

Birds of Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary, Haryana, India

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Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary (30°24'N 77° 32'E) lies in the northern Shivalik tract, to the west of Yamuna River (Fig. 1). A birdlist of 161 species, compiled from records gathered from 1993 to 1995 is presented along with information on status, season and habitat.

STUDY AREA

Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary is 133 km² in area and the terrain varies from plains to hills up to 700 m. There are narrow valleys locally called 'kholes' between the hills. These valleys house seasonal rivulets locally called 'soats' which remain dry for most of the year. The sanctuary has a number of water bodies, both natural and man-made which provide wetland habitat.

There is mixed to dry deciduous forest cover with central tracts of *Sal Shorea robusta*. Small villages are located along

the south-western edge of the sanctuary. The primary sources of livelihood of the people in these villages are animal husbandry and agriculture.

The sanctuary experiences all the four seasons; summer (April-June), rainfall (July-September), winter (October-January) and spring (February-March). The temperature varies from 5°C in winter to 45°C in summer.

METHODS

This bird list spans a period of three years (1993-1995) during which the Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary was visited regularly and all habitats and all seasons were covered. Birds seen were identified and recorded along with habitat type, season and status (resident/migrant, breeding/non-breeding, and frequency of occurrence). Birds were recorded whilst the observer was either walking slowly or sitting concealed at a vantage point. A species was recorded as breeding only after observing at least one of the following signs - nest, eggs or young ones.

Ali and Ripley (1987) and King *et al.* (1975) were used to confirm the identification of different species.

RESULTS

A total of 161 species was observed, of which 112 were resident and 49 were migrant species. Most of the migratory species were winter migrants and non-breeding except Pied Cuckoo *Clamator jacobinus* and Asian Paradise-flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*, which are summer migrants, the latter breeding in the sanctuary. Out of 112 resident species, 52 species were proved to breed in the sanctuary, while the breeding status of 59 species could not be determined.

I am grateful to the Chief Wildlife Warden, Haryana for giving permission to work in the Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary.

REFERENCES

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 King, B., Dickinson, E. C. and Woodcock, M. W. (1975) *A field guide to the birds of South-East Asia*. London: Collins.

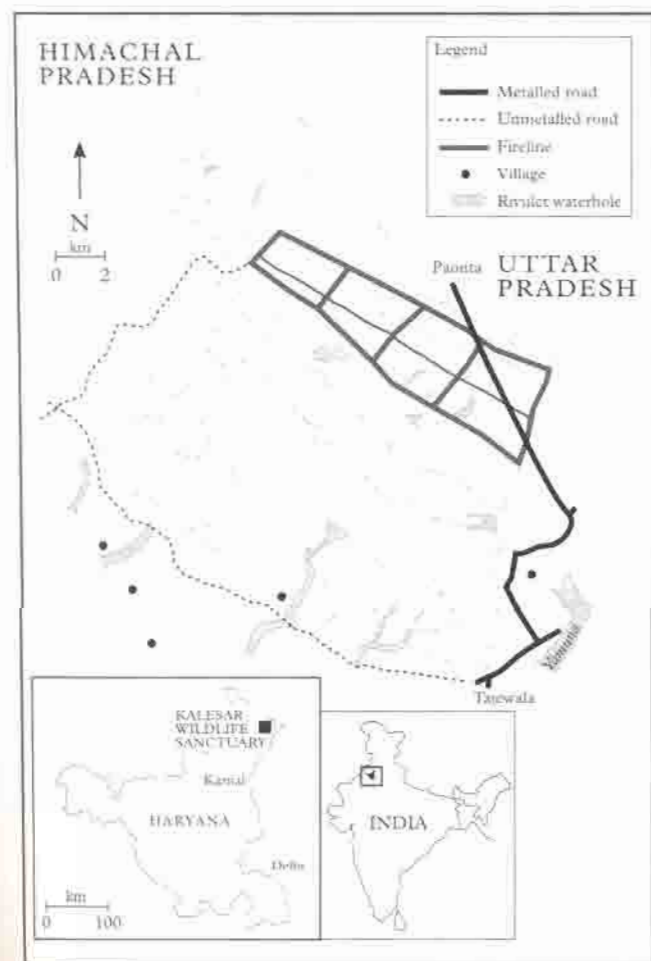


Figure 1. Location of Kalesar Wildlife Sanctuary

APPENDIX

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Season	Habitat
GREY FRANCOLIN	<i>Francolinus pondicerianus</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,P,S
BLACK FRANCOLIN	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	R,B,2	A	D,G,S
COMMON QUAIL	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>	R,1	A	G,S
RAIN QUAIL	<i>Coturnix coromandelica</i>	R,1	A	S
JUNGLE BUSH QUAIL	<i>Perdicula asiatica</i>	R,1	A	S
RED JUNGLEFOWL	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	R,B,2	A	D,G,M,HM,P,S
KALJ PHEASANT	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>	R,1	A	HM
INDIAN PEAFOWL	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	R,B,2	A	G,D,M,HM,P,S
BARRED BUTTONQUAIL	<i>Turnix suscitator</i>	R,1	A	G,M,S
GREY-CAPPED PYGMY WOODPECKER	<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>	R,1	A	HM,M,P
YELLOW-CROWNED WOODPECKER	<i>Dendrocopos mahrattensis</i>	R,1	A	HM,M,P
BLACK-RUMPED FLAMEBACK	<i>Dinopium benghalense</i>	R,1	A	HM,M,P
BROWN-HEADED BARBET	<i>Megalaima zeylanica</i>	R,1	A	M,HM,P
COPPERSMITH BARBET	<i>Megalaima haemacephala</i>	R,B,2	A	M,HM,P
INDIAN GREY HORNBILL	<i>Ocyroceros birostris</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,HM,P
ORIENTAL PIED HORNBILL	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM
COMMON HOOPOE	<i>Upupa epops</i>	R,B,3	A	G,P,S
INDIAN ROLLER	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	R,B,2	A	G,D,P,S
COMMON KINGFISHER	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	R,B,2	A	A
GREEN BEE-EATER	<i>Merops orientalis</i>	R,B,2	A	G,D,M,HM,S
BLUE-CHEEKED BEE-EATER	<i>Merops persicus</i>	R,1	A	M,S
CHESTNUT-HEADED BEE-EATER	<i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	R,2	A	R,D,RG
PIED CUCKOO	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	M,2	S	D,M,P,S
COMMON HAWK CUCKOO	<i>Hierococyx varius</i>	R,2	A	D,M,HM,S
INDIAN CUCKOO	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	M,2	S	D,M,P,S
ASIAN KOEL	<i>Eudynamis scolopacea</i>	R,B,3	A	D,M,P,S
SIRKEER MALKOHA	<i>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</i>	R,1	A	M
GREATER COUCAL	<i>Centropus sinensis</i>	R,B,2	A	R,G,D,M,P,S,RG
ALEXANDRINE PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula eupatria</i>	R,1	A	M,P
ROSE-RINGED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	R,B,3	A	D,M,HM,P,S
PLUM-HEADED PARAKEET	<i>Psittacula cyanocephala</i>	R,B,1	A	M,HM
SPOTTED OWLET	<i>Athene brama</i>	R,B,3	A	D,M,P,S
GREY NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>	R,1	A	R,S,RG
SYKES'S NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus mahrattensis</i>	R,1	A	R,G,D,S,RG
LARGE-TAILED NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>	R,B,2	A	R,D,S,RG
INDIAN NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus asiaticus</i>	R,2	A	D,S,RG
SAVANNA NIGHTJAR	<i>Caprimulgus affinis</i>	R,2	A	G,D,HM,S,RG
ROCK PIGEON	<i>Columba livia</i>	R,B,3	A	D
ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,P,S,RG
SPOTTED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,P,S,RG
RED COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>	M,1	S,M	M,P,S
EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	R,B,3	A	D,P,S,RG
EMERALD DOVE	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	R,1	A	M
YELLOW-FOOTED GREEN PIGEON	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,P
WHITE-BREASTED WATERHEN	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>	R,B,2	A	A,D
ORIENTAL HONEY-BUZZARD	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>	R,B,1	A	M,HM,S
BLACK-SHOULDERED KITE	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	R,B,1	A	G,D,S
BLACK KITE	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	R,B,3	A	G,D,P,S
BRAHMINY KITE	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	M,NB,1	W	A,D,RG
EGYPTIAN VULTURE	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	R,B,1	A	G,D,HM,S,RG
WHITE-RUMPED VULTURE	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i>	R,B,3	A	D,M,P,S
LONG-BILLED VULTURE	<i>Gyps indicus</i>	M,1	W	HM,S,RG
RED-HEADED VULTURE	<i>Sarcogyps calvus</i>	R,1	A	R,D,HM,S,RG
SHORT-TOED SNAKE EAGLE	<i>Circus gallicus</i>	R,1	A	G,HM,P,S
CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>	R,1	A	G,D,M,HM,P,S
EURASIAN MARSH HARRIER	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	M,NB,1	A	A,D
PALLID HARRIER	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,M,HM,P,S
SHIKRA	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,P
NORTHERN GOSHAWK	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM
BLACK EAGLE	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,M,HM,S
LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	R,1	A	D,M,P,S
STEPPE EAGLE	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	M,NB,1	W	HM,S
LESSER KESTREL	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	M,NB,1	W	A,D
COMMON KESTREL	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	R,1	A	G,D,S,RG
EURASIAN HOBBY	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	M,NB,1	W	G,D,P,S
LITTLE GREBE	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	R,B,2	A	A
LITTLE CORMORANT	<i>Phalacrocorax niger</i>	R,2	A	A
LITTLE EGRET	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	R,B,2	A	A
CAULLE EGRET	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	R,B,3	A	G,D,S

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Season	Habitat
INDIAN POND HERON	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>	R,B,2	A	A
BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	R,B,2	A	A
INDIAN PITTA	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>	M,1	S	M,HM,S,RG
BROWN SHRIKE	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>	M,1	W	D,S
BAY-BACKED SHRIKE	<i>Lanius vittatus</i>	R,1	A	S,P
LONG-TAILED SHRIKE	<i>Lanius schach</i>	R,2	A	S
SOUTHERN GREY SHRIKE	<i>Lanius meridionalis</i>	R,1	A	P,S
RUFIOUS TREEPIE	<i>Dendrociitta vagabunda</i>	R,2	A	D,M,HM,P,S
HOUSE CROW	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	R,B,3	A	R,G,D,M,P,S,RG
LARGE-BILLED CROW	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	M,NB,2	W	R,D,HM,P,S,RG
ASHY WOODSWALLOW	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>	M,NB,1	W	HM,S
EURASIAN GOLDEN ORIOLE	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	R,B,2	A	M,HM,P
BLACK-HOODED ORIOLE	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	R,2	A	M,HM,P
LARGE CUCKOO-SHRIKE	<i>Coracina macei</i>	R,1	A	M,HM,P,S
SMALL MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</i>	R,1	A	M,HM,P
LONG-TAILED MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	M,NB,2	W	M,HM,P
SCARLET MINIVET	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM
YELLOW-BELLIED FANTAIL	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM,S,P,RG
WHITE-BROWED FANTAIL	<i>Rhipidura aureola</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM,S,P
BLACK DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,HM,P,S,RG
ASHY DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM,S
WHITE-BELLIED DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>	R,1	A	HM,S
SPANGLED DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	R,1	A	M,HM,P,S
GREATER RACKET-TAILED DRONGO	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>	R,1	A	M,HM,S
ASIAN PARADISE-FLYCATCHER	<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>	M,B,1	S	M,HM,S
COMMON WOODSHRIKE	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	R,1	A	D,HM,S
BLUE ROCK THRUSH	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>	M,NB,1	W	HM,P,S
SCALY THRUSH	<i>Zoothera dauma</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM
GREY-WINGED BLACKBIRD	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>	M,NB,2	W	D,M,HM,P,S
EURASIAN BLACKBIRD	<i>Turdus merula</i>	M,NB,2	W	D,M,HM,P,S
GREY-HEADED CANARY FLYCATCHER	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	M,NB,2	W	M,HM,P,S
BLUETHROAT	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>	M,NB,1	W	M,HM
ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	R,2	A	D,M,HM,P,S
WHITE-RUMPED SHAMA	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	R,1	A	P,S
INDIAN ROBIN	<i>Saxicoloides fulcata</i>	R,B,2	A	D,HM,S,RG
BLACK REDSTART	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	M,NB,1	W	R,D
WHITE-CAPPED WATER REDSTART	<i>Chaimarornis leucocephalus</i>	M,NB,1	W	A,R
PLUMBEOUS WATER REDSTART	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	M,NB,1	W	A,R
COMMON STONECHAT	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	M,NB,2	W	G,D,S,RG,WL
PIED BUSHCHAT	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	R,2	A	G,D,RG
GREY BUSHCHAT	<i>Saxicola ferrea</i>	M,NB,1	W	G,HM,S
BRAHMINY STARLING	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>	R,B,2	A	G,D,P,S
ROSY STARLING	<i>Sturnus roseus</i>	M,NB,1	W	G,S,W
ASIAN PIED STARLING	<i>Sturnus contra</i>	R,B,2	A	A,G,D,P,S,WL
COMMON MYNA	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	R,B,3	A	A,G,D,P,S,WL
BANK MYNA	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i>	R,B,3	A	A,G,D,P,S,WL
WALLCREEPER	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,HM,RG
BAR-TAILED TREECREEPER	<i>Certhia himalayana</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,HM,P
GREAT TIT	<i>Parus major</i>	M,NB,2	W	M,HM,P
SAND/PALE MARTIN	<i>Riparia riparia/diluta</i>	R,2	A	A,R
PLAIN MARTIN	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	R,2	A	A,R
EURASIAN CRAG MARTIN	<i>Hirundo rupestris</i>	M,NB,1	W	A,R
DUSKY CRAG MARTIN	<i>Hirundo concolor</i>	R,2	A	A,R
BARN SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	R,2	A	A,D,S,RG
WIRE-TAILED SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	R,B,2	A	A
RED-RUMPED SWALLOW	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	R,2	A	A,RG
HIMALAYAN BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	R,1	A	M,P,S
RED-VENTED BULBUL	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,HM,P,S
BLACK BULBUL	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	M,1	W	M,HM,P,S
RUFIOUS-VENTED PRINIA	<i>Prinia burnesii</i>	R,2	A	A,G,RG
RUFIOUS-FRONTED PRINIA	<i>Prinia buchanani</i>	R,1	A	D,S
GRACEFUL PRINIA	<i>Prinia gracilis</i>	R,1	A	A,G,D,S,RG
JUNGLE PRINIA	<i>Prinia sylvatica</i>	R,1	A	D,S
YELLOW-BELLIED PRINIA	<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>	R,B,2	A	G,D,S
ASHY PRINIA	<i>Prinia socialis</i>	R,B,2	A	P,S,RG
PLAIN PRINIA	<i>Prinia inornata</i>	R,1	A	S,RG
ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	R,2	A	D,M,HM,P,S,RG
COMMON TAILORBIRD	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	R,B,2	A	D,P,S
WHITE-BROWED SCIMITAR BABBLER	<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps</i>	R,1	A	M,HM,S
YELLOW-EYED BABBLER	<i>Chrysomma sinense</i>	R,2	A	D,S,RG,BW
COMMON BABBLER	<i>Turdoides caudatus</i>	R,B,3	A	D,M,P,S

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Season	Habitat
LARGE GREY BABBLER	<i>Turdoides malcolmi</i>	R,1	A	M,P,S
JUNGLE BABBLER	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	R,B,2	A	D,M,HM,P,S
INDIAN BUSHLARK	<i>Mirafra erythroptera</i>	R,2	A	S,WL
ASHY-CROWNED SPARROW LARK	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>	R,B,2	A	G,S,WL
RUFOUS-TAILED LARK	<i>Ammonomanes phoenicurus</i>	R,1	A	G,P,S,WL
SAND LARK	<i>Calandrella raytal</i>	R,2	A	A,R,S,RG
CRESTED LARK	<i>Galerida cristata</i>	R,B,2	A	G,S,WL
ORIENTAL SKYLARK	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	R,1	A	G
PURPLE SUNBIRD	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	R,B,2	A	HM,P,S
HOUSE SPARROW	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	R,B,3	A	G,D,S,WL
WHITE WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla alba</i>	M,2	W	A,R,G,RG
WHITE-BROWED WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla madenaspatensis</i>	R,2	A	A,R,G,RG
CITRINE WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	M,1	W	A,RG
YELLOW WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	M,1	W	A,R,G,RG
GREY WAGTAIL	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	M,1	W	A,R,RG
PADDYFIELD PIPIT	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	R,1	A	G,P,RG
LONG-BILLED PIPIT	<i>Anthus similis</i>	M,NB,1	W	HM,WL
CRESTED BUNTING	<i>Melophus lathami</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,HM,S
GREY-NECKED BUNTING	<i>Emberiza buchanani</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,HM,S
WHITE-CAPPED BUNTING	<i>Emberiza stewarti</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,S
RED-HEADED BUNTING	<i>Emberiza bruniceps</i>	M,NB,1	W	D,S

Status: R - Resident
M - Migratory
B - Breeding
NB - Non-breeding

1 - Less common
2 - Common
3 - Very common

Season: S - Summer
W - Winter
A - Throughout the year

Habitat: A - Aquatic (including marshy areas and wetland vegetation)
BW - Brushwood along streams, canals, rivers etc.
D - Disturbed (human settlement and cultivation, cut and burnt forest)
G - Grassland
HM - Hills with mixed forests
M - Mixed Forests
P - Plantations
R - Dry bed of seasonal river
RG - Dry bed of seasonal river with grassy banks
S - Scrubland
WL - Wasteland