

Beijing and Shenzhen 17th to 23 of September 2017

I was on a business trip to both Northern and Southern China- my third- and I set of a couple of days for birding in the Beijing area. As for Shenzhen, the neighbor of Hong Kong, I only did a short walk in a park, so only a few species recorded there.

Beijing

I stayed at the Lufthansa Kempinski Hotel, so I had walking distance to the park and lakes at the Agricultural Exhibition Center. I was there in October last year, and found it to be quite good. Given the number of Chinese bird photographers there, it seems to be a good spot for birding. The most common bird here was by far Yellow-browed Warbler. On migration, of course. (Interesting enough, last year in October, the Pallas Leaf Warbler was the most common). In addition I had Dusky Warbler, Taiga Flycatcher, Chinese Grosbeak (picture below), Red-rumped Swallow, Azure-winged Magpie,



Black-Crowned Night Heron, Little Grebe, Spotted Dove.

I also visited the park by the Forbidden City and the Summer Palace with the Kunming Lake. New species added were Large-billed Crow, Hobby and Amur Falcon. In fact, in the evening at the Summer palace it seemed to be a migration of falcons. I had 15-20 of them, mostly Amurs but also some Hobbies- but they can be difficult if you have no

experience with the Amur Falcon. (older males are no problem, though)

Ma Chang and Yeyahu

At the 19th I was together with Terry Townsend from Birding Beijing. He is excellent, and you should visit his website before you go: <https://birdingbeijing.com/>



Ma Chang (picture above) and Yeyahu is situated quite close to each other, about 80 km- 1 1/2 drive north-west of Beijing. Ma Chang is a sandy area with grasslands surrounding a reservoir. It has windmills, provides different recreational activities and agricultural activity. So, no Garden of Eden this spot. However, due to the habitats it is good on migration.

Yeyahu (Wild Duck Lake) is a nature reserve where there is an entrance where you pay a fee (about 50 Yuan), with a good network of paths and with the biggest birding tower I have ever seen. The list of species we had on these two sites is pasted below:



Male, Amur Falcon, on migration Yeyahu.

| English and Scientific Names | Chinese Name | Number Recorded |
|--|--------------|-----------------|
| SWAN GOOSE <i>Anser cygnoides</i> VU | 鴻雁 | 13 |
| MANDARIN DUCK <i>Aix galericulata</i> | 鴛鴦 | 1 |
| GADWALL <i>Anas strepera</i> | 赤膀鴨 | 2 |
| FALCATED DUCK <i>Anas falcata</i> | 罗纹鴨 | 6 |
| MALLARD <i>Anas platyrhynchos</i> | 綠頭鴨 | 8 |
| CHINESE SPOT-BILLED DUCK <i>Anas zonorhyncha</i> | 斑嘴鴨 | 7 |
| GARGANEY <i>Anas querquedula</i> | 白眉鴨 | 38 |
| EURASIAN TEAL <i>Anas crecca</i> | 綠翅鴨 | 5 |
| RED-CRESTED POCHARD <i>Netta rufina</i> | 赤嘴潛鴨 | 1 |
| FERRUGINOUS POCHARD <i>Aythya nyroca</i> NT | 白眼潛鴨 | 1 |
| LITTLE GREBE <i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i> | 小鸕鷀 | 8 |

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| GREAT CRESTED GREBE <i>Podiceps cristatus</i> | 凤头鸕鶿 | 10 |
| EURASIAN SPOONBILL <i>Platalea leucorodia</i> | 白琵鹭 | 13 |
| GREAT BITTERN <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> | 大麻鳎 | 1 |
| BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT HERON <i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i> | 夜鹭 | 5 |
| CHINESE POND HERON <i>Ardeola bacchus</i> | 池鹭 | 5 |
| GREY HERON <i>Ardea cinerea</i> | 苍鹭 | 6 |
| PURPLE HERON <i>Ardea purpurea</i> | 草鹭 | 4 |
| EASTERN GREAT EGRET <i>Ardea modesta</i> | 大白鹭 | 2 |
| LITTLE EGRET <i>Egretta garzetta</i> | 白鹭 | 29 |
| GREAT CORMORANT <i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i> | 普通鸬鹚 | 49 |
| OSPREY <i>Pandion haliaetus</i> | 鸢 | 2 |
| CRESTED HONEY BUZZARD <i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i> | 凤头蜂鹰 | 30 |
| BLACK KITE <i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i> | 黑鸢 | 30 |
| BLACK-WINGED KITE <i>Elanus caeruleus</i> | 黑翅鸢 | 1 |
| SHORT-TOED SNAKE EAGLE <i>Circaetus gallicus</i> | 短趾雕 | 2 |
| EASTERN MARSH HARRIER <i>Circus spilonotus</i> | 白腹鸢 | 5 |
| HEN HARRIER <i>Circus cyaneus</i> | 白尾鸢 | 1 |
| PIED HARRIER <i>Circus melanoleucos</i> | 鹊鸢 | 1 |
| EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK <i>Accipiter nisus</i> | 雀鹰 | 14 |
| GREATER SPOTTED EAGLE <i>Aquila clanga</i> VU | 乌雕 | 1 |
| AMUR FALCON <i>Falco amurensis</i> | 阿穆尔隼 | 9 |
| EURASIAN HOBBY <i>Falco subbuteo</i> | 燕隼 | 5 |
| PEREGRINE FALCON <i>Falco peregrinus</i> | 游隼 | 1 |
| COMMON MOORHEN <i>Gallinula chloropus</i> | 黑水鸡(红骨顶) | 1 |
| COMMON COOT <i>Fulica atra</i> | 骨顶鸡(白骨顶) | 18 |
| GREY-HEADED LAPWING <i>Vanellus cinereus</i> | 灰头麦鸡 | 1 |
| PACIFIC GOLDEN PLOVER <i>Pluvialis fulva</i> | 金斑鸻 | 10 |
| LITTLE RINGED PLOVER <i>Charadrius dubius</i> | 金眶鸻 | 2 |
| COMMON SNIPE <i>Gallinago gallinago</i> | 扇尾沙锥 | 9 |
| 'EASTERN' BLACK-TAILED GODWIT <i>Limosa [limosa] melanuroides</i> | 黑尾塍鸻 | 2 |
| SPOTTED REDSHANK <i>Tringa erythropus</i> | 鹤鹑 | 1 |
| MARSH SANDPIPER <i>Tringa stagnatilis</i> | 泽鹑 | 1 |
| COMMON GREENSHANK <i>Tringa nebularia</i> | 青脚鹑 | 1 |
| GREEN SANDPIPER <i>Tringa ochropus</i> | 白腰草鹑 | 1 |
| WOOD SANDPIPER <i>Tringa glareola</i> | 林鹑 | 3 |
| BLACK-HEADED GULL <i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i> | 红嘴鸥 | 47 |
| ORIENTAL TURTLE DOVE <i>Streptopelia orientalis</i> | 山斑鸠 | 2 |
| EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE <i>Streptopelia decaocto</i> | 灰斑鸠 | 16 |
| SPOTTED DOVE <i>Spilopelia chinensis</i> | 珠颈斑鸠 | 1 |
| GREY-CAPPED PYGMY WOODPECKER <i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i> | 星头啄木鸟 | 1 |
| BROWN SHRIKE <i>Lanius cristatus</i> | 红尾伯劳 | 1 |

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| LONG-TAILED SHRIKE <i>Lanius schach</i> | 棕背伯劳 | 1 |
| CHINESE GREY SHRIKE <i>Lanius s. sphenocercus</i> | 楔尾伯劳 | 3 |
| BLACK DRONGO <i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i> | 黑卷尾 | 4 |
| AZURE-WINGED MAGPIE <i>Cyanopica cyanus</i> | 灰喜鹊 | 8 |
| RED-BILLED BLUE MAGPIE <i>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</i> | 红嘴蓝鹊 | 5 |
| COMMON MAGPIE <i>Pica pica</i> | 喜鹊 | 28 |
| LARGE-BILLED CROW <i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i> | 大嘴乌鸦 | 4 |
| MARSH TIT <i>Poecile palustris</i> | 沼泽山雀 | 1 |
| JAPANESE TIT <i>Parus minor</i> | 大山雀 | 2 |
| CHINESE PENDULINE TIT <i>Remiz consobrinus</i> | 中华攀雀 | 1 |
| BEARDED REEDLING <i>Panurus biarmicus</i> | 文须雀 | 2 |
| EURASIAN SKYLARK <i>Alauda arvensis</i> | 云雀 | 8 |
| BARN SWALLOW <i>Hirundo rustica</i> | 家燕 | 9 |
| DUSKY WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i> | 褐柳莺 | 18 |
| RADDE'S WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i> | 巨嘴柳莺 | 2 |
| YELLOW-BROWED WARBLER <i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i> | 黄眉柳莺 | 18 |
| ORIENTAL REED WARBLER <i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i> | 东方大尾莺 | 3 |
| BLACK-BROWED REED WARBLER <i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i> | 黑眉苇莺 | 16 |
| ZITTING CISTICOLA <i>Cisticola juncidis</i> | 棕扇尾莺 | 1 |
| VINOUS-THROATED PARROTBILL <i>Sinosuthora webbiana</i> | 棕头鸦雀 | 24 |
| BLUETHROAT <i>Luscinia svecica</i> | 蓝喉歌鸲 (蓝点颏) | 2 |
| DAURIAN REDSTART <i>Phoenicurus aureus</i> | 北红尾鸲 | 1 |
| COMMON STONECHAT <i>Saxicola maurus</i> | 黑喉石唧 | 19 |
| TAIGA FLYCATCHER <i>Ficedula albicilla</i> | 红喉姬鹟 | 2 |
| EURASIAN TREE SPARROW <i>Passer montanus</i> | (树) 麻雀 | 150 |
| EASTERN YELLOW WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla tschutschensis</i> | 黄鹡鸰 | 14 |
| WHITE WAGTAIL <i>Motacilla alba</i> | 白鹡鸰 | 14 |
| RICHARD'S PIPIT <i>Anthus richardi</i> | 理氏鹨 | 3 |
| OLIVE-BACKED PIPIT <i>Anthus hodgsoni</i> | 树鹨 | 37 |
| RED-THROATED PIPIT <i>Anthus cervinus</i> | 红喉鹨 | 6 |
| GREY-CAPPED GREENFINCH <i>Carduelis sinica</i> | 金翅 (雀) | 1 |
| COMMON ROSEFINCH <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i> | 普通朱雀 | 12 |
| LITTLE BUNTING <i>Emberiza pusilla</i> | 小鹀 | 20 |
| | | |
| TOTAL SPECIES | | 85 |

Shenzen



Red-whiskered Bulbul



Black-collared Starling

I stayed at the Four Seasons Hotel. This part of the city is mostly buildings and concrete, but just 10 mins walk north of the hotel, you will find a small park. I had a walk here for an hour or two, and had several interesting observations. I had Arctic Warbler, again several Yellow-browed Warblers, Common Myna, Japanese White-eye, Chinese Pond Heron, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Common Tailorbird, Red-whiskered Bulbul and Black-collared Starling.