

# Ornithological records from Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR, January–July 1997

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Ornithological records are presented from several localities in Savannakhet Province, in particular areas along the main stream of the Mekong and a forest fragment close to Savannakhet town. The community of riverine birds was much poorer than had been found before 1949; four species still present are considered to be At Risk in Laos (Great Thick-knee *Esacus recurvirostris*, River Lapwing *Vanellus duvaucelii*, River Tern *Sterna aurantia*, Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea*) and three others Potentially At Risk in Laos (Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus*, Small Pratincole *Glareola lactea*, Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*). Seven species were recorded for the first time in Central Laos: Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis*, Oriental Pratincole *Glareola maldivarum*, White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*, Malayan Night Heron *Gorsachius melanolophus*, Bluethroat *Luscinia svecica*, Chestnut-flanked White-eye *Zosterops erythropleurus* and Bright-headed Cisticola *Cisticola exilis*. The last of these seems to have extended its range in the past 50 years, presumably in response to extensive deforestation.

## INTRODUCTION

The records in this paper provide new distributional or status information for birds from Lao PDR (hereafter 'Laos'). Most come from areas that have not been covered by other recent surveys. Both Thewlis *et al.* (1998) and Duckworth *et al.* (1999a) stress the value of fieldworkers publishing results which contribute to the knowledge of Lao birds' status, especially for species of conservation concern. This is because the avifauna of Laos remains quite poorly known and, since much of the available information was collected before 1949, the present day status of many species is even less well known. The great majority of recent information was

gathered during extensive surveys during 1992-1998 which concentrated on the protected areas system and resulted in a small number of papers (Duckworth 1996, Thewlis *et al.* 1996, Evans and Timmins 1998, Duckworth *et al.* 1998b, Thewlis *et al.* 1998, Evans *et al.* 2000, Timmins and Tizard in prep.) and various unpublished reports. Data from these surveys were synthesized by Salter (1993) and this work was updated by Duckworth *et al.* (1999a).

Order and taxonomy in this paper follow Inskipp *et al.* (1996). Scientific names are given in the text for species not listed in Appendix 2. Place names follow the most recent 1:100 000 topographic maps of the Lao PDR Service Geographique d'Etat. Locations of sites

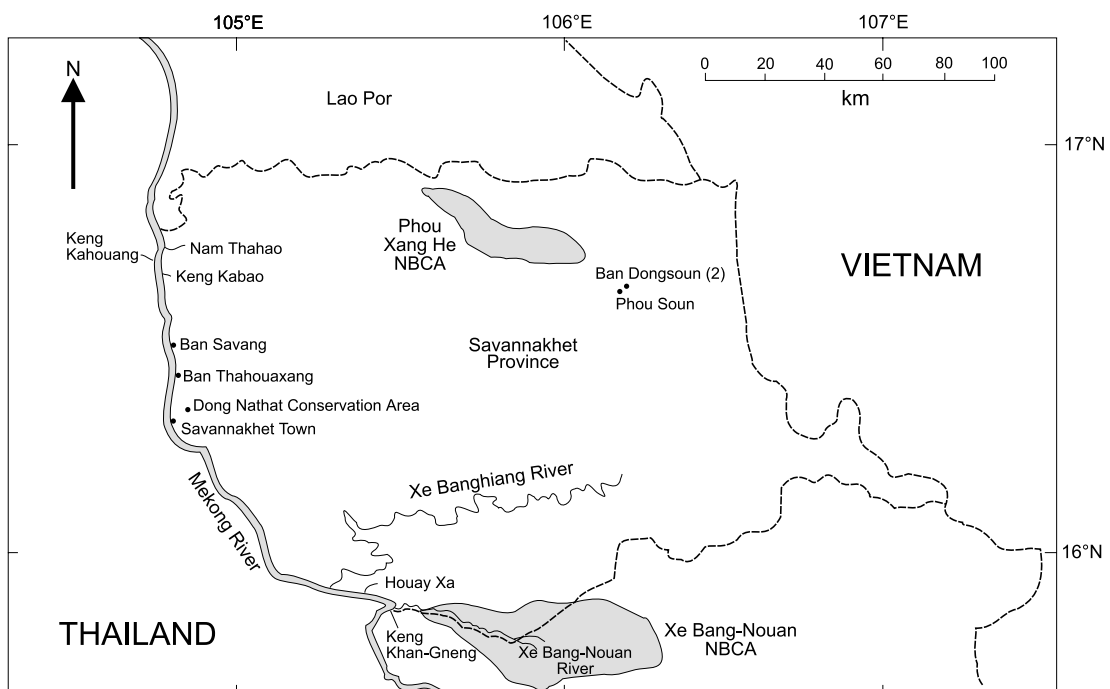


Figure 1. Savannakhet Province, Lao PDR

not listed in the gazetteer of Thewlis *et al.* (1998) are given in Appendix 1. All sites covered were in Central Laos (*sensu* both King *et al.* 1975 and Duckworth *et al.* 1999b) with the exception of one part of the Mekong in South Laos, noted in the text. For the purposes of this paper 'recent records' are those from 1990 until July 1997.

## METHODS, STUDY SITES AND COVERAGE

The author made birdwatching trips during his spare time whilst working in Laos during January-July 1997. Most records were collected opportunistically by day and on foot. A few journeys were also made along the Mekong in specially chartered motor-powered canoes. Sites mentioned in the text are shown on Figure 1.

### Mekong River

Along the Mekong river three areas were visited: Savannakhet town and areas to the north and south. Most visits were to a group of four sandbars next to Savannakhet town. These are here numbered from 1-4 from north to south. Bars 1 and 4 were long, low sandbars with gently shelving beaches around them. They are mostly bare or sparsely vegetated, but there was an area of tall dunes with cane grass on island 4. Neither had habitations or cultivation. Bars 2 and 3 were shorter and higher with steeper sides (sand cliffs in places) and more vegetation, including a few trees. Both were heavily cultivated and had huts built on them. The Thai town of Mukdahan stands on the opposite bank of the Mekong at this point.

North of Savannakhet town the Mekong was visited from Ban Thahouaxang north to the mouth of Nam Thahao. The islands in this stretch include two large low sandbars and a variety of low rocky islets. On the Thai bank the town of That Phanom lies a few kilometres south of the Nam Thahao mouth.

South of Savannakhet town the rapids at Keng Khan-Gneng near the mouth of the Xe Bang-Nouan were visited. This site was in South Laos (*sensu* King *et al.* 1975 and Duckworth *et al.* 1999b). The rapids are due to the constriction caused by extensive level rocky outcrops flanked by cliffs and topped with a confusion of large boulders. The stretch upstream to the mouth of Xe Banghiang was travelled by boat. The course was a mixture of rocky constrictions, rapids, rocky and sandy islets and wide open stretches lacking any such features. This part of the Mekong was similar to that in Phou Xiang Thong National Biodiversity Conservation Area

(Evans *et al.* 2000), and forms part of the same geographical feature, the Khemmarat Rapids. Keng Khan-Gneng is about 25 km east of the Thai town of Khemmarat.

During the rainy season almost all of the islets and outcrops along these three stretches are likely to be under water.

Coverage is shown in Table 1.

### Phou Soun, Xepon District

Phou Soun is a ridge at 180-400 m close to the Southern Forestry Extension Training Centre, Ban Dongsoun (2) (also known as Xepon or Tchepon). It has quite steep, rocky flanks and supports degraded forest, much of it dominated by bamboo and the tree *Lagerstroemia* (and thus largely deciduous), but with patches of denser semi-evergreen forest. The surrounding lowlands are a mixture of scrub and cultivation and a bend of the Xe Banghiang river passes close by. Morning visits of 1-1.5 hours duration were made on eight dates from 19 February – 18 March.

### Dong Nathat Conservation Area, Khanthabuli District

Dong Nathat Conservation Area lies on flat terrain at 140-170 m. Signs state that the reserve covers 83 km<sup>2</sup> but the area of dense natural forest shown on 1987 1:100 000 topographic maps is about 16 km<sup>2</sup> and since extensive parts of that area were observed to be short scrub in 1997 the true area of the surveyed block is probably 12 km<sup>2</sup> or less. A larger block of forest (32 km<sup>2</sup>) is shown on topographic maps about 4 km to the east and may also be included in the reserve. It is not known if this still exists.

Most of the vegetation is logged semi-evergreen forest of varying quality - parts have been reduced to semi-evergreen scrub less than 5 m tall, other areas still support a fairly complete canopy at 15-20 m. There is also a moderate number of mature *Dipterocarpus alatus* trees (many of them over 35 m tall and with diameter at breast height of 1-1.5 m). These were retained during logging, presumably to allow the continued harvesting of their resinous sap.

In the centre of the reserve is Nong Khen (locally called Nong Lom) which is a well vegetated, shallow, permanent lake covering a few hectares.

The forest was visited for periods of 4-5 hours, starting soon after dawn, on the following dates: 26 January, 9 and 16 February, 2 March, 4, 11, 18 and 25 May and 6 July. It was also visited briefly at dusk on 18 May.

**Table 1** Ornithological coverage along the Mekong River during 1997

Area	Dates
Savannakhet town Bar 1	8 and 14 February, 21 March, 3, 10, 13 and 24 May
Savannakhet town Bar 2	11 February
Savannakhet town Bar 4	25 January, 15 February, 11 March, 4 May
North of Savannakhet town	8 and 10 March
South of Savannakhet town	
- Keng Khan-Gneng	29 and 30 March, 30 April, 1, 20 and 21 May
- boat trip to mouth of Xe Banghiang	30 March

## RECORDS OF PARTICULAR INTEREST

All bird species recorded at the sites visited are listed in Appendix 2. Records are discussed in more detail below if they provide new status information for species of conservation concern (Key species) or new distributional information (new records for Central Laos, clarifications of status or records which otherwise greatly extend the known Lao range of a species). Key species categories are given after the species name. They are At Risk in Laos, Potentially At Risk in Laos or Little Known in Laos (following Duckworth *et al.* 1999b).

The community of birds associated with the Mekong channel during the dry season was much poorer than that recorded some 50 years earlier by David-Beaulieu (1949-1950). The two main additions are Bright-headed Cisticola and Yellow-vented Bulbul. At least the first of these has probably spread following deforestation, as discussed below. Of the historically-recorded community, Small Pratincoles, Little Ringed Plovers and various passerine species remain numerous. It is not clear that Blue-tailed Bee-eaters or Wire-tailed Swallows were ever commoner than they now are in the stretches of river visited, but both have certainly declined elsewhere in the Lao Mekong. Many other species clearly have declined or disappeared. Great Thick-knees, River Lapwings and River Terns, once common, have declined greatly, as discussed in the species accounts. David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) also recorded the following conspicuous species (his assessment of abundance along the Mekong in brackets): Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* (quite frequent, especially at Savannakhet town), Black-bellied Tern *Sterna acuticauda* (extremely common), Brahminy Kite *Haliastur indus* (very common), (Oriental) Darter *Anhinga melanogaster* (quite common), White-shouldered Ibis *Pseudibis (papillosa) davisoni* (very common along one Mekong tributary, by implication also present elsewhere), Painted Stork *Mycteria leucocephala* (present year round) and Black-necked Stork *Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus* (occasional). White-rumped Gyps *bengalensis*, Slender-billed G. (*indicus*) *temuirostris* and Red-headed Vultures *Sarcogyps calvus* were extremely common in the province, and would often have been seen by observers in the Mekong channel. Indian Skimmer *Rynchops albicollis* has not been recorded from the Savannakhet area since the 1870s (Harmand 1878-1879). Although small numbers of all these species may yet remain undetected in the areas visited, there have undoubtedly been severe declines of most or all of them. Similar collapses have been found in almost every part of Laos visited, making the large-river bird community one of the most threatened parts of the Lao avifauna, a fact attributed mainly to hunting pressure (Thewlis *et al.* 1998, Duckworth *et al.* 1999b). Many of these species are considered globally threatened or Near Threatened by BirdLife International (2000).

It is interesting to note that the Keng Khan-Gneng to Xe Banghiang stretch, home to the only Great Thick-knees, River Terns and River Lapwings found, is dominated by 'channel mosaic' habitat. This matches the findings of Duckworth *et al.* (this issue) who identified this as being the habitat richest in populations of declining riverine birds elsewhere in Laos.

### BLUE-THROATED BEE-EATER *Merops viridis*

Two flew south over Dong Nathat on the morning of 4 May and nine flew north-east over Savannakhet town on the same evening. Historically David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) considered this species to be strictly a passage migrant during about 15 days at the start of the rainy season and he had only observed them around Savannakhet town. Earlier (David-Beaulieu 1944) he saw an isolated passage movement of an estimated several hundred bee-eaters past Phou Kobo, North Laos, at about 1,400 m on 26 April 1940; he identified them as Chestnut-headed but they seem more likely to have been Blue-throated. Recent records in Laos concern a party of 10 on the Nakay Plateau on 10 April 1994 (Evans and Timmins 1998) and large numbers passing over Nam Theun Extension Proposed NBCA in early May 1996 (J.W. Duckworth *in litt.* 2000). Duckworth *et al.* (1999a) concluded that the seasonal status remained uncertain, but it may be only a passage migrant, and the current records lend support to that conclusion. J. W. Duckworth (*in litt.* 2000) points out that the species breeds in Vietnam in North and Central Annam so it may breed (or once have bred) in Laos too. Colonies in sandy banks would be very vulnerable to nest-robbery in Laos.

### BLUE-TAILED BEE-EATER *Merops philippinus*

#### Potentially At Risk in Laos

One-two around Keng Khan-Gneng on all visits until 1 May, but none thereafter. The low numbers of recent records of this species in Laos and the small flock sizes observed have aroused some concern (Duckworth *et al.* 1999a, Evans *et al.* in press) so it was recently included in the list of Key species. During his long residence in Savannakhet Province, David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) occasionally recorded small groups of this species in unspecified habitats and considered it much less regular than Blue-throated Bee-eater.

### RED-NECKED STINT *Calidris ruficollis*

A party of three in breeding plumage on Bar 1, Savannakhet town, on 10 May. This is the first record for Central Laos. The only previous confirmed records are on the Mekong in South Laos in May 1996 (Evans *et al.* 2000), but there was a provisional record from Vientiane on 21 November 1994 (Duckworth *et al.* 1999a).

### GREAT THICK-KNEE *Esacus recurvirostris*

#### At Risk in Laos

Two at Keng Khan-Gneng on 29 March, at least two on 30 April and three together on 1 May. The birds were conspicuous, particularly because they called often, especially in the evenings. None was recorded during evening visits on 20-21 May, when soldiers at the border post overlooking the rapids stated that the birds were no longer present.

The species has been recorded in tiny numbers at a handful of sites on the Mekong and Xe Kong rivers in recent years but was formerly more common and widespread (Thewlis *et al.* 1998, Duckworth *et al.* 1999a). Hunting, nest robbery and incidental disturbance are suspected to have caused the decline (Thewlis *et al.* 1998). It was formerly common along the Mekong in Savannakhet Province and was easily

found even on the sandbars in Savannakhet town (David-Beaulieu 1949-1950).

The Lao language name at Keng Khan-Gneng is *nok moowm* (a different word from *nok moum* used for imperial pigeons *Ducula*) and this is also the name used by people at another currently known Lao locality for this species, Ban Hangkhone in Champassak Province (pers. obs.).

#### RIVER LAPWING *Vanellus duvaucelii*

##### At Risk in Laos

None in extensive suitable habitat from Savannakhet town north to the mouth of Nam Thahao. At Keng Khan-Gneng there were at least six on 29 March, ten on 30 March, ten on 30 April and 16 on 20 May, all widely dispersed over the rocky areas and actively mobbing the observer. On 30 March upstream of Keng Khan-Gneng to the mouth of Houay Xa there were parties of eight and four, with no more from there to the mouth of the Xe Banghiang. These data were included in summary statistics used for a recent review of the status of this species in southern Laos (Duckworth *et al.* 1998a). The occurrence in only one part of the Mekong visited in 1997 contrasts with the observation of David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) that they were very common along the Mekong and the Xe Banghiang.

#### ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE *Glareola maldivarum*

Two on the island by Ban Houayhouaxang, 10 March. Three on Bar 1, Savannakhet town, on 13 May. These are the first records for Central Laos. All recent Lao records reviewed by Duckworth *et al.* (1998b) fell in April or May, suggesting spring passage migrants, and these records fit that pattern whilst extending the period of passage to early March. There is also a subsequent record from October, presumably of autumn passage migrants (Duckworth *et al.* 1999b).

#### SMALL PRATINCOLE *Glareola lactea*

##### Potentially At Risk in Laos

Commonly recorded on sandy and rocky islands along the Mekong. On 8 March there were at least 75 on the island by Ban Savang and three on the rapids at Keng Kahouang. On 10 March there were at least 35 on the island by Ban Thahouaxang. On 30 March parties of one, two and 30 were seen during a boat trip from Keng Khan-Gneng to the mouth of the Xe Banghiang and back. Minimum counts from the sand bars by Savannakhet town are given in Table 2. Note the increase in numbers through the dry season on both bars. The bars are less than 2 km apart and it seems likely that some interchange occurred between the two between visits; on no day were both bars visited.

Many gave broken-wing distraction displays when Bar 4 was visited on 4 May and Bar 1 on 10 May, suggesting breeding was in progress.

The large numbers present in the breeding colony close to Savannakhet town and in similar proximity to Vientiane town (Thewlis *et al.* 1996) suggest that this species tolerates the existing, quite high levels of human disturbance. This contrasts with some other sandbar-nesting species, such as Great Thick-knee, River, Black-bellied and Little Terns *Sterna albifrons* and River Lapwing, which have declined in Laos as a result of human pressure (Thewlis *et al.* 1998).

**Table 2** Minimum counts of Small Pratincoles from two sandbars by Savannakhet town

Bar	25/1	8/2	14/2	15/2	11/3	21/3	3/5	4/5	10/5	13/5	24/5
1		3	2			35	37		40	50	40
4	35			36	100			200			

#### RIVER TERN *Sterna aurantia*

##### At Risk in Laos

One about 3 km upstream of Keng Khan-Gneng on 30 March. There are few recent records of this species in Laos, most of them from Champassak Province (Thewlis *et al.* 1998) and it has clearly undergone a severe decline since David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) found it 'extremely common; along the Mekong'.

#### WHITE-WINGED TERN *Chlidonias leucopterus*

A party of 21 feeding near Bar 1, Savannakhet town on 10 May. This is the first record for Central Laos. The only other published record for Laos was from the South in 1996 (Evans *et al.* 2000) but one was seen along the Mekong channel separating Laos from Thailand at Chiang Khong on 21 May 1966 (E. C. Dickinson in Duckworth *et al.* 1999a).

#### GREY HERON *Ardea cinerea*

##### At Risk in Laos

In January-February there was a daytime roost on Bar 4 by Savannakhet town. The peak counts were 25 on 25 January and 13 on 15 February. Individuals were seen on several occasions flying from there east over Savannakhet town at dusk, and flying back to roost between 06h00 and 08h00. One at Keng Kahouang on 8 March and one at the mouth of Houay Xa on 30 March. Records listed by Thewlis *et al.* (1998) are of small, scattered wintering groups and individuals: the group of 25 noted above appears to be the largest recently reported from Laos except for a party of 38 seen on the Mekong near Vientiane in early 1997 (T. Hansel, verbally, 1997). The sizes of these flocks were erroneously reversed by Duckworth *et al.* (1999a) and the Savannakhet record erroneously attributed to J. A. Wolstencroft. The crepuscular or nocturnal behaviour of the Savannakhet town birds can be compared with a similar observation from the Pakxan wetlands (Thewlis *et al.* 1998).

#### MALAYAN NIGHT HERON *Gorsachius melanolophus*

One seen feeding at the edge of Nong Khen, Dong Nathat, at dusk on 18 May. In Laos calling begins in May (Thewlis *et al.* 1998) suggesting that this is the start of the breeding season. This species was formerly considered a Key species categorized as Little Known in Laos (Thewlis *et al.* 1998) but there have since been many records in a range of habitats and it is not currently thought to be at risk in Laos (Duckworth *et al.* 1999a). The record from Dong Nathat is further evidence of occurrence in degraded and fragmented forest areas during the breeding season and supports its downlisting. Although King *et al.* (1975) list it for all of Laos, this is apparently the first documented primary record from Central Laos.

BLUETHROAT *Luscinia svecica*

By Savannakhet town, one on Bar 2 on 11 February and two on Bar 4 on 4 May. These are the first records for Central Laos.

WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW *Hirundo smithii*

Potentially At Risk in Laos

On 8 March, two at Keng Kabao and four at Keng Kahouang. At Keng Khan-Gneng there were 20-30 on all visits until 1 May but only one on 20 May and none on 21 May. Two more parties of two were seen from there upstream to the mouth of Houay Xa on 30 March but none from there to the mouth of the Xe Banghiang. Three flew north past Savannakhet town on 10 May. These records accord with the pattern described by Thewlis *et al.* (1998) of pairs or small groups scattered along the Mekong wherever suitable rocky outcrops occur. The Houay Xa to Keng Khan-Gneng stretch is only a few kilometres from where David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) once saw thousands together on an unknown date; however, his records were associated with a particular complex of islands along the lower Xe Banghiang which was not reached on the current visit.

YELLOW-VENTED BULBUL *Pycnonotus goiavier*

One at Keng Khan-Gneng on 30 March. This species was first recorded in Laos in 1996 (Evans *et al.* 2000). That record was a range extension north of some 450 km and the current record extends the range a further 100 km north.

BRIGHT-HEADED CISTICOLA *Cisticola exilis*

Common on the sandbars near Savannakhet town and the island near Ban Savang. These are the first records for Central Laos. It is remarkable that David-Beaulieu (1949-1950) did not record the species during his years resident in Savannakhet town, the more so since his residence had a view of the sandbars and he was already very familiar with the species, which has a distinctive call, from southern Vietnam (David-Beaulieu 1939). It is likely that the species has colonized the area since that time. Although the habitat on the sandbars themselves is unlikely to have changed much it is quite possible that they were occupied by Bright-headed Cisticolas only once more extensive habitats became available following deforestation, first in north-east Thailand and latterly in Laos. This species occurs commonly in rough grass around rice paddies around Vientiane town (pers. obs.) and presumably also occupies this habitat around Savannakhet.

There is patchy evidence of this species extending its range elsewhere in Asia. In Borneo it was first recorded near Pontianak in 1976 (Harvey and Holmes 1976) and was recorded again at Kendawangan in 1994 (Rusila and Enis 1995), a record which G. Davison (*in litt.* 2000) interprets as evidence that the species has now colonized the wide area between these two points. The first records from the Tanimbar islands (Bishop and Brickle 1998) are believed to represent recent colonization following deforestation (David Bishop *in litt.* 2000). Following the first record on Sumatra in 1976 (Harvey and Holmes 1976) there have been scattered records elsewhere and Holmes (1996) considered it likely that it was spreading northwards across the island.

In Hong Kong the species was first recorded in 1991 (Viney and Chalmers 1992) and is now considered to be a regular winter visitor from November to March, in small numbers (Leven *et al.* 1994). M. Turnbull (*in litt.* 2000) suggests that this indicates an expansion in range or numbers in South China in recent years.

CHESTNUT-FLANKED WHITE-EYE *Zosterops erythropleurus*

At least one in a small party of white-eyes *Zosterops* in Dong Nathat on 9 February. This is the first record for Central Laos. The first record for Laos was in December 1995 in the far north (Duckworth *et al.* 1999a), and this was followed by a wide scatter of records from the north in the winter of 1996/1997 (J. W. Duckworth *in litt.* 1999).

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**APPENDIX 1**

**Gazetteer of sites not listed by Thewlis et al. (1998)**

Nam Thahao (mouth), 16°59'N 104°46'E, Keng Kahouang, 16°57'N 104°46'E, Keng Kabao, 16°53'N 104°44'E, Ban Savang, 16°48'N 104°44'E, Ban Thahouaxang, 16°44'N 104°45'E, Savannakhet town, 16°34'N 104°45'E, Xe Banghiang (mouth), 16°02'N 105°15'E, Houay Xa, 16°01'N 105°21'E, Keng Khan-Gngeng, 16°01'N 105°25'E, Phou Soun, 16°41'N 106°11'E, Dong Nathat Conservation Area (centre), 16°38'N 104°50'E

**APPENDIX 2**

**Status assessments of birds recorded**

Rows for unidentified members of a genus exclude records identified to species.

**Threatened status:** ARL = At Risk in Laos; PARL = Potentially At Risk in Laos

**Column headings:** Dong = Dong Nathat; Mek N/Sa/S = Mekong River North part/Savannakhet town/South part

Abundances **C = Common (recorded daily, sometimes repeated records); P = Present (probably not common) or abundance not assessed; Provisional records are marked [ ]**

In Dong Nathat the number of days with records is given separately for the cold, dry season (26 January – 2 March, maximum four days) and the early wet season (4 May – 6 July, maximum five days).

Species	Xepone	Dong	Mek N	Mek Sa	Mek S
CHINESE FRANCOLIN <i>Francolinus pintadeanus</i>					P
RED JUNGLEFOWL <i>Gallus gallus</i>	P	P 0,3			
LESSER WHISTLING-DUCK <i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>		P 0,3	P	P	P
RUFIOUS WOODPECKER <i>Celeus brachyurus</i>	P				
LACED WOODPECKER <i>Picus vittatus</i>		P 0,3			
GREY-HEADED WOODPECKER <i>Picus canus</i>	P				
PALE-HEADED WOODPECKER <i>Gecinulus grantia</i>	P				
LINEATED BARBET <i>Megalaima lineata</i>	C				
GREEN-EARED BARBET <i>M. faiostricta</i>	P	P 4,2			
COPPERSMITH BARBET <i>M. haemacephala</i>	C				
COMMON HOOPOE <i>Upupa epops</i>					P
ORANGE-BREASTED TROGON <i>Harpactes oreskios</i>	P				
INDIAN ROLLER <i>Coracias benghalensis</i>		P 1,0			
COMMON KINGFISHER <i>Alcedo atthis</i>			P		
STORK-BILLED KINGFISHER <i>Halcyon capensis</i>		P 0,2			
BLUE-THROATED BEE-EATER <i>Merops viridis</i>		P 0,1		P	
BLUE-TAILED BEE-EATER <i>M. philippinus</i> PARL					P
CHESTNUT-HEADED BEE-EATER <i>M. leschenaultii</i>	P				
PLAINTIVE CUCKOO <i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>		P 1,1			
ASIAN KOEL <i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	P				

Species	Xepone	Dong	Mek N	Mek Sa	Mek S
GREEN-BILLED MALKOHA <i>Phaenicophaeus tristis</i>	P	P 2,3			
GREATER COUCAL <i>Centropus sinensis</i>	C	P*2,5			
GREY-HEADED PARAKEET <i>Psittacula finschii</i>	C				
BROWN-BACKED NEEDLETAIL <i>Hirundapus giganteus</i>		P 0,1			
FORK-TAILED SWIFT <i>Apus pacificus</i>		P 0,2		P	P
COLLARED OWLET <i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>	P				
ASIAN BARRED OWLET <i>G. cuculoides</i>	P	C 4,5			
BROWN HAWK OWL <i>Ninox scutulata</i>	P	P 2,1			
GREAT EARED NIGHTJAR <i>Eurostopodus macrotis</i>	P				
SAVANNA NIGHTJAR <i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>					P
SPOTTED DOVE <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	P				
EMERALD DOVE <i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	P	P 1,1			
GREEN PIGEON SPP. <sup>1</sup> <i>Treron</i>	P				
WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN <i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>		P 0,1			
COMMON MOORHEN <i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		P 1,0			
SNIPE <i>Gallinago</i>					P
SPOTTED REDSHANK <i>Tringa erythropus</i>			P	P	P
MARSH SANDPIPER <i>T. stagnatilis</i>			P		
COMMON GREENSHANK <i>T. nebularia</i>			P	P	P
GREEN SANDPIPER <i>T. ochropus</i>			P		P
WOOD SANDPIPER <i>T. glareola</i>			P		
COMMON SANDPIPER <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>			P	P	
TEMMINCK'S STINT <i>Calidris temminckii</i>			P		P
PHEASANT-TAILED JACANA <i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>					P
GREAT THICK-KNEE <i>Esacus recurvirostris</i> ARL					P
BLACK-WINGED STILT <i>Himantopus himantopus</i>			P	P	
PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER <i>Pluvialis fulva</i>				P	
LITTLE RINGED PLOVER <i>Charadrius dubius</i>			P	P	P
KENTISH PLOVER <i>C. alexandrinus</i>				P	
GREATER/LESSER SAND PLOVER <i>C. leschenaultii/C. mongolus</i>				P	
RIVER LAPWING <i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i> ARL					P
ORIENTAL PRATINCOLE <i>Glareola maldivarum</i>			P	P	
SMALL PRATINCOLE <i>G. lactea</i> PARL			P	P	P
RIVER TERN <i>Sterna aurantia</i> ARL					P
WHITE-WINGED TERN <i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>				P	
BLACK BAZA <i>Aviceda leuphotes</i>		P 1,1			P
CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE <i>Spilornis cheela</i>	P	P 2,1			
SHIKRA <i>Accipiter badius</i>	P	C 2,4			
LITTLE EGRET <i>Egretta garzetta</i>			P		P
GREY HERON <i>Ardea cinerea</i> ARL			P	P	P
GREAT EGRET <i>Casmerodius albus</i>			P		P
INTERMEDIATE EGRET <i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>			P		P
CATTLE EGRET <i>Bubulcus ibis</i>					P
CHINESE POND HERON <i>Ardeola bacchus</i>			P		P
MALAYAN NIGHT HERON <i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>		P			
CINNAMON BITTERN <i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>		P 0,1			
EARED PITTA <i>Pitta phayrei</i>	P				
BLUE-WINGED PITTA <i>P. moluccensis</i>	P	P 0,4			
BROWN SHRIKE <i>Lanius cristatus</i>		P 0,1			P
RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE <i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i>	P				
LARGE-BILLED CROW <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	P		P		
BAR-WINGED FLYCATCHER-SHRIKE <i>Hemipus picatus</i>	P	P 0,2			
ASHY DRONGO <i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>		P 3,0			
SPANGLED DRONGO <i>D. hottentottus</i>	P	P 1,0			
GREATER RACKET-TAILED DRONGO <i>D. paradiseus</i>	C	P 1,4			
BLACK-NAPE MONARCH <i>Hypothymis azurea</i>	C	C 4,5			
ASIAN PARADISE-FLYCATCHER <i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	P	P 0,1			
GREAT IORA <i>Aegithina lafresnayei</i>		P 3,4			
WHITE-THROATED ROCK THRUSH <i>Monticola gularis</i>	P	P 1,0			
BLUE ROCK THRUSH <i>M. solitarius</i>					P

Species	Xepone	Dong	Mek N	Mek Sa	Mek S
BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH <i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	P	P 1,0			
ASIAN BROWN FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>		P 0,1			
HAINAN BLUE FLYCATCHER <i>Cyornis hainanus</i>		P 2,0 <sup>2</sup>			
[TICKELL'S BLUE FLYCATCHER <i>C. tickelliae</i> ]	C				
GREY-HEADED CANARY FLYCATCHER <i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	C	C 4,0			
BLUETHROAT <i>Luscinia svecica</i>				P	
SIBERIAN BLUE ROBIN <i>L. cyane</i>		P 2,0			
WHITE-RUMPED SHAMA <i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	P	C 4,5			
COMMON STONECHAT <i>Saxicola torquata</i>		P 3,0			
BLACK-COLLARED STARLING <i>S. nigricollis</i>	P				
HILL MYNA <i>Gracula religiosa</i>	C				
BARN SWALLOW <i>Hirundo rustica</i>	P				P
WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW <i>H. smithii</i> PARL			P	P	P
BLACK-HEADED BULBUL <i>Pycnonotus atriceps</i>		P 3,2			
BLACK-CRESTED BULBUL <i>P. melanicterus</i>	P	C 4,5			
STRIPE-THROATED BULBUL <i>P. finlaysoni</i>		P 1,2			
YELLOW-VENTED BULBUL <i>P. goiavier</i>					P
STREAK-EARED BULBUL <i>P. blanfordi</i>					P
PUFF-THROATED BULBUL <i>Alophoixus pallidus</i>	C	C 3,5			
ZITTING CISTICOLA <i>Cisticola juncidis</i>				P	
BRIGHT-HEADED CISTICOLA <i>C. exilis</i>			P	P	
PLAIN PRINIA <i>Prinia inornata</i>		P 1,0			
CHESTNUT-FLANKED WHITE-EYE <i>Zosterops erythropleurus</i>		P 1,0			
ASIAN STUBTAIL <i>Urosphena squameiceps</i>	P	P 2,0			
BLACK-BROWED REED WARBLER <i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>				P	
THICK-BILLED WARBLER <i>A. aedon</i>	P				
DARK-NECKED TAILORBIRD <i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>	P	P 3,4			
RADDE'S WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>					P
YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER <i>P. inornatus</i>	C	C 3,0			
GREENISH WARBLER <i>P. trochiloides</i>		C 4,0			
PALE-LEGGED LEAF WARBLER <i>P. tenellipes</i>	P	C 4,0			
'GOLDEN-SPECTACLED WARBLER' <i>Seicercus burkii</i> <sup>3</sup>		P 1,0			
YELLOW-BELLIED WARBLER <i>Abroscopus superciliosus</i>	C				
WHITE-CRESTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>		C 1,2			
LAUGHINGTHRUSH SP(P). <i>Garrulax</i> <sup>4</sup>	P	C 1,3			
ABBOTT'S BABBLER <i>Malacocincla abbotti</i>		C 4,5			
BUFF-BREASTED BABBLER <i>Pellorneum tickelli</i>	C				
PUFF-THROATED BABBLER <i>P. ruficeps</i>		C 4,5			
LARGE SCIMITAR BABBLER <i>Pomatorhinus hypoleucos</i>		C 4,5			
RUFIOUS-CAPPED/RUFIOUS-FRONTED BABBLER <i>Stachyris ruficeps/S. rufifrons</i>	P				
STRIPED TIT BABBLER <i>Macronous gularis</i>	C	C 4,5			
BROWN-CHEEKED FULVETTA <i>Alcippe poioicephala</i>		C 4,4			
WHITE-BELLIED YUHINA <i>Yuhina zantholeuca</i>	P	P 3,3			
THICK-BILLED FLOWERPECKER <i>Dicaeum agile</i>		P 3,3			
SCARLET-BACKED FLOWERPECKER <i>D. cruentatum</i>		P 1,0			
FLOWERPECKER SPP. <i>Dicaeum</i>	P	P 4,5			
RUBY-CHEEKED SUNBIRD <i>Anthreptes singalensis</i>		P 2,2			
CRIMSON SUNBIRD <i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>		P 2,1			
LITTLE SPIDERHUNTER <i>Arachnothera longirostra</i>	P	P 2,2			
WHITE WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla alba</i>					P
YELLOW WAGTAIL <i>M. flava</i>			P	P	
PADDYFIELD PIPIT <i>Anthus rufulus</i>				P	P
OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT <i>A. hodgsoni</i>	P			P	
RED-THROATED PIPIT <i>A. cervinus</i>				P	
SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA <i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	P			P	

- 1 Mostly calls thought to have been attributable to Thick-billed Green Pigeon. However, calls of Pin-tailed and Pompadour Green Pigeons were not known.
- 2 An unidentified blue flycatcher was also recorded on 4 May.
- 3 *S. burkii* is now regarded as a species complex of five species (Alström and Olsson 1999) but the characters were not known at the time of these records.
- 4 All laughingthrushes heard were suspected to be White-crested