



**BHUTAN, SPRING IN THE EASTERN HIMALAYAS:
SET DEPARTURE TRIP REPORT**

27 MARCH – 15 APRIL 2019

By Jason Boyce



*We enjoyed excellent views of three **Ward's Trogon** during the tour*

Overview

A Kingdom in the clouds, The land of the Thunder Dragon. There are many names for this incredible place but one would be doing it an injustice, there is absolutely nothing like experiencing the Kingdom of Bhutan first-hand. The air and water are clean and refreshing and the people are incredibly friendly and welcoming in all parts of Bhutan. It is a beautifully quiet country with good infrastructure for tourism. The government has a handle on tourism and can be considered “green” as they have many environmental protection laws and regulations for the good of the natural ecosystem in Bhutan.

On this tour we would traverse about two thirds of Bhutan, travelling from Paro in the west all the way through to Samdrup Jongkhar in the southeast. Here we would enter Assam, India and catch flights out of Guwahati. We would experience a massive altitudinal difference on this tour, reaching nearly 4000 meters at Chelela Pass and down to only 170 meters above sea level at the town of Samdrup Jonkhar. The Capital city Thimpu is one of the highest capital cities in the world at an amazing 2330m!

We recorded 337 bird species (of which 15 were only heard) within 75 families as well as an amazing assemblage of mammals with 14 species encountered. We did well to pick up a good many specials on this tour, the west produced **Himalayan Monal, Blood Pheasant, Ibisbill, Snow Pigeon, Golden Bush Robin** and a pair of **Beautiful Nuthatch** whilst in the central parts we encountered the unbelievable **Satyr Tragopan** on multiple days, **Wallcreeper, Fire-tailed Myzornis** and eventually the incredibly sought-after **Ward's Trogon**. The lowland regions were also spectacular; **Long-tailed Broadbill**, multiple **Rufous-necked Hornbill** and a single **White-bellied Heron** were all highlights.

Detailed Report

Day 1, 27th March 2019. Arrival in Paro, Bhutan.

Well our first day of this exciting tour had finally arrived; we landed in Paro, from New Delhi, India at about 10h30 and decided to head straight out to kick off our birding in the Paro Valley. We started off with a bang and had two **Ibisbill** within the first thirty seconds of stepping out the bus. Other highlights for our short morning session were **Brown Dipper, Common Kestrel, Rosy Pipit**, both **Plumbeous Water** (at least a dozen) and **White-capped Redstarts**. It was really great just spending some time getting to know each other as well as enjoying a few of the more common Bhutanese birds.

A really tasty first Bhutanese lunch and a couple “logistical stops” preceded our afternoon birding session walk at the base of the Tigers Nest Monastery. Our first **White-collared Blackbird, Blue Whistling Thrush** and **Green-backed Tit** were all trumped by the incredible **Black Eagle** that came cruising by, with the famous monastery in the background! The construction of this sacred Bhudist monastery started in the 1690s and is situated almost 900 meters higher than the Paro Valley. Its setting is just incredible and warrants a visit on any tour. The birding wasn't too bad either, we picked up our first laughingthrush species in **White-throated Laughingthrush** as well as a couple **Rufous-breasted Accentors**. We spent a little more time just taking in the setting and some of the bird calls before heading back to our hotel to settle in for dinner and much-needed rest after our long flights.



*Oh, what a treat watching this species up close and personal; the strange-looking **Ibisbill***

Day 2, 28th March 2019. Himalayan Monal at Chele La

A day up the Chelela Pass is certainly a day to remember and with snowfall a couple nights before, it would make for a magnificent day up the mountain. One of the biggest highlights of the day was simply being up in the mountains, enjoying the fresh Himalayan air. The pass reaches an altitude of 3980 meters and it was covered in snow. On the way up we started picking up a few higher altitude species; **Blood Pheasant** was heard calling and we managed a couple glimpses of the sought-after **Himalayan Monal**. Small flocks of very energetic passerines included; **Himalayan Bluetail**, **Grey-crested**, **Coal** and **Rufous-vented Tits** as well as family groups of **White-browed Fulvettas**. We added another laughingthrush species to our list, this time a large group of **Black-faced Laughingthrush**.

Another a cup of tea and some food went down well before we enjoyed a walk over the snowy hillsides. **Snow Pigeon** flocks were also spectacular, a great first day getting used to Bhutanese climate, bird species and altitude.



*Flocks of **Snow Pigeon** hang around one of the small monasteries up the pass*

Day 3, 29th March 2019. Jigme Dorji National Park and Yellow-rumped Honeyguide

Well, ‘Kuzu Zangpo la’; which is of course the traditional greeting in Bhutan’s national language; Dzongkha. Today we would head for Thimpu, the capital city of Bhutan at approximately 2300m above sea level and which is quite possibly still the only capital city in the world with not a single traffic light! We arrived at the local water treatment plant on the way into town and picked up the likes of **Green** and **Common Sandpiper**, **Ruddy Shelduck**, a mysterious **Himalayan Buzzard** being harassed by a House Crow, as well as an incredibly confiding **Sand Lark**. After breakfast we made our way north for a walk in the Jigme Dorji National Park. A couple kilometers before the gate we found a couple active bee hives and sure enough, it wasn’t long before we had our first **Yellow-rumped Honeyguide**. Similar to the African honeyguides in the genus *Indicator*, this species also primarily feeds on beeswax. Here we also encountered **Long-tailed Minivit** as well as a small party of **Bar-throated Minla**. In the national park itself we once again picked up **Brown Dipper** and the usual redstart species. It was all to brief but we did manage to get a glimpse of a **Eurasian Hoopoe**.

We headed back to Thimpu for a traditional lunch, and thereafter spent the afternoon checking out various cultural activities within Thimpu. The textiles and fabrics on display are really unique and some of the group thoroughly enjoyed being a ‘behind the scenes’ tour of these classic Bhutanese products.

Day 4, 30th March 2019. The Dochula Pass and Lamperi Royal Botanical Park

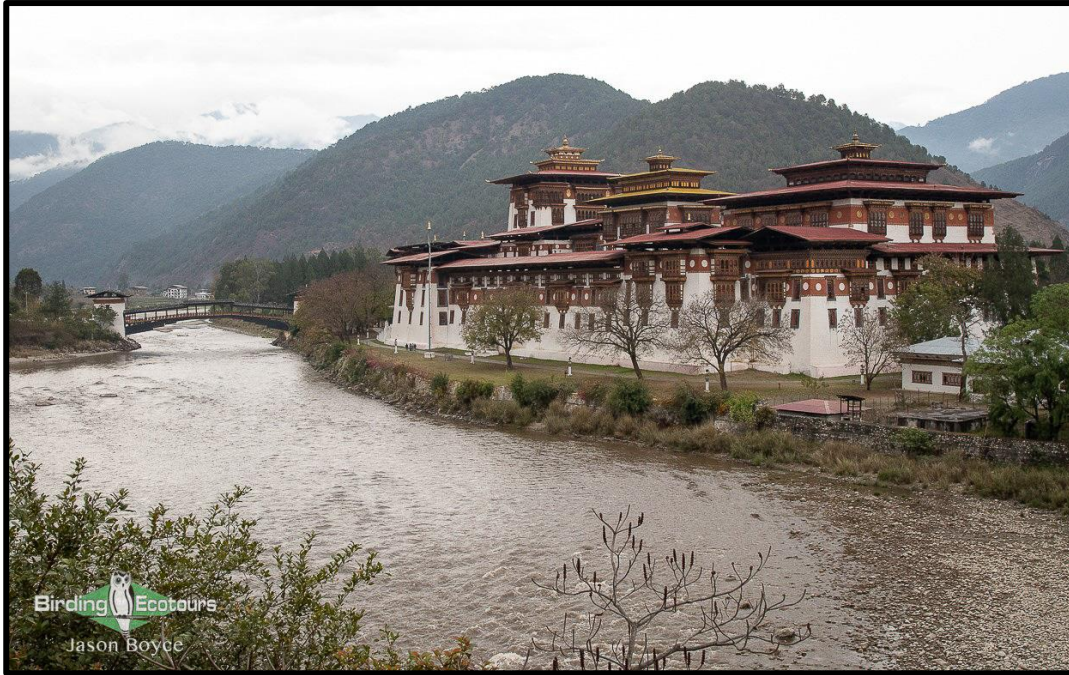
Today we left the capital city of Thimpu for the Dochula Pass where we arrived and enjoyed a really good breakfast before kicking off the birding nearby. We enjoyed our first couple of species; **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie**, **Eurasian Jay**, **Black Redstart** and a couple of **Russet Sparrows**. The Royal Botanical Park is a fantastic spot to take a leisurely walk, knowing that there is going

to be some good bird activity around. It wasn't long before we picked up a fairly confiding pair of **Rufous-bellied Woodpeckers** working a large dead tree alongside the large pond. A mixed species flock a little further up yielded; **Brown Parrotbill**, **Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler**, **White-throated** and **Striated Laughingthrush** as well as **Black-winged Cuckooshrike** and a couple **Black Bulbuls**. We thoroughly enjoyed seeing a pair of **Black-tailed Crake** here as well. Our first of many **Mountain Hawk-Eagles** for the tour also made an appearance. Mixed species flocks after lunch included, **Yellow-bellied Fantail**, no less than four **Ultramarine Flycatchers**, **Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher**, **Grey-chinned** and **Scarlet Minivet**, **White-tailed Nuthatch**, **Rufous-winged Fulvetta** and **Black-throated Bushtit**.

Day 5, 31st March 2019. Jigme Dorji National Park and the Mo Chu River

Our fifth day of the tour was a memorable one for many reasons, the only bad reason was that we had to contend with rainy conditions for most of the day. That being said we did really well to record over ninety species for the day. We kicked our birding off in the Jigme Dorji National Park and our first bird party held; **Grey-hooded** and **Yellow-vented Warblers**, **Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike**, **Speckled Piculet**, **Scarlet** and **Grey-chinned Minivets**, **Indian White-eye**, **Hoary-throated Barwing** and both **Whiskered** and **Rufous-vented Yuhina**. The nearby stream finally (after much searching over the last couple days) produced our first forktail species; a pair of **Slaty-backed Forktails** were working their way down the rocky stream, slowly looking for a meal or two. We kept picking up bird parties as we made our way further into the mountains, these contained **Rufous-capped Babbler**, **Green-backed Tit**, **Ashy Drongo**, **Verditer Flycatcher**, **Yellow-bellied Fantail** and **Blue-winged Minla**. We thoroughly enjoyed picking up a little **Asian Barred Owlet** perched up in the open on a dead stump. The bird looked rather bedraggled after a few rain showers. **Slaty-bellied Tesia** as well as **Spotted Elachura** were both extremely vocal along the main forested trail up into Jigme Dorji. These species are of course a huge challenge to see and so the elachura proved too difficult for us on this occasion. A visual of the **Slaty-bellied Tesia** really did brighten up our morning though; the bird certainly is a master skulker! We also encountered some lovely niltava species; a really nice close-up sighting of **Small Niltava** and later some of the group got eyes on **Large Niltava**. One of the highlights that morning was found by another birding group (thanks guys), a **Tawny Fish Owl** perched on top of an old tree stump on the other side of the river. We witnessed an incredible interaction between this species and a **Bay Woodpecker** that didn't enjoy the owl's presence on what seemed to be the woodpecker's nesting site.

A visit to Punakha Zong started off with a couple of birds (as usual), flyby **Crested Kingfisher** and **Common Merganser** both over the Mo Chhu river. The word Dzong can be roughly translated to fortress-monastery which shows the importance of all Dzong buildings to the Bhutanese. This particular Dzong is one of the largest in Bhutan and was the administrative center and the seat of government in Bhutan until 1955 when the capital city was moved to Thimpu, west of Punakha. The building is beautifully situated in between the "male" and "female" rivers of Mo Chhu and Po Chhu, and the ancient traditional architecture is truly amazing to see up close.



The Punakha Dzong is the administrative center of the Punakha District.

A walk that evening after a lovely Bhutanese dinner produced the goods; **Collared Scops Owl** and **Grey Nightjar** visuals at close range were more than we could have dreamed of!



Collared Scops Owl is often fairly elusive but we however, managed some fantastic visuals.

Day 6, 1st April 2019. Pele La pass and through to Trongsa

We departed the Punakha area that morning and spent some time birding the scrubby habitat alongside the river once again. The scrubby habitat produced some interesting sightings; a good number of **Little Bunting**, **Siberian Stonechat**, **Grey Bushchat**, **Citrine Wagtail**, **Rosy Pipit** and **Red-wattled Lapwing**. We were unable to pick up the migrant Isabelline Wheatear and Bluethroat that some of us picked up a week prior. The river's sand banks produced a few new species for our trip list, these included **Northern Shoveler**, **Common Greenshank**, **Common Merganser**, **Kentish Plover** (another Bhutanese scarcity) and **Grey-throated Martin**. We birded some more forested patches on the way, some were very quiet and others quite active with foraging bird parties. We picked up the likes of **Red-headed Bullfinch**, **Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon** and **Black-faced Warbler**. We had searched for some time for the **Little Forktail** with no success until we stumbled upon one at a roadside mountain water crossing. **Himalayan Buzzard** was another species that we picked up whilst travelling through to Trongsa.

Day 7, 2nd April 2019. Birding the spectacular mountain passes of Zhemgang

Trongsa is a really quaint little town; one we wish we could have spent a little more time in. We departed Trongsa and kicked off some birding a little way down the road. It wasn't long before the first noisy laughingthrush parties moved through, these included **White-throated** and **Chestnut-crowned**. A few *Phylloscopus* warblers were also super active, including **Lemon-rumped** and **Chestnut-crowned Warblers**. A confiding **Greater Yellownape** was a special sighting whilst **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** was really busy moving back and forth at the tops of the trees. Around the next corner we were treated to a large family group of our first **Gee's Golden Langur**, our first of three langur species of the trip! These guys are beautiful and totally unconcerned with human presence. Next, a flurry of bird activity brought about a few new species including **Crimson-breasted Woodpecker**, **Striated Bulbul**, **Bhutan Laughingthrush** and the incredibly sought-after **Spotted Elachura** – which is now split off and put into its own family. The elachura has a really distinctive high-pitched and fairly melodic call – we tracked it down and got to watch it singing its heart out.



*The **Spotted Elachura** used to be called **Spotted Wren-Babbler** but has recently been moved into a family of its own.*

Blue-throated Barbet is most often heard way before it is seen, this was the case for us but luckily we spotted a pair soon after in a broad-leaved tree. We picked up our first family group of **Striated Yuhina** and then added the likes of **Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher**, **Blue-capped Rock Thrush**, **Orange-bellied Leafbird**, **Yellow-breasted Greenfinch** and a familiar **Eurasian Hoopoe**. An incredible **Spotted Forktail** landed right in front of us on the road as we were crossing a small Himalayan stream, of course, we loved this one as much as the many other forktail species seen throughout the trip.

Day 8, 3rd April 2019. Beautiful Nuthatch and transfer to Tingtibi

Our eighth day of the tour saw us target the sought-after and endangered **Beautiful Nuthatch**. We spent some time at a local stakeout listening carefully. A small family group of **Himalayan Cutia** came by moving through the dead, moss covered branches above us. By-catch at the site included the likes of **Grey-headed Parrotbill**, **White-bellied Erpornis**, **Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo**, a pair of **Crested Serpent Eagle**, **Black Eagle**, **Blue-bearded Bee-eater** and **Black Drongo** catching bees near a hive on the cliff side. The calls of **Large Hawk-Cuckoo** had been taunting us for the last few days and we eventually picked up a bird sat out in the open not too concerned with our presence. Highlights continued with a small group of **Pale-billed Parrotbill**, **Rusty-fronted Barwing**, a female **Spot-winged Starling** and about ten **White-rumped Munia**, all feeding in and around a stand of bamboo. As we continued to drop in altitude we could feel the air temperature rise, a few more insects were about and we could definitely notice a change in bird species. **Plain Flowerpecker** and **Black-throated Prinia** were around, while a single **Great Hornbill** could only be trumped by a massive flock (25 strong) of **Long-tailed Broadbill**! A species that I have personally wanted to spend time with for many years. Cheers to this brilliant flock of amazingly-coloured broadbills. Our camping in Tingtibi was really fantastic; we had a site

with a great view of the (warm) valley and there was constant bird activity. We would stay here for the next two nights.



The Long-tailed Broadbills of Tingtibi put on a real show for us.

Day 9, 4th April 2019. White-bellied Heron in Tingtibi

After another night's camping we woke up in our nifty "A-frame" tents and headed south near the town of Tingtibi to try for one of Bhutan's most range-restricted and rare species, the White-bellied Heron. We tried our first site but came up empty handed. Our second site however was the trump card, sure enough a single **White-bellied Heron** was perched on a large rock down below us in the river. We watched this bird for some time as it started to wade through quiet pools of water, on the hunt. It was obviously incredibly exciting to find this Critically Endangered species and to spend some time with it; we also spent time deliberating the reasons behind its rarity.



*A record shot of the globally range-restricted and Critically Endangered **White-bellied Heron***

We had a phenomenal sighting of a **Mountain Hawk-Eagle** in a full dive only to pull up at the last minute and snatch a **Great Barbet** from a nearby flowering tree. A pocket of activity produced a small group of **Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush**, **Black-chinned Yuhina**, **White-browed Scimitar-babbler** and the noisy **White-crested Laughingthrush**. Another highlight that morning was a single **Sultan Tit**. This handsome-looking black and yellow tit joined a little mixed species flock which also included; **Grey Treepie**, **Blue-capped Rock Thrush**, **Maroon Oriole**, **Striated Yuhina** and many **Grey-hooded** and **Yellow-vented Warblers**. As if today hadn't produced enough already, the eastern Himalayan special **Rufous-necked Hornbill** then put on a show. We witnessed two male birds and then a female, up high on the side of mature-forested hillsides. A little further down we saw our first **Streaked Spiderhunter**, **Crimson Sunbird**, **Golden Babbler**, **Grey-throated Babbler**, **Blyth's Shrike-babbler** and a couple squirrel species which included **Himalayan Striped Squirrel** and **Hoary-bellied Squirrel**.

Day 10, 5th April 2019. Tingtibi to Trongsa

After only hearing the **Common Green Magpie** the day before we were incredibly chuffed to get a good visual of this phenomenal-looking bird. We had a quiet morning but before another brilliant camping style breakfast we managed to connect with **Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush** as well as **Striated** and **Black-chinned Yuhina**. At breakfast we were treated to a **Rufous-bellied Eagle** flyover – the bird soared above us for some time before moving off over the ridge line.

Today would mainly be a travel day, as we made our way back north to Trongsa. Along the new 'short-cut' road that skirts the steep rocky faces we picked up some new species for the trip in the form of **Jungle Babbler**, **Himalayan Bulbul** and the amazing **Black Giant Squirrel**! The squirrel was particularly special for us as we had some mammal lovers on the tour and thought that we might have missed this classic eastern Himalayan beauty! Nice work Rich!

Day 11, 6th April 2019. Trongsa to Bumthang

A quiet relaxing day for our group today was welcome. We enjoyed some “Masala” omelettes (some with local chilli) and headed out to a scrubby roadside birding spot. We spent some time here picking up a pair of **Kalij Pheasant**, **Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler**, **Bhutan Laughingthrush**, **Mrs. Gould’s Sunbird**, **Slaty-blue Flycatcher**, **Ashy Drongo**, **Long-tailed Shrike** as well as two stunning male **Golden-naped Finches**. We also managed to pick out a male **Golden Bush Robin**, unfortunately only some of the group managed visuals. Here we also found a **Brown-flanked Bush Warbler**, a bird that doesn’t boast much in the way of its physical appearance but really has a great call. Further along the road over the Yatong La Pass we picked up **Rufous-vented Yuhina**, a stunning male **Green-tailed Sunbird** and the long tailed **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie**. We also saw the local subspecies of Eurasian Magpie, which is now split into **Black-rumped Magpie** by some taxonomies. Bumthang has a good network of retail stores and we spent some time picking up a few gifts and enjoying the town. Thereafter we tried a site for the local Solitary Snipe, but came up empty handed.

Day 12, 7th April 2019. Bumthang to Sengor via the Trumshing La

We once again gave the **Solitary Snipe** a go, and this time success! We didn’t manage to pick up the bird on the ground but two flushed views were good enough. We then started the trip towards Sengor and picked up a small flock of smart-looking **Red-throated Thrush** and a really large flock of **Plain Mountain Finch**, probably around 200 of the latter. The Trumshing La Pass reaches over 3800 meters and can produce all the higher altitude specials on a good day. Bhutan had been experiencing a lingering winter this year and we were still seeing the effects of it. The temperatures were quite low and today we hit a late unexpected snow fall. It made birding rather tough but the scenes in the pine forests were just beautiful; birding is always an adventure! Thankfully we had no trouble seeing **Blood Pheasants** with males outnumbering females in most groups. Between the foggy patches we managed to see **Hodgson’s Treecreeper**, **Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher** as well as **Grey Crested** and **Rufous-vented Tit**.



*This was a fantastic species, enjoyed by all; the striking **Blood Pheasant***

We arrived at our camp site for the night, near the town of Sengor which lies at roughly 2600 meters above sea level. After some tea and a snack, we headed out south of Sengor for some birding and hopefully a **Satyr Tragopan**. The birds tend to come out onto the quiet roads in the early mornings and (as we found) in the late afternoons. We found no less than three **Satyr Tragopan** that afternoon, two males and a female bird all at slightly different spots. We were incredibly grateful for some amazing hospitality that night as we enjoyed dinner in a local restaurant in Sengor right by our campsite. Bhutan's friendliness and hospitality astounded us more and more as the trip went on.



*Oh my, WHAT A BIRD! **Satyr Tragopan** came strolling along in front of the car on more than one occasion. This was certainly up there as one of the most incredible birding sightings not only of this trip but of our birding careers.*

Day 13, 8th April 2019. Sengor and down to Yongkala

We woke up to the call of **Himalayan Owl** calling from the nearby forest. We saddled up and begun another morning in the mountains. **Satyr Tragopan** once again showed really nicely for us, as too did a party of **Red-headed Bullfinch**, a female **Darjeeling Woodpecker** and both **Fire-tailed** and **Green-tailed Sunbirds**. Its really tough to beat a male **Satyr Tragopan** for bird of the morning but an incredibly confiding **Wallcreeper** came close. The rocky cliff faces had looked exceptional for foraging **Wallcreeper** over the last couple days and finally we latched onto one and spent some time observing and photographing it. A mixed species flock moving through included; **Lemon-rumped Warbler**, **Coal**, **Grey Crested** and **Yellow-browed Tits** as well as **Green Shrike-babbler**.



Wallcreeper was certainly one of the birds of the trip!

We descended a little and soon enjoyed views into the valley of Mongar area and Yonkala where we were camping for the next three nights. A pocket of activity yielded another highly-prized special; a pair of feeding **Fire-tailed Myzornis**. These guys have a lot of energy and flit around like sunbirds uttering high pitched calls. Other birds in this area were **Black-headed Laughingthrush**, **Stripe-throated** and **Chestnut-vented Yuhina** as well as a couple ever-present *Phylloscopus* warblers including **Ashy-throated** and **Whistlers Warblers**. We then start headed south towards Yongkala, at our roadside lunch spot we picked up **Crimson-breasted Woodpecker**, **Bar-throated Minla**, **Rufous-winged Fulvetta** and **White-throated Fantail**. Further down we drove through some bamboo forest patches that produced dozens of **White-throated Laughingthrush** and a pair of the bamboo special, **Golden-breasted Fulvetta**.



The very smart-looking Golden-breasted Fulvetta.

We then started a trogon search! **Ward's Trogon** is another special of Bhutanese forests and one that we were set on seeing. We spent some time searching good-looking habitat; mature, mossy forests, where we encountered species such as **White-throated Fantail** and both **Stripe-throated** and **Rufous-vented Yuhina**. The “one, two, three” note song of **Large Niltava** echoed through the forests around us. As for the trogon, a glimpse of something that could have been one was all we managed this afternoon – we would not give up though.

Day 14, 9th April 2019. The Yonkala area

As usual the melodic song of **Blue Whistling Thrush** started really early this morning. We headed up to the same patch of forest for another shot at the desirable **Ward's Trogon**. We got a lot closer to seeing the bird this time, but still only heard a couple males singing in different spots. **Rufous-capped Babbler** was a treat as it popped by a couple meters from us, whilst we also had decent visuals of **Slaty-bellied Tesia** in the darkness of the undergrowth. Unfortunately, today wasn't meant to be a birding day; the rain came down around 10 AM and didn't let up all day. We used the day to rest, study up a few bird species and share some stories about our favorite experiences on the tour thus far.

Day 15, 10th April 2019. The famous Lingmethang Road

Today was a day that included some hard work, and for obvious reasons (that I will write about shortly) we termed it: “Sulker Day”. During our early morning session before breakfast we headed across the small Yonkala Pass towards Mongar, here we had a really enjoyable walk down a quiet track picking up some flocking species such as **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler**, **Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush**, **Red-tailed Minla** and a good number of **Nepal Fulvettas**. **Black-throated Prinia** was also nearby, uttering its “tulip” call. A little further down the track we managed to see Bhutan's third and final langur species, the **Capped Langur**! The high-pitched calls of **White-gorgeted Flycatcher** were coming from the forested valley below but we couldn't get any visuals. A single **Black-winged Cuckooshrike** and a pair of **Spotted Forktail** were around to distract us though. Raptors were out and about, after the persistent rain the day before; **Black Eagle**, **Mountain Hawk-Eagle** and a few **Crested Serpent Eagles** came into view a couple times.

After breakfast we headed back up the road towards Trumshingla. Here we spent time searching some of the moist gullies and surrounding mature forest for all sorts of interesting species. Highlights here included the likes of the shy **Chestnut-headed Tesia**, small flocks of noisy **Yellow-throated Fulvetta**, **Scaly Laughingthrush**, **Golden-naped** and **Scarlet Finch**, **Golden** and **Rufous-capped Babblers** as well as the unique **Yellow-rumped Honeyguide**. Both **Chestnut-bellied** and **Blue-capped Rock Thrush** were present, whilst a single **Black-throated Prinia** showed well too. Even though our lunch setting was beautiful, the birding was almost too distracting to take time to enjoy it. Later on we had a little bit of luck with the tiny **Pygmy Cupwing** which we managed to see moving through some of the dense foliage alongside the road. **Blyth's Shrike-babbler**, a couple **Yellow-bellied Fantails** and **Sikkim Treecreeper** were all nearby too. The forest was alive with bird song; warblers, **Scaly-breasted Cupwing**, **Chestnut-throated Wren Babblers**, **Rufous-necked Hornbill** and the extremely skulking **Lesser Shortwing** were all singing their hearts out, with only a few species giving us any decent visuals.

We settled in for a dinner and planned a night walk thereafter. Our night walk started off trying to pick up the calling **Mountain Scops Owl**, without any luck. Incredibly and fairly unexpectedly we spotted a mammal in the mature woodland, **Hodgson's Flying Squirrel**! Wow, it was truly exceptional to see this large squirrel move around at night! Another highlight was yet to come, back at our campsite when we heard the low fast hooting of **Brown Wood Owl**. This is a fairly secretive owl species and we were so surprised to see it in a tree above our campsite.



The wonderful Hodgson's Giant Flying Squirrel

Day 16, 11th April 2019. Yonkala to Mongar

We spent our last morning in the Yonkala area where we attempted to find Red-headed Trogon among others. We didn't succeed with the trogon; unfortunately, the late winter birds might not yet have moved to these altitudes. We did however have some good sightings of a couple **Red-billed Leiothrix**, **Golden-throated Barbet**, **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler**, **Red-tailed Minla**, a single **Greater Yellownape**, **Black-throated Bushtit** and **Mountain Tailorbird**.

We enjoyed our last morning in our campsite with a late breakfast overlooking the valley of Lingmethang villages. Packed and ready for more birding we headed down the valley stopping at pockets of bird activity. We heard a small **Collared Owlet** call nearby and spotted it in an open tree above us. A new species for our tour was **Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker**, a pair of them called frequently and showed nicely too. On the mammal front we spotted a couple more **Black Giant Squirrels**; watching them move through the trees was rather fun as well. It warmed up quickly and birding slowed down after a while. We did however pick up a small group of **Capped Langur**, this was our last highlight for the afternoon.

Day 17, 12th April 2019. The Ward's Trogons of Kori La pass

Our first birding stop yielded calling **Common Cuckoo** and **Large Hawk Cuckoo** and we also picked up a few distant **Spot-winged Grosbeak**, **Bhutan Laughingthrush** and **Grey Treepie**. Further up the road we encountered **Speckled Wood Pigeon**, **Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush**, **Grey-winged Blackbird**, **Great Barbet**, **White-tailed Nuthatch**, **Rufous-bellied Woodpecker**, **Rufous-breasted Accentor**, **Ultramarine Flycatcher** and a flyby **Grey Wagtail**. The forest patches up near the Korila Pass (which reaches an altitude of over 2200 meters) were beautifully mature. We spent some time birding the area near the top and thereafter took a walk into the depths of the forest. Passerines were incredible active; **Yellow-cheeked Tit**, **Black-faced**, **Chestnut-crowned** and **Buff-barred Warblers**, **Blyth's Leaf Warbler** and a couple **Long-tailed Minivet** flitted through the trees at eye level.

Our walk into the forest was magical. The mature forest produced specials such as **Rufous-bellied Niltava** and the tiny **Pygmy Flycatcher** almost immediately. We then encountered a lovely **Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler** that actually showed really well, considering the skulker it is! Then one of the highlights of the trip; we finally managed to track down the fantastic and highly sought-after **Ward's Trogon**. This species was definitely one of the birds of the trip and we managed to see two male birds and a female bird. They hung around for quite some time, sitting characteristically still, as trogons do, ever so often flitting down to grab a meal from near the ground and flitting back up to an open perch. **Mountain Hawk-Eagle** and a couple **Himalayan Vultures** spent some time in the skies above us whilst later on we picked up a few **Yellow-cheeked Tits** and **Verditer Flycatchers**. Our afternoon produced a single new bird species, **Western Osprey** sitting quietly along the river near Trashigang, as well as a single new mammal species, a family of five **Wild Boar**!



Male Ward's Trogon, in all its splendor!

Day 18, 13th April 2019. Trashigang to camping site in Morong

A day spent with some travel and catching up on a couple sightings and species we may have missed up until this point. A few roadside stops produced some really nice passerine species; **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Ultramarine, Little Pied and Pygmy Flycatchers, Streaked Spiderhunter, Mrs. Gould's and Green-tailed Sunbird, Olive-backed Pipit, White-tailed Nuthatch, Blue-winged Minla and White-naped Yuhina**. Our campsite was once again fantastic, we truly had a brilliant camping crew that prepared some of the best meals during our time in Bhutan. The campsite area produced some nice bird species too; **Plaintive Cuckoo, Greenish Warbler, Mountain Imperial Pigeon, White-breasted Parrotbill, Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler and Rusty-fronted Barwing**.

Day 19, 14th April 2019. Birding down to the lowlands of Samdrup Jongkhar

It is a marvelous thing to wake up at dawn whilst overlooking a massive expanse of untouched forest. At the rate that our natural forests are being destroyed in many parts of the world, it is certainly a 'breath of fresh air' to see the fruits of a conservation-minded government. The forest here is of course alive with bird song and the dawn chorus was just beautiful. Our first new species was of the mammalian kind, a **Himalayan Serow** appeared from the slope above us and stopped briefly to look back at us before heading down the slope and out of sight. Our first birding highlight was finding a good number of **Silver-eared Mesia**, calling away and showing well for us. Other species we encountered along the roadside forest were **Black-eared Shrike-babbler, Black-throated Sunbird, Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher, White-throated Fantail** and a **Mountain Hawk-Eagle** perched up high. A flock of about thirty **Scarlet Finch** and a pair of **Northern Red Muntjac** was also really neat.

We packed up our camp just before the rain came down and then decided to travel down to the lower altitude areas north of Samdrup Jongkhar. Here we enjoyed some amazing birding; a few specials included, **Mountain Imperial Pigeon, White-throated Needletail, Long-tailed Sibia** and a good number of **Blue-throated Barbets**. A **Banded Bay Cuckoo** signaled its presence with its distinctive call. A little further down we started to encounter proper heat and humidity for the first time of the trip. The incredible low-altitude birds followed; **Taiga Flycatcher, Crested Honey Buzzard, Black-crested and Red-whiskered Bulbul**. A tiny **White-browed Piculet** showed briefly whilst **Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** and more specifically **Square-tailed Drongo-Cuckoo** took some finding. I personally enjoyed the seemingly lethargic **Yellow-bellied Warbler** hanging around the bamboo near a stream. We continued towards the border town (where we would spend the night) and slowly added to our list. Our last new birds for the day were; **Oriental Dollarbird, Black-backed Forktail, Asian Palm Swift, Striated Heron, Little Cormorant** and a singing **Lineated Barbet**.



*A small group of three **Long-tailed Sibia** were seen.*

Day 20, 15th April 2019. Bhutan to Assam, India

We managed to sneak in some birding around town in the morning before breakfast, thereafter we needed to make the journey south into India and through to Guwahati. The morning session yielded a nice sighting of **Black-naped Monarch** flitting low through some broad-leaved foliage. Three **Wreathed Hornbill** flew by as we were listening to the call of a **Puff-throated Babbler**, we frantically moved to get good visuals through the trees. Down in the town of Samdrup Jongkhar we also picked up a few mynas and starlings, all in one flowering tree we saw, **Chestnut-tailed Starling**, and **Jungle** and **Pied Mynas**.

The border crossing was quick and painless and soon enough we were onto the plains of Assam picking up new trip birds left right and center. **Yellow-footed Green Pigeon** and **Coppersmith Barbet** greeted us at the immigration office whilst a few roadside stops yielded species such as **Asian Openbill**, **Indian Pond Heron**, **Purple Heron**, **Great** and **Eastern Cattle Egret** as well as a fantastic **Blue-tailed Bee-eater**. **Striated Grassbird** was quite common along the flooded grassland edges to the ponds. We had time to bird and headed through to the infamous Guwahati Waste Management site, to pick up the adjutants. Both **Greater** and **Lesser Adjutant** were present with a high number of the former and only a handful of **Lesser Adjutant** spotted.



Greater Adjutant in Guwahati. Photo: Rich Sajdak

We transferred to New Delhi, and kicked off a small Indian extension in north India. The trip was a huge success and all involved thoroughly enjoyed the birding, the sights, the travel and the Bhutanese hospitality and culture. Favorite sightings and birds of the trip range from the colorful **Ward's Trogon** and **Long-tailed Broadbill** to the comparatively dull **Wallcreeper** and **Spotted Elachura**. The fascinating pheasants were right up there and the amazing giant squirrels really entertained us too. Please do join us in Bhutan sometime soon!

Bird List - Following IOC (9.1)

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following BirdLife International: CE = Critically Endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened. Region endemics are bolded.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Ducks, Geese, Swans (Anatidae)	
Lesser Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna javanica</i>
Bar-headed Goose	<i>Anser indicus</i>
Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>
Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>
Eastern Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas zonorhyncha</i>
Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>
Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>
Pheasants & Allies (Phasianidae)	
Rufous-throated Partridge (H)	<i>Arborophila rufogularis</i>
Hill Partridge	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>
Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus</i>
Satyr Tragopan	<i>Tragopan satyra</i>
Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>
Grebes (Podicipedidae)	
Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
Storks (Ciconiidae)	
Asian Openbill	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i>
Lesser Adjutant - VU	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>
Greater Adjutant - EN	<i>Leptoptilos dubius</i>
Hérons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
Indian Pond Heron	<i>Ardeola grayii</i>
Eastern Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus coromandus</i>
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
White-bellied Heron - CR	<i>Ardea insignis</i>
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Intermediate Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>

Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)	
Little Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo niger</i>
Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Ospreys (Pandionidae)	
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)	
Crested Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
Himalayan Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>
Crested Serpent Eagle	<i>Spilornis cheela</i>
Mountain Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i>
Rufous-bellied Eagle	<i>Lophotriorchis kienerii</i>
Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malaiensis</i>
Bonelli's Eagle	<i>Aquila fasciata</i>
Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>
Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>
Himalayan Buzzard	<i>Buteo burmanicus</i>
Rails, Crakes & Coots (Rallidae)	
Black-tailed Crake	<i>Porzana bicolor</i>
Grey-headed Swampphen	<i>Porphyrio poliocephalus</i>
Ibisbill (Ibidorhynchidae)	
Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>
Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostridae)	
Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
River Lapwing	<i>Vanellus duvaucelii</i>
Red-wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus indicus</i>
Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)	
Solitary Snipe	<i>Gallinago solitaria</i>
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Gulls, Terns, Skimmers (Laridae)	
Brown-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus</i>
Pallas's Gull	<i>Ichthyiaetus ichthyiaetus</i>

Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba leuconota</i>
Speckled Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba hodgsonii</i>
Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>
Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
Barred Cuckoo-dove	<i>Macropygia unchall</i>
Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
Yellow-footed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron phoenicopterus</i>
Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon	<i>Treron sphenurus</i>
Mountain Imperial Pigeon	<i>Ducula badia</i>
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	
Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamys scolopaceus</i>
Banded Bay Cuckoo (H)	<i>Cacomantis sonneratii</i>
Plaintive Cuckoo	<i>Cacomantis merulinus</i>
Large Hawk-Cuckoo	<i>Hierococcyx sparveroides</i>
Common Hawk-Cuckoo (H)	<i>Hierococcyx varius</i>
Himalayan Cuckoo (H)	<i>Cuculus saturatus</i>
Common Cuckoo (H)	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
Owls (Strigidae)	
Mountain Scops Owl (H)	<i>Otus spilocephalus</i>
Collared Scops Owl	<i>Otus lettia</i>
Spot-bellied Eagle-Owl (H)	<i>Bubo nipalensis</i>
Tawny Fish Owl	<i>Ketupa flavipes</i>
Brown Wood Owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>
Himalayan Owl (H)	<i>Strix niviculum</i>
Collared Owlet	<i>Glaucidium brodiei</i>
Asian Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium cuculoides</i>
Nightjars (Caprimulgidae)	
Grey Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus jotaka</i>
Swifts (Apodidae)	
Himalayan Swiftlet	<i>Aerodramus brevirostris</i>
White-throated Needletail	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>
Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>
Blyth's Swift	<i>Apus leuconyx</i>
House Swift	<i>Apus nipalensis</i>
Trogon (Trogonidae)	
Ward's Trogon	<i>Harpactes wardi</i>
Rollers (Coraciidae)	
Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>

Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>
Bee-eaters (Meropidae)	
Blue-bearded Bee-eater	<i>Nyctornis athertoni</i>
Blue-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops philippinus</i>
Hoopoes (Upupidae)	
Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>
Hornbills (Bucerotidae)	
Great Hornbill - VU	<i>Buceros bicornis</i>
Rufous-necked Hornbill - VU	<i>Aceros nipalensis</i>
Wreathed Hornbill - VU	<i>Rhyticeros undulatus</i>
Asian Barbets (Megalaimidae)	
Great Barbet	<i>Psilopogon virens</i>
Lineated Barbet	<i>Psilopogon lineatus</i>
Golden-throated Barbet	<i>Psilopogon franklinii</i>
Blue-throated Barbet	<i>Psilopogon asiaticus</i>
Coppersmith Barbet	<i>Psilopogon haemacephalus</i>
Honeyguides (Indicatoridae)	
Yellow-rumped Honeyguide	<i>Indicator xanthonotus</i>
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Speckled Piculet	<i>Picumnus innominatus</i>
White-browed Piculet	<i>Sasia ochracea</i>
Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Yungipicus canicapillus</i>
Crimson-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates cathpharius</i>
Rufous-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>
Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos macei</i>
Darjeeling Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos darjellensis</i>
Greater Yellownape	<i>Chrysophlegma flavinucha</i>
Lesser Yellownape	<i>Picus chlorolophus</i>
Grey-headed Woodpecker	<i>Picus canus</i>
Himalayan Flameback (H)	<i>Dinopium shorii</i>
Pale-headed Woodpecker (H)	<i>Gecinulus grantia</i>
Bay Woodpecker	<i>Blythipicus pyrrhotis</i>
Caracaras, Falcons (Falconidae)	
Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>

Old World Parrots (Psittaculidae)	
Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>
Broadbills (Eurylaimidae)	
Long-tailed Broadbill	<i>Psarisomus dalhousiae</i>
Vangas & Allies (Vangidae)	
Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>
Woodswallows, Butcherbirds & Allies (Artamidae)	
Ashy Woodswallow	<i>Artamus fuscus</i>
Cuckooshrikes (Campephagidae)	
Grey-chinned Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>
Short-billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus brevirostris</i>
Long-tailed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>
Scarlet Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus speciosus</i>
Black-winged Cuckooshrike	<i>Lalage melaschistos</i>
Shrikes (Laniidae)	
Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>
Grey-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius tephronotus</i>
Vireos, Greenlets, Shrike-babblers (Vireonidae)	
White-bellied Erpornis	<i>Erpornis zantholeuca</i>
Blyth's Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius aeralatus</i>
Green Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius xanthochlorus</i>
Black-eared Shrike-babbler	<i>Pteruthius melanotis</i>
Figbirds, Orioles, Turnagra (Oriolidae)	
Slender-billed Oriole (H)	<i>Oriolus tenuirostris</i>
Black-hooded Oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>
Maroon Oriole	<i>Oriolus traillii</i>
Drongos (Dicruridae)	
Black Drongo	<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>
Bronzed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>
Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus remifer</i>
Hair-crested Drongo	<i>Dicrurus hottentottus</i>
Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
Fantails (Rhipiduridae)	
White-throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>
Monarchs (Monarchidae)	
Black-naped Monarch	<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>

Crows, Jays (Corvidae)	
Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Yellow-billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>
Common Green Magpie	<i>Cissa chinensis</i>
Grey Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta formosae</i>
Black-rumped Magpie	<i>Pica bottanensis</i>
Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>
Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>
Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
Fairy Flycatchers (Stenostiridae)	
Yellow-bellied Fantail	<i>Chelidorhynch hypoxanthus</i>
Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>
Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)	
Yellow-browed Tit	<i>Sylviparus modestus</i>
Sultan Tit	<i>Melanochlora sultanea</i>
Rufous-vented Tit	<i>Periparus rubidiventris</i>
Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>
Grey Crested Tit	<i>Lophophanes dichrous</i>
Green-backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>
Yellow-cheeked Tit	<i>Machlolophus spilonotus</i>
Larks (Alaudidae)	
Sand Lark	<i>Alaudala raytal</i>
Bulbuls (Pycnonotidae)	
Striated Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus striatus</i>
Black-crested Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus flaviventris</i>
Red-whiskered Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus jocosus</i>
Himalayan Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>
Red-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus cafer</i>
White-throated Bulbul	<i>Alophoixus flaveolus</i>
Mountain Bulbul	<i>Ixos mccllellandii</i>
Ashy Bulbul	<i>Hemixos flavala</i>
Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>
Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae)	
Grey-throated Martin	<i>Riparia chinensis</i>
Nepal House Martin	<i>Delichon nipalense</i>
Red-rumped Swallow	<i>Cecropis daurica</i>
Cupwings (Pnoepyidae)	
Scaly-breasted Cupwing	<i>Pnoepyga albiventer</i>
Pygmy Cupwing	<i>Pnoepyga pusilla</i>

Cettia Bush Warblers & Allies (Cettiidae)	
Yellow-bellied Warbler	<i>Abroscopus superciliaris</i>
Black-faced Warbler	<i>Abroscopus schisticeps</i>
Mountain Tailorbird	<i>Phyllergates cucullatus</i>
Brown-flanked Bush Warbler	<i>Horornis fortipes</i>
Grey-bellied Tesia	<i>Tesia cyaniventer</i>
Slaty-bellied Tesia	<i>Tesia olivea</i>
Chestnut-headed Tesia	<i>Cettia castaneocoronata</i>
Bushtits (Aegithalidae)	
Black-throated Bushtit	<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>
Leaf Warblers & Allies (Phylloscopidae)	
Buff-barred Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus pulcher</i>
Ashy-throated Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus maculipennis</i>
Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>
Lemon-rumped Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus chloronotus</i>
White-spectacled Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus intermedius</i>
Grey-cheeked Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus poliogenys</i>
Whistler's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus whistleri</i>
Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
Chestnut-crowned Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus castaniceps</i>
Yellow-vented Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus cantator</i>
Blyth's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus reguloides</i>
Grey-hooded Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus xanthoschistos</i>
Grassbirds & Allies (Locustellidae)	
Striated Grassbird	<i>Megalurus palustris</i>
Cisticolas & Allies (Cisticolidae)	
Striated Prinia	<i>Prinia crinigera</i>
Black-throated Prinia	<i>Prinia atrogularis</i>
Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
Babblers, Scimitar Babblers (Timaliidae)	
Rusty-cheeked Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus erythrogenys</i>
White-browed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus schisticeps</i>
Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis</i>
Rufous-throated Wren-Babbler	<i>Spelaeornis caudatus</i>
Grey-throated Babbler	<i>Stachyris nigriceps</i>
Rufous-capped Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis ruficeps</i>
Golden Babbler	<i>Stachyridopsis chrysaea</i>
Fulvetas, Ground Babblers (Pellorneidae)	
Yellow-throated Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe cinerea</i>
Rufous-winged Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe castaneiceps</i>
Nepal Fulvetta	<i>Alcippe nipalensis</i>

Puff-throated Babbler	<i>Pellorneum ruficeps</i>
Laughingthrushes & Allies (Leiothrichidae)	
Striated Laughingthrush	<i>Grammatoptila striata</i>
Himalayan Cutia	<i>Cutia nipalensis</i>
Scaly Laughingthrush	<i>Trochaloxyeron subunicolor</i>
Black-faced Laughingthrush	<i>Trochaloxyeron affine</i>
Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush	<i>Trochaloxyeron erythrocephalum</i>
Bhutan Laughingthrush	<i>Trochaloxyeron imbricatum</i>
Blue-winged Laughingthrush	<i>Trochaloxyeron squamatum</i>
Bar-throated Minla	<i>Actinodura strigula</i>
Rusty-fronted Barwing	<i>Actinodura egertoni</i>
Blue-winged Minla	<i>Actinodura cyanouroptera</i>
Hoary-throated Barwing	<i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>
Red-tailed Minla	<i>Minla ignotincta</i>
Red-billed Leiothrix	<i>Leiothrix lutea</i>
Silver-eared Mesia	<i>Leiothrix argentauris</i>
Rufous Sibia	<i>Heterophasia capistrata</i>
Long-tailed Sibia	<i>Heterophasia picaoides</i>
Jungle Babbler	<i>Argya striata</i>
Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax monileger</i>
Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush (H)	<i>Garrulax pectoralis</i>
White-crested Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax leucolophus</i>
Rufous-chinned Laughingthrush	<i>Ianthocincla rufogularis</i>
Rufous-necked Laughingthrush	<i>Pterorhinus ruficollis</i>
White-throated Laughingthrush	<i>Pterorhinus albogularis</i>
Sylviid Babblers (Sylviidae)	
Fire-tailed Myzornis	<i>Myzornis pyrrhura</i>
Golden-breasted Fulvetta	<i>Lioparus chrysotis</i>
White-browed Fulvetta	<i>Fulvetta vinipectus</i>
Brown Parrotbill	<i>Cholornis unicolor</i>
Pale-billed Parrotbill	<i>Chleuasicus atrosuperciliaris</i>
White-breasted Parrotbill (H)	<i>Psittiparus ruficeps</i>
Grey-headed Parrotbill	<i>Psittiparus gularis</i>
White-eyes (Zosteropidae)	
Striated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina castaniceps</i>
White-naped Yuhina	<i>Yuhina bakeri</i>
Whiskered Yuhina	<i>Yuhina flavicollis</i>
Stripe-throated Yuhina	<i>Yuhina gularis</i>
Rufous-vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>
Black-chinned Yuhina	<i>Yuhina nigrimenta</i>
Indian White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
Goldcrests, Kinglets (Regulidae)	
Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>

Elachura (Elachuridae)	
Spotted Elachura	<i>Elachura formosa</i>
Nuthatches (Sittidae)	
Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch	<i>Sitta cinnamoventris</i>
White-tailed Nuthatch	<i>Sitta himalayensis</i>
Beautiful Nuthatch - VU	<i>Sitta formosa</i>
Wallcreeper (Tichodromidae)	
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma muraria</i>
Treecreepers (Certhiidae)	
Hodgson's Treecreeper	<i>Certhia hodgsoni</i>
Sikkim Treecreeper	<i>Certhia discolor</i>
Starlings, Rhabdornis (Sturnidae)	
Spot-winged Starling	<i>Saroglossa spilopterus</i>
Great Myna	<i>Acridotheres grandis</i>
Jungle Myna	<i>Acridotheres fuscus</i>
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
Pied Myna	<i>Gracupica contra</i>
Chestnut-tailed Starling	<i>Sturnia malabarica</i>
Thrushes (Turdidae)	
White-collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>
Grey-winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>
Red-throated Thrush	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>
Chats, Old World Flycatchers (Muscicapidae)	
Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
White-gorgeted Flycatcher (H)	<i>Anthipes monileger</i>
Pale Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis unicolor</i>
Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher	<i>Cyornis rubeculoides</i>
Rufous-bellied Niltava	<i>Niltava sundara</i>
Large Niltava	<i>Niltava grandis</i>
Small Niltava	<i>Niltava macgrigoriae</i>
Verditer Flycatcher	<i>Eumyias thalassinus</i>
Lesser Shortwing (H)	<i>Brachypteryx leucophris</i>
Himalayan Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger rufilatus</i>
Golden Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger chrysaeus</i>
Little Forktail	<i>Enicurus scouleri</i>
Black-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>
Slaty-backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus schistaceus</i>
Spotted Forktail	<i>Enicurus maculatus</i>
Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>
Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophliata</i>

Taiga Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>
Little Pied Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula westermanni</i>
Ultramarine Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula superciliaris</i>
Slaty-blue Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula tricolor</i>
Pygmy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapella hodgsoni</i>
Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
Hodgson's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>
White-throated Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>
Blue-fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>
Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus fuliginosus</i>
White-capped Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus leucocephalus</i>
Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rufiventris</i>
Blue-capped Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola cinclorhyncha</i>
Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>
Grey Bush Chat	<i>Saxicola ferreus</i>
Dippers (Cinclidae)	
Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>
Leafbirds (Chloropseidae)	
Orange-bellied Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis hardwickii</i>
Flowerpeckers (Dicaeidae)	
Plain Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum minullum</i>
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>
Sunbirds (Nectariniidae)	
Mrs. Gould's Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga gouldiae</i>
Green-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga nipalensis</i>
Black-throated Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga saturata</i>
Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>
Fire-tailed Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga ignicauda</i>
Streaked Spiderhunter	<i>Arachnothera magna</i>
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>
Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer cinnamomeus</i>
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>
Waxbills, Munias & Allies (Estrildidae)	
White-rumped Munia	<i>Lonchura striata</i>
Accentors (Prunellidae)	
Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>
Altai Accentor	<i>Prunella himalayana</i>
Rufous-breasted Accentor	<i>Prunella strophia</i>

Wagtails, Pipits (Motacillidae)	
Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>
Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>
Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseatus</i>
Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)	
Spot-winged Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas melanozanthos</i>
White-winged Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>
Red-headed Bullfinch	<i>Pyrrhula erythrocephala</i>
Golden-naped Finch	<i>Pyrrhoplectes epauletta</i>
Plain Mountain Finch	<i>Leucosticte nemoricola</i>
Dark-breasted Rosefinch	<i>Procarduelis nipalensis</i>
Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
Scarlet Finch	<i>Carpodacus sipahi</i>
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch	<i>Chloris spinoides</i>
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
Buntings (Emberizidae)	
Crested Bunting	<i>Emberiza lathami</i>
Little Bunting	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>
Total seen	322
Total heard only	15
Total recorded	337

Mammal List

Common name	Scientific name
Cercopithecidae	
Assam Macaque	<i>Macaca assamensis</i>
Rhesus Monkey	<i>Macaca mulatta</i>
Nepal Gray Langur	<i>Semnopithecus schistaceus</i>
Gee's Golden Langur	<i>Trachypithecus geei</i>
Capped Langur	<i>Trachypithecus pileatus</i>
Sciuridae	
Hoary-bellied Squirrel	<i>Callosciurus pygerythrus</i>
Hodgson's Giant Flying Squirrel	<i>Petaurista magnificus</i>
Black Giant Squirrel	<i>Ratufa bicolor</i>
Himalayan Striped Squirrel	<i>Tamiops macclellandii</i>

Herpestidae	
Indian Grey Mongoose	<i>Herpestes edwardsii</i>
Suidae	
Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>
Cervidae	
Northern Red Muntjac	<i>Muntiacus vaginalis</i>
Sambar	<i>Rusa unicolor</i>
Bovidae	
Himalayan Serow	<i>Capricornis thar</i>
Total Seen	14