CHINA BIRDING TOUR

Lingshan, Poyang Lake, Sichuan, Taiwan

20th February to 2nd March 2018

HIGHLIGHTS


Swinhoe’s Pheasant © Mike May
Introduction.

Our purpose was to visit Poyang Lake to see wintering Cranes and combine that with another lifelong dream of seeing pheasants in the wild. For the latter, Sichuan is a diversity hotspot holding 25 of the 63 species of Phasianidae recorded in China, where our main targets were Lady Amherst’s and Golden Pheasants. As preparations for the trip proceeded, we added an extension to Taiwan to include their own very special endemic Pheasants.

Combining both targets into eleven days is difficult. We had a narrow window of time available – not too early for Pheasants in Sichuan where bad weather could disrupt plans and not too late for Cranes at Poyang. Unfortunately, this space of just a couple of weeks falls within the Chinese New Year holiday - when this year there were apparently 300 million Chinese in transit and hotels. The fact that we were able to see most of our targets, and build a list of over 250 species is in large part thanks to the expert planning (and re-planning) of Steven An (info@chinadreamtouro.com) in Poyang, Tang Jun in Sichuan and Vũ Chóng Hân in Taiwan.

Steven did a great job of planning, arranging and orchestrating our complex itinerary. He has excellent knowledge of the Poyang area and wisely put us in the capable and enthusiastic hands of Terry Townshend in Beijing (www.birdingbeijing.com) and Tang Jun in Sichuan. Steven was recommended by Craig Brelsford (www.shanghaibirding.com) who also put us in touch with Vũ Chóng Hân who, with his wife Rachel, guided us brilliantly – and drove over 1200 km in 3 days in Taiwan.

In this report, we don’t provide detailed location descriptions as the routes taken at most of the sites visited followed rather classic itineraries described in detail in the many trip reports already published.

In retrospect we were extremely fortunate with no serious disruptions caused by bad weather, holiday congestion or air traffic delays that can so often create havoc with internal flights. The hotels chosen for us by Steven were excellent, in particular, the Panda Conservation Hotel in Wolong. For any information on planning such a trip, please contact Steven.
Such a trip, though is physically demanding, and gives no time to retrace steps if birds do not show on first attempt. Added to that, as Tang Jun made clear, we were in Sichuan 2 months too early and hence most of the mid-elevation targets were extremely difficult. Longcanggou was particularly quiet, with only brief views of Lady Amherst’s Pheasant and no sign of Temminck’s Tragopan.

In summary this tour had been a lifelong dream for us to some mythical places. Landscapes throughout were stunning, and the bitter cold of Lingshan, disappointments of not seeing well some of our key targets and the sleep deprivation were soon forgotten.

Thanks again to all in China and Taiwan who made this possible.

Literature: We used the MacKinnon and Phillipps Field Guide to the Birds of China and Mark Brazil field guides throughout. The excellent field guide to the birds of Taiwan has just been published in English, with really stunning artwork. Tang Jun and Dong Lei have produced a very nice book called Pheasants guide to Wolong National Nature Reserve in collaboration with the Sichuan Wolong National Reserve Administration and published by the Sichuan National University Electronic Press that contains many fine photographs of these iconic birds – something to marvel over on the flight out of Chengdu as you reminisce over your near misses and tenuous encounters!

Photography: This was a birding trip, so photography was for records. All pictures, except where marked, were taken by Mike using a Nikon D810 and Nikkor 600mm F/4. Thanks to Chóng Hàn for advice on photography in general, but Savannah Nightjar technique and loan of bean bag especially. More photos on Flickr (https://www.flickr.com/photos/157096279@N08).
CHINA BIRDING TOUR · Lingshan, Poyang Lake, Sichuan, Taiwan · 2018 · Mike May, Lluís Dalmau, Ponç Feliu.

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Itinerary:

Day 1.
20th February, Lingshan, Beijing;

Day 2.
21st February, early flight to Nanchang, and then all day birding at Poyang;

Day 3.
22nd February, all day birding at Poyang;

Day 4.
23rd February, most of day birding at Poyang, with evening flight to Chengdu;

Day 5.
24th February, all day birding at Longcanggou;

Day 6.
25th February, morning at Longcanggou, drive to Wolong and evening birding there;

Day 7.
26th February, all day birding Wolong-Balangshan-Wolong;

Day 8.
27th February, morning birding in Wolong, then flight from Chengdu to Taipei, drive to Taichung City county for overnight at B&B;

Day 9.
28th February, all day birding Dasyueshan, overnight at Huben village;

Day 10.
1st March, lowland endemics near Huben, then all day birding AliShan, overnight at Huben village;

Day 11.
2nd March, all day birding Pingtung county, then central western wetland areas, late night flight from Taipei.
ANNOTATED SPECIES LIST

NT = Near Threatened
V = Vulnerable
EN = Endangered
CE = Critically Endangered
1. Snow Partridge  
*Lerwa lerwa major*  
2 distant birds heard for more than an hour below the monument at Balangshan, Sichuan (4,200 m.). Despite a long wait, and despite responding to playback, the birds remained distant and hidden.

2. Tibetan Snowcock  
*Tetraogallus tibetanus henrici*  
A total of 6 birds seen in pairs at Balangshan, Sichuan (3,900-4,500 m.), including a very obliging pair by the roadside just before the Balangshan Pass. Undisturbed by our presence in the car, the birds provided great photo opportunities, finally retreating to a ridge where we observed them from a distance.
3. Chestnut-throated Partridge
*Tetraophasis obscurus NT*

3 birds calling at dawn in scrub above the last tunnel on the Wolong to Balangshan road (2,300m) and again 3 more the next day at the same place at about 1 p.m. Despite responding to playback, and a long wait, the birds remained hidden in the fog.

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4. Taiwan Partridge

About 8 birds seen very closely at a roadside feeding area on the Dasyueshan Forest Road at km 23, 1500m elevation. They moved in to feed quietly once it was safe and the highly excited male Swinhoe’s Pheasant had withdrawn. This area was full of birds in the canopy.
5. Bamboo Partridge
*Bambusicola thoracica thoracica* (China)

Heard in several places during the trip in Poyang and Sichuan.

*Bambusicola thoracica sonorivox* (Taiwan)

Regularly heard in Taiwan lowlands on all three days.
6. Koklass Pheasant
*Pucrasia macrolopha*

Several males calling at dawn in scrub above the last tunnel on the Wolong to Balangshan road, Sichuan (2,200 m.) and one male seen close to the road in the freezing fog.
7. Chinese Monal
*Lophophorus huysii V*

At least three males heard for more than one hour at dawn at the now famous site at the last tunnel on the Wolong to Balangshan road, Sichuan (2,200 m.). Whilst these birds are notoriously shy, the dense fog made our chances of seeing them worse. A big pity. Come back in May said Tang Jun!

8. Swinhoe’s Pheasant
*Lophura swinhoii NT*

2 males, 1 immature male and 9 females feeding close to the road at km 23 on the Dasyueshan road, Taiwan. One male was particularly confiding, and in a high state of excitement, chasing the females that had arrived earlier with greatly distended facial skin mask, and displaying repeatedly with a display that involved stretching the neck upwards and quivering extended wings. The second male was seen at a separate nearby spot, and was more subdued, although during most of his appearance was too close for photography (with a 600mm lens). An amazing experience to be surrounded by these birds for over an hour.
9. Common Pheasant
*Phasianus colchicus*

Seen 4 times in Beijing, Poyang and Sichuan lowlands.
10. White Eared Pheasant  
*Crossoptilon crossoptilon*

Heard once in the afternoon on the slopes below the last tunnel on the Wolong to Balangshan road, Sichuan (2.200 m.), but remained lost in the fog.

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11. Mikado Pheasant  
*Syrmaticus mikado NT*

One single male feeding close to the road at Tataka, Alishan at 2610m elevation, Taiwan. Seen initially by chance as we had stopped the car to try to see Taiwan Fulvetta. The bird remained mostly obscured in vegetation, although relatively unperturbed by our car. Apparently, the birds at Alishan are more timid than those at Dasyueshan because of the higher number of tourists and trekkers. Unfortunately, the road up to the elevations they favour at Dasyueshan was closed for construction.
12. Golden Pheasant
Chrysolophus pictus NT

1 male seen, 1 female seen and around 5 males singing for hours during three visits to the Temple on the hillside above Wolong, Sichuan. We understood that later in the spring, birds are more visible as they sit up in bushes to eat the newly emerged buds. The birds were close at times, and we spent several hours scanning the slopes and crawling as noiselessly as possible in the dense scrub. The whole experience of hearing so many males singing back and forth in this beautiful location was magical.
13. Lady Amherst’s Pheasant
Chrysolophus amherstiae NT

Many footprints, droppings, one probable male heard and one female briefly seen in Longcanggou, Sichuan. We were probably too early in the season, and searched hard. Longcanggou was one of the quietest areas we visited on the whole trip. We understood ahead of the trip that Dali in Yunnan is a more reliable location, but adding a further flight west to an already crazy schedule would have been too much. A further comment on the Longcanggou site is that the private road that leads up through the forest and that is much used by birding tours may soon be closed. The reason for this is that there is a planned re-introduction of Giant Pandas onto the hillside in July 2018, and in all likelihood access will become restricted to avoid disturbance. Tang Jun had to make great efforts to have a newly erected gate opened for us, and we are indebted to his perseverance on our behalf.
14. Tundra Swan
*Cygnus columbianus*

Hundreds of wintering birds in Poyang area. Very photogenic in the sunset as they congregated ahead of moving out to their night-time feeding areas. One bird with a radio-collar.
15. Swan Goose
*Anser cygnoides V*
Commonly seen in flocks of hundreds in Poyang area.

16. Taiga Bean Goose
*Anser fabalis sibiricus*
Some individuals amongst Tundra Bean Geese in Poyang Lake.

17. Tundra Bean Goose
*Anser fabalis serrirostris*
Common in Poyang area.
18. Greater White-fronted Goose
*Anser albifrons*

Several wintering flocks in Poyang Lake and surroundings.
19. Ruddy Shelduck  
*Tadorna ferruginea*  
2 birds feeding in a small lake, to the north of Poyang.

20. Gadwall  
*Anas strepera*  
Regularly seen in both Poyang, China, and Aogu wetlands, Taiwan.

21. Eurasian Wigeon  
*Anas penelope*  
Common in Augou wetlands, Taiwan.

22. Mallard  
*Anas platyrhynchos*  
Common in all wetlands and rivers, both in China and in Taiwan.
23. Chinese Spot-billed Duck
*Anas poecilorhyncha*

Common in all wetlands and rivers, both in China and in Taiwan.
24. Northern Shoveler
*Anas clypeata*
A few wintering birds in Poyang Lake and abundant in Aogu wetlands, Taiwan.

25. Northern Pintail
*Anas acuta*
1 female in Pheasant-tailed Jacana Ecological Education Park, Hulipu/Guantien and many wintering birds in Aogu Wetland and Forest Park, Taiwan. The Jacana reserve is well set up with spacious hides, and a well-informed visitor centre that showcases the conservation efforts to preserve the Jacanas in their competition with man for their favourite food – Water Chestnuts. The Aogu reserve is even more impressive, being a vast area of lakes and reed beds inside a sea wall that clearly serves as an important stop-over on the Australo-Siberian Flyway. It is a wonderful location for leisurely photography as the birds are close to the road and confiding, presenting opportunities for photography that are difficult elsewhere.
26. Garganey
*Anas querquedula*
Around 20 birds at the Pheasant-tailed Jacana Ecological Education Park, Hulipu/Guantien, Taiwan.

27. Common Teal
*Anas crecca*
Common in Poyang and in Taiwan's wetlands.

28. Common Pochard
*Aythya ferina*
Common in Poyang Lake area and several at Aogu, Taiwan.

29. Baer's Pochard
*Aythya baeri CE*
1 juvenile amongst a group of Common Pochards at Dong Hu – a satellite lake north of Poyang Lake.

30. Tufted Duck
*Aythya fuligula*
Small flocks observed in Aogu wetlands, Taiwan.
31. Goosander
*Mergus merganser*
1 bird on a frozen urban lake in Beijing on the drive to Lingshan.

32. Yellow-legged Buttonquail
*Turnix tanki*
1 disoriented migrant bird seen poorly crossing the expressway in central Taiwan lowlands.

33. Barred Buttonquail
*Turnix suscitator rostrata*
1 bird shortly seen at dusk around Maguang, Tuku Township in Yunlin County, Taiwan.

34. Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker
*Dendrocopus canicapillus*
A few birds heard or seen in Lingshan, Poyang and Sichuan.
35. Darjeeling Woodpecker
*Dendrocopus darjellensis*

1 bird seen at a very close range for 15 minutes in Wolong, Sichuan. Originally identified as Crimson-breasted, this bird was strikingly yellow on the underparts, and so created some discussion, in the end after some help decided on Darjeeling Woodpecker.
36. Great Spotted Woodpecker
*Dendrocopus major*
A few birds in Sichuan and also some birds in Taiwan forests above 2000m.

37. Grey-headed Woodpecker
*Picus canus*
Seen in Sichuan with a close bird in Longcanggaou and also in Poyang area. One of those birds that is far easier to see in China than in Europe.

38. Bay Woodpecker
*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*
1 bird heard at Longcanggou, Sichuan.
39. Taiwan (Black-browed) Barbet
*Megalamia oorti nuchalis*

Heard in all forested areas in Taiwan, one seen very well at the Swinhoe's Pheasant site at km 23 on the Dasyueshan road.

![Taiwan (Black-browed) Barbet © Mike May](image)

40. Common Kingfisher
*Alcedo atthis*

Regularly seen and heard in the wetlands of Poyang, Sichuan and Taiwan.
41. White-throated Kingfisher
*Halcyon smyrnensis*

3 birds seen in Poyang Lake area.

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42. Pied Kingfisher
*Ceryle rudis*

Several birds seen in Poyang Lake area.
43. Lesser Coucal  
*_Centropus bengalensis lignator_*  
1 juvenile seen in a sugar cane field in Maguang, Tuku Township in Yunlin County, Taiwan.

44. House Swift  
*_Apus affinis kuntzi_*  
A few flocks, presumably of the Taiwanese sub-endemic race seen around southern Taiwan villages.

45. Mountain Scops Owl  
*_Otus spilocephalus hambroecki_*  
Commonly heard in the lowlands of Taiwan, where heard every night.

46. Collared Scops Owl  
*_Otus bakkamoena glabripes_*  
1 bird heard around during a night owling attempt from our B&B at Heping District, Taichung City on our first night in Taiwan at a site where we hoped to see Tawny Fish Owl, but were compensated with a White-faced Flying Squirrel.

47. Brown Hawk Owl (Northern Boobook)  
*_Ninox scutulata totogo_*  
1 bird heard in lowland forest near our hotel, the Pitta Café, at Huben village, Yunlin County, Linnei Township, Taiwan.
48. Long-eared Owl
*Asio otus*

1 bird seen for more than 10 minutes whilst it perched on the roadside barrier while driving up to Balangshan Pass, Sichuan.

Long-eared Owl © Mike May
49. Savannah Nightjar  
*Caprimulgus affinis stictomus*

Commonly heard in almost all habitats in Taiwan, where heard every night. This photo was taken by driving slowly round the tracks in between the fields until one was located on the road in the car headlights. Then the photographer creeps along the ground next to the car as it rolls forward, but behind the headlights so remains invisible. Once at a suitable distance, the photo is taken using a beanbag on the ground, and the car headlights for illumination.
50. Hill Pigeon
*Columba rupestris*
A few birds seen while driving in the way up to Lingshan, Beijing.

51. Snow Pigeon
1 bird seen at 4500 m. at the Balangshan Pass, Sichuan.

52. Ashy Wood Pigeon
*Columba pulchricollis*
A flock of 13 birds seen in northwestern lowlands of Taiwan at a Temple area, Hú běn tiān shèng gong, where we searched in vain for an overwintering Forest Wagtail – an excellent place for Malayan Night Heron though.

53. Oriental Turtle Dove
*Streptopelia orientalis orii*
Commonly seen in all lowland areas in mainland China, the Taiwan subspecies, *Streptopelia orientalis orii*, seen at Hú běn tiān shèng gong Temple.

54. Spotted Dove
*Streptopelia chinensis chinensis*
Common around most of lowland and urban habitats of China replaced by subspecies *formosana* in Taiwan.
55. Red Collared (Turtle) Dove
*Streptopelia tranquebarica*

Common in Taiwan lowlands.
56. Siberian Crane  
*Grus leucogeranus EN*

The star bird of the trip, and our principal target. A total of 40 birds seen in pairs or small groups in open areas of Poyang Lake, mainly in wetlands and lotus fields. We understood that during the peak of the wintering season, a flock of 600 favoured a single lotus field, and a photography hide had been set up with some amazing results. We were there right at the end of the season when the groups were setting up for the flight north. Good to see a 1cy bird – and reminisced that if all went well, and current conservation plans work, it should outlive us.
57. White-naped Crane  
*Grus vipio*  
Several flocks (>200 individuals) around Poyang Lake.

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58. Common Crane  
*Grus grus*  
Several flocks (>80 individuals) around Poyang Lake.

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59. Hooded Crane  
*Grus monacha CD*  
A flock of 4 birds seen in a satellite lake in the western part of Poyang Lake. Clearly most of the birds had already left. This should be the most common of the 4 species of the area, and we had to make do with very distant scope views almost at the last moment.
60. Swinhoe’s Rail  
*Coturnicops exquisitus* V

1 bird seen crossing the road in front of the car in a reed bed area, in the south-western part of Poyang Lake. Poyang is a known wintering area for this elusive species, where apparently it favours short grass in relatively dry areas. Rather a brief view, but given its tiny size, probably the only bird it could have been.

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61. Brown-eared (Eastern Water) Rail  
*Rallus indicus*

1 bird seen well in a reed bed area in the south-western part of Poyang Lake, showing the characteristic heavily marked under tail coverts and extensive side-barring. Western Water Rail should in theory also occur here. Rather a poor record shot taken in the persistent rain.
62. Brown Crake  
*Amaurornis akool*  
Several birds seen in Poyang Lake area in drainage ditches – more of a Waterhen than a Crake in size and behaviour.

63. White-breasted Waterhen  
*Amaurornis phoenicurus*  
Regularly seen in Taiwan wetlands.

64. Common Moorhen  
*Gallinula chloropus*  
Common in all visited wetlands of China and Taiwan.

65. Common Coot  
*Fulica atra*  
Common in all visited wetlands of China and Taiwan.

66. Bar-tailed Godwit  
*Limosa lapponica*  
A number of small flocks, usually mixed in with other species in Budai marshes, Taiwan
67. Eurasian Curlew
*Numenius arquata*
A few birds in Budai marshes and some birds heard calling at Poyang Lake.

68. Far-eastern Curlew
*Numenius madagascariensis NT*
Small numbers mixed in with groups of Eurasian Curlew in Budai marshes, Jiangjun Dist in Tainan City Taiwan.

69. Spotted Redshank
*Tringa erythropus*
Common in Poyang Lake area and also regularly seen in Taiwan wetlands.

70. Common Redshank
*Tringa totanus*
A few birds in Aogu wetlands, Taiwan.
71. Common Greenshank
*Tringa nebularia*

Regularly seen and heard in Poyang Lake and in Taiwan wetlands. This photo taken from the car at Aogu. Quite exceptional to see so many birds sleeping peacefully by the side of a road. Aogu really is a tribute to the perseverance of the conservation-conscious Taiwanese, having saved this huge area from development. Really a reserve that deserves far more global recognition given its strategic location on the Australo-Siberian Flyway.
72. Green Sandpiper
*Tringa ochropus*
Some birds in Poyang Lake and 1 bird in Aogu Wetlands, Taiwan.

73. Wood Sandpiper
*Tringa glareola*
Common in Poyang Lake, fewer seen in Taiwan wetlands.

74. Common Sandpiper
*Actitis hypoleucos*
Seen in all wetlands and rivers, both in China and in Taiwan.

75. Great Knot
*Calidris tenuirostris*
A flock of 40+ seen at one location, mixed in with Bar-tailed Godwits, Grey Plovers, Pacific Golden Plovers and Little Terns in Budai marshes, Jiangjun Dist in Tainan City Taiwan, Taiwan.
76. Red-necked Stint
*Calidris ruficollis*
Small numbers seen in Budai marshes, Taiwan.

77. Dunlin
*Calidris alpina*
Some small flocks in Budai marshes, Taiwan.

78. Greater Painted Snipe
*Rostratula benghalensis*
2 birds found in an irrigation ditch in Maguang fields, Tuku Township in Yunlin County Taiwan. Slaty-breasted Rail is also possible in these ditches, and was our other target in this area. The whole area, although it is dominated by intensive agriculture (rice, sugar cane, vegetables) is extremely rich in birdlife. One could spend a long time cruising the tracks that criss-cross the fields to see a huge number of birds. This is the place where Oriental Plover stops on migration. Given the number of pipits, wagtails and Drongos present, it seems that pesticide use is minimal.
79. Pheasant-tailed Jacana
Hydrophasianus chirurgus

Common in Pheasant-tailed Jacana Ecological Education Park, Hulipu/Guantien, Taiwan. This group photographed in a roadside Water Chestnut field where we stopped to buy the chestnuts. This reserve is another fine example of Taiwanese persistence in conservation of critical wetlands – here, they seem to find a balance between the competing preferences of Jacanas and humans for Water Chestnuts.
80. Black-winged Stilt  
*Himantopus himantopus*

20+ in Jacana Ecological Education Park, Hulipu/Guantien, Taiwan, and also fairly common in Aogu marshes, Taiwan, where they pose perfectly by the roadside.
81. Avocet
*Recurvirostra avosetta*

A single flock of 15 in Aogu marshes, Taiwan. Surprisingly, none seen at Poyang where thousands had overwintered.

82. Pacific Golden Plover
*Pluvialis fulva*

Commonly scattered around Budai marshes, Jiangjun Dist in Tainan City, Taiwan. This bird photographed at Aogu.
83. Grey Plover  
*Charadrius hiaticula*  
A few birds in Budai marshes, Taiwan.

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84. Little Ringed Plover  
*Charadrius dubius*  
7 birds in a rice field in Maguang fields, Tuku Township in Yunlin County, Taiwan. Like all the birds in this area, very confiding in the freshly planted rice.
85. Lesser Sand Plover  
*Charadrius mongolus*  
Common in Budai marshes, Taiwan. Also several birds in Aogu marshes.

86. Greater Sand Plover  
*Charadrius leschenaultii*  
Less than 10 birds in Budai marshes, Taiwan.

87. Northern Lapwing  
*Vanellus vanellus*  
Scattered individuals regularly observed around Poyang Lake

88. Grey-headed Lapwing  
*Vanellus duvaucelli*  
Commonly seen in Poyang Lake area, and also in all wetlands of Taiwan.
89. Heuglin’s Gull
*Larus heuglini*
A few scattered individuals in Poyang area wetlands.

90. Vega Gull
*Larus vegae*
Some small flocks, at Poyang Lake and regularly seen Taiwan wetlands.

91. Black-headed Gull
*Larus ridibundus*
Common in all wetlands and rivers visited, both in China and in Taiwan.
92. Saunders's Gull
*Larus saundersi* EN

5 adults and two juveniles seen in Budai wetlands, feeding on crabs. A really beautiful gull, especially in flight.
93. Caspian Tern  
*Hydroprogne caspia*  
Common in Budai and Aogu wetlands, Taiwan.

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94. Greater Crested Tern  
*Sterna bergii*  
1 bird flying over the sea at Aogu wetlands, Taiwan.

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95. Little Tern  
*Sternus albifrons*  
Common in Budai wetlands, Taiwan.
96. Whiskered Tern
*Chlidonias hybridus*

Common in Poyang Lake, and also in Aogu and Budai wetlands, Taiwan.
97. Oriental Honey Buzzard  
*Pernis ptilorhynchus orientalis*

2 close birds seen in Alishan, Taiwan.
98. Black-shouldered Kite
*Elanus caeruleus*
Not less than 5 birds in different habitats in Taiwan lowlands.

99. Black-eared Kite
*Milvus lineatus*
A single bird at the Pheasant-tailed Jacana Ecological Education Wetland Reserve, Taiwan.

100. Lammergeier
*Gypaetus barbatus*
At least two adult birds seen several times in Balangshan, Sichuan.
101. Himalayan Griffon
*Gyps himalayensis*

3-4 birds in Balangshan, Sichuan. Some giving nice close ups perched and in flight.
102. Cinereous Vulture
*Aegypius monachus*

4 birds seen in Lingshan, Beijing.
103. Crested Serpent Eagle
*Spilornis cheela hoya*

At least 8 birds including 1 immature seen or heard around forested areas of Dasyueshan and Alishan.
104. Eastern Marsh Harrier
*Circus spilonotus*

1 bird seen in Poyang Lake, and another bird in Aogu marshes, Taiwan.

105. Hen Harrier
*Circus cyaneus*

1 bird seen in Poyang Lake.
106. Crested Goshawk
Accipiter trivirgatus formosae

1 bird, presumably of the Taiwanese subspecies seen perched from the highway in Pingtung County, Taiwan.
107. Besra  
**Accipiter virgatus fuscipectus**  
2 birds of the local subspecies seen in some lightly forested areas of Taiwan lowlands.

108. Eurasian Sparrowhawk  
**Accipiter nisus**  
One female seen chasing a Waxwing flock at Lingshan.

109. Common Buzzard  
**Buteo buteo**  
1 bird seen on the way to Lingshan, from Beijing.

110. Black Eagle  
**Ictinaetus malayensis**  
2 individuals seen. 1 at Dasyueshan and 1 on the way to Alishan, soaring with a Crested Serpent Eagle, Taiwan.
111. Golden Eagle
*Aquila chrysaetos*

1 adult bird seen close in Balangshan, Sichuan.
112. Common Kestrel
*Falco tinnunculus*
Common in Poyang Lake area. Also some birds around Chengdu.

113. Peregrine Falcon
*Falco peregrinus*
1 bird seen from the highway in Pingtung County, Taiwan.

114. Little Grebe
*Tachybaptus rufficollis poggei*
A future split, a few white-eyed birds in Beijing rivers, and common in Poyang Lake and Taiwan wetlands.

115. Great Crested Grebe
Common in open waters of Poyang Lake.

116. Great Cormorant
*Phalacrocorax carbo*
Common in all visited wetlands, both in China and in Taiwan.
117. Little Egret
_Egretta garzetta_
Fairly common in all visited wetlands, both in China and in Taiwan.

118. Grey Heron
_Ardea cinerea_
Common in all visited wetlands, both in China and in Taiwan.

119. Great Egret
_Casmerodius albus_
Fairly common in all visited wetlands, both in China and in Taiwan.

120. Eastern Cattle Egret
_Bulbulcus ibis_
Scattered individuals seen around fields and wetlands in the western plain of Taiwan.

121. Chinese Pond Heron
_Ardeola bacchus_
1 bird at the Jacana Wetland Reserve, Taiwan.
122. Black-crowned Night Heron
*Nycticorax nycticorax*

Regularly seen at Poyang and relatively common at Aogu Wetlands, Taiwan, here within a few metres of the car in perfect lighting.
123. Malayan Night Heron
*Gorsachius melanolophus*

4 birds at Ren Sheng Si Di Cang Yuan or Nántóu di cáng yuàn Temple in Nántóu county (compensation for missing the Forest Wagtail), and a several birds in Budai Wetlands, Taiwan. All visitors to Taiwan make the observation that it is far easier to see this species there than elsewhere.
124. **Yellow Bittern**  
*Ixobrychus sinensis*

2 adults in Aogu Wetlands, Taiwan – here just a few metres from the car in perfect light.
125. Sacred Ibis
*Threskiornis aethiopicus*
An introduced species, 3 birds seen in Budai and Aogu Wetlands, Taiwan.

126. Eurasian Spoonbill
*Platalea leucorodia*
Some flocks in Poyang Lake.

127. Black-faced Spoonbill
*Platalea minor V*
One of our targets in Taiwan - two flocks of 18 and around 15 birds in Budai and Aogu Wetlands, Taiwan.

128. Oriental Stork
*Ciconia boyciana V*
Common in Poyang area, where at least 800 birds seen in three days.
129. Brown Shrike
*Lanius cristatus*

Regular in Taiwan lowlands.
130. Long-tailed Shrike  
*Lanius schach*  
Common around Poyang Lake and also several birds in Taiwan open areas, presumably of the local subspecies.

131. Chinese Grey Shrike  
*Lanius sphenocercus*  
1 single bird in western fields of Poyang Lake.

132. Eurasian Jay  
*Garrulus glandarius*  
A few birds seen in Longcanggou and Wolong, Sichuan.

133. Red-billed Blue Magpie  
*Urocissa erythrorhyncha*  
A few birds in Sichuan forests at lower elevations and on the drive down from Lingshan to Beijing.
134. Azure-winged Magpie
*Cyanopica cyanus*
Several birds seen from the car, on the way from Beijing to Lingshan.

135. Magpie
*Pica pica*
Common throughout the places visited, both China and Taiwan.

136. Grey Treepie
*Dendrocitta formosae*
Several birds in Huben Village, Alishan and elsewhere in the southern part of Taiwan.
137. Spotted Nutcracker
_Nucifraga caryocatactes_

2 birds spp. interdicta seen in Lingshan (photo) and 1 bird spp. owstoni in Dasyueshan, Taiwan – both very different to the European forms and both with very different voices. The Taiwanese birds were rather skulking, seen around 2500m in dense forest understory.
138. Red-billed Chough  
*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*  
Few birds in Balangshan, Sichuan.

139. Yellow-billed Chough  
*Pyrrhocorax graculus*  
Common in higher areas of Balangshan, Sichuan, especially around the monument.
140. Daurian Jackdaw
*Corvus dauricus*
A single flock, mixed with Carrion Crows in the way from Beijing to Lingshan.

141. Carrion Crow
*Corvus corone*
Common around the places visited in China.

142. Large-billed Crow
*Corvus macrorhynchos mandschuricus and colonorum*
Common in northern China (Lingshan) and some birds around Poyang Lake and Sichuan.

143. Maroon Oriole
*Oriolus trailii ardens*
2 birds at the Hú bèn tiān shèng gōng Temple near Huben Village, Taiwan. Apparently this is one of the best places to see them, and they were almost the first birds we saw just after dawn. This was an exceptionally good area for lowland endemics.

144. Grey-chinned Minivet
*Pericrocotus solaris griseogularis*
Common in forested areas of Taiwan – local subspecies.
145. Long-tailed Minivet
*Pericrocotus ethologus*
4 birds in Longcanggou, Sichuan.

146. Black Drongo
*Dicrurus macrocercus harterti*
Common in cultivated areas of Taiwan – an indicator species for low-pesticide agriculture.

147. Bronzed Drongo
*Dicrurus aenius*
One seen around the temple at Ren Sheng Si Di Cang Yuan or Nántóu di cáng yuán Temple in Nántóu county Taiwan.

148. Black-naped Monarch
*Hypothymis azurea oberholseri*
2 individuals seen in Dasyueshan and Huben, Taiwan.

149. Bohemian Waxwing
*Bombycilla garrulus*
A couple of flocks of around 40 birds in a mixed deciduous forest at Lingshan.
150. Japanese Waxwing
*Bombycilla japonica*
Around 10-12 birds mixed in flocks of Bohemian Waxwing at Lingshan. This photo was taken against the evening sun after the mixed flock we had been watching were flushed by a Sparrowhawk. As the flock banked to pass under the cliff below us, the light highlighted the tail tips making it easy to see the Japanese (red tail tips) mixed in with the commoner Bohemian (yellow tail tips).

151. White-throated Dipper
*Cinclus cinclus*
One single bird in the river in Wolong, Sichuan. Tang Jun told us that this was the first bird he had seen on the river since the 2008 earthquake, when both this species and Brown Dipper disappeared from the area.
152. Blue Rock Thrush  
*Monticola solitarius philippensis*

2 males in Pingtung, one seen from the highway, the other at Shuangliou Forest Recreation Area where we stopped to try for Taiwan Magpie. Shuangliou is yet another beautifully established Taiwanese nature reserve with some very nice intact subtropical lowland (190m) forest, which unfortunately we had no time to visit. This is one of the few areas outside the regular areas in the north where it is possible to see the magpie.

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153. Taiwan Whistling Thrush  
*Myophonus insularis*

Common in forested hills in Taiwan. This bird photographed at a bird photographer’s stakeout (mossy log in the middle of a parking lot) behind the toll booth at Dasyueshan Visitor Centre, at 2275m. This is a good place for Island Thrush, which we missed…
One single bird seen in Alishan, Taiwan, after we had given up waiting for a Taiwan Cupwing at a photography site. Very happy to get this photo of a bird that is usually a blurry shape in the undergrowth.

154. Scaly Thrush
**Zoothera dauma horsfieldi**

Scaly Thrush © Mike May
155. Chinese Blackbird
*Turdus merula mandarinus*
Some birds in Beijing area, and common in Poyang and Sichuan.

156. Chestnut Thrush
*Turdus rubrocanus gouldii*
Around 6-8 birds seen in Wolong, Sichuan, whilst waiting for the Golden Pheasants. Beautiful birds in fantastic surroundings, with the calls of Golden Pheasants, Laughingthrushes and Babax all around.
157. Brown-headed Thrush
*Turdus chrysolaus*
One single bird seen at Poyang Lake and, again, one single bird in Budai wetlands, Taiwan.

158. Red-throated Thrush
*Turdus ruficollis ruficollis*
Fairly common in Lingshan forests.

159. White-browed Shortwing
*Brachypteryx montana goodfellowi*
2 individuals heard in Alishan, Taiwan, but remained hidden.

160. Bluethroat
*Luscinia svecica*
One single bird in a rice field edge at Poyang Lake.

161. White-browed Bush Robin
*Tarsiger indicus*
A total of 4 birds seen around Taiwan forests in Alishan area.
162. Collared (Johnston's) Bush Robin
*Tarsiger johnstonii*
Several birds in Taiwan forested hills, both in Dasyueshan and Alishan.

163. Red-flanked Bluetail
*Tarsiger cyanurus*
Individuals seen in Lingshan, Longcanggou, Wolong and in Alishan, Taiwan.
164. Oriental Magpie Robin
*Copsychus saularis*
One bird heard and 1 seen in Poyang.

165. Blue-fronted Redstart
*Phoenicurus frontalis*
1 male seen near the temple in orchards above Wolong, Sichuan. This area was quite rich in birds including Sooty Tit, Rufous-breasted Accentor and Olive-backed Pipit.
166. Daurian Redstart  
*Phoenicurus auroreus*  
Common, but in small numbers, seen in all the visited lowlands. Not seen on Taiwan.
167. White-winged Redstart  
*Phoenicurus erythrogaster*  
One male at Lingshan that proved very elusive and difficult to photograph but a really stunning bird nonetheless.

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168. Plumbeous Water Redstart  
*Rhyacornis fuliginosus*  
One bird in Longcanggou, two more in Wolong and one male in Alishan, Taiwan.

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169. White-tailed Robin  
*Mathiole leucura montium*  
One bird seen and three more heard in Alishan, Taiwan.

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170. White-crowned Forktail  
*Enicurus leschenaulti*  
Two birds in a small creek in Longconggau. Tang Jun saw a Little Forktail at Balangshan at a surprisingly high elevation. No Forktails seen in Taiwan, but no time spent really looking and waiting for them.

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171. Red-billed Starling  
*Sturnus sericus*  
Common around China’s lowlands.
172. White-cheeked Starling
*Sturnus cinereus*
Common in lowlands such as Poyang and Chengdu area. Scarce in Taiwan.

173. Black-collared Starling
*Sturnus nigricollis*
Several small flocks in Poyang area.

174. Crested Myna
*Acridotheres cristatellus*
Common in all urban areas.

175. Javan Myna
*Acridotheres javanicus*
Common on Taiwan – one of five introduced species on Taiwan

176. Eurasian Nuthatch
*Sitta europaea sinensis*
Common in the forests of Lingshan and Sichuan mountains.
177. Winter Wren
*Troglodytes troglodytes*

A few birds spp. szetschuanus calling in Sichuan areas and several spp. taivanus seen (photographed) and heard in Alishan, Taiwan.
178. Chinese Penduline Tit
*Remiz consobrinus*

A couple of birds seen in Poyang area reed beds.

179. Willow Tit
*Parus montanus*

Common in Lingshan and fairly common in Sichuan forests. Given that it was about -8°C at Lingshan, remarkably hardy birds.
180. Coal Tit  
*Parus ater ptilosus*  
Several birds of the local subspecies in Alishan, Taiwan.

181. Yellow-bellied Tit  
*Parus venustulus*  
A few birds in Longcanggou and in Wolong, Sichuan.

182. Japanese Tit  
*Parus minor*  
Common in forested areas of Sichuan and in Lingshan.

183. Green-backed Tit  
*Parus monticolus*  
Several pp. yunnanensis in Sichuan and fairly common spp. insperatus in Taiwan.

184. Yellow Tit  
*Parus holsti*  
A couple of birds in Dasyueshan at the Swinhoe’s Pheasant site in a mixed flock and again in Alishan, Taiwan.
185. Chestnut-bellied (Varied) Tit  
*Parus varius castaneoventris*

One distant bird flying over in a mixed flock, picked out initially by call at the site in Alishan, where there are large posters of the bird for visitors – one of two places in Taiwan to see it.

186. Yellow-browed Tit  
*Sylviparus modestus*

A single flock of 8-10 birds, in a mixed flock in Longcanggou, Sichuan. Very un-tit-like.
187. Silver-throated Tit
*Aegithalos caudatus glaucogularis*

A very approachable flock of 6-8 birds in the bitter cold at Lingshan.
188. Black-throated Tit
*Aegithalos concinnus*
Several birds in Dasyueshan, and again in Alishan, Taiwan – the local subspecies.

189. Sooty Tit
*Aegithalos fuliginosus*
A flock of 5-7 birds seen near the Temple above Wolong, Sichuan.

190. Barn Swallow
*Hirundo rustica*
A few birds in Chengdu and common in Taiwan.
191. Pacific Swallow
*Hirundo tahitica*

Common in southern half of Taiwan – here at Aogu.
192. Striated Swallow
*Hirundo striolata stanfordi*
Fairly common in Taiwan, in lowlands but also in mid-elevation hills.

193. Asian House Martin
*Delichon dasypus*
Several birds in different places in Taiwan.

194. Grey Throated (Plain) Martin
*Riparia paludicola chinensis*
5-6 birds around a breeding colony under a bridge in Budai wetlands, Taiwan.
195. Flamecrest
*Regulus goodfellowi*

2 Individuals seen well at Alishan, Taiwan – easy to pick out with its typical *Regulus* call.
196. Collared Finchbill
*Spizixos semitorques*
Several birds spp. semitorques in Poyang and in Sichuan lowlands and spp. cinereicapillus fairly common in Taiwan lowland areas.

197. Chinese (Light-vented) Bulbul
*Pycnonotus sinensis*
Common spp. sinensis in China, and also spp. formosae common in urban and rural areas in Taiwan.
198. Styan’s (Taiwan) Bulbul
_Pycnonotus taivanus_

10-12 birds in Pingtung, southern Taiwan in low scrubby hillside areas. This habitat is also reliable for Taiwan Hwamei, which we heard. It was a long way to drive for this, and on such a short trip, questionable whether it was worthwhile….
199. Black Bulbul
*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*
Fairly common in all visited places in Taiwan (endemic subspecies niggerimus), 1 bird heard at Poyang of the white-headed subspecies.

200. Zitting Cisticola
*Cisticola juncidis*
One bird heard in Poyang Lake, and several birds seen and heard in Taiwan lowlands and agricultural fields.
201. Bright-headed Cisticola
*Cisticola exilis curtoisi*

One bird seen after it responded immediately to playback at a fallow rice area in Gou-ba in Douliu City. Out of the breeding season, these birds look very similar to Zitting, but are distinguishable by a buff eye stripe and the warm buff nape.
202. Beijing Babbler  
*Ropophilus pekinensis*  
4-5 birds seen in the sea buckthorns at Lingshan

203. Yellow-bellied Prinia  
*Prinia flaviventris*  
One single bird at Gou-ba in Douliu City, Taiwan.
204. Plain Prinia
*Prinia inornata*
Common in wetlands and open areas in both Poyang Lake and Taiwan.

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205. Japanese White-eye
*Zosterops japonicus simplex*
Common in different habitats throughout Taiwan (local subspecies without rusty flanks).
206. Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler  
*Cettia fortipes dividiana*  
heard and seen at Poyang, Longcanggou and Wolong and at least one bird of subspecies robustipes heard at km 23 on the road to Dasyueshan, Taiwan.

207. Yellowish-bellied Bush Warbler  
*Cettia acanthizoides*  
Commonly heard in Taiwan forests, mainly in high altitude areas such as Alishan.
208. Marsh Grassbird  
*Locustella pryeri NT*

2 birds in a tiny reed island surrounded by burnt reeds, in the western part of Poyang Lake. This was our target on the last morning, arriving in thick fog at the lakeside at a known site to find most of the reeds burnt. We trudged through the mud and rain getting cold and wet and finally Steven tried playback at an impossibly small patch of grass, and 3 birds popped up. There aren’t many pictures of this Near Threatened and declining bird, so we are happy with the result.
209. Rufous-faced Warbler
*Abroscopus albogularis fulvifacies*
Commonly seen and heard in mountain forests in Taiwan.

210. Masked Laughingthrush
*Garrulax perspicillatus*
4-5 birds in Poyang Lake area.

211. Plain Laughingthrush
*Garrulax davidi*
2-3 birds in the Sea Buckthorn at Lingshan.

212. Barred Laughingthrush
*Garrulax lunulatus*
A few birds heard in the forests around the temple on the hillside above Wolong, Sichuan.
213. Giant Laughingthrush  
*Garrulax maximus*  
A couple of birds heard in Wolong, Sichuan.

214. Spotted Laughingthrush  
*Garrulax ocellatus*  
4 birds seen in Longcanggou, Sichuan.

215. Rusty Laughingthrush  
*Garrulax poecilorhynchus*  
One bird seen well in Dasyueshan, Taiwan

216. White-browed Laughingthrush  
*Garrulax sannio*  
Several birds seen around villages in Poyang Lake.
217. Elliot’s Laughingthrush  
*Garrulax elliotii*

Common in forests around Wolong, Sichuan. Some confiding birds seen feeding next to roadside restaurants.
218. White-whiskered Laughingthrush
*Garrulax morrisonianus*

A few birds seen in high altitude forests in Alishan, Taiwan.
219. Red-winged Laughingthrush
*Garrulax formosus*
2-3 birds in Longcangou, Sichuan.

220. Black-faced Laughingthrush
*Garrulax affinis*
Fairly common in Wolong forests and foothills, Sichuan.
221. Steere’s Liocichla
*Liocichla steerii*

Several confiding birds seen in Dasyueshan and in Alishan, Taiwan. This bird photographed at the same location as the Taiwan Whistling Thrush. No Emei Shan Liocichla seen or heard at Longcangggou.
222. Taiwan Scimitar Babbler  
*Pomatorhinus musicus*  
Seen in lush lowland forest with bamboo at Hú běn tiān shèng gong (Maroon Oriole site) and again in Alishan, Taiwan.

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223. Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler  
*Pomatorhinus ruficollis*  
A single bird in a mixed flock with Fulvetas and tits in Longcanggou, Sichuan.
224. Taiwan Cupwing
*Pnoepyga pusilla formosana*
A single bird heard in Alishan, Taiwan.

225. Rufous-capped Babbler
*Stachyris ruficeps praecognita*
Several birds seen in Taiwan forests, mainly in Alishan, commonly seen in mixed flocks, heard regularly in most forests of Taiwan.

226. Chinese Babax
*Babax lanceolatus*
Heard at the temple on the hillside above Wolong and again, a group of birds seen well just behind the hotel in Wolong, Sichuan.

227. Red-billed Leiothrix
*Leiothrix lutea*
A few birds seen in Sichuan, especially in Longcanggou.

228. Chinese Hwamei
*Garrulax canorus*
Seen at Longcanggou and Poyang.
229. Taiwan Hwamei
*Garrulax taewanus*

Seen at Dasyueshan and heard in Pingtung.

230. Taiwan Barwing
*Actinodura morrisoniana*

Several birds seen in Dasyueshan and again, in Alishan, Taiwan.
231. Golden-breasted Fulvetta  
*Alcippe chrysotis*

2 birds in Longcanggou, Sichuan in a mixed feeding flock, with tits and Green Shrike Babbler.

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232. Grey-hooded  
(Streak-throated) Fulvetta  
*Alcippe cinereiceps*

A group of 8-9 birds seen close-by at Longcanggou in bamboo. IOC taxonomy split Streak-throated into Grey-hooded, Manipur and Taiwan.
233. Dusky Fulvetta
*Alcippe brunnea*

One bird seen and photographed at the Hú bèn tiān shèng gōng temple near Huben, Taiwan.

234. Taiwan Fulvetta

One distant bird heard in Alishan

235. Grey-cheeked (Morrison’s) Fulvetta
*Alcippe morrisonia*

Several birds spp. morrisonia seen in most of the visited forests in Taiwan. The IOC taxonomy split Grey-cheeked into David’s (Yunnan), Huet’s (SE China) and Morrison’s (Taiwan).
Poor record shots helped identify a mystery bird in the feeding flock seen at Longcanggou. These, apart from a Green-backed Tit, were the only pictures of the flock possible, it appeared and moved on quickly.

236. Green Shrike Babbler
Pteruthius xanthoclorus
237. White-eared (Taiwan) Sibia
*Heterophasia auricularis*

Fairly common in all forests visited in Taiwan. Charismatic and photogenic birds.
238. Taiwan Yuhina
_Yuhina brunneiceps_

Commonly seen in all forests visited in Taiwan.
239. Three-toed Parrotbill
*Paradoxornis paradoxus*
A single bird heard and briefly seen in the bamboo at the top of the drive at Longcanggou.

240. Vinous-throated Parrotbill
*Paradoxornis webbianus*
Seen on several occasions in Poyang Lake area and again in Aogu wetlands.

241. Ashy-throated Parrotbill
*Paradoxornis alphonsianus*
A confiding flock of 30-40 birds in a bamboo forest in Longcanggou town.
242. Golden Parrotbill
*Paradoxornis verreauxi*
A flock of 15-20 birds seen in Longcanggou, Sichuan, around the hotel at a much lower elevation than normal.

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243. Oriental Skylark
*Alauda gulgula*
Some birds spp. gulgula in Poyang Lake area and spp. wattersi common in all agricultural and wetlands in Taiwan.

![Oriental Skylark © Mike May](image)
244. Fire-breasted Flowerpecker  
*Dicaeium ignipectus formosum*  
Common in forests, hills and lowlands in Taiwan.

245. Eurasian Tree Sparrow  
*Passer montanus*  
Common in all urban and agricultural land both in China and Taiwan.

246. White Wagtail  
*Motacilla alba*  
Common in all urban and agricultural land both in China and Taiwan. Also some birds in quite high altitude in Sichuan.
247. Eastern Yellow (Green-headed) Wagtail
Motacilla flava taivana

4 birds in lettuce fields in Maguang, Taiwan.
248. Grey Wagtail
*Motacilla cinerea*
Fairly common in mountain streams in Sichuan and common in rivers and streams in Taiwan.

249. Olive-backed Pipit
*Anthus hodgsoni*
Several flocks seen in Wolong foothills, and again some birds seen and heard in Taiwan wetlands.

250. Red-throated Pipit
*Anthus cervinus*
One bird seen in Augou wetlands, Taiwan.

251. Buff-bellied Pipit
*Anthus rubescens*
Common in all wetlands around Poyang Lake.

252. Richard's Pipit
*Anthus richardi*
One bird heard and seen at Poyang Lake.
253. Rufous-breasted Accentor
*Prunella strophiata*
At least 8 birds in orchards in Wolong foothills, Sichuan.

254. Siberian Accentor
*Prunella montanella*
Around 4 birds seen and heard in Lingshan – one of our targets for that site.

255. Scaly-breasted Munia
*Lonchura punctulata*
Several flocks in Poyang Lake.

256. Black-headed Munia
*Lonchura malacca formosana*
A few birds in Taiwan wetlands and lowland.

257. Brambling
*Fringilla montifringilla*
Nice mixed flocks with Rosefinches in Lingshan forests.
258. Grey-capped Greenfinch  
*Carduelis sinica*  
Common in agricultural, forest edges and urban areas in China.

259. Eurasian Siskin  
*Carduelis spinus*  
Several wintering flocks heard and seen in Dasyueshan, and also a few more in Alishan, Taiwan.

260. Plain Mountain Finch  
*Leucosticte nemoricola*  
A few birds flying by, in Balangshan, around 3800m. (flock was about 20-30)

261. Brandt’s Mountain Finch  
*Leucosticte brandti*  
A flock briefly seen in Balangshan, around 4000 m.

262. Long-tailed Rosefinch  
*Uragus sibiricus ussuriensis and sibiricus*  
Both spp. seen in continental China, at Lingshan unidentified ssp at Longcanggou, Sichuan.
263. Pallas’s Rosefinch
*Carpodacus roseus*

Nice flocks seen in Lingshan forests, this photo by Ponç Feliu.
264. Red Crossbill
Loxia curvirostra
A few birds seen and heard in Longcanggou, Sichuan.

265. Brown Bullfinch
Pyrrhula nipalensis
One single bird seen amongst a flock of siskins in Dasyueshan, Taiwan.

266. Beavan’s Bullfinch
Pyrrhula erythaca
One bird heard in Alishan, Taiwan.

267. Hawfinch
Coccothraustes coccothraustes
One single bird seen in Lingshan.
268. Chinese Grosbeak
*Eophona migratoria*

A flock of around 12 birds seen in Poyang Lake and, again, some single birds in Sichuan area.
269. White-winged Grosbeak
*Mycerobas carnipes*
A flock seen in Balangshan, at around 2,200 m. high, at the last tunnel (Monal site) on the Wolong to Balangshan road.

270. Godlewski’s Bunting
*Emberiza godlewskii*
At least 6 birds in Lingshan.

271. Meadow Bunting
*Emberiza cioides*
A few birds in Lingshan.

272. Reed Bunting
*Emberiza schoeniclus*
At least 2 birds, presumably this species and not Pallas’s, seen at Poyang.
273. Little Bunting

*Emberiza pusilla*

Several birds in Poyang Lake and 3 birds in Longcanggou, Sichuan.
274. Black-faced Bunting
*Emberiza spodocephala*

Common in Lake Poyang, and also a few birds seen in Sichuan foothills.

MAMMALS:

Pallas’s Squirrel
Red and White Giant Flying Squirrel: seen whilst out owling on Taiwan
Formosan Rock Macaque: seen at Alishan, Taiwan
Chinese Goral: one seen at the Monal site on the road to Balangshan
Taiwan Barking Deer: one disturbed in undergrowth whilst watching Rusty Laughingthrush, Dasyueshan, Taiwan