyanus*  
Two on 5<sup>th</sup>.  
\*\*\*In addition just one near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Red-billed Blue Magpie** *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*  
16 N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Magpie** *Pica pica*  
Common – not systematically recorded.

\*\*\***Red-billed Chough** *Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*  
Six N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Daurian Jackdaw** *Corvus dauuricus*  
26 bird-days. Noted on four dates – both attractive, pied adults & all-black 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y birds were seen well.

**Rook** *Corvus frugilegus*  
26+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.  
\*\*\*In addition, a singleton N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone*  
c40 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\***Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*

Two en route N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

'**Eastern**' **Great Tit** *Parus minor*

Two [WF] on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, ten were seen by all N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-bellied Tit** *Parus venustulus*

Three flew S over the hotel on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Coal Tit** *Parus ater*

Four bird-days. Noted on 6+8<sup>th</sup>.

**Marsh Tit** *Parus palustris*

Two [LL] on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, at least one near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Songar Tit** *Parus songarus stotzneri*

Three N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

'**Chinese**' **Penduline Tit** *Remiz consobrinus*

60+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – it was good to get 'scope views of two feeding on 7<sup>th</sup>!

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

1,575+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 1,100+ on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

215+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Northern House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

c19 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*

64+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Long-tailed Tit** *Aegithalos caudatus vinaceus*

Two on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, one N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*IOC elevates the taxa *vinaceus* & *glaucogularis* to full species status as 'Silver-throated Bushtit'.

**Mongolian Lark** *Melanocorypha mongolica*

Eight on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Asian Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella cheleensis*

C30 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata*

Three on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Skylark** *Alauda arvensis*

23+ on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Chinese Hill Warbler** *Rhopophilus pekinensis*

One heard on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 17 near Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup> (where we in the end had to resort to prompting to obtain satisfactory views of this skulky endemic).

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

25 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\***Radde's Warbler** *Phylloscopus schwarzi*

One heard N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Pallas's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus proregulus*

32 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 26 on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, two were noted N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus*

67+ bird-days. Noted daily – main event 25+ on 11<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Remarkably, none could be found N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>...

**Pere David's Laughingthrush** *Garrulax davidi*

Four on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 13 N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup> - superb views were had of this subtly attractive N China endemic.

\*\*\***Vinous-throated Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis webbianus*

Four N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Daurian Starling** *Sturnus sturninus*

Two [WF] on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**White-cheeked Starling** *Sturnus cineraceus*

55+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**White's Thrush** *Zoothera aurea*

One [WF] on 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Eyebrowed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Red-throated Thrush** *Turdus ruficollis*

An adult male on 7<sup>th</sup> was somewhat unexpected – though it really shouldn't have been, given that the species is reasonably common at e.g. Beijing from October well into April.

**Naumann's Thrush** *Turdus naumanni*

11 bird-days. Noted on three dates – both sspp *naumanni* & *eunomus* (as well as intermediates!) were seen well.

\*\*\*Extensive interbreeding (a high proportion of birds @ Beijing & Beidaihe are intermediate: JH pers obs) disqualifies the two taxa from full species status under the BSC.

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica*

One [WF, LL] on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope*

Five bird-days. Noted on four dates – we were all blown away by our 1<sup>st</sup> adult male, and all the more so as it was but part of a fall of migrants which also included Red-flanked Bluetail, several Pallas' Leaf Warblers, and lots of Little & Black-faced Buntings all allowing prolonged viewing

**Northern Red-flanked Bluetail** *Luscinia cyanura*

Super views of two on 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus aureus*

Six on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 11 were noted N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>...several were showy males staking out territories.

**'Siberian' Stonechat** *Saxicola 'torquatus'*

91 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*In addition, a singleton was seen N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka*

Five birds on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**White-throated Rock Thrush** *Monticola gularis*

Two singletons [GP, IG] on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-throated Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicilla*

19+ bird-days.

\*\*\*In addition, a singleton N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Brown Dipper** *Cinclus pallasii*

One N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Russet Sparrow** *Passer rutilans*

17 N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

Common – not systematically recorded.

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschensis*

390+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*This species consists of *tschutschensis* (includes *simillima*), *taivana* & *macronyx* – we saw all three forms.

\*\*\*Alstrom & Mild (2003; p287) conclude that "[...] the Yellow Wagtail complex is probably most appropriately classified as two species also under the BSC" (p34). Retained in *M. flava* are *flavissima*, *flava*, *beema*, *thunbergi* (incl. *plexa*), *iberiae*, *cinereocapilla*, *pygmaea*, *feldegg*, *lutea* & *leucocephala*. This treatment is adopted by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

\*\*\*As R Klim pointed out on the trip, since *macronyx* & *thunbergi* 'can only be reliably separated by molecular markers' (Alstrom & Mild (2003), p288), with *thunbergi* breeding E to the Kolyma River ((Alstrom & Mild (2003), p275) we can't be sure we didn't see Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* as well!

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*

Singles on two dates.

\*\*\*In addition, no less than 21 birds were seen N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*

15 bird-days. Noted on four dates – ten were ssp *ocularis*, and at least two were ssp *leucopsis*.

\*\*\*In addition, seven were seen N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi*

20 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Blyth's Pipit** *Anthus godlewskii*

One migr on 11<sup>th</sup>, flying low overhead & calling repeatedly.

\*\*\*In addition, two N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni*

35 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*In addition, 14 were recorded N of Huairou on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*

Nine bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\***Rosy Pipit** *Anthus roseus*

Three (incl a winter-plumaged bird seen well) N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Buff-bellied Pipit** *Anthus rubescens*

33 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

\*\*\*In addition, one was noted N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Brambling** *Fringilla montifringilla*

18 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Oriental Greenfinch** *Carduelis sinica*

11 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\*In addition, eight were seen well N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*

Six on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, a male & two females were 'scoped N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*

An adult male was seen very well on 8<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\***Hawfinch** *Coccothraustes coccothraustes*

53+ N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Rock Bunting** *Emberiza godlewskii*

Three on 10<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*In addition, 18 were noted N of Beijing on 4<sup>th</sup>.



## **Mammals:**

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

**Daurian Ground Squirrel** *Spermophilus dauricus*

Noted on at least three dates.

**\*\*\*Pere David's Rock Squirrel** *Sciurotamias davidianus*

One N of Huairou on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes*

One on 6<sup>th</sup> & two on 8<sup>th</sup>.