

TAWNY PIPIT <i>Anthus campestris</i>		A	C
BLYTH'S PIPIT <i>Anthus godlewskii</i>	This survey	Anon. (undated) and others	Inglis <i>et al.</i> (1920)
	Jainti and Buxa	Buxa	Jalpaiguri district
OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	B	A	C
RUFIOUS-BREASTED ACCENTOR <i>Prunella strophilata</i>	B		
BAYA WEAVER <i>Ploceus philippinus</i>		A	C
FINN'S WEAVER <i>Ploceus megarhynchus</i> (VU)		A	Hasimara
RED AVADAVAT <i>Amandava amandava</i>			x
WHITE-RUMPED MUNIA <i>Lonchura striata</i>		A	U
SCALY-BREASTED MUNIA <i>Lonchura punctulata</i>		A	C
BLACK-HEADED MUNIA <i>Lonchura malacca</i>		S	F
COMMON ROSEFINCH <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>		A	U
SCARLET FINCH <i>Haematospiza sipahi</i>		A	R
CRESTED BUNTING <i>Melophus lathami</i>			F
LITTLE BUNTING <i>Emberiza pusilla</i>		A	F
YELLOW-BREASTED BUNTING <i>Emberiza aureola</i>			U
CHESTNUT BUNTING <i>Emberiza rutila</i>			

A = Anon. (undated)  
L = Law (1953)  
St = Stevens (1923-1925)

Ab = Abdulali (1968-)  
S = R. Singh (pers. comm.)

I = Inglis (1952-1959)  
Sa = Sanyal (1995)

(C) = Critically endangered  
(LR: nt) = Low risk: Near-threatened

(EN) = Endangered

(VU) = Vulnerable

C = common  
R = rare

F = fairly common  
x = status n

U = uncommon

## Some bird observations from central Bhutan, May 1994

ROBERT TYMSTRA, SCOTT CONNOP, and CHADO TSHERING

Results of a survey in western and central Bhutan in May 1994 are presented. The survey focused on subtropical and temperate zone areas in Jigme Dorji National Park and the buffer zone of Black Mountain National Park and yielded 252 species of birds, including first published records for Bhutan of Common Coot *Fulica atra*, Russet Bush Warbler *Bradypterus seebohmi*, and Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus*.

An avifaunal survey in parts of western and central Bhutan was conducted from 2 May to 26 May 1994. The project, designed to increase knowledge of the birdlife of some of Bhutan's less-studied areas, was sponsored by the WWF Bhutan Programme. The ornithological survey team consisted of Scott and Joanne Connop, Dr. Murray Gell-Mann, Marsha Southwicke, Chado Tshering, and Robert Tymstra. In addition to documenting the birdlife, several hours of bird song recordings were made for future use in conservation and training in survey and recording techniques was provided to Bhutanese biologists.

Our survey time was spent mainly in Jigme Dorji National Park and in the buffer zone bordering the Black Mountains National Park. We found a total of 252 species of birds, including several that were apparently new to the country, or had only been documented once or twice before. We concentrated our efforts on the subtropical and temperate broadleaf forests which Bhutan has in abundance; these forests are a stronghold for several bird species difficult to find elsewhere.

Our expedition (see Figure 1 for locations) began in Thimphu (2400 m) from where we drove east towards Tongsa (2,100 m), stopping along the way at Dochhu La (3,215 m), Nobding (2,900 m), and Pele La (3,300 m). From Tongsa, we made a daytrip east to Yutong La (3,400 m), then drove south to Wangdinala (1,000 m) where we spent three days. We continued with a week-long trek along the Mangde Chhu (river) to Nobji (1,300 m) via Nimshong. We camped for three nights along a watercourse 5 km upstream of Nobji before retracing our steps to Wangdinala and Tongsa. We next camped for three days at Chendebeji (2,400 m), then moved on to Phobjikha from where we trekked to Khebetang (2,800 m) for a four day stay. We travelled to Punakha via Pele La, then up the Mo Chhu for a three day stay at Rimchu (1,350 m), trekking upstream to below Gasa (2,200 m) via Damji before returning to Thimphu. The first trek followed a trail from Nimshong to beyond Nobji and covered an elevational range of 900-1,500 m, with a low point of 700 m while crossing the Mangde Chhu. There was

much mature forest in this area with secondary forest and clearings near the villages. We found this region to be very rich in bird species, presumably because of the increased diversity of vegetation and the presence of 'edge' habitat where some species were more readily encountered than they would have been in mature forest. Beyond Nobji, we entered a narrow river canyon where the species diversity was lower, but certain key indicator species were found here that were scarce or absent along the trail to Nobji. Rufous-necked Hornbill *Aceros nipalensis*, Yellow-throated Fulvetta *Alcippe cinerea*, Spotted Wren Babbler *Spelaornis formosus*, and White-naped Yuhina *Yuhina bakeri* are good examples. The presence of mammals such as Golden Langur *Trachypithecus geei*, Assamese Macaque *Macaca assamensis*, and Common Goral *Naemorhedus goral* underscored the importance of this less disturbed area. The weather was mostly sunny and warm during the beginning of our trek, but degenerated to rain as we arrived at Nobji and beyond. This river area seemed to have a wetter microclimate than areas east of Nobji.

Our second trek began at the end of the Punakha road five km north of Rimchu at 1,500 m. The first segment wound through healthy subtropical forest along the Mo Chhu before climbing to 2,200 m at Damji. The forest from Damji to Gasa rises and falls between 2,100 and 2,500 m with the quality of the temperate broadleaf forests improving as one approaches Gasa. The forest undergrowth just before Gasa contained a strong bamboo element with a number of bamboo specialists including Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler *Xiphirhynchus superciliosus*. Some of our discoveries in this area represented species that are difficult to identify or observe, including Russet Bush Warbler *Bradypterus seebohmi*. This species would have been missed if not for a recording made near Damji, reinforcing the value of tape-recorders as tools in detecting and documenting shy species. Rain occurred off and on during this time but the monsoon had not yet begun in earnest. The forest between Rimchu and the end of the road was in excellent condition and should be afforded some protection.

The rest of our censusing involved areas closer to the main east-west highway, but despite our proximity to human habitation, the forests were still extensive and a number of significant birds were seen from the road. Ward's Trogon *Harpactes wardi* was initially found beside the road near Tongsa. The trail connecting Pele La with the highway near Nobding displayed mature forest and contained a good assortment of species, including Brown Paradoxornis *Paradoxornis unicolor* and Fulvous Parrotbills *P. fulvifrons*. Other surprises included several noteworthy sightings along the road north of Wangdinala. Kalij Pheasant *Lophura leucomelanos*, Yellow-vented Warblers *Phylloscopus cantator*, Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo *Hierococcyx fugax*, and Rufous-necked Hornbills were all visible from the road, as were Indian Muntjac *Muntiacus muntjak* and Golden Langurs. We observed many significant species outside of Bhutan's parks and reserves and felt that any increase of protected areas would result in quality additions to their already extensive parks system.

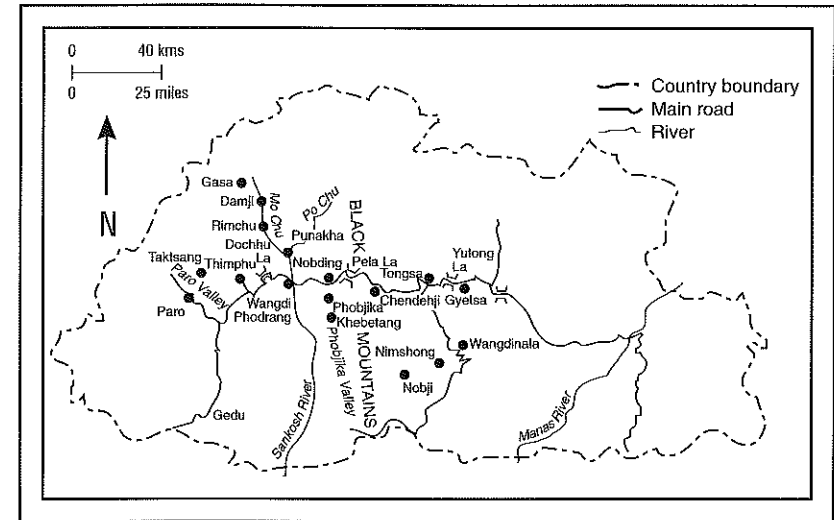


Figure 1. Bhutan, showing locations mentioned in text.

#### DESCRIPTION OF MAIN LOCALITIES VISITED:

Dochhu La (27°29'N 89°45'E) consists of 'mixed conifer' forest dominated by fir *Abies densa*, Hemlock *Tsuga dumosa*, Spruce *Picea moranda* and, at slightly lower elevations, 'temperate' forest of *Rhododendron* spp., oak *Quercus semicarpifolia* and further down towards Thimphu dominated by Blue Pine *Pinus wallichiana*.

Nobding-Pele La (Pele La: 27°32'N 90°12'E) area, is 'temperate broadleaf' and 'mixed conifer' forest of Birch *Betula utilis*, *Rhododendron* spp., Cypress *Cupressus corneyana*, and *Pinus wallichiana*.

Chendebji (27°29'N 90°18'E) is an upland 'temperate' and 'mixed conifer' forest of *Abies densa*, *Tsuga dumosa*, Larch *Larix griffithii* and Juniper *Juniperus recurva* and *J. pseudosabina* with *Rhododendron* forest and stunted bamboo undergrowth. The Phobjikha (27°31'N 90°13'E) and Khebetang (27°23'N 90°11'E) area is a 'mixed conifer' and 'temperate broadleaf' forest of *Pinus wallichiana*, *Abies densa*, *Rhododendron* spp., *Tsuga dumosa*, *Prunus* spp. with bamboo (*Yushania microphylla*) undergrowth. Khebetang is the construction site of a new nature study centre.

Tongsa (27°30'N 90°31'E), Wangdinala (or Wangdigang, 27°13'N 90°37'E) and Nimshong (27°13'N 90°36'E) areas are 'temperate broadleaf' with Chir Pine *Pinus roxburghii* to 'subtropical' forests in the Wangdinala-Nimshong area where dominant tree species include *Quercus griffithii*, *Schima wallichii*, *Castanopsis* spp. and *Sterculia villosa*.

Nobji (27°11'N 90°28'E) and upper Nobji areas contain a blend of forest types between 'subtropical' and 'temperate' characterized by Alders *Alnus nepalensis*, *Castanopsis* spp., *Quercus griffithii*, *Callicarpa arborea*, *Schima wallichii*, and *Sterculia villosa*.

Rimchu (27°40'N 89°45'E) area is a 'subtropical' forest consisting of *Alnus nepalensis*, *Pinus roxburghii*, *Castanopsis* spp., *Schima wallichii*, *Macaranga* spp., Walnut *Juglans regia*, *Morus laevigata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Betula alnoides*, *Michelia* spp. and *Syzygium cumini*.

Damji (27°48'N 89°44'E), and Gasa (27°56'N 89°44'E) areas are 'temperate' broadleaf forest of *Alnus nepalensis*, *Quercus griffithii*, *Schima wallichii*, *Betula alnoides* with lots of bamboo along the route to Gasa and *Alnus nepalensis* in the hot springs area.

#### Annotated list of selected species:

The following is an annotated list of some of the more significant species recorded along with IUCN Threat Category, if any (Collar *et al.* 1994). The complete list of 252 species observed follows in the Appendix.

JAPANESE QUAIL *Coturnix japonica*. This species was rather common in the wheat fields of the Phobjikha valley at 2,800 m.

RUFIOUS-THROATED PARTRIDGE *Arborophila rufogularis*. Calls we heard frequently in the lower altitudes (1,100-1,600 m) of the subtropical valleys near Nobji and Rimchu, we believe to be of this species though this was not confirmed. The calls were much like those of *A. torqueola* but more prolonged.

SATYR TRAGOPAN *Tragopan satyra*. One was heard below Yutong La (2,600 m) on 4 May and a female was seen at Chendebji at 2,700 m on 15 May. Near-threatened.

GREY PEACOCK PHEASANT *Polyplectron bicalcaratum*. One heard near Nobji, 8 May at 1,100 m.

GREAT HORNBILL *Buceros bicornis*. Two in subtropical broadleaf forest near Nimshong on 12 May at 1,300 m.

RUFIOUS-NECKED HORNBILL *Aceros nipalensis*. A flock of 13 birds was seen near Nimshong at 1,300 m on 12 May; four hornbills were observed above Wangdinala at 1,600 m on 6 May and a single bird was seen at the river camp upstream of Nobji. Vulnerable.

WARD'S TROGON *Harpactes wardi*. A singing bird was recorded and seen on 4 May at 2,600 m seven km east of Tongsa. Another was heard on 26 May near Damji at 2,200 m. Vulnerable.

HODGSON'S HAWK CUCKOO *Hierococcyx fugax*. Observed in small numbers in the Nobji and Gasa valleys on several occasions at altitudes from 1,000-2,200 m.

ASIAN EMERALD CUCKOO *Chrysococcyx maculatus*. Individuals recorded on 7 May at Wangdinala (1,000 m) and in the Nobji Valley on 10 May in subtropical broadleaf forest at an altitude of 1,300 m.

PARAKEET. *Psittacula finschii/himalayana*. A single bird of one or other of these species flew past near Damji at 2,200 m on 23 May. Its call was an upslurred 'phweep.'

TAWNY FISH OWL *Ketupa flavipes*. Eurasian Jays harassing this species led to its location high in a tree beside the Mo Chhu at Rimchu on 21 May at 1,300 m. Near-threatened.

COMMON COOT *Fulica atra*. A single bird was seen swimming in a small pond near Punakha at 1,275 m on 20 May and is apparently the first published record for Bhutan.

PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE *Haliaeetus leucoryphus*. An adult was seen flying south along the Mo Chhu River at 1,300 m on 20 May near Rimchu. Vulnerable.

CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE *Spilornis cheela*. In addition to several sightings at lower altitudes, we observed a calling bird fly over near Dochhu La on 2 May at 3,000 m, a substantially higher altitude than normal for this species.

BOOTED EAGLE *Hieraaetus pennatus*. One flying over Gasa Hot Springs at 2,100 m on 24 May.

RUFIOUS-BELLIED EAGLE *Hieraaetus kienerii*. A single bird recorded at 1,500 m at Rephe above Wangdinala on 5 May.

LONG-TAILED BROADBILL *Psarismomus dalhousiae*. Two heard on 13 May near Nobji and two more seen near Nimshong on 14 May at 1,300m.

ASHY WOODSWALLOW *Artamus fuscus*. Three on 7 May at 1,300 m near Nimshong. One was seen entering a nest cavity in a dead tree.

[VIVID NILTAVA *Niltava vivida*. One female on 23 May and another on 25 May south of Gasa at 2,100 m were believed to be this species: it should be looked for.]

WHITE-TAILED ROBIN *Myiomela leucura*. Several were seen in the broadleaf forest in the vicinity of Nobji and in the Gasa Valley from 1,300 to 2,300 m.

PURPLE COCHOA *Cochoa purpurea*. A female seen briefly by one of our party on 19 May at 2,750 m at Khebetang. Near-threatened.

SLATY-BELLIED TESIA *Tesia olivea*. Several along the trail from Nobji to Nimshong (1,200-1,300 m). This species was found to be rather common along the Mo Chhu River from 1,400 to 1,900 m, as well. Below Damji, we found *T. olivea* in the same habitat as *T. cyaniventer* where altitudes overlapped; the latter was found from 1,500 m up to 2,400 m.

RUSSET BUSH WARBLER *Bradypterus seebohmi*. This bird's call was recorded on 23 May at 2,200 m at Damji. The call, heard in the background of a tape made for another species, was identified by Craig Robson; it represents the first record for Bhutan.

YELLOW-VENTED WARBLER *Phylloscopus cantator*. This species was found to be common in subtropical broadleaf forest from 1,000-1,400 m in both the Nobji and lower Gasa valleys. Near-threatened.

RUFIOUS-VENTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH *Garrulax gularis*. A large laughingthrush with a yellow throat and dark mask, seen chasing a considerably smaller Streaked Laughingthrush, could only be this species. It was observed in thickets near Nimshong at 1,300 m on 7 May. This is probably the second record for Bhutan.

SLENDER-BILLED SCIMITAR BABBLER *Xiphyrhynchus superciliaris*. Two birds were seen in bamboo near Damji at 2,200 m on May 25. Near-threatened.

SPOTTED WREN BABBLER *Spelaornis formosus*. Found to be rather common in dense vegetation near streams at Nobji and Rimchu at elevations ranging from 1,300 to 2,400 m. Near-threatened.

BLACK-HEADED SHRIKE BABBLER *Pteruthius rufiventer*. An individual was recorded on 25 May near Damji at 2,200 m. Near-threatened.

GOLDEN-BREASTED FULVETTA *Alcippe chrysotis*. Recorded in bamboo on 24, 25 May at 2,200 m near Gasa.

YELLOW-THROATED FULVETTA *Alcippe cinerea*. Two at 1,350 m in dense vegetation beside a stream near Nobji on 10 May. Near-threatened.

WHITE-NAPED YUHINA *Yuhina bakeri*. At least twelve birds were seen on 10 May at 1,250 m in streamside vegetation near Nobji.

GREATER RUFIOUS-HEADED PARROTBILL *Paradoxornis ruficeps*. One near Nimshong on 12 May at 1,300 m. Near-threatened.

FULVOUS PARROTBILL *Paradoxornis fulvifrons*. One at 3,200 m on 16 May at Pele La.

FOREST WAGTAIL *Dendronanthus indicus*. Individuals were seen at Rimchu on 22 May at 1,400 m and near Gasa on 24 May at 2,250 m. These are apparently the first published records for Bhutan.

YELLOW WAGTAIL *Motacilla flava*. A dark-capped male (*thunbergi?*) was observed on 24 May near a small stream at 2,250 m. There is only one previous published record for this species in Bhutan, a September record of *M. f. taiwana* seen at 4,850 m in western Bhutan (Ali and Ripley 1987).

CRIMSON-BROWED FINCH *Propyrrhula subhimachala*. One at 3,200 m near Yutong La on 4 May.

WHITE-WINGED GROSBEAK *Mycerobas carnipes*. Several were observed at Pele La, Yutong La, and Khebetang in temperate mixed forests from 2,800 to 3,300 m.

## APPENDIX

## BIRDS RECORDED IN MAY, 1994

Species	Habitat	Altitude	Locations	Abundance
JAPANESE QUAIL <i>Coturnix japonica</i>	F	2800	14	f
HILL PARTRIDGE <i>Arborophila torquola</i>	TX	2000-2900	u	c
RUFIOUS-THROATED PARTRIDGE <i>Arborophila rufogularis</i>	SB	1100-1600	10,11,12,18	f
SATYR TRAGOPAN <i>Tragopan satyra</i>	TX	2400-2800	7,13,15	r
HIMALAYAN MONAL <i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>	TX	2800	15	r
RED JUNGLEFOWL <i>Gallus gallus</i>	F,SB	1100-1300	10,11	r
KALU PHEASANT <i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>	SB,TB,TX	1000-2900	3,9,10,18,19,20	f
GREY PEACOCK PHEASANT <i>Polyplectron bicalcaratum</i>	SB	1200	11	r
SPECKLED PICULET <i>Picumnus innominatus</i>	SB	1200-1300	11,18	r
FULVOUS-BREASTED WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos macul</i>	TX	2600	7	r
RUFIOUS-BELLIED WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>	TB	2500	13	r
CRIMSON-BREASTED WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos cathpharius</i>	TX	2800	4	r
DARJEELING WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>	TX	2200-2800	15,20	f
RUFIOUS WOODPECKER <i>Ceuleus brachyurus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10,18	f
LESSER YELLOWNAPE <i>Picus chlorolophus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,11,18	f
GREATER YELLOWNAPE <i>Picus flavinucha</i>	SB,TB	1300-2100	11,18,19	f
GREY-HEADED WOODPECKER <i>Picus canus</i>	SB	1300		r
BAY WOODPECKER <i>Blythipicus pyrrhotis</i>	SB,TB	1300-2200	18,19,20	f
GREAT BARBET <i>Megalaima virens</i>	SB,TB	1300-2800	5,7,9-12,18-20	c
GOLDEN-THROATED BARBET <i>Megalaima franklinii</i>	SB,TB	1000-2700	3,9-12,18	c
BLUE-THROATED BARBET <i>Megalaima asiatica</i>	SB	600-1300	9,10	c
GREAT HORNBILL <i>Buceros bicornis</i>	SB	1300	11	r
RUFIOUS-NECKED HORNBILL <i>Aceros nipalensis</i>	SB	1000-1800	9-12	f
COMMON HOODED UPUPA <i>Upupa epops</i>	SB,TB,F	1200-2800	6,8,14,17,18	f
RED-HEADED TROGON <i>Harpactes erythrocephalus</i>	SB	1300	11	r
WARD'S TROGON <i>Harpactes wardi</i>	TB	2200-2600	7,19	r
CRESTED KINGFISHER <i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>	R,SB,TX	1200-2800	13,17,18	f
BLUE-BEARDED BEE-EATER <i>Nyctyornis athertoni</i>	SB	1300	10	r
CHESTNUT-HEADED BEE-EATER <i>Merops leschenaulti</i>	SB,R	1250	17	r
CHESTNUT-WINGED CUCKOO <i>Clamator coromandus</i>	SB	1000	9	r
LARGE HAWK CUCKOO <i>Hierococcyx sparveriioides</i>	SB,TB,TX	1000-3000	3-5,7,9-11,13,15,19,20	c
HODGSON'S HAWK CUCKOO <i>Hierococcyx fugax</i>	SB,TB	1000-2200	9-11,18,20	f
INDIAN CUCKOO <i>Cuculus micropterus</i>	SB,TB,TX	1000-2800	3-5,7,9-12,18,20	c
COMMON CUCKOO <i>Cuculus canorus</i>	TB,TX	2200-2900	3-5,13,14,18-20	c
ORIENTAL CUCKOO <i>Cuculus saturatus</i>	SB,TB,TX	1000-2800	u	c
LESSER CUCKOO <i>Cuculus poliocephalus</i>	SB,TB,TX	1000-2800	9,13,15,18-20	f
PLAINTIVE CUCKOO <i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,11	r
ASIAN EMERALD CUCKOO <i>Chrysococcyx maculatus</i>	SB	1200-1300	9,12	r
DROWNED CUCKOO <i>Surniculus lugubris</i>	SB,TB	1000-2600	6,9-12,18,19	c
PARAKEET <i>Psittacula himalayana finschii</i>	TB	2200	19	r
HIMALAYAN SWIFLET <i>Collocalia brevirostris</i>	SB,TB,TX	1500-2800	15,18-20	c
WHITE-THROATED NEEDLETAIL <i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>	SB,TX	1000-2800	9,15	f
ALPINE SWIFT <i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	TX	2600	16	r
FORK-TAILED SWIFT <i>Apus pacificus</i>	SB,TB	1300-2400	7,9,13,18-20	f
HOUSE SWIFT <i>Apus affinis</i>	SB,TB,TX	1000-2000	u	c
MOUNTAIN SCOPS OWL <i>Otus spilocephalus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10,11	f
TAWNY FISH OWL <i>Ketupa flavipes</i>	R,SB	1300	18	r
COLLARED OWLET <i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>	SB,TB	1200-2200	10-12,19-20	f
ASIAN BARRED OWLET <i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10	f

Species	Habitat	Altitude	Locations	Abundance
GREY NIGHTJAR <i>Caprimulgus indicus</i>	SB,TB, TX	1000-2400	7,9,11,13,14,18,19	f
ROCK PIGEON <i>Columba livia</i>	F, TX	1100-2900	2,3,4,6,16	c
ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE <i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	SB,TB,F	1300-2900	u	c
SPOTTED DOVE <i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	SB	1000-1300	10-12,19	c
BARRED CUCKOO DOVE <i>Macropygia unchall</i>	SB	1300-2200	18,19	f
WEDGE-TAILED GREEN PIGEON <i>Treron sphenura</i>	SB,TB	600-2200	7,9-12,18,19	c
MOUNTAIN IMPERIAL PIGEON <i>Ducula badia</i>	SB,TB	1300-2900	5,11-13	f
COMMON GOOT <i>Fulica atra</i>	F	1275	17	r
COMMON SANDPIPER <i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	R	1100	16	r
RIVER LAPWING <i>Vanellus duvaucelli</i>	R	1100-1400	16,18	c
OSPREY <i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	R,SB	1300	18	r
CRESTED SERPENT EAGLE <i>Spilornis cheela</i>	SB, TX	1000-3000	3,9,10,12,19,20	f
CRESTED GOSHAWK <i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>	SB	1350	18	r
BESRA <i>Accipiter virgatus</i>	TB	2200-2900	15,19	r
PALLAS'S FISH EAGLE <i>Haliaeetus leucocoryphus</i>	R,SB	1300	18	r
BLACK EAGLE <i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	SB,TB, TX	1100-2400	10,11,13,16,18-20	f
BOOTED EAGLE <i>Hieraaetus pennatus</i>	TB	2100	20	r
RUFIOUS-BELLIED EAGLE <i>Hieraaetus kienersi</i>	SB	1500	9	r
MOUNTAIN HAWK EAGLE <i>Spizaetus nipalensis</i>	SB, TX	1350,2900	3,12	r
COMMON KESTREL <i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	SB	1200-1300	10,17	r
LONG-TAILED BROADBILL <i>Psarismomus daihousiae</i>	SB	1200-1300	10,11	r
ORANGE-BELLIED LEAFBIRD <i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>	SB	1000-1500	9-12,18	c
BROWN SHRIKE <i>Lanius cristatus</i>	TB	2600	7	r
LONG-TAILED SHRIKE <i>Lanius schach</i>	TB, TX	2400-2900	2-5,7	c
GREY-BACKED SHRIKE <i>Lanius tephronotus</i>	SB,TB	1300-2800	5,7,13-15,19	c
EURASIAN JAY <i>Garrulus glandarius</i>	SB,TB, TX	1300-3000	3,5,18,20	f
YELLOW-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE <i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>	TB, TX	2100-3000	3-5,7,13,15,19,20	c
COMMON GREEN MAGPIE <i>Cissa chinensis</i>	SB	1300	11	r
GREY TREEPIE <i>Dendrocyta formosae</i>	SB	1000-1400	9-12,18	c
BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE <i>Pica pica</i>	TX	2400-2700	8,13	r
SPOTTED NUTCRACKER <i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	TX	2500-3000	3-5,7,13,15	c
RED-BILLED CHOUH <i>Pyrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>	F, TX	2250-2900	1,5,15	f
LARGE-BILLED CROW <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	F, SB, TX	1300-3200	3-5,7,10,11,13,15,19,20	c
ASHY WOODSWALLOW <i>Artamus fuscus</i>	SB	1300	10	r
MARJON ORIOLE <i>Oriolus trailii</i>	SB,TB	1300-1400	10,11,18	f
BLACK-WINGED CUCKOOSHRIKE <i>Coracina melaschistos</i>	SB,TB	1000-2200	6,7,9,18-20	c
GREY-CHINNED MINIVET <i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>	SB	2000	19	r
LONG-TAILED MINIVET <i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	TX	2100-3000	5,7,13,15,19	f
SHORT-BILLED MINIVET <i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>	TB, TX	2200-2400	13,15,19	c
SCARLET MINIVET <i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	SB	1000-1400	9-12,18	c
BAR-WINGED FLYCATCHER-SHRIKE <i>Hemipus picatus</i>	SB	1300	11	r
YELLOW-BELLIED FANTAIL <i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>	TB, TX	2400-3000	5,13,15	c
WHITE-THROATED FANTAIL <i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	SB,TB	1300-2800	10,11,13,15	f
BLACK DRONGO <i>Dicrurus macrocoerus</i>	F	1200-1500	9-11	f
ASHY DRONGO <i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	SB,TB	1400-2600	3-5,7,8,13,14,18-20	c
LESSER RACKET-TAILED DRONGO <i>Dicrurus remifer</i>	SB	1200-1300	10,11	r
SPANGLED DRONGO <i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>	SB	1000-1700	9-11,18,19	c
BROWN DIPPER <i>Cinclus pallasi</i>	R	600-2800	7,11-13,15,18	c
BLUE-CAPPED ROCK THRUSH <i>Monticola cinclorhynchus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10,18	f
CHESTNUT-BELLIED ROCK THRUSH <i>Monticola rufiventris</i>	TB	1800-2500	7,8	f
BLUE ROCK THRUSH <i>Monticola solitarius</i>	TX	2900	3	r
BLUE WHISTLING THRUSH <i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>	SB,TB, TX	1000-3000	u	c
PLAIN-BACKED THRUSH <i>Zosterora mollissima</i>	TX	2900	5	r
WHITE-COLLARED BLACKBIRD <i>Turdus albocinctus</i>	TB, TX	2400-3000	3-5,13-15	c
GREY-WINGED BLACKBIRD <i>Turdus boulboul</i>	TX	2100-2600	7,19,20	f

Species	Habitat	Altitude	Locations	Abundance
LESSER SHORTWING <i>Brachypteryx leucophris</i>	TB	2000-2200	18-20	f
WHITE-BROWED SHORTWING <i>Brachypteryx montana</i>	TB, TX	2200-3200	5,7,15,20	f
DARK-SIDED FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	TB, TX	2600-2900	3-5,7,13,15	c
FERRUGINOUS FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapa ferruginea</i>	TB, TX	2200-2800	13,15,19	f
RUFIOUS-BORGEATED FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula strophhiata</i>	TB	2200-2800	5,7,15	f
ULTRAMARINE FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula superciliosus</i>	TB, TX	2200-2800	3,13,15,19,20	c
SLATY-BLUE FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula tricolor</i>	TB, TX	2000-3200	3,5,7,15,19	f
VERDIER FLYCATCHER <i>Eumyias thalassina</i>	SB,TB	1000-2600	u	c
LARGE NILTAVA <i>Niltava grandis</i>	TB	2200	20	r
SMALL NILTAVA <i>Niltava macgrigorae</i>	SB,TB	1000-2200	9-12,18,20	c
RUFIOUS-BELLIED NILTAVA <i>Niltava sundara</i>	TB	2000-2800	13,15,19,20	c
[LIVID NILTAVA <i>Niltava vivida</i>	TB	2100	19	r]
PALE BLUE FLYCATCHER <i>Cyornis unicolor</i>	TB, TX	2100-2400	3-5,7,18,19	c
BLUE-THROATED FLYCATCHER <i>Cyornis rubeculoides</i>	SB	800-1300	9-11	f
PYGMY BLUE FLYCATCHER <i>Muscicapella hodgsoni</i>	SB,TB	1300-2800	11-13,15	f
GREY-HEADED CANARY FLYCATCHER <i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	SB,TB	1300-2800	5,10,13,15,18-20	c
INDIAN BLUE ROBIN <i>Luscinia brunnea</i>	TX	2400-2800	13,15	f
GOLDEN BUSH ROBIN <i>Tarsiger chrysaeus</i>	TB, TX	2400-3000	3,5,7	f
WHITE-BROWED BUSH ROBIN <i>Tarsiger indicus</i>	TX	2600-3100	5,7	r
ORIENTAL MAGPIE ROBIN <i>Copsychus saularis</i>	SB,F	1100-1350	10,11,18	f
BLUE-FRONTED REDSTART <i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>	TX	2800	4	r
WHITE-CAPPED WATER REDSTART <i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>	R	1300-2700	6,7,12,13,18	c
PLUMBEOUS WATER REDSTART <i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	R	1300-2900	9,11,13,15,19	c
WHITE-TAILED ROBIN <i>Myiomeles leucura</i>	SB,TB	1300-2300	9-11,19,20	f
LITTLE FORKTAIL <i>Enicurus scouleri</i>	R	600-2400	7,9,10,12	f
SLATY-BACKED FORKTAIL <i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>	R	1300-1400	10,18	f
SPOTTED FORKTAIL <i>Enicurus maculatus</i>	R	1300-2800	9,11,13,15,19	f
PURPLE COCHROA <i>Cochoa purpurea</i>	TB	2600	15	r
GREY BUSHCHAT <i>Saxicola ferrea</i>	SB,TB, TX	1300-2800	3,5,7,10,13,15,20	c
CHESTNUT-TAILED STARLING <i>Sturnus malabaricus</i>	F	2200	19	r
COMMON MYNA <i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	F	1300-2400	2,10,11,18,19	c
CHESTNUT-BELLIED NUTHATCH <i>Sitta castanea</i>	SB	1300-1500	11,18	r
WHITE-TAILED NUTHATCH <i>Sitta himalayensis</i>	TB	2200-2800	13,15,19,20	c
RUSTY-FLANKED TREECREEPER <i>Certhia nipalensis</i>	TB	2400	13	f
BROWN-THROATED TREECREEPER <i>Certhia discolor</i>	TB, TX	2200-2800	4,19	r
WINTER WREN <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	TB, TX	2500-2800	5,15,20	f
COAL TIT <i>Parus ater</i>	TB, TX	2300-2800	15,19	f
GREY-CRESTED TIT <i>Parus dichrous</i>	TB	2800	15	r
GREEN-BACKED TIT <i>Parus monticolus</i>	SB,TB, TX	600-2800	u	c
YELLOW-CHEEKED TIT <i>Parus sibilans</i>	SB	1300	11	r
YELLOW-BROWED TIT <i>Sylviparus modestus</i>	TX	2800	15	r
SULTAN TIT <i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>	SB	1300	11	r
BLACK-THROATED TIT <i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>	TB	2200-2400	13,19,20	f
RUFIOUS-FRONTED TIT <i>Aegithalos iouschistos</i>	TB, TX	2400-2800	7,13,15	f
ASIAN HOUSE MARTIN <i>Delichon dasypus</i>	SB, TX	1350-2800	10,12,13,15,19	c
STRIATED BULBUL <i>Pycnonotus striatus</i>	SB	1300-1800	9,10,18	r
RED-VENTED BULBUL <i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>	F	1100-2400	2,10,11,16	c
HIMALAYAN BULBUL <i>Pycnonotus hagenensis</i>	SB	700-1100	9,10	f
WHITE-THROATED BULBUL <i>Alophoixus flaveolus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10	f
ASHY BULBUL <i>Hemixos flavata</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10	f
MOUNTAIN BULBUL <i>Hypsipetes mcclellandii</i>	SB,TB	1300-2100	11,12,18,19	f
BLACK BULBUL <i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	SB,TB	1000-2800	9-14,18-20	c
STRIATED PRINIA <i>Prinia criniger</i>	SB, TB	1000-2500	2,3,5,9,10,17,19	c
HILL PRINIA <i>Prinia atrogularis</i>	SB	1000-1300	9-12	c
RUFESCENT PRINIA <i>Prinia rufescens</i>	SB	1200	10	r

Species	Habitat	Altitude	Locations	Abundance
ORIENTAL WHITE-EYE <i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9-11	f
CHESTNUT-HEADED TESIA <i>Tesia castaneocoronata</i>	TB	2200-2800	4,5,13,15,19	c
SLATY-BELLIED TESIA <i>Tesia olivacea</i>	SB	1200-1900	11,12,18	c
GREY-BELLIED TESIA <i>Tesia cyaniventer</i>	SB,TB	1500-2400	2,13,15,18-20	c
BROWNISH-FLANKED BUSH WARBLER <i>Cettia fortipes</i>	SB,TB,TX	1300-3300	5,6,7,10,11,15,19,20	c
ABERRANT BUSH WARBLER <i>Cettia flavolivacea</i>	TX	3200	5	r
YELLOWISH-BELLIED BUSH WARBLER <i>Cettia acanthozoides</i>	TB	2400-2800	13,15	r
GREY-SIDED BUSH WARBLER <i>Cettia brunnilfrons</i>	TX	2400-3000	3,4,5,7,15,19	c
RUSSET BUSH WARBLER <i>Bradypterus seebohmi</i>	TB	2200	19	r
TICKELL'S LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus affinis</i>	TX	2800	15	r
ASHY-THROATED WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>	TB	2500-2900	5,7,15	f
LEMON-RUMPED LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>	TB	2600-2800	7,15	f
LARGE-BILLED LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>	TB,TX	1750-3000	3-5,7,8,13,15,19,20	c
BLYTH'S LEAF WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>	TB,TX	1800-2900	3-5,7,13,15,19,20	c
YELLOW-VENTED WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus cantator</i>	SB	1000-1400	9-12,18	c
GOLDEN-SPECTACLED WARBLER <i>Seiurus burkii</i>	TB,TX	2200-2700	3-5,7,13,15,19,20	c
GREY-HODED WARBLER <i>Seiurus xanthoschistos</i>	SB,TB	1000-2100	9-12,18,19	c
WHITE-SPECTACLED WARBLER <i>Seiurus affinis</i>	TX	2900	7	r
GREY-CHEEKED WARBLER <i>Seiurus poliolegens</i>	TB	1500	18	r
CHESTNUT-CROWNED WARBLER <i>Seiurus castaneiceps</i>	TB,TX	2100-2600	7,19,20	f
RUFOUS-FACED WARBLER <i>Abracoscopus albugularis</i>	SB	700-1100	10,11	r
WHITE-THROATED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax albugularis</i>	SB,TB,TX	1300-2500	5,7,10,13,15,19,20	c
WHITE-CRESTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>	SB	1000-1300	9-12	c
STRIATED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax striatus</i>	SB,TB,TX	1300-2800	3,9-13,15,18-20	c
RUFOUS-NECKED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax ruficollis</i>	TB	2200	10,11	r
RUFOUS-VENTED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax gularis</i>	SB	1300	10	r
RUFOUS-CHINNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax rufogularis</i>	TB	2200	19	r
GREY-SIDED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax caeruleatus</i>	TB	2100	20	r
STREAKED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax lineatus</i>	SB,TB	1300-2200	10,19	f
BLUE-WINGED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax squamatus</i>	SB	1300-1400	9,11	r
SCALY LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax subunicolor</i>	TB,TX	2000-2800	3,5,7,19,20	f
BLACK-FACED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax affinis</i>	TX	2400-3200	3,5,13,15	c
CHESTNUT-CROWNED LAUGHINGTHRUSH <i>Garrulax erythrocephalus</i>	TB	2000-3200	5,7,13,15,18-20	c
RUSTY-CHEEKED SCIMITAR BABBLER <i>Pomatorhinus erythrogonus</i>	SB,TB	1000-2200	9-11,15,19	f
WHITE-BROWED SCIMITAR BABBLER <i>Pomatorhinus schisticaps</i>	SB	1000	9,10	f
STREAK-BREASTED SCIMITAR BABBLER <i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>	SB,TB	1300-2400	10,13,19,20	f
SLENDER-BILLED SCIMITAR BABBLER <i>Xiphyrhynchus superciliosus</i>	TB	2200	19	r
SCALY-BREASTED WREN BABBLER <i>Proopyga albiventer</i>	TB,TX	2200-2900	5,7,15,19	f
PYGMY WREN BABBLER <i>Proopyga pusilla</i>	SB,TB	1300-2400	10,13,19,20	f
SPOTTED WREN BABBLER <i>Spelaornis formosus</i>	SB,TB	1300-2400	10-12,18,19	f
RUFOUS-CAPPED BABBLER <i>Stachyris ruficeps</i>	SB,TB	1300-2700	3,7,10,19	f
GOLDEN BABBLER <i>Stachyris chrysaea</i>	SB	1300-1350	10,12	f
GREY-THROATED BABBLER <i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,10,11	f
SILVER-EARED MESIA <i>Leiothrix argentauris</i>	SB	1200-1300	10-12	f
RED-BILLED LEIOTHRIX <i>Leiothrix lutea</i>	SB,TB,TX	1300-2800	10,13,15,19,20	c
CUTIA <i>Cutia nipalensis</i>	TB	2150-2400	3,7,20	f
BLACK-HEADED SHRIKE BABBLER <i>Pteruthius rufiventer</i>	TB	2200	19	r
WHITE-BROWED SHRIKE BABBLER <i>Pteruthius flaviscapit</i>	SB,TB	1000-2100	9,20	f
RUSTY-FRONTED BARWING <i>Actinodura egertoni</i>	TB	2200	20	r
HOARY-THROATED BARWING <i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>	TB	2100-2800	3,4,5,7,15,19	f
BLUE-WINGED MINLA <i>Minla cyanouroptera</i>	TB	2200	19	r
CHESTNUT-TAILED MINLA <i>Minla strigula</i>	TB	2600-3000	5,7,15	f
RED-TAILED MINLA <i>Minla ignotincta</i>	TB	2400-2900	5,13,15,19,20	f
GOLDEN-BREASTED FULVETTA <i>Alcippe chrysolis</i>	TB	2200	20	r
YELLOW-THROATED FULVETTA <i>Alcippe cinerea</i>	SB	1350	12	r

Species	Habitat	Altitude	Locations	Abundance
RUFIOUS-WINGED FULVETTA <i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>	TB,TX	2200-2800	13,15,20	f
WHITE-BROWED FULVETTA <i>Alcippe vinipectus</i>	TB,TX	2400-3200	5,13,15	f
NEPAL FULVETTA <i>Alcippe nipalensis</i>	SB,TB	1000-2200	9-12,18,19	c
RUFIOUS SIBIA <i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>	SB,TB,TX	1300-2800	u	c
STRIATED YUHINA <i>Yuhina castaneiceps</i>	SB	1000-1300	9,11-13	c
WHITE-NAPED YUHINA <i>Yuhina bakeri</i>	SB	1350	12	r
WHISKERED YUHINA <i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>	TB,TX	2200-2800	3,5,7,12,13,19,20	c
STRIPE-THROATED YUHINA <i>Yuhina gularis</i>	TB,TX	2400-2800	3,5,7,15	c
RUFIOUS-VENTED YUHINA <i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>	TX	2800-3000	5,8,15	f
BLACK-CHINNED YUHINA <i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>	SB	1000-1350	9-12,18	c
WHITE-BELLIED YUHINA <i>Yuhina zantholeuca</i>	SB	1200	11	r
BROWN PARROTBILL <i>Paradoxornis unicolor</i>	TB	2200-3000	5,13,19	f
FULVOUS PARROTBILL <i>Paradoxornis fulvifrons</i>	TX	3200	5	r
GREATER RUFIOUS-HEADED PARROTBILL <i>Paradoxornis ruficeps</i>	SB	1300	10	r
ORIENTAL SKYLARK <i>Alauda gulgula</i>	F	2800	14,15	r
YELLOW-BELLIED FLOWERPECKER <i>Dicaeum melanoxanthum</i>	TX	2700	5	r
FIRE-BREASTED FLOWERPECKER <i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>	SB,TB	1300-2400	5,12,19,20	c
MRS GOULD'S SUNBIRD <i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>	TB	2200-2900	3-5,7,13,19,20	c
GREEN-TAILED SUNBIRD <i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>	TB	2200-3100	5,7,13,15,20	c
BLACK-THROATED SUNBIRD <i>Aethopyga saturata</i>	SB	1000-1700	9-12,19	f
FIRE-TAILED SUNBIRD <i>Aethopyga ignicauda</i>	TB	2800	15	r
STREAKED SPIDERHUNTER <i>Arachnothera magna</i>	SB	1300-1350	11,12	f
RUSSET SPARROW <i>Passer rutilans</i>	F	1300-2800	4,10,14,19	f
EURASIAN TREE SPARROW <i>Passer montanus</i>	F	1000-2800	u	c
FOREST WAGTAIL <i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>	SB,TB	1400-2250	18,20	r
WHITE WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla alba</i>	TX	2100-2400	2,6	f
YELLOW WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla flava</i>	TB	2250	20	r
OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	TX,F	2800-2900	4,14,15	c
TIBETAN SISKIN <i>Carduelis thibetana</i>	TX	2900	3	r
COMMON ROSEFINCH <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	SB,TX	1300-2800	5,10,15	f
CRIMSON-BROWED FINCH <i>Propyrrhula subhimachala</i>	TC	3200	7	r
SCARLET FINCH <i>Haematospiza sipahi</i>	SB,TB	1500-2600	7,18	f
RED CROSSBILL <i>Loxia curvirostra</i>	TX	2800	15	r
BROWN BULLFINCH <i>Pyrrhula nipalensis</i>	TX	2800-3000	4,5	r
SPOT-WINGED GROSBEAK <i>Mycerobas melanozanthos</i>	TC,TX	2800-3000	5,7,15	f
WHITE-WINGED GROSBEAK <i>Mycerobas carinipes</i>	TX	2800-3300	5,7,15	f
CRESTED BUNTING <i>Melophus lathami</i>		1000-2400	2,9,10	f

Key: =

**Habitats:**

S = subtropical zone

T = temperate zone:

B = broadleaved forest

X = mixed forest

C = coniferous forest

F = fields, grazing areas, and around human habitations

R = rivers and edges

u = ubiquitous in suitable habitats and altitude

**Abundance:**

c = common, seen in high numbers and/or on many occasions in suitable habitat

f = fairly common, seen on more than one occasion or in fairly high numbers

r = seen on one or two occasions only and/or one or two individuals

u = ubiquitous in suitable altitude/habitat

## Locations visited

Locations:	Dates visited: (May)
1. Paro (2,250 m)	1,28
2. Thimphu (2,400 m)	1,2,26-28
3. Dochhu La (2,700-3,215 m)	2
4. Nobding (2,900 m)	2,3
5. Pele La (2,950-3,300 m)	3,16
6. Tongsa (2,100 m)	3-5,13,14
7. Tongsa-Yutong La (2,100-3,400 m)	4
8. east of Yutong La to Gyetsa (3,400-2,600 m)	4
9. Wangdinala/Wangdigang (1,000 m)	5-7
10. Nimshong (600-1,300 m)	7,8,12,13
11. Nobji (1,100-1,300 m)	8,9,11,12
12. Camp 5 km. upstream of Nobji (1,350 m)	9-11
13. Chendejji (2,400-2,600 m)	14-16
14. Phobjikha (2,780-2,870 m)	16,17
15. Khebetang (2,800-2,900 m)	17-20
16. Wangdiphodrang (1,100 m)	20
17. Punakha (1,275 m)	20
18. Rimchu (1,300-1,350 m)	20-22
19. Damji (2,200 m)	22,23,25,26
20. Gasa/Hot Springs (2,100-2,250 m)	23-25

Many thanks go to Mingma Norbu Sherpa, Mr. Sangay Thinley, Joint Secretary of the Forestry Services Division, and to the Royal Government of Bhutan for inviting us to undertake this expedition, to T. B. Mongar, Pema Namgyal, Phurba Sherpa, and the staff at World Wildlife Fund Bhutan, Brian Penniston, and Bruce Bunting. To the ground crew and cooks: Mr. Wangdi, Mr. Karma, Mr. Thinley, and Mr. Jamba. Also thanks to Craig Robson and Tim Inskipp for much help in discussing the data and reviewing this manuscript.

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## Status and distribution of Stoliczka's Bushchat *Saxicola macrorhyncha* in India

ASAD R. RAHMANI

Stoliczka's Bushchat (or White-browed Bushchat) *Saxicola macrorhyncha* is a rare and local resident of the Indian subcontinent, which is listed as globally threatened. It is probably extinct in Pakistan, but in India there have been a few sightings during the last 20 years. In 1993-1994, four surveys were conducted in Rajasthan and Gujarat, mainly in the Thar desert, during which 86 individuals were seen at 18 different sites. In some places it was fairly common. Some general observations on its behaviour were made and recommendations for further studies are given.

### INTRODUCTION

About 1,300 species of birds are found in the Indian subcontinent, out of which 71 species have been listed as threatened in India (Collar *et al.* 1994). Stoliczka's Bushchat (or White-browed Bushchat) *Saxicola macrorhyncha* is one of them (Rahmani 1993). F. Stoliczka first described it in 1872, from specimens collected at Rapar and Bhuj in Kutch (Gujarat).

#### Former distribution

According to Ali and Ripley (1983a), Stoliczka's Bushchat is a generally a rare and very local resident, but not uncommon in some areas. It has been recorded from Pakistan (east of the Indus river), Haryana (Hissar district), western Uttar Pradesh (Aligarh), eastern Rajasthan and Gujarat (Deesa, Kutch and Kathiawar). There are specimens labelled Kandahar and Dubrai in southern Afghanistan collected by Swinhoe in April 1881, in the British Museum (Swinhoe 1882, Ticehurst 1926), but Paludan did not come across it in his field work (Paludan, 1959), and considered that there was only one reliable record from Afghanistan (Roberts 1992). Roberts (1992) did not see this species during his 28 years' residence in southern Punjab, Pakistan, including many visits to Jhang district.

#### Recent sightings

During the last 20 years there have been only 15 sightings of this rare bird (Table 1). On 2 August, 1978, a male and several juveniles were seen near Khara village, between Phalodi and Pokharan in western Rajasthan (van den Berg *et al.* 1981), Ben King saw it in Desert National Park in Rajasthan