

# Hong Kong Bird Report

## 香港鳥類報告

2009-10



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# The Hong Kong Bird Watching Society

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*Editors: John A. Allcock, Geoff J. Carey, Gary Chow  
and Geoff Welch*

編輯：柯祖毅、賈知行、周家禮、Geoff Welch

Front Cover 封面：  
Japanese Quail *Coturnix japonica* 鶉  
Long Valley, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009 塋原 2009年10月24日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒





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## **Editorial Preface**

Following record years in 2007 and 2008, the years 2009 and 2010 again broke the record for the number of species recorded in Hong Kong. This is surely the result of a continued high level of observer activity around the territory, including a growing number of photographers. The opportunity to easily post sightings and photographs to the HKBWS website helps to increase observer involvement. I hope that the trend will continue into the coming years.

Among the new species recorded in Hong Kong during 2009-10, there were some real surprises. Before their discovery, few would have predicted Philippine Duck or Eurasian Roller as additions to the Hong Kong list, but perhaps the most surprising was the discovery of a Great Stone-curlew at Mai Po NR in June 2009. June is usually one of the quietest months for bird watching in Hong Kong, and this bird proved that rarities really can turn up at any time. As detailed in the first papers, all three of these unexpected first records were well supported by the new 'Backward Trajectory' maps presented on the website of the Hong Kong Observatory. These show the origin of the air mass arriving in Hong Kong each day, and may prove to be a useful tool for assessment of future records or studies of migration.

This 2009-10 report has been published in record time, coming only a few months after the 2007-08 report. We are hoping that the 2011 report will also be published very soon, getting the annual reporting back onto track. I am particularly grateful to the editorial team for allowing us to get this report published so soon. Geoff Welch has done very well at obtaining records and ensuring the editorial process runs as smoothly as possible. The translating team led by Gary Chow has done an excellent job in providing a translation of the various papers. HKBWS Office have worked hard with the designer and the printer. Most of all, I would like to thank Geoff Carey, my predecessor as chief editor, for assisting with the editing team and ensuring a smooth transition which has allowed us to get this report completed efficiently.

John Allcock  
**Chief Editor**

### **Editors**

Geoff Welch, Geoff Carey and Gary Chow

### **Translators**

Bonnie Chan, Derek Chan, Chan Chui Mei, Chan Ying Chi, Chow Lai Kuen, Celia Ho, Alvin Hui, Eling Lee, Katherine Leung, Patty Tse, Heidi Yu

## 編者序言

繼2007至 2008年度之後，2009至2010年度我們又再次打破了年度的鳥種紀錄。這結果肯定與不斷攀升的觀鳥活動及日益增多的生態攝影師有密切的關係。香港觀鳥會網站的成立亦為觀鳥人士提供交流的平台，方便鳥友簡易地在留言區報告鳥況及貼相，因而增加了觀鳥者的參與。我希望這種良好的風氣在未來得以延續。

在2009-10年度錄得的新物種之中，有一部分給大家帶來了驚喜。在發現棕頸鴨及藍胸佛法僧之前，很少人預測到牠們會在香港的鳥類名錄中出現，但最令人驚訝的是於2009年6月在米埔自然護理區出現的大石鴿。6月份通常是為香港觀鳥最淡靜的月份之一，這隻鳥的出現證明稀有的物種能夠隨時隨地顯現在你的眼前。本報告中第一篇文章亦有詳述箇中原因，這些意想不到的新記錄都與近來香港天文台網站上提供的“後向流跡(backward trajectory)”圖相關。這些圖顯示了每天抵達本港的氣流來自何地，在未來或可用作雀鳥遷移研究的工具。

在2007-08年報出版幾個月後，2009-10年報以破紀錄的時間緊接出版。我們希望2011年的報告也可以盡快出爐，使出版的進度回到正軌上。我特別感謝編輯隊伍讓我們能迅速出版此報告，當中 Geoff Welch 擔任了重要的角色，他搜集各方的記錄並確保編輯如期及順利進行；周家禮領導的翻譯團隊亦提供了很大的幫助，為本年報多份文章翻譯；香港觀鳥會辦事處與設計師及印刷公司緊密合作，令本報告得以成功印製。最後，我最想多謝前任主編賈知行，他協助編輯團隊確保一切順暢，使這份報告得以如期出版。

### 主編

柯祖毅

### 編輯

Geoff Welch, 賈知行 及 周家禮

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**2009-10 香港鳥類報告**

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## Records Committee Report

**Geoff J Carey**

*Records Committee Chairman*

The Records Committee was strengthened with the addition of two new members in January 2011, Gary Chow as a voting member and Geoff Welch as a non-voting Secretary. Gary brings experience in bird identification and ringing, as well as enhancing our links with the local birding community. Geoff has taken over the administrative duties that I was finding increasingly arduous, and as a consequence of his efforts we are in the process of bringing publication of the Hong Kong Bird Report up-to-date with this, the 2009-10 edition, and a 2011 edition expected by the end of 2012.

The Records Committee continues to use the International Ornithologists' Union (formerly International Ornithological Congress (IOC)) World List as the basis for the taxonomy and order of the Hong Kong List. As this list is regularly updated, there are often changes to the order of the Hong Kong List. As a consequence and in agreement with the Editors, it has been decided not to include species list numbers in this and future Hong Kong Bird Reports. The species order and nomenclature in this report reflects the latest list published by IOC<sup>1</sup>.

Once again, very high numbers of species were recorded in the two-year period 2009-10, with 391 in 2009 and 393 in 2010. Although taxonomic changes make it difficult to compare with previous years, these are almost certainly record totals for Hong Kong, and follow a similar achievement in 2007-08 when the year totals were 380 and 381 respectively. This is partly due to the increased number and quality of photographs being posted on the Society website and increasing record submission, both of which are very encouraging developments.

Additions to the Hong Kong List during 2009 and 2010 were as follows

### **Additions to Category I**

**Tundra Bean Goose** *Anser serrirostris*

One at Mai Po NR on 1st January 2009

**Great Stone-curlew** *Esacus recurvirostris*

One at Mai Po NR on 24th June 2009

**Red-throated Thrush** *Turdus ruficollis*

One on Po Toi Island on 19th November 2009

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<sup>1</sup> Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2012. IOC *World Bird Names* (v 2.11). Available at <http://www.worldbirdnames.org/>

**Common House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

One at Lok Ma Chau WMC on 20th November 2009

**Philippine Duck** *Anas luzonica*

One at Mai Po NR on 7th March 2010

**Eurasian Roller** *Coracias garrulus*

One near Black Point Power Station on 5th October 2010

**Taiga Bean Goose** *Anser fabalis*

Two at Mai Po NR on 3rd November 2010

In addition, the first record of the taxon *baicalensis* of **White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba* was seen near Yuen Long on 23 January 2010.

**Changes to Category**

Three species were re-assigned to Category IIC ('previously established feral species') from Category IIB: **Chinese Babax** *Babax lanceolatus*, **Chestnut Munia** *Lonchura atricapilla* and **Baya Weaver** *Ploceus philippinus*. It is considered these species no longer have self-sustaining populations in Hong Kong.

## 紀錄委員會報告

### 賈知行

#### 紀錄委員會主席

在2011年1月，紀錄委員會加入了兩位新委員，一位是擁有投票權的周家禮，而另一位是沒有投票權的秘書 Geoff Welch。周家禮為我們帶來鳥類辨識和環誌的寶貴經驗，並加強我們與本地觀鳥者的聯繫。Geoff 協助我處理日益繁瑣的行政事務，他的努力使我們在更新觀鳥報告的過程順利，得以出版這份《香港鳥類報告2009-10》，並預期在2012年底出版2011年的報告。

紀錄委員會繼續沿用 International Ornithologists' Union 國際鳥類學者聯盟（前稱 International Ornithological Congress (IOC) 國際鳥類學大會）的鳥類名錄，作為香港鳥類名錄的分類及次序的基礎。由於這名錄定期更新，所以香港鳥類名錄的次序會時有更改。因這緣故，編輯們協議後決定不再在這本及以後的報告列出鳥種號碼。這本報告的鳥種次序及命名乃 IOC 公佈的最新鳥類名錄。

2009至10這兩年再次錄得非常多鳥種，2009年有391種，而2010年則增至393種。雖然雀鳥分類上的改變令鳥種數目難以與往年作直接比較，但這差不多肯定是香港年度鳥種數目的新紀錄，繼2007年的380種及2008年的381種之後再創新高。這有部分歸功於更多人呈交鳥類紀錄以及在鳥會網頁張貼高質素的相片，兩者都是非常令人鼓舞的發展。

香港鳥類名錄在2009至10年的新增鳥種如下：

#### 新增到第I類的鳥種

凍原豆雁 Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris*

2009年1月1日在米埔自然護理區錄得一隻

大石鴉 Great Stone-curlew *Esacus recurvirostris*

2009年6月24日在米埔自然護理區錄得一隻

赤頸鶉 Red-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis*

2009年11月19日在蒲台島錄得一隻

白腹毛腳燕 Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum*

2009年11月20日在落馬洲濕地緩解區錄得一隻

棕頸鴨 Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica*

2010年3月7日在米埔自然護理區錄得一隻

藍胸佛法僧 Eurasian Roller *Coracias garrulus*

2010年10月5日在屯門爛角咀發電廠附近錄得一隻



**寒林豆雁** Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabalis*

2010年11月3日在米埔自然護理區錄得兩隻

另外，2010年1月23日在元朗附近有白鵞鵠 *baicalensis* 亞種的首個紀錄。

**分類的變更**

有三個屬IIB類的鳥種被重新列入至第IIC類（即「較早以前建立野生群落的鳥種」），他們是**矛紋草鵠** *Babax lanceolatus*，**栗腹文鳥** *Lonchura atricapilla* 以及**黃胸織布鳥** *Ploceus philippinus*。紀錄委員會認為這三個鳥種在香港已無法再維持穩定的群落。

## Annual Summaries 2009 and 2010

*Geoff Welch*

*Records Committee Secretary*

These summaries continue with the seasonal format of winter (December to February), spring (March to May), summer (June to August) and autumn (September to November). As in previous years, the Systematic List takes precedence over the Summaries in the event of any discrepancies.

2009 and 2010 were record years for species numbers with 391 and 393 species respectively, following an increasing trend which started in 2003. The growing number of both photographers and birders reporting on the HKBWS website is largely responsible. This has been supplemented by regular surveys, both formal and informal, at specific locations as diverse as Mai Po, Long Valley, the Lam Tsuen Valley and Po Toi and by individuals at places such as Shing Mun, Tai Lam, Po Shan Road and Braemar Hills. These surveys will no doubt provide increasingly valuable information on species populations in the years to come.

### **Winter 2009 (January to February)**

January and February were both dry and sunny with the monthly mean temperature for February being the highest on record.

The year started with a Hong Kong first record, a Tundra Bean Goose from the Mai Po boardwalk on 1<sup>st</sup> January, but unfortunately not seen thereafter. Another potential first record was a Hawfinch at Airfield Road from 15<sup>th</sup> January but this was eventually accepted as a possible ex-captive. A photogenic Brown Crake at Nam Chung from 25<sup>th</sup> January attracted a great deal of attention from birdwatchers and photographers alike in an otherwise unexciting late January.

The peak total of waterbirds in the whole Deep Bay area maintained the recent high levels with 87,633, only marginally below the record count of the previous winter, although only 35% were within Hong Kong. Tufted Duck were at record numbers with 6,742, mostly on the Futian side of Deep Bay, and there were also good numbers of Eurasian Wigeon and Pied Avocet. Increases in wintering waterbirds in the Deep Bay area since the winter of 2005-6 have been attributed partly to improved management of the Futian Reserve. One common species to show a decline in recent years is Black-headed Gull, and the winter peak count of 5,643 was the lowest since 1999. The winter peak count of Common Shelduck also declined to just nine, the lowest ever recorded.

February was generally rather dull, perhaps as a result of the record high temperatures caused by a total lack of cold fronts passing through Hong Kong. The only records of note were a Blunt-winged Warbler at Yau Mai San Tsuen near Mai Po from 8<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> February, which was unusually photographed in the field before being trapped, and a possible American Wigeon first seen in the Deep Bay area on 25<sup>th</sup> February, which held high initial hopes for a first record but was eventually accepted as a hybrid American × Eurasian Wigeon.

### Spring 2009 (March to May)

The weather in March and April was fairly normal, with cold fronts at weekly intervals in March and on 5<sup>th</sup> April, followed by a series of depressions with rain on 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> April. Many of the April systems produced interesting records. May was dry and quiet and a depression which brought several days of heavy rain from 23<sup>rd</sup> appears to have been too late to have any significant birding effect.

Few unusual species were reported in March, although it was not without some exciting moments. A Chinese Blue Flycatcher photographed at Fanling on 14<sup>th</sup> March was the fourth HK record and was followed by a first HK record in the form of a Humpback Whale which stayed in south-eastern waters for a week from 17<sup>th</sup> March. A first-winter Glaucous-winged Gull remained in the Deep Bay area for nearly three months from 18<sup>th</sup> March, during which time its condition deteriorated severely and it was last seen on 1<sup>st</sup> June. Finally, photographs of an 'Imperial' Eagle taken at MPNR on 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2008 and posted on the website on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2009 showed it was, in fact, a juvenile Steppe Eagle, a first HK record. A desperate search was rewarded when the bird was found again on 28<sup>th</sup> March on the Mai Po access road and subsequently frequently seen in the area until 28<sup>th</sup> April.

April started when a nestling Brown Wood Owl was found by a hiker on Tai Mo Shan on 4<sup>th</sup>. This bird was subsequently hand-reared at KFBG and released the following year. Although Brown Wood Owl was first recorded in Hong Kong in 2006, it has subsequently become established in both Tai Po Kau and the Lam Tsuen valley. Also in early April, a Sooty Tern was in southern waters on 5<sup>th</sup>, two Eurasian Oystercatchers were seen from the Mai Po boardwalk on 9<sup>th</sup> and a Japanese Cormorant at the end of the Stanley Peninsular was photographed from the Po Toi ferry on 10<sup>th</sup>, this just the third Hong Kong record. A Hume's Leaf Warbler was on Po Toi on 13<sup>th</sup> April, the first spring record.

Spring wader passage in the Deep Bay area was good and achieved a new highest count of 15,925 on 22<sup>nd</sup> April, marginally higher than the previous record count in spring 2007. New highest counts were made for Pacific Golden Plover (860 on 26<sup>th</sup> March), Marsh Sandpiper (3,192 on 10<sup>th</sup> April) and Red-necked Stint (2,700 on 10<sup>th</sup> April), and numbers were above recent averages for most species except Spotted and Common Redshank. Numbers of Nordmann's Greenshank (EN) and Asian Dowitcher (NT) were also above average but Spoon-billed Sandpiper (CE) had a poor year with only one bird recorded in spring and another in autumn.

A Brown-breasted Flycatcher at Tai Po Kau on 13<sup>th</sup> April was the third for Hong Kong and the first spring record. 731 Gull-billed Terns from the Mai Po boardwalk on 19<sup>th</sup> April was a record count and included one ringed in north-west Australia the previous November, and a flock of 15 Black Bitterns over the sea near Po Toi on 25<sup>th</sup> April was also a record count with another rescued from the water, no doubt a victim of the depression. A Blue-winged Pitta on Po Toi from 28<sup>th</sup> April was the second successive year for the species at that location. It was, however, very elusive, unlike one at Futian NR at the same time which was a photographer's delight. Finally, an adult Rosy Starling seen briefly at San Tin fishponds on 28<sup>th</sup> April unfortunately could not be relocated.

May was quiet except for one quite unexpected record – a Band-bellied Crane at Lung Fu Shan from 5<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> May. This was the first of the species to be seen in Hong Kong in the wild state, the previous three records having been either found dead or taken into care. The month ended with a Japanese Paradise Flycatcher photographed at Mai Po on 31<sup>st</sup>, the latest spring date by over four weeks.

### **Summer 2009 (June to August)**

Summer 2009 was hotter than normal with two tropical storms affecting Hong Kong, Molave on 19<sup>th</sup> July and Goni on 4<sup>th</sup> August.

June is not usually regarded as a bird-watching month in Hong Kong so the appearance of a Great Stone-curlew at Mai Po NR on 24<sup>th</sup> June was received with some amazement. This was a first record for Hong Kong and south-east China. The bird was found by the Reserve Manager while conducting a tour of former Miss Hong Kong Pageant winners around the reserve. It only stayed for one day.

Egret nest data from the Egret Monitoring Programme showed a modest recovery from the low counts in 2008 for all species except Great. The nest counts show stability over time with the exception of Black-crowned Night Heron, which is declining for reasons not yet understood. 497 breeding terns (Bridled, Black-naped and Roseate) in the Mirs Bay area was a low count. A pair of Pied Avocet at MPNR produced eggs for the first time but unfortunately the breeding was unsuccessful, probably due to heavy rain. Breeding of Orange-headed Thrush probably occurred on Po Toi and possibly elsewhere, a pair of Brown Fish Owls successfully reared a juvenile on the balcony of a disused flat in the Sai Kung area and Black-naped Oriole may have bred on Cheung Chau.

Other summer records included a Crested Kingfisher at So Lo Pun in the north-east NT on 22<sup>nd</sup> June, the first record for five years, and record counts of 350 White-rumped Munia on newly harvested rice at Long Valley on 25<sup>th</sup> July and 112 Collared Crow at MPNR on 21<sup>st</sup> August. The rice-planting programme at Long Valley has proved very successful in encouraging munias and buntings to the area.

### **Autumn 2009 (September to November)**

September was wet with two tropical storms, Koppu on 14<sup>th</sup> and Ketsana on 28<sup>th</sup>. October was normal but November had two significant spells of cold northerly winds occurred, from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> and an intense period from 13<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>.

A Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo at Shing Mun on 2<sup>nd</sup> September was a latest record for this species, which is increasing in Hong Kong. This was followed by a Tiger Shrike on Po Toi on 3<sup>rd</sup>, a typical date. Two earliest flycatcher records were a Verditer on 9<sup>th</sup> and a Red-throated on 13<sup>th</sup> September, both on Po Toi. TS Koppu created a fall of Whiskered Terns, with 80 at Aberdeen and 95 at Kai Tak on 15<sup>th</sup>. A Lesser Whistling Duck was at MPNR from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup> and the month ended with a rare autumn record of a Silver-backed Needletail on Po Toi on 29<sup>th</sup> following TS Ketsana.

In October, a Red-backed Shrike at Lok Ma Chau on 7<sup>th</sup> was the second record for

Hong Kong and a Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher on Po Toi on 8<sup>th</sup> was the sixth and latest ever autumn record. Narcissus Flycatchers, male and then female, were present on Po Toi from 11<sup>th</sup> October, the third autumn in succession this normally spring-only migrant was on Po Toi. Up to three Black-headed Buntings were at various locations in the northern NT from 18<sup>th</sup>, in total probably seven birds for this once rare autumn migrant. A succession of rare warblers was trapped at Mai Po from 22<sup>nd</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> October including two Baikal Bush Warblers, a Middendorff's and a Yellow-streaked Warbler and a Cotton Pygmy Goose at Shan Pui for three days from 24<sup>th</sup> fitted exactly into the previous tight pattern of records for this species (all from 23<sup>rd</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October).

November was an excellent month with two first records coming with the northerly winds in the second half of the month. The first spell of northerly winds saw an unprecedented arrival of Yellow-throated Buntings with birds on Po Toi from 7<sup>th</sup> until 26<sup>th</sup> and a high count of eight on 16<sup>th</sup>, two at Tai Po Kau Headland on 13<sup>th</sup> and four on south Lamma on 14<sup>th</sup>. Also on 7<sup>th</sup>, a hybrid Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush at Pui O was the first of its type to be seen in Hong Kong. The second spell of northerlies brought a Rustic Bunting to Pui O on 15<sup>th</sup>, a Bianchis' Warbler to Po Toi on 17<sup>th</sup> and a first-winter female Red-throated Thrush to Po Toi on 19<sup>th</sup>, a Hong Kong first record and the 500<sup>th</sup> species on the Hong Kong List. The second Hong Kong first record, a Common House Martin, was at Lok Ma Chau the following day with others at Pui O and Tsim Bei Tsui over the next two days. In the last days of the month, a Rufous-faced Warbler was photographed at Mui Tze Lam on 22<sup>nd</sup>, a Paddyfield Warbler was at Long Valley on 24<sup>th</sup>, a record count of 56 Japanese Thrush passed through Po Toi on 25<sup>th</sup>, both male and female Rufous-gorgeted Flycatchers were there on 28<sup>th</sup> with a White-spectacled Warbler also on Po Toi from 29<sup>th</sup>.

### **Winter 2009-10 (December to February)**

The weather over winter 2009-10 was normal, mild with occasional cold spells lasting up to one week in each month.

In an otherwise quiet December, the second Hong Kong record of Japanese Swamp Warbler was trapped at Mai Po on 11<sup>th</sup>, the fifth Hong Kong record of Black-necked Grebe was seen at Tsim Bei Tsui on 20<sup>th</sup> and a Chestnut-crowned Warbler was at Tai Po Kau on 29<sup>th</sup>.

The winter was a good one for three normally scarce species, Bull-headed Shrike, Plumbeous Redstart and Grey Bush Chat. All had widespread records, mostly in the northern NT, with up to eleven different Bull-headed Shrikes including at least three in the Lam Tsuen Valley, up to ten different Plumbeous Redstarts with a peak count of three at Plover Cove Reservoir on 16<sup>th</sup> January and up to thirteen different Grey Bush Chats with a peak count of two at Lung Kwu Tan on 13<sup>th</sup> February.

The total peak count of all waterbirds in the Deep Bay area was once again close to the record count at 89,379, with Northern Shoveler (20,008), Black-faced Spoonbill (496) and Kentish Plover (4,303) making new record counts. A Dalmatian Pelican was present in Deep Bay from 11<sup>th</sup> December to 3<sup>rd</sup> January and three Baer's Pochard at MPNR on 4<sup>th</sup> January were the first records of this species since 2004. A first-winter

Relict Gull arrived in Deep Bay on 8<sup>th</sup> January and was present until 10<sup>th</sup> March, and a first-winter Eurasian Oystercatcher was also there from 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> January, the third Hong Kong record following closely the second record in April 2009. Also in January, two rare taxa of White Wagtail, one of the distinctive taxon *personata* at Ping Che from 16<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup> and a first record of the taxon *baicalensis* at Yuen Long on 23<sup>rd</sup>.

An adult Slender-billed Gull joined the Relict Gull in Deep Bay from 7<sup>th</sup> February to 6<sup>th</sup> March with a Common Ringed Plover there from 15<sup>th</sup> February to 10<sup>th</sup> March, the first since 2000. An exceptionally early spring arrival was a hepatic *Cuculus* cuckoo at Shek Kong from 17<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> February although the exact species could not be determined.

### Spring 2010 (March to May)

Spring 2010 was an active spring for weather, with significant cold fronts or depressions on 7<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> March, 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> April and depressions with rain throughout May. The resultant birds did not quite live up to this record and there were few rarities, although the numbers of the regular species were good.

The first record of significance in March was a HK first record, a Philippine Duck at MPNR on 7<sup>th</sup> and seen there through to 16<sup>th</sup> May. This was followed by a Rustic Bunting at Mount Austin on 10<sup>th</sup>, a Crested Bunting at Lam Tsuen on 14<sup>th</sup>, the first record of this species for ten years, and up to four Yellow-throated Buntings at Po Toi from 25<sup>th</sup> in what was presumably the return passage after the previous autumn. A single flock of 5,000 Chinese Bulbuls over Tolo Harbour on 30<sup>th</sup> March was easily a highest ever count for the species.

Spring wader passage peaked at 14,559 on 11<sup>th</sup> April, just below the record count in the previous year but maintaining the high numbers of recent years. There were record numbers of Black-winged Stilt (870 on 7<sup>th</sup> March), Marsh Sandpiper (3,381 on 22<sup>nd</sup> March) and Red-necked Stint (3,756 on 11<sup>th</sup> April). Of the critical three, Asian Dowitcher (NT) had an average year with a peak count of 189, Nordmann's Greenshank (EN) had a poor year with an estimate of only eight birds and Spoon-billed Sandpiper (CE) had another poor year with only two birds recorded.

Mai Po NR was once again closed for 21 days in early April after the discovery of an H5N1 infected Barn Swallow at Yuen Long. The policy on reserve closure in response to avian flu has now changed and hopefully Mai Po closure will not happen again. Whether as a consequence or not, little of note was recorded in early April until a Blunt-winged and a Paddyfield Warbler were both trapped at Mai Po on 13<sup>th</sup> April. The cold front on 14<sup>th</sup> April produced a spectacular movement of Chinese Goshawks with a record count of 1,440 passing through Po Toi in two hours on 15<sup>th</sup> and high numbers over the next few days in many locations. A female-type *owstoni/elisae* flycatcher was on Cheung Chau on 16<sup>th</sup> and 82 Greater Crested Terns off Po Toi between 20<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> April was another record count in an otherwise disappointing April for rare species.

May was similar – good numbers of late migrants but few rarities. Latest records



occurred for Ferruginous Flycatcher, on 2<sup>nd</sup> on Po Toi, Common Rosefinch on 3<sup>rd</sup> at Pui O, Fairy Pitta on 6<sup>th</sup> at Mai Po and Asian House Martin on 24<sup>th</sup> on Po Toi. A Malayan Night Heron was on Po Toi for seven days from 7<sup>th</sup> but the best record was saved to last – a Blue-throated Bee-eater found at Long Valley on the evening of 29<sup>th</sup> which fortunately stayed until the next day and was seen by many.

### **Summer 2010 (June to August)**

The summer followed the normal pattern of heat and rain, July and August being rather hotter than usual, but with no tropical storms Hong Kong over the period.

Late spring records were made in June for Himalayan Swiftlet at Long Valley on 1<sup>st</sup> and Chinese Goshawk at Po Toi on 6<sup>th</sup> but highlight of the month was a Red-footed Booby in Tolo Harbour on 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> June following six days of strong southerly winds. This was the seventh record for the species, all of which have occurred in summer.

Total egret nest counts were slightly below the 2009 number at 734 (809 in 2009) but once again this fall was mostly attributable to Black-crowned Night Heron which had its lowest ever count at 91 (123 in 2009 and 254 in 2000). Numbers of breeding terns in Mirs Bay were average at 564 (497 in 2009) with good numbers for both Black-naped (120) and Roseate (69). For the first year, breeding tern counts were also made in eastern and southern waters with a total of 320 breeding birds. Record numbers of White-shouldered Starling bred at Lok Ma Chau, breeding occurred for Brown Wood Owl with a juvenile photographed in the Lam Tsuen valley and may also have occurred for Orange-headed Thrush at Kap Lung and Tai Lam CP. A Great Crested Grebe over-summered at MPNR for the first time.

July was very quiet. Two Roseate Terns in eastern waters on 2<sup>nd</sup> had leg flags tracing them to wintering at Swain Reef in the Great Barrier Reef, Australia, a distance of 6,400kms. A single Greater Crested Tern was at Tap Mun on 17<sup>th</sup>.

Early migrants started arriving from 7<sup>th</sup> August with an Eastern Crowned Warbler at Shek Kong, followed by Asian Paradise and Yellow-rumped Flycatchers in the third week of August. 237 Whimbrel at Mai Po on 24<sup>th</sup> was a ten-year high count and a Fairy Pitta on Po Toi on 26<sup>th</sup> was a first ever August record for the species.

### **Autumn 2010 (September to November)**

September was very wet, with two tropical storms, Lionrock on 3<sup>rd</sup> and Fanapi on 20<sup>th</sup>, and in between, a long-lasting depression from 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. October and November were both dry with a long spell of northerly winds from 19<sup>th</sup> to 31<sup>st</sup> October.

September was a month of early records and highest counts. A total of four Himalayan Swiftlets on Po Toi and at Long Valley and Mai Po during the month and in early October were rare autumn records for the species. A Lanceolated Warbler trapped at Mai Po on 2<sup>nd</sup> was an earliest autumn record, as was a Styan's Grasshopper Warbler trapped there on 9<sup>th</sup>. A Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher was at Po Shan Road on 5<sup>th</sup> and a Drongo Cuckoo at Tai Po Kau on 8<sup>th</sup>. 430 Aleutian Terns passing Po Toi on 9<sup>th</sup>

were a high count, probably due to TS Lion Rock, and a Brown-breasted Flycatcher at Fung Yuen on 13<sup>th</sup> was both the fourth record and easily the earliest in autumn. 77 Intermediate Egrets at Lok Ma Chau on 22<sup>nd</sup> were a highest ever count and finally a Fairy Pitta flew into an upper-floor flat in Ho Man Tin on 24<sup>th</sup>, remaining inside for a day before finding an exit through an open window.

October started with a record count of 600 Garganey at Lok Ma Chau on 1<sup>st</sup>, and continued spectacularly with a Eurasian Roller near Tuen Mun on 5<sup>th</sup>, a first record for Hong Kong and eastern China. The bird only stayed for one day but was seen by many. The Roller followed a day of winds originating in western China on 4<sup>th</sup>, and with a Blyth's Reed Warbler trapped at Mai Po on 5<sup>th</sup> and a Rosy Starling at San Tin the following day, three species breeding in China only in Xinjiang were seen within two days. At least 1,000 Black Drongo migrating south-west over Mai Po on 12<sup>th</sup> were easily a record count and 30 Grey-capped Greenfinch at Kuk Po on 17<sup>th</sup> was a high number for this species in recent years. On Po Toi, a White-throated Rock Thrush on 17<sup>th</sup> and 20 Eurasian Siskins on 26<sup>th</sup> were both earliest dates. October ended with five Black Storks over Nam Sang Wai on 31<sup>st</sup>, the largest number seen together since at least 1980.

November was a good month. It started with a Pallas's Reed Bunting trapped at Mai Po on 1<sup>st</sup> but really took off when four Bean Geese were first photographed on 3<sup>rd</sup> November although they were reported from 30<sup>th</sup> October. Of the four, two were identified as Taiga Bean Geese, a new first for Hong Kong, one as a Tundra Bean Goose, a second record for Hong Kong, and the other was not identified to species. They remained in the Deep Bay area until the end of the year. A Naumann's Thrush, now accepted by IOC as a separate species, was at Lok Ma Chau on 12<sup>th</sup>, the first record for 20 years, and two Crested Buntings at Long Valley on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> were, with the March record, the first for ten years. A Speckled Piculet was photographed at Shek Kong on 20<sup>th</sup> as was a Rustic Bunting at Po Toi on 21<sup>st</sup> and another at Long Valley on 27<sup>th</sup>. Finally, an adult female Smew was at Mai Po on 29<sup>th</sup>, the third Hong Kong record, and remained until the year end.

### **Winter 2010 (December)**

December was dry with one brief but very strong cold front on 16<sup>th</sup> when force seven northerly winds caused the temperature to drop 10 degrees in one day to a record December low of 8.8 deg C.

The third Rustic Bunting of the autumn was on Po Toi on 4<sup>th</sup> December with the first ever adult male Red-breasted Flycatcher photographed on Lamma on 5<sup>th</sup> and two rare warblers, Blunt-winged and Japanese Swamp, both trapped at Mai Po on 6<sup>th</sup>. The year ended with two different male Red-headed Buntings, one at Long Valley on 23<sup>rd</sup> and one at She Shan on 27<sup>th</sup>. Both were judged to be possible ex-captives.

## 2009及2010年全年摘要

*Geoff Welch*

紀錄委員會秘書

本篇全年摘要沿用季度方式：12月至2月為冬季、3月至5月為春季、6至8月為夏季，以及9月至11月為秋季。與去年相同，若此全年摘要內容與分類總覽不符，一切以分類總覽所述為準。

2009及2010年所錄得的鳥種數目分別為391及393種，延續2003年以來每年上升的趨勢，皆是歷來最高紀錄，這要歸功於攝影師及觀鳥者積極向本會提交觀鳥記錄。另外，在米埔、塱原、林村和蒲台等地點的正式或非正式調查，以及個別人士於城門、大欖、寶珊路及寶馬山等地點的報告，亦為本年的紀錄提供重要的補充。這些調查及報告無疑在將來會繼續成為各鳥種數量變化的重要參考資料。

### 2009年冬季（1月至2月）

1月和2月天氣晴朗及乾燥，2月的平均氣溫更是歷來最高。

2009年剛開始，即在1月1日錄得一筆香港首個紀錄——凍原豆雁，可惜當日後沒再出現。另一新紀錄是1月15日在石崗機場路的錫嘴雀，及後認為可能是逃逸個體。在較平靜的1月下旬，25日在南涌拍攝到一隻紅腳苦惡鳥，吸引不少觀鳥者及攝影師。

后海灣水鳥統計最高數量維持近年的高水平，共錄得87,633隻，稍低於去年的最高紀錄，但當中只有35%在本港範圍錄得。其中錄得創紀錄新高的6,742隻鳳頭潛鴨，大部分在福田那邊的后海灣錄得。赤頸鴨與反嘴鷸亦錄得高數量。自2005-06冬季起后海灣水鳥數量明顯增加，部分是基於福田保護區管理工作的改善。近年亦有部分常見鳥種數量下跌，紅嘴鷸是其中之一，本冬季的最高數量為5,463隻，是自1999年的新低。而翹鼻麻鴨的冬季最高數量亦跌至9隻，是歷年的最低。

2月分鳥況普遍平淡，可能因為本月沒有任何冷鋒到港，致使月平均氣溫為歷年最高。唯一特別紀錄是2月8日至13日在米埔附近的攸美新村難得在野外拍攝到的鈍翅葦鶯。另外，2月25日在后海灣錄得一隻可能是純種的綠眉鴨，初時被寄予厚望成為香港首個紀錄，但後來確認為綠眉鴨與赤頸鴨的混種。

### 2009年春季（3月至5月）

3月與4月的氣候大致正常，冷鋒於3月每週及4月5日出現，接著在4月14、21及25日出現低氣壓及雨水，為4月帶來不少有趣紀錄。5月天氣乾爽溫和，雖然一道低氣壓於23日起帶來連日大雨，但為時已晚，並沒有為鳥況帶來驚喜。

3月並沒太多罕見記錄，但亦有數個驚喜。14日於粉嶺拍攝到一隻中華仙鶴，是該種在香港的第4個紀錄。隨後在17日出現了一個香港首次紀錄：是一條在香港東南水域逗留了一星期的座頭鯨。一隻第一次度冬的灰翅鷗於18日在后海灣被發現，並停留了近3個

月之久，其間該鳥的狀況明顯惡化，最後錄得的日期為6月1日。最後，2008年12月22日在米埔自然護理區拍攝到的一張白肩鵬照片，於2009年3月20日上載至觀鳥會網站後，確認為草原鵬幼鳥，是香港的首個紀錄。經努力搜索後，該鳥於3月28日在米埔擔杆洲路被發現，並持續在附近出沒至4月28日。

4月剛開始隨即在4日錄得一隻褐林鴉雛鳥，該鳥由一位遠足人士在大帽山拾獲，及後由嘉道理農場養大，並於翌年放返野外。褐林鴉在2006年首次在香港錄得後，種群逐漸在大埔滘及林村谷建立。同樣在4月初有以下紀錄：5日在南面水域錄得一隻烏燕鷗；9日在米埔泥灘錄得兩隻蠟鵯；以及在10日於前往蒲台的渡輪上，拍攝到一隻於赤柱半島的綠背鷗，是本港第三個紀錄。另外，於13日在蒲台錄得一隻淡眉柳鶯，是該種首個春季紀錄。

春季過境遷徙的涉禽鳥況良好，4月22日在后海灣錄得新高紀錄的15,925隻，稍高於2007年春季的舊紀錄。當中有數個鳥種均錄得紀錄新高：3月26日錄得860隻太平洋金斑鸕；4月10日錄得3,192隻澤鵲；及4月10日錄得2,700隻紅頸濱鵲。除鵲鵲及紅腳鵲外，其他大部分鳥種的數量亦高於近年平均值。瀕危的小青腳鵲及近危的半蹼鵲數量亦高於平均數，唯極度瀕危的勺嘴鵲只在春秋兩季各錄得一隻。

4月13日在大埔滘錄得的褐胸鵲是香港的第三個紀錄，亦是首次在春季錄得。19日在米埔泥灘錄得紀錄新高的731隻鷗嘴噪鵲，當中更包括一隻去年11月在澳洲西北部環誌的個體。另一個紀錄新高是25日在蒲台附近海域錄得15隻遷徙中的黑鵲，其中一隻因體力不足墮海，並由船上的觀鳥者救起。4月28日在蒲台錄得的藍翅八色鸕，是連續第二年在同一位置出現。該鳥經常躲藏，與同時期在福田保護區錄得，任由攝影師“拍個夠”的個體大不相同。最後，4月28日在新田魚塘發現一隻成年的粉紅椋鳥，遺憾沒有再被見到。

5月鳥況平靜，唯一驚喜是5至8日在龍虎山錄得一隻斑背田雞，是該種在港首個野外紀錄，過往三個紀錄均是已死亡或需救治的個體。31日在米埔拍攝到一隻紫綬帶，比舊春季最遲紀錄遲了超過四星期，為本月劃上句號。

## 2009年夏季（6月至8月）

2009年夏季氣溫較平常高，亦有兩個颱風直接影響香港，包括7月19日的莫拉菲及8月4日的天鵝。

6月一般並非香港的觀鳥季節，所以24日在米埔自然保護區出現的大石鵲令人驚喜，是本港及中國東南部的首次紀錄。該鳥是保護區經理在帶領慧妍雅集(前香港小姐)參觀保護區時發現的，只停留了一天。

鷺鳥林調查顯示，除大白鷺外，其他鷺鳥巢的數目正從2008年的低點緩緩上升。鷺鳥巢數量平穩，但夜鷺數量正下跌，原因未明。大鵬灣共錄得497隻燕鷗繁殖，包括褐翅燕鷗、黑枕燕鷗及粉紅燕鷗，較平常數量低。而一對反嘴鵲首次在米埔自然保護區產卵，可惜可能因雨量高，而沒成功繁殖。另一方面，在蒲台及其他地點，有橙頭地鸕的可能繁殖紀錄。褐魚鵲成功在西貢一幢廢置樓房的露台成功養成一隻幼鳥。而在長洲亦錄得

黑枕黃鸝可能繁殖的紀錄。

其他夏季紀錄包括：6月22日在新界東北鎮羅盆錄得的冠魚狗，是5年來的第一個紀錄；而7月25日塹原的新稻米收成亦吸引紀錄新高的350隻白腰文鳥，除了文鳥外，稻米種植計劃亦吸引了數種鴉，證明計劃成功。另外，米埔自然保護區在8月21日錄得112隻白頸鴉的新高紀錄。

### 2009年夏季(9月至11月)

9月雨量頗多，在14日及28日分別有巨爵與凱薩娜兩次颱風。10月氣溫正常，而11月則在2至4日及13至22日有兩次冷鋒。

9月2日在城門錄得一隻棕腹杜鵑，是該鳥種出現最晚的紀錄，而該種在港的紀錄亦在增加。而9月3日則在蒲台錄得一隻虎紋伯勞，與以往紀錄出現的日子相符。另有兩個較早的鸚鵡類紀錄，分別是9日出現的銅藍鸚鵡及13日出現的紅喉姬鸚鵡，皆在蒲台錄得。颱風巨爵在15日帶來了數量頗多的鬚浮鴨，香港仔及啓德分別錄得80及95隻。一隻栗樹鴨在22至25日在米埔自然護理區出現。最後9月29日颱風凱薩娜過後，在蒲台錄得一隻灰喉針尾雨燕。

10月7日在落馬洲錄得香港第二個紅尾伯勞紀錄，而8日則在蒲台錄得第六個白喉林鸚鵡紀錄，亦是歷來最遲的秋季紀錄。另外，11日起在蒲台錄得雄性及雌性的黃眉姬鸚鵡，是連續第三個秋季在蒲台錄得這種正常只在春季過境的鳥種。自18日起新界北部數個地點亦錄得最多三隻黑頭鵑，累計可能達七隻之多，為這種一度是罕見秋季過境鳥來說是頗高的數字。接著22至30日在米埔環誌期間捕捉到多種罕見的鶯類，包括兩隻北短翅鶯、一隻北蝗鶯及一隻棕眉柳鶯。24日在山貝錄得一隻棉鳧，正符合過往紀錄的日期(10月23至31日)。

11月鳥況極佳，月下旬的北風帶來兩個新鳥種。北風在7至26日為蒲台帶來令人驚喜的黃喉鵑，16日更錄得共8隻的高紀錄，另外13日及14日在大埔潛瞭望台和南丫島南部分別錄得2隻及4隻。11月7日在貝澳紀錄到一隻黑頸鵑與紅尾鵑的混種，是這類鳥在香港第一個紀錄。第二道冷鋒帶來以下紀錄：15日在貝澳的田鴉、17日在蒲台的比氏鸚鵡；及19日在蒲台的第一次度冬雌性赤頸鵑，是香港第一次紀錄，亦是香港鳥類名錄上的第500個鳥種。另一香港新紀錄鳥種是20日在落馬洲錄得的白腹毛腳燕，隨後兩天亦分別在貝澳和尖鼻咀錄得。11月最後數天，22日在梅子林拍攝到一隻棕臉鸚鵡，24日在塹原錄得一隻稻田葦鶯，在蒲台25日錄得56隻烏灰鵑過境的高紀錄；28日錄得雄性及雌性的橙胸姬鸚鵡；29日則有一隻白眶鸚鵡。

### 2009-10年冬季(12月至2月)

2009-10年冬季的氣候正常溫和，每月有數次冷鋒，維持不超過一星期。

12月鳥況平靜，但仍錄得香港第二個斑背大尾鶯紀錄，於11日在米埔環誌時捕獲；及20日在尖鼻咀錄得香港第五個黑頸鸚鵡紀錄。另外29日在蒲台錄得一隻栗頭鸚鵡。

三種平常比較罕見的鳥種在本年冬季皆有較多的紀錄，包括牛頭伯勞、紅尾水鳩和灰林鵟。三個鳥種皆廣泛在新界北出現，包括累計11隻不同個體的牛頭伯勞，當中三隻在林村谷錄得；累計共10隻不同個體的紅尾水鳩，最高在1月16日於萬宜水庫錄得三隻；而灰林鵟則累計錄得13隻不同個體，最高在2月13日於龍鼓灘錄得兩隻。

本年后海灣水鳥的最高數量再次接近歷來的最高紀錄，共錄得89,379隻水鳥，包括20,008隻琵嘴鴨，496隻黑臉琵鷺及4,303隻環頸鴿，皆是新高紀錄。12月11日至1月3日后海灣錄得一隻卷羽鵝，以及1月4日在米埔自然保護區錄得3隻青頭潛鴨。青頭潛鴨對上一次紀錄是在2004年。1月8日后海灣出現一隻第一次度冬的遺鷗，並逗留至3月10日。同月9至11日亦錄得一隻第一次度冬的蠣鶻，是緊接2009年4月香港第二次紀錄的第三個紀錄。另外同月亦錄得兩種罕見類型的白鵝鴿，包括16至30日在坪輦錄得的*personata*及23日在元朗錄得香港第一次紀錄的*baicalensis*。

除上文提到的遺鷗外，2月7日后海灣出現一隻細嘴鴨成鳥，並逗留至3月6日，同時亦在2月15至3月10日錄得一隻劍鴿，是自2000年以來的紀錄。2月17至24日則在石崗出現一隻褐色型的*cuculus*杜鵑，雖未能確認鳥種，但是一筆非常早的春季紀錄。

### 2010年春季(3月至5月)

2010年的春季氣候十分多變，多個冷鋒或低氣壓分別在3月7、25日及4月7、14、27日出現，5月則持續受低氣壓及天雨影響。無奈這樣多變的天氣並未帶來太多罕見過境鳥，但較普遍的鳥種則錄得令人滿意的數量。

3月的第一個特別的紀錄亦是香港的第一個紀錄——3月7日一隻棕頸鴨在米埔自然保護區出現，並逗留至5月16日。緊接著3月10日在柯士甸山錄得一隻田鴨，14日在林村錄得10年來再次紀錄的鳳頭鴨，並且在25日在蒲台錄得多至4隻黃喉鴨，相信是去年秋季過境的個體再回來。3月30日在吐露港錄得一群5,000隻的白頭鴨，輕易成爲此鳥種的新高紀錄。

春季過境的涉禽數量在4月11日達到14,559隻的高峰，雖稍低於去年的高紀錄，但亦與近年的高數量相若。數個涉禽鳥種錄得新高紀錄：3月7日錄得870隻黑翅長腳鶻；3月22日錄得3,381隻澤鵞；以及4月11日錄得3,756隻紅頸濱鵞。而三個重要鳥種之中，近危的半蹼鵞數量屬正常，共錄得189隻；瀕危的小青腳鵞今季只錄得8隻的偏低數字；極度瀕危的勺嘴鵞亦然，只錄得2隻。

米埔自然護理區在4月初再次遭關閉21天，原因是在元朗發現一隻感染H5N1禽流感的家燕。此不合理的措施現已更改，希望今後護理區不會再遭關閉。可能受保護區關閉影響，4月初沒有太多特別紀錄，直至13日才在米埔環誌時捕捉到一隻鈍翅葦鶯及稻田葦鶯。14日的冷鋒爲蒲台在15日帶來兩小時內錄得1,440隻過境赤腹鷹的新高紀錄，及後幾天亦在其他地點錄得高數量。16日在長洲錄得一隻雌性的琉球/綠背姬鵲；20至22日在蒲台附近水域錄得82隻大鳳頭燕鷗，在令人略爲失望的這個4月是一令人鼓舞的罕見鳥紀錄。



5月亦有相似的情況，遲來的過境鳥數量頗多，卻缺少罕見鳥種。多個鳥種皆創了歷來春季最遲出現的紀錄：2日在蒲台錄得的棕尾褐鵯；3日在貝澳錄得的朱雀；6日在米埔自然保護區錄得的仙八色鶉；以及24日在蒲台錄得的煙腹毛腳燕。7日在蒲台發現一隻黑冠鵙，並逗留了7天。但本月的最佳紀錄是29日黃昏在塋原錄得的藍喉蜂虎，該鳥逗留至翌日，讓很多觀鳥者亦能目睹。

### 2010年夏季(6月至8月)

本年夏季如常炎熱有雨，7月及8月比平常更炎熱，但整季皆沒有熱帶氣旋襲港。

6月繼續有數個歷來春季最遲出現的紀錄，包括：1日在塋原錄得的短嘴金絲燕；6日在蒲台錄得的赤腹鷹。持續六天的強烈南風帶來本月的最佳紀錄——18及19日在吐露港錄得的紅腳鰹鳥，是該種的第七個紀錄，全部皆在夏季錄得。

本年鷺鳥巢統計總數為734個，比2009年的809個稍低，但下跌的原因主要仍是夜鷺巢的減少，錄得歷來最低的91個(2009年為123個，2000年為254個)。大鵬灣繁殖燕鷗的數量平均，共錄得564隻(2009年為497隻)，黑枕燕鷗及粉紅燕鷗皆錄得滿意的數字，分別為120及69隻。今年亦首次在香港東面及南面水域進行調查，共錄得320隻繁殖燕鷗。在落馬洲錄得破紀錄數量的灰背棕鳥繁殖，而在林村谷攝得褐林鴉成鳥與一隻幼鳥，甲龍及大欖郊野公園亦可能有橙頭地鸚繁殖。另外，米埔自然保護區第一次錄得度夏的鳳頭鸚鷯。

7月鳥況平淡，2日在東面水域錄得兩隻繫有足旗的粉紅燕鷗，是在6,400公里外的澳洲史維恩珊瑚礁度冬的族群。另外，17日在塔門錄得一隻大鳳頭燕鷗。

8月陸續錄得早到的秋季過境鳥，包括7日在石崗的冕柳鶯，及在8月第三星期錄得的綬帶及白眉姬鶉。24日在米埔錄得237隻中杓鵯，是十年來的新高。26日在蒲台錄得一隻仙八色鶉，是該種第一次在8月的紀錄。

### 2010年秋季(9月至11月)

本年9月多雨，並有兩個熱帶氣旋——3日的獅子山及20日的凡亞比，而8至12日亦持續有低氣壓。10月及11月天氣乾燥，10月19至31日期間持續吹北風。

9月有多個歷來秋季最早出現的紀錄及新高數量紀錄。本月在蒲台錄得4隻短嘴金絲燕，9月及10月初在塋原及米埔亦有紀錄，皆是該種罕有的秋季紀錄。2日在米埔自然保護區環誌期間捕捉到的矛斑蝗鶯，及9日捕捉到的史氏蝗鶯，皆是最早的秋季紀錄。5日在寶珊道錄得一隻白喉林鶉，而8日在大埔滘錄得一隻烏鶇。可能受熱帶氣旋獅子山的影響，9日錄得紀錄新高的430隻白腰燕鷗在蒲台海域過境。13日在鳳園錄得的第四個褐胸鵯紀錄亦輕易成為最早的秋季紀錄。22日在落馬洲錄得77隻中白鷺是紀錄新高，而24日有一隻仙八色鶉飛進何文田一大廈高層民居內，並逗留至翌日才由開啓的窗戶離開。

10月剛開始即在1日於落馬洲錄得紀錄新高的600隻白眉鴨，並在5日於屯門錄得一隻藍胸佛法僧，是香港及中國東部的第一個紀錄，該鳥雖然只停留了一天，但很多觀鳥者皆

有機會目睹。另外，5日在米埔自然保護區環誌時捕捉到一隻布氏葦鶯，6日在新田則錄得一隻粉紅椋鳥。以上三個只在中國新疆繁殖的鳥種於兩天內在港出現，估計與10月4日自中國西面吹來的風有關。12日在米埔錄得至少1,000隻黑卷尾往西南方向遷徙過境，輕易成爲紀錄新高；17日在谷埔錄得30隻金翅雀，是該種近年的高紀錄。17日及26日在蒲台各錄得一隻白喉磯鶯及20隻黃雀，皆是最早的秋季紀錄。10月的最後一天在南生圍錄得5隻黑鸛過境，是自1980年以來最高數量。

11月鳥況極佳，1日即在米埔自然護理區環誌時捕捉到一隻葦鶯，3日更拍攝到4隻早前在10月30日發現的豆雁。其中兩隻是寒林豆雁，爲香港新紀錄，一隻是凍原豆雁，是香港第二個紀錄，餘下的一隻未能分辨鳥種，全部皆逗留至年尾。12日在落馬洲錄得一隻紅尾鵝（現已被國際鳥類學大會IOC劃分爲獨立鳥種），是二十年來的第一個紀錄。13及14日在塋原錄得兩隻鳳頭鸚，加上3月的紀錄，都是十年來的第一個紀錄。20日在石崗攝得一隻斑姬啄木鳥，而21日及27日分別在蒲台及塋原拍攝到一隻田鸚。最後，29日在米埔自然護理區發現香港第三次紀錄的一隻雌性白秋沙鴨成鳥，逗留至年尾。

### 2010年冬季(12月)

12月天氣乾燥，16日有一短暫冷鋒抵港，帶來7級強度的北風，令氣溫在一天內下跌10度至有紀錄以來12月最低溫的攝氏8.8度。

12月4日在蒲台錄得本年秋季第三隻田鸚，5日在南丫島首次拍到一隻紅胸姬鵝雄成鳥，6日在米埔自然護理區環誌時捕捉到兩種罕見的鶯類——鈍翅葦鶯及斑背大尾鶯。在本年完結前，23日及27日分別在塋原及社山村錄得一隻褐頭鸚，皆認爲是逃逸鳥。



## Systematic List 2009-2010

### New Taxonomy, Species Numbers and Categorisation

This is the second Annual Report to use the IOC taxonomy adopted by the Records Committee, and the scientific nomenclature that goes with it. Taxonomic changes often require the order of species in the Hong Kong List and therefore the species number to change. Since it would be confusing to continually change species numbers in line with regular IOC updates, the Records Committee has decided not to include numbers in future Hong Kong Lists and consequently there are no species numbers in this report.

### Systematic List Format

This report continues with the general format first introduced in the 2007-08 Report, which is as follows for each species:

- i) Title giving common name in English, scientific name, common name in Chinese, species category and IUCN Red List Conservation Status, where applicable.
- ii) Brief description of the status in Hong Kong as at end of 2008, in italics.
- iii) Summary of records in each year.

The species category definition is as follows:

**Category I:** species that have been recorded in an apparently wild state in HK.

**Category IIA:** southeast China breeding species, the currently established HK breeding population of which is considered to derive from captive stock, but which probably occurred in HK prior to habitat changes.

**Category IIB:** extralimital species that, although originally introduced to HK by man, maintain a regular feral breeding stock without necessary recourse to further introduction.

**Category IIC:** previously established feral species.

**Category III:** species for which all published HK records are considered likely to relate to birds that have escaped or have been released from captivity.

The Conservation Status is based on the IUCN Red List and any status other than 'Least Concern' is indicated by the use of abbreviations. These are:

IUCN Red List (2012.2)	
CE	Critically Endangered
EN	Endangered
VU	Vulnerable
NT	Near-threatened

The Systematic List provides a summary of the records reported in Hong Kong during the year in question but does not include all records received and archived. Records are not listed individually unless they differ from the typical pattern as described in italics below the species name, or concern a species sufficiently uncommon to warrant listing all records. Where possible, the description is divided into seasons or winter periods with only the highest count and extreme dates provided. Sites of occurrence are not generally listed unless records occur in atypical habitats or at unusual times of year. All records of species requiring assessment by the Records Committee are listed in full.

For the first time, peak counts by year since publication of *The Avifauna* are given for most waterbirds to give a recent historical perspective to the numbers. If provided, these appear in tables at the end of the relevant species account.

Abbreviations used in the species accounts are listed below.

CP	Country Park	NNR	National Nature Reserve
DB	Deep Bay	NT	New Territories
HK	Hong Kong	SI	Starling Inlet
HKBR	Hong Kong Bird Report	SW	Shuen Wan
KFBG	Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden	WC	Waterbird Count
LMC	Lok Ma Chau Spur Line Wetland Mitigation Area	WMP	Waterbird Monitoring Programme
MPNR	Mai Po Nature Reserve	WP	Wetland Park

### Monthly Waterbird Counts

Counts of waterbird species are conducted as part of the Ramsar Site Waterbird Monitoring Programme on behalf of AFCO on a monthly basis throughout the year at Deep Bay, Starling Inlet and Shuen Wan. A full set of the Deep Bay counts for each month in 2009-10 is given in tables at the end of the Systematic List. Where appropriate, totals from these counts are included in the main text under the description 'WC'.

Note that, in order to provide a complete overview of waterbird populations in Deep Bay, these waterbird counts include Futian NNR, Shenzhen in addition to sites in Hong Kong. Given the movement of birds between Hong Kong and Shenzhen, these totals are included to provide data on the number of birds using Deep Bay as a whole.

The dates of the monthly Waterbird Counts conducted during 2009-10 were:

	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
2009	18 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	15 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>
2010	24 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	16 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	11 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>	12 <sup>th</sup>	10 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	19 <sup>th</sup>

The waterbird totals might include counts made up to a week either side of the actual count date.

The Editors welcome comment on the format of the report from all readers.

## Sources of Data for the 2009-10 Systematic List

Most of the data within the 2009-10 Systematic List comes in the form of records from individuals. However, a substantial amount of data now comes from on-going and one-off projects, the major ones in 2009-10 being the following.

### **Waterbird Monitoring Programme (WMP)**

This programme, funded by AFCD, covers the Deep Bay area and counts waterbirds and shorebirds at regular intervals throughout the year. This is an on-going project which first started in 1979, and in its current form in 1998.

### **WWF Morning Bird Count**

WWF staff count all bird species within the WWF Mai Po NR on a twice-monthly basis throughout the year. This monitoring activity started in 2005.

### **Long Valley Weekly Bird Count (LVP)**

As part of the Nature Conservation Management for Long Valley, counts of all bird species are made at Long Valley on a weekly basis (except June and July which is biweekly) throughout the year. This project started in December 2005 and is supported by the Environment and Conservation Fund (ECF).

### **Landbird IBA Study**

This was a one-off study of landbirds that covered Tai Po Kau, Shing Mun, Ng Tung Chai, Tai Mo Shan, Mai Po and Kam Tin, and involved surveying all landbird species in these locations at regular intervals throughout the project, which lasted from November 2008 to October 2010. The project was supported by ECF and carried out by HKBWS.

### **Other project sources**

Data also comes from projects funded by AFCD and run by HKBWS, the main sources being the Research Groups for Egrets, Terns and White-bellied Sea Eagle, which count breeding activity for these species.

### **Individual records**

Thanks are due to the following, who submitted their individual records for this report

J.A. Allcock, P. Aston, K. & R. Barretto, D. Bradshaw, G.J. Carey, M.L. Chalmers, Alan Chan, N.M. Cheng, J. Chim, G. Chow, A. Crow/KFBG, D.A. Diskin, M. Hale, A. J. Hardacre, J. & J. Holmes, G. Ho, N. Hung, T. Jara, M. Kilburn, B. Klick, L Ko/KFBG, P.K. Kwan, D. Lai, P.J. Leader, K. Leung, R.W. Lewthwaite, M. Lisse, J. Martinez, B. Smith, G. Smith, D.J. Stanton, W. Tsui, G. Welch, M.D. Williams, M. & P. Wong, T. Woodward, WWF-HK and Y.T. Yu.

### **Website records**

Records were also taken from the HKBWS Website. Where recorded, the individual names for these records appear below

Allen Chan, C. Chan, H. Chan, N. Chan, P. Chan, Sam Chan, K.C. Cheung, L. Cheung, T.M.Cheung, Stephen Cheung, V. Cheung, O. Chiang, D. Dickson, K. Fung, E. Hui, H. Ip, K. Ko, K. Koo, M. Kwan, E Lee, A. Li, G. Li, C. Ma, T. Ma, B. Mann, G. Miller, L. Y. Ng, V. Picken, Y. H. Sun, Y. L. Tam, D. Thomas, W. Tse, M. Turnbull, C. Wong, B. Yau, W. Yu.

The Systematic List for the two years 2009 and 2010 was compiled by Geoff Welch.

References to *The Avifauna* within the Systematic List refer to Carey *et al.* (2001).



## 分類總覽 2009-2010年

### 新分類方法、鳥種編號及鳥種類別

紀錄委員會已是第二年採用International Ornithological Congress (IOC)分類方法與配合此分類方法慣常使用的科學命名撰寫報告。分類上的更新一般都會連帶鳥種排序以及編號的變更。由於為了與IOC名錄同步定時更新而不斷更改鳥種編號會造成一定的混亂，所以紀錄委員會決定將來在《香港鳥類名錄》取消鳥種編號，此報告中並未記載有關的編號。

### 分類總覽規格

本報告沿用2007-08年報告首次採用的一般規格，每種鳥種資料如下：

- 甲) 鳥種以英文名、學名、中文名、鳥種類別以及國際自然保育聯盟紅皮書的保育狀況（若適用）列出。
- 乙) 以斜體字概要描述2008年前香港狀況。
- 丙) 每年總結記錄。

鳥種類別的定義如下：

**第I類：** 有明確野生紀錄。

**第IIA類：** 中國東南部地區的鳥種，現時在香港的群落被認為是由逃逸的籠鳥所繁衍的，但亦可能在棲息地出現變化前已在香港出沒。

**第IIB類：** 非原居鳥種；經人為引入香港，現無需靠額外幫助已能繼續繁衍。

**第IIC類：** 曾經在香港有野生群落的鳥種。

**第III類：** 根據已發表所有香港紀錄顯示，此鳥種可能在飼養時逃逸或人為放生。

保育狀況是根據國際自然保育聯盟紅皮書及其他現狀使用以下簡稱，但不包括“無危”，計有：

世界自然保育聯盟紅皮書(2012. 2)	
CE	極危
EN	瀕危
VU	易危
NT	近危

分類總覽提供香港某年份的紀錄滙報，但不包含所有已收集及存檔的結果。除非有關紀錄與鳥種名稱底下用斜體字描述的典型模式不同，又或某鳥種非常獨特必須保存所有資料，否則不會作出個別記錄。在容許的情況下，描述會分為季節或冬季時段，並只提供最多數目的紀錄及最極端日子資料。鳥種出現位置一般不會列明，若在罕有的棲息地或非正常時期錄得則例外。另外須由紀錄委員會評核的鳥種已臚列在報告中。

自從《香港鳥類名錄》出版後首次提供大部分水鳥的年度最高數目，展現大部分水鳥近年的數目。相關的數據顯示在該鳥種闡述後的表格中。

鳥種闡述使用簡稱如下：

CP	郊野公園	NNR	國家級自然保護區
DB	后海灣	NT	新界
HK	香港	SI	沙頭角海
HKBR	香港觀鳥年報	SW	船灣
KFBG	嘉道理農場暨植物園	WC	水鳥統計
LMC	落馬洲支線濕地緩解區	WMP	水鳥監測計劃
MPNR	米埔自然護理區	WP	濕地公園

### 每月水鳥普查

這項全年在后海灣、沙頭角海及船灣進行的普查是替漁農自然護理署進行的拉姆薩爾濕地水鳥監察計劃的其中一部分。后海灣2009-10年每月統計數據記述在分類總覽最後的表格中。其他相關的詳細統計資料則在以“水鳥統計”為題的主文裡詳述。

讓大家全面了解后海灣的水鳥數目，水鳥普查除在香港進行，亦包括了福田國家級自然保護區的水鳥數目。考慮到雀鳥在深港兩地間自由往來，后海灣的整體水鳥數字已包括了該項數據。

2009-10年每月進行水鳥統計的日子為：

	1月	2月	3月	4月	5月	6月	7月	8月	9月	10月	11月	12月
2009	18日	15日	15日	12日	10日	7日	12日	9日	20日	18日	15日	20日
2010	24日	21日	7日	18日	16日	13日	11日	8日	12日	10日	7日	19日

水鳥統計數據可能包含實際計算當日前後一週的水鳥數目。

編者歡迎各界讀者就本報告表達形式作出建議。

## 2009-10年分類總覽數據來源

2009-10年分類總覽大部分數據來自個人記錄；但亦有相當部分的數據是從現在進行中或一次性的研究項目中取得，2009-10年主要的項目如下：

### 水鳥普查計劃

漁農自然護理署資助的水鳥普查計劃，全年定期在后海灣地區進行水鳥及濱鳥統計。這項計劃從1979年首次展開，現時的模式是由1998年開始沿用的。

### 世界自然基金會清晨雀鳥統計

世界自然基金會香港分會成員在米埔自然護理區全年間每月兩次統計所有雀鳥種類。此項監察活動始於2005年。

### 塱原每週雀鳥普查

是項普查是塱原自然保育管理計劃的一部分，全年間每週（除了6月及7月每兩星期一次外）統計塱原雀鳥種類。此項目始於2005年12月，由環境及自然保育基金資助。

### 重要陸棲鳥棲息地研究

從2008年11月至2010年10月止進行一次性陸棲鳥棲息地研究，涵蓋大埔滘、城門、梧桐寨、大帽山及錦田，定期統計這些區域所有雀鳥種類。此項目獲環境及自然保育基金資助，並由香港觀鳥會統籌。

### 其他項目

其他資料來源包括由漁農自然護理署資助及香港觀鳥會舉辦的研究項目，主要來源計有鷺鳥、燕鷗及白腹海鷗研究組，這些研究組負責統計上述鳥種的繁殖活動。

### 個人紀錄

感謝各鳥友提交個人紀錄：  
（鳴謝名單請參閱英文原文）

## 互聯網紀錄

本報告亦有摘取香港觀鳥會網上紀錄：  
(紀錄發表者的名單請參閱英文原文)

2009及2010年這兩年的分類總覽由賈知行整理。

分類總覽參考的《香港鳥類名錄》，請查閱Carey *et al.* (2001)。

## CATEGORIES I-II

### **Chinese Francolin *Francolinus pintadeanus* 中華鸕鶿 I**

*Locally-distributed resident in areas of grassland with scattered shrubs or rocks, usually found in upland areas. Most records are of birds calling between mid March and early June; highest count 15 on 30 April 1994. Declining in some areas due to succession to shrubland.*

**2009:** peak count six in southwest Lantau on 2 May with at least five males calling on Lamma on 30 May.

**2010:** no reports of significance, peak count two.

### **Japanese Quail *Coturnix japonica* 鶉 I NT**

*Winter visitor and migrant, though much declined and now mostly in late autumn, to open country, often agricultural areas; extreme dates 26 September to 23 May, highest count 15 at Long Valley in winter 1994/95.*

**2009: First winter period:** one at Mai Po on 8 January and 21 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 6 October to 20 November with up to three at Long Valley, two at LMC and Lam Tsuen and one at Kam Tin. Two overwintered on Po Toi.

**2010: First winter period:** the two overwintering birds on Po Toi were last seen on 23 February. A bird of unknown origin found at Mui Wo on 23 June died in care the following day (KFBG).

**Second winter period:** recorded from 6 October to 30 November with a peak count of seven on the Mai Po scrape on 28 October in a period when the scrape was dry and numbers of other species such as larks were also present.

### **Lesser Whistling Duck *Dendrocygna javanica* 栗樹鴨 I**

*Rare migrant and summer visitor to freshwater wetland areas of Deep Bay; extreme dates 26 April to 11 October and one over-wintering record.*

**2009:** one at MPNR from 22 to 25 September.

### **Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabalis* 寒林豆雁 I**

*No records.*

**2010:** two of the taxon *middendorffii* at Mai Po from 3 November (KK) to year end, the first record for Hong Kong.

**Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris* 凍原豆雁 I**

*No records.*

**2009:** one from the Mai Po boardwalk on 1 January (RWL, GL) is the first record for Hong Kong.

**2010:** one at Mai Po from 3 to 12 November (KK) is the second Hong Kong record.

Another Bean Goose, not identified as either Taiga or Tundra Bean Goose, was present with the two Taiga and one Tundra Bean Goose from 3 to 12 November 2010.

**Common Shelduck *Tadorna tadorna* 翹鼻麻鴨 I**

*Previously a common, if somewhat erratic, winter visitor to Deep Bay intertidal areas; now much declined; extreme dates 22 October to 29 May, highest count 4,011 on 17 January 1988.*

The decline of this species in the past decade has been sharp. In the year 2000, the peak winter count was 1,320, but this had reduced to less than 30 (see table below).

**2009:** another poor year, with the lowest ever peak count.

**First winter period:** peak count nine on 1 February, latest date 2 April.

**Second inter period:** two on 15 December and six in December WC.

**2010:** only recorded in the first winter period.

**First winter period:** peak count 20 at Tsim Bei Tsui on 6 February, latest record on 8 February at MPNR.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,250	1,320	373	268	192	240	68	60	44	24	9	20

**Mandarin Duck *Aix galericulata* 鴛鴦 I**

*Rare winter visitor; status now uncertain due to the occurrence of ex-captive individuals.*

**2009:** a pair at LMC from 9 to 13 October were considered ex-captive.





**Plate 1** Cotton Pygmy Goose *Nettapus coromandelianus* 棉鳧  
Shan Pui, 24<sup>th</sup> October 2009 山貝村 2009年10月24日  
Allen Chan 陳志雄

### **Cotton Pygmy-goose** *Nettapus coromandelianus* 棉鳧 I

*Three records, all between 23 and 31 October.*

**2009:** a female or immature at Shan Pui from 24 to 26 October (OC *et al.*). This is the fourth HK record, all within a narrow time band in late October.

### **Gadwall** *Anas strepera* 赤膀鴨 I

*Scarce winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas, extreme dates 25 October and 6 May, highest count 42 on 12 January 1986.*

**2009:** a rather poor year; all records from MPNR.

**First winter period:** peak count seven on 9 January, latest record on 11 March.

**Second winter period:** two on 19 November was the only record.

**2010:** a more typical year with a new earliest autumn date.

**First winter period:** peak count five at Nam Sang Wai on 10 January, latest record on 22 February.

**Second winter period:** two at Long Valley on 18 October (LVP) was an earliest ever record and a first record for this site. Subsequently seen regularly at MPNR from 29 October with a peak count of eight on 10 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
16	26	0	1	0	6	21	30	26	13	7	8

### **Falcated Duck *Anas falcata* 羅紋鴨 I NT**

*Rare and much declined winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas, extreme dates 26 September and 26 May, highest count 413 on 14 January 1984.*

**2009:** a poor year with just four records.

**First winter period:** recorded until 15 February; peak count six females at Mai Po on 22 January, but just three records in total.

**Second winter period:** only one record, at LMC on 3 November.

**2010:** a relatively good year by recent standards with a high peak count.

**First winter period:** a pair at MPNR on 10 January, a male at Wetland Park from 17 January to 8 February and four females at MPNR on 19 March.

**Second winter period:** a female at Mai Po on 7 November. Thereafter seen regularly at MPNR from 2 December with a peak of 13 there on 24 December. One at Kam Tin on 10 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
9	20	6	4	7	5	3	1	8	16	6	13

### **Eurasian Wigeon *Anas penelope* 赤頸鴨 I**

*Abundant winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas with one summer record; typically present September to April, highest count 6,705 on 14 January 2001.*

**2009:** another good year following two excellent years in 2007 and 2008, although with slightly lower peak counts. All records from Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak count 4,439 in February WC, latest record on 16 April.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 9 October, peak count 3,780 in December WC.

**2010:** lower than usual numbers in the first winter period, but a good peak count in the second.

**First winter period:** peak count 2,816 in January WC, latest record on 30 April.

**Summer:** at least one bird over-summered.

**Second winter period:** first report on 3 November, peak count 4,429 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
2,923	3,143	6,705	3,797	4,080	2,744	3,106	2,054	5,764	5,050	4,439	4,429

**Hybrid American × Eurasian Wigeon *Anas americana* × *penelope***

綠眉鴨與赤頸鴨混種

**2009:** a hybrid American × Eurasian Wigeon was in Deep Bay from 25 February to 15 March 2009.

**Mallard *Anas platyrhynchos* 綠頭鴨 I**

*Scarce and declined winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; extreme dates 5 October to 22 May, highest count 70 on 7 November 1959.*

**2009:** two at MPNR seen regularly up to 7 April. In the second winter period, three at MPNR on 5 November with one staying until 19 November and a pair there on 29 December staying into 2010.

**2010:** the pair remained at MPNR until 11 March. No records in the second winter period.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
6	8	15	2	2	2	2	6	2	2	3	2

**Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica* 棕頸鴨 I VU**

*No previous records.*

**2010:** an adult at MPNR from 7 March (CM,GCKL) to 16 May. This is the first record for Hong Kong.

**Indian Spot-billed Duck *Anas poecilorhyncha* 印緬斑嘴鴨 I**

*Present all year, apparently resident, though has declined in recent years; peak count 40 on 7 October 1997.*

Observers are encouraged to submit all records of this species as it appears to be becoming increasingly rare.

**2009:** five at Mai Po on 27 January, three on 26 April and two on 30 December.

**2010:** no records.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
4	4	4	0	4	9	4	0	2	0	5	0

**Chinese Spot-billed Duck *Anas zonorhyncha* 中華斑嘴鴨 I**

*Previously a common winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas typically present October to March and with regular breeding records at MPNR, although now declined; highest count 511 on 13 January 1991.*

**2009:** only recorded at MPNR and LMC.

**First winter period:** at MPNR, peak count 25 on 9 January gradually declining to six on 7 April. A pair at LMC on 29 April.

**Summer:** up to three present at MPNR until 5 June with at least one over-summering.

**Second winter period:** three at MPNR on 17 October increasing to a peak count of 17 on 4 December.

**2010:** a typical pattern of occurrence for recent years with all records at MPNR and LMC.

**First winter period:** at MPNR, peak count 18 on 2 February then declining with the last record on 29 May. A pair at LMC on 20 January and 8 February.

**Summer:** one at MPNR on 20 August and 2 September.

**Second winter period:** recorded at MPNR from 5 October, peak count six on 10 December. One at LMC on 19 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
93	81	59	41	44	23	9	16	31	25	25	18

## Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata* 琵嘴鴨 I

*Common winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; typically present October to April with two summer records, highest count 14,253 on 13 January 2008.*

**2009:** a good year again for numbers after two record years in 2007 and 2008. Away from the Deep Bay area, singles at Starling Inlet on 3 November and at Pui O from 4 to 18 November.

**First winter period:** a high of 5,193 in February WC, relatively low by recent standards, latest date 7 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest on 26 August, peak count 11,271 in November WC, the second highest count on record.

**2010:** a very good year with high numbers in both winters. All records from Deep Bay area except three at Long Valley on 1 November.

**First winter period:** last recorded on 13 May, peak count 20,008 in January WC. This represents a new high for Deep Bay, although the majority of birds were at Futian NNR, Shenzhen.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 4 September, peak count 8,850 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
7,027	3,231	6,414	2,576	4,271	3,086	9,703	2,870	8,930	14,253	11,271	20,008

## Northern Pintail *Anas acuta* 針尾鴨 I

*Common winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; typically present October to April, highest count 8,654 on 11 January 1997.*

**2009:** a poor year, particularly in the first period. Away from Deep Bay area, one at Tuen Mun from 5 to 17 November and one on Lam Tsuen river from 9 to 11 December.

**First winter period:** recorded until 17 April; peak count only 397 in January WC.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 16 September, peak count 2,010 in December WC.

**2010:** a typical year with higher numbers in the second period. Away from Deep Bay area, one at Long Valley on 19 October.

**First winter period:** last recorded on 24 March, peak count 2,502 in February WC.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 5 October, peak count 3,622 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
5,646	8,086	3,435	2,609	4,381	2,054	3,332	1,556	4,647	2,444	2,010	3,622



**Plate 2** Garganey *Anas querquedula* 白眉鴨  
Nam Sang Wai, 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009 南生圍 2009年2月20日  
John and Jemi Holmes 孔思義及黃亞萍

### **Garganey *Anas querquedula* 白眉鴨 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly autumn, and winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland area; typically present September to April, highest count 715 on 27 September 1986.*

**2009:** a typical year. All records from Deep Bay area except 25 flying northeast off Po Toi on 25 March.

**First winter period:** peak spring count 137 in April WC, last record eight at Wetland Park on 16 April.

**Summer:** a male from 22 May to 29 July, the first late July record since *The Avifauna*.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 1 September, peak autumn count 130 on 16 September.

**2010:** a very high count in the second period. All records from Deep Bay area except five flying northeast off Po Toi on 24 March and 39 similarly on 31 March.

**First winter period:** peak spring count 204 in March WC, latest record on 26 April.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 12 September, peak autumn count 600 on 1 and 5 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
608	251	212	70	112	93	95	286	280	130	137	600

### **Baikal Teal** *Anas formosa* 花臉鴨 I

*Rare winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; extreme dates 18 November and 11 April, highest count five on 1 February 1986.*

**2009:** a female from the Mai Po boardwalk on 14 and 15 March.

**2010:** a male at MPNR on 23 December.

### **Eurasian Teal** *Anas crecca* 綠翅鴨 I

*Common but declining winter visitor to wetland areas, primarily Deep Bay, with occasional summer records; typically present September to April, highest count 5,411 on 24 January 1999.*

**2009:** a poor year with low numbers in both winter periods but particularly the second. Away from Deep Bay and Starling Inlet, recorded at Kam Tin, Long Valley, Lam Tsuen and Pui O.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,581 in February WC, last record on 16 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 8 September, peak count 618 in December WC.

**2010:** a very poor first winter period with a low peak count. Away from Deep Bay and Starling Inlet, recorded mostly at Kam Tin and Long Valley with a peak count of 48 at Kam Tin on 2 February and 65 at Long Valley on 11 February.

**First winter period:** peak count 627 in January WC, latest record on 14 April. One at Long Valley on 12 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record 6 September, peak count 1,459 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
5,411	4,099	2,509	3,147	3,286	2,238	3,023	1,227	2,785	2,322	1,581	1,459

**Common Pochard *Aythya ferina* 紅頭潛鴨 I**

*Scarce winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; extreme dates 22 October and 20 June, highest count 14 on 11 January 1997.*

**2009:** one at LMC on 22 January and 20 February, one at MPNR in January WC and two in February WC.

**2010:** two in the January, February and March WC, four at Nam Sang Wai on 16 February and two at Tsim Bei Tsui on 21 February. Four at Mai Po on 11 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
4	2	1	2	1	1	5	3	9	2	2	4

**Baer's Pochard *Aythya baeri* 青頭潛鴨 I CE**

*Rare and declining winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; extreme dates 22 October to 25 April, highest count 30 on 10 January 1987.*

**2010:** a male and two females at MPNR on 4 January (DED) is the first record for six years for a species recently re-assessed as CE.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
3	2	2	1	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	3

**Tufted Duck *Aythya fuligula* 鳳頭潛鴨 I**

*Common winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; typically present October to April, highest count 4,285 on 15 January 2007.*

**2009:** a good year with a new highest count. All records from Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak count 6,742 in February WC is a new high, equivalent to 2.7% of the regional population. Latest date 21 April.

**Summer:** up to two birds over-summered at MPNR.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 31 October, peak count 1,857 in November WC.

**2010:** another good year with a high second winter period count. All records from Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** last recorded on 29 May, a very late spring date, peak count 4,871 in February WC.



**Second winter period:** earliest record on 9 October, peak count 5,823 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,140	665	832	1,156	1,095	763	1,667	3,053	4,285	1,846	6,742	5,823

**Greater Scaup *Aythya marila* 斑背潛鴨 I**

*Scarce winter visitor to Deep Bay area; extreme dates 25 October and 16 April, highest count 83 on 17 February 2006.*

**2009:** a female at Starling Inlet on 3 November, an exceptional 40 at Lau Fau Shan in the December WC, a single female at Tsim Bei Tsui on 20 December and MPNR on 26 and 30 December.

**2010:** the same female at MPNR from 1 January, then up to two regularly reported from 8 January to 25 February with one remaining until 10 March. Four at Tsim Bei Tsui in the January WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1	1	6	0	6	3	2	83	0	1	40	4

**Smew *Mergellus albellus* 白秋沙鴨 I**

*Two winter records, extreme dates 16 December to 16 April.*

**2010:** an adult female at MPNR from 26 November (AL *et al.*) to year end. This is the third HK record and the earliest.



**Plate 3** Smew *Mergellus albellus* 白秋沙鴨  
 Mai Po NR, 26<sup>th</sup> November 2010 米埔 2010年11月26日  
 Andy Li 李偉仁

**Red-breasted Merganser *Mergus serrator* 紅胸秋沙鴨 I**

*Previously a scarce winter visitor and spring passage migrant to the Deep Bay area, now mostly a spring passage migrant through southern waters; extreme dates 16 November and 4 May, highest count 97 on 14 January 1990.*

All records refer to migrant flocks flying northeast past Po Toi in March.

**2009:** four on 12 March and eleven on 14 March.

**2010:** three on 16 March and two on 17 March.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
4	0	0	3	0	0	1	2	1	0	11	3



**Plate 4** Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas* 白額鵲  
Southern Waters, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2009 南部水域 2009年4月11日  
Christina Chan 陳燕明

### **Streaked Shearwater *Calonectris leucomelas* 白額鵲 I**

*Regular spring migrant in small numbers, with occasional autumn records, primarily in eastern and southern waters; extreme dates 4 March to 1 June and 21 August to 26 September, highest count 80 on 17 May 2006.*

**2009:** recorded in eastern and southern waters from 2 April to 11 May with a high count of eight on 24 April. One off Po Toi on 26 June during the close approach of TS Nangka (GW) is a latest spring date.

**2010:** a poor year, with only two records, both single birds off Po Toi on 21 April and 13 May.

**Short-tailed Shearwater *Puffinus tenuirostris* 短尾鷗 I**

*Regular spring migrant in small numbers, primarily in southern waters; extreme dates 23 April to 24 May, highest count 15 on 14 May 2007.*

**2009:** passage off Po Toi and in nearby southern waters from 20 April to 26 May, new earliest and latest dates (GW), with a high count of eight on 13 May.

**2010:** passage off Po Toi and in nearby southern waters from 20 April to 19 May with a high count of 13 on the last date.

**Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* 小鸕鶿 I**

*Present all year on ponds and pools, primarily in Deep Bay area; highest count 352 on 12 January 1986.*

**2009:** a typical year. Away from Deep Bay area, recorded at Tai Lam, Shek Kong and Ho Pui.

**First winter period:** peak count 210 in January WC.

**Breeding season:** peak count 100 in May WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count 197 in November WC.

**2010:** the highest peak count since *The Avifauna*. Away from Deep Bay area, recorded at Siu Tan, Shek Kong, Nam Chung, Long Valley, Ho Pui and Tai Lam.

**First winter period:** peak count 276 in March WC.

**Breeding season:** peak count 87 in May WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count 172 in November WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
162	146	132	155	182	204	255	225	221	224	210	276

**Great Crested Grebe *Podiceps cristatus* 鳳頭鸕鶿 I**

*Common winter visitor to Deep Bay area; extreme dates 15 October to 12 May, highest count 790 on 17 December 2006.*

**2009:** a good year with a high of 357, equivalent to 1% of the regional population. Outside Deep Bay area, one found dead on the shoreline of Po Toi on 2 April.

**First winter period:** latest record on 25 April, peak count 357 between Tsim Bei Tsui and Nam Sha Po on 28 January.

**Second winter period:** earliest date 15 November, peak count 126 in December WC.

**2010:** the first over-summering record. All records from Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** last recorded on 26 March, peak count 215 in January WC.

**Summer:** one at MPNR from 13 May to 25 October is the first summer record.

**Second winter period:** earliest record 7 November, peak count 127 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
309	438	66	163	104	213	291	790	375	331	357	215

### **Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* 黑頸鸕鶿 I**

*Four winter records, extreme dates 26 November to 3 February.*

**2009:** one at Tsim Bei Tsui on 20 December (YLT). This is the fifth record for Hong Kong.

**2010:** two at Tsim Bei Tsui on 24 January, one with a deformed upper mandible (RWL *et al*). It seems likely that one of these birds was the same as reported in December 2009.

### **Black Stork *Ciconia nigra* 黑鶴 I**

*Occasional autumn migrant and winter visitor to wetland areas, primarily Deep Bay; extreme dates 16 October and 5 April, highest count 15 on 31 December 1967.*

**2010:** one at Pui O on 21 October. Five at Nam Sang Wai on 1 November is the highest count since *The Avifauna*.

### **Eurasian Spoonbill *Platalea leucorodia* 白琵鷺 I**

*Winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; extreme dates 16 October and 18 May, highest count 30 on 14 March 1976.*

**2009:** all records from Mai Po except one at Long Valley on 4 April.

**First winter period:** peak count four from Mai Po boardwalk on 8 and 9 April. Latest date 18 April.

**Second winter period:** earliest date 13 November. Peak count four in December WC.

**2010:** all records from Mai Po except one at Long Valley on 2 and 3 January.

**First winter period:** peak count seven in March WC, latest date 30 April.

**Second winter period:** earliest date 7 November, peak count three in December WC.

**Black-faced Spoonbill *Platalea minor* 黑臉琵鷺 I EN**

*Winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas with regular summer records; typically present October to April, highest count 421 on 11 December 2008.*

Total global population counted in the January 2010 International BFS Census was 2,347. Numbers in Deep Bay have shown a progressive increase since 1999.

**2009:** a typical year. Recorded mainly at MPNR with small numbers at Kam Tin, Wetland Park and Long Valley.

**First winter period:** peak count 405 in January WC.

**Summer:** seven present from 16 June to 17 September.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 28 October, peak count 385 in December WC.

**2010:** a good year with high numbers in both winter periods and a new highest count. Locations as for 2009.

**First winter period:** peak count 496 in January WC, a new highest count and 21% of the total in the International BFS Census.

**Summer:** seven from 9 July to 9 August, numbers then gradually falling to one on 19 October.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 24 October, peak count 376 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
164	252	197	234	266	305	340	475	358	421	405	496

**Eurasian Bittern *Botaurus stellaris* 大麻鵝 I**

*Winter visitor to larger reedmarshes; extreme dates 12 September and 16 May, highest count 13 on 27 March 1998.*

High counts in both years arose from co-ordinated counts of birds entering roosts in reedbeds at MPNR or gathering for migration in spring.

**2009:** all records from MPNR. Eight on 4 April was the latest record and peak count in the first winter period. Earliest record 25 November in the second winter period, peak count 11 on 17 December.

**2010:** most records from MPNR with single birds at LMC, Nam Sang Wai and Kam Tin. In the first winter period, recorded to 21 April with a peak of 31 migrants at MPNR on 19 March (DJS, PJJ), a new highest count. In the second winter period, recorded from 29 October with a peak of seven on 8 and 19 November.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
14	5	8	4	1	5	1	2	4	2	11	31

### **Yellow Bittern *Ixobrychus sinensis* 黃葦鶉 I**

*Uncommon summer visitor from April to September in Deep Bay reedmarsh and mangrove, with more widespread spring and autumn migrants and occasional winter records; has greatly declined; highest count 50 on 21 May 2008.*

**2009:** widespread records but low numbers in all seasons.

**First winter period:** singles in Deep Bay area from 8 January to 17 March. A poor spring passage with a peak count of two between 7 May and 9 June.

**Breeding season:** peak count four at MPNR in July WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count seven in September WC.

**2010:** similar to 2009.

**First winter period:** one at MPNR from 4 to 16 January. Spring passage 8 April to 8 June, with a high count of four at Fung Lok Wai on 24 April.

**Breeding season:** peak count 7 in July WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count ten at LMC on 21 September.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
5	16	7	5	6	25	2	12	21	50	7	10

### **Von Schrenck's Bittern *Ixobrychus eurhythmus* 紫背葦鶉 I**

*Scarce migrant to wetland areas; extreme dates 28 April to 5 June and 29 August to 20 October, highest count 29 on 21 May 2008.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded from 27 April, a new earliest date, when one was at Ho Sheung Heung (PJJ) and on Tai Mo Shan (KPK), an unusual location. A poor spring passage with just two further records, one at Long Valley on 4 May and an exceptional flock of 16 over the West Lamma Channel on 11 May. One taken into care at KFBG from Long Valley on 28 June (LK).

**Second winter period:** singles at MPNR on 24 September, LMC on 28 September, different birds at Kam Tin on 10 and 13 October, at HKU on 14 October and finally again at MPNR on 15 October.

**2010:** a very poor year for this species with only two records, both of which were latest dates.

**First winter period:** one at Long Valley from 5 to 11 June (Website photograph), a new latest spring date.

**Second winter period:** one at Kam Tin on 21 October (JAA), a new latest autumn date.

### **Cinnamon Bittern** *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus* 栗葦鶉 I

*Scarce migrant and rare summer visitor to freshwater wetland areas with occasional winter records; high count 10 on 19 May 1971.*

**2009:** no winter records. In spring, singles at Long Valley on 7 April, Kam Tin on 27 April and San Tin on 30 May. One in the June WC. In autumn, singles from 11 August to 21 October at Long Valley, MPNR and LMC with two at Long Valley on 29 August.

**2010:** one at LMC on 28 January. Spring passage from 27 March to 19 May, with peak of two at LMC on 4 April. One at Mai Po on 16 June and in the July WC. In autumn, singles from 17 August to 31 October, mostly at Long Valley but also LMC and MPNR.

### **Black Bittern** *Dupetor flavicollis* 黑鶉 I

*Scarce migrant to freshwater wetland areas; extreme dates 9 March to 20 June and 26 July to 8 October, high count 11 on 16 September 1999.*

**2009: First winter period:** in the Po Toi area, one in off the sea on 23 April and a single flock of 15 with another rescued from the sea on a HKBWS Boat Trip on 25 April, a record high count. One at Long Valley on 19 May and one in HK Park from 4 to 21 June, a new latest spring date (Website photographs).

**Second winter period:** one at MPNR on 16 and 24 August with one taken into care at KFBG from Admiralty on 17 September and released at Mai Po on 22 October (AmC).

**2010:** a poor year with only four records. Singles at Long Valley on 23 May and MPNR on 25 May. One at MPNR on 2 September and again on 9 September.



### **Malayan Night Heron** *Gorsachius melanolophus* 黑冠鵞 I

*Probably rare breeding species in undisturbed wooded areas, also rare spring passage migrant, extreme dates 19 April to 10 October.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi from 5 to 10 May (GW).

**2010:** one on Po Toi from 7 to 13 May (GW). A *Gorsachius* Night Heron on Po Toi on 10 and 11 March (GW) was not identified to species.

### **Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* 夜鷺 I

*Present all year, though generally in lower numbers than previously, mainly in Deep Bay wetlands and at scattered breeding colonies; highest count 2,500 on 21 January 1996, peak count since The Avifauna 727 on 11 February 2001.*

**2009:** recorded from widespread sites and in all months with migrating and breeding birds.

**First winter period:** peak count 200 at Nam Chung on 4 March. Peak migrant count 16 on Po Toi on 6 April.

**Breeding season:** total number of nests recorded by the Egret Survey was 123, a 29% increase over 2008 and a reversal of previous declines. Peak count of mostly non-breeding birds, 120 in June WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count 78 in October WC with numbers falling rapidly thereafter. 48 at Kowloon Park on 23 December is a high count away from traditional sites.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First winter period:** low counts of wintering birds, peak 11 at MPNR on 19 January. In spring, peak count 84 at MPNR in April WC.

**Breeding season:** total nests recorded by Egret Survey was 91, the lowest on record and disappointing after the 2009 increase. Peak count of mostly non-breeding birds, 136 in June WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count 43 in September WC and 36 at Kai Tak on 17 September. Very low winter counts at MPNR and elsewhere.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
72	103	727	97	141	79	70	285	385	361	200	136

### **Striated Heron** *Butorides striatus* 綠鷺 I

*Typically occurs mid April to September in Deep Bay, and at scattered coastal and inland sites in winter; highest count 26 on 15 August 2004.*

**2009: First winter period:** singles at Tai Po Kau, Hau Hok Wan, Ho Pui and Tai O.

**Breeding season:** peak count 14 at MPNR on 20 July. Two juveniles at Tai O on 3 August.

**Second winter period:** singles in autumn at Po Toi, Kai Tak, Fung Yuen, Tai Po Kau and Tai Lam and in winter at Tai Po Kau, Pak Sha O and Lam Tsuen.

**2010:** a poor year with relatively few records and a low breeding season count.

**First winter period:** no records until 6 March, then singles at Shek Kong, Po Toi, Long Valley, MPNR and She Shan.

**Breeding season:** peak count seven at MPNR on 24 July, the lowest peak count since 2001.

**Second winter period:** two on Po Toi on 1 September, thereafter autumn singles at Tai Po Kau, Pui O and Cheung Chau and in December at Tai Po Kau and Ng Tung Chai.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
14	11	5	15	18	26	22	11	25	11	14	7

## Chinese Pond Heron *Ardeola bacchus* 池鷺 I

*Winter, migrant and breeding populations present in widespread wetlands and damp areas; highest count 684 on 14 January 1990.*

**2009: First winter period:** peak count 148 in February WC. 91 over Po Toi on 16 April.

**Breeding season:** 197 nests recorded by the Egret Survey, the lowest count since 2001. Peak count 242 in August WC.

**Second winter period:** peak count 215 in October WC. Elsewhere 12 in Aberdeen Harbour on 15 September after TS Koppu.

**2010: First winter period:** peak count 148 in February WC and 29 at Long Valley on 2 February.

**Breeding season:** 267 nests recorded by the Egret Survey, a recovery from 2009 to typical levels. Peak count 219 in August WC.

**Second winter period:** 21 migrating southwest at Po Toi on 2 September with similar flocks later in September. Peak count 252 in September WC, 80 at LMC on 22 September and 33 at Long Valley on 21 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
286	488	299	341	307	342	324	253	259	260	242	252

**Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus* 牛背鷺 I**

*Winter, migrant and breeding populations, present in freshwater wetland areas mainly in NT; highest count 1,000 on 29 August 1977.*

**2009: First winter period:** 30 at Tai Sang Wai on 27 January. Peak count 82 in April WC. 28 migrating northeast at Po Toi on 16 April, 33 at Tai O on 28 April and 75 at Plover Cove on 6 May.

**Breeding season:** 64 nests recorded by the Egret Survey, a typical number. Peak count 149 in July WC.

**Second winter period:** 58 at Kam Tin on 7 September and 18 at Long Valley on 19 September. Peak count 82 on September WC declining thereafter to 31 in December WC.

**2010: First winter period:** 28 over Long Valley on 3 March, 47 in March WC, 48 at Pui O on 10 April, 30 at Tai Tam on 17 April, 24 west up the East Lamma Channel on 13 May. 140 at Pui O on 16 May with 43 on Stonecutter’s Island on 19 May.

**Breeding season:** 67 nests recorded by the Egret Survey. Peak count 65 in June WC, a low summer count.

**Second winter period:** 202 in the September WC with 110 at Long Valley on 5 October. Thereafter numbers falling to 28 in the December WC and 21 at Long Valley on 6 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
450	195	159	206	600	344	300	225	119	148	149	202

**Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* 蒼鷺 I**

*Present all year at wetlands and some coastal areas, mainly in Deep Bay area, though numbers in summer very low; highest count 1,962 on 1 February 1996.*

**2009: First winter period:** peak count 1,085 in February WC. Elsewhere, widespread records in small numbers with a peak of 15 at Sha Tau Kok on 13 January. Numbers decline rapidly after March with a low of seven in July WC.

**Second winter period:** numbers return in September with peak count 920 in December WC. Elsewhere five migrants passed southwest at Po Toi on 15 October and 106 at Kam Tin on 29 October was a good count for that location.

**2010: First winter period:** peak count 818 in February WC, the lowest since *The Avifauna*. Elsewhere 15 on North Lantau on 9 January with 14 at Long Valley on 11 January. 25 migrating north at dusk at Mai Po on 24 February and 15 at Kai Tak on 16 April. A low of three in the July WC.

**Second winter period:** numbers start to return in September with 23 at Kai Tak on 15 October and a peak count 748 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,167	1,164	1,086	1,297	1,146	1,158	1,202	1,036	862	930	1,085	818

### **Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* 草鷺 I**

*Migrant and winter visitor (occasional in summer) to vegetated wetlands, mainly in Deep Bay area; typically present end September to mid April, highest count 50 on 11 October 1974.*

**2009:** all records from the Mai Po area except where stated with records from every month. In the first half of the year, a peak count of four on 4 January with up to two from May to August and a peak of 11 in the second half on 16 October. Two at LMC on 23 and 28 September included a juvenile.

**2010:** all records at Mai Po unless otherwise stated. In the first half of the year, a peak count of four on 22 February with one at Long Valley from 22 February to 30 March and four at Nam Sang Wai on 27 April. One over-summered at MPNR. A migrant at Po Toi on 16 September and one at LMC on 21 September. Peak of six in the second half on 18 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
8	9	6	5	9	4	12	6	8	10	11	6

### **Great Egret *Ardea alba* 大白鷺 I**

*Present all year in wetlands, mainly in Deep Bay area; passage migrants and winter visitors occur; highest count 2,058 on 14 November 2004.*

**2009:** records are from MPNR unless otherwise stated

**First winter period:** peak count 978 in January WC. Elsewhere 109 at Sha Tau Kok on 13 January.

**Breeding season:** 108 nests counted by the Egret Survey, a typical number. Peak count 462 in June WC. 60 in Tolo Harbour on 3 July and 69 at Sha Tau Kok on 17 July.

**Second winter period:** 112 at Kam Tin on 1 September. Migrant flocks seen in late September and October, 247 at MPNR and 350 on Po Toi on 24 September with a further 190 at Po Toi on 22 October. Peak count in the second period 882 in December WC.

**2010:** the lowest peak count since 1999. Records are from MPNR unless otherwise stated

**First winter period:** peak count 656 in January WC. Elsewhere small numbers at various locations with 13 at Kai Tak on 16 April the high count.

**Breeding season:** 80 nests counted by the Egret Survey, a relatively small number but nest counts for this species have fluctuated considerably. Peak count 568 in June WC.

**Second winter period:** 40 at Kai Tak on 17 September. Migrant flocks relatively small with 46 at Shek O on 10 October, 62 at Nam Chung on 17 October and 24 the highest on Po Toi on 27 October. Peak count in the second period 804 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
640	1,205	931	1,239	1,429	2,058	1,565	1,087	890	1,167	978	804

### **Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* 中白鷺 I**

*Present all year, though rather few in summer, mainly at freshwater wetlands in Deep Bay area; highest count 66 on 16 November 2008.*

**2009: First winter period:** 50 in the January WC was the peak count in the first half. Elsewhere, three at LMC on 14 January and single migrants at Po Toi on 23 April and 5 May. Up to three over-summered at MPNR with one at Kam Tin on 19 June.

**Second winter period:** five at Kam Tin on 15 September, one at Long Valley on 19 September with a peak count 35 in September WC. One at Pui O on 13 and 26 December.

**2010: First winter period:** 29 in the March WC was the peak count in the first half. Elsewhere recorded at Siu Tan in the northeast NT on 2 January, two at Long Valley on 31 March and migrants on Po Toi on 14 April, Tai O on 17 April, Po Toi again on 15 May and four at Pui O on 16 May. At least three over-summered at MPNR with seven there on 9 July.

**Second winter period:** 77 at Lok Ma Chau on 22 September (PJL) is a new highest count. Elsewhere the peak count was 54 in September WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
18	21	18	18	15	54	33	28	43	66	50	77

**Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* 小白鷺 I**

*Present all year in wetland areas throughout HK, mostly Deep Bay area; passage migrants and winter visitors occur; highest count 3,212 on 12 December 2004.*

**2009: First winter period:** peak count 2,076 in February WC and 479 at Wong Chuk Hang roost on 7 January. High counts elsewhere include 41 probable migrants at Shuen Wan on 21 March, 81 at Sok Kwu Wan on 5 April and 51 at Po Toi on 6 May.

**Breeding season:** 224 nests counted by the Egret Survey, a typical number. Peak count 701 in July WC.

**Second winter period:** autumn migrants include 22 at Aberdeen Harbour on 15 September following TS Koppu, 92 over the Mai Po access road on 22 September, 35 over Tai Po Kau Headland on 26 September and 100 off Po Toi on 22 October. Peak count in second half 1,047 in December WC and 417 at Wong Chuk Hang roost on 15 December.

**2010:** peak count 1,197 in January WC is the lowest year count since 1999. Numbers were generally low throughout the year.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,197 in January WC with 87 at Long Valley on 28 January.

**Breeding season:** 229 nests counted by the Egret Survey. Peak count 706 in June WC.

**Second winter period:** a dark morph at Lau Fau Shan on 28 August (Website photograph). Peak count 935 in December WC. Elsewhere 154 at Kam Tin on 30 August and 135 at Sok Kwu Wan on 9 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,145	1,629	1,726	1,653	2,151	3,212	2,345	2,004	1,969	1,675	2,076	1,197

**Pacific Reef Egret *Egretta sacra* 岩鷺 I**

*Resident in rocky coastal areas; highest count 18 on 21 January 2003.*

**2009:** recorded from islands and Tseng Shui, Shek Kwu Wan, Tai Lam Chung and Pak Nai, peak count eight on Po Toi.

**2010:** recorded from islands and Luk Keng, Kai Tak and Mai Po, peak count six on Po Toi.

**Swinhoe's Egret *Egretta eulophotes* 黃嘴白鷺 I VU**

*Scarce spring migrant with one autumn record, mostly to Deep Bay area; extreme dates 5 March to 22 October, highest count 11 on 16 April 1960. Formerly bred.*

**2009:** recorded from 15 April to 28 May, all records from Mai Po except one past Po Toi on 15 April and one at Long Valley on 4 May. Peak count three at Mai Po on 2 May.

**2010:** a poor year with only six records, two in the Tai O area of Lantau on 17 April, one at Mai Po on 1, 5 and 8 May, two there on 15 May and one at Sha Lo Wan, Lantau on 29 May.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
2	4	3	3	2	5	2	3	2	2	3	2

**Dalmatian Pelican *Pelecanus crispus* 卷羽鵜鶘 I VU**

*Winter visitor to Deep Bay, highest count 85 on 21 February 1960; numbers have since declined considerably and now no longer present annually. East Asia population recently estimated at only 30 individuals (Yu and Chen 2008).*

**2009:** one at Mai Po from 11 December to year end.

**2010:** the 2009 bird remained until 3 January.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
22	21	16	16	14	14	15	2	0	1	1	1

**Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel* 白斑軍艦鳥 I**

*Rare spring and summer visitor with other isolated records and some long-staying individuals.*

**2009:** first stage juveniles seen offshore from Po Toi on 31 March, 21 April and 13 May (GW) may refer to the same bird. One at Shum Wat, Lantau on 1 November (Website photograph).

**2010:** first stage juvenile recorded at the Mai Po boardwalk from 19 January to 18 March (many observers) probably refers to one individual. One at Stonecutter's Island on 6 August (DJS).

**Frigatebird sp. 軍艦鳥**

**2009:** immature in the West Lamma Channel on 11 June (YYT) and an immature over Po Toi on 27 June (GW) may refer to the long-staying Lesser (see above).



**Plate 5** Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* 紅腳鯉鳥  
Tolo Harbour, 19<sup>th</sup> June 2010 吐露港 2010年6月19日  
Pippen Ho 何志剛

**Red-footed Booby *Sula sula* 紅腳鯉鳥 I**

*Six summer records; extreme dates 5 July and 5 September.*

**2010:** immature in poor condition in Tolo Harbour on 18 and 19 June (LYN *et al.*). This is the earliest summer record.

**Brown Booby *Sula leucogaster* 褐鯉鳥 I**

*Six records, May (three), August (two) and November.*

**2009:** a adult off Po Toi on 6 April (GW), another in eastern waters on 24 April (YYT) and one in southern waters on 3 May (P&MW *et al.*).

**2010:** one off Po Toi on 14 May (GW).



## Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo* 普通鸕鶿 I

*Winter visitor to ponds and inshore waters, mainly in Deep Bay area; typically present from end September to mid April, highest count 11,424 on 5 February 2005.*

**2009:** a low peak count of 8,736, the lowest since 2003. Away from northwest NT, Starling Inlet and Shuen Wan, small numbers recorded at Plover Cove, Tai Lam Chung Reservoir and Shing Mun.

**First winter period:** latest date 24 April, peak count 8,736 in January WC. 42 flying over Shing Mun on 19 February and 50 at Tai Lam Chung on 22 February. Up to two birds over-summered.

**Second winter period:** earliest date 17 September, peak count 7,876 in November WC.

**2010:** a typical year with a high count of 10,758 birds representing 11% of the regional population. Away from northwest NT, Starling Inlet and Shuen Wan, also recorded at Tai Lam Chung Reservoir, Lam Tsuen, Fung Yuen, Tung Ping Chau and Victoria Harbour.

**First winter period:** latest date 29 April, peak count 10,758 in February WC. Flyovers included 26 at Lam Tsuen on 17 January, 50 at Fung Yuen on 29 January and 60 at Victoria Harbour on 16 March.

**Second winter period:** earliest date 24 August, peak count 5,795 in November WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
7,345	7,712	7,142	6,534	7,959	8,964	11,424	10,347	10,081	11,144	8,736	10,758

## Japanese Cormorant *Phalacrocorax capillatus* 綠背鸕鶿 I

*Two records, 17 to 22 April 2005 and 4 to 18 January 2007.*

**2009:** first summer at Stanley Peninsular on 10 April (LC). This is the third Hong Kong record.

### **Western Osprey *Pandion haliaetus* 鵟 I**

*Common winter visitor, mostly to Deep Bay wetland areas, typically present October to April, with a few individuals over-summering; highest count 26 on 18 November 2005.*

**2009:** most records were from Deep Bay where it was recorded in all months; also regularly recorded in both winter periods at Tai Lam and Shuen Wan. One over Po Toi on 27 April a presumed migrant.

**First winter period:** peak count 17 in Deep Bay on 15 February.

**Summer:** one at High Island Reservoir on 14 June.

**Second winter period:** peak count 12 in Deep Bay on 18 October.

**2010:** recorded in all months, mainly in Deep Bay; also in winter in coastal areas of northeast and eastern NT and Tai Lam. One over Po Toi on 8 April a presumed migrant.

**First winter period:** peak count 15 on 24 January.

**Summer:** three at Mai Po on 9 June. Also recorded at Nam Sang Wai.

**Second winter period:** peak count 10 on 19 December.

### **Black Baza *Aviceda leuphotes* 黑冠鵟隼 I**

*Passage migrant and scarce summer visitor to shrubland and open woodland; extreme dates 11 April to 27 October (also 16 February 2002), highest count 50 on 17 August 1997.*

**2009:** one at Fanling on 21 April.

**2010:** one at Long Valley on 3 May. One on Po Toi on 31 October (Website photograph), a new latest date.

### **Crested Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus* 鳳頭蜂鷹 I**

*Scarce autumn migrant and rare winter visitor and spring migrant; extreme dates 4 September to 20 April, highest count six on 25 October 1996.*

**2009:** one at Tai Po Kau on 14 April. In the second half, one at Tai Po Kau on 5 September and 4 October, one at Robin's Nest on 24 October, two at Pak Sha O on 26 October, one over TPK Headland on 1 November and one at Lung Fu Shan on 2 November.

**2010:** one at Tai Po Kau on 10 February with possibly the same bird at Lam Tsuen on 28 February. In the second half, two at Ping Long on 29 August (MK) is an earliest record. One at Tai Po Kau on 25 September and one at Tai Om Shan on 2 October.

**Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* 黑翅鳶 I**

*Occasional visitor in ones or twos to open country throughout year.*

**2009:** one from the Mai Po access road on 3 January. One regularly reported from MPNR between 29 July and 20 October. Singles at LMC on 27 August and over Po Toi on 24 September.

**2010:** singles at Long Valley on 6 January, Mai Po on 8 January, KFBG on 10 January and Mai Po again on 14 January may refer to one or two birds. Two at MPNR on 1 May. One at LMC on 11 July and at MPNR on 18 and 24 July and 10 August may all refer to the same bird. Likewise, one at Long Valley on 19 and 20 November, 9 December and subsequently seen by the same observer at Shek Kong later that day may also refer to the same bird.



**Plate 6** Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* 黑翅鳶  
Mai Po Access Road, 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2009 米埔擔竿洲路 2009年1月3日  
Owen Chiang 深藍

### **Black Kite *Milvus migrans* 黑鷲 I**

*Present all year and widespread, with increased numbers in winter between October and March; highest roost count 1,300 on 30 December 1959.*

**2009:** peak counts outside of Deep Bay were 40 at Tai Lam on 8 February and peak roost counts 120 at Sai Kung on 20 November, 399 at Aberdeen Harbour also on 20 November and 155 at Tung Ping Chau on 27 December. A pair successfully raised two young at HK Observatory, Kowloon, between February and May.

**2010:** the highest counts recorded were 80 at Tai Lam on 16 January, 50 at Siu Lam on 6 February and 100 going to roost at Tung Ping Chau on 13 November.

### **White-bellied Sea Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster* 白腹海鷲 I**

*Resident in coastal areas, mainly in the eastern NT; highest count six on 14 June 2003.*

**2009:** widespread records from all months with a peak count of three adults at Sai Kung on 1 November. The WBSE group reported seven successful breeding pairs out of nine attempts with eight young raised, a very good year. One pair in Sai Kung bred successfully for the seventh successive year, a new record.

**2010:** fewer records than 2009 with a peak count of three on Po Toi on 25 August. Three successful breeding pairs out of six attempts with three young raised. The Sai Kung pair failed to breed successfully.

### **Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* 蛇鷲 I**

*Present all year, probably largely resident, in woodland; highest count ten on 24 March 2008.*

**2009:** recorded from widespread locations in north and central NT plus the following - two at Aberdeen CP on 8 April, one in southwest Lantau on 2 May, one taken into care at KFBG from Shek O on 22 October and later released and one at Pui O on 9 November and 13 December. Peak count four at Ping Long on 31 January, Tai Po Kau on 7 February, Pat Sin Leng on 20 February and Kowloon Reservoir on 14 March.

**2010:** recorded from widespread locations in north and central NT plus two in southwest Lantau on 17 April. Peak count six at Ping Long on 29 August.

### **Eastern Marsh Harrier *Circus spilonotus* 白腹鷲 I**

*Common winter visitor to Deep Bay wetland areas; typically present from October to April, with extreme dates of 5 September to 9 May, highest count 11 on 7 January 1989.*

**2009:** all records from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 17 April; peak count four in the February WC and on 29 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 6 September; peak count seven in October WC.

**2010:** all records from the Deep Bay area. Relatively few records and low counts, except for the January WC.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 24 March; peak count eight in the January WC.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 19 September; peak count only two.



**Plate 7** Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos* 鵞鵝  
Mai Po NR, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2010 米埔 2010年10月12日  
Andy Li 李偉仁

### **Pied Harrier *Circus melanoleucos* 鵞鵝 I**

*Scarce autumn migrant, rare winter visitor and spring migrant; extreme dates of 15 September to 23 April, highest count three on 18 October 2004 .*

**2009:** one at LMC on 3 March. One at Mai Po on 4 October, San Tin on 19 October, LMC on 9 and 11 November, MPNR on 18 November and LMC Lookout on 23 November.

**2010:** no spring records. One at Mai Po from 1 to 21 October with two there from 5 to 12 October. A juvenile at Lai Chi Wo in northeast NT on 17 October is a rare record away from the Deep Bay area.

**Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus* 鳳頭鷹 I**

*Resident in woodland throughout HK; peak count five on 4 February 1989.*

**2009:** recorded from widespread areas including Hong Kong, Po Toi and Lantau islands; peak count four at TPK Headland where a pair nested and successfully fledged two young. This species is regularly taken into care at KFBG, often from unusual locations, this year including Shing Mun Tunnel, Wong Tai Sin and Ma Hang Prison.

**2010:** recorded from widespread areas with a maximum count of two. Locations for KFBG rescues included Tai Wai Swimming Pool

**Chinese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter soloensis* 赤腹鷹 I**

*Spring migrant, sometimes in large flocks, scarce in autumn; extreme dates 3 April to 25 May and 8 September to 12 November, highest count 780 on 16 April 2006.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**Spring:** passage from 7 April to 14 May with most sightings on Po Toi and a modest passage. Peak counts of 53 at Po Toi on 22 April and 25 at Crest Hill on 27 April.

**Autumn:** two records, two on Po Toi on 22 September and one at Tai Lam on 11 October.

**2010:** an exceptional year with new peak counts and a latest spring date.

**Spring:** recorded from 7 April to 6 June. A record influx followed a cold front on 14 April, with 1,440 passing through Po Toi in two hours on 15 April (GW) and subsequently 445 over Mai Po village on 16 April, 105 at Tsim Bei Tsui on 17 April with 250 there the next day, 120 at Lung Fu Shan on 18 April and smaller numbers at widespread locations. 73 at MPNR on 30 April was a late movement. One photographed on Po Toi on 6 June (KCC) is a new latest spring record.

**Autumn:** one at Ng Tung Chai on 13 September and one on Po Toi from 14 September to 5 October. One at Tai Po Kau on 16 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
195	5	5	0	665	34	3	780	126	9	53	1440

## Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* 日本松雀鷹 I

*Passage migrant, mainly autumn, and scarce winter visitor to open country; extreme dates of 16 September to 5 May, highest count four on 24 April 1997.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** one at MPNR from 3 to 21 January and another at Sha Tau Kok on 15 January. Thereafter recorded from 13 March to 26 April, most records from Po Toi but also Mai Po and Tai Po Kau with the final record at Tai Om.

**Second winter period:** recorded between 25 September and 20 November, mainly on Po Toi and in Deep Bay but also Lamma Island, Lam Tsuen, Long Valley, Lung Fu Shan and Pui O, peak count two on Po Toi on 14 October.

**2010:** a weak spring passage.

**First winter period:** singles recorded from 7 to 17 April on Po Toi, at Robin's Nest and Shing Mun with three on Po Toi on 8 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded between 1 October and 11 November and on 20 December; peak count two at Long Valley on 25 October.



**Plate 8** Japanese Sparrowhawk *Accipiter gularis* 日本松雀鷹  
Long Valley, 29<sup>th</sup> October 2009 壆原 2009年10月29日  
Sam Chan 陳巨輝

**Besra *Accipiter virgatus* 松雀鷹 I**

*Resident and autumn migrant in shrubland areas (probably also breeds in mangroves); highest count four on 5 January 2003.*

**2009:** the peak count was three at MPNR on 3 June and 2 October and Po Toi on 9 December. Display noted in April.

**2010:** the peak count was three at Braemar Hill on 20 February and Mai Po on 16 September.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus* 雀鷹 I**

*Scarce winter visitor to lowland areas of NT, mainly Deep Bay; extreme dates 9 October to 22 April.*

**2009:** singles on 3 and 4 February, 2 March, 22 and 30 October and 27 December at Mai Po, Shek Kong, Tai Po Kau and Lam Tsuen.

**2010:** five records of singles, all between 24 October and 1 November, at Mai Po, Kai Tak, Ng Tung Chai and Nim Wan.

**Grey-faced Buzzard *Butastur indicus* 灰臉鵟鷹 I**

*Migrant, mainly in spring; extreme dates of 13 March to 1 May and 29 September to 10 November, highest count 147 on 22 March 1993.*

**2009:** modest spring numbers and no autumn records.

**Spring:** the peak year count came with the first record, 16 on Po Toi on 26 March. Thereafter in smaller numbers up to 23 April, mostly on Po Toi but also MPNR, Tai Lam CP and over waters south of Lamma.

**2010:** a typical year for numbers with no autumn records.

**Spring:** all records between 23 March and 24 April with peak counts 32 at LMC Lookout on 30 March, 34 on Po Toi on 8 April, 15 at Robin's Nest on 9 April and 10 at Lung Fu Shan on 18 April.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
4	1	100	0	2	31	30	1	28	98	16	34



**Eastern Buzzard *Buteo japonicus* 普通鵟 I**

*Common winter visitor to open country and lightly wooded areas, extreme dates 4 October to 10 May; highest count 16 on 11 November 2007.*

**2009:** a typical year with widespread records.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 5 April; peak count eight in March WC.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 19 October, peak count six in November WC.

**2010:** another typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 24 April; peak count 11 in January WC.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 23 October; peak count 15 in November WC.

**Greater Spotted Eagle *Aquila clanga* 烏鵟 I VU**

*Scarce winter visitor largely confined to Deep Bay area; extreme dates of 9 October to 13 April, highest count six on 14 November 1990.*

**2009:** all records from the Deep Bay area except one on Po Toi on 17 March.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 7 April; peak count three in Deep Bay on 15 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 24 October; peak count four in Deep Bay on December.

**2010:** all records from Deep Bay area with very few records in the first winter period.

**First winter period:** only seven records up to 24 March; peak count six in Deep Bay on 24 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 20 October; peak count three on 8, 18 and 24 December.

**Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis* 草原鵟 I**

*One record, 22 December 2008.*

**2009:** the juvenile photographed at MPNR on 22 December 2008 was seen again between 28 March and 28 April at MPNR and from the Mai Po access road (many observers).

**Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* 白肩鵟 I VU**

*Winter visitor mainly November to March and largely confined to Deep Bay area; extreme dates of 18 September to 17 April, highest count 21 on 27 February 1993.*

**2009:** all records from Mai Po and LMC.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 25 March; peak count three on various dates up to 20 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 9 November; peak count of five in November WC.

**2010:** all records from Mai Po, LMC and Nam Sang Wai.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 3 April; peak count six at Deep Bay in the January and March WC. This is the highest peak count since winter 1998/9.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 21 October; peak count four at Deep Bay in the November WC.

**Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciatus* 白腹隼鵟 I**

*Resident in open country and upland areas of NT; highest count three on 9 November 2004.*

**2009:** sightings of one or two in most months at widespread locations in the northern NT and Lantau.

**2010:** less widespread records than 2009, almost all from Mai Po. Peak count three, two adults and a juvenile, at MPNR on 23 July.

**Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* 紅隼 I**

*Autumn migrant and winter visitor to open country, mainly mid-September to mid-April; extreme dates 5 September to 22 May with three June records, highest count ten on 6 November 1968.*

**2009:** a weak autumn passage.

**First winter period:** single birds, occasionally two together, recorded up to 9 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 23 September; peak count only two.

**2010:** recorded from widespread areas.

**First winter period:** mainly singles recorded up to 30 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 27 September, peak count five at Mai Po on 5 October.

### **Amur Falcon *Falco amurensis* 亞穆爾隼 I**

*Scarce autumn migrant with one spring record, extreme dates 19 to 20 May and 7 October to 4 November; highest count 11 on 22 October 2007.*

**2009:** five records, all between 15 and 25 October with singles at LMC, Lung Fu Shan and Shan Pui Tsuen and two at MPNR and on Po Toi.

**2010:** one at Kau Lung Hang on 3 October (DAD) is an earliest record. Then singles at Sai Kung, Po Toi and Pui O and finally one at Long Valley on 7 November (BK), a new latest record.

### **Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo* 燕隼 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly in autumn, and summer visitor to open country areas; extreme dates 23 March to 5 November; highest count six on 26 April 1980.*

**2009:** recorded from widespread locations in the northern NT and on Po Toi.

**Spring:** two on 25 May at Nam Sang Wai, a very late first spring record.

**Summer:** singles at Pak Nai on 14 June, Kam Tin on 11 August and Hoo Hok Wai on 25 August.

**Autumn:** records between 7 September and 29 October involving probably 12 individuals, all single birds except for two on Po Toi on 26 September.

**2010:** spring and summer records were mostly from Deep Bay and fringing hills; in autumn, also recorded on Po Toi, Cheung Chau, Fung Yuen and in the northeast NT.

**Spring:** one at Long Valley on 30 March and again on 21 to 24 April. One at Nam Sang Wai on 20 April feeding on pipistrelle bats. One at Mai Po on 21 May.

**Summer:** one at Ping Long on 14 June and one at Tam Kon Chau on 11 August.

**Autumn:** unusually, no September records but a minimum of 19 individuals between 5 and 28 October, all single birds except two on Po Toi and at Tai Mo Shan, Siu Lam and Pui O.

### **Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* 遊隼 I**

*Resident subspecies peregrinator often in coastal areas, and migrant northerly taxa in open country areas in winter; highest count three on 5 October 1993.*

Relatively few reports were received for this species compared to recent years. Observers are encouraged to send in their records of this species.

**2009:** recorded from widespread areas, mostly singles with a peak count of three at MPNR on 8 December. A northern adult was on Po Toi on 28 April. There were no records between 28 April and 17 September.

**2010:** recorded from widespread areas, although relatively few records compared to recent years, mostly singles with a peak count of two. An adult *peregrinator* was at Mai Po on 24 January and a northern adult at Mai Po San Tsuen on 18 March. There were no records between 21 May and 20 September

**Slaty-legged Crake *Rallina eurizonoides* 灰腳秧雞 I**

*Breeding season visitor, migrant and scarce winter visitor; mostly heard calling; extreme dates for calling birds 20 March to 14 July, highest count seventeen calling at Brides Pool Road on 17 April 2001.*

**2009:** only three records, one calling at Tai Po Kau Headland on 17 February, a new earliest calling record, and two calling at Tai Po Kau on 11 April. One with four newly-hatched young at Clearwater Bay on 20 June is a rare proven breeding record.

**2010:** single birds calling at Tai Po Kau Headland on 9 April, Ping Long on 20 April and Tai Po Kau on 3 and 21 June.

**Slaty-breasted Rail *Gallirallus striatus* 灰胸秧雞 I**

*Resident in mangrove areas and passage migrant; highest count 15 on 1 June 1969.*

**2009:** two at Kam Tin on 16 April with one there on 23 April and 27 May. Recorded at MPNR from 26 August to 21 October with two trapped there on 10 September. One at Sai Sha on 21 September and one at Long Valley from 26 October to 1 November.

**2010:** singles at Tai O on 9 January, Kam Tin on 30 July, a first winter at Mai Po on 9 September and one at LMC on 12 October.

**Western Water Rail *Rallus aquaticus* 西方秧雞 I**

*One record, 2 to 8 December 2006.*

**1998:** following a review of all previous records of Water Rail, one at Long Valley on 6 December 1998 (PJL) has been accepted as this species and becomes the earliest HK record. One at MPNR from 2 to 8 December 2006 remains the first official record.

**Eastern Water Rail *Rallus indicus* 普通秧雞 I**

*Winter visitor and scarce migrant; extreme dates 1 December to 4 May.*

**2009:** singles at Long Valley on 3 February, at Nam Chung from 5 to 14 February, at MPNR on 8 March and at LMC on 13 October (PJL), the earliest autumn record.

**2010:** singles at Lam Tsuen on 7 February and at MPNR on 1 November and 6 December.



**Plate 9** Brown Crake *Amaurornis akool* 紅腳苦惡鳥  
Nam Chung, 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009 南涌 2009年2月10日  
Pippen Ho 何志剛

**Brown Crake *Amaurornis akool* 紅腳苦惡鳥 I**

*Irregularly recorded, mostly in spring and summer from lowland areas of stream and shrub in northeast NT. Has bred.*

2009: a well-photographed bird at Nam Chung from 25 January to 13 February (GCKL *et al*).

**White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus* 白胸苦惡鳥 I**

*Common resident in low-lying, damp areas; highest count 75 on 12 January 1985.*

2009: widespread records from suitable habitat. Peak count 47 in April WC. The peak count in MPNR systematic surveys was 28 in March, June and October. Single

migrants recorded on Po Toi on 20 April and 18 November.

**2010:** peak count 55 in April WC. The peak count in MPNR systematic surveys was 20 in May. Migrants recorded on Po Toi on 31 March, 12 April (2), 1 September (juvenile) and 16 November.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
44	63	41	36	49	48	54	45	54	64	47	55



**Plate 10** Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* 小田雞  
Shing Mun Valley Park, 4<sup>th</sup> May 2009 城門谷公園 2009年5月4日  
Pippen Ho 何志剛

**Baillon's Crake *Porzana pusilla* 小田雞 I**

*Scarce migrant, mainly in spring, in marsh or wet agricultural areas; extreme dates 15 April to 3 June and 20 September to 7 November.*

**2009:** one at Kwai Chung from 1 to 5 May and one at Shing Mun Valley Park from 1 to 10 May. Two at LMC on 20 October and one at Long Valley on 22 October.

**2010:** no records.



### **Ruddy-breasted Crake *Porzana fusca* 紅胸田雞 I**

*Scarce migrant and winter visitor to freshwater wetlands; extreme dates 9 August to 5 May, highest count three on 16 December 2003.*

**2009:** singles at MPNR on 7 January, 6 March and 10 April with up to two at Nam Chung from 5 to 14 February. In an excellent second winter period, one at Kam Tin on 14 November with a different bird on 21 November, three at Pui O on 18 November, one on Po Toi on 21 November and one adult and a juvenile at Siu Lam from 22 to 29 November. Three calling at MPNR on 1 December equals the highest count, one at Kowloon Park on 20 and Tsim Bei Tsui on 21 December and finally one at Pui O again from 26 to 29 December.

**2010:** one at LMC on 4 February with up to two at MPNR from 24 March to 17 April. In the second winter period, two at Mai Po on 1 November with one on 11 December and one at Wetland Park on 17 November.

### **Band-bellied Crake *Porzana paykullii* 斑脇田雞 I**

*Three records of migrants, two freshly dead and one taken into care, on 13 May, 11 October and 19 November.*

**2009:** one at Lung Fu Shan from 5 to 8 May (YHS) is the fourth HK record and the first to be seen in a wild state.



**Plate 11** Band-bellied Crake *Porzana paykullii* 斑脇田雞  
Lung Fu Shan, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2009 龍虎山 2009年5月7日  
Wong Shui Chi 黃瑞芝

**Watercock *Gallinula cinerea* 董雞 I**

*Scarce migrant; extreme dates 31 March to 18 June and 20 July to 2 November.*

**2009:** one at Lut Chau on 29 May was the only spring record. In autumn, one at LMC on 16 September, one taken into care at KFBG from Lai King on 29 September and released at MPNR on 4 November, one at Long Valley from 18 to 26 October and one at Pui O from 24 October to 18 November (Website photographs), a new latest date.

**2010:** no spring records. In autumn, singles at MPNR on 11 September, LMC on 21 September, Pui O on 11 November and one taken into care at KFBG from Tuen Mun also on 11 November.

**Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* 黑水雞 I**

*Winter visitor, breeding species and migrant in lowland freshwater pools and lakes; highest count 265 on 18 December 2005.*

**2009:** widespread records in suitable habitat in northern NT with highest numbers in winter. Peak count 83 in MPNR systematic surveys in February and 142 in November WC. Away from Deep Bay, peak count 24 at Nam Chung on 5 February. Two recorded at MPNR during June and July.

**2010:** relatively low numbers for recent years. Peak count 57 in MPNR systematic surveys in March and 154 in January WC. Away from Deep Bay, peak count 17 at Nam Chung on 16 January. Only one recorded at MPNR during June and July. Migrant on Po Toi on 12 April.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
166	93	97	156	149	137	265	235	219	188	142	154

**Eurasian Coot *Fulica atra* 骨頂雞 I**

*Winter visitor to Deep Bay area but much declined, with occasional summer records and has bred; highest count 3,245 on 12 January 1992.*

**2009:** a poor year again, with a peak count of 325 in January WC and ten in the MPNR systematic survey in January. Extreme dates 23 March and 15 November.

**2010:** similar to 2009, with a peak count of 354 in January WC and seven in the MPNR systematic survey in December. Extreme dates 7 March and 7 November.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
679	654	534	179	42	260	317	378	620	728	325	354



**Yellow-legged Button-quail** *Turnix tanki* 黃腳三趾鶉 I

*Scarce autumn migrant and rare winter visitor to open country areas; extreme dates 20 September to 10 April.*

**2010:** one on Cheung Chau on 6 October (MDW).

**Button-quail sp.** 三趾鶉

Following an examination of skins which showed extensive overlap in mantle and wing colouration between Yellow-legged and Barred Button-quail, the Records Committee believe these features are not acceptable for separation between the two species. Consequently, most records of button-quail in flight will be recorded as Button-quail sp.

**2009:** singles on Po Toi on 15 October and at Kam Tin on 8 November.

**2010:** singles at LMC on 6 October, on Po Toi on 6, 7 and 25 October and at Long Valley on 11 October.

**Great Stone-curlew** *Esacus recurvirostris* 大石鶉 I

*No records.*

**2009:** one at Mai Po on 24 June (BS) is the first record for Hong Kong.

**Eurasian Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus* 蠣鶉 I

*One record, 9 to 10 December 2000.*

**2009:** an adult and a first-summer *osculans* from the Mai Po boardwalk on 9 April (RWL et al). These constitute the second HK record.

**2010:** a first-winter *osculans* from the Mai Po boardwalk from 9 to 11 January (P&MW et al). This is the third HK record.



**Plate 12** Eurasian Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus* 蠣鷸  
Mai Po NR, 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009 米埔 2009年4月9日  
Kelvin Yam 任德政

**Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* 黑翅長腳鷸 I**

*Migrant and winter visitor to freshwater marsh and agricultural areas, with breeding records in recent years; highest count 820 on 12 October 2008.*

**2009:** numbers slightly below the previous two years although still at historically high levels.

**First winter period:** peak count 736 at MPNR on 31 March.

**Breeding season:** several pairs bred at MPNR and Wetland Park; highest count at this time 94 at MPNR on 4 June.

**Second winter period:** peak count 555 in the October WC. Away from the Deep Bay area, one at Chek Lap Kok on 19 August, six on Po Toi on 1 September and five at Kai Tak on 16 September.

**2010:** a new highest count.

**First winter period:** peak count 870 in the March WC is a new highest count. Elsewhere, peak counts of 51 at Kam Tin on 4 February and 38 at Long Valley on 18 February.

**Breeding season:** several pairs bred at MPNR; highest count at this time 41 on 25 May.

**Second winter period:** peak counts 403 at MPNR on 5 October, 59 at Long Valley on 18 October and 89 at Kam Tin on 10 December. Away from the Deep Bay area, three at Pui O on 17 October and one on Po Toi on 25 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
358	560	240	273	250	350	381	668	792	820	736	870

### **Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* 反嘴鷗 I**

*Abundant winter visitor to Deep Bay, primarily intertidal areas, typically present October to April; has attempted to breed in recent years; highest count 16,123 on 13 January 2008.*

**2009:** peak counts remain at the new high level set from 2007 onwards. Almost all records from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak count 13,061 in the February WC. A pair produced eggs for the first time at MPNR but breeding failed. One remained until 20 July.

**Second winter period:** four on 23 August. Regular autumn records from 2 October, peak count 9,558 in the December WC. Two at Starling Inlet on 15 November and two at Long Valley on 5 December.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First winter period:** peak count 13,883 in the February WC represents 14% of the regional population. One remained until 24 July.

**Second winter period:** one on 11 September. Regular autumn records from 4 November, a late date, peak count 6,475 in the December WC. Three at Long Valley on 13 December and six at Starling Inlet on 19 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,295	1,758	1,926	2,500	5,864	2,744	4,490	5,813	11,957	16,123	13,061	13,883

### **Northern Lapwing *Vanellus vanellus* 鳳頭麥雞 I**

*Scarce winter visitor to grassland and agricultural areas; extreme dates 6 September to 13 May, highest count 126 on 21 November 1992.*

**2009:** one at MPNR on 9 February. Nine there on 5 December and two at Long Valley on 16 December.

**2010:** two at Wetland Park on 14 February was the only record.

### **Grey-headed Lapwing *Vanellus cinereus* 灰頭麥雞 I**

*Winter visitor and migrant to grassy or marshy areas, particularly at Kam Tin; extreme dates 11 July to 24 May, highest count 80 on 5 October 1960.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded at Kam Tin until 31 March with a peak count of 20 on 30 January. One at Shek Kong on 12 February.

**Second winter period:** two at Long Valley on 7 and 17 August were the earliest records. The first at Kam Tin on 25 August with a peak count there of 24 on 6 November. Elsewhere, one at Hoo Hok Wai on 29 October and Long Valley again on 14 November.

**2010: First winter period:** peak count 25 at Kam Tin on 23 January with a last record there on 20 March. Also one at Long Valley on 18 February and 22 March, one on Po Toi on 15 April and two at LMC on 24 April.

**Second winter period:** two at MPNR on 22 September was the first record. Peak count at Kam Tin was 28 on 28 October. Singles also recorded at San Tin on 27 October and Beas River on 13 November.

### **Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva* 金斑鴉 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly spring, and winter visitor, mainly to Deep Bay; extreme dates 2 August and 20 June, highest count 900 on 13 April 1992.*

**2009:** a high spring count and a rare over-summering record.

**First winter period:** all records to end March from the Mai Po boardwalk with a peak of 860 on 26 March, the highest since 1992. Two on Po Toi on 2 April and 15 over southern waters on 25 April. One at MPNR in June and July (WMP) was possibly over-summering.

**Second winter period:** first record on 18 August, peak count 284 in October WC. Away from MPNR, one at Long Valley on several dates and eight at Chek Lap Kok on 19 November.

**2010:** no winter records and a poor spring except for one high count.

**First winter period:** 130 from Mai Po boardwalk on 6 January, then no records until 6 March when there were 83 at the same location. Peak count 525 on 26 April, then nine at Chek Lap Kok, one at Long Valley and one at MPNR on 30 April, the latest date.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 9 August, peak count 575 from the Mai Po boardwalk on 30 December and up to five at Long Valley from 15 September to 18 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
306	193	491	230	317	221	57	219	46	533	860	575

### **Grey Plover *Pluvialis squatarola* 灰斑鷸 I**

*Common winter visitor, scarce passage migrant with some summer records; highest count 751 on 28 January 1994.*

**2009:** a good year with a high peak count. All records from Mai Po.

**First winter period:** peak count 705 from the Mai Po boardwalk on 1 February. Up to two at MPNR in July were possibly over-summering.

**Second winter period:** first record on 18 August, peak count 255 in the November WC.

**2010:** a typical year. Almost all records from Mai Po.

**First winter period:** peak count 637 in Deep Bay and two at Starling Inlet in January WC. One over southern waters on 3 April. Up to two at MPNR throughout the summer.

**Second winter period:** peak count 189 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
347	309	366	394	297	454	565	583	390	634	705	637

### **Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* 劍鷸 I**

*Rare winter visitor; extreme dates 21 October to 14 April.*

**2010:** one seen occasionally from the Mai Po boardwalk from 15 February to 10 March (P&MW *et al.*).



**Plate 13** Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* 劍鴉  
Mai Po NR, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2010 米埔 2010年2月18日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### **Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius* 金眶鸉 I**

*Present all year in lowland areas near water, with breeding and wintering populations; highest count 356 on 13 January 1985.*

**2009:** a high peak count. Records mainly from northern NT; elsewhere, at Chek Lap Kok golf course, Tai Po, Kai Tak and Sha Lo Wan.

**First winter period:** peak count 315 in the February WC, the highest since *The Avifauna*.

**Breeding season:** records from Kai Tak, Tai Po, San Tin, Kam Tin, LMC, Wetland Park and MPNR.

**Second winter period:** peak count 196 in the November WC.

**2010:** a typical year. Away from the northern NT, also at Chek Lap Kok, Fung Yuen, Kai Tak and Pui O.

**First winter period:** peak count 200 in the March WC. Two over Fung Yuen on 26 April.

**Breeding season:** present at Kai Tak, Kam Tin, Long Valley and MPNR.

**Second winter period:** peak count 131 in the November WC. Highest numbers at Long Valley from 7 September to 18 October with a peak of 55 on latest date. One at Pui O on 10 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
224	247	104	243	191	162	217	221	230	203	315	200

### **Kentish Plover** *Charadrius alexandrinus* 環頸鷸 I

*Winter visitor and scarce passage migrant to intertidal areas, some summer records; highest count 4,000 on 5 February 1998.*

**2009:** most records from Deep Bay intertidal area.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,500 from the Mai Po boardwalk on 3 January, last record on 18 May. Elsewhere, 15 at Sha Tau Kok on 13 January and one at Kai Tak on 29 April.

**Second winter period:** first record on 21 October, a late date, peak count 1,766 in December WC; one at Chek Lap Kok on 30 October and up to three at Pui O from 18 November.

**2010:** a new highest count.

**First winter period:** peak count 4,303 in the January WC, a new highest count, although only 470 were on the Mai Po side of Deep Bay. Last record on 11 May. Also recorded at Chek Lap Kok, Pui O, Shuen Wan and south Lamma.

**Second winter period:** first recorded on 24 August, peak count 720 in the December WC. Three at Sai Kung on 3 October with six at Starling Inlet in November WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
2,475	3,000	960	378	530	2,210	400	827	610	2,094	1,766	4,303

Sightings from Guangdong beaches have highlighted the possibility that ‘Swinhoe’s Plover’ *Charadrius (alexandrinus) dealbatus* occurs in Hong Kong. Observers should pay particular attention to Kentish Plovers away from Inner Deep Bay, especially on sandy shores.

**Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus* 蒙古沙鴉 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, and scarce winter visitor to intertidal areas; highest count 500 on 14 April 1991.*

**2007:** one of the *atrifrons* group of subspecies at Mai Po on 2 September, the first autumn record for this subspecies.

**2009:** a typical year. All records at MPNR unless otherwise stated.

**First winter period:** four at Mai Po on 3 January and two at Sha Tau Kok on 13 January. Spring passage from 2 March with a peak count 85 on 10 April, the last record of 14 on 31 May. One of the *atrifrons* group subspecies on 21 March with a flock of 32 of this group of subspecies on 18 April (JAA), an exceptional record. Away from Deep Bay, one at Kai Tak on 30 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 4 July, peak count 18 on 15 November. Away from Deep Bay, singles at Kai Tak on 16 and Po Toi on 29 September and seven at Starling Inlet in November WC.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First winter period:** recorded from 21 February, peak count 87 on 13 April, last record on 21 May. Away from Deep Bay, three at Chek Lap Kok on 27 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 16 July, peak count 32 in August WC. Two of the *atrifrons* group of subspecies on 31 July with one on 14 September. Away from Deep Bay, 11 at Starling Inlet in November WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
110	74	41	103	200	59	30	35	179	78	85	87

**Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii* 鐵嘴沙鴉 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas, rare in winter and some summer records; highest count 2,700 on 9 April 1989.*

**2009:** a typical year. Most records in the Deep Bay area and Starling Inlet.

**First winter period:** 13 in January WC and 18 at Sha Tau Kok on 18 January. Then from 15 March to 4 June, peak count 305 on 18 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 4 July to 15 November, peak count 158 in August WC. Three at HK Science Park on 14 July.



**2010:** a good year with high counts in both spring and autumn, winter records and migration sightings away from Deep Bay.

**First winter period:** 13 from Mai Po boardwalk on 21 January. Then from 2 March to 21 May, peak count 773 on 13 April, the highest since *The Avifauna*. Away from Deep Bay, eight at Shuen Wan on 7 March, two off Po Toi on 7 April with seven there on 22 April, one at Cheung Chau on 25 April and one at Chek Lap Kok on 27 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 9 July, peak count 478 on 15 August. Away from Deep Bay, three at Shuen Wan on 7 September, ten at Starling Inlet in the October WC with three there in the December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
440	200	410	600	243	241	306	232	147	500	305	773

### **Oriental Plover *Charadrius veredus* 東方鴉 I**

*Scarce passage migrant to grassland and wetland areas; extreme dates 5 March to 2 June and 1 September to 27 October, highest count 28 on 24 September 1979.*

**2009:** two at Tai Sang Wai on 15 March with singles at Mai Po on 20 March, San Tin on 22 April and Chek Lap Kok on 7 May.

**2010:** two from the Mai Po access road on 4 April.

### **Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis* 彩鶺 I**

*Scarce breeding species, mostly resident but possibly with some migrants and winter visitors to freshwater marsh and wet agricultural areas; highest count 40 on 14 October 1996.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year at the strongholds of MPNR, the Kam Tin area and Long Valley with breeding activity in all three places and a peak of 20 at Kam Tin on 3 February. Also recorded at LMC, Lam Tsuen, Ping Che, Chek Lap Kok and Pui O, where two were present from 4 November.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year from the Kam Tin area, Long Valley and Mai Po/Lok Ma Chau area with a peak of 11 at LMC on 4 February, seven at Long Valley on 26 May, four at MPNR on 7 June and 15 in the Kam Tin area on 18 December.



**Plate 14** Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* 水雉  
Long Valley, 13<sup>th</sup> June 2010 塱原 2010年6月13日  
Wallace Tse 謝鑑超

### **Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus* 水雉 I**

*Migrant to freshwater marsh areas, has increased in recent years due to habitat management at MPNR and LMC; bred until late 1970s; highest count nine on 18 October 2003.*

**2009:** a mixed year, no spring records but several in summer through into winter.

**First winter period:** one at LMC on 14 January was the only record until one at LMC Lookout on 26 June.

**Second winter period:** one at MPNR from 12 to 18 July, followed by passage at LMC from 16 September to 20 November with a peak of eight on 13 October. Two at Shan Pui from 24 October to 26 November, one at Long Valley from 23 to 31 October, one at Pui O from 18 to 30 November and one at Sha Po from 30 November to year end.

**2010:** a typical year with most records during autumn passage.

**First winter period:** the over-wintering bird at Sha Po remained until 13 May. Singles at MPNR from 26 to 29 April, Po Toi from 15 to 18 May and Long Valley on 13 June were the only spring records.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 14 September to 25 November at Long Valley, MPNR and LMC, peak count three at LMC on 17 November. One at LMC on 19 December.

## **Eurasian Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola* 丘鶉 I

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to wooded areas; extreme dates 28 September and 19 April, highest count seven on 17 December 1999.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** records up to 28 February from Lantau, Lam Tsuen and Sha Ling.

**Second winter period:** passage recorded on Po Toi from 8 to 28 October with a peak count of three on 22 October. Reported up to year end with records, mostly singles, from Fung Kat Heung (two on 13 November), Pak Sha O, Pui O, Fung Yuen, Lam Tsuen and Ma Tso Lung.

**2010:** a poor year with no records in the first period and a weak autumn passage.

**Second winter period:** singles at Pat Sin Leng on 17 October, Po Toi on 23 October, two at Pak Sha O on 20 November and one on Po Toi on 1 December were the only records.

## **Pintail Snipe** *Gallinago stenura* 針尾沙錐 I or **Swinhoe's Snipe** *Gallinago megala* 大沙錐 I

In view of the extreme difficulty of field identification described in Leader & Carey (2003), records of these two species are combined. Only in-hand records or substantiated field records in which the diagnostic structure of the outer tail feathers is noted are considered sufficient for separation. Further work on vocalisations is required before apparent differences in call can be confirmed.

*Primarily passage migrants to freshwater marsh, wet agricultural areas and fish ponds, with highest numbers in autumn, scarce in winter; highest count 100 on 21 September 1996. Pintail Snipe is believed more common than Swinhoe's Snipe, in a ratio of approximately 4:1.*

**2009:** a typical year with good peak counts in both seasons.

**First winter period:** recorded from 8 January to 4 May with a concentration of numbers in April and peak count 45 at MPNR on 14 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 August to 26 December with a concentration of numbers in September and peak count 40 at MPNR on 15 September. Ten at Pui O on 18 November.

Single Pintail Snipe trapped at Kam Tin on 3 February and 4 May and at MPNR on 4 September. Single Swinhoe's Snipe trapped at Kam Tin on 3 February and at MPNR on 28 August.

**2010:** another typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded from 8 January to 27 April, peak count 25 at Long Valley on 8 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 August to 18 December, peak count 39 at Long Valley on 14 September.

Single Pintail Snipe trapped at MPNR on 2 and 9 September. Single Swinhoe's Snipe trapped at MPNR on 2 and 16 September.

### **Common Snipe** *Gallinago gallinago* 扇尾沙錐 I

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to freshwater marsh, wet agricultural areas and fish ponds, with extreme dates 19 August to 28 May; highest count 212 on 14 January 1990.*

**2009:** a poor year with low peak counts in both seasons. Away from Mai Po, Kam Tin, LMC and Long Valley, also recorded at Pui O, Po Toi, She Shan and Shek Kong.

**First winter period:** peak count a low 15 at Long Valley on 14 February, last record on 28 April.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 19 September, peak count 40 at San Tin on 1 December with ten at Pui O on 18 November.

**2010:** a better year with good numbers reported from Long Valley. Away from Mai Po, Kam Tin, LMC and Long Valley, also recorded at Pui O, Tai O and Po Toi.

**First winter period:** peak count 43 at Long Valley on 22 February, last record on 12 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 31 August at Long Valley, peak count 52 there on 5 October and 13 December.

### **Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* 長嘴鷸 I

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor to Deep Bay intertidal areas; extreme dates 4 October to 12 May, highest count three on 2 May 2003.*

**2009:** in spring, recorded at Mai Po from 12 February to 25 April, peak count five in the February WC, a new highest count. Two autumn records, singles at MPNR on 16 October and 3 November.

**2010:** in spring, recorded at Mai Po from 10 January to 21 April, peak count two. One at Wetland Park on 2 April. Two autumn records, one at MPNR on 22 October with two there on 3 November.

**Asian Dowitcher *Limnodromus semipalmatus* 半蹼鷗 I NT**

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring; extreme dates 22 March to 8 June and 23 July to 13 November, highest count 540 on 2 May 2003.*

**2009:** another good spring following excellent years in 2007 and 2008. All records from Mai Po boardwalk and NR.

**Spring:** recorded from 27 March to 4 June, peak count 173 on 1 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 25 July to 7 October, peak count five on 18 August.

**2010:** another good spring count. All records from Mai Po boardwalk and NR.

**Spring:** recorded from 6 April to 31 May, peak count 189 on 30 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 9 August to 9 October, peak count 14 in September WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
202	57	49	36	540	33	44	25	132	428	173	189

**Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* 黑尾膝鷗 I NT**

*Common passage migrant, mainly spring, and winter visitor to intertidal areas; highest count 2,190 on 8 April 1996.*

**2009:** a high spring count. This species appears to be increasing in numbers in spring. Almost all records in the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,900 on 17 April is the highest since *The Avifauna*. One at Long Valley on 2 May is a rare record away from MPNR. A few birds may have over-summered at MPNR.

**Second winter period:** peak count 511 in October WC.

**2010:** another good year with a high spring peak count; all records at MPNR.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,697 on 6 April. Two birds probably over-summered.

**Second winter period:** peak count 626 on 5 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
650	454	1,003	440	571	977	532	950	1,662	790	1,900	1,697

**Bar-tailed Godwit *Limosa lapponica* 斑尾塍鷸 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas with occasional winter and summer records; highest count 400 on 14 September 1981.*

**2009:** a good year with a high spring count. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**Spring:** one from 1 February. Main passage from 25 March to 7 May, peak count 105 on 10 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 18 August to 15 November, peak count 28 in September WC.

**2010:** a poor year with low peak counts and few records. Five off Po Toi on 14 April, all other records from Deep Bay.

**Spring:** one from 21 January. Main passage from 29 March to 26 April, all counts below ten except for 26 in the April WC.

**Autumn:** recorded from 4 September to 23 October, peak count 14 on 19 September.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
9	17	30	85	29	28	45	23	114	25	105	26

**Little Curlew *Numenius minutus* 小杓鷸 I**

*Rare spring and autumn passage migrant with many early records from Kai Tak Airport; extreme dates 7 April to 2 June and 29 September to 29 October, highest count 50 on 28 April 1985.*

**2010:** one at Long Valley on 16 April and one at MPNR on 14 May, the first records since 2005.

**Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus* 中杓鷸 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly in autumn, and scarce winter visitor to intertidal areas; highest count 300 on 24 August 1991.*

**2009:** winter flocks in both periods. All records from Deep Bay area except where stated.

**First winter period:** a winter flock of up to 31 recorded in January and February from the Tsim Bei Tsui area. Then from 4 April to 7 July, peak count 55 on 30 April. 45 near Po Toi on 25 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 4 August, peak autumn count 131 on 18 August. One at Sam A Tsuen on 20 August. Peak winter count 34 in December WC.

**2010:** as for 2009. Peak numbers have increased since 2004.

**First winter period:** up to six over-wintering in Deep Bay. Spring migration from 18 April, peak count 28 in April WC. Up to ten over-summered.

**Second winter period:** autumn migration from 30 July, peak count 237 on 24 August. Peak winter count 29 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
159	95	81	33	27	35	175	134	157	217	131	237

### **Eurasian Curlew *Numenius arquata* 白腰杓鹬 I NT**

*Common winter visitor to intertidal areas, small numbers remain during summer; highest count 1,292 on 13 February 2005.*

**2009:** a typical year. All records from Deep Bay area unless otherwise stated.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,065 in January WC, representing 3% of the regional population. 40 over waters near Po Toi on 25 April with seven on 27 April. At least 27 over-summered in Deep Bay.

**Second winter period:** peak count 388 in December WC.

**2010:** another typical year. The peak wintering population has been stable in recent years. Recorded off Po Toi in both migration seasons.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,075 in January WC. A total of 46 migrating northeast past Po Toi between 24 March and 3 May. At least ten over-summered in Deep Bay.

**Second winter period:** peak count 1,070 in December WC. Four south past Po Toi on 26 August.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
413	755	810	558	1,014	739	1,292	1,087	1,049	1,116	1,065	1,075

### **Eastern Curlew *Numenius madagascariensis* 大杓鹬 I VU**

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, and scarce winter visitor to intertidal areas; highest count 44 on 19 April 1988.*

**2009:** a high spring peak count. All records from MPNR or on migration over southern waters.

**First winter period:** up to two over-wintering. Spring passage from 4 April to 15 May, peak count 17 on 4 April. Nine in southern waters on 11 April. One over-summered.

**Second winter period:** no obvious autumn passage, peak count two on several dates.

**2010:** a mixed year with high numbers present in spring but only one autumn record. All records from MPNR.

**First winter period:** one over-wintering. Spring passage from 16 April to 18 May, peak count 19 on 18 April is the highest since *The Avifauna*.

**Second winter period:** one from 16 to 22 July was the only record.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
7	5	14	3	9	4	6	2	6	15	17	19

### Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus* 鶴鵲 I

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant, mainly in spring, to Deep Bay area; highest count 2,500 on 17 April 1987.*

**2009:** a poor year with low counts, particularly in the second period. All records from MPNR.

**First winter period:** peak counts 681 in the February WC and 903 on 28 March. Last record on 18 May.

**Second winter period:** first record on 12 July, peak count only 97 on 16 October.

**2010:** another poor year with low peak counts in all seasons. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak counts 186 in February WC and 711 in the April WC are the lowest since *The Avifauna*. Last record on 24 June.

**Second winter period:** first record on 30 July, peak count 157 on 3 November.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,090	970	1,050	1,108	1,288	884	1,443	1,687	1,239	1,373	903	711



## **Common Redshank *Tringa totanus* 紅腳鵞 I**

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas; highest count 3,539 on 19 April 2008.*

**2009:** a poor year with the lowest peak count since *The Avifauna*. All records in the Deep Bay area except for one at Starling Inlet on 15 September.

**First winter period:** peak counts 305 on 17 February and 911 on 25 April, the highest count of the year. Up to four over-summered.

**Second winter period:** peak count 860 in August WC with only 24 in December WC.

**2010:** a better year for spring and autumn counts but very few after early November. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak counts of 297 in January WC and 1,446 in April WC. Last record on 28 May.

**Second winter period:** first record on 24 June. Peak count 1,268 on 22 July with only three in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,335	1,497	1,795	1,661	1,672	1,133	992	1,544	1,139	3,539	911	1,446

## **Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* 澤鵞 I**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas; highest count 2,521 on 16 October 2008.*

**2009:** a good year with a new highest count. Away from the Deep Bay intertidal area, one at Tai O on 6 May, one at Kam Tin on 17 September and up to two at Long Valley in October.

**First winter period:** peak count 3,192 at MPNR on 10 April (YYT) is a new highest count. Last record on 23 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 4 July, peak count 2,185 in October WC.

**2010:** another good year with a new highest count. The numbers of this species appear to be increasing. Away from the Deep Bay intertidal area, 15 over Po Toi on 8 April, three at Long Valley on 1 November and one at Kam Tin on 11 November.

**First winter period:** peak count 3,381 at MPNR on 22 March (YYT) is another new highest count. Last record on 29 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 9 July, peak count 2,503 on 22 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
900	1,165	1,171	1,495	2,249	1,896	2,378	2,344	2,049	2,521	3,192	3,381

### **Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* 青腳鵪 I

*Winter visitor and passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas; highest count 2,516 on 19 April 2008.*

**2009:** a low peak count by recent standards. Away from the Deep Bay area and Starling Inlet, singles at Long Valley on 7 April, Tai O on 6 May, Chek Lap Kok on 19 August and Long Valley again on 19 and 27 September.

**First winter period:** peak counts 649 in February WC, 1,337 in April WC and 26 at Starling Inlet on 1 May. At least 27 over-summered in MPNR.

**Second winter period:** peak count 1,330 in October WC and seven at Starling Inlet on 7 September.

**2010:** a typical year since 2004 when peak numbers started to exceed 1,000. Away from Deep Bay area, regular records from Starling Inlet and Long Valley with one at Pui O on 5 September.

**First winter period:** peak count 1,976 in the March WC. At least 40 over-summered.

**Second winter period:** peak count 1,022 in October WC with 251 in the December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
610	796	737	822	883	1,128	1,307	1,816	1,522	2,516	1,337	1,976

### **Nordmann's Greenshank** *Tringa guttifer* 小青腳鷸 I EN

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, and scarce winter visitor to intertidal areas; highest count 58 on 13 April 1993.*

**2009:** a good year with high numbers present in the spring. All records from MPNR and boardwalk. One wintering record from 16 January to 28 February.

**Spring:** 14 March to 28 May, peak count 30 on 5 April, last record on 28 May. A minimum of 34 individuals were recorded.

**Autumn:** one from Mai Po boardwalk on 15 November.

**2010:** a poor year involving the lowest number of individuals since at least 2004. All records from MPNR and boardwalk. One wintering record from 23 January to at least 18 March.

**Spring:** recorded to 24 June, peak count eight on 3 April and 16 May. A minimum of only 15 individuals.

**Autumn:** one on 3 November.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
18	26	17	11	10	18	8	9	46	8	30	8

### **Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* 白腰草鷸 I

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to freshwater wetland areas; extreme dates 6 July to 9 May, highest count 76 on 12 January 1992.*

**2009:** a typical year. Widespread in lowlands of central and northern NT, mainly in Deep Bay and at Kam Tin, San Tin, Long Valley and the Shek Kong area.

**First winter period:** peak counts in Deep Bay, 30 in the January WC, at Kam Tin, 8 on 30 January, at Long Valley, 4 on 11 January and at Shek Kong, 5 on 25 January. Last record on 10 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 12 July, peak counts in Deep Bay, 42 in the December WC, at San Tin, 13 on 21 August, at Shek Kong, six on 7 November and at Kam Tin, 13 on 26 December.

**2010:** a good first winter period.

**First winter period:** peak counts in Deep Bay, 42 in the February WC, at Kam Tin, 28 on 16 March, at Long Valley, 8 on 18 April and Shek Kong, 3 on 11 April. One on Po Toi on 14 January and 23 March. Last record on 16 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 11 July, peak counts in Deep Bay, 21 in the October WC, at San Tin, seven on 7 September, at Long Valley, 11 on 7 September, at Shek Kong, four on 9 December and Kam Tin, eight on 30 August and 21 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
54	65	53	44	44	57	49	57	55	34	42	42

## **Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* 林鵲 I**

*Common passage migrant and winter visitor to freshwater marshy areas; highest count 1,221 on 10 September 1998.*

**2009:** a typical year. Recorded mainly from Deep Bay and at Kam Tin, San Tin and Long Valley.

**First winter period:** peak counts in Deep Bay, 158 in the January WC, at Kam Tin, 100 on 30 January and at Long Valley, 47 on 5 April. Last record on 24 June.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 12 July, peak count in Deep Bay, 433 on 4 August and at San Tin, 42 on 8 August, at Long Valley, 49 on 20 August and at Kam Tin, 74 on 19 December.

**2010:** relatively low numbers in Deep Bay but good counts elsewhere.

**First winter period:** peak counts in Deep Bay, 382 in the April WC, at Kam Tin, 114 on 31 March and at Long Valley, 182 on 12 April. Other high counts were 49 at Hang Tau on 29 January and 20 at Tai O on 17 April. Last record on 26 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 1 July, peak count in Deep Bay, 325 in September WC and at San Tin, 97 on 7 September, at Long Valley, 137 on 5 October and at Kam Tin, 73 on 10 December.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
129	283	406	762	227	327	474	597	699	512	433	382



**Plate 15** Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes* 灰尾漂鷗  
Sai Kung, 26<sup>th</sup> September 2009 西貢 2009年9月26日  
Owen Chiang 深藍

### **Grey-tailed Tattler *Tringa brevipes* 灰尾漂鷗 I**

*Passage migrant to rocky coastal and intertidal areas with occasional summer records; extreme dates 20 March to 26 November, highest count 554 on 16 May 1987.*

**2009:** the highest peak count since *The Avifauna*.

**Spring:** recorded from 10 April to 1 June, peak count 160 at MPNR on 4 May. Also two on Po Toi on 29 April, 13 at Tai O on 6 May and five at Starling Inlet on 10 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 25 July to 21 October, peak count ten at MPNR on 18 August. Also two on Po Toi on 3 September and singles at Starling Inlet on 15 September and Sai Kung on 26 September.

**2010:** after a good year in 2009, a very poor one with a peak count of just nine, the lowest since *The Avifauna*. Apart from the one exceptionally high count in 2009, numbers have declined substantially since 2005, particularly in Deep Bay.

**Spring:** recorded from 6 April to 18 June, peak count in Deep Bay only five on 26 April and 6 May. Also five on Po Toi on 25 and 26 April (probably different birds) and three at Tung Chung on 9 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 10 August to 19 September, peak count in Deep Bay only two, also nine at Shuen Wan on 10 August, the peak count for the year, and one on Po Toi on 7 September.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
82	37	62	64	58	52	78	15	27	40	160	9

### **Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus* 翹嘴鷸 I

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas with occasional summer records and very rare winter records; extreme dates 20 March to 26 November; highest count 590 on 24 April 2007.*

**2009:** another good year with a peak count over 500. All records from the Deep Bay area except two over southern waters on 25 April and one at Kai Tak on 30 April.

**Spring:** recorded from 25 March, peak count 502 on 22 April. At least six over-summered.

**Autumn:** return passage from 25 July, peak count 243 on 18 August, last record on 15 November.

**2010:** a return to typical numbers following three good years. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**Spring:** recorded from 17 March (GJC), a new earliest spring record, to 10 June, peak count 376 on 16 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 9 July to 19 October, peak count 51 on 14 August. One in December WC was a rare winter record.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
212	400	45	215	425	327	262	372	590	531	502	376

### **Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* 磯鷸 I

*Present all year, though few in summer; highest count 154 on 14 April 2002.*

**2009:** widespread records from sites in north and central NT and from islands. Recorded throughout the year but with few records in mid-summer.

**First winter period:** peak count in Deep Bay, 73 in the April WC, also 21 at Kam Tin on 2 February, 18 at San Tin on 18 February and five on Po Toi on 25 March.

**Second winter period:** peak count in Deep Bay, 92 in December WC, also 27 at San Tin on 13 August and four at Shuen Wan on 29 August and 18 September.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First winter period:** peak count in Deep Bay, 116 in the April WC, also four each at Tung Chung on 9 January, Long Valley on 11 February, Mui Shue Hang on 19 February and Tung Ping Chau on 20 March.

**Second winter period:** peak count in Deep Bay, 97 in the October WC, also nine at Kam Tin on 30 August, 15 at Long Valley on 31 August, seven at Pui O on 10 October and five at Starling Inlet on 17 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
115	127	92	154	90	85	76	100	95	86	92	116

### **Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres* 翻石鷗 I

*Passage migrant, scarce in autumn, one winter record, to intertidal areas; highest count 268 on 20 April 1994.*

**2009:** a poor year with a low peak count.

**Spring:** recorded from 26 March to 31 May, peak count 40 at MPNR on 7 May. Three on Po Toi on 29 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 12 September to 2 October, peak count two at MPNR on last date. One on Po Toi on 30 September.

**2010:** another poor year with the lowest peak count since 1999.

**Spring:** recorded from 6 March to 18 May, peak count in Deep Bay, 30 at MPNR on 6 May. Three migrating northeast past Po Toi on 15 and 26 April with five there on 29 April and two on Tung Ping Chau on 8 May.

**Autumn:** one at MPNR on 15 August and two there on 28 August.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
30	64	102	76	86	80	39	34	100	46	40	30

### **Great Knot** *Calidris tenuirostris* 大濱鷗 I VU

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, and scarce winter visitor to intertidal areas; highest count 560 on 8 April 2001.*

**2009:** a good year with a high spring peak count. All records from Mai Po boardwalk and NR unless stated.

**First winter period:** winter peak count 42 on 1 February. Spring peak count 372 on 4 April with 21 northeast past Po Toi on 2 April. Three in Deep Bay on 21 June with one possibly over-summering.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 1 September to 22 November, peak count 98 on 17 September.

**2010:** a typical year. All records from Mai Po boardwalk and NR unless stated.

**First winter period:** winter peak count 22 on 21 January. Spring peak count 301 on 1 April with two past Po Toi on 31 March. Last record on 18 June.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 8 August to 23 October, peak count 17 on 11 September.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
288	250	560	91	161	201	231	41	340	127	372	301

### **Red Knot *Calidris canutus* 紅腹濱鵪 I**

*Migrant, mainly in spring, scarce in winter, to intertidal areas of Deep Bay; highest count 200 on 6 May 1990.*

**2009:** a poor year with a low peak count of only 19. All records from Mai Po boardwalk and NR.

**First winter period:** winter peak count six on 28 February. Spring peak count 19 on 4 May, last record on 7 June.

**Autumn:** recorded from 1 September to 15 November, peak count 16 on 16 September.

**2010:** another poor year although slightly better than 2009. All records from Mai Po boardwalk and NR.

**First winter period:** winter peak count 14 on 5 February. Spring peak count 26 on 18 and 26 April, last record on 16 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 8 August to 25 September, peak count five on 4 September.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
79	138	31	94	65	120	16	16	144	52	19	26



### **Sanderling *Calidris alba* 三趾濱鷸 I**

*Scarce passage migrant, mainly in spring, to intertidal areas; extreme dates 19 March to 8 June and 3 August to 21 November, highest count 67 on 4 May 1993.*

**2009:** a typical year. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**Spring:** recorded from 26 March to 18 May, peak count 12 on last date.

**Autumn:** one at Tsim Bei Tsui on 22 November (MLC) was the only record and a new latest date.

**2010:** a poor year with the lowest peak count since 2003. All records from the Deep Bay area unless otherwise stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 6 April to 13 May, peak count four on 21 April. Two northeast past Po Toi on 30 March.

**Autumn:** one at MPNR on 8 August, one from the Mai Po boardwalk on 19 September, one at Sai Kung on 3 October and one in November WC..

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
6	4	6	9	4	16	11	23	10	15	12	4

### **Red-necked Stint *Calidris ruficollis* 紅頸濱鷸 I**

*Common passage migrant to intertidal areas, mainly in spring; highest count 2,575 on 12 May 2002.*

**2009:** a good year with a new highest count. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**First winter period:** winter peak count ten in January WC. Spring peak count 2,700 at MPNR on 10 April (YYT), a new highest count. Away from Deep Bay, five off Po Toi on 27 April with the same number at Chek Lap Kok on 29 April and 15 at Kai Tak on 30 April. Last record on 4 June.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 13 August, peak count 32 in November WC with three in December WC.

**2010:** another good year with another new highest count. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**First winter period:** winter peak count 100 in January WC. Spring peak count 3,756 at MPNR on 11 April (YYT), a new highest count. Away from Deep Bay, two at Long Valley on 21 April, one at Chek Lap Kok on 27 April and five on Tung Ping Chau on 8 May. Last record on 25 May.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 30 July, peak count 33 on 11 September with the last in November WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,250	1,100	540	2,575	2,302	2,239	1,909	1,478	2,239	741	2,700	3,756

### **Little Stint *Calidris minutus* 小濱鶉 I**

*Scarce spring passage migrant with one winter record; extreme dates 24 March to 8 June, highest count six on 25 April 2004.*

**2009:** recorded from the Mai Po boardwalk from 26 March to 24 May, peak count four on 18 April.

**2010:** up to two recorded in the Mai Po area from 6 April to 6 May. One at MPNR on 14 August and from the Mai Po boardwalk on 19 September (both RWL) are the first autumn records.

### **Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* 青腳濱鶉 I**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant; extreme dates 27 August to 27 May, highest count 152 on 18 October 1997.*

**2009:** a typical year with records mainly from fish pond areas near Mai Po, San Tin and Hong Kong Wetland Park.

**First winter period:** peak count 30 on 13 March, last record on 10 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 16 September, peak count 23 in November WC.

**2010:** a good year with high peak counts in both winters. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** peak count 58 from the Mai Po boardwalk on 4 February, last record 16 May.

**Second winter period:** earliest record one at the Mai Po boardwalk on 4 September, peak counts ten at San Tin on 19 October and 47 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
30	48	24	35	36	15	16	43	37	16	30	58

### **Long-toed Stint *Calidris subminuta* 長趾濱鷸 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 28 July to 27 May, highest count 175 on 13 April 1993.*

**2009:** a typical year but with a low peak count. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**First winter period:** winter peak count three in January WC. Spring records from 4 April to 10 May, peak count 32 at MPNR on 22 April. Elsewhere ten at Long Valley on 14 April and two at Kai Tak on 29 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 24 July to 15 November, peak count 15 at San Tin on 1 September.

**2010:** a good year with a high spring count. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**First winter period:** winter peak count ten in January WC. Spring records from 3 April to 15 May, peak count 77 at Mai Po on 28 April. Elsewhere 23 at Long Valley and four at Tai O, both on 17 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 30 July to 8 October, peak count five on earliest date.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
10	71	19	29	12	36	7	44	39	54	32	77

### **Pectoral Sandpiper *Calidris melanotos* 斑胸濱鷸 I**

*Scarce passage migrant, primarily in spring; extreme dates 1 April to 23 May and 20 September to 21 October, highest count two on 21 October 1995.*

**2010:** one at Mai Po on 10 May.

### **Sharp-tailed Sandpiper *Calidris acuminata* 尖尾濱鷸 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly spring; extreme dates 22 March to 9 June and 27 July to 2 December, highest count 300 on 10 May 2004.*

**2009:** a very poor spring and autumn passage; the lowest peak count since *The Avifauna* and well below recent numbers. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 28 March to 31 May, peak count only 22 on 10 April. One at Kai Tak on 29 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 12 to 19 September, peak count three at Kai Tak on 16 September.

**2010:** another poor year with low spring and autumn counts. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 22 March to 21 May, peak count 59 on 13 May. One at Long Valley on 16 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 8 August to 22 September, peak count only one.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
27	40	65	246	231	300	48	68	175	86	22	59

### **Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* 彎嘴濱鷸 I

*Passage migrant, primarily in spring, occasional in winter and summer; highest count 10,982 on 17 April 2007.*

**2009:** a good year with numbers similar to the record years of 2007 and 2008. All records from Deep Bay unless stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 28 February to 7 June, peak count 9,168 on 22 April. Three at Luk Keng on 1 May. Up to four may have over-summered in Deep Bay.

**Autumn:** recorded from 4 August to 12 September, peak count 85 on earliest date.

**2010:** another good year with numbers above 9,000. All records from Deep Bay unless stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 3 February to 24 June, peak count 9,296 on 21 April. Two at Long Valley on 8 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 22 July to 5 October, peak count 95 on 9 August.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
3,559	3,800	5,770	4,490	4,535	6,000	3,947	4,151	10,982	9,012	9,168	9,296

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina* 黑腹濱鶉 I

*Common winter visitor, rare in spring and autumn; extreme dates 9 August to 20 June, highest count 5,845 on 9 January 1995.*

**2009:** a good year with a high peak count in the second winter period. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**First winter period:** peak count 2,500 on 3 January, latest record on 26 April. Five at Sha Tau Kok on 13 January.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 1 September, peak count 3,036 in the November WC.

**2010:** a good year. All records from the Deep Bay area unless stated.

**First winter period:** peak count 2,500 in the January WC, latest record on 18 April.

**Second winter period:** earliest record on 12 September, peak count 720 in the December WC. One at Tai Long Wan on 1 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
2,351	2,980	3,100	1,430	2,430	2,303	222	701	174	2,000	3,036	2,500

**Spoon-billed Sandpiper** *Eurynorhynchus pygmaeus* 勺嘴鶉 I CE

*Scarce spring migrant in Deep Bay, infrequently seen in autumn and winter; highest count 13 on 3 April 2005.*

**2009:** a poor year with only two individuals.

**Spring:** singles present at the Mai Po boardwalk from 6 to 26 April, probably just one individual.

**Autumn:** one on 15 November.

**2010:** another poor year with only two individuals recorded, both at the Mai Po boardwalk.

**Spring:** only two records, singles on 5 February (RWL), a rare winter record, and 27 March, probably two individuals.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
8	3	2	1	2	5	13	1	5	2	1	1



**Plate 16** Spoon-billed Sandpiper *Eurynorhynchus pygmaeus* 勺嘴鷸  
Mai Po NR, 19<sup>th</sup> April 2009 米埔 2009年4月19日  
Kinni Ho 何建業

### **Broad-billed Sandpiper *Limicola falcinellus* 闊嘴鷸 I**

*Scarce passage migrant, mainly spring, with some winter records; highest count 320 on 16 April 1988.*

**2009:** a typical year. All records from Deep Bay unless stated.

**First winter period:** one over-wintered. Spring passage from 25 March to 31 May, peak count 94 on 6 April. Four at Kai Tak on 29 April.

**Second winter period:** one on 21 August, three on 9 September and singles in the November and December WC.

**2010:** a poor spring passage with a low peak count. All records from Deep Bay unless stated.

**First winter period:** two over-wintered. Spring passage from 22 March to 18 May, peak count 55 in April WC.

**Autumn:** recorded from 8 August to 7 November, peak count 15 on 19 September.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
315	85	140	60	123	81	116	39	78	137	94	55

**Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* 流蘇鵝 I**

*Migrant to intertidal areas of Deep Bay, rare in winter and one summer record; highest count 10 on 25 October 1999.*

**2009:** a poor year. All records from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** one recorded occasionally from 15 February to 1 May with two on 3 April.

**Second winter period:** one on 2 October. One first recorded at Wetland Park on 12 December subsequently over-wintered.

**2010:** similar to 2009 but with a rare wintering record. All reports from the Deep Bay area.

**First winter period:** one at Wetland Park until 8 February. One from 22 March to 18 May with two in April WC.

**Second winter period:** one from 5 to 22 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
10	4	3	1	3	5	3	5	4	1	2	2

**Red-necked Phalarope *Phalaropus lobatus* 紅頸瓣蹼鵝 I**

*Passage migrant and rare winter visitor to coastal waters and inland wetlands; highest count 1,572 on 3 October 1995.*

**2009:** a typical year with records from eastern and southern waters and Mai Po.

**Spring:** main passage from 13 March to 14 May, peak count 360 from Po Toi on 16 April. 92 on the Shing Mun River on 2 April. One at San Tin from 10 June to 2 July.

**Autumn:** recorded from 16 to 27 September, peak count two at MPNR on 16 September and at Kam Tin on 17 September.

**2010:** a relatively low peak count. Most records from eastern and southern waters and Mai Po.

**Spring:** main passage from 28 March to 19 May, peak count 128 from Po Toi on 21 April and 120 in Tolo Harbour on 8 May. One at Long Valley until 26 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 7 September to 5 October, peak count two on Tung Ping Chau on 3 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
1,194	150	70	367	120	250	1,000	952	939	102	360	128

### **Oriental Pratincole** *Glareola maldivarum* 普通燕鴉 I

*Migrant to lowland areas of NT, common in spring and scarce in autumn; highest count 530 on 5 October 1994.*

**2009:** a typical year with most records in spring from the Mai Po area and southern waters.

**Spring:** at Mai Po from 16 February to 14 April, peak count 21 on the Mai Po access road on 16 March. In southern waters and Po Toi from 24 February to 3 May, peak count five on 11 April. Three at Chek Lap Kok on 30 March and two at Long Valley on 7 April.

**Summer:** at MPNR from 8 to 13 May, then 4 June to 8 July, peak count ten on 5 June.

**Autumn:** one at MPNR on 17 November.

**2010:** a high spring peak count.

**Spring:** at Mai Po from 6 February to 22 April, peak count 70 on the Mai Po access road on 18 April. One at She Shan on 18 March and five there on 4 April. One at Long Valley on 8 April and singles in waters off Po Toi on 8 and 21 April.

**Summer:** one at MPNR from 13 May to 10 June. One at Chek Lap Kok on 17 June and two on 17 August.

**Autumn:** one at MPNR on 15 and 18 October.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
14	23	20	15	10	32	9	71	22	32	21	70



**Black-legged Kittiwake *Rissa tridactyla* 三趾鷗 I**

*Ten records, five adults and five first-winter, in the period 13 January to 22 May.*

**2009:** an adult in southern waters on 2 February (YYT) .

**2010:** an adult off Po Toi from 23 to 25 February (GW). An adult found dead on Tung Ping Chau on 25 April (Website photograph).

**Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei* 細嘴鷗 I**

*Four records, all from Deep Bay in the period 10 February to 13 April.*

**2010:** an adult in Deep Bay from 7 February to 6 March (YYT *et al*). This is the fifth Hong Kong record.



**Plate 17** Slender-billed Gull *Chroicocephalus genei* 細嘴鷗  
Mai Po NR, 6<sup>th</sup> March 2010 米埔 2010年3月6日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

**Brown-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus* 棕頭鷗 I**

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay, extreme dates 21 October to 1 May; highest count three on 7 March 1992.*

No records were received in either 2009 or 2010.

**Black-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus ridibundus* 紅嘴鷗 I**

*Abundant winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay and coastal waters; highest count 20,629 on 13 January 1996.*

**2009:** the lowest peak count since *The Avifauna*. All records from Deep Bay.

**First winter period:** peak count 5,643 in the January WC. At least two over-summered.

**Second winter period:** peak count 4,043 in the December WC.

**2010:** a typical year. All records from Deep Bay.

**First winter period:** last record on 18 June, peak count 10,575 in the January WC.

**Second winter period:** first record on 8 August, peak count 3,433 in the December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
16,947	12,582	13,500	13,000	12,601	9,322	8,985	14,016	11,978	11,600	5,643	10,575

**Saunders's Gull *Chroicocephalus saundersi* 黑嘴鷗 I VU**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay; extreme dates 23 October to 30 May, highest count 172 on 10 February 1994.*

**2009:** the highest peak count since 1999. All records from Deep Bay.

**First winter period:** last record on 11 April, peak count 75 on 1 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 6 November, peak count 12 in the November WC.

**2010:** another high peak count. All records from Deep Bay.

**First winter period:** last record on 23 April, the peak count was 74 on 21 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 7 November, two in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
80	58	50	61	46	15	57	51	60	61	75	74

### **Relict Gull *Ichthyaetus relictus* 遺鷗 I VU**

*Five records, all first-winter birds in Deep Bay, between 21 November and 8 March.*

**2010:** a first-winter from the Mai Po boardwalk from 8 January (KL) until 10 March (GJC), a new latest date.

### **Pallas's Gull *Ichthyaetus ichthyaetus* 漁鷗 I**

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay; extreme dates 25 November to 7 April, highest count four on 8 March 1994 with a total of ten birds in winter 1993-94.*

**2009:** a second-winter at the Mai Po boardwalk from 28 January to 2 March. An adult also there from 8 to 28 March.

**2010:** a first-winter on 11 January, a third-winter on 5 February and a second-winter from 8 to 24 March, all from the Mai Po boardwalk.

### **Black-tailed Gull *Larus crassirostris* 黑尾鷗 I**

*Winter visitor to intertidal areas of Deep Bay and coastal waters; extreme dates 30 August to 8 June with two summer records; highest count 293 on 22 February 2003.*

**2009: First winter period:** two first-winters in eastern waters on 5 February. Seven (1 adult, 6 first-winters) from the Mai Po boardwalk on 28 February, thereafter the adult last recorded on 14 March and up to 4 first-winters to 6 April with two to 7 June. Elsewhere single first-winters recorded in southern waters from 13 March to 30 April.

**Second winter period:** first-winters from Po Toi on 26 August and 17 September and from the Mai Po boardwalk on 29 December.

**2010: First winter period:** a good year. Recorded from the Mai Po boardwalk from 1 January to 21 May with peak counts of 22 on 23 January and 27 on 8 March including up to two adults. Recorded in southern waters from 23 February to 22 April with a peak count 24 on 13 March. 17 at Tung Ping Chau on 20 March.

**Second winter period:** no records.

### **Mew Gull *Larus canus* 海鷗 I**

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay, almost all first-winters; extreme dates 14 January to 29 March, highest count two on 23 February 1992.*

Currently, as the characters for separation of *L.c. heinei* are uncertain, only *L.c. kamschatschensis* and *L.c. brachyrhynchus* are on the HK List.

**2009:** an adult *kamschatschensis* from the Mai Po boardwalk on 12 February. A first-winter showing characteristics of *heinei* from 15 to 22 March.

**2010:** a first-winter *kamtschatschensis* from the Mai Po boardwalk from 10 to 24 January. Another on 7 March with two on 20 March, one showing characteristics of *heinei*.

**Glaucous-winged Gull *Larus glaucescens* 灰翅鷗 I**

*Four records, all first-winter, extreme dates 13 January to 27 February.*

**2009:** first-winter in Deep Bay from 18 March (Website photographs) to 1 June, by which time it was in very poor condition. This is the fifth Hong Kong record.

**Vega Gull *Larus vegae* 織女銀鷗 I**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay.*

Re-admitted to the Hong Kong List in 2010 based on records since at least 2008.

**2009:** at least one in Deep Bay on 11 February.

**2010:** recorded in Deep Bay from 24 January to 18 March, peak count four (2 adults, 2 first-winters) on 9 March.

**Caspian Gull *Larus cachinnans* 蒙古銀鷗 I**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay and coastal waters; extreme dates 28 November to 17 April, highest count 25 on 13 March 2000.*

**2009:** all records from the Mai Po boardwalk or Tsim Bei Tsui.

**First winter period:** recorded from 4 January to 12 April, peak count eight (3 adults, 1 second-winter, 4 first-winters) on 1 March.

**Second winter period:** one first-winter from 9 December with three in December WC.

**2010:** all records from the Mai Po boardwalk or Tsim Bei Tsui unless stated.

**First winter period:** recorded from 21 January to 17 March, peak count nine (2 adults, 7 first-winters) on 7 March. A adult in southern waters on 28 March and a final first-year from the Mai Po boardwalk on 16 April.

### **Slaty-backed Gull** *Larus schistisagus* 灰背鷗 I

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay and coastal waters; extreme dates 26 November to 1 April, highest count 7 on 25 January 2000.*

**2009:** recorded in Deep Bay from 29 January to 3 April, peak count two (both first-winters) from 31 January to 8 March.

**2010:** recorded in Deep Bay from 6 January to 24 March, peak count four (1 second-year, 3 first-year) on 8 March. Immatures past Po Toi on 24 February and 18 March.

### **Heuglin's Gull** *Larus fuscus* 烏灰銀鷗 I

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant to Deep Bay and spring passage migrant to coastal waters; extreme dates 6 September to 30 April, highest count 865 on 28 January 2000.*

Most records come from Deep Bay where it is a winter visitor, and Po Toi where it is a spring migrant through southern waters, mostly in March.

**2009: First winter period:** in Deep Bay, peak count 635 on 2 March, the highest since 2002, with the last record on 18 April. By contrast, a poor year on Po Toi with migrants from 12 March to 16 April, a peak count of 31 on 17 March and a total count of 106.

**Second winter period:** first record at Deep Bay on 19 September, a juvenile and a very early date. Then from 15 November, peak count 130 in December WC.

**2010: First winter period:** another good year in Deep Bay, peak count 700 on 23 January with 500 on 9 March and a last record on 23 April. Also a good year on Po Toi, migrants from 18 February to 20 April, peak count 101 on 23 February and a total count of 379.

**Second winter period:** first record on 4 November, peak count 76 in December WC.

Peak counts by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
280	865	474	780	543	237	460	345	291	305	635	700

### **Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* 鷗嘴噪鷗 I

*Common spring migrant, scarce in autumn, some summer records; mainly recorded in the Deep Bay area; extreme dates 8 March to 20 October, highest count 600 on 8 April 2007.*

**2008:** erratum. The earliest spring record was 8 March.

**2009:** a highest ever spring count.

**Spring:** recorded from 25 March to 22 May with two June records, the peak count of 731 from the Mai Po boardwalk on 19 April (MK) is a new highest count. One on 18 April with a Western Australia leg flag had been flagged near Broome, NW Australia, 4,600 km from Hong Kong, the previous November. This follows a similar record in 2007.

**Autumn:** three at Starling Inlet on 15 September and one at MPNR on 17 September.

**2010:** an earliest spring record and a rare summer report. All records from MPNR/Deep Bay unless otherwise stated.

**Spring:** one on 3 March (GJC) from the Mai Po boardwalk is an earliest spring record. Then from 24 March to 25 May, peak count 465 on 18 April, with 22 off Po Toi on 21 April.

**Summer:** two over-summered at MPNR, from 9 June until 24 August.

**Autumn:** up to three in the Mai Po area from 19 September to 7 October.

### **Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* 紅嘴巨鷗 I**

*Common spring migrant, scarce in winter and autumn. Most birds recorded in Deep Bay area, but small numbers occur offshore. Highest count 150 on 30 March 2004.*

**2009:** a good spring with a high peak count. All reports from MPNR/Deep Bay unless otherwise stated.

**First winter period:** a slow build-up of numbers from 2 January to a peak of five on 13 March before spring passage started.

**Spring:** main passage from 25 March to 17 April, peak count 102 on 3 April. Then up to four to 24 June. Four off Po Toi on 6 April.

**Second winter period:** two on 15 November and 11 December.

**2010:** a typical year. All reports from MPNR/Deep Bay.

**First winter period:** up to two present from 21 January to 8 March.

**Spring:** main passage from 24 March to 15 May, peak count 47 on 18 April. Three on 9 June.

**Second winter period:** one on 9 November.

### **Greater Crested Tern *Thalasseus bergii* 大鳳頭燕鷗 I**

*Scarce passage migrant through coastal waters, mostly in spring but with occasional summer and autumn records; extreme dates 2 April to 3 October, highest count 24 on 2 May 1999.*

**2009:** all records from southern waters unless stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 7 April to 14 May, peak count 21 on 15 April.

**Summer:** one off Po Toi on 27 June.

**Autumn:** two at Sai Kung on 29 August.

**2010:** a good spring passage with an earliest date and a new highest count. All records from southern waters unless stated.

**Spring:** one off Po Toi on 1 April (GW) is a new earliest date. Then to 19 May with a total of 147 bird-days, peak count 33 off Po Toi on 21 April (GW), a new highest count.

**Summer:** one on 6 June and one at Tap Mun on 17 July.

**Autumn:** one off Po Toi on 9 September.

### **Little Tern *Sternula albifrons* 白額燕鷗 I**

*Passage migrant through coastal waters and Deep Bay, extreme dates 4 March to 20 June and 2 August to 9 November; highest count 400 on 2 May 1999 (Typhoon Leo).*

**2009:** a good year with new summer records.

**Spring:** recorded from 3 April to 6 May, with a peak of 40 from Mai Po boardwalk on 9 April and six in southern waters on 3 May .

**Summer:** one at MPNR on 4 July and probably the same bird at Lut Chau on 6 July are the first summer records.

**Autumn:** three from Po Toi on 19 August with one there on 29 September and two at the Mai Po boardwalk on 3 October.

**2010:** good numbers in spring, no autumn records.

**Spring:** recorded from 23 March to 13 May, peak count 60 in southern waters on 25 April and 30 at MPNR on 21 April.



**Plate 18** Aleutian Tern *Onychoprion aleuticus* 白腰燕鷗  
Southern Waters, 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2009 南部水域 2009年5月3日  
Christina Chan 陳燕明

**Aleutian Tern *Onychoprion aleuticus* 白腰燕鷗 I**

*Passage migrant through coastal waters, extreme dates 11 April to 7 June and 2 August to 9 November; highest count 865 on 2 May 1999 (Typhoon Leo).*

**2009:** a high peak count in spring but no autumn records.

**Spring:** recorded from 11 April to 26 May, peak count at least 200 from a flock of 300 terns in southern waters on 25 April.

**2010:** a weak spring passage but good numbers in autumn.

**Spring:** recorded from 15 April to 15 May, peak count 35 off Po Toi on the last date.

**Autumn:** two off Mui Wo on 22 August. Then from 1 September to 9 September, with 430 flying aouth off Po Toi on the last date immediately after the passage of TS Lion Rock through the Taiwan Strait.



**Bridled Tern *Onychoprion anaethetus* 褐翅燕鷗 I**

*Summer breeder and passage migrant, extreme dates 12 April to 3 October; highest count 749 on 25 September 1993 (Typhoon Dot).*

**2009:** recorded from 18 April to 16 September.

**Breeding season:** peak count of 369 breeding in Mirs Bay.

**2010:** recorded from 21 April to 9 September, peak count 358 at Shek Ngau Chau on 12 August.

**Breeding season:** peak count of 375 breeding in Mirs Bay.

Breeding counts in Mirs Bay by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
550	396	525	451	528	650	450	244	201	400	369	375

**Sooty Tern *Onychoprion fuscatus* 烏燕鷗 I**

*Five records, all juveniles, extreme dates 2 May and 8 September to 3 October.*

**2009:** a first-summer in southern waters on 5 April (YYT). This is the second spring record for Hong Kong and the earliest.

**Roseate Tern *Sterna dougallii* 粉紅燕鷗 I**

*Summer breeder and passage migrant, extreme dates 29 April to 29 September; highest count 210 in summer 1996.*

**2009:** recorded from 9 June to 28 August.

**Breeding season:** peak count of 42 breeding in Mirs Bay.

**2010:** recorded from 25 May to 31 August, peak count 68 at Shek Ngau Chau on 3 August.

**Breeding season:** peak count of 69 breeding in Mirs Bay. Two in eastern waters on 2 July bore leg flags from Swain Reef, Queensland, Australia.

Breeding counts in Mirs Bay by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
125	72	15	8	50	69	5	3	0	91	42	69

**Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana* 黑枕燕鷗 I**

*Summer breeder and passage migrant, extreme dates 12 April to 16 October; highest count 226 in summer 1996.*

**2009:** recorded from 6 April in the West Lamma Channel, a new earliest spring date (YYT), to 17 September, with 40 at Fan Lau, Lantau on 2 May and one at MPNR on 5 July, an unusual record for that location.

**Breeding season:** peak count of 86 breeding in Mirs Bay.

**2010:** recorded from 22 April to 9 September, peak count 112 at Kong Tau Pai, Sai Kung on 27 July.

**Breeding season:** peak count of 120 breeding in Mirs Bay.

Breeding counts in Mirs Bay by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
205	119	153	107	202	274	139	32	45	81	86	120

**Common Tern *Sterna hirundo* 普通燕鷗 I**

*Passage migrant through coastal waters, extreme dates 25 March to 26 October; highest count 2,100 on 2 May 1999 (Typhoon Leo). At least two taxa occur, longipennis and birds from the thibetana/minussensis group, with the former dominating.*

**2009:** only five records in spring and one in autumn.

**Spring:** recorded from MPNR and southern/eastern waters from 14 April to 26 May, peak count 24 off Po Toi on last date.

**Autumn:** 25 off Po Toi on 17 September was the only record.

**2010:** A new earliest spring record.

**Spring:** one off Po Toi on 22 March (GW) is a new earliest spring record. Then from 3 April to 24 May, all records from southern waters, peak count 38 off Po Toi on 2 May.

**Autumn:** a weak passage, from 22 to 25 August, peak count four off Mui Wo on 22 August with another 24 Common/Aleutian Terns.



**Plate 19** White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* 白翅浮鷗  
Mai Po Access Road, 12<sup>th</sup> May 2010 米埔擔竿洲路 2010年5月12日  
John and Jemi Holmes 孔思義及黃亞萍

### **Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybrida* 鬚浮鷗 I**

*Passage migrant, occasional summer and winter records; occurs at inland wetlands and coastal waters; extreme dates 8 August to 28 June, highest count 150 on 16 September 2003.*

**2009:** a poor spring passage but with unusual early and late records. All reports from the Deep Bay area and southern waters.

**First half year:** one at Tai Sang Wai on 21 February (MK) is the earliest record since 1996. Main spring passage from 26 March to 22 May, peak count only ten on 6 May. One on 17 June at LMC is a rare June record.

**Autumn:** from 13 September to 29 October, with 80 in Aberdeen Harbour and 95 at Kai Tak on 15 September following TS Koppu.

**2010:** all records from the Deep Bay area and southern waters.

**First half year:** one at Hoo Hok Wai on 21 February (GJC) follows a similar early record in 2009. Main spring passage from 8 March to 25 May, peak count 50 at MPNR on 27 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 8 September to 22 October, peak count 60 at Tai Sang Wai on 16 October.

### **White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* 白翅浮鷗 I**

*Passage migrant with some summer records; occurs at inland wetlands and coastal waters, occasional large movements occur; extreme dates 3 April to 31 October, highest count 3,000 on 12 May 1986.*

**2009:** all records from southern waters and the Deep Bay area.

**Spring:** recorded from 25 April to 26 May, peak count 111 off Po Toi on 14 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 15 to 30 September, peak count 10 at Kam Tin on earliest date.

**2010:** all records from southern waters and the Deep Bay area unless otherwise stated.

**Spring:** recorded from 30 April to 25 May, peak count 700 at MPNR on 7 May and 177 off Po Toi on 15 May. Ten at Sai Kung on 15 May and one at Mirs Bay on 4 June.

**Autumn:** only one record, 28 at MPNR on 21 September.

### **Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* 中賊鷗 I**

*Spring migrant through offshore waters, occasional autumn records often typhoon related, extreme dates 10 March to 16 May and 26 September to 5 November; highest count 47 on 26 October 1998 (Typhoon Babs).*

**2009:** two in eastern waters on 10 February is a new earliest spring record (YYT). Then from 5 March to 7 May, peak count five in eastern waters on earliest date.

**2010:** recorded from 1 April to 13 May, peak count seven off Po Toi on 21 April.

### **Parasitic Jaeger *Stercorarius parasiticus* 短尾賊鷗 I**

*Spring migrant through offshore waters, extreme dates 4 April to 15 May; highest count 16 on 2 May 1999 (Typhoon Leo).*

**2009:** recorded from 11 April to 12 May, peak count four off Po Toi on 11 May. An immature in eastern waters on 19 June (YYT) is the first June record.

**2010:** recorded from 4 April, equalling the earliest date, to 19 May, peak count six in southern waters on the earliest date.



**Plate 20** Pomarine Skua *Stercorarius pomarinus* 中賊鷗  
Southern Waters, 5<sup>th</sup> April 2009 南部水域 2009年4月5日  
Tony Hung 洪敦熹

**Long-tailed Jaeger *Stercorarius longicaudus* 長尾賊鷗 I**

*Spring migrant through offshore waters, occasional autumn records often typhoon related, extreme dates 12 March to 19 May and 21 August to 5 November; highest count 69 on 5 April 2006.*

**2009:** a poor spring passage, with records only on 4 and 5 April, peak count eight off Po Toi on last date.

**2010:** recorded from 4 April to 13 May, peak count eight in southern waters on the earliest date.

**Ancient Murrelet *Synthliboramphus antiquus* 扁嘴海雀 I**

*Winter visitor and spring passage migrant to coastal waters, extreme dates 22 November to 29 May; highest count 9 on 19 February 2006.*

**2009:** no winter records and a relatively poor spring passage, from 12 March to 8 April, peak count three in West Lamma Channel on 6 April.

**2010:** birds flying northeast past Po Toi on nine dates between 23 February and 28 April, peak count five on 13 March. One in southern waters on 2 May.

**Domestic Pigeon *Columba livia* 原鴿 IIB**

*Common resident, especially in urban areas, commensal with man.*

**2009:** all records from MPNR systematic counts and KFBG recoveries. 13 at MPNR on 20 July was the highest count.

**2010:** records as for 2009. The peak count was ten at Mai Po NR on 26 November.

**Oriental Turtle Dove *Streptopelia orientalis* 山斑鳩 I**

*Widespread winter visitor to most natural or semi-natural lowland habitats, almost certainly breeds in the Deep Bay area in some years; largest numbers present November to March, highest count 706 on 3 January 1996.*

**2009:** recorded in all months with peak count of 55 at Kam Tin on 10 February. Summer records (June and July) at Lo Wu, Kwu Tung, Mai Po, Hoo Hok Wai and San Tin.

**2010:** recorded in all months except June, with peak count of 217 at LMC on 24 January. Unlike 2009, only one summer record, three at LMC on 26 July.

**Eurasian Collared Dove *Streptopelia decaocto* 灰斑鳩 IIB**

*Local breeding resident in the northwest NT, peak count 30 on 19 January 2004.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year from northwest NT, peak count 11 at San Tin on 23 December.

**2010:** all records from northwest NT with a peak of 11 at San Tin on 4 February and 18 March.

**Red Turtle Dove *Streptopelia tranquebarica* 火斑鳩 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to open country lowland habitats, especially in the Deep Bay area; extreme dates 14 August to 12 June, highest count 106 on 2 October 2006.*

**2009:** a poor year with a peak count below ten. All records from northern NT and Po Toi, where it is a passage migrant with typical dates 16 April to 24 May and 16 September to 31 October.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 1 June, peak count nine at MPNR on 23 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 7 September, peak count six at MPNR on 26 December.

**2010:** a typical year but with a new latest date.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 24 May, peak count 13 at Tsim Bei Tsui on 3 April. One June record, on 13 June at MPNR (YYT), is a new latest date.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 18 September, peak count 21 at Mai Po on 29 October.

**Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis* 珠頸斑鳩 I**

*Very common resident in diverse habitats in urban and rural areas; highest count 138 on 5 February 2008.*

**2009:** most records come from MPNR systematic counts and KFBG recoveries. Peak count 95 at Mai Po NR on 17 December.

**2010:** records as for 2009. Peak count 122 at Mai Po NR on 10 December.

**Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica* 綠翅金鳩 I**

*Widespread resident in closed-canopy shrubland and forest habitats; highest count seven on 11 July 1982.*

**2009:** recorded in most months, peak count five on south Lamma on 5 April.

**2010:** one or two in all months of the year, peak count four on Lamma on 5 December. Regular autumn records on Po Toi, where it is not resident, suggest dispersals take place.



**Plate 21** Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica* 綠翅金鳩  
Lamma Island, 30<sup>th</sup> December 2010 南丫島 2010年12月30日  
Guy Miller

**Yellow-crested Cockatoo** *Cacatua sulphurea* 小葵花鳳頭鸚鵡 **IIB CE**  
**(for native population)**

*Common resident, mostly recorded in northern Hong Kong Island.*

An under-recorded species. Given the current status of this species in the wild (CE), the Hong Kong population may become important and observers are encouraged to submit reports.

**2009:** peak count of eight in Albert Road area of HK Island.

**2010:** peak count 14 roosting on Stonecutter's Island and nine in Causeway Bay and Braemar Hill. Records from the southern side of HK Island are now regular.

**Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri* 紅領綠鸚鵡 **IIB**

*Scarce feral resident, numbers have declined considerably since 1980.*

**2009:** occasional records from HK Island. One at Mong Tseng on 22 February. One at Kam Tin on 11 August and 19 December.

**2010:** occasional records from HK Island.



**Greater Coucal *Centropus sinensis* 褐翅鴉鵂 I**

*Widespread and common resident in lowland shrubland areas; highest count 25 on 21 April 2008.*

**2009:** highest numbers came from MPNR systematic counts, peak count at MPNR was 24 on 7 April.

**2010:** as for 2009, peak count at MPNR, 19 on 29 April.

**Lesser Coucal *Centropus benghalensis* 小鴉鵂 I**

*Widespread and fairly common resident in areas of grassland or grassland/shrubland; highest count 13 on 16 April 2007.*

**2009:** recorded in most months, peak count four at Ping Long on 1 November.

**2010:** peak count of three on Po Toi on 15 September.

**Chestnut-winged Cuckoo *Clamator coromandus* 紅翅鳳頭鴉 I**

*Spring migrant and summer visitor to closed-canopy shrubland and woodland, mainly April-June, also scarce autumn migrant; extreme dates 8 March to 19 November; highest count 10 on 26 April 1997.*

**2009:** one at Lam Tsuen on 5 March (DAD) is a new earliest record. Thereafter recorded between 27 March and 25 July with a peak count of four in northeast NT on 22 June. No autumn records.

**2010:** recorded between 28 March and 19 July, peak count four at Lam Tsuen on 8 May. Four autumn records, all singles, at Po Toi on 8 September, Mai Po on 12 September and 3 November and one taken into care at KFBG from Fung Kat Heung on 17 November.

**Asian Koel *Eudynamis scolopacea* 噪鴉 I**

*Recorded in all months from widespread urban and rural areas with trees, though infrequently during October-December; highest count 21 on 21 September 2008.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year, all high counts from Mai Po NR with a peak of 14 on 7 April and 20 July.

**2010:** as for 2009 with a peak count of 19 at MPNR on 20 August.

### **Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus* 八聲杜鵑 I**

*Recorded in open lowland areas in all months, mainly in spring and summer (when calling) and much more infrequently in autumn and early winter; the highest count, however, is in autumn: seven at Ho Sheung Heung on 24 September 1993.*

**2009:** recorded in all months with most reports in March and April and a peak of three at Kam Tin on 7 March. In the second half year, singles only from Hoo Hok Wai, Kam Tin, Po Toi, Tai Po Kau, Ping Long and Shek Kong.

**2010:** as for 2009 with a peak count two at Kam Tin and Lam Tsuen in April and Long Valley in June and November. Most records in the second half year from Long Valley but also Mai Po, Po Toi and Airfield Road.

### **Fork-tailed Drongo Cuckoo *Surniculus lugubris* 烏鵲 I**

*Rare passage migrant, with seven records; extreme dates 16 April to 9 May and 21 August to 21 September.*

**2010:** one at Tai Po Kau on 8 September (SC).

### **Large Hawk Cuckoo *Hierococcyx sparverioides* 大鷹鵲 I**

*Summer visitor and passage migrant to closed-canopy shrubland and woodland; extreme dates 8 February to 25 September; highest count 10 on 22 March 2001.*

**2009:** a good year. Mostly singing birds between 8 February and 23 September, both dates being near or equal to the extreme dates, with a peak count of ten at Ma On Shan on 11 April equalling the highest count.

**2010:** singing birds between 25 February and 28 June with a peak count of five at Braemar Hill on 25 May. Subsequent sightings at Kam Tin on 27 and 30 July and Mai Po on 29 August.

### **Hodgson's Hawk Cuckoo *Hierococcyx nisicolor* 霍氏鷹鵲 I**

*Scarce spring migrant and summer visitor to closed-canopy shrubland and woodland with extreme dates of 1 April to 24 August.*

**2009:** recorded between 11 April and 21 June, all singles except three at Tai Po Kau on 15 April, also at Ng Tung Chai, Po Toi, Tai Lam CP, Shing Mun, Bride's Pool Road, Pak Sha O and Sai Kung. One at Shing Mun on 2 September (WT) is the first for September and the latest ever record.

**2010:** recorded between 6 April and 28 June, mostly from Tai Po Kau but also Po Toi, Shing Mun (two), Lam Tsuen, Ng Tung Chai and Mai Po. Peak count three at Tai Po Kau on 13 May.

**Indian Cuckoo** *Cuculus micropterus* 四聲杜鵑 I

*Summer visitor and passage migrant to open woodland habitats, extreme dates 10 March to 10 August; highest count seven on 22 April 1978.*

**2009:** widespread records from 12 April to 19 June with a peak count of three at Tai O on 28 April, Nam Shan on 3 May and MPNR on 22 May.

**2010:** widespread records from 12 April to 21 June with a peak count of three at Long Valley on 27 April.

**Oriental Cuckoo** *Cuculus optatus* 東方中杜鵑 I

*Passage migrant, extreme dates 26 March to 21 May and 28 August to 23 October; highest count five on 9 May 1999.*

**2009:** recorded in spring from 29 March to 27 April with singles on Po Toi, at Ho Chung and Ping Long, and high counts two at Tai Om Shan on 26 April and two on Po Toi on 27 April. In autumn, different birds on Po Toi on 3, 9 and 17 September with one at Mai Po on 1 October.

**2010:** recorded in spring from 1 April to 4 May with singles on Po Toi, at Shek Kong, MPNR and Lok Ma Chau Lookout. In autumn, one on Po Toi on 9 September and one at Fung Lok Wai on 14 September.

**Hepatic** *Cuculus cuckoo* 杜鵑

**2010:** a very early hepatic *Cuculus* cuckoo at Shek Kong between 17 and 24 February (OC) could not be determined to species.

**Collared Scops Owl** *Otus lettia* 領角鴞 I

*Widespread and common resident in lowland areas of closed-canopy shrubland and woodland; highest count 11 on 17 April 2001.*

**2009:** most records involved calling birds from February to April and in December with nine taken into care by KFBG from seven different locations from late April to July. The peak count was three at Nam Chung on 25 February.

**2010:** most records of calling birds from mid-January to March and in December with a peak of three at Tai Po Kau Headland on 27 January. Similar to 2009, ten taken into care at KFBG from various locations throughout the year but mostly in April to June.

**Oriental Scops Owl *Otus sunia* 紅角鴞 I**

*Scarce migrant, mostly in autumn; extreme dates 11 April to 13 June and 11 October to 18 December.*

**2009:** one at Tai Po Kau on 1 October (KPK), a new earliest autumn date.

**2010:** one on Po Toi on 25 November.

**Eurasian Eagle Owl *Bubo bubo* 鵞鴞 I**

*Widespread though locally-distributed and scarce resident in areas of hill slope grassland.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi on 8 and 21 October was the only record.

**2010:** one at Tsing Yi on 27 June was taken into care in KFBG and released at Tai Om Shan on 23 August. One calling at Discovery Bay from 7 September to 7 December and one at Long Valley on 8 November.

**Brown Fish Owl *Ketupa zeylonensis* 褐漁鴞 I**

*Widespread though locally-distributed and scarce resident at the interface of large freshwater streams and the coast or at reservoirs, both in areas of mature shrubland or woodland.*

**2009:** one at Tai Lam Reservoir on 22 February, one at Sai Sha on 25 March and 22 April and one at Sai Kung on 19 September. A pair nested in the Sai Kung area, successfully raising one juvenile.

**2010:** one at Pui O on 9 January, with one at Cheung Chau on various dates from 18 January to 19 April.

**Brown Wood Owl *Strix leptogrammica* 褐林鴞 I**

*One on 6 November 2007 is the first official record.*

**2006:** one heard and recorded at Tai Po Kau on 18 and 20 March (R&KB), originally submitted as owl sp., is now accepted as the earliest record of this species. However, the 2007 sighting remains the first official record for Hong Kong.

**2008:** one heard at Tai Om on 16 and 19 April (MK). One heard at Tai Po Kau on 5 November (KPK).

**2009:** one heard at Tai Om on 4 and 21 March (MK). A three-week old chick found on Tai Mo Shan on 4 April was taken into care at KFBG (NC) and later released on 28 May 2010. One heard at Lung A Pai, Lam Tsuen on 30 September (DT).

**2010:** one heard at Tai Po Kau on 18 January (R&KB). At least one heard and sometimes seen in Lam Tsuen valley from 9 February to year end (MK, DT) with a fledged juvenile photographed on 5 June (MK, MH).



**Plate 22** Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides* 斑頭鵂鶻  
Kam Tin, 10<sup>th</sup> May 2009 錦田 2009年5月10日  
John and Jemi Holmes 孔思義及黃亞萍

**Asian Barred Owlet *Glaucidium cuculoides* 斑頭鵂鶻 I**

*Widespread though locally-distributed resident in forest and open-country areas; highest count six on 11 May 2001.*

**2009:** most records from January to April, all from north and central NT. Peak count four at Kam Tin, where breeding occurred, on 4 June.

**2010:** similar to 2009 but a peak count of only two.

**Northern Boobook** *Ninox japonica* 鷹鴞 I

*Scarce passage migrant, mainly in spring, to woodland and shrubland areas especially on offshore islands; extreme dates 24 March to 22 May and 18 October to 29 November; highest count five over southern waters on 5 May 2007.*

**2009:** a poor year following two good years in 2007 and 2008. The only records were of one at Po Toi on 30 March, 1 and 4 April, probably the same bird, and singles taken into care at KFBG from Causeway Bay on 9 April and from Ma On Shan on 24 April.

**2010:** a better year with singles on Po Toi on 4 and 14 April and 14 May and one also on Po Toi on 7 November.

**Grey Nightjar** *Caprimulgus jotaka* 普通夜鷹 I

*Locally distributed summer visitor and passage migrant to areas of closed-canopy shrubland; extreme dates 1 February to 29 November; highest count five on 8 May 2001.*

No records were received in either 2009 or 2010.

**Savanna Nightjar** *Caprimulgus affinis* 林夜鷹 I

*Widespread though locally-distributed resident in areas of lowland grassland; highest count 22 on 8 October 2000.*

**2009:** recorded in most months with a peak count of 13 at LMC on 9 November.

**2010:** as in 2009, recorded in most months but with a peak count of only three at Discovery Bay on 1 June.

**Himalayan Swiftlet** *Aerodramus brevirostris* 短嘴金絲燕 I

*Scarce spring passage migrant and winter visitor with one autumn record; extreme dates 10 December to 22 May and 28 September.*

**2009:** one on the Mai Po access road on 6 January. Two on Po Toi on 25 May was the only spring record and a new latest date (GW). Three autumn records: two at Tai Mo Shan on 29 August, one on Po Toi on 16 September and one at MPNR on 21 September.

**2010:** a good year. Single birds at LMC on 8 February, at Hoo Hok Wai on 26 March and on Po Toi on 14 April. In autumn, two at Po Toi on 2 September with one there on 4 and 9 September, one at Long Valley on 25 September and one at Mai Po on 5 October, making a total of seven autumn records over the past four years where previously there had been none.



**Plate 23** White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus* 白喉針尾雨燕  
Po Toi Island, 16<sup>th</sup> April 2009 蒲台島 2009年4月16日  
Geoff Welch

**White-throated Needletail *Hirundapus caudacutus* 白喉針尾雨燕 I**

*Scarce passage migrant, mainly in spring; extreme dates 25 March to 15 May and 19 September to 27 October; highest count 23 on 2 May 1999.*

**2009:** at least two at Shek Kong on 7 April, one on Po Toi on 8 and 16 April, six at Robin's Nest on 21 April and three at Mai Po on 26 April.

**2010:** one at Shek Kong on 7 April was the only record.

**Silver-backed Needletail *Hirundapus cochinchinensis* 灰喉針尾雨燕 I**

*Scarce passage migrant, mainly in spring with one autumn record and four summer records from 1989 to 1995; extreme dates 2 March to 11 May, 8 June to 21 July and 8 October; highest count 150 on 2 April 1995.*

**2009:** a good year. Four at Tseng Tau Tsuen on 28 March, three at Ho Chung on 30 March, five at Mai Po Village on 6 April, 32 at Crest Hill on 7 April, 45 at Cloudy Hill on 8 April, two at Tai Lam CP on 16 April and one at Mai Po on 26 April. One coming in off the sea on Po Toi on 29 September following Typhoon Ketsana (GW) was only the second autumn record.

**2010:** 12 on Po Toi on 6 April, one at San Tin on 8 April, five at Robin's Nest on 9 April and a late bird at Tai Po Kau on 8 May.

**Pacific Swift *Apus pacificus* 白腰雨燕 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, and summer visitor, with two taxa occurring, the nominate and kanoi; highest count 3,000 on 4 April 1987.*

**2009:** recorded between 4 February and 22 September, the peak counts in each half year being 50 at Sok Kwu Wan, Lamma on 5 April and 30 on Po Toi on 22 September.

**2010:** recorded between 4 February and 4 November, the peak counts in each half year being 80 on Po Toi on 8 March and 20 on Po Toi on 8 September.

**House Swift *Apus nipalensis* 小白腰雨燕 I**

*Spring migrant and resident; highest count 3,000 on 18 March 1985, 30 March 1991 and 26 February 1993.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year, peak count 400 over the Mai Po access road on 28 February.

**2010:** as for 2009 with the peak count 400 at Hoo Hok Wai on 30 March.

**Eurasian Roller *Coracias garrulus* 藍胸佛法僧 I**

*No records.*

**2010:** one near Black Point Power Station, Tuen Mun on 5 October (DJS). This is the first record for Hong Kong.



### **Oriental Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis* 三寶鳥 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly April-May and September-October, with one summer record; extreme dates 30 March to 5 June and 24 August to 28 November, highest count 16 on 21 April 1988.*

**2009:** recorded from 13 April to 24 May, with a peak count of 15 at Nam Chung on 20 April, and from 25 August to 2 October, with a peak count of 12 at Shing Mun on 10 September.

**2010:** a poor spring with few records. Recorded from 8 April to 16 May with a peak count of six at Ping Long on 6 May, and from 8 September to 23 October with a peak count of ten in the Lam Tsuen valley on 23 September.

### **White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis* 白胸翡翠 I**

*Present all year in wetland areas, with numbers much reduced in the period April to June (breeds away from water); highest count 46 on 15 October 2000 and 18 December 2005.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year. In Deep Bay, the peak count during WC was 32 on 15 November. Breeding observations at Fanling, So Kwun Wat and Shek Kong.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year. In Deep Bay, the peak count was 24 in the January and November WC with a peak count of five at Long Valley on 18 October. Breeding observations at Sheung Wan and near the Tai Tam Tunnel Toll Plaza.

### **Black-capped Kingfisher *Halcyon pileata* 藍翡翠 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor with occasional summer records in Deep Bay and relatively undisturbed coastal areas; highest count 20 on 19 October 1986.*

**2009:** recorded up to 6 May and from 9 August, an early date, with a peak count of nine in Deep Bay on 20 December. Migrants on Po Toi on 6 May, 23 September and 6 October.

**2010:** recorded up to 16 May and from 22 August, with a peak count of five in Deep Bay on 10 December and four at Starling Inlet on 17 October. Migrants on Po Toi on 14 April, 12 May, 1 and 27 September and 27 October.

### **Common Kingfisher *Alcedo atthis* 普通翠鳥 I**

*Present all year in wetland areas but peak numbers occur on passage; highest count 70 on 10 September 2006.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year with summer records at MPNR, Siu Lam and Kam Tin. Peak counts in Deep Bay 26 in February WC and 46 in November WC. Passage on

Po Toi from 25 March to 7 May and 6 August to 15 October. Elsewhere, ten at San Tin on 13 August and five at Kai Tak on 16 September.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year with summer records at MPNR and Long Valley. Peak counts in Deep Bay 32 in February WC and 60 in September WC with 18 in June and July WC. Passage on Po Toi from 23 February to 4 May and 24 August to 24 November.

### **Crested Kingfisher** *Megaceryle lugubris* 冠魚狗 I

*Scarce and very localised resident and winter visitor.*

**2009:** a male at So Lo Pun on 22 June.

### **Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis* 斑魚狗 I

*Resident in fishpond areas, especially Deep Bay; highest count 34 on 11 June 2006.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year with summer records at MPNR, Long Valley, Nam Chung and Siu Lam. Peak count in Deep Bay 16 in June WC. Away from Deep Bay, also reported from Tai Lam Chung and Luk Keng.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year with summer records at MPNR and Long Valley. Peak count in Deep Bay 26 in July WC. Away from Deep Bay, also reported from Nam Chung with one at Lung Fu Shan on 1 September a rare record away from NT.

### **Blue-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops philippinus* 栗喉蜂虎 I

*Passage migrant, extreme dates 4 April to 22 May and 25 September to 1 November; highest count 121 on 5 October 2007.*

**2009:** in spring, from 6 April to 7 May at MPNR, Po Toi, Robin's Nest, Ping Che, Tai O, San Tin and Long Valley with a peak count 58 at MPNR on 14 April. In autumn, from 4 to 18 October at MPNR and LMC, peak count 76 at MPNR on 11 October.

**2010:** in spring, from 10 April to 8 May at MPNR, Long Valley, Cheung Chau, Mong Tseng and Fung Lok Wai with a peak count 40 at MPNR on 23 April. In autumn, only three records from 7 October to 1 November at MPNR and Long Valley, peak count 16 at Long Valley on 18 October.

### **Blue-throated Bee-eater** *Merops viridis* 藍喉蜂虎 I

*Five records; extreme dates 28 April to 20 May and 17 September to 6 October; highest count 10 on 25 September 1991.*

**2010:** one at Long Valley on 29 May (GH) and 30 May is the latest spring date.



**Plate 24** Blue-throated Bee-eater *Merops viridis* 藍喉蜂虎  
Long Valley, 30<sup>th</sup> May 2010 壟原 2010年5月30日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### **Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops* 戴勝 I

*Winter visitor, passage migrant and occasional summer visitor, with two breeding records.*

**2009:** in the first half year, up to two at Shek Kong from 17 January to 22 February, one at Tai Mo Shan from 20 to 28 February and one on Po Toi on 7 to 8 April. In the second half year, one on Lamma on 6 September, one at Tsing Yi on 24 September, one at HKU on 17 October and one long-staying bird at Pui O from 17 October to 3 January 2010.

**2010:** in the first half year, two at Tsim Bei Tsui on 1 January, one at Tai Tong on 23 January, one at Long Valley on 17 February and two on Po Toi from 2 to 16 March. In the second half year, one at Mai Po on 2 September, one at Tai O on 5 September and two at Victoria Park also on 5 September, one of which stayed until 21 December.

**Great Barbet *Megalaima virens* 大擬啄木鳥 I**

*Resident in mature secondary broadleaf forest in central NT, mostly Tai Po Kau. Appears to be declining; highest count 14 on 21 May 1994.*

**2009:** all records from forest areas of central NT, mostly Tai Po Kau. The peak count was six at Tai Mo Shan on 11 April.

**2010:** as in 2009, all records from forest areas of central NT, mostly heard calling in the first half year. Peak count just two at Tai Po Kau on several dates.

**Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla* 蟻鴛 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to a variety of semi-wooded habitats; extreme dates 28 August to 23 April, highest count four on 1 April 1978.*

**2009:** singles in the Deep Bay area up to 7 April. In the second half, from 16 September with most records from Deep Bay but also at Long Valley, Lai Chi Kok Park, Tung Chung and Lam Tsuen. Peak count three at Mai Po on 7 October and LMC on 17 and 21 October.

**2010:** singles in Deep Bay up to 20 April with two at Ping Long on 16 January. In the second half, one or two at many locations from 11 September, mainly in Deep Bay but also Long Valley, Lam Tsuen and Shek Kong with a peak count three at Kam Tin on 29 November.

**Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus* 斑姬啄木鳥 I**

*Four records, January, March, July and October.*

**2010:** one at Shek Kong on 20 and 21 November (J&JH). This is the fifth Hong Kong record.

**Bay Woodpecker *Blythipicus pyrrhotis* 黃嘴栗啄木鳥 I**

*Rare resident of mature broadleaf secondary forest. Possibly established in Tai Po Kau.*

**2009:** two birds, male and female, recorded throughout the year from Tai Po Kau.

**2010:** one recorded throughout the year from Tai Po Kau with one at Shing Mun on 10 September and 14 October.

**Fairy Pitta** *Pitta nympha* 仙八色鸚 I VU

*Rare spring and autumn passage migrant; extreme dates 10 April to 3 May and 9 to 29 September.*

**2010:** one at Mai Po on 6 May (YYT) is a new latest spring date. One on Po Toi on 26 August (GW) is a new earliest autumn date. One flew into an upper floor flat at Ho Man Tin on 24 September, staying in the house for one day before it flew off (TM).

**Blue-winged Pitta** *Pitta moluccensis* 藍翅八色鸚 I

*Two spring records, 4 May 1989 and 17 April to 4 May 2008.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi from 28 April to 6 May (GW). This is the third HK record and the second on Po Toi in successive years.

**Black-winged Cuckooshrike** *Coracina melaschistos* 暗灰鶇 I

*Passage migrant and scarce winter visitor to closed and open woodland; extreme dates 1 September to 21 May, highest count four on 3 October 1994.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded in singles and twos up to 9 May with four at Ng Tung Chai on 7 April equaling the record count.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 8 September with a peak count of three at Pak Tin Kong on 7 and 15 November.

**2010: First winter period:** recorded to 9 April when one was at Lung Fu Shan, the only record away from NT. Peak count three at Pak Tin Kong on 24 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 8 September with a peak of three on Tai Po Kau Headland on 31 October.

**Swinhoe's Minivet** *Pericrocotus cantonensis* 小灰山椒鳥 I

*Scarce passage migrant to open woodland, extreme dates 30 March to 3 May and 1 to 10 October; highest count 13 on 8 October 1998.*

**2009:** in spring, singles on Po Toi on 26 March (CW) and 5 May (GW), new earliest and latest dates. In autumn, one at Mai Po on 3 October and at Tai Po Kau on 22 October (GH), a new latest date.

**2010:** in spring, one on Po Toi on 3 April. In autumn, one on Po Toi on 10 October and at Tai Po Kau on 16 October.

**Ashy Minivet** *Pericrocotus divaricatus* 灰山椒鳥 I

*Passage migrant in spring and autumn to woodland areas, extreme dates 18 March to 21 May and 7 September to 27 November; highest count 50 on 2 April 2004.*

**2009:** most records from Po Toi, also at Sai Sha, Tai Po Kau Headland, Tung Ping Chau and Kam Tin.

**Spring:** recorded from 27 March to 30 April, peak count 18 on Po Toi on 6 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 13 September to 29 October, peak count six at LMC on 20 October.

**2010:** a good year with more widespread records than 2009 and high counts in spring.

**Spring:** recorded from 30 March to 3 May, peak count 40 at Tsim Bei Tsui on 3 April and Mong Tseng on 7 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 3 October to 9 November, peak count 12 on Po Toi on 6 November.

**Grey-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris* 灰喉山椒鳥 I

*Common winter visitor and scarce breeding species in mature closed-canopy woodland; highest count 100 on 14 November 1992.*

**2009:** recorded in most months in central and northeast NT with a concentration and highest numbers in January, November and December, peak counts 31 on 23 January at Ng Tung Chai and 60 at Tai Po Kau on 21 November. Reported from May to August at Kowloon Hills Catchwater, Hok Tau and Tai Po Kau.

**2010:** similar to 2009 but smaller numbers, peak counts six at Sai Kung on 9 January and 36 at Tai Po Kau on 23 October. Reported from May to August at KFBG and Tai Po Kau, peak count ten there on 25 August.

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus* 赤紅山椒鳥 I

*Under-reported common resident in mature closed-canopy woodland and woodland edge, even adjoining urban areas; highest count 80 on 22 December 1984.*

**2009:** recorded in all months with widespread reports from central and northeast NT, peak count of only 13 at Tai Po Kau Headland on 24 September.

**2010:** as for 2009. Peak count 13 at Tai Po Kau on 1 April with ten at Pai Mun Shan on 31 August and at Shek Kong on 23 November. Two on Po Toi on 9 November were a first record for the island.

### **Tiger Shrike *Lanius tigrinus* 虎紋伯勞 I**

*Rare passage migrant in early autumn; extreme dates 29 August to 26 September.*

**2009:** first winter on Po Toi on 3 September (GW).

### **Bull-headed Shrike *Lanius bucephalus* 牛頭伯勞 I**

*Scarce late autumn passage migrant and winter visitor to woodland edge; extreme dates 16 October to 27 March.*

**2009:** one at Sai Kung on 28 January. In the second winter period, singles recorded from 19 November at Chek Lap Kok, Shek Kong, Long Valley, Hok Tau, Shing Mun and Lam Tsuen valley.

**2010:** continuing the good winter for this species, widespread records in the first winter period up to 18 March with at least three and possibly four in the Lam Tsuen valley, one at Shek Kong, two at Siu Lek Yuen and one at Pok Fu Lam. In the second winter period, singles at Sha Lo Wan on 31 October, Long Valley on 9 November and Kuk Po on 14 November.

### **Brown Shrike *Lanius cristatus* 紅尾伯勞 I**

*L.c. lucionensis: common passage migrant and scarce winter visitor; L.c. cristatus: passage migrant, mainly in autumn. Both occur in open country habitats. Extreme spring dates 19 April to 7 June, highest count 89 on 21 May 2008. Earliest autumn record 25 July, passage occurring until late October.*

The exact status of *cristatus* is unclear and observers are encouraged to ascribe all records to subspecies where possible.

**2009:** unusually high typhoon-related counts in the second winter period.

**First winter period:** *L.c. lucionensis*: no wintering birds recorded; passage birds noted from 18 April to 26 May, with peak count 37 on Po Toi on 27 April. *L.c. cristatus*: one at Long Valley on 25 March.

**Second winter period:** migrants from 1 September to 21 October, peak count 25 on Po Toi on 17 September following Typhoon Koppu and 25 there on 30 September following Typhoon Ketsana, in both cases mostly *lucionensis*.

**2010:** relatively few records in both spring and autumn.

**First winter period:** wintering *cristatus* on 1 January at Ng Tung Chai, 9 January at Sai Kung and 9 March on Po Toi with others of unasccribed race at Lam Tsuen and Kam Tin. In spring, from 14 April to 24 May, high count of 28 on Po Toi on 11 May (GW). *L.c. cristatus*: one on Po Toi on 25 April.

**Second winter period:** passage recorded from 1 September to 6 October, then one long-staying bird at Long Valley from 12 October to 29 December and singles from 21 November at Pui O, Kam Tim, Chek Lap Kok and MPNR.

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio* 紅背伯勞 I

*One record, 6 to 9 October 2008.*

**2009:** a first-winter at Lok Ma Chau on 7 October (PJL). This is the second HK record.

**Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach* 棕背伯勞 I

*Common resident in open country habitats; highest count 18 on 24 August 2007.*

**2009:** regular surveys at MPNR recorded highest numbers from mid July to early September, the peak count being 15 on 8 August. One photographed at Pui O on 24 October with a freshly killed Lanceolated Warbler.

**2010:** mostly recorded in regular surveys at MPNR and Long Valley with a peak count of 19 at MPNR on 24 July, a new high count, and 15 at Long Valley on 22 February.

**White-bellied Erpornis** *Erpornis zantholeuca* 白腹鳳鶯 I

*Locally-distributed resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland; highest count 15 on 2 September 1990.*

**2009:** up to two recorded at Shing Mun throughout the year and at Tai Po Kau from July and at Tai Om Shan in January and December.

**2010:** as for 2009, most records at Tai Po Kau and Shing Mun where it was recorded throughout the year with a peak count four at Tai Po Kau on 15 March. Also recorded at Wu Kau Tang, Tai Om (four on 11 July), Kuk Po, Hok Tau (three on 26 October) and Shek Kong.

**Black-naped Oriole** *Oriolus chinensis* 黑枕黃鶯 I

*Migrant, mainly autumn, and breeding species in open woodland areas; typically present April to November; highest count 30 on 21 September 1986.*

**2009: Spring:** three singles on Cheung Chau and Po Toi from 16 to 28 April.

**Breeding season:** possible breeding on Cheung Chau.

**Autumn:** recorded from 26 August to 24 November, mostly at Mai Po and Po Toi, peak count five on Po Toi on 27 September.



**2010: Spring:** singles at Long Valley, Mai Po and on Po Toi and Cheung Chau from 27 February to 25 April.

**Breeding season:** birds singing on Cheung Chau on 24 April may indicate breeding.

**Autumn:** recorded from 16 September to 17 October, peak count 11 at Mai Po on 5 October, also recorded from Po Toi, Shek Kong, LMC, Kam Tin, San Tin and Ping Long. Two at Long Valley on 6 December is a rare winter record.

## **Black Drongo** *Dicrurus macrocercus* 黑卷尾 I

*Common passage migrant, mainly autumn, locally-common breeder and winter visitor to open-country areas; highest count 237 on 7 October 2007.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year from widespread locations. Peak spring counts 14 at Ping Long on 19 April and 12 on Po Toi on 27 April. Autumn passage poor, peak count 16 on Po Toi on 8 October.

**2010:** no obvious spring passage, but an exceptional autumn passage. Autumn passage started on 6 September with typical numbers until 12 October when at least 1,000 passed over MPNR in flocks throughout the day (JAA,PJL,KL), easily a new high count. Also 107 in the Long Valley/Ho Sheung Hung area that day but only 12 on Po Toi and one at Chek Lap Kok. Numbers were typical thereafter.

## **Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus* 灰卷尾 I

*Winter visitor to woodland areas; extreme dates 11 September to 27 April, highest count since The Avifauna eight on 5 November 2008.*

**2009:** most reports refer to the subspecies *leucogenis* with some *salangensis* in autumn.

**First winter period:** singles at Tai Po Kau, Tai Om Shan, Shek Kong and Shing Mun from 1 January to 25 April with two at Shing Mun on 22 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 5 October, mostly at Tai Po Kau but also in the Lam Tsuen valley and at Shing Mun, Kowloon Reservoir, Tai Lam CP and Wonderland Villas, peak count four at Shing Mun on 11 November.

**2010:** a typical series of records from woodland areas of the NT.

**First winter period:** singles at Tai Po Kau, Shing Mun, Wonderland Villas, the Lam Tsuen valley and Kowloon reservoir until 25 April, peak count two at Shing Mun and Lam Tsuen.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 15 September at the same locations plus Po Toi, Lamma and Lantau Islands, peak count seven at Tai Po Kau on 20 November. Several records of *salangensis*.

**Hair-crested Drongo *Dicrurus hottentottus* 髮冠卷尾 I**

*Locally common resident in wooded areas; highest count 67 on 6 October 2007.*

**2009:** reported throughout the year. Peak counts 50 at Shek Kong on 26 January, 30 at Tai Po Kau Headland on 8 November and 34 at Siu Lam on 27 December.

**2010:** reported throughout the year but in lower numbers than 2009. Peak counts 19 at Kowloon Reservoir on 30 January and 29 at She Shan on 11 December. Juveniles reported from Kam Tin, Pak Tam Chung, She Shan and Shuen Wan.



**Plate 25** Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea* 黑枕王鵯  
Shek Kong, 18<sup>th</sup> January 2009 石崗 2009年1月18日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

**Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea* 黑枕王鵯 I**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to woodland areas; extreme dates 19 September to 27 April.*

**2009:** many reports refer to long-staying individuals.

**First winter period:** recorded to 3 April, two at Shek Kong in January, one at Fung Yuen in January and February and one at Tai Po Kau in March. Singles also at Pak Sha O, Ng Tung Chai, Ho Sheung Heung, Felix Villa and Shing Mun.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 15 October with one on Po Toi in October, two at Tai Po Kau from November to year end and one at Tai Om Shan in December. Also at Shing Mun (two), Ma Tso Lung, Cheung Chau (two), Po Shan Road, Pui O, Kwai Chung and Tung Ping Chau.

**2010:** fewer records than 2009 with no long-staying birds reported.

**First winter period:** recorded to 24 February with singles at Luk Keng, LMC, Shing Mun, Ma Tso Lung, Hang Tau, Ho Sheung Hung, Lung Kwu Tan, Ng Tung Chai and two at Fung Yuen.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 27 October on Po Toi, MPNR, Cheung Chau, Tai Om Shan, Fung Yuen, Pui O, Tung O, Shek Kong and Lamma, peak count two.

### **Asian Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi* 綬帶 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly autumn, and rare winter visitor to woodland areas; extreme dates 29 March to 6 May and from 2 August.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** one at Shing Mun from 24 January to 5 February and one at Felix Villa on 17 February. No spring records.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 7 August to 28 November, peak count two at Mai Po on 15 August, Tai Po Kau from 30 August to 6 September and on Po Toi on 1 September.

**2010:** no reports in the first winter period.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 21 August to 9 November, peak count three at Shing Mun on 18 September.

### **Japanese Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone atrocaudata* 紫綬帶 I NT**

*Passage migrant, mainly spring, to woodland areas; extreme dates 28 March to 30 April and 29 August to 3 November, highest count six on 13 April 1992.*

**2009:** new latest spring and autumn records.

**Spring:** males at Tai Po Kau from 31 March to 3 April, Po Toi from 5 to 11 April and Tai Po Kau again from 12 to 18 April. A first-summer male photographed at Mai Po on 31 May (P&MW) is the latest spring date by over one month.

**Autumn:** recorded at Tai Po Kau from 30 August to 18 November, a new latest date (CNM). Also at Ng Tung Chai, Shing Mun, Po Toi and Lamma, peak count two at Ng Tung Chai on 13 October.

**2010:** fewer spring records than usual.

**Spring:** recorded on Po Toi from 3 to 11 April (male), at Tai Om Shan on 6 April (male), on Cheung Chau on 6 April, at Tai Po Kau on 8 April and finally a female at Po Toi on 29 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from 12 September to 12 November at Tai Po Kau, Po Toi, Shing Mun, Lam Tsuen, Cheung Chau, Long Valley and Po Shan Road, peak count two at Tai Po Kau on 12 September and 23 October.



**Plate 26** Japanese Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone atrocaudata* 紫綬帶  
Po Toi Island, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2010 蒲台島 2010年4月11日  
Allen Chan 陳志雄

**Azure-winged Magpie *Cyanopica cyanus* 灰喜鵲 I**

*Localised breeding resident especially in the Mai Po area; highest count 47 on 20 August 2006.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year from the Mai Po area with a peak count of 42 on 3 October.

**2010:** most records from the Mai Po area with a peak count of 41 on 20 September. Elsewhere reported from Ta Kwu Ling, Shenzhen River and Kowloon Walled Park.

**Red-billed Blue Magpie *Urocissa erythrorhyncha* 紅嘴藍鵲 I**

*Common resident of closed-canopy shrubland.*

**2009:** widespread records with a peak count of four at Ma Tso Lung on 30 June, Siu Lam on 13 October and Shek Kong on 26 December. One appeared on Po Toi on 6 June and remained resident, a first record for the island.

**2010:** more widespread reports than 2009, with a peak of six at Braemar Hill on 16 June and Beas River on 1 November. The bird on Po Toi was joined by another on 22 April, both remaining resident.

**Grey Treepie *Dendrocitta formosae* 灰樹鵲 I**

*Locally common resident of closed-canopy shrubland; highest count 80 on 27 November 1977.*

**2009:** widespread reports, mainly from northeast NT. Peak count three at Luk Keng on 21 June and Pak Sha O on 10 October.

**2010:** as for 2009 but with more records from the Central Massif. Peak count five at Lau Shui Hang on 21 February. Two at Harlech Road on 27 March was a rare record from HK Island.

**Eurasian Magpie *Pica pica* 喜鵲 I**

*Common resident of open country and urban edge habitats. Highest count 80 on 28 November 1999.*

Almost all records from systematic surveys at MPNR and also at Long Valley from 2010.

**2009:** peak count of 16 at MPNR on 12 January.

**2010:** peak count of 22 at MPNR on 25 September and 11 at Long Valley on 8 January.

**House Crow *Corvus splendens* 家鴉 IIB**

*Localised breeding resident, mainly in the Cheung Sha Wan area.*

Records away from its main area in northern Kowloon as follows (observers are encouraged to report all sightings of this species away from this area):

**2009:** singles at Pak Nai on 1 February and at Kai Tak on 29 April with three there on 9 June and two on 16 September.

**2010:** regular records from Kai Tak between 16 April and 15 October with 38 there on 26 August.

**Collared Crow *Corvus torquatus* 白頸鴉 INT**

*Locally common resident, mainly in coastal areas; highest count 100 on 27 June 1982.*

**2009:** widely reported although most records from MNPR where the highest count was 112 on 21 August (KL), a new highest count. Ten at Plover Cove on 25 October was the highest count away from MPNR and one at Braemar Hill on 25 November was a new location.

**2010:** as for 2009 with a peak count of 141 going to roost at Mai Po NR on 10 November (DJS), another highest count. Elsewhere, regularly recorded at Braemar Hill, Long Valley, Lam Tsuen, Sai Kung and Tung Ping Chau.

Peak counts at MPNR by year since *The Avifauna*

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
70	40	45	31	72	74	81	77	99	100	112	141

**Large-billed Crow *Corvus macrorhynchos* 大嘴烏鴉 I**

*Common resident of open rural and wooded urban edge habitats, highest count 200 on 20 January 2008.*

**2009:** widespread reports in all months. Peak count 35 at Luk Chau, Lamma on 31 December.

**2010:** peak count of 100 at Tai Lam Chung on 27 December. 16 flying south over Po Toi on 18 March were dispersing or migrant birds; these are regularly seen in early spring over Po Toi.

**Grey-headed Canary-flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis* 方尾鶺 I

*Winter visitor to woodland areas; extreme dates 8 October to 20 April, highest count 11 on 11 February 2007.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 26 March, peak count four at Shing Mun on 24 January and Ng Tung Chai on 26 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 17 October, peak count five at Tai Po Kau on 31 October.

**2010:** relatively few reports in the first winter period.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 15 March, peak count three at Shing Mun on 17 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 22 October, peak count two at Tai Po Kau.

**Yellow-bellied Tit** *Periparus venustulus* 黃腹山雀 I

*Irregular and rare irruptive winter visitor; extreme dates 2 September to 14 April, highest count 50 on 20 November 1985.*

**2009:** three at Tai Po Kau on 30 August (KPK), a new earliest record.

**Cinereous Tit** *Parus cinereus* 蒼背山雀 I

*Common resident in open and closed-canopy woodland, shrubland and parkland areas.*

Almost all records come from MPNR, Tai Po Kau and Braemar Hill .

**2009:** systematic surveys at MPNR recorded a peak of 12 on 30 January and at Braemar Hill a peak of 20 on 23 October. A dispersing juvenile on Po Toi, where this species is not resident, on 19 August.

**2010:** peak counts 13 on north Lantau on 9 January and 12 at MPNR on 10 December.

**Yellow-cheeked Tit** *Parus spilonotus* 黃頰山雀 IIA

*Locally-common resident of mature woodland in central NT; highest count 15 on 2 September 1990.*

**2009:** all records from Tai Po Kau and Shing Mun, peak count four at Tai Po Kau on 21 November.

**2010:** almost all records from Tai Po Kau, peak count only two on various dates including an adult feeding a juvenile on 13 May. Elsewhere two at Ho Pui on 30 October.

**Chinese Penduline Tit** *Remiz consobrinus* 中華攀雀 I

*Winter visitor and autumn migrant in reedmarshes; extreme dates 10 October to 23 May, highest count 90 on 23 November 1999.*



**Plate 27** Chinese Penduline Tit *Remiz consobrinus* 中華攀雀  
Mai Po NR, 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010 米埔 2010年5月1日  
Thomas Chan 陳土飛

**2009:** most records from MPNR and LMC.

**First winter period:** recorded until 24 April, peak count 30 at LMC on 16 January. Ten at Sha Po on 3 April.



**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 October, peak count 60 at MPNR on 4 November. One at Nam Chung on 21 November and one on Cheung Chau on 23 November, a rare record away from the northern NT.

**2010:** all records except one at MPNR and LMC.

**First winter period:** recorded until 14 May, peak count 30 at LMC on 28 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 29 October, peak count 50 at MPNR on 24 November. One at Wetland Park on 17 November.



**Plate 28** Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* 雲雀  
Long Valley, 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010 壟原 2010年10月27日  
Irene Ho 何碧霞

### **Eurasian Skylark *Alauda arvensis* 雲雀 I**

*Autumn passage migrant and winter visitor with extreme dates of 11 October to 2 March; highest count eight on 1 November 2003.*

**2009:** a poor year with no records in the first period. In the second period, one at Mai Po on 16 and 30 October and one at Kam Tin on 14 November.

**2010:** by contrast, a very good year. In the first half, singles at LMC on 9 February and south Lamma on 3 April, only the second record away from the Deep Bay area. In the second half, recorded from 9 October to 9 December at Kam Tin, LMC, MPNR, Long Valley, Nim Wan, Ping Che, Po Toi, San Tin and She Shan. Six and above were on the MPNR scrape when it was dry between 25 October and 1 November with a maximum of 15 on 28 October (RWL), a new HK highest count.

### **Oriental Skylark *Alauda gulgula* 小雲雀 I**

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor (previously a localised resident); extreme dates 1 October to 22 April.*

**2009:** two at Chek Lap Kok on 18 October.

**2010:** one on the MPNR scrape from 26 to 28 October.

### **Red-whiskered Bulbul *Pycnonotus jocosus* 紅耳鶇 I**

*Abundant resident in most habitats except woodland interior; highest count 300 on 22 September 2008.*

**2009:** peak counts of 50 at Long Valley on 19 September and Braemar Hill on 13 November.

**2010:** peak counts of 70 at Stanley on 12 March and 125 at Sha Po on 29 November.

### **Chinese Bulbul *Pycnonotus sinensis* 白頭鶇 I**

*Abundant all year, with migrants and winter visitors occurring; present in nearly all habitats, the most abundant and widespread species in HK; highest count 2500 on 5 April 1997.*

**2009:** peak count of 338 during systematic surveys at MPNR on 7 April. Largest migrant flocks, 200 at Long Valley on 5 April and 700 on Po Toi on 11 November.

**2010:** peak count during systematic surveys at MPNR was 206 on 2 March with 560 roosting at Sha Po on 29 November. Largest migrant flocks were 5,000 at the entrance to Tolo Harbour on 30 March (MDW), a new highest count for HK, and 350 on Po Toi on 3 November.

**Sooty-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus aurigaster* 白喉紅臀鶇 I

*Common resident in open country habitats away from urban and marshy areas; highest count 80 on 25 April 1987.*

Widespread reports in most months.

**2009:** peak count 14 at Ap Lei Chau on 22 September.

**2010:** peak count 18 at Ho Sheung Heung on 16 September.

**Mountain Bulbul** *Ixos mccllellandii* 綠翅短腳鶇 I

*Localised resident in closed-canopy woodland, possibly increasing range and numbers; highest count 12 on 9 January 2008.*

Regular records from Tai Po Kau, Ng Tung Chai and Shing Mun. Lack of summer reports are presumed to reflect lack of observer activity.

**2009:** peak count ten at Tai Po Kau on 21 January. One at Ma On Shan on 20 August is a new location.

**2010:** peak count eight at Tai Po Kau on 4 January.

**Chestnut Bulbul** *Hemixos castanonotus* 栗背短腳鶇 I

*Common resident and winter visitor in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland throughout HK; subject to periodic winter irruptions; highest count 200 on 31 March 2007.*

Recorded mostly in the winter months, with highest numbers from the Tai Po Kau area.

**2009:** peak count 264 at Tai Po Kau Headland on 11 April (RB) is a new highest count. In the second half, 30 at Kam Tin on 24 November and 44 at Tai Lam CP on 6 December.

**2010:** more widespread records in January to March, including Lantau, Po Toi (peak 30 on 13 March) and Braemar Hill (peak 32 on 20 March), suggest a small irruption. Peak count 130 at Tai Po Kau Headland on 22 March. In the second half, 60 at Long Valley on 15 November and 40 at MPNR on 22 November were both high counts for those locations.

**Black Bulbul** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus* 黑短腳鶇 I

*Irruptive winter visitor and scarce passage migrant to woodland areas; extreme dates 27 September to 3 June; highest count 200 on 16 February 1992.*

**2009:** a poor year. Recorded to 4 May and from 26 November with most records in the first winter period. Records from only three locations, Shek Kong, Leadmine Pass and Tai Po Kau including the Headland, with a peak count of only three.

**2010:** widespread records in January to March suggest a small irruption, as with the previous species, with 20 at Wu Kau Tang on 6 February, 25 at Tai Om Shan on 18 March, 18 at Tai To Yan on 27 March and 16 at Tai Po Kau on 1 April. Only one record in the second winter period, one at LMC on 12 November.



**Plate 29** Pale Martin *Riparia diluta* 淡色沙燕  
Mai Po Access Road, 25<sup>th</sup> April 2010 米埔擔竿洲路 2010年4月25日  
Raymond Ng 吳偉文

### **Pale Martin *Riparia diluta* 淡色沙燕 I**

*Uncommon passage migrant although occasionally in large numbers, and rare winter visitor to open country habitats, especially fish ponds and reedmarshes in the northwest NT; extreme dates 18 August to 10 June; highest count 3,000 on 3 May 2000.*

All records from the Mai Po - Lok Ma Chau area unless otherwise stated.

**2009:** a poor spring passage from 1 March to 27 April with a peak count of just four on 6 April. In autumn one on Po Toi on 18 August equals the earliest date. Then recorded up to 5 December with a peak count of 25 at LMC on 19 November.

**2010:** spring passage from 24 March to 6 May with a peak count of 50 on the Mai Po access road on 10 April. Also recorded at Pak Nai, Nam Chung and Long Valley. In autumn from 21 September to 1 November with a peak count of 30 at MPNR on 15 October.

### **Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* 家燕 I**

*Abundant passage migrant, especially in spring, common breeding species and uncommon winter visitor; highest count 5,500 on 4 April 1996.*

Widespread records in all months but especially spring migration.

**2009:** in the first period, recorded from 27 January with peak counts 500 on the Mai Po access road on 10 March, 120 at Nam Chung on 2 April and 250 at Fung Lok Wai on 3 April. In summer, only recorded from Mai Po with a peak of 200 on 6 June. In the second period, a peak count of 650 from the Mai Po boardwalk on 24 October with a final record of 63 at Hoo Hok Wai on 20 December.

**2010:** in the first period, recorded from 25 January with peak counts 391 at Hoo Hok Wai on 24 February, 100 heading east at Robin's Nest on 9 April, 200 roosting at Nam Sang Wai on 20 April and 219 at MPNR on 25 May. In summer, most records from Long Valley and Mai Po with peaks of 50 and 110 respectively. In the second period, recorded up to 30 November with 45 flying south on Po Toi on 8 September the highest count.

### **Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum* 白腹毛腳燕 I**

*No records.*

**2009:** one at LMC on 20 November (PJL) is the first record for Hong Kong. Subsequently, one at Pui O on 21 November (Website photograph) and at Tsim Bei Tsui on 22 November (MLC).

### **Asian House Martin *Delichon dasypus* 煙腹毛腳燕 I**

*Spring passage migrant, scarce in autumn and rare in winter; extreme dates 18 September to 20 May, highest count 400 on 4 April 1996.*

**2009:** a good year with widespread records in both seasons. In the first half year, eight at Nam Chung on 25 January was followed by records from 1 March to 10 April at Mai Po, Po Toi, LMC, Long Valley, San Tin, Ping Long and Tam Kon Chau with a peak count of 40 on the Mai Po access road on 10 March. In autumn, recorded from 14 to 24 November from Kam Tin, Tai Po Kau Headland, Pui O, LMC, Luk Keng, Shek Kong and Tai Mo Shan with a peak count of 100 at Nam Chung on 17 November.

**2010:** in the first half year, recorded in ones and twos from 14 January to 18 April from widespread locations with a peak count of three at LMC on 11 March. A final record of one on Po Toi on 24 May (GW) is the latest spring record. Two records in autumn, three at Ng Tung Chai on 13 September (GH), an earliest date, and 25 at Fung Yuen on 12 November.

**Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* 金腰燕 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor, occasionally in quite large flocks, with a very small, recently-established localised breeding population; highest count 350 on 8 December 1982.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year, mostly from the northwest NT, with peak spring counts of 25 on the Mai Po access road on 10 March and 20 at Nam Chung on 2 April. Breeding occurred at Kam Tin and Mai Po village. Autumn passage peaked in November with counts of 30 at San Tin on 13, 75 at LMC on 19 and 50 at Shek Kong on 22 November.

**2010:** fewer records than 2009. The peak count in spring was 30 heading east at Robin's Nest on 9 April. One on Po Toi on 25 May was unusual. In autumn, the peak count was ten at Mai Po village on 12 November.

**Pygmy Wren-babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla* 小鷦鷯 I**

*Locally common in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland, largely in Tai Mo Shan massif, recent breeding records; highest count nine on 14 November 2007.*

**2009:** widespread records from central NT with a peak count of six at Tai Po Kau on 10 April; a juvenile seen there on 3 August and breeding also suspected at Ng Tung Chai.

**2010:** peak count of seven at Tai Po Kau on 24 February. Records from Po Toi on 18 November and Lamma on 28 November suggest dispersal.

**Japanese Bush Warbler *Horornis diphone* 日本樹鶯 I or  
Manchurian Bush Warbler *H. borealis* 遠東樹鶯 I**

Since the period covered by this report, the taxonomy of Japanese/Manchurian Bush Warbler has been revised. Two species are now accepted to occur in Hong Kong: Japanese Bush Warbler, *H. diphone* (ssp *canturians*) and Manchurian Bush Warbler *H. borealis*. Due to uncertainty about identification criteria during the reporting period, this report covers both species in a single entry.

*Scarce winter visitor and migrant to shrubland and lightly wooded areas; numbers appear to be declining; extreme dates 26 September to 8 May; highest count 49 on 21 November 2001.*

**2009:** most records from Mai Po (trapped), Shek Kong and Lamma, Lantau and Po Toi Islands.

**First winter period:** recorded to 9 April, peak count five on Lamma on 5 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 8 November, peak count ten on Po Toi on 19 November.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First winter period:** recorded to 1 April, peak count seven on Po Toi on 4 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 9 November, peak count eight on Po Toi on 17 November.

**Brown-flanked Bush Warbler** *Horornis fortipes* 強腳樹鶯 I

*Fairly common winter visitor to shrubland and woodland edge in increasing numbers, breeds in upland shrubland; highest count ten on 15 January 1992.*

**2009:** an increasing number of records, many coming from the north east NT and islands.

**First half year:** 29 singing in Pat Sin Leng CP on 25 February is a new high count. Elsewhere, 14 singing on Tai Mo Shan on 9 April and ten on Ma On Shan on 11 April indicate the increasing spread and numbers of this species.

**Second half year:** recorded from 2 November, peak count ten at Tung Ping Chau on 27 December with records also from Shing Mun, Po Toi, Cheung Chau and Lamma.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First half year:** high counts of eight in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January and 14 singing on Tai Mo Shan on 23 March.

**Second half year:** recorded in small numbers from 2 September with an exceptional 17 on Tung Ping Chau on 19 December.

**Asian Stubtail** *Urosphena squameiceps* 鱗頭樹鶯 I

*Common winter visitor to forest and closed-canopy shrubland; extreme dates 2 October to 12 April; highest count 20 on 27 November 1993.*

**2009:** records from north, central and eastern NT and islands including HK Island. A low peak count in the first winter period.

**First winter period:** recorded to 25 March, peak count three at Shing Mun on 19 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 October, peak count 14 in Tai Po Kau on 26 November.

**2010:** widespread records as for 2009.

**First winter period:** recorded to 18 March, peak count 12 in Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 20 October, peak count seven at Tai Po Kau on 26 November.

**Rufous-faced Warbler** *Abroscopus albogularis* 棕臉鶉鶯 I

*Five winter records; extreme dates 22 December to 12 February.*

**2009:** one at Mui Tze Lam on 22 November (Website photograph), an earliest record.

**Mountain Tailorbird** *Phyllergates cuculatus* 金頭縫葉鶯 I

*Locally numerous winter visitor and scarce breeding species in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland; highest count 12 on 30 September 2006.*

**2009:** new records from the north east NT.

**First half year:** recorded up to 31 May, mostly in the Tai Po Kau area but peak counts of 12 in song at Pat Sin Leng on 25 February and 12 at Shing Mun on 22 March equal the record count.

**Breeding season:** evidence of successful breeding at Tai Po Kau Headland.

**Second half year:** recorded from 5 September, mostly at Tai Po Kau with a peak of seven on 7 November but also Pak Sha O, Lai Chi Wo, She Shan, Tai Lam CP, Po Toi, Lamma and Cheung Chau.

**2010:** new records from HK Island.

**First half year:** recorded up to 21 May, peak count seven at Tai Po Kau on 24 February. Four at Braemar Hill on 2 March and five at Lung Fu Shan on 12 March are new locations.

**Breeding season:** breeding season records at Ng Tung Chai and Tai Lam CP as well as central NT.

**Second half year:** recorded from 3 September, peak count eight at Tai Po Kau on 7 November, also recorded from Pat Sin Leng, Wu Kau Tang, Lai Chi Wo, Tung Ping Chau, Po Toi and a high count of five at Pak Sha O.

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus* 褐柳鶯 I

*Very common winter visitor and migrant to shrubland and open country areas; extreme dates 6 September to 17 May, highest count 100 on 20 October 1990.*

**2009:** most records from northern NT and offshore islands. A good autumn passage.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 14 May, peak count 44 at Mai Po NR on 22 January during systematic survey.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 16 September, peak count 61 trapped at Mai Po NR on 8 October, also 50 at LMC on 13 October, 24 on Po Toi on 18 November and 20 at Pui O also on 18 November.

**2010:** a typical year but with lower numbers than 2009.



**First winter period:** recorded up to 13 May, peak count 26 at Mai Po NR on 22 February during systematic survey.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 12 September, peak count 47 trapped at MPNR on 1 November, also 27 at Long Valley on 25 October during systematic survey.

**Yellow-streaked Warbler *Phylloscopus armandii* 棕眉柳鶯 I**

*Nine records, eight autumn and one winter; extreme dates 16 October to 26 November, one on 9 February.*

**2009:** one trapped at Mai Po on 26 October (PJJ,JAA).

**Radde's Warbler *Phylloscopus schwarzi* 巨嘴柳鶯 I**

*Scarce autumn migrant and rare winter visitor to shrubland and open-country areas; extreme dates 8 October to 14 December excluding four winter records.*

**2009:** a very good year for this species. One at Shek Kong on 26 and 27 January. In autumn, one on Po Toi on 6 October (GW) is a new earliest date. Thereafter, records from 25 October at Pak Sha O (two), Po Toi (up to two), Nam Sang Wai, Wonderland Villas, Mai Po, Tai Po Kau, Mong Tseng, Mui Tse Lam, Cheung Chau, Long Valley and Sha Tin with a final record at Siu Lek Yuen on 2 December.

**2010:** a typical year with singles from 27 October to 8 December at Po Toi, Mai Po, Tai Lam CP, Lam Tsuen, Sha Lo Wan, Cheung Chau, Po Shan Road and Shek Kong.

**Pallas's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus proregulus* 黃腰柳鶯 I**

*Fairly common winter visitor and migrant to forest and closed-canopy shrubland, including mangrove on passage; extreme dates 24 October to 18 April, highest count 100 on 13 December 1996.*

**2009:** a typical year. Unlike Yellow-browed Warbler, this species does not usually show a strong spring passage.

**First winter period:** recorded to 5 April, peak count 23 at Ng Tung Chai on 23 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 25 October, peak count 30 on Po Toi on 21 November.

**2010:** a typical year with singing birds in spring.

**First winter period:** recorded to 17 April, peak count 21 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 4 November, peak count 20 at Lau Shui Heung on 2 December.

**Yellow-browed Warbler** *Phylloscopus inornatus* 黄眉柳鶯 I

*Very common and widespread winter visitor and migrant to wooded and open-country areas; extreme dates 8 September and 9 May, highest count 100 on 12 December 1993.*

**2009:** a good year, with a marked passage through the islands in early April.

**First winter period:** recorded to 29 April, high counts 27 on Lamma on 5 April, 30 on Po Toi on 8 April and 15 on Tung Ping Chau on 13 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 13 September, peak count 30 at Braemar Hill on 22 November.

**2010:** low peak counts and a less marked spring passage.

**First winter period:** recorded to 28 April, peak count 18 on north Lantau on 9 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 28 September, peak count 22 at Shing Mun on 25 November.

**Hume's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus humei* 淡眉柳鶯 I

*Seven winter records; extreme dates 4 November and 5 February.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi on 13 April (MDW), the first spring record.

**Arctic Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealis* 極北柳鶯 I or  
**Japanese Leaf Warbler** *P. xanthodryas* 日本柳鶯 I

Since the period covered by this report, the Arctic Warbler complex has been split into three species. Two of these have now been accepted to occur in Hong Kong: Arctic Warbler *P. borealis* and Japanese Leaf Warbler *P. xanthodryas*. Kamchatka Leaf Warbler *P. examinandus* may also occur. Due to difficulties in field identification, all records of this species group are included under a single entry in this report.

*Fairly common migrant, mainly in autumn, to lightly wooded areas; extreme dates 30 March to 27 May and 18 August to 4 December, highest count 60 on 18 September 1988.*

**2009:** fewer spring records, more widespread and typical autumn passage.

**Spring:** recorded from 26 April to 25 May, peak counts 11 on Cheung Chau on 28 April and 15 on Po Toi on 5 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 26 August to 28 November, peak count seven on Po Toi on 16 September.

**2010:** a high autumn peak count.

**Spring:** recorded from 11 April to 20 May, peak count nine on Po Toi on 13 May.

**Autumn:** recorded from 28 August to 12 November, peak count 30 at Po Shan Road on 26 September.

**Two-barred Warbler** *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* 雙斑柳鶯 I

*Scarce migrant and winter visitor to shrubland and woodland areas; extreme dates 16 September to 24 April, highest count four on 27 December 2007.*

**2009:** widespread records in both periods from Pak Sha O, Ng Tung Chai, Ho Sheung Heung, Shek Kong, Shing Mun, Tai Mo Shan, Tai Po Kau, Po Toi and Lung Fu Shan and a new highest count.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 3 April, mostly singles but three at Ng Tung Chai on 23 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 21 September. Five on Po Toi on 18 October (P&MW) is a new highest count and four at Ng Tung Chai on 19 October (GH) equals the previous highest count.

**2010:** a typical year with fewer and less widespread records than 2009.

**First winter period:** five records up to 21 April with two at Shing Mun on 27 February and two on Po Toi on 8 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 5 October, with two at Fung Yuen on 16 October and two at Ng Tung Chai on 27 October.

**Pale-legged Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus tenellipes* 淡腳柳鶯 I or  
**Sakhalin Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus borealoides* 庫頁島柳鶯 I

Since reliable criteria for separation in the field remain to be established, records of these two species are combined, unless birds are trapped, allowing for known differences in wing formula to be used for identification. All records refer to the combined species unless otherwise stated.

*Fairly common migrant and scarce winter visitors to lightly wooded areas; extreme dates 31 August to 5 May, highest count nine on 11 September 2005.*

**2009:** in the first winter period, singles from 26 March to 24 April. In the second, recorded from 31 August to 6 December, peak count four at Tai Po Kau on 13 September.

**2010:** in the first winter period, one winter record on 16 January at Tai Po Kau, then singles from 4 March to 2 May with two at Cheung Chau on 8 April and Po Toi on 26 April. In the second winter period, an extensive set of records from widespread locations from 1 September to 17 October with a peak count of five indicate a good passage. Thereafter, one at Wonderland Villas on 21 and 22 November and one on Lamma on 5 December.

One Pale-legged Leaf Warbler trapped at MPNR on 7 October 2010.

**Eastern Crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus coronatus* 冕柳鶯 I**

*Mainly autumn migrant to shrubland and woodland; extreme dates 3 March to 17 April and 8 August to 31 October with two winter records, highest count 10 on 6 September 1982.*

**2009:** the bird seen in late December 2008 in Tai Po Kau was seen again on 1 January. Another photographed at Shing Mun on 20 December (KL) is the third winter record.

**Spring:** singles from 26 March to 18 April (KPK), a new latest date, all at Tai Po Kau, and probably the same bird.

**Autumn:** recorded from 18 August to 5 October, peak count three at Tai Po Kau on 30 August and 14 September. One at Tai Po Kau from 21 to 26 November and one at Shing Mun on 20 December.

**2010:** a good year with an earliest autumn record.

**Spring:** singles from 28 March to 10 April, at Tai Po Kau, Po Toi and Shek Kong.

**Autumn:** one at Shek Kong on 7 August is an earliest autumn record (TMC). Thereafter, recorded from 21 August to 23 October, peak count six at Fung Yuen on 13 September. One at Tai Po Kau from 7 to 28 November.



**Plate 30** Eastern Crowned Warbler *Phylloscopus coronatus* 冕柳鶯  
Shing Mun, 20<sup>th</sup> December 2009 城門 2009年12月20日  
Kenny Lee 李啓康

**Goodson's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus goodsoni* 古氏[冠紋]柳鶯 I**

*Mainly winter visitor to shrubland and woodland; extreme dates 5 September to 4 April, highest count 10 on 12 November 1990.*

Following Olsson *et al.* (2005), birds previously identified in Hong Kong as Blyth's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus reguloides (goodsoni)* are now treated as *Phylloscopus goodsoni*. At present, only the nominate subspecies *P.g. goodsoni* is considered to occur for certain, based on the extensive yellow on the underparts and face that is diagnostic of this taxon. Although it is considered that birds lacking this yellow are likely to refer to *P.g. fokiensis*, this is not proven, as *Phylloscopus claudiae* cannot be excluded. Observers are encouraged to carefully note the appearance of birds seen and submit records as *P.g. goodsoni* or *fokiensis/claudiae*, where appropriate.

**2009:** a typical year but with good peak counts in the second period.

**First winter period:** recorded to 30 March with a peak count of four (two *fokiensis/claudiae* and two *goodsoni*) at Tai Po Kau on 3 January.

**Second winter period:** both taxa reported from 7 October, mostly at Tai Po Kau and Po Toi, with peak counts of seven at Tai Po Kau on 21 November and four *fokiensis/claudiae* on Po Toi on 25 November.

**2010:** a poor second period.

**First winter period:** recorded to 26 March with a peak count of three at Tai Po Kau on 3 January. Only *goodsoni* positively recorded.

**Second winter period:** both taxa reported from 30 October but with relatively few records and a peak count of only two at Pak Sha O on 20 November (both *fokiensis/claudiae*) and at Lau Shui Heung on 2 December (one *goodsoni* and one *fokiensis/claudiae*).

**White-spectacled Warbler *Seicercus affinis* 白眶鵯鶯 I**

*Rare winter visitor to forest, extreme dates 17 November to 16 February.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi from 29 November to 5 December (KK).

**2010:** one on Po Toi from 28 November to 1 December (CW,GW).

**Bianchi's Warbler** *Seicercus valentini* 比氏鶇鶯 I

*Three records; extreme dates 9 October and 2 January.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi from 17 to 29 November (GW,AllenC,BM). This is the fourth Hong Kong record.



**Plate 31** Bianchi's Warbler *Seicercus valentini* 比氏鶇鶯  
Po Toi Island, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2009 蒲台島 2009年11月19日  
Allen Chan 陳志雄

**Chestnut-crowned Warbler** *Seicercus castaniceps* 栗頭鶇鶯 I

*Rare winter visitor to forest; extreme dates 5 November to 25 March, highest count two on 22 November 2004.*

**2009:** one at Tai Po Kau on 29 December.

**2010:** one at Shing Mun on 17 January. One at Tai Po Kau from 26 November to 26 December.

**Oriental Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus orientalis* 東方大葦鶯 I**

*Fairly common migrant, especially in autumn, to reedmarsh, tall grassy vegetation and even urban edge parkland habitats, with occasional winter and summer records; typical extreme dates 16 March to 8 June and 24 August to 15 November, highest count 300 on 25 September 1997.*

**2009: First winter period:** one trapped at Mai Po on 3 February and up to two at San Tin including one singing bird from 4 to 11 February were unusual winter records. Thereafter, recorded from 23 March to 12 May, peak count five at Kai Tak on 30 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 25 August to 18 November, peak count 37 at Mai Po NR on 17 October. One at Mai Po from 4 to 11 December and one trapped there on 22 December.

**2010: First winter period:** one at Hoo Hok Wai on 25 February and one trapped at MPNR on 27 February, then recorded from 10 April to 14 May with a peak of four at Hoo Hok Wai on 4 May.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 1 September to 7 November, peak count 34 at Mai Po on 5 October, thereafter five singles trapped at MPNR up to 20 December.

**Black-browed Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps* 黑眉葦鶯 I**

*Fairly common migrant and scarce winter visitor to reedmarsh and damp vegetated areas; extreme dates 25 August to 30 May, highest count 120 on 13 October 2001.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded to 12 May, mostly at Mai Po with a peak of four there on 1 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 18 September to 22 December, peak count 52 trapped at Mai Po on 22 October. Two at Po Toi from 14 to 21 November and one at Cheung Chau on 21 November were unusual records for those locations.

**2010: First winter period:** up to four at San Tin, Mai Po and Lok Ma Chau from 4 January to 4 February, and then up to six from 24 March to 23 May.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 11 September to 28 December, peak count 60 at Mai Po NR on 9 October.

**Blunt-winged Warbler *Acrocephalus concinens* 鈍翅葦鶯 I**

*Six records; extreme dates 6 September to 21 April.*

**2009:** one at Yau Mei San Tsuen from 8 to 13 February (MH,PJL,JAA), trapped on latter date.

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 13 April (PJL,JAA). One trapped at MPNR on 6 December and retrapped on 11 December (PJL,JAA).



**Plate 32** Blunt-winged Warbler *Acrocephalus concinens* 鈍翅葦鶯  
Yau Mei San Tsuen, 8<sup>th</sup> February 2009 攸美新村 2009年2月8日  
Martin Hale 夏敬天

**Manchurian Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus tangorum* 遠東葦鶯 I VU**

*Scarce autumn passage migrant to reedmarsh and damp vegetated areas, one winter and one spring record; extreme dates in autumn 4 September to 2 November.*

**2009:** singles trapped at MPNR on 21 and 30 September and 8 and 22 October with two on 26 October.

**2010:** singles trapped at MPNR on 4 January and 7 May. These are the second winter and spring records. Also one trapped there on 7 October.



**Paddyfield Warbler *Acrocephalus agricola* 稻田葦鶯 I**

*Rare winter visitor and migrant to reedmarsh and damp vegetated areas; six records, extreme dates 6 October to 3 March.*

**2009:** one at Long Valley on 24 November (YHS).

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 13 April, retrapped on 28 April (PJL,JAA). This is a new latest spring date.

**Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* 布氏葦鶯 I**

*Five records; extreme dates 8 October to 30 March.*

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 5 October with another on 19 November (PJL,JAA).

**Thick-billed Warbler *Iduna aedon* 厚嘴葦鶯 I**

*Rare autumn migrant to shrubland and reedmarsh-edge with five winter and spring records; most records between 29 August and 30 November.*

**2009:** one trapped at MPNR on 30 October, retrapped on 5 November.

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 13 September with another on 1 November.

**Russet Bush Warbler *Locustella mandelli* 高山短翅鶯 I**

*Fairly common winter visitor and migrant to mixed grassland-shrubland; rare breeding species in highest areas; highest count nine on 10 November 2002.*

**2009:** few records in the early part of the year.

**First winter period:** records mostly restricted to Tai Mo Shan where up to three were heard singing until 19 May.

**Second winter period:** recorded on 28 October on Po Toi and then from 2 December at various locations, peak count six on Po Toi on 10 December.

**2010:** a good year with widespread records.

**First winter period:** recorded, often in song, from Wu Kau Tang, Lok Ma Chau lookout, Tai O, Ha Tei Ha, Heung Yuen Wai, Fung Yuen, Sha Lo Tung, Po Toi, Cheung Chau, Nam Shan (Lantau), Ng Tung Chai, She Shan and Tai Om, up to 18 April with a peak count four on Po Toi on 9 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 9 November from Po Toi, Long Valley (a rare record at that location), Tai Om Shan, Tai Po Kau, Mai Po (including one trapped), Tung Ping Chau and Lamma with a peak count of eight on Kau Sai Chau on 22 December.

**Baikal Bush Warbler *Locustella davidi* 北短翅鶯 I**

*Three records; extreme dates 6 November to 30 January.*

**2009:** one trapped at MPNR on 22 October (PJL,JAA) with another on 30 October (PJL,JAA). These are the fourth and fifth records for HK.

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 18 October (PJL,JAA), a new earliest record.

**Brown Bush Warbler *Locustella luteoventris* 棕褐短翅鶯 I**

*Rare winter visitor, all but one record at Sha Lo Tung; extreme dates 26 October to 16 April.*

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 15 January (PJL,JAA). One in song at Robin's Nest on 9 April (GJC).

**Lanceolated Warbler *Locustella lanceolata* 矛斑蝗鶯 I**

*Scarce autumn passage migrant with a few spring records; occurs in a variety of vegetated habitats, extreme dates 4 March to 22 May and 15 September to 12 December, highest count six on 16 October 1991.*

**2009:** a good year for this species. Two February records are the first ever for that month – 7 February at Yau Mei San Tsuen (GJC) and 20 February at LMC (PJL). One on Po Toi on 5 May. Recorded in autumn from 21 September to 28 November with a peak count of eleven trapped at Mai Po on 22 October (JAA), a new highest count.

**2010:** no spring records. In autumn one trapped at MPNR on 2 September (PJL,JAA) is an earliest record. Thereafter from 16 September to 22 November, peak count seven trapped at Mai Po on 12 October.

**Middendorff's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella ochotensis* 北蝗鶯 I**

*One record, 26 to 27 February 1993.*

**2009:** first-winter trapped at Mai Po on 29 October (PJL). This is the second HK record.

**2010:** first-winter trapped at Kam Tin on 26 October (PJL,JAA). This is the third HK record.

**Styan's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella pleskei* 史氏蝗鶯 I VU**

*Rare winter visitor to mangroves at MPNR; extreme dates 17 October to 12 May.*

**2009:** one trapped at Mai Po on 8 October.

**2010:** one trapped at Mai Po on 9 September (JAA), a new earliest record.

**Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler *Locustella certhiola* 小蝗鶯 I**

*Fairly common autumn migrant and scarce winter visitor to damp grassland and reedmarsh areas, though can be found in urban parks and similar habitats; extreme dates 23 August to 17 May, highest count 55 on 13 September 1991.*

**2009:** no records in the first winter period. In the second winter period, recorded from 28 August to 13 November, peak count 20 at Lok Ma Chau on 16 September with 17 trapped at Mai Po on 21 September.

**2010:** no records in the first winter period. In the second winter period, recorded from 30 August to 11 December with a total of 141 at MPNR in the period 9 to 25 September including 89 trapped and a peak count of 50 on the first date.

**Japanese Swamp Warbler *Locustella pryeri* 斑背大尾鶯 I NT**

*One record, 10 November 2007.*

**2009:** one trapped at MPNR on 11 December (JAA). This is the second HK record.

**2010:** one trapped at MPNR on 2 December and re-trapped on 6 and 14 December (JAA). This is the third Hong Kong record.

**Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis* 棕扇尾鶯 I**

*Common winter visitor and migrant to grassy and reedmarsh areas, breeds in Deep Bay area and possibly elsewhere; highest count 100 on 5 December 1997.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded up to 30 April, peak count 20 at San Tin on 22 February.

**Breeding season:** records from June and July at MPNR, LMC and Kai Tak suggest breeding at all these locations.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 20 August, peak count 36 at San Tin on 8 December with 26 at Kai Tak on 16 December.

**2010: First winter period:** recorded up to 27 April, peak count 33 at Ta Kwu Ling, a newly reported location, on 16 January.

**Breeding season:** probable breeding at Mai Po and Kai Tak.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 August, peak count 20 overflying Mai Po on 5 October with 15 at Long Valley on 21 December.

**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis* 金頭扇尾鶯 I

*Localised but increasing winter visitor to grassland; extreme dates 19 August to 30 April, highest count 10 on 25 November 1995.*

This species continues to spread and was recorded from the following locations in 2009 and/or 2010 - Ap Lei Chau, Chau Tau, Ha Fa Shan, Ha Tei Ha, Hoo Hok Wai, Ho Pui, Kai Kung Leng, Kam Tin, Kau Sai Chau, Lin Ma Hang, Lok Ma Chau, Long Valley, Ma Tso Lung, Mai Po, Ping Che, Nam Chung, Nga Yiu Ha, Ping Long, Po Toi, Robin's Nest, Sha Lo Wan (Lantau), Sha Tau Kok, She Shan, Shek Kong, south Lamma, Tai Mo Shan, Tai O, Tin Liu Ha, Tolo Harbour and Tsung Yuen Ha.

**2009:** records continue to suggest breeding in the north NT although it has yet to be proven.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 23 April, peak count nine at Ping Che on that date.

**Second winter period:** a juvenile on Po Toi on 25 August and ten at Ma Tso Lung the following day were the earliest dates and the peak count in the second period.

**2010:** as for 2009. Long Valley is a newly recorded wintering area for this species.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 28 April, peak count nine at Tsung Yuen Ha within the Frontier Closed Area on 16 January; three including a breeding plumage male at Robin's Nest on 9 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 25 August with peak count six at Long Valley on 9 December.

**Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris* 黃腹鷦鶯 I

*Very common resident in a variety of non-woodland habitats.*

**2009:** most records from systematic surveys at MPNR. Peak count 96 at MPNR on 7 April.

**2010:** most records from systematic surveys at MPNR and Long Valley. Peak counts 67 at MPNR on 29 April and 32 at Long Valley on 31 March.

**Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata* 純色鷦鶯 I

*Locally common resident in grassy and reed habitats.*

**2009:** systematic surveys at MPNR recorded a maximum of 15 on 11 March with nine on 7 July. Elsewhere, nine at Kai Tak on 9 June and one at Kuk Po on 22 June, two on Po Toi from 18 August to year end with six on 9 and 17 September, ten at Long Valley on 19 September and singles elsewhere.

**2010:** systematic surveys at MPNR recorded a maximum of 17 on 13 May with 15 on 9 July and at Long Valley a maximum of 15 on 6 December with 8 on 29 June. Elsewhere, two wintering on Po Toi up to 3 March and then from 2 November, three at Kuk Po on 2 January and Tai O on 9 January, two at Kai Tak on 16 April and 11 October and five at Chek Lap Kok on 25 November.

**Common Tailorbird *Orthotomus sutorius* 長尾縫葉鶯 I**

*Widespread and common resident in diverse shrubland and wooded habitats.*

**2009 and 2010:** systematic surveys at Mai Po, Tai Po Kau Headland and on Po Toi in both years with Long Valley and Braemar Hill added in 2010 do not show any regular pattern of change over the year in any location, indicating that this is truly a resident species, unlike the two prinias above which show seasonal movements.

**Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler *Pomatorhinus ruficollis* 棕頸鈎嘴鵲 IIA**

*Widespread and locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland; highest count 20 on 4 January 2003.*

**2009:** all records received from Tai Mo Shan massif, Ma On Shan and northeast NT. Peak count eight at Tai Po Kau on 10 April included four recently fledged juveniles.

**2010:** as for 2009, but also recorded from Sai Kung and HK Island at Braemar Hill, Mount Austin and Lung Fu Shan. Peak count six at Tai Mo Shan on 26 March.

**Rufous-capped Babbler *Stachyridopsis ruficeps* 紅頭穗鵲 IIA**

*Locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland, mainly in the Tai Mo Shan massif; highest count 20 on 7 October 2003.*

**2009:** most records from the central Tai Mo Shan massif, Sai Kung and northeast NT; peak count 15 at Ng Tung Chai on 26 February and Shing Mun on 22 March.

**2010:** as 2009, with a peak count of 15 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January.

**Chinese Grassbird *Graminicola striatus* 大草鶯 I NT**

*Scarce and local resident of grassland above 200m in NT and on Lantau; highest count seven on 3 June 1995.*

**2009:** recorded in spring/summer from Robin's Nest, Tai Mo Shan and Lantau Peak.

**2010:** recorded in spring/summer from Robin's Nest and Tai Mo Shan, and in winter from Tai To Yan and Ma On Shan.



**Plate 33** Chinese Grassbird *Graminicola striatus* 大草鶯  
Robin's Nest, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009 紅花嶺 2009年5月18日  
Martin Hale 夏敖天

**Chinese Babax** *Babax lanceolatus* 矛紋草鵲 **IIC**

*Rare and declining resident of upland grassland; highest count 14 on 25 August 1984.*

**2009:** one at Tai Po on 5 February was probably an ex-captive. The last record from the previous stronghold at Tai Mo Shan was on 22 May 2005. It seems likely the previously established population in the Tai Mo Shan area is now extinct.

**Chinese Hwamei** *Garrulax canorus* 畫眉 **I**

*Widespread and common resident in closed-canopy shrubland.*

**2009:** widespread reports, peak count 21 in south west Lantau on 2 May.

**2010:** peak count 13 in Sai Kung East on 19 June and nine calling at Braemar Hill on 5 April.

**Masked Laughingthrush** *Garrulax perspicillatus* 黑臉噪鶇 I

*Very common resident in diverse urban and rural wooded habitats.*

**2009:** peak count during systematic surveys of MPNR was 57 on 10 February, though with no apparent seasonality.

**2010:** peak count during systematic surveys of MPNR was 58 on 22 February.

**Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax pectoralis* 黑領噪鶇 IIA

*Widespread and locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland of NT and HK Island.*

Most records from central and northeast NT, particularly Tai Po Kau.

**2009:** peak count 20 at Tai Po Kau on 28 November. Five at Aberdeen CP on 4 February.

**2010:** more extensive records, including Sai Kung. Peak count 26 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January. Five at Aberdeen CP on 4 January and one on Cheung Chau on 13 April.

**Black-throated Laughingthrush** *Garrulax chinensis* 黑喉噪鶇 IIA

*Widespread and locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland, in NT and on HK Island (its previous stronghold).*

Widespread reports from central NT and Sai Kung. More reports of this and the previous species from HK Island are welcome.

**2009:** peak count seven at Ma On Shan on 11 April. Six at Aberdeen CP on 4 February and one at southwest Lantau on 2 May.

**2010:** peak count nine at Tai Lam CP on 29 August. Six at Aberdeen CP on 4 January and at Braemar Hill on 20 February.

**White-browed Laughingthrush** *Garrulax sannio* 白頰噪鶇 IIA

*Locally-distributed scarce resident of shrubland and shrubland edge.*

**2009:** reported from Tin Liu Ha, She Shan, Ho Sheung Heung and Ping Long with a peak count of five.

**2010:** reported from Pak Tin Kong, She Shan, Ping Long and Lam Tsuen with a peak count of five.

**Blue-winged Minla** *Minla cyanouroptera* 藍翅希鵑 IIB

*Locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland of NT; highest count 50 on 8 September 1999.*

**2009:** most records from the Tai Mo Shan massif with a peak count of 13 at Tai Po Kau. One at Pak Sha O on 10 and 25 October.

**2010:** peak count of only ten at Tai Po Kau is low but may indicate under-reporting of this species. One at Pak Sha O on 21 January (trapped) and 3 October. Two at Kuk Po on 17 October and at Ho Pui on 30 October.

**Silver-eared Leiothrix** *Leiothrix argenteauris* 銀耳相思鳥 IIB

*Locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland in NT; highest count 42 on 4 February 2006.*

**2009:** reported from Tai Po Kau, Tai Mo Shan, Tai Lam CP, Shing Mun and Shek Kong with a peak count there of 32.

**2010:** as for 2009, with a peak count of 20 at Tai Po Kau.

**Red-billed Leiothrix** *Leiothrix lutea* 紅嘴相思鳥 IIA

*Widespread resident in shrubland and woodland, including parks; highest count 20 on 28 January 2006.*

**2009:** few records, peak count of only three at Tai Po Kau.

**2010:** only two records. This species seems to have declined in recent years and observers are encouraged to submit all records to establish the current status.

**Lesser/Desert Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca/minula*

白喉林鶯/沙白喉林鶯

Currently, IOC recognises Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia curruca* and Desert Whitethroat *Sylvia minula*. As reported in the 2007-08 Annual Report, the record at Yin Kong on 7 October 2002 has been under review. The quality of photographs did not allow this record to be assigned to species and it is now treated as Lesser or Desert Whitethroat. The bird trapped at Mai Po on 15 October 2006 was, based on genetic analysis, of the taxon *blythi*, a subspecies of *S. curruca*, and is the first confirmed record of this species for Hong Kong. A Lesser/Desert Whitethroat at Lai Chi Kok Park on 10 to 11 January 2008 remains under assessment.



**Vinous-throated Parrotbill** *Sinosuthora webbiana* 棕頭鴉雀 IIA

*Scarce and local resident of upland dwarf bamboo, grassland and shrubland edge, almost exclusively reported from Tai Mo Shan; highest count 20 on 9 September 2001.*

All records of this species are welcomed.

**2009:** three records from Tai Mo Shan from 8 February to 1 July with 15 on 7 June. One at Sha Lo Tung on 11 December was unusual.

**2010:** three records from Tai Mo Shan from 23 March to 9 August with six on the first date being the peak count.

**Chestnut-collared Yuhina** *Yuhina castaniceps* 栗耳鳳鶻 I

*Scarce, occasionally irruptive, winter visitor and migrant to wooded areas, with occasional summer records; highest count 50 on 18 September 1999.*

**2009:** all records from the Tai Mo Shan massif except where indicated. New highest counts in both winter periods with mid-summer records.

**First winter period:** recorded to 20 April with a new highest count of 70 at Tai Po Kau on 27 January (GH).

**Breeding season:** July and August records at Ng Tung Chai and Shing Mun.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 November with a new highest count of 84 at Tai Po Kau on 26 November (GH). 15 on Cheung Chau on 27 November.

**2010:** relatively high numbers present in the second winter period.

**First winter period:** recorded to 3 March with a peak count of 57 at Shing Mun on 20 February.

**Breeding season:** July and August records at Ng Tung Chai.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 19 November with a peak count of 47 at Shing Mun.

**Chestnut-flanked White-eye** *Zosterops erythropleurus* 紅脇繡眼鳥 I

*Winter visitor to woodland areas; extreme dates 21 October to 8 April, highest count eight on 3 December 1995.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded until 21 March at Ng Tung Chai, Shing Mun, Tai Mo Shan and Tai Po Kau with a peak of three at Shing Mun on 3 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 28 October at MPNR, Fung Yuen, Ho Chung, Ng Tung Chai, Tai Po Kau, Tai Mo Shan and Shing Mun with a peak of five at Ng Tung Chai on 14 December.

**2010: First winter period:** recorded at Lung Fu Shan on 4 January and at Shing Mun up to 28 February with a peak there of three.

**Second winter period:** up to five on Po Toi from 28 October to 3 November, five at Tai Po Kau on 18 November with one there on 4 and 26 December and two at Shing Mun on 25 November.

### **Japanese White-eye *Zosterops japonicus* 暗綠繡眼鳥 I**

*Abundant and widespread resident of urban and rural wooded habitats with increased numbers in winter; highest count 300 on 4 January 1997.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year with regular reports from Braemar Hill, MPNR, Po Toi, Tai Mo Shan and Tai Po Kau Headland; peak counts 87 at Tai Mo Shan on 21 March, 152 at MPNR on 20 July, 100 on Po Toi on 22 August and 120 there on 25 November, and 100 at Braemar Hill on 24 November and 24 December.

**2010:** regular reports as in 2009, with peak counts of 100 on Po Toi on 12 January and 80 there on 18 November, 100 at Braemar Hill on 6 September and 29 November, 115 at MPNR on 20 September, and 35 at Tai Po Kau Headland on 27 December.

### **Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis* 絨額鵓 IIB**

*Locally-common resident of mature woodland in central NT; highest count 20 on 4 January 2004.*

**2009:** all records from Tai Mo Shan massif with a high of nine at Tai Po Kau on 21 November.

**2010:** most records from Tai Mo Shan massif with a high count of eight at Tai Po Kau Headland on 23 May. Also recorded from Lau Shui Heung and Lai Chi Wo.

### **Crested Myna *Acridotheres cristatellus* 八哥 I**

*Very common resident of lowland habitats. Highest count 600 on 7 October 1997.*

**2009:** peak count 230 at Long Valley on 23 January.

**2010:** peak count 300 at Long Valley on 25 September.

### **Common Myna *Acridotheres tristis* 家八哥 IIB**

*Locally common resident of open-country areas, mainly in Deep Bay and Kam Tin areas; highest count 30 on 1 February 1994.*

**2009:** a typical series of records, with the peak count 13 at San Tin on 16 December.

**2010:** peak count 31 in the San Tin area on 12 August is a new highest count. One at Ting Kok on 12 June with two there on 7 September.

### **Red-billed Starling *Spodiopsar sericeus* 絲光椋鳥 I**

*Winter visitor and migrant to open-country areas, mainly in northwest NT; recent years have seen summer records including breeding. Mainly present October to April, highest count 11,260 on 25 December 2006.*

**2009:** reported widely from northwest NT and islands. Probably bred on Cheung Chau.

**First winter period:** widespread reports but with a low peak count of 420 at Mai Po on 26 January. Last record one on Po Toi on 12 May.

**Breeding season:** recorded in May, June and July at Tai Mei Tuk, Mai Po, Lok Ma Chau and Cheung Chau where a group of five on 6 July included three juveniles.

**Second winter period:** reported from 25 September, peak count 2,000 at Mai Po on 21 November.

**2010:** widespread records in both winter periods.

**First winter period:** migrants reported until 16 May, when six were on Po Toi. Peak count 2,500 around fishponds near San Tin on 17 January.

**Breeding season:** recorded in May, June and July from Ting Kok, Long Valley, Kam Tin and Mai Po although no obvious signs of breeding reported.

**Second winter period:** apparent migrants recorded from 25 September, peak count 1,700 at Mai Po on 7 December.

### **White-cheeked Starling *Spodiopsar cineraceus* 灰椋鳥 I**

*Winter visitor to open-country areas, particularly Deep Bay area, with recent breeding records; mainly present October to April, highest count 430 on 14 December 1996.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** most reports from LMC, San Tin, Mai Po and Kam Tin with one on Po Toi on 30 April, peak count 91 at Kam Tin on 17 February.

**Breeding season:** probable breeding at LMC, San Tin and the Mai Po area.

**Second winter period:** reported from 17 September, peak count 82 at Kam Tin on 17 December.

**2010:** a very high mid-summer count with a good second period high count.

**First winter period:** fewer records than normal up to 21 April, peak count 60 at Mai Po on 28 January.

**Breeding season:** recorded from LMC, Mai Po and Long Valley with an exceptional peak count of 57 at San Tin on 24 June.

**Second winter period:** reported from 6 October. Peak count 200 at Mai Po on 7 December.

### **Black-collared Starling *Gracupica nigricollis* 黑領椋鳥 I**

*Common resident of open-country, village edge and urban habitats; highest count 280 on 29 October 1996.*

Most reports from Mai Po NR in systematic surveys, where peak counts are typically from July to September.

**2009:** peak count of 115 on 4 August at MPNR during monthly surveys.

**2010:** peak count of 100 on 21 September at CUHK.

### **Daurian Starling *Agropsar sturninus* 北椋鳥 I**

*Autumn migrant to open-country areas, with a few spring and one winter records; extreme dates 12 April to 12 May and 5 September to 4 November. Highest count 50 on 26 September 2003.*

**2009:** a typical year with a latest autumn record.

**Spring:** one record, at MPNR on 17 April.

**Autumn:** recorded from Po Toi and Lut Chau between 27 September and 12 October, and at Kowloon Park on 10 November (Website photograph), the latter being a new latest date.

**2010:** a good autumn including a new earliest record.

**Spring:** one record, at Po Toi on 25 April.

**Autumn:** four at Po Toi on 4 September (P&MW) is a new earliest record. Thereafter recorded at Mai Po, Kai Tak, Kowloon Park, Long Valley, Kam Tin and Po Toi up to 28 September with a peak count of six at Long Valley on 22 September.

### **Chestnut-checked Starling *Agropsar philippensis* 栗頰椋鳥 I**

*Passage migrant, mainly autumn, to open-country areas; extreme dates 28 March to 30 April and 26 September to 20 November, highest count four on 22 April 1989.*

**2009:** singles at Tam Kon Chau on 26 April and on Po Toi on 29 April. In autumn, one on Po Toi on 30 September with two there on 1 October. One in Kowloon Park on 18 October.

**2010:** no spring records. In autumn, one at Long Valley on 28 September and one on Po Toi on 19 October.

### **White-shouldered Starling** *Sturnia sinensis* 灰背椋鳥 I

*Locally common passage migrant and breeding species, and scarce winter visitor to open-country and village edge habitats mainly in the northwest NT; breeding population on increase as a result of use of nest boxes; highest count 120 on 23 September 2006.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** reported from 11 February with highest numbers between 21 March and 21 April, peak count 96 at San Tin on 1 April.

**Breeding season:** breeding reported at Lok Ma Chau (16 pairs), San Tin, Mai Po and Kam Tin.

**Second winter period:** most records from 1 September to 24 October with peak count 30 on Po Toi on 1 October. Last record one at Sha Lo Tung on 12 December.

**2010:** recorded in all months from widespread locations throughout Hong Kong; a new high mid-summer count.

**First winter period:** recorded from 23 January with 100 at San Tin on 8 April and 78 at Kai Tak on 16 April. Spring passage noted on Po Toi from 16 March to 15 May.

**Breeding season:** breeding confirmed or suspected at Lok Ma Chau (70 pairs, a new highest count), Ping Long, Ting Kok, Mai Po, Kam Tin and San Tin.

**Second winter period:** autumn passage at Po Toi from 8 September to 17 November with 97 at Long Valley on 22 September the second period peak count.

### **Chestnut-tailed Starling** *Sturnia malabaricus* 灰頭椋鳥 I

*Rare winter visitor, with three previous records; extreme dates 12 January to 17 March. Birds that breed in Kowloon Park are considered to derive from ex-captive individuals.*

**2009:** all reports from Kowloon Park, peak count of two.

**2010:** as for 2009.

### **Rosy Starling** *Pastor roseus* 粉紅椋鳥 I

*Five records; extreme dates 24 September to 13 April.*

**2009:** adult at San Tin on 28 April (JAA). This is a new latest date.

**2010:** juvenile at San Tin on 6 October (GJC).



**Plate 34** Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* 紫翅椋鳥  
Nam Sang Wai, 30<sup>th</sup> November 2009 南生圍 2009年11月30日  
Andy Kwok 郭匯昌

**Common Starling *Sturnus vulgaris* 紫翅椋鳥 I**

*Scarce winter visitor and late autumn passage migrant to open country areas; extreme dates 16 October to 10 April, highest count 12 on 11 January 1987. Possibly declining.*

**2009:** singles only reported, at Long Valley from 3 to 8 March, on Po Toi from 1 to 16 November, at Kam Tin on 8 and 28 November, at Mai Po on 22 November and at Nam Sang Wai on 30 November.

**2010:** singles at LMC on 14 January, at Lut Chau on 20 January and 18 February, at Long Valley on 18 October, 10 November and 6 December and at Mai Po on 13 November, two there on 3 December and one on 7 December.

**Blue Whistling Thrush *Myophonus caeruleus* 紫嘯鶇 I**

*Widespread and locally common resident in closed-canopy shrubland and woodland, often near streams.*

**2009 & 2010:** no significant reports.

**Orange-headed Thrush *Geokichla citrina* 橙頭地鶇 I**

*Scarce winter visitor and rare breeding species to natural forest and closed-canopy shrubland; highest count three on 21 August 2003.*

**2009:** singles recorded at Tai Po Kau in February, April, May, September, October and November. Breeding probable on Po Toi with one on 1 April and two adults and two juveniles from 20 August to 15 October. Elsewhere, singles on Lamma on 23 January, Shing Mun on 29 August and 11 October and Kowloon Park on 11 November.

**2010:** two at Kap Lung on 20 June and two at Tai Lam CP on 24 July indicate possible breeding. One at Tai Po Kau Headland on 2 and 19 August with another there on 26 and 27 December and one at Tai Po Kau on 20 October.

**Siberian Thrush *Geokichla sibirica* 白眉地鶇 I**

*Scarce migrant and winter visitor to wooded areas; extreme dates 16 September to 23 April, highest count four on 7 February 1996.*

**2009:** one at Shek Kong on 29 January. Singles at Shing Mun on 11 October, Po Shan Road on 28 November and at Shek Kong on 12 December.

**2010:** singles at Shek Kong on 7 April and Black's Link on 17 April and one at Tai Po Kau on 29 October.

**White's Thrush *Zoothera aurea* 懷氏地鶇 I**

*Fairly common winter visitor and migrant to woodland edge and open woodland; extreme dates 30 September to 8 May, highest count six on 11 February 2008.*

**2009:** a year of two different halves, the first half being poor and the second half good.

**First winter period:** a poor first winter period, with just a few records until 12 February, a very early last date. This followed a poor second winter period in 2008 and may have been due to the very cold weather in January/February 2008 causing a decline in numbers of this and other similar species.

**Second winter period:** widespread records of up to two from 20 October, six at Tai Lam CP on 6 December equals the previous high count.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** widespread records of up to two, the last being on 14 April.

**Second winter period:** up to two recorded at widespread locations from 28 October.



**Plate 35** White's Thrush *Zoothera aurea* 懷氏地鸚  
Tai Lam, 21<sup>st</sup> December 2009 大欖 2009年12月21日  
Lee Yat Ming 李逸明

### **Grey-backed Thrush *Turdus hortulorum* 灰背鸚 I**

*Very common winter visitor and migrant to lightly-wooded areas, shrubland and forest. Extreme dates 2 November to 25 April, highest count of 70 on 11 February 2008.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded until 13 April, the highest count 12 at Shing Mun on 5 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 12 November, peak count 20 at LMC Lookout on 23 November.

**2010:** a typical year with a new latest spring date.

**First winter period:** recorded until 27 April (GH) at Tai Po Kau, a new latest date, peak count 25 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 7 November, highest count only three at various locations.



### **Japanese Thrush *Turdus cardis* 烏灰鶇 I**

*Fairly common winter visitor and migrant to wooded areas; extreme dates 25 October to 8 May, highest count 40 on 8 February 1969.*

**2009:** a new highest count.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 22 April, highest count six at Pak Sha O on 27 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 November. 56 on Po Toi on 25 November (GW), a new highest count, included 41 migrants passing overhead at dawn and followed a period of strong northerly winds.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 2 April, the highest count 11 on Po Toi on 23 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 5 November with five on Lamma on 28 November being the highest count.

### **Common Blackbird *Turdus merula* 烏鶇 I**

*Fairly common winter visitor and migrant to lightly wooded areas, rare breeding species; typically present early October to March; highest count 500 on 24 November 1988.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 13 April, highest count 20 at Shek Kong on 22 January.

**Breeding season:** possible breeding in Long Valley and MPNR car park.

**Second winter period:** very widespread records from 7 October with a peak count of 59 at Sai Sha on 30 October.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** latest migrant record on 21 April on Po Toi; peak count eight at Lam Tsuen on 24 January.

**Breeding season:** breeding for the fourth successive year in the MPNR car park.

**Second winter period:** migrants present from 25 October, peak count 51 at Ping Long on 11 December.

### **Eyebrowed Thrush *Turdus obscurus* 白眉鶇 I**

*Fairly common migrant and rare winter visitor to lightly wooded areas, extreme dates 13 October to 7 May, highest count 150 on 27 April 1988.*

**2009:** winter records for the second successive year.

**First winter period:** winter records at Pak Sha O, Tai Po Kau, Fung Yuen, Shek Kong and Ng Tung Chai were exceptional. Migrants from 16 April to 2 May with a peak count of ten on Po Toi on 22 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 11 November to 4 December, peak count four at Tai Po Kau on 21 November.

**2010:** further winter records indicate a possible change in status.

**First winter period:** winter records at Ping Che, Tai Mo Shan, Shing Mun and Tai Po Kau Headland. Migrants from 7 April to 2 May, peak count only two.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 31 October to 9 December, peak count six on Po Toi on 9 December.

### **Pale Thrush *Turdus pallidus* 白腹鶇 I**

*Fairly common winter visitor and migrant to lightly wooded areas, extreme dates 4 November to 26 April, highest count 51 on 21 January 1992.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 18 April, mostly from islands, high count 20 on north Lantau on 6 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 21 November, more widespread than first period with high count 11 on Po Toi on 3 December.

**2010:** quite a poor year.

**First winter period:** widespread records up to 27 March, an early last date, peak count six on Po Toi on 18 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 4 November at Shing Mun (GH), equaling the earliest ever date, also at Tai Po Kau and south Lamma although most records from Po Toi, peak count 14 there on 9 December in an influx of thrushes.

**Brown-headed Thrush *Turdus chrysolaus* 赤胸鶇 I**

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant to lightly-wooded areas, extreme dates 20 November to 4 May.*

**2009:** an over-wintering bird on Po Toi until 15 January. One at Shek Kong on 23 January and 15 March. In the second winter period, one on Po Toi from 16 to 29 November and one at HK University on 27 November.

**2010:** two at The Peak on 27 March, one on Po Toi on 28 March and one at Nam Shan, Lantau on 10 April. In the second winter period, one on Po Toi from 1 to 14 December.

**Red-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis* 赤頸鶇 I**

*No records.*

**2009:** a first-winter female on Po Toi on 19 November (EL). This is the first record for Hong Kong and the 500th species on the Hong Kong List.

**Hybrid Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush *Turdus atrogularis* × *naumanni* 黑頸鶇與紅尾鶇混種**

**2009:** a hybrid male Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush was at Pui O on 7 November (VC).

**Naumann's Thrush *Turdus naumanni* 紅尾鶇 I**

*Eleven records, the last in 1990; extreme dates 14 November to 19 April.*

**2010:** first-winter at LMC on 12 November (PJL), an earliest autumn record and the first since 1990.

**Dusky Thrush *Turdus eunomus* 斑鶇 I**

*Scarce winter visitor to open country areas. Extreme dates 31 October to 5 May. Highest count 100 on 18 February 1984 in the last irruption year.*

**2009:** one at Mai Po on 3 January and three at Ping Che on 25 March. In the second winter period, up to two at Lam Tsuen from 20 to 28 November, one at Tai Lam CP on 6 December and one at San Tin on 20 December.

**2010:** one at MPNR from 11 January to 19 February, one at Long Valley from 18 January to 17 February, then another or the same bird on 11 March. In the second winter period, one on Po Toi from 17 November to 7 December, one at Mong Tseng on 18 December.



**Plate 36** Naumann's Thrush *Turdus naumanni* 紅尾鶇  
Lok Ma Chau WMC, 12<sup>th</sup> November 2010 落馬洲 2010年11月12日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

**Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophris* 白喉短翅鶇 I**

*Resident and winter visitor to closed-canopy shrubland and woodland, a recent colonist; highest count six on 3 November 2008.*

All records of this species should be submitted in order that its status can be better understood.

**2009:** up to six at Ng Tung Chai in the first winter period with three singing males, and up to three at Tai Po Kau from March to November. One on Po Toi from 14 to 19 November was an unusual record. One at Shing Mun on 28 November.

**2010:** three at Tai Po Kau on 1 March with one there on 11 and 17 April were the only records in the first winter period. In the second winter period, a series of records from 18 October from Tai Po Kau, Tai Om Shan, Liu Kung Tin, Sheung Ha Wong, Pak Sha O and Ng Tung Chai with six at Shek Kong on 20 November equaling the previous highest count.

### **Japanese Robin** *Erithacus akahige* 日本歌鵲 I

*Rare winter visitor to woodland; extreme dates 20 November to 29 March, highest count two on 4 February 1995.*

**2009:** singles at Ng Tung Chai on 8 March and at Po Toi on 19 November (GW), a new earliest date.

### **Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica* 藍喉歌鵲 I

*Locally common winter visitor and scarce passage migrant to damp, lowland open country areas, including reedmarsh; extreme dates 27 September to 6 May, highest count 13 on 28 January 1994.*

**2009:** reported from Long Valley, Kam Tin, Lok Ma Chau, Fung Yuen, San Tin, Po Toi (a new record for that location) and Hoo Hok Wai.

**First winter period:** singles only up to 10 April.

**Second winter period:** from 28 September with a peak count of four at LMC on 11 November.

**2010:** higher numbers than 2009, also reported from Lam Tsuen Valley and MPNR.

**First winter period:** reported up to 18 March with peak counts of five at Hoo Hok Wai and Lok Ma Chau.

**Second winter period:** from 5 October, mostly singles, two in Long Valley and three at Mai Po on 14 December.

### **Siberian Rubythroat** *Luscinia calliope* 紅喉歌鵲 I

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to lowland shrubland, open country and reed marsh; extreme dates 8 October to 10 May, highest count 59 on 27 November 1996.*

**2009:** a late spring record and a high peak count.

**First winter period:** recorded until 5 May, the first May record since *The Avifauna*, peak count four on south Lamma on 5 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 15 October, peak count 25 on south Lamma on 14 November.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded until 28 April, peak count six at Sha Lo Tung on 4 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 12 October, peak count ten at Mai Po on several dates.



**Plate 37** Siberian Blue Robin *Luscinia cyane* 藍歌鳩  
Kwai Chung, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 葵涌 2009年10月1日  
Wallace Tse 謝鑑超

**Siberian Blue Robin *Luscinia cyane* 藍歌鳩 I**

*Scarce passage migrant to shrubland and woodland, four winter records; extreme passage dates 1 April to 20 April and 4 September to 4 October, highest count three on 25 September 2004.*

**2009:** one on Tai Po Kau on 29 April (GH,KPK), a new latest spring date. Singles on Po Toi from 13 to 16 September and at Kwai Chung on 1 October.

**2010:** no records in spring. In autumn, singles at Tai Po Kau on 11 September, at Po Shan Road from 13 to 23 September, at Mai Po on 25 September and on Po Toi on 28 September.

**Rufous-tailed Robin** *Luscinia sibilans* 紅尾歌鵲 I

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to woodland and closed-canopy shrubland; extreme dates 16 October to 23 April, highest count 13 on 14 April 1995.*

**2009:** more widespread records than 2007-08.

**First winter period:** recorded until 16 April, peak count seven at Ng Tung Chai on 25 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 October, peak count nine at Tai Po Kau on 10 November.

**2010:** widespread records with a new highest count.

**First winter period:** recorded until 17 April, peak count 25 at Tung Ping Chau on 2 April (MDW), a new highest count.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 October, peak count six at Tai Po Kau on 26 November.



**Plate 38** Rufous-tailed Robin *Luscinia sibilans* 紅尾歌鵲  
Lamma Island, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010 南丫島 2010年11月27日  
Guy Miller

**Red-flanked Bluetail** *Tarsiger cyanurus* 紅脇藍尾鷓 I

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant to shrubland and woodland, numbers variable each winter; extreme dates 27 October to 18 April, highest count 39 on 21 January 1992.*

**2009:** a poor first winter period, possibly as a result of the cold winter in 2007/8. Widespread records and typical peak counts in the second winter period showed a significant recovery was made in the 2009 breeding season.

**First winter period:** very poor with a peak count of only two. Last record on 8 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 29 October with widespread records, peak count 12 at Tai Lam CP on 6 December.

**2010:** a typical year although with a new earliest autumn record.

**First winter period:** recorded until 31 March, peak counts five at Ng Tung Chai, north Lantau and Braemar Hill.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 23 October at Tai Po Kau (GH), a new earliest date, peak count five at Tai Po Kau on 18 December.

**Oriental Magpie Robin** *Copsychus saularis* 鵲鳩 I

*Abundant resident in urban and rural areas, including mangrove.*

Almost all records come from systematic twice-monthly surveys at MPNR which typically show peak counts from April to July, probably as a result of breeding activity.

**2009:** the peak count at MPNR was 30 on 4 June.

**2010:** the peak count at MPNR was 26 on 9 July.

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus auroreus* 北紅尾鷓 I

*Common winter visitor to shrubland and open woodland; extreme dates 14 October to 22 April, highest count 30 on 5 February 1995.*

**2009:** a typical year but with a new earliest record.

**First winter period:** recorded until 16 April, peak count seven on Po Toi on 1 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 13 October at LMC (PJL), a new earliest date, peak count nine at Pui O on 18 November and 13 December and on Po Toi on 25 November.

**2010:** good peak counts and a new latest date.

**First winter period:** recorded to 22 April except for one on Po Toi on 2 May (JAA), a



new latest date by ten days, peak count 11 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 25 October, peak count 12 on Po Toi on 17 November.



**Plate 39** Plumbeous Redstart *Rhyacornis fuliginosa* 紅尾水鵯  
Tai Po, 17<sup>th</sup> December 2009 大埔 2009年12月17日  
Andy Kwok 郭匯昌

**Plumbeous Redstart** *Rhyacornis fuliginosa* 紅尾水鵯 I

*Scarce winter visitor to rocky streams and water catchments; extreme dates 24 October to 19 April.*

**2009:** a good year, particularly the second period.

**First winter period:** a male at Nam Chung on 7 February and a female at Chung Mei from 8 to 11 February (also recorded here in December 2008 so possibly an over-wintering bird).

**Second winter period:** a male on Po Toi on 2 and 25 December, a female at Tsuen Wan from 2 to 9 December, a male at Tai Po from 10 December to year end and another at Chung Mei on 25 December.

**2010:** another good year.

**First winter period:** the male at Tai Po remained until 19 January, the male at Chung Mei until 5 March, a pair in the Lam Tsuen valley until 16 February, a male at Tung Chung on 9 January and three, two males and a female, at Plover Cove Reservoir on 16 January.

**Second winter period:** a female at Tai Po Kau from 18 to 20 November, one on Lamma on 29 November and one at Sai Kung on 30 November.

### **Slaty-backed Forktail** *Enicurus schistaceus* 灰背燕尾 I

*Occasional visitor to streams in closed-canopy woodland and shrubland, at least one breeding record.*

**2009:** one at Bride's Pool on 6 February.

### **Stejneger's Stonechat** *Saxicola stejnegeri* 黑喉石鵯 I

*Common passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 25 August to 6 May, highest count 60 on 6 November 1993.*

**2009:** widespread records.

**First winter period:** recorded until 22 April, peak count 15 in Long Valley on 11 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 3 September, peak count 15 in Lam Tsuen on 15 November.

**2010:** as for 2009.

**First winter period:** recorded until 27 April, peak count 21 in the LMC area on 28 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 31 August, peak count 22 at Long Valley on 18 October and 13 December.

### **Grey Bush Chat** *Saxicola ferreus* 灰林鵯 I

*Scarce winter visitor and passage migrant; extreme dates 14 September to 20 April, highest count four on 13 April 1955.*

**2009: First winter period:** no records

**Second winter period:** a male at Mong Tseng on 22 November, a female at Mai Po on 25 November, males at Pak Sha O and on Po Toi on 28 November, a female at Tai Po Kau on 6 December and one in Lam Tsuen valley on 12 December .

**2010: First winter period:** recorded at Wu Kau Tang, Tai Po Kau, Lung Kwu Tang (two), Tuen Mun, Mai Po, Kam Tin and Lam Tsuen until 15 March.

**Second winter period:** a first-winter male at Wu Kau Tang on 7 November and a female at She Shan from 27 December were the only records.

**Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius* 藍磯鶇 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to rocky or coastal areas, with isolated summer records; typically present September to May, highest count 14 on 27 November 1996.*

Most records from islands or high ground. All peak counts were from Po Toi.

**2009: First winter period:** recorded until 13 May, peak count nine on 27 April. One at Chek Lap Kok on 23 June was an unusual summer record.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 1 September, peak count 14 on 27 September equals the record count.

**2010: First winter period:** recorded until 19 May, peak count four on 20 April. An adult male of the taxon *pandoo* was at Sha Kok Mei on 11 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 25 August, peak count six on 27 October.

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush *Monticola rufiventris* 栗腹磯鶇 I**

*Rare winter visitor, mainly to KFBG; extreme dates 2 October to 2 April.*

**2010:** male at KFBG on 10 and 31 January and 5 March.

**White-throated Rock Thrush *Monticola gularis* 白喉磯鶇 I**

*Rare winter visitor; extreme dates 11 November to 28 March.*

**2010:** male on Po Toi on 17 October (PC), a new earliest date.

**Brown-chested Jungle Flycatcher *Rhinomyias brunneata* 白喉林鶇 I  
VU**

*Rare autumn migrant, with five previous records; extreme dates 28 August to 20 September.*

**2009:** one on Po Toi on 8 October (GW) is a new latest date.

**2010:** one at Po Shan Road on 5 September (BK). One found dead at Tai Hang, HK Island, on 2 October (GH).

### **Grey-streaked Flycatcher *Muscicapa griseisticta* 灰紋鶇 I**

*Passage migrant to shrubland and open woodland; extreme dates 25 March to 26 May and 29 August to 25 November; highest count 50 on 8 May 1999 in the aftermath of Typhoon Leo.*

Two typical years. Most records on Po Toi.

**2009:** in spring recorded from 17 April to 12 May, peak count six at Cheung Chau on 28 April. In autumn recorded from 10 September to 21 October, peak count eight on Po Toi on 1 October.

**2010:** in spring recorded from 15 April to 20 May, peak count 13 at Nam Sang Wai on 30 April. In autumn up to two recorded from 25 September to 26 October with one at MPNR on 22 November, a late date.

### **Dark-sided Flycatcher *Muscicapa sibirica* 烏鶇 I**

*Mainly autumn migrant to woodland areas with four spring records; extreme dates 31 March to 8 May and 26 August to 26 December, highest count four on 27 September 1986.*

**2009:** recorded from 27 August to 12 December, peak count five at Tai Po Kau on 19 September (GH), a new highest count. Three at Braemar Hill on 4 November.

**2010:** recorded from 4 September to 21 November, peak count four on Po Toi on 23 and 27 September.

### **Asian Brown Flycatcher *Muscicapa dauurica* 北灰鶇 I**

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to open and closed-canopy woodland areas; extreme dates 28 August to 26 May; highest count 40 on 18 October 1959.*

**2009:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** widespread winter records from north and central NT. First obvious migrant on 29 March on Po Toi, last record on 30 April, peak count four on Cheung Chau on 28 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 27 August (GW), a new earliest date, on Po Toi, peak count eight on Po Toi on 21 October with six at Pui O on 18 November.

**2010:** a high winter count.

**First winter period:** as in 2009, widespread winter records from north and central NT with an unusually high peak count of seven at Mui Shue Hang on 19 February. First record of a migrant on Po Toi 25 March, last record on 8 May, peak count only two.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 31 August, peak count nine on Po Toi on 5 October.

**Brown-breasted Flycatcher *Muscicapa muttui* 褐胸鶇 I**

*Two records, 28 November to 21 January and 3 February.*

**2009:** first-summer at Tai Po Kau on 13 April (P&MW,KPK).

**2010:** one at Fung Yuen on 13 September (KF).

These are the third and fourth HK records.



**Plate 40** Brown-breasted Flycatcher *Muscicapa muttui* 褐胸鶇  
Tai Po Kau, 13<sup>th</sup> April 2009 大埔滘 2009年4月13日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

**Ferruginous Flycatcher *Muscicapa ferruginea* 棕尾褐鶇 I**

*Mainly spring migrant to shrubland and woodland with five autumn records; extreme dates 3 March to 24 April and 23 September to 8 November, highest count five on 1 April 1994.*

**2009:** a weak spring passage. Recorded from 30 March to 18 April on Po Toi, at Ng Tung Chau and at Tai Po Kau, peak count two on Po Toi on 5 April.

**2010:** recorded on Po Toi from 25 March to 2 May, the latter being a new latest spring date (MT). Also recorded at Ping Long and Cheung Chau. Peak count two on Po Toi on 25 March and 22 April.

**Yellow-rumped Flycatcher *Ficedula zanthopygia* 白眉姬鵙 I**

*Mainly autumn migrant to shrubland and woodland with four spring records; extreme dates 5 to 30 April and 17 August to 17 October, highest count ten on 9 September 2000.*

**2009:** singles recorded from 27 August to 4 October on Po Toi and at MPNR, Tai Po Kau and Shek Kong.

**2010:** singles recorded from 18 August to 23 September on Po Toi and at Tai Mo Shan, Tai Po Kau, Po Shan Road and Fung Yuen with two on Po Toi on 15 September.



**Plate 41** Yellow-rumped Flycatcher *Ficedula zanthopygia* 白眉姬鵙  
Tai Po Kau, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2010 大埔滘 2010年9月5日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### **Narcissus Flycatcher** *Ficedula narcissina* 黃眉姬鶯 I

*Spring migrant to woodland areas with three autumn records; extreme dates 19 March to 2 May and 7 October to 16 November.*

**2009:** a good spring with widespread records. Recorded from 22 March to 2 May, peak count four on Po Toi on 9 April. A male of the taxon *owstoni* at Tai Po Kau on 31 March (Website photograph) is the third record of this taxon. Autumn records occurred for the third successive year, with a male on Po Toi from 11 to 21 October and a female there on 27 October.

**2010:** recorded from 31 March to 1 May, peak count three on Po Toi on 12 April. A male of the taxon *owstoni* at Yuen Long on 6 April (KKoo *et al.*) is the fourth record of this taxon, all males between 26 March and 6 April.

### **Female-type Narcissus Flycatcher** *owstoni*/**Green-backed Flycatcher** *Ficedula narcissina owstoni*/*Ficedula elisae* 黃眉姬鶯/綠背姬鶯雌鳥型

After close examination of several records and of skins, the Records Committee have decided it is not possible to distinguish between female-type (female and some first-summer male) Narcissus Flycatchers of the taxon *owstoni* and female-type Green-backed Flycatchers *F. elisae*. This is of particular relevance given the potential split of *owstoni* from nominate *narcissina* and the increasing number of records of male *owstoni* in Hong Kong. Consequently, records of female-type birds of *owstoni* and *elisae* will be recorded as 'either/or' until better identification characteristics become available. Observers are encouraged to provide photographs or detailed descriptions of any such birds, as such details may enable identification in the future.

**2009:** female on Po Toi from 29 March to 7 April (P&MW, GW *et al.*)

**2010:** female-type on Cheung Chau on 16 April (MDW).

### **Mugimaki Flycatcher** *Ficedula mugimaki* 鶯姬鶯 I

*Fairly common autumn migrant and scarce winter visitor and spring migrant to woodland areas; extreme dates 10 October to 15 May, highest count 30 on 23 November 1969.*

**2009:** a good year with widespread reports in the second winter period.

**First winter period:** winter records up to 20 February from Shek Kong (male and female), Tai Po Kau Headland, Siu Lek Yuen (male), Shing Mun and Wonderland Villas (male and female). One spring record, a female on Po Toi from 22 to 27 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 October on Po Toi and at Tai Po Kau, Siu Lam, Lam Tsuen, Tai Po Kau Headland, Pak Sha O, Shing Mun, Wonderland Villas, Braemar Hill, Mui Tze Lam, Lamma, Tai Lam CP, Fung Yuen and Ng Tung Chai with a peak count of four on Po Toi on 27 October.



**2010:** a more typical year with fewer records than 2009.

**First winter period:** no winter records, rather surprising considering the 2009 second winter period. Two on Po Toi on 7 April and one there on 27 April were the only spring records.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 27 October to 20 November on Po Toi and at Tai Po Kau, Braemar Hill, Mai Po, Shing Mun and Pak Sha O with a peak count of three at Braemar Hill on 1 November. December records at Tai Po Kau Headland and on Lamma.



**Plate 42** Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula strophinata* 橙胸姬鶯  
Po Toi Island, 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009 蒲台島 2009年11月28日  
Sam Chan 陳巨輝

### **Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher *Ficedula strophinata* 橙胸姬鶯 I**

*Rare winter visitor; extreme dates 3 December to 11 February.*

**2009:** a male and female on Po Toi from 28 to 29 November (OC, SC *et al*), a new earliest date. A different female there on 17 December.

**2010:** a male at Pok Fu Lam reservoir from 21 to 28 February (DJS), a new latest date.



**Red-breasted Flycatcher** *Ficedula parva* 紅胸姬鶯 I

*Rare passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 26 October to 11 April.*

**2009:** a first winter at Shek Kong from 2 to 28 January (P&MW) and a first year male on Po Toi on 26 March (GW).

**2010:** a good year for this species. First winters at Shek Kong on 16 February (DAD) and at Tan Chuk Hang on 18 February (GCKL). A first winter on Po Toi on 14 November (HC), another on Lamma on 2 December (GM) and an adult male also on Lamma on 5 December (GM).

**Red-throated Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicilla* 紅喉姬鶯 I

*Common migrant and winter visitor to lightly wooded and open country habitats; extreme dates 16 September to 27 April, highest count 12 on 25 October 1981.*

**2009:** recorded up to 19 March, peak count six at Shek Kong on 24 January. In the second winter period, recorded from 13 September on Po Toi (P&MW), a new earliest date, peak count three at MPNR on 21 October.

**2010:** recorded up to 27 April, a late date with a summer plumage male on Po Toi; peak count seven in Long Valley on 3 January. In the second winter period recorded from 25 September, peak count three at Braemar Hill throughout December.

**Blue-and-white Flycatcher** *Cyanoptila cyanomelana* 白腹姬鶯 I

*Passage migrant, mainly in spring, to woodland areas; extreme dates 25 February to 4 May and 29 August to 10 December, highest count 15 on 2 April 1983.*

**2009:** in spring recorded from 22 March to 29 April, peak count five on Po Toi on 5 April. In autumn singles recorded from 9 September to 28 November.

**2010:** in spring recorded from 9 March (GW), the earliest date since 1970, to 11 April, peak count four on Po Toi on 28 March. In autumn recorded from 27 September to 26 November, peak count two on Po Toi on 13 October.

**Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassina* 銅藍鶯 I

*Winter visitor to woodland areas; extreme dates 19 September to 15 April, highest count four on 5 December 1970.*

**2009:** a new earliest record.

**First winter period:** singles at Tai Po on 11 January, Shing Mun on 12 January, Fung Yuen on 28 January and Ng Tung Chai on 28 January and 26 February .

**Second winter period:** one on Po Toi on 9 September (GW) is a new earliest date. Thereafter widespread reports of singles, highest count two at Ng Tung Chai on 12 November and Tai Po on 26 December.

**2010:** a good year with widespread reports.

**First winter period:** singles at Mui Shu Hang, Lam Tsuen, Siu Tan, Tai Po, Shing Mun, Tai Om Shan, Sha Tin Pass and Shek Kong with the last at Sai Kung on 14 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 25 September on Po Toi, Fung Yuen, Shek Kong, Lui Kung Tin, Tai Om Shan, Lamma and Ng Tung Chai with a high count of two on Po Toi on 10 November.

### **Hainan Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis hainanus* 海南藍仙鶺 I

*Summer visitor, passage migrant and rare winter visitor to closed-canopy shrubland and woodland habitats; approximate dates for peak numbers 24 March to 30 September, highest count of singing males 10 at Tai Po Kau in summer.*

**2009:** one winter record, at Yi O, Lantau on 1 January. Recorded from 8 March to 26 September, peak count 11 at Shing Mun on 22 April. Singles at Pak Sha O on 8 November, Lamma on 14 November and Kwai Chung on 17 December.

**2010:** one winter record, at Fung Yuen on 27 January. Then recorded from 4 April to 10 October, peak count 13 at Shing Mun on 13 June.

### **Chinese Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis glaucicomans* 中華仙鶺 I

*Three records; extreme dates 16 January to 2 May.*

**2009:** male on 14 March at Fanling (WY). This is the fourth HK record.

### **Fujian Niltava** *Niltava davidi* 棕腹大仙鶺 I

*Rare winter visitor to woodland; extreme dates 22 October to 10 April.*

**2009:** one at Fung Yuen on 19 December.

**2010:** one at Shing Mun on 19 November and one at Tai Po Kau from 10 December to year end.

**Small Niltava** *Niltava macgrigoriae* 小仙鶉 I

*Rare winter visitor to woodland; extreme dates 15 December to 8 February.*

**2009:** first-winter male on Po Toi on 29 October (GW). This is an earliest record and the first in autumn.

**2010:** a female at Lau Shui Heung on 25 November and a male at Po Shan Road on 2 December.

**Orange-bellied Leafbird** *Chloropsis hardwickii* 橙腹葉鶯 I

*Scarce resident and winter visitor in closed-canopy woodland; highest count five on 4 October 1997.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year at Tai Po Kau with a high count of three on 21 November. Elsewhere recorded up to 22 March with a high count of three at Shek Kong. One at Wu Kau Tang on 5 March was the only record away from the central NT.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year from Tai Po Kau and Shing Mun with a high count of two. Elsewhere one at Sai Kung on 22 February, Cheung Chau on 16 April and Pak Sha O on 20 November.

**Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum ignipectus* 紅胸啄花鳥 I

*Scarce winter visitor and rare breeding species in shrubland and woodland areas; highest count eight on 7 April 2002.*

**2009:** recorded until 12 April and from 13 September, mostly at Tai Po Kau but also Wonderland Villas, Tai Om Shan, Shek Kong, Pat Sin Leng and She Shan.

**2010:** only five reports but unusual late spring and summer reports included two at Tai Po Kau Headland on 2 May, two on Po Toi on 25 August and one at Tai Lam Chung on 29 August.

**Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cruentatum* 朱背啄花鳥 I

*Common resident of open woodland and village edge; highest count 16 on 6 January 2008.*

**2009:** recorded throughout the year, peak count ten at Tai Po Kau on 10 April.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year from Tai Po Kau Headland and Ho Sheung Heung with a new highest count of 17 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January (JAA).

**Mrs. Gould's Sunbird *Aethopyga gouldiae* 藍喉太陽鳥 I**

*Rare migrant in late winter and spring; extreme dates 15 January to 20 March.*

**2010:** a male at KFBG from 18 to 20 March (EL).

**Fork-tailed Sunbird *Aethopyga christinae* 叉尾太陽鳥 I**

*Widespread and common resident of woodland and shrubland; highest count 40 on 4 January 2004.*

**2009:** widely reported up to 10 May and from 15 August, mostly in the winter months. Peak count 14 at Ma On Shan on 11 April with 13 at Sha Lo Tung on 12 December, all males.

**2010:** similar to 2009 but with summer records at Kap Lung, Kam Tin, Sai Kung and Tai Lam CP. Peak count 14 between Luk Keng and Wu Kau Tang on 17 October.

**Russet Sparrow *Passer rutilans* 山麻雀 I**

*Rare autumn migrant and winter visitor, with a number of ex-captive birds also recorded; extreme dates of birds thought to be wild are 8 September to 1 April.*

**2009:** one at Tai Wai on 2 April (DJS), possibly an ex-captive bird.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* 樹麻雀 I**

*Very common resident of lowland habitats, commensal with man; influxes in fish pond areas and offshore islands in spring. Highest count 300 on 24 September 1975.*

**2009:** 500 at Lut Chau on 27 January (MK) is a new highest count. Records on Po Toi from 1 April to 21 October with a peak count of 107 on 21 April, a typical year for Po Toi.

**2010:** 200 at Kowloon Walled Park on 6 October was the peak count. Relatively low numbers on Po Toi from 14 April to 20 November, high count 37 on 24 May and 33 on 13 October .

### **White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata* 白腰文鳥 I**

*Common resident of lightly-wooded urban and village-edge habitats; highest count 200 on 31 December 1997.*

High counts at Long Valley following the rice planting programme.

**2009:** widespread reports but easily the highest numbers at Long Valley with 350 on 25 July, a new highest count.

**2010:** as for 2009. Peak count at Long Valley 250 on 13 July and 244 on 12 October.

### **Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata* 斑文鳥 I**

*Common resident in open-country grassy habitats; highest count 580 on 29 August 1995.*

**2009:** recorded from widespread locations. Peak count 100 at Long Valley on 19 September with 79 at Kam Tin on 25 May.

**2010:** widespread reports with most records from MPNR and Long Valley systematic counts. Peak counts 114 on 24 July and 233 on 6 September at MPNR and 135 on 2 March, 215 on 17 August and 193 on 10 November at Long Valley.

### **Chestnut Munia *Lonchura atricapilla* 栗腹文鳥 IIC**

*Previously an irregular feral breeding species; last record in 1995, highest count 60 on 12 August 1971.*

**2010:** one at MPNR from 27 May to 24 June with a flock of Scaly-breasted Munia is the first record since 1995. One at Long Valley on 31 October. Both these records are considered ex-captive.

### **Forest Wagtail *Dendronanthus indicus* 山鵲鶉 I**

*Scarce passage migrant, commoner in autumn, occasional in winter; occurs mainly in mature secondary broadleaf forest, but also a variety of other habitats; extreme dates 28 July to 1 May, highest count two on 14 April 1996.*

**2009:** one at the Peak on 4 February. One on Po Toi on 22 April was the only spring record. In autumn, singles at Mai Po, Po Toi, Tai Po Kau and Lamma from 23 August to 3 October. Finally, one at Tai Po Kau on 26 November.

**2010:** one at Aberdeen CP on 4 January. In autumn, singles from 2 September to 9 October on Po Toi and at Ng Tung Chai, Fung Yuen, Po Shan Road and Cheung Chau. One at Shing Mun on 19 November.

## **Eastern Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla tschutschensis* 東黃鶺鴒 I**

Many records were not ascribed to taxon, observers are encouraged to record the taxon whenever possible.

### ***M.t. taivana***

*Passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 22 August to 6 May, highest count 1,000 on 12 February 1989.*

**2009:** recorded up to 14 April, peak count 40 at MPNR on 31 March, and from 1 September, when 43 were at San Tin; peak count 93 also at San Tin on 20 December.

**2010:** recorded up to 21 April and from 1 September with few records in the second winter period; peak count of 124 at San Tin on 20 March and 73 at Mai Po on 8 September.

### ***M.t. macronyx***

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 9 September to 20 May, highest count 50 on 7 October 1995.*

**2009:** recorded up to 17 April, peak count seven at MPNR on 16 April. In the second winter period, recorded from 27 September, peak count six at MPNR on 30 December.

**2010:** recorded up to 18 April with peak count of four at Pui O on 10 April. No records in the second period.

### ***M.t. tschutschensis***

*Passage migrant and scarce winter visitor; extreme dates 21 August to 25 May, highest count 3,840 on 4 May 1999.*

**2009:** recorded from 5 March to 29 April, peak count 66 on the latter date. In the second winter period, up to ten recorded from 20 August on Po Toi (GW), a new earliest date, to 25 November.

**2010:** recorded on 17 January at Hoo Hok Wai, then from 25 March to 20 May, with 51 at Long Valley on 18 April the peak count. In autumn from 2 September to 10 November, peak count 13 on 8 September on Po Toi.

### ***Records unasccribed to taxon***

**2009:** recorded up to 22 May and from 25 August, with the highest counts 200 at San Tin on 28 April and 300 at LMC on 11 November.

**2010:** recorded up to 18 May and from 21 August, with peak counts in each winter period of 250 at MPNR on 23 April and 102 at Long Valley on 22 November.

**Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* 黃頭鶺鴒 I**

*Passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 30 September to 10 May.*

**2009:** all records from Long Valley. One until 25 April then two on 9 October, one on 1 and 19 November.

**2010:** a good year. At Long Valley, up to two from 3 January with five on 17 and 18 April including two summer-plumage males, the last record of two on 21 April. Elsewhere singles at Hoo Hok Wai, Kam Tin and Lok Ma Chau. In the second winter period, from 9 October at Long Valley with four there on 4 December, also singles recorded at Sha Po and Mai Po.



**Plate 43** Citrine Wagtail *Motacilla citreola* 黃頭鶺鴒  
Long Valley, 18<sup>th</sup> April 2010 壟原 2010年4月18日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### **Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea* 灰鶺鴒 I**

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant to watercourses and lowland wetland areas; extreme dates 16 August to 31 May with occasional summer records, highest count 1,000 on 16 October 1991.*

**2009:** widespread records until 14 May, peak count nine on Po Toi on 27 April. In the second winter period, recorded from 31 August, peak count ten at Airfield Road on 24 October.

**2010:** recorded until 13 May, peak count 14 at Kam Tin on 24 April. In the second winter period, recorded from 24 August, peak count nine at Airfield Road on 31 October.

### **White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* 白鶺鴒 I**

Not all records of White Wagtail are ascribed to taxon, observers are encouraged to record the taxon whenever possible. In particular, breeding season reports and records of *M.a. ocularis* are encouraged.

#### ***M.a. leucopsis***

*Present all year, most common on spring passage and in winter, and breeds in lowland areas, including village and village-edge, parks and gardens, residential housing; highest count 200 on 18 February 1997.*

**2009:** in the first winter period, the peak count was 82 at Airfield Road on 24 January while on Po Toi overwintering birds remained until 27 April. A *leucopsis* × *alboides* hybrid at Chung Mei on 1 January (BY). Probable breeding records at Kam Tin, So Kwun Wat, Chek Lap Kok, Airfield Road and Tai Po Kau Headland with 28 including juveniles at San Tin on 3 June. In the second winter period, the peak count was 96 at San Tin on 20 December.

**2010:** good numbers recorded in first winter period, with a peak count 102 at Kam Tin on 3 January and the last record on Po Toi on 15 April. Rather fewer juveniles than normal recorded in the breeding season but with 30 including juveniles at San Tin on 12 August. In the second winter period, the peak count was 54 at Kam Tin on 18 December.

#### ***M.a. ocularis***

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 24 September to 30 April; highest count 190 on 25 March 1997.*

**2009:** in the first winter period, recorded in small numbers up to 17 April, peak count 11 at San Tin on 11 February. In the second winter period, recorded from 24 October, peak count 25 at Kam Tin on 19 December.

**2010:** good numbers in both periods, particularly at Kam Tin. Recorded in first winter period up to 17 April, peak count 35 at Kam Tin on 23 January. In the second winter period, recorded from 4 October, peak count 28 at Kam Tin on 18 December.



***M.a. lugens***

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor; extreme dates 1 October to 29 March, highest count three on 20 March 1995.*

**2009:** one at Chek Lap Kok on 27 February, one at San Tin on 25 March, a male at Airfield Road on 12 April (DAD), a new latest record, and another at LMC on 19 November.

**2010:** two at Tai Tong on 23 January, one at Hoo Hok Wai on 24 February, one at MPNR on 7 March and one at Kam Tin on 18 December.



Plate 44 White Wagtail *personata* *Motacilla alba personata* 白鶺鴒  
Ping Che, 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010 坪嶺 2010年1月17日  
John and Jemi Holmes 孔思義及黃亞萍

***M.a. personata***

*Two records, 6 to 8 April 1984 and 26 to 27 March 1996.*

**2010:** one at Ping Che from 16 to 30 January (JAA). This is the third HK record.

***M.a. baicalensis***

*No records.*

**2010:** one at Yuen Long on 23 January (JAA) is the first HK record for this taxon. One at Nim Wan on 15 October (DJS,PJL).

***Combined taxa including no taxon given***

**2009:** recorded in all months with a peak count of 40 at Pui O on 4 November.

**2010:** recorded in all months with a peak count of 200 going to roost at Kam Sheung Road MTR on 11 October.

**Richard's Pipit** *Anthus richardi* 理氏鵲

*Migratory taxa occur in low-lying open country areas, particularly agricultural, and are common on passage and in winter; highest count 102 on 12 October 1979. Resident taxon A.r. sinensis breeds in grassy and open country areas, often upland; highest count 15 on 20 July 2003.*

**2009: First winter period:** widespread records with a peak of 21 at Chek Lap Kok on 16 January and a last record of two on Po Toi on 28 April.

**Breeding season:** reported from Chek Lap Kok and Tai Mo Shan with juveniles seen at the latter location.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 27 August with a peak count of 26 at Chek Lap Kok on 19 November.

**2010:** recorded throughout the year with a few *sinensis* in the summer months.

**First winter period:** recorded up to 16 May with a peak of 22 on 27 January again at Chek Lap Kok.

**Breeding season:** possible breeding records from Robin's Nest, Kai Tak, Chek Lap Kok as well as Tai Mo Shan.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 26 August with peak counts of 38 and 46 flying south at Mai Po on 1 and 5 October, 16 on Po Toi on 28 October, 60 at Chek Lap Kok on 21 December and 43 at Kau Sai Chau on 22 December.

**Olive-backed Pipit** *Anthus hodgsoni* 樹鵲 I

*Common winter visitor and passage migrant to lightly wooded and open country areas, including village edge and parks; extreme dates 28 September to 15 May, highest count 150 on 9 January 1961.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded until 25 April, peak count 20 at Airfield Road on 24 January. Migrants on Po Toi recorded from 24 March to 9 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 4 October, peak count 33 at Tai Lam CP on 6 December.

**2010:** good peak counts in both periods.

**First winter period:** recorded until 27 April, peak count 76 in the Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January. Migrants on Po Toi recorded from 24 March to 26 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 5 October, peak count 50 at Long Valley on 27 December.

### **Pechora Pipit *Anthus gustavi* 北鵲 I**

*Scarce passage migrant to damp, lowland areas with dense vegetation; extreme dates 9 April to 24 May and 3 September to 27 October, highest count 103 on 3 May 1999 (Typhoon Leo).*

**2009:** one on Po Toi on 27 and 30 April, one at Long Valley on 1 May and one on Lantau on 2 May. In autumn, singles at San Tin and LMC on 16 September, at MPNR on 17 and 18 September and on Po Toi on 24 and 27 September.

**2010:** ten going to roost at Mai Po on 6 May is a recent high count. One on Po Toi on 11 and 12 May. In autumn, one at Mai Po on 13 September and another there on 5 October.

### **Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* 紅喉鵲 I**

*Common passage migrant and winter visitor to lowlands, usually in wet areas; extreme dates 16 September to 17 May, highest count 250 on 17 April 1992.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded up to 8 April, peak count 39 at San Tin on 18 February.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 5 October, peak count 34 at Kam Tin on 14 November.

**2010: First winter period:** recorded until 18 April, peak count 34 at San Tin on 20 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 1 October, peak counts 55 flying south at Mai Po on 5 October, 80 at Mai Po on 26 October and 59 at Long Valley on 22 November.

### **Buff-bellied Pipit *Anthus rubescens* 黃腹鵲 I**

*Scarce passage migrant and winter visitor to lowland wetland areas; extreme dates 18 October to 12 April, highest count 20 on 15 January 1985.*

**2009: First winter period:** a poor first winter period with two at Mai Po, one at Long Valley and one at Kam Tin on 24 February, the latest date.

**Second winter period:** mostly singles at Long Valley, Kam Tin, Mai Po and San Tin from 10 October but 14 flying south over Mai Po on 25 November.

**2010: First winter period:** a good first winter period with many records, particularly at Long Valley. Counts of ten there on 3 January with 20 on 17 January and again on 7 February equalling the highest count. Last record on the Mai Po access road on 20 March.

**Second winter period:** records from 25 October at Mai Po, Long Valley, Lok Ma Chau and Kam Tin with a peak of ten at Mai Po on 1 November.

**Upland Pipit *Anthus sylvanus* 山鵲 I**

*Widespread resident in upland grassland; highest count 20 in late August 1983.*

**2009:** high counts of five on Tai Mo Shan and eight at Sunset Peak over the period 15 March to 1 July.

**2010:** new locations at Tai To Yan, Kai Kung Leng and Nam Shan (Lantau). Peak count five at Tai Mo Shan on 6 June.

**Brambling *Fringilla montifringilla* 燕雀 I**

*Rare passage migrant with one winter record; extreme dates 3 March to 26 April and 28 October to 29 November.*

**2009:** in spring, one at Mai Po on 22 March, a female at Nam Chung on 21 April and a male at Tai O on 28 April, a new latest date (DJS). In autumn, up to three, two females and a male, on Po Toi between 11 and 28 November.

**2010:** in spring, a female on Po Toi on 1 April. In autumn, a female on Po Toi on 31 October with a pair there on 2 November, a male at Mai Po on 1 and 4 November, a female at Long Valley on 3 November, the first record there, and finally a pair at She Shan on 7 November.

**Grey-capped Greenfinch *Chloris sinica* 金翅雀 I**

*Scarce resident of open country and village edge; much reduced numbers since 1960s; highest count since 1999, nine on 12 February 2004.*

**2009:** a good series of records up to 6 May but none after that date. Many reports over this period from Siu Lam but also from Shek Kong, Luk Keng, Tuen Mun, Po Toi, Long Valley and Tai Lam Chung with the peak count of five at Tsing Yi Park on 19 January.

**2010:** a resurgence in records and numbers for this species. Recorded up to 12 May and from 30 September with a high count at Kuk Po of 30 on 17 October (JAA), well above the recent peak count. Also at Lai Chi Wo, Siu Lam, Lung Kwu Tan, Tai Shang Wai, Long Valley with 12 flying south at Mai Po on 24 November.

**Eurasian Siskin *Carduelis spinus* 黃雀 I**

*Rare winter visitor to woodland areas; extreme dates 30 October to 2 April, highest count 60 on 28 November 1990.*

**2009:** up to ten at Shek Kong on 29 and 30 January.

**2010:** 20 on Po Toi on 26 October (GW), a new earliest date, with up to five remaining until 24 November. One at Shek Kong on 23 November.



**Plate 45** Eurasian Siskin *Carduelis spinus* 黃雀  
Po Toi Island, 31<sup>st</sup> October 2010 蒲台島 2010年10月31日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus* 普通朱雀 I

*Scarce winter visitor and migrant to open-country areas; extreme dates considered to relate to wild birds are 28 September to 30 April. Highest count 33 on 13 January 1980.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded at Shek Kong, San Tau and Kam Tin with the last record at Sun Tong on 21 March and a peak count of five at Shek Kong on 21 February.

**Second winter period:** two on Po Toi on 29 November with one remaining until 8 December. Two at Lam Tsuen on 19 December.

**2010:** few records of singles only.

**First winter period:** one at Shek Kong and Ha Tei Ha with one at Pui O on 3 May (HI) a new latest date.

**Second winter period:** one at Long Valley on 24 October was a first record there, a first-winter male trapped at Mai Po on 8 November and one at Airfield Road on 26 December.

### **Chinese Grosbeak *Eophona migratoria* 黑尾蠟嘴雀 I**

*Locally common winter visitor and scarce breeding species in wooded, open-country habitats; mostly present November to mid-April. Highest count 130 on 30 December 1988.*

**2009: First winter period:** a good series of records at well-established locations. Recorded up to 28 April when one was on Po Toi. Peak counts were 20 at Shek Kong Catchment, 11 at Kam Tin, seven at Fanling with smaller numbers elsewhere.

**Breeding season:** reported from June to August at Tam Kon Chau, Mai Po car park and village, Lok Ma Chau lookout and Ma Tso Lung

**Second winter period:** peak counts 27 at Long Valley on 7 October with 16 at Kam Tin on 19 December.

**2010: First winter period:** more widespread records in the first winter period than in 2009, with peak counts of ten at KFBG and Lung Kwu Tan, seven at Lok Ma Chau lookout, eleven at Mai Po, thirteen at Airfield Road and 21 at Tsim Bei Tsui with a last record on 29 April.

**Breeding season:** no reports in May or June; recorded from July to August at San Tin, Mai Po, Nam Sang Wai and Kam Tin.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 19 October with a peak count of 25 at Kam Tin on 29 November and up to ten at Braemar Hill throughout November and December.

### **Japanese Grosbeak *Eophona personata* 黑頭蠟嘴雀 I**

*Rare winter visitor; extreme dates 30 November to 11 April, highest count nine on 11 April 1997.*

**2010:** a male at Airfield Road from 21 to 23 February. Two at Mai Po on 14 December.

**Crested Bunting** *Emberiza lathamii* 鳳頭鵯 I

*Once a common resident, now rare, with the last record in 2000.*

**2010:** one at Lam Tsuen on 14 March and two in Long Valley on 13 and 14 November are the first records for ten years.



**Plate 46** Crested Bunting *Emberiza lathamii* 鳳頭鵯  
Long Valley, 14<sup>th</sup> November 2010 塱原 2010年11月14日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

**Tristram's Bunting** *Emberiza tristrami* 白眉鵪鶉 I

*Winter visitor to woodland and shrubland areas; extreme dates 20 October to 21 April. Highest count 21 on 22 January 1992.*

**2009:** a relatively poor first winter period.

**First winter period:** recorded until 22 March, peak count two at Shing Mun, Tai Om Shan and Fung Yuen.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 17 November with a high peak count 12 at Tai Lam CP on 6 December.

**2010:** more widespread and higher numbers in first winter period than 2009.

**First winter period:** peak count ten in Wu Kau Tang area on 2 January with nine at Tai Po Kau, eight at Sai Kung, five at KFBG and smaller numbers elsewhere until the last at Cheung Chau on 12 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 November with a peak count of five at Tai Om Shan on 28 December.

**Chestnut-eared Bunting** *Emberiza fucata* 栗耳鵪鶉 I

*Winter visitor and passage migrant to grassland and open country areas; extreme dates 9 October to 28 April, highest count 30 on 19 January 1967.*

**2009:** a poor year, although with a new earliest record.

**First winter period:** one on the Mai Po access road on 6 April was the only record.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 6 October at Lok Ma Chau (GJC) and 7 October at Long Valley (HI), both earlier than the previous earliest date. Then from 13 October to 18 November, peak count two at Kam Tin and San Tin on 13 and 18 November.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** one at Mai Po on 8 April and two at Long Valley from 17 to 21 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 18 October with a peak count four at Long Valley on 7 November and December records at She Shan and Long Valley.



**Little Bunting** *Emberiza pusilla* 小鵪鶉 I

*Winter visitor and passage migrant in open country areas, especially inactive dry agriculture; extreme dates 24 September to 17 May, highest count 150 on 15 December 1985.*

**2009:** high counts from Mai Po in the second period.

**First winter period:** recorded until 7 May, peak count 11 at So Kwun Wat on 7 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 14 October, peak count 65 at Mai Po on 25 November.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded until 12 May, a late date, peak count 15 at Long Valley on 2 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 5 October, peak count ten at Mai Po on 1 November.

**Yellow-browed Bunting** *Emberiza chrysophrys* 黃眉鵪鶉 I

*Scarce migrant and rare winter visitor to open-country areas; extreme dates 8 March to 1 May in spring and 1 October to 28 December in autumn/winter; highest count five on 15 November 1992.*

**2009:** good numbers in the second winter period.

**First winter period:** one on Po Toi on 25 March and 27 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 October with one at Mai Po and three on Po Toi on 11 October. The peak count was four at Kam Tin on 6 November with three on Po Toi again on 7 November. Birds remained at Kam Tin until 15 November and on Po Toi until 21 November. The last record was one at Mai Po on 25 November.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** one at Mai Po and Pok Fu Lam and two on Po Toi on 10 April. The birds on Po Toi stayed until 13 April with a different bird there on 14 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 10 November with one at Mai Po, one at Long Valley from 13 November until 3 December and one at Pak Tin Kong on 20 November.



**Plate 47** Rustic Bunting *Emberiza rustica* 田鴉  
Long Valley, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2010 壟原 2010年11月27日  
Matthew Kwan 關朗曦

**Rustic Bunting** *Emberiza rustica* 田鴉 I

*Four records; extreme dates 10 November to 27 January.*

**2009:** one at Pui O on 15 November (MaK). This is the fifth HK record.

**2010:** an exceptional year. One at Mount Austin on 10 March (VP), a new latest date. One at Po Toi on 21 November (TMC), one at Long Valley on 27 November (MaK) and a different bird on Po Toi from 4 to 8 December (EH,GW).



**Plate 48** Yellow-throated Bunting male *Emberiza elegans* 黃喉鵪  
Po Toi Island, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009 蒲台島 2009年11月7日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### **Yellow-throated Bunting** *Emberiza elegans* 黃喉鵪 I

*Three records; extreme dates 17 November to 17 January.*

**2009:** an exceptional year. Recorded on Po Toi from 7 to 26 November with a high count of eight, five males and three females on 16 November (GW). Also two at Tai Po Kau Headland on 13 November (R&KB) and four on south Lamma on 14 November (JAA).

**2010:** what was presumably the return passage of these birds on Po Toi from 25 March to 8 April with a high count of four, two pairs (GW). A male at Siu Lek Yuen on 24 April (KF) was possibly an ex-captive bird.

### **Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola* 黃胸鵪 I VU

*Common migrant and scarce winter visitor to open-country areas; extreme dates 28 August to 23 May, highest count 3,000 on 19 October 1959, highest count since 1999, 150 on 10 October 2001.*

**2009:** most records from the northwest NT, but also reported from Po Toi and Tai O.

**First winter period:** recorded from 18 April to 7 May, peak count four at San Tin on 28 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 17 September to 15 November, with a peak of 23 at Mai Po on 16 October.

**2010:** a typical year.

**First winter period:** recorded from 17 April to 4 May, peak count four on the Mai Po access road on 25 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 1 October to 9 December, peak count 20 at Mai Po on 1 November.



**Plate 49** Yellow-throated Bunting female *Emberiza elegans* 黄喉鹀  
Po Toi Island, 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2010 蒲台島 2010年4月3日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### **Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila* 栗鵯 I

*Scarce migrant and winter visitor to shrubland areas; extreme dates 28 September to 16 May, highest count 200 on 6 November 2000.*

**2009:** a typical year but with winter records.

**First winter period:** winter records at Ng Tung Chai from 28 January to 16 March with a peak count of four on 9 February. One spring record, a first summer male on Po Toi on 20 April.

**Second winter period:** reported from 14 October until 19 December, peak count seven at Lam Tsuen on the latter date.

**2010:** two winter records followed by a relatively good passage in spring.

**First winter period:** two winter records, two at Sam A Tsuen on 2 January and Po Toi on 5 January. Spring passage from 17 April to 3 May, peak count four on Po Toi on 25 April.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 17 October, peak count 12 on north Lantau on 31 October.

### **Black-headed Bunting** *Emberiza melanocephala* 黑頭鵯 I

*Scarce autumn migrant and winter visitor to open-country habitats with seven confirmed records and another 11 relating to this or Red-headed Bunting; extreme dates from 27 October to 14 February.*

**2009:** a good second winter period. One at She Shan on 18 October (MK), a new earliest date, three at Ma Tso Lung on 21 October, up to three at Long Valley from 25 to 29 October and one on Po Toi on 24 December.

**2010:** a winter plumage male on Po Toi on 7 January was a different bird to that in December 2009. In autumn, one at Kai Tak on 11 October (DJS), another new earliest date, two at Long Valley on 16 October and one at Sha Po on 27 October.

### **Japanese Yellow Bunting** *Emberiza sulphurata* 硫黃鵯 I VU

*Spring passage migrant with recent autumn records, to open-country areas; spring numbers have declined in recent years; extreme dates 27 March to 8 May and 30 October to 28 November, highest count 17 on 6 April 1996.*

**2009:** a very poor year with only one spring record.

**First winter period:** one on Po Toi on 1 and 2 April.

**2010:** a better year with four spring and one autumn records.

**First winter period:** singles on Po Toi and at Lok Ma Chau on 8 April, one at Pok Fu Lam on 10 April, two at LMC on 18 April.

**Second winter period:** one at Kam Tin on 11 November (JAA) is the third autumn record since the first in 2007.

**Black-faced Bunting** *Emberiza spodocephala* 灰頭鶉 I

*Passage migrant and winter visitor to open-country areas; extreme dates 19 September to 29 May, highest count 200 on 24 March 1992.*

**2009: First winter period:** recorded up to 30 April with a peak count of nine at Tai Mo Shan on 1 March.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 21 October, peak count nine at Sha Lo Tung on 12 December.

**2010: First winter period:** recorded up to 20 May. Peak count 11 at Kam Tin on 23 January.

**Second winter period:** recorded from 27 October; peak count 14 at Kam Tin on 18 December.

**Pallas's Reed Bunting** *Emberiza pallasi* 葦鶉 I

*Rare late autumn migrant; five records with extreme dates 8 November to 14 December.*

**2006:** a juvenile at LMC from 28 to 30 September (PJL). This is by far the earliest record.

**2010:** one trapped at Mai Po on 1 November (PJL,JAA) with another trapped there on 24 November.

### CATEGORY III

Species for which all published HK records are considered likely to relate to birds that have escaped or have been released from captivity (previously Category E).

#### **Northern Goshawk** *Accipiter gentilis* **III**

**2009:** one found in poor condition at Wong Chuk Hang on 20 November was taken into care at KFBG and later released at Mai Po (AmC).

#### **Alexandrine Parakeet** *Psittacula eupatria* **III**

**2009:** four at Kowloon Park on 6 April.

**2010:** five at Kowloon Park on 8 April. One at Mai Po on 9 November and four at Pak Nai on 5 December.

#### **Red-and-green Macaw** *Ara chloropterus* **III**

**2009:** one at MPNR on 10 February and again on 4 and 17 December (RL,KL).

**2010:** one at MPNR from 5 to 19 January (RL,KL).

#### **Bearded Reedling** *Panurus biarmicus* **III**

**2009:** two trapped at MPNR on 2 December (PJL,JAA), one re-trapped on 18 December.

**2010:** three at MPNR on 4 January (JAA).

#### **Mongolian Lark** *Melanocorypha mongolica* **III**

**2010:** up to three on the Mai Po scrape from 23 to 29 October (DAD *et al*). One at Kam Tin on 23 October (JAA).

#### **Black-throated Tit** *Aegithalos concinnus* **III**

*This species has now been accepted as Category IIA on the main Hong Kong List and will appear there in the 2011 HKBR.*

**2009:** three at Tai Wai on 2 April, peak count at Shing Mun five on 22 September.

**2010:** one at Tai Po Kau on 15 October, peak counts in Shing Mun/Lead Mine Pass area of 11 on 18 October and 15 on 6 December.

#### **White-capped Redstart** *Chaimarrornis leucocephalus* **III**

**2010:** one at High Island Reservoir from 3 to 18 February (StC,CC).

**Pied Bush Chat *Saxicola caprata* III**

**2010:** one showing cage damage at Nam Sang Wai from 25 January to 26 February (JAA). One at Long Valley from 7 to 21 April (DAD).

**Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa* III**

**2009:** one at Long Valley on 27 September.

**2010:** one at Long Valley on 11 February, one at Kat O on 20 April, one on Po Toi on 25 April with two there on 12 May, two at Kam Tin on 29 November.

**Hill Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis banyumas* III**

**2009:** female at Mount Davis on 18 March (BY).

**White-headed Munia *Lonchura maja* III**

**2010:** up to 12 at MPNR from 27 May to 24 June (KL,JAA). One at Long Valley on 18 July, 5 October and 8 November with up to eight from 9 to 21 December (Website photographs).

**Red Avadavat *Amandava amandava* III**

**2009:** ten at MPNR on 15 January with two there on 30 March. One at LMC on 20 October.

**Yellow-fronted Canary *Serinus mozambicus* III**

**2009:** adult feeding juvenile on Po Toi on 16 May. One at Tseung Kwan O on 15 July and one on Po Toi on 20 August.

**2010:** one at MPNR on 20 January. One on Po Toi on 31 August. This species is a regular summer and possible breeding visitor to Po Toi.

**Hawfinch *Coccothraustes coccothraustes* III**

**2009:** one at Shek Kong from 14 to 23 January (RWL,KPK). One at Ping Che on 19 February (MH).

**Red-headed Bunting *Emberiza bruniceps* III**

**2010:** one at Long Valley on 23 December (Website photograph). One at She Shan from 27 to 28 December (MK).



## Appendix II

Species no longer on the HK List due to taxonomic changes

### **‘Grey-cheeked’ *Fulvetta Alcippe* sp.**

**2009:** recorded throughout the year from Tai Po Kau and Shing Mun, peak count 20 at Tai Po Kau on various dates. Also two at Kowloon Hills Catchwater on 3 January.

**2010:** as for 2009, peak count ten at Tai Po Kau on 1 December.

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### Waterbird Count Data

The attached tables show the Waterbird Count Data at Deep Bay for each month from January 2009 to December 2010. Note the data includes counts at Futian NR on the Shenzhen side of Deep Bay.

2009 WC Count Data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count	18	15	15	12	10	7	12	9	12	18	15	20
Common Shelduck	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Gadwall	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Falcated Duck	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eurasian Wigeon	3,701	4,439	2,328	14	0	0	0	0	0	113	517	3,780
Mallard	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Indian Spot-billed Duck	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spot-billed Duck sp	0	8	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chinese Spot-billed Duck	0	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	2
Northern Shoveler	4,852	5,193	2,651	26	0	0	0	0	0	208	11,271	1,312
Northern Pintail	397	326	58	4	2	0	0	0	0	114	481	2,010
Garganey	31	12	75	137	0	0	0	0	0	26	60	28
Eurasian Teal	530	1,581	607	1	0	0	0	0	0	97	204	618
Common Pochard	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tufted Duck	2,816	6,742	1,835	5	2	1	0	0	1	30	1,857	1,443
Greater Scaup	0	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
Little Grebe	210	199	189	142	100	78	62	96	125	138	191	197
Great Crested Grebe	28	210	67	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	27	126
Eurasian Spoonbill	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	4
Black-faced Spoonbill	365	405	245	53	70	6	7	0	7	8	205	385
Eurasian Bittern	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow Bittern	0	0	0	0	3	2	4	3	7	0	1	0
Cinnamon Bittern	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0

2009 WC Count Data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count	18	15	15	12	10	7	12	9	12	18	15	20
Black-crowned Night Heron	8	0	1	41	106	120	58	45	59	78	18	13
Striated Heron	0	0	0	0	1	2	4	4	3	1	0	0
Chinese Pond Heron	131	148	120	133	119	154	159	242	151	215	183	173
Eastern Cattle Egret	12	81	67	82	102	43	149	102	82	70	21	31
Grey Heron	880	1,085	449	88	29	13	7	11	208	605	920	804
Purple Heron	0	2	1	0	1	1	0	0	2	7	3	0
Great Egret	978	564	433	315	393	462	368	278	585	515	541	882
Intermediate Egret	50	22	37	21	6	13	22	2	35	20	27	23
Little Egret	1,428	2,076	1,010	702	679	575	701	563	787	957	745	1,047
Great Cormorant	8,736	6,249	4,391	4	1	1	2	2	2	2,964	7,876	6,585
Osprey	10	17	7	1	1	1	1	4	3	12	11	12
Black Kite	73	39	62	14	20	6	8	29	21	56	51	75
White-bellied Sea Eagle	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Eastern Marsh Harrier	2	4	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	5	1
Common Buzzard	3	4	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	4
Greater Spotted Eagle	1	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	4
Imperial Eagle	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	3
Peregrine Falcon	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
White-breasted Waterhen	22	30	15	47	37	33	28	25	32	37	29	6
Common Moorhen	113	105	64	78	20	16	26	17	14	46	142	111
Eurasian Coot	325	279	12	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	72	40
Black-winged Stilt	90	355	711	675	188	90	51	17	532	555	90	8
Pied Avocet	8,192	13,061	6,954	2,396	910	103	2	0	0	19	2,228	9,558
Pacific Golden Plover	400	0	0	46	3	0	0	0	0	2	5	0
Grey Plover	203	582	51	16	14	5	2	0	17	14	255	26
Little Ringed Plover	200	315	55	44	23	37	25	37	60	127	196	142
Kentish Plover	975	121	22	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	1,570	1,766
Lesser Sand Plover	1	0	0	33	11	0	0	3	0	0	18	0

2009 WC Count Data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count	18	15	15	12	10	7	12	9	12	18	15	20
Greater Sand Plover	0	0	2	63	59	0	1	158	1	0	0	0
Greater Painted-snipe	0	0	1	1	0	7	0	0	1	1	0	0
Pheasant-tailed Jacana	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	1	0
Pintail/Swinhoe's Snipe	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	2	0	0
Common Snipe	4	3	4	5	0	0	0	0	15	16	35	6
Long-billed Dowitcher	0	5	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Asian Dowitcher	0	0	0	5	15	0	0	3	1	0	0	0
Black-tailed Godwit	476	780	627	1,188	8	8	34	80	289	511	420	0
Bar-tailed Godwit	0	1	1	68	0	0	0	0	28	2	2	0
Whimbrel	22	31	1	19	20	18	0	37	33	2	4	34
Eurasian Curlew	1,065	837	441	29	28	29	33	74	115	103	128	388
Eastern Curlew	0	2	1	11	5	0	2	0	0	0	2	0
Spotted Redshank	73	681	400	759	428	0	2	5	17	97	4	5
Common Redshank	0	305	217	700	232	4	317	860	252	304	361	24
Marsh Sandpiper	1,921	2,310	2,070	3,123	0	0	6	18	928	2,185	1,207	71
Common Greenshank	536	649	423	1,337	850	29	113	859	975	1,330	536	98
Nordmann's Greenshank	1	1	3	5	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Green Sandpiper	30	23	29	19	7	0	7	4	3	15	26	42
Wood Sandpiper	158	55	50	116	44	7	64	131	249	230	147	81
Grey-tailed Tattler	0	0	0	2	2	0	0	1	8	0	0	0
Terek Sandpiper	0	0	0	82	151	22	6	74	2	10	1	0
Common Sandpiper	59	46	57	73	34	5	25	38	79	67	78	92
Ruddy Turnstone	0	0	0	5	11	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Great Knot	21	32	35	207	5	6	0	0	61	22	34	0
Red Knot	0	0	0	7	9	1	0	0	12	0	4	0
Sanderling	0	0	0	1	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-necked Stint	10	0	10	297	251	0	0	0	0	0	32	3

2009 WC Count Data		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count		18	15	15	12	10	7	12	9	12	18	15	20
Little Stint		0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temminck's Stint		25	2	30	18	1	0	0	0	1	0	23	8
Long-toed Stint		3	0	0	21	3	0	0	0	2	1	3	0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper		0	0	0	5	12	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Curlew Sandpiper		0	0	20	456	134	4	0	4	1	0	0	0
Dunlin		1,175	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	3,036	1,036
Spoon-billed Sandpiper		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Broad-billed Sandpiper		0	0	0	7	56	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Ruff		0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-necked Phalarope		0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oriental Pratincole		0	0	5	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black-headed Gull		5,643	4,673	5,470	890	14	8	5	0	0	3	317	4,043
Saunders's Gull		52	47	16	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	7
Black-tailed Gull		0	1	1	2	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow-legged Gull		2	0	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Slaty-backed Gull		0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heuglin's Gull		243	212	128	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	130
Gull-billed Tern		0	0	0	170	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Caspian Tern		0	4	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	2
Whiskered Tern		1	0	0	0	20	0	6	0	97	29	0	0
White-winged Tern		0	0	0	0	172	16	0	0	1	0	0	0
White-throated Kingfisher		28	18	14	3	3	4	8	13	16	18	32	23
Black-capped Kingfisher		3	2	2	1	0	0	0	1	1	3	2	9
Common Kingfisher		21	26	24	22	11	13	8	26	30	36	46	35
Pied Kingfisher		10	6	8	12	10	16	8	7	10	11	11	8
Collared Crow		16	8	27	20	26	23	26	21	33	23	22	15
Red-billed Starling		264	326	459	12	0	12	0	0	0	0	1574	677

2010 WC Count Data		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count		24	21	7	18	16	18	11	8	12	10	7	19
Common Shelduck		6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gadwall		0	4	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Falcated Duck		1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Eurasian Wigeon		2,816	1,498	607	55	0	0	0	0	0	13	771	4,429
Mallard		2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Indian Spot-billed Duck		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spot-billed Duck sp		4	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chinese Spot-billed Duck		3	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Northern Shoveler		20,008	6,689	2,800	100	0	0	0	0	0	250	5,268	8,850
Northern Pintail		1,612	2,502	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	180	3,622
Garganey		60	30	204	19	0	0	0	0	0	13	18	42
Eurasian Teal		627	507	261	0	0	0	0	0	0	44	835	1,459
Common Pochard		2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tufted Duck		3,126	4,871	789	4	1	1	0	0	0	0	2,980	5,823
Greater Scaup		4	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Little Grebe		212	208	276	135	87	76	81	84	100	128	172	168
Great Crested Grebe		215	204	84	18	1	1	0	1	1	1	24	127
Eurasian Spoonbill		3	2	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	3
Black-faced Spoonbill		496	349	291	235	76	12	7	0	0	1	236	376
Great Bittern		0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow Bittern		0	0	0	1	2	5	7	5	3	2	0	0
Cinnamon Bittern		0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0
Black-crowned Night Heron		2	13	19	84	95	136	128	71	43	17	31	3
Striated Heron		0	0	0	4	5	4	5	6	6	0	0	0
Chinese Pond Heron		196	124	97	118	83	118	178	219	252	186	149	86
Cattle Egret		28	25	47	14	48	65	63	20	202	69	30	28

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
<b>2010 WC Count Data</b>												
date of count	24	21	7	18	16	18	11	8	12	10	7	19
Grey Heron	761	818	416	79	19	17	3	30	108	542	711	748
Purple Heron	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	0
Great Egret	656	600	321	307	379	569	470	485	659	587	559	804
Intermediate Egret	17	11	29	27	4	9	12	14	54	31	22	23
Little Egret	1,197	850	732	822	489	706	474	706	843	880	561	935
Great Cormorant	9,045	10,758	4,829	6	0	0	0	0	0	467	5,795	4,831
Osprey	15	8	10	4	0	0	1	2	2	5	8	10
Black Kite	26	80	11	21	13	10	5	9	32	55	48	32
White-bellied Sea Eagle	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Eastern Marsh Harrier	8	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1
Common Buzzard	11	10	7	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	15	7
Greater Spotted Eagle	6	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Imperial Eagle	6	4	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4	2
Peregrine Falcon	5	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	3
White-breasted Waterhen	15	23	16	55	29	48	37	36	23	33	20	23
Common Moorhen	154	76	122	151	27	5	16	7	2	21	70	136
Eurasian Coot	354	223	22	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	34	15
Black-winged Stilt	271	375	870	484	80	26	38	34	178	395	205	337
Pied Avocet	10,860	13,883	6,247	1,852	1,056	11	1	0	1	0	340	6,475
Pacific Golden Plover	0	0	0	44	0	0	0	0	0	284	145	0
Grey Plover	637	120	482	67	14	4	2	1	18	0	40	189
Little Ringed Plover	192	80	200	35	7	3	25	49	64	96	131	66
Kentish Plover	4,303	1,495	1,200	20	0	0	0	0	0	13	59	720
Lesser Sand Plover	0	2	0	51	7	0	0	32	4	0	5	0
Greater Sand Plover	13	0	0	112	22	0	12	107	36	1	0	0
Greater Painted-snipe	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	3	1	0



2010 WC Count Data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count	24	21	7	18	16	18	11	8	12	10	7	19
Pheasant-tailed Jacana	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	2	2	1
Pintail/Swinhoe's Snipe	2	1	0	5	0	0	2	1	32	5	1	0
Common Snipe	19	7	13	4	0	0	0	0	0	27	6	7
Long-billed Dowitcher	0	1	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Asian Dowitcher	0	0	0	44	2	0	0	5	14	1	0	0
Black-tailed Godwit	752	722	1,481	1,552	22	2	2	61	261	426	200	480
Bar-tailed Godwit	1	1	1	26	0	0	0	0	11	4	0	0
Whimbrel	1	6	1	28	13	11	10	9	200	30	24	29
Eurasian Curlew	1,075	1,045	512	29	13	10	12	61	63	96	115	1,070
Far Eastern Curlew	1	0	1	19	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Spotted Redshank	136	186	109	711	108	1	0	5	8	36	0	23
Common Redshank	297	225	1,016	1,446	67	0	116	749	229	223	218	3
Marsh Sandpiper	1,389	1,710	2,185	2,251	14	0	3	13	493	1,985	734	10
Common Greenshank	1,043	1,146	1,976	987	277	43	110	823	937	1,022	724	251
Nordmann's Greenshank	1	1	1	2	7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Green Sandpiper	29	42	21	14	2	0	2	5	11	21	12	19
Wood Sandpiper	113	107	258	382	2	0	50	279	325	198	59	22
Grey-tailed Tattler	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Terek Sandpiper	0	0	0	189	37	0	1	3	5	0	0	1
Common Sandpiper	105	63	88	116	31	1	12	63	74	97	85	59
Ruddy Turnstone	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Great Knot	22	11	33	11	0	9	0	2	17	5	0	0
Red Knot	8	3	6	26	5	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Sanderling	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Red-necked Stint	100	16	150	3,694	20	0	0	27	33	0	2	1
Little Stint	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

2010 WC Count Data	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
date of count	24	21	7	18	16	18	11	8	12	10	7	19
Temminck's Stint	44	31	20	15	1	0	0	0	0	1	7	47
Long-toed Stint	10	0	0	47	0	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper	0	0	0	17	34	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
Curlew Sandpiper	0	0	61	4,316	84	0	0	95	5	0	0	0
Dunlin	2,500	482	10	20	0	0	0	0	0	2	397	720
Spoon-billed Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Broad-billed Sandpiper	0	1	0	55	0	0	0	3	6	0	1	0
Ruff	0	0	0	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Red-necked Phalarope	0	0	0	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oriental Pratincole	0	0	0	74	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Black-headed Gull	10,575	7,505	3,745	1,484	31	7	0	8	5	0	100	3,433
Saunders's Gull	20	74	17	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Black-tailed Gull	22	5	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Yellow-legged Gull	8	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Slaty-backed Gull	2	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Heuglin's Gull	700	121	173	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	76
Gull-billed Tern	0	0	0	245	9	1	0	2	0	0	0	0
Caspian Tern	2	2	2	35	14	10	0	1	0	0	1	0
Whiskered Tern	0	1	1	110	42	6	0	0	2	24	0	0
White-winged Tern	0	0	0	0	58	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
White-throated Kingfisher	24	12	18	9	4	2	15	23	19	13	24	21
Black-capped Kingfisher	2	3	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	2	3	5
Common Kingfisher	26	32	24	18	12	18	18	32	60	48	33	31
Pied Kingfisher	11	5	9	17	11	8	26	23	16	12	9	12
Collared Crow	38	26	27	28	29	36	6	19	19	48	32	39
Red-billed Starling	1,591	835	240	1	0	0	16	5	0	0	189	1,600

## **Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabalis* at Mai Po Nature Reserve**

The first Hong Kong record

### *Koel Ko*

*c/o HKBWS, 14/F Ruby Commercial Building, 480 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong*

At around 17:15 on 3 November 2010, I was scanning the grassy scrape from the tower hide at MPNR when the silhouettes of four large waterfowl caught my eyes. The birds were feeding leisurely on emergent grass in the middle of Pond #8, giving me ample time to scrutinize them through my telescope.

It was immediately apparent from their long sturdy neck, large body bulk and grey back with fine white barring that they were grey geese (*Anser* sp.); yellow terminal spots towards the tip of jet black bills and bright orange legs indicated that they were individuals of the Bean Goose complex.

At 17:30 all four birds took flight and circled Pond #8 together only to alight soon afterwards back to the same spot. I contacted and was soon joined by Mr. Yu Yat Tung, and we observed and photographed the four birds feeding and resting on Pond #8 for around one hour until the lighting condition was too poor for observation.

Two different taxa appear to be involved in this group. Two of the birds (Plate 50, right and second from right) showed gently sloping foreheads, slender necks and shallow bills consistent with Taiga Bean Goose (*Anser fabalis*). A third individual (Plate 50, second from left) was obviously smaller and had a shorter neck, deeper bill with steeper forehead and up-sloping lower mandible, features suggestive of Tundra Bean Goose (*Anser serrirostris*). The fourth individual (Plate 50, left) had similar characteristics to the third but was larger, of the same size as the first two.

Two reports of unidentified large geese on 30 and 31 October at MPNR, which were thought to be Bean Geese, probably represent the same individuals in this group.

### ***Records Committee Comment***

*IOC recognise two species in the Bean Goose complex: Tundra Bean Goose (Anser serrirostris) and Taiga Bean Goose (Anser fabalis). There are, however, different subspecies in the Western (A.s.rossicus and A.f.fabalis) and Eastern Palearctic (A.s.serrirostris and A.f.middendorffii). In the absence of any authoritative papers on identification of the Eastern Palearctic subspecies, the Committee agreed on the following list of identification criteria to separate the Eastern Palearctic taxa of Tundra and Taiga Bean Goose*



**Plate 50.** Tundra and Taiga Bean Goose, *Anser serrirostris* and *Anser fabalis*  
一隻凍原豆雁及兩隻寒林豆雁，最左的個體鳥種不明。  
Mai Po NR, 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2010 米埔自然護理區 2010年11月3日  
Koel Ko 高偉琛



**Plate 51.** Taiga Bean Goose *Anser fabalis middendorffii* 寒林豆雁  
Mai Po NR, 21<sup>st</sup> November 2010 米埔自然護理區 2010年11月21日  
Kitty Koo 古愛婉

*Tundra Bean Goose Anser serrirostris serrirostris*

- *Short, quite thick looking neck*
- *Large head relative to overall size*
- *Rather angular ('lumpy') head*
- *Shorter, conical bill*
- *Obvious angle between head and bill*

*Taiga Bean Goose Anser fabalis middendorffii*

- *Long slender looking neck*
- *Well proportioned head*
- *Less angular head shape*
- *Longer slender bill*
- *Less pronounced angle between head and bill*
- *Combined, these features can result in a rather Whooper Swan like structure*

*Note: there is no significant difference with regard to the depth of the grinning patch when dealing with eastern taxa (unlike western taxa where there are consistent differences).*

*The earlier sighting of three birds dated 30 October was recognized to be three from the same group but photographs taken at the time were insufficient to identify them to species. Of the four birds from the 3 November record, based on the attached criteria, two could be positively identified as Taiga Bean Goose, one as Tundra Bean Goose and one was unattributable as it showed characteristics of both, not an uncommon feature of Bean Goose according to the literature. It was unanimously agreed to accept Taiga Bean Goose to the HK List as Category I. Tundra Bean Goose was already on the list on the basis of the bird seen on 1 January 2009.*

*It is probably significant that these birds arrived towards the end of a long period of northerly winds from 19 to 30 October.*

## 米埔自然護理區的寒林豆雁 *Anser fabalis*

香港首個紀錄

高偉琛

香港九龍彌敦道480號鴻寶商業大廈14樓香港觀鳥會

在2010年11月3日大約17:15，我在米埔自然護理區的高塔觀鳥屋以望遠鏡檢查雜草堆，有一群四隻的大型雁鴨引起我的注意。這群鳥在八號塘中央的水草上優閒地攝食，讓我有足夠的時間用單筒望遠鏡檢視。

從牠們長而粗壯的頸項，大型的身軀和灰色而帶有白色幼紋的背部，即時我認定牠們很明顯屬大型灰雁之類 (*Anser* sp.)；鉛黑色嘴部末端的黃色斑點，以及鮮橙色的腿，正好指出牠們屬豆雁之類的個體。

大約17:30，四隻鳥同時起飛，圍著八號塘盤旋，不久後又降落在同一位置。我聯絡上余日東先生，他其後到達現場，與我一起觀察和攝影這四隻鳥在八號塘攝食和休息的情況，直到在一小時後光線情況不容許繼續觀察。

在這個群體裡，似乎有兩個不同的屬。當中兩隻鳥（圖版50，最右和第二最右）的前額輕微傾斜，頸項纖幼和嘴部比較淺，與寒林豆雁(*Anser fabalis*)吻合。第三隻個體（圖版50，左邊第二隻）體型明顯較小，頸亦較短，嘴較深入，頭較為陡斜，以及向上翹的下嘴。以上特徵與凍原豆雁(*Anser serrirostris*)吻合。第四隻個體（圖版50，最左）與第三隻有近似的特徵，而體型與頭兩隻一樣較大。

米埔自然護理區10月30及31日的兩筆不明大型雁類報告，相信同屬豆雁，很可能都是這個組合的個體。

### 紀錄委員會評註

IOC確認凍原豆雁 (*Anser serrirostris*)和寒林豆雁(*Anser fabalis*)為兩個鳥種。不過，這個鳥種在古北界西部的亞種為 *A.s.rossicus* 和 *A.f.fabalis*，而在東部的亞種為 *A.s.serrirostris* 和 *A.f.middendorffii*。在沒有任何關於辨認東部亞種的權威文獻的情況下，委員會同意下列有關區分凍原豆雁和寒林豆雁的古北界東部亞種的準則。

#### 凍原豆雁 *Anser serrirostris serrirostris*

- 短而看來較粗的頸項
- 相對整體身型較大頭
- 比較粗笨的、起角的頭型
- 較短而椎型的嘴
- 頭與嘴之間成明顯角度

寒林豆雁 *Anser fabalis middendorffii*

- 幼長的頸項
- 合乎比例的頭部
- 頭型較不起角
- 較幼長的嘴
- 頭與嘴之間的角度不較明顯
- 綜合以上的特徵，結構會較接近大天鵝

注意：東方的屬在嘴裂的深度沒有明顯的分別，並不像西方的屬般有所不同。

10月30日所看到的3隻鳥被認定是這群鳥中的其中三隻，然而當時的圖片並不足以辨識鳥種。根據附帶的準則，11月3日紀錄的4隻鳥當中，兩隻可以正面地確定為寒林豆雁，一隻應為凍原豆雁，然而一隻則不能確定，皆因牠有兩種的特徵，根據文獻這種情況在豆雁來說並不常見。另外，現在一致裁定寒林豆雁應被納入香港名單的第一類。

很明顯地，這群鳥大概乘10月19日至30日期間北風的尾聲而來。

**Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris*  
at Mai Po NR**

The first Hong Kong record  
with notes on its historical status on the coast of Fujian and Guangdong

*Richard Lewthwaite*

*2, Villa Paloma, Shuen Wan, Tai Po, Hong Kong*

During the high tide period on 1 January 2009, I was in the new Mai Po boardwalk hide with my wife, about a dozen of her friends and a few other birdwatchers. I had done a rapid scan of the duck flock sitting fairly close to us on the water in Deep Bay, without finding any unusual birds, and was sitting quietly, having relinquished both my telescope and my binoculars to my wife's friends, when a birdwatcher, K.W. Chui, invited me to look through his telescope at a bird he thought might be a goose. I looked and it was indeed a goose, a grey goose! I reclaimed my own telescope, located the bird and, as it came into focus, saw from its size, overall colour and bill pattern that it was a member of the Bean Goose *Anser fabalis* complex, and a potential Hong Kong first. Since a split in the complex had been proposed, I knew that it was essential to get photographs, especially showing bill profile, which I hoped would identify the bird to taxon.

The bird was sitting on the water only about 200 metres away, but light conditions were very difficult, with a very strong, low afternoon sun against us. Geoffrey Li, who had a camera and long lens, was soon able to locate the bird. One or two of my wife's friends, including Chan Sau Ting, had small digital cameras which they pushed against my telescope to obtain back-up pictures. Others in the group then took turns to look at the goose through the telescope. Whilst all this was going on, I phoned other birdwatchers with the news. Finally, I sat down behind the telescope and took the following notes:

Very large grey-brown goose, c. 3-4 times the size of nearby Pintail (*Anas acuta*). High and prominent white stern. Bill entirely dull except for yellow or orange band (colour impossible to tell) towards the tip, the band extending over not more than c. 20% of bill. Neck furrowed with dark vertical lines. From behind, cheeks broadest part of head. Mantle & tertial feathers all with broad pale edges (impossible to see exact colour). Flanks similar in colour to upperparts, boldly marked with pale vertical lines. Very strong horizontal pale/white stripe separating upperparts from flanks. Orange legs visible as it paddles away.

At this point, with the goose swimming steadily away, I became aware that my telescope was wobbling on the tripod head. It took me perhaps half a minute to fix the problem, but in this time the bird flew off unnoticed and was not seen again. I noted the time of its disappearance as 14:40. It had been found approximately 20 minutes earlier.





**Plate 52.** Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris* 凍原豆雁  
Mai Po NR, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 米埔自然護理區 2009年1月1日  
Geoffrey Li 李振成



**Plate 53.** Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris* 凍原豆雁  
Mai Po NR, 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 米埔自然護理區 2009年1月1日  
Geoffrey Li 李振成

The photographs taken by Geoffrey Li (two of which are shown here as Plates 52 and 53) and Chan Sau Ting were posted onto the HKBWS forum and also sent to Paul Holt, who has a lot of experience of grey geese in China and immediately identified the bird as a Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris* (P.I. Holt *in litt.* to RWL).

It was subsequently accepted as Tundra Bean Goose by HKBWS Records Committee, following comparative experience of four grey geese at Mai Po in November 2010, involving both Tundra Bean Goose and Taiga Bean Goose *A. fabalis* of the East Asian taxon *middendorffii*.

In addition to being the first record for Hong Kong, the Deep Bay bird appears to be the first for Guangdong in over 50 years.

### **Historical status of Tundra Bean Goose on the Fujian-Guangdong coast**

In the past, *serrirostris* was recorded wintering in two discreet areas in China - on the Lower Yangtse and on the Fujian-Guangdong coast (La Touche 1931-1934, Cheng 1987). There is also one winter record from Hainan, a specimen taken at Haikou on 14 February in an unknown year prior to 1964 (Shaw & Hsu 1966, Cheng 1987), and at least one old winter record from Taiwan (Cheng 1987, Wang *et al.* 1991). The literature indicates that very large numbers of *serrirostris* regularly wintered on the Fujian-Guangdong coast, especially in the Fuzhou-Xiamen-Shantou area, between the 1850s and 1930s. Very large numbers were also reported on the east Guangdong coast in the winter of 1959/60. Nothing is known of its occurrence in the intervening years, a period which spans the Japanese invasion, the Chinese civil war and its aftermath, when very few bird records were published.

The earliest published reports of this goose in the region date back to the 1850s when Swinhoe (1860) noted it occurring in "immense flocks" during winter at the mouth of the river near Xiamen ("Amoy"), Fujian. He later named it *serrirostris* (Swinhoe 1871), repeating that it came down to Xiamen "in immense swarms" in winter. La Touche (1892), who used the name *Anser segetum*, described it as abundant at Fuzhou ("Foochow") and Shantou ("Swatow") in winter in the 1880s, arriving at Shantou in late November and departing before the end of February. Streich (1903) likewise found it a common winter visitor there in the 1890s. Caldwell & Caldwell (1931) wrote of *serrirostris* occurring in "great numbers" on the coast of Fujian between November and March in the 1920s and suggested that it was targeted by hunters and was also an agricultural pest: "During the day, the birds spend most of the time upon the tide flats and grassy plains, where they are comparatively safe from the gunner. In the late afternoon, however, they repair in great numbers to the wheat fields, paddy fields, and even into the hills, among the sweet potato terraces, for feeding purposes. Geese seem especially fond of small fingerling sweet potatoes and in a single night, a flock of birds may do great damage." Aylmer (1932) stated that numbers of *serrirostris* Bean Geese at Shantou in the early 1930s were declining compared to previously, but reported that one seen there on 3 October 1930 was on the earliest known autumn date and that one seen on 30 October 1931 was the first individual of the following winter.

There is only one further report, which not only provides the only numerical estimate of the former wintering population on the Fujian-Guangdong coast but also describes motives and methods for its destruction. Based on a survey in the winter of 1959/60, Deng (1962) stated that *serrirostris* Bean Geese were found on the coast of eastern Guangdong from early November to mid March, with numbers peaking in the first half of February. He estimated the population at 40,000-60,000 individuals, most of

which were present in the Shantou area, and went on to describe in some detail how a team of researchers from Guangzhou, having witnessed the damage the geese caused to agriculture and noting that their meat was a great delicacy, devised an array of goose-traps and co-operated with a Shantou canning factory, the geese being trapped and eventually turned into canned food which was exported and thus brought in much-needed foreign currency. This was an era when state-led mass campaigns were conducted against birds, the “Four Pests Campaign” which started in 1958 being a notorious example. The extirpation of an entire regional wintering population of Tundra Bean Goose can therefore be accounted for by the combination of strong incentives to catch the birds, the availability of sophisticated trapping devices and the socio-political background of the day.

That the geese referred to by Deng (1962) were *serrirostris* and not another Bean Goose taxon is attested by specimens which were collected during the survey and are now held in the South China Institute of Endangered Animals (SCIEA), Guangzhou (see Plate 54). These comprise seven individuals taken at Chenghai (near Shantou) between 7 November and 28 December 1959 and one taken at Haifeng (c. 150 km ENE of Mai Po, Hong Kong) on 20 November 1959.



**Plate 54.** Tundra Bean Goose *Anser serrirostris* 凍原豆雁  
Specimens from Chenghai, Guangdong collected in November 1959, now at SCIEA, Guangzhou.  
1959年11月於廣東澄海所採得的標本，而正保存於廣州華南瀕危動物研究所  
Mo-yung Yuk Lin 慕容玉蓮

### **Present-day winter distribution of Tundra Bean Goose in China**

No records of Bean Goose of any taxon have been traced for Guangdong or Fujian between the winter of 1959/60 and 2009. Coverage in the latter part of this period includes comprehensive mid-winter waterbird surveys of the coasts of both provinces (Cao *et al.* 2008, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society 2009, 2011), a survey of mangrove wetlands in Fujian (Song & Lin 2002), a winter visit to the Shantou coast (Lewthwaite 2002) and casual visits to various sites within the provinces, as reported in the pages of China Bird Reports 2003-2009 (China Ornithological Society 2004-2011).

In recent years, large numbers of Bean Geese have been reported wintering in the Yangtse River floodplain, notably including a total of 79,758 counted in January-February 2004 (Barter *et al.* 2004). However, only a small proportion of individuals have been assigned to taxon. These include the following birds from Jiangxi assigned to *serrirostris*, which indicate that this taxon continues to winter in the Lower Yangtse: 920 individuals at Poyang Lake on 1 January 2007, 850 at Nanjishan on 3 January 2007, 400 at Poyang Lake on 28 December 2007 (China Ornithological Society 2008) and up to 1,200 at Poyang Lake on 26-27 December 2009 (Holt 2010). The only recent winter records away from the Yangtse which have been assigned to *serrirostris* are of three at Changle (near Fuzhou), Fujian on 21 December 2009 and up to 80 on the Jiangsu coast at Yancheng on 29-31 December 2009 (Holt 2010). The three individuals at Changle and the bird at Mai Po, both in 2009, are the only records known from the Fujian-Guangdong coast since the winter of 1959/60.

### **Acknowledgements**

I would like to thank Geoffrey Li, whose photographs are crucial to the identification of the Deep Bay goose, and Paul Holt for his input into the identification of this bird and for allowing me to use information in his unpublished reports. Zou Fasheng kindly granted access to the specimen collection at the South China Institute, Guangzhou, where Yang Ping helped locate specimens. Lei Jinyu accompanied me on visits to the South China Institute and provided great assistance, as did Zhang Qiang. I am also grateful to Mo-yung Yuk Lin, Ada Chan and Watson Lam for translating Chinese texts and to Mo-yung Yuk Lin for photographing specimens.

### **Records Committee Comment**

*Bean Goose sensu lato was previously on the HK List but was removed during preparation of the Avifauna, as no records were considered adequately substantiated. These records were then regarded as unidentified grey geese, including large flocks of 17 on 20 December 1965 and nine on 1 November 1976. Given the occurrence of a large wintering population in eastern Guangdong until at least 1960, it is perhaps likely that these and other records included Tundra Bean Goose. In any event, this record proved very welcome, as it allowed Bean Goose sensu lato to be again represented in HK's avifauna. The importance of photographs is once again demonstrated, especially in situations where a bird is at long distance from the observer.*

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## 米埔自然護理區的凍原豆雁 *Anser serrirostris*

香港首個紀錄

及此鳥種在福建及廣東沿岸的歷史變遷

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2, Villa Paloma, Shuen Wan, Tai Po, Hong Kong

2009年1月1日潮漲時分，我和妻子及她十幾個朋友，以及幾位觀鳥者均在米埔浮橋觀鳥屋。我快速地看一遍我們前方的鴨群，並未發現不常見的鳥種。我們靜靜地坐著，K.W. Chui 邀請我用他的單筒望遠鏡觀察一隻鳥，他認為那是一隻雁。我發現那的確是一隻灰色的雁。我用我自己的單筒望遠鏡找到那隻雁，並從牠體形、整體的羽色和嘴型，辨認出是一種寒林豆雁 *Anser fabalis* 類別，而且可能是香港第一個紀錄。由於我知道此類別在近期的研究中已分拆出幾個鳥種，所以我必須透過拍攝相片記錄其特徵，尤其是喙部的輪廓，才有可能確認其種類。

那隻鳥在水中，離我大概200米，但因逆光所以很難觀察牠。李振成很快就用他的長鏡相機拍攝到那隻雁。我妻子的一兩個朋友，包括鄭秀婷，用他們的數碼相機放到單筒望遠鏡的目鏡上，也拍攝了一些照片。其他的鳥友就輪流用單筒觀察那隻鳥。同時間我致電其他鳥友，告知他們在浮橋觀鳥屋看到豆雁的消息。之後，我記了以下的筆記：

“灰棕色的雁，體形很大，約為附近的尖尾鴨 *Anas acuta* 的3-4倍。高翹及白色的尾部。除了末端有黃色或橙色的間帶外（顏色難以確定），喙部主要為沉色，顏色間伸延至不多於喙部20%的部分。頸部帶皺紋及有一條深色的直線。從後觀察，頰部是其頭部最闊的部分。背部及三級飛羽全帶闊而淺色的邊（顏色難以確定）。兩脇的顏色與上半身相若，且帶顯眼的淺色縱紋。一條非常明顯的白色橫紋將其上半身與脇部分開。當牠游走時可見其橙色的腳。”

那時我發現我的單筒在腳架上不是很穩定，該鳥也正慢慢游走。我用了半分鐘調整好單筒，但當我再望進單筒時，那鳥已經在我沒有在意的時候飛走了，消失的時間為14:40。我們是在約20分鐘前發現牠的。

李振成及鄭秀婷把他們的照片(插圖52及53為李振成的照片其中兩張)上傳到香港觀鳥會的網上討論區，並電郵給Paul Holt。Paul Holt對中國的雁擁有相當多的經驗，他立即就確認牠是凍原豆雁 *Anser serrirostris*。

不久之後，米埔自然護理區於2010年11月出現了四隻豆雁，當中包括豆雁的東亞亞種 *midendorffii* 及凍原豆雁 *A. serrirostris*。當香港觀鳥會的記錄委員會比較了兩者的分別後，也接受了這筆凍原豆雁的記錄。

這筆記錄除了是香港第一個記錄，也是廣東50年以來唯一的記錄。



### 凍原豆雁 *A. serrirostris* 在福建及廣東沿岸的歷史變遷

凍原豆雁 *A. serrirostris* 曾經在中國長江下游及福建及廣東沿岸有度冬的記錄(La Touche 1931-1934, Cheng 1987)，海南也有一筆度冬記錄，那是在1964年之前在海口收集到的一隻標本(Shaw and Hsu 1966, Cheng 1987)。台灣也有至少一筆度冬的記錄(Cheng 1987, Wang *et al.* 1991)。從文獻可知1850至1930之間，大量 *serrirostris* 在福建及廣東沿岸度冬，尤其在福州、廈門、汕頭等地。1959/1960冬季，也記錄到大量 *serrirostris* 在廣東沿岸度冬。在這兩項紀錄之間的幾十年，正是日本侵華、中國內戰的時期，很少鳥類記錄出版，也並沒有任何有關 *serrirostris* 的資料。

有關這雁類的最早期的紀錄可追溯至1850年代，當時Swinhoe (1860)記錄在福建廈門的河口冬季時有大群出現。及後他將牠命名為 *serrirostris* (Swinhoe 1871)，並再次強調牠們在冬季時於廈門有大群出現。La Touche (1892)則將牠名為 *Anser segetum*，並記錄了牠們1880年代冬季時大量於福州及汕頭出現，牠們於11月尾到達汕頭，二月尾離開。Streich (1903)同樣地描述牠們在1890年代的冬季普遍地出現。Caldwell & Caldwell (1931)敘述 *serrirostris* 在1920年代11月與3月期間在福建海岸大量出現。同時亦顯示牠們是獵人的目標，以及危害農作物：“日間，牠們主要留在潮潤平地及草原躲避捕獵者。黃昏時，牠們聚集於麥田、稻田以及山上的蕃薯田覓食。在某一個晚上發現牠們尤某喜愛幼小的蕃薯。一群雁可能構成很大的損失。”Aylmer (1932)記述豆雁 *serrirostris* 在汕頭於1930年代的數量較之前下降，同時亦記錄了1930年10月3日為該年的最早出現日子，而1931年10月30日為翌年的最早出現日子。

及後只有一項相關的報告記錄在福建廣東沿岸的度冬數量，以及記述了其群落減損的原因及過程。基於1956/1960年的冬季調查，Deng (1962)指出豆雁 *serrirostris* 在廣東東岸於11月初至3月尾出現，高峰在二月初。他估計其數目約為40,000至60,000隻，主要在汕頭出現。此外亦記述了在廣州的調查員目睹豆雁對農作物的損害，以及在汕頭豆雁被捕獵，其肉被食用及入罐頭作外消以換取外匯。時為國家帶領的群眾運動的年代，雀鳥被定為針對的目標，當中1958年的除“四害”更是最廣為人知的例子。因此凍原豆雁在整個地區的完全性滅絕可見是由於強烈的獵殺誘因、新款獵獸器具的出現以及當時的政治運動背景。

經鑑定標本後確定Deng (1962)所指的豆雁全為 *serrirostris* 而非其他豆雁類。其標本現保存在廣州的華南瀕危動物研究所（見插圖54），當中包括在1959年11月7日至12月28日澄海（近汕頭）的7個標本及在1959年11月20日海豐（位於香港米埔東北偏東約150公里）的一個標本。

### 凍原豆雁 *A. serrirostris* 近年在中國的度冬紀錄

由1959/1960至2009年期間廣東及福建並沒有任何豆雁的紀錄。近期的調查行動包括在兩省海岸較為全面的冬季調查(Cao *et al.* 2008, Hong Kong Bird Watching Society 2009, 2011)，在福建紅樹林的調查(Song & Lin 2002)，冬季在汕頭的考察(Lewthwaite 2002)及在中國觀鳥年報2003-2009中記載的多次省內多個地點的觀察 (China Ornithological Society 2004-2011)。

近幾年，有大量的豆雁在長江沖積平原度冬的報告，其中包括2004年1月至2月的 79,758 隻的紀錄(Barter *et al.* 2004)。但只有小部分是精確地辨認其鳥種。當中包括下列 *serrirostris* 在長江下游的紀錄：2007年1月1日鄱陽湖的920隻、2007年1月3日南磯山有850隻、2007年12月28日鄱陽湖有400隻(China Ornithological Society 2008)以及2009年12月26-27日鄱陽湖的1200隻以上(Holt 2010)。近年唯一遠離長江而又辨認為 *serrirostris* 的紀錄包括2009年12月21日福建長樂（近福州）有3隻以及2009年12月29-31日江蘇海岸的鹽城有多於80隻(Holt 2010)。在長樂及米埔的兩項2009年的紀錄是自1959/1960年以來唯一已知的福建及廣東沿岸紀錄。

### 鳴謝

我想感謝李振成，他的相片對於辨認這海灣的豆雁非常重要；以及Paul Holt協助辨認鳥種以及容許我使用他未公開的紀錄。鄒發生慷慨地容許我們檢查在廣州華南研究所的標本，當中Yang Ping亦有幫忙。雷進宇及Zhang Qiang陪同我們到訪華南研究所並提供很大程度的幫助。我亦很多謝慕容玉蓮，Ada Chan及Watson Lam的翻譯以及慕容玉蓮的標本拍攝。

### 紀錄委員會評注

概括來說豆雁曾被列入在香港鳥類名錄之中，但在編寫 *Avifauna* 時，所有過往紀錄都被認為不足於確定。因此所有紀錄都被歸納為未能辨認的灰雁，當中包括1965年12月20日一群17隻以及1976年11月1日的9隻。鑑於直至1960年廣東東部有大量的凍原豆雁度冬群落，所以相信以往的紀錄應包含此鳥種。無論如何，此項是非常令人欣喜的紀錄，因為牠令豆雁類別正式編入香港鳥類名錄之中。此外，今次亦再一次證明相片的重要性，尤其是目標在遠距離。

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## Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica* at Mai Po Nature Reserve

The first Hong Kong record

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On the morning of 7 March 2010, Carrie Ma and I were responsible for conducting the monthly waterbird count at MPNR; we split into two for different survey routes. When I finished my route and met Carrie at southern end of MPNR, she told me she had seen an unusual duck at Pond No. 20. She showed me the photo she had managed to capture through digi-scoping (Plate 55). The bird was of similar size to Chinese Spot-billed Duck *Anas zonorhyncha*, with a dark ruddy face, a dark mask, and obvious bluish-green speculum. I was amazed that the bird was so distinctive but I could not recognise it as any duck species I knew. When we walked past Pond No. 20 later in the morning, I saw the bird myself through a telescope, but the duck was resting so its distinctive features were not so easily seen. Nonetheless, its facial pattern was so distinctive that I knew it was not a species on the Hong Kong list. Without any clue as to identity, I assumed it was some sort of hybrid or ex-captive individual, which do occur among waterfowl, so we didn't spread the news to other birdwatchers.

Two days later, after Carrie had done some research on the internet, she realized the bird could be a Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica*, a non-migratory duck species endemic to the Philippines that we had never expected could occur in Hong Kong. She posted the finding on the HKBWS website and soon birdwatchers rushed to see the bird. Fortunately, the duck was still in MPNR so people could easily relocate it and capture more photos, as in Plate 56. Identification of Philippine Duck was straightforward, but the origin of the bird, and the potential for vagrancy to Hong Kong, was subject to research. Carrie further investigated the status and possible origin of the bird and eventually published her observation and finding in the AFCD newsletter "Hong Kong Biodiversity" (Ma 2011).

### **Description**

Based on the photos taken subsequently, the features of the bird are described as follows:

Size: The bird was relatively large, and of similar size to Chinese Spot-billed Duck.

Plumage: The most distinctive feature of the bird was its rusty cinnamon face and neck with dark brownish crown, nape and eye-stripe. The eye-stripe appeared to be dark in the absence of sunlight, tapered after the eye and did not connect with the brownish crown. Iris colour was dark brown but was only seen in good sunlight condition. Upperparts were greyish brown with bright bluish-green speculum, which was bordered with black and thin white trailing edges.



**Plate 55.** Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica* 棕頸鴨 and  
Chinese Spot-billed Duck *A. zonorhyncha* 中華斑嘴鴨  
Mai Po NR Hong Kong, 7<sup>th</sup> March 2010 米埔自然護理區 2010年3月7日  
Carrie Ma 馬嘉慧



**Plate 56.** Philippine Duck *Anas luzonica* 棕頸鴨  
Mai Po NR, 26<sup>th</sup> March 2010 米埔自然護理區 2010年3月26日  
Martin Hale 夏敖天

## **Distribution**

Philippine Duck is endemic and native to the Philippines, where it has been recorded mostly on Luzon and Mindanao (BirdLife International 2000). The species inhabits a variety of freshwater wetlands and brackish fishponds, as well as tidal creeks, mangroves, mudflats and the open sea (Sibley and Monroe 1990, del Hoyo *et al.* 1992, BirdLife International 2001), a habitat similar to that found in MPNR.

There are few records outside the Philippines. The species was recorded in Yonaguni-jima in southern Nansei Shoto (Ryukyuan Okinawa) in the spring of 1987 (Brazil 1991). In Taiwan, there have been occasional sightings of one to two individuals in Lungluan Lake in Ping Tung, Guangdu and Shezi in Taipei, and Potz Stream in Chiayi (Severinghaus *et al.* 2010). Records of this species in Mainland China are unconfirmed (MacKinnon and Philips 2000).

## **Discussion**

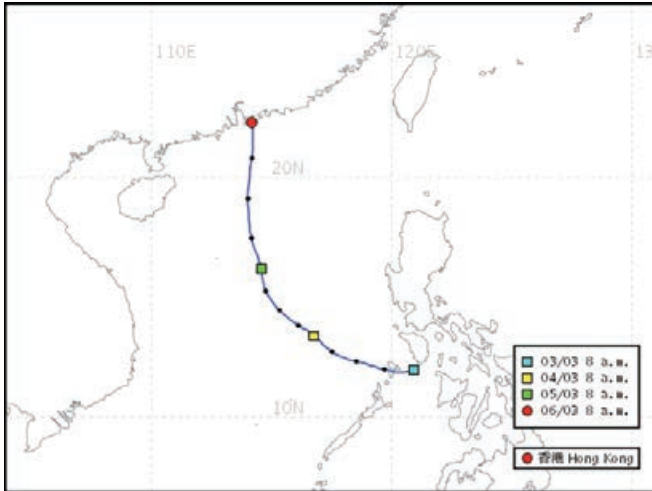
Presuming its occurrence in Hong Kong is completely natural, the bird is likely to have started its journey from the Philippines with aid of favourable meteorological conditions. A review of backward trajectory data on Hong Kong Observatory website revealed that the air mass arriving in Hong Kong in the week prior to 7 March 2010 came from the Philippines (Figures 1 and 2). This air movement may have assisted the bird making the sea crossing from the Philippines to Hong Kong.

Atmospheric trajectories have been adopted to explain the movement of birds, such as the density of migrants crossing the Gulf of Mexico (Gauthreaux *et al.* 2006) and the discovery of vagrant species outside the normal distribution range in Shetland, UK (Harrop *et al.* 2008). The arrival of the Philippine Duck follows a similar principle of a bird using the prevailing air mass movement.

Philippine Duck is listed as Vulnerable in IUCN Red List, with fewer than 10,000 birds thought to remain (BirdLife International 2011). According to the information of Asian Waterbird Census by Wetland International, 4,632 and 4,428 individuals were recorded in 2004 and 2005 respectively (Wetland International 2006). The Mai Po record is confirmed as the first record of this species in Hong Kong and the first confirmed record for mainland Asia.

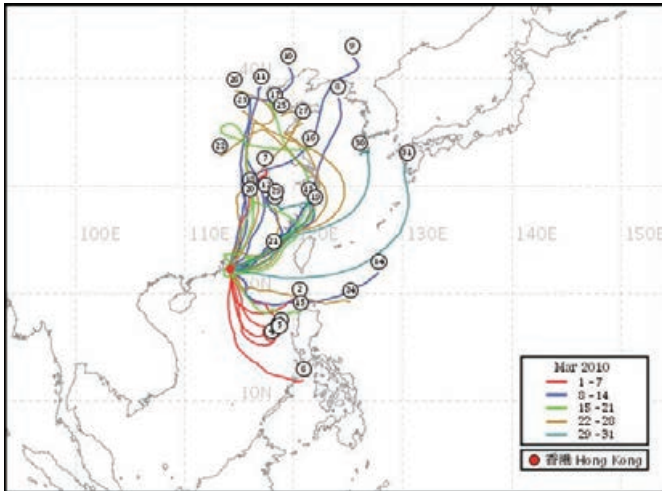
## **Acknowledgement**

I am grateful to Carrie Ma for providing her observation and research finding for writing this paper. Also thanks to Geoff Carey for sharing his view on backward trajectory of air mass in relation to the arrival of the bird.



**Figure 1.** Backward trajectory of air mass arriving in Hong Kong on 6 March, extracted from the Hong Kong Observatory website (Source: NOAA Air Resources Laboratory).

圖1. 氣團於3月6日抵達香港的後向流跡，擷取自香港天文台網站（來源：美國國家海洋及大氣管理局的大氣資源實驗室）



**Figure 2.** Summary of backwards trajectories for air masses arriving in Hong Kong in March 2010, extracted from the Hong Kong Observatory website (Source: NOAA Air Resources Laboratory)

圖2. 於2010年3月抵港氣團的後向流跡摘要，擷取自香港天文台網站（來源：美國國家海洋及大氣管理局的大氣資源實驗室）

### **Records Committee Comments**

*Despite ducks being kept in captivity, the RC felt able to treat this bird as of wild provenance due to the good plumage condition, its lack of tameness while here, the early spring date suggestive of a bird over-shooting while searching out breeding areas, the Philippine origin of winds for the week prior and previous records in Taiwan and the Ryukyu Islands. The occurrence of a species that primarily breeds to the south of HK in more truly tropical regions is a relatively rare event, and it may be some time before it occurs again.*

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## 米埔自然護理區的棕頸鴨 *Anas luzonica*

香港首個紀錄

周家禮

九龍油麻地彌敦道480號鴻寶商業大廈14樓香港觀鳥會

2010年3月7日的早上，我與馬嘉慧在米埔自然護理區進行每月的水鳥普查。我們分別負責不同路線。當我於護理區的西端完成普查並遇到馬嘉慧的時候，她告訴我她剛在20號塘見到一隻不尋常的鴨。她將剛拍到的影像給我看（插圖55）。該鳥與斑嘴鴨 *Anas zonorhyncha* 差不多大小，帶紅棕色的臉、深色眼紋以及明顯為藍綠色的翼鏡。我很驚訝有這樣特徵明顯的雀鳥出現，但我卻沒辦法辨認牠。當我行經20號塘時，我亦見到牠，並以單筒望遠鏡觀察，不過該鳥正在休息，所以那些特徵沒有明顯地展露。由於我們對識別此鳥毫無頭緒，所以我們只好當牠是混種或飼養品種，因此亦沒有與其他觀鳥者分享此消息。

兩日後當馬嘉慧在網上搜尋了一些資料後，她發現該鳥很可能是棕頸鴨，一種非遷徙性、菲律賓特有而我們又從不會預計在香港出現的鳥種。她將這項消息在香港觀鳥會的網站公佈：接著觀鳥者們蜂擁前往觀看。可幸該鴨仍在米埔，所以大家仍能見到牠並拍到更多相片（如插圖56）。辨認棕頸鴨的方法很簡單，但該鳥在香港出現的原因及牠的源處則有待考證。其後，馬再進一步搜集資料，並將其觀察及見解刊登於漁農自然護理署出版的《香港物種探索》（Ma 2011）。

### 特徵描述

基於其後所攝得的相片所見，該鳥的特徵如下：

體型：該鳥體型較大，與斑嘴鴨差不多。

毛色：該鳥的最大特徵是其紅棕色的面及頸，以及深褐色的冠、枕及眼紋。其眼紋在沒有陽光下呈深色，在眼後漸收窄而沒有與褐色冠部相連。瞳孔深棕色，但只在充足的光線下才可見到。上部呈灰褐色而帶藍綠色的翼鏡；而翼鏡兩邊則襯著黑色及白色的幼邊。

### 分佈

棕頸鴨是菲律賓特有及原生種，主要分佈在呂宋及棉蘭老島(BirdLife International 2000)。牠棲息在不同類型的淡水濕地及鹹淡水魚塘，以及潮間帶的河、紅樹林、泥灘及開闊海面(Sibley and Monroe 1990, del Hoyo *et al.* 1992, BirdLife International 2001)，與米埔的生境類似。

菲律賓以外只有數項棕頸鴨紀錄。1987年春天在日本沖繩琉球群島西南的與那國島曾有紀錄。在台灣則在屏東的龍鑾潭、台北的關渡及社子以及嘉義的朴子溪曾有紀錄(Severinghaus *et al.* 2010)。在中國大陸的紀錄則有待確認(MacKinnon and Philips 2000)。

### 討論

假設牠是自然地飛抵香港，牠一定是受某種氣候現象的幫助才可由菲律賓飛到香港的。

根據香港天文台網站有關後向流跡的數據顯示，一股氣團在2010年3月7日前一星期由菲律賓到達香港（圖1及2）。這股氣團的流動方向很可能幫助了這隻鴨由菲律賓跨越海洋飛抵香港。

大氣的流跡曾用作解釋雀鳥的移動，例如解釋墨西哥灣遷徙鳥的密度(Gauthreaux *et al.* 2006) 以及在英國雪特蘭出現的迷鳥(Harrop *et al.* 2008)。而棕頸鴨的到來很可能是因為同一氣團流動的原理。

棕頸鴨在世界保護聯盟紅皮書被列為易危物種；估計在全球只有少於10,000隻(BirdLife International 2011)。根據國際濕地組織的亞洲水鳥普查，2004及2005年分別錄得4,632及4,428隻。而米埔的紀錄已肯定是香港以及亞洲大陸的首次紀錄。

### 鳴謝

我十分感謝馬嘉慧提供她的觀察及調查資料以作為這篇文章的藍本。同樣亦感謝賈知行分享他對氣團後向流跡而影響雀鳥飛行路線的見解。

### 紀錄委員會評註

雖然此鳥種有飼養的紀錄，但基於種種因素包括良好的羽毛狀態、沒有馴化的表現、初春期間因尋覓繁殖地而可能飛離原居地、前一個星期有源自菲律賓的氣流降臨以及過往在台灣及琉球群島的紀錄，紀錄委員會最終覺得此鳥是野生雀鳥。一隻在南方熱帶地區繁殖的雀鳥在香港出現確實是稀有現象，相信要隔一段時間才會有另一個紀錄出現。

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## Great Stone-curlew *Esacus recurvirostris* at Mai Po

The first Hong Kong record

*Bena Smith*

WWF-Hong Kong, No. 1 Tramway Path, Central, Hong Kong

On 24 June 2009 I was showing a small group of former Miss Hong Kong beauty pageant prize winners the conservation work undertaken by WWF at the Mai Po Nature Reserve. At 12:00 we entered Hide 1 overlooking the *Gei wai* 16/17 high-tide roost.

Whilst scanning the *gei wai* with binoculars for nesting Black-winged Stilts *Himantopus himantopus* to show the visitors, I noticed a stone curlew-type bird some 130m away. It was standing out in the open, mid-point along a bare earth spit joined to the main central island. The bird was settled and remained motionless.

Being a potential first for Hong Kong, I had no choice but to abandon the group and rush over to the Mai Po office for a camera, Helm's shorebird identification guide book (Hayman *et al.* 1986) and to put the news out.

Upon returning to the hide, the bird was positively identified as an adult Great Stone-curlew *Esacus recurvirostris*. Although Beach Stone-curlew *E. giganteus* was a possibility on range, key features such as an upturned bill, white forehead and lores, and less black colouring on the sides of the head, put the identification beyond any doubt.

Despite aggressive behavior by a number of nesting Black-winged Stilts, the bird remained viewable from Hide 1 throughout the afternoon much to the appreciation of birdwatchers and photographers. It was still present around 19:30 as dusk set in, but was not found in the following days.

It also became apparent this record was the furthest east for the species and also a new record for Guangdong and southeast China.

### Records Committee Comment

*The identification is straightforward, the very large overall size (for a shorebird), massive uptilted bill, long legs, black-and-white face pattern and unstreaked greyish-brown mantle & forewing all indicating Great E. recurvirostris or Beach Stone-curlew E. giganteus (Plate 57). The upperwing pattern with primary coverts, outer primaries & secondaries mainly back, contrasting with inner primaries which are white except for a broad black subterminal band (Plate 58) shows this was a Great Stone-curlew.*

*Its occurrence in HK has come as a total surprise, not least because of its discovery at the end of June, when bird migration is at its very lightest.*



**Plate 57.**

Great Stone-curlew

*Esacus recurvirostris*

Mai Po NR,

24<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Peter and Michelle Wong

大石鴉

米埔自然保護區

2009年6月24日

黃理沛、江敏兒



**Plate 58.**

Great Stone-curlew

*Esacus recurvirostris*

Mai Po NR,

24<sup>th</sup> June 2009

Peter and Michelle Wong

大石鴉

米埔自然保護區

2009年6月24日

黃理沛、江敏兒

*According to del Hoyo et al. (1996), Great Stone-curlew is distributed from SE Iran through the Indian Sub-Continent & Sri Lanka to Indochina & Hainan, and is sedentary, apart from local movements forced by rising water levels or temporary changes in feeding conditions. A search of old literature and recent trip reports showed previous records in China only from Yunnan and Hainan, with six records from Yunnan, including three recent, and three from Hainan, the latest in 1964. The Yunnan records are all January-April on major rivers or their tributaries in the extreme south or southwest bordering Laos or Burma, whilst the Hainan records are all November-December on east coast estuaries. There is some possibility that the species breeds in Yunnan during the dry season and moves locally in the wet season as water levels rise. However, the species is clearly rare or very scarce in China.*

*Discussion within the Records Committee focused on whether this could be an ex-captive bird. As there was no indication of this, and a wet season movement from either Yunnan or Indochina was possible, the Committee felt it should be accepted as Category I.*

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## 米埔的大石鴿 *Esacus recurvirostris*

香港首個紀錄

施百納

香港中環纜車徑一號 世界自然基金會香港分會

2009年6月24日，我帶領一批歷屆香港小姐得獎者，向她們介紹世界自然基金會在米埔自然保護區的保育工作。在中午12時，我們到達了1號觀鳥屋，眺望潮漲時16/17號基圍的鳥群。

正當我用望遠鏡為參觀者掃視著有沒有築巢中的黑翅長腳鸕，我看見在約130米外有一隻石鴿類的鳥。牠在一個連接中央小島的光禿土地上面中央的開闊位置，動也不動的站著。

由於這鳥可能是香港的首個紀錄，我別無他法下只好撇下團員，奔回米埔辦公室去拿相機、Helm 出版的水鳥辨認手冊(Hayman *et al.* 1986)以及發放這消息。

回到觀鳥屋後，此鳥便被確認為一隻大石鴿 *Esacus recurvirostris* 成鳥。儘管根據分佈，此鳥也可能是濱石鴿 *Esacus giganteus*，但憑牠向上翹的喙、白色額及眼先和頭部兩邊的黑色較淺等主要特徵，便能毫無疑問地作出辨認。

儘管此鳥遭受數隻正在築巢的黑翅長腳鸕攻擊，牠在當天下午時間仍能被觀鳥者及攝影者看到。牠一直逗留至當天黃昏七時半，但在往再沒有發現。

這次很明顯是此鳥種最東面的紀錄，亦是廣東及中國東南的一個新紀錄。

### 紀錄委員會評註

此鳥之辨認十分簡單明確，其非常龐大的身軀（對水鳥而言）、巨大而上翹的喙、長腳、黑與白色的面部特徵和沒有斑紋的灰棕色上背及前翼均指出其鳥種可能為大石鴿 *E. recurvirostris* 或濱石鴿 *E. giganteus*（插圖57）。牠上翼的特徵式樣包括主要為黑色的初級覆羽、初級飛羽外部及次級飛羽，與白色的初級飛羽內部及三級飛羽下方的一條寬闊黑色帶構成對比（插圖58），均指出這是大石鴿。

牠在香港出現除了是一大驚喜之外，不得不提的便是牠是在六月下旬、只有少量鳥類遷徙的時候被發現。

根據 del Hoyo *et al.* (1996)的描述，大石鴿的分佈由伊朗東南面，經過印度次大陸及斯里蘭卡，延至中南半島及海南島，除了因水位上升或短暫的食物供應改變而引致的局部性遷徙，一般來說其為定棲性。翻閱較舊的文獻及最近的觀鳥報告發現，早期於中國的記錄只發現於雲南及海南島，其中6個記錄來自雲南（包括3個較近期報告），以及最近於1964年錄到的3個來自海南島的記錄。來自雲南的記錄均於1月至4月在南或西南部寮國或緬甸邊境的主要河流及其分支錄得，而在海南的記錄則於11月至12月在東岸的河口錄得。此物種有可能於旱季在雲南繁殖，並在雨季當水位上升時作局部遷徙。但可以

說，此物種在中國顯然甚為罕見。

記錄委員會的討論集中於是否曾被飼養。由於沒有跡象顯示此鳥曾被飼養，而且雨季時由雲南或中南半島遷移而來的可能，委員會認為應被接納為類別I。

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## **Eurasian Roller *Coracias garrulus* near Black Point Power Station, Tuen Mun**

The first Hong Kong record

*David J Stanton*

*c/o AEC Ltd, 127 Commercial Centre, Palm Springs, Yuen Long, Hong Kong*

At around 12:30 on 5 October 2010, I was driving back along the Nim Wan road following a site visit at the Tseng Tsai Ash Lagoons at Nim Wan, western New Territories. I was scanning power lines and fence posts as I had seen up to eight Dollarbirds *Eurystomus orientalis* the previous week. When I passed through a cutting close to the Black Point Power Station, I saw an unfamiliar bird perched upon one short section of overhead line. My initial thoughts were that it was a Bee-eater *Merops* sp., and so I made a u-turn at the first available opportunity and went back for better views.

Pulling into a turning some 50m from the bird, it was obvious that it was a species of roller. I was pretty sure that there were no rollers on the Hong Kong list, so I immediately called Paul Leader (PJL) in the AEC office. As he was confirming this, I could hear him scrambling for car keys and rushing out of the door with John Allcock (JAA) to get down to the site. We alerted several other birders in order to get the news out at the earliest opportunity.

While waiting for PJL and JAA to arrive I took out my telescope and started to make detailed notes on the bird. I also took a record photo. Observation of the bird was carried out for an hour before other birders turned up. Throughout this time, the bird was perched on objects such as overhead lines, fences and lamp-posts between occasional sallies for dragonflies and insects from the close-mown embankment.

It was then present for the rest of the day, but was not seen the following day. Several good photographs were obtained including the one shown here (Plate 59). My description is as follows.

### **Size and structure**

Heavily built bird, size appeared to be similar to that of a Dollarbird.

### **Head**

Greyish-blue head with buffish coloured feathers on the nape and base of bill. A black eye stripe tailed off immediately behind the eye. The eye was black.

### Upperparts

Bright blue leading edge to the wing with blue wing-coverts and darker remiges showing obvious contrast. Upperparts and scapulars were a pinkish-buff brown, with light blue primary coverts and darker blue-black primaries.



**Plate 59.** Eurasian Roller *Coracias garrulus* 藍胸佛法僧  
Near Black Point Power Station, Tuen Mun, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2010 龍鼓灘 2010年10月5日  
Peter and Michelle Wong 黃理沛 江敏兒

### Underparts

Underparts and undertail coverts were lightly washed bluish-grey, with some streaking on the throat.

### Bill and legs

The black bill was slightly decurved on the culmen, with a slight hook to the tip. Feet were dull pink.

### Identification

Based on my notes taken at the time and confirmed by subsequent photographs on the HKBWS Forum, it was a first-year Eurasian Roller *Coracias garrulus*; duller, older juvenile plumage was visible to confirm the age.

Rollers are very distinctive birds and the only possible confusion is with other roller species. The only other roller in the region is Indian Roller *C. benghalensis*. Indian Rollers differ from Eurasian Rollers in having a bluish-turquoise cap and greenish-blue upperparts, which this bird did not show.

### Distribution

Indian Roller is also largely a resident species (Robson 2000, Rasmussen & Anderson 2005), unlike Eurasian Roller, though it has been recorded on passage in Peninsula Malaysia (Robson 2000). Resident in southwest China (Cheng 1987), it is unlikely to stray to Hong Kong given its generally accepted sedentary nature.

Eurasian Roller is a long-distance migratory species, breeding in the western and central Palaearctic and wintering in Africa (Svensson and Grant 1999, Rasmussen & Anderton 2005). According to Cheng (1987), it is a rare migrant and possible breeder in northwestern China, with records restricted to the northern and western areas of the Tian Shan mountain range in Xinjiang and Xizang (ibid.). Recent photographic evidence confirms that the species breeds in Xinjiang (Paux 2011).

As a species that normally occurs far to the northwest of China and winters in southern Africa, the appearance of this bird in Hong Kong may initially seem unusual, being so far from its normal range and completely off of its natural migration route. However, there is precedent for birds that breed in Xinjiang and winter in Africa to turn up in Hong Kong in October. Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* (recorded on 6<sup>th</sup> October 2008 and 7<sup>th</sup> October 2009) is the most recent example.

The Backward Trajectory Map of Air Mass reaching Hong Kong produced by the Hong Kong Observatory (HKO) for the month of October (Figure 1) shows that the air stream for the day previous to the Roller sighting (4<sup>th</sup> October 2010) arrived from Xinjiang/Central Asia. This air stream provides strong evidence for the presence of the Roller in Hong Kong as being of wild origin, and is the likely source for other central Asian species that occurred during the same period, including Blyth's Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus dumetorum* and Rosy Starling *Pastor roseus*.



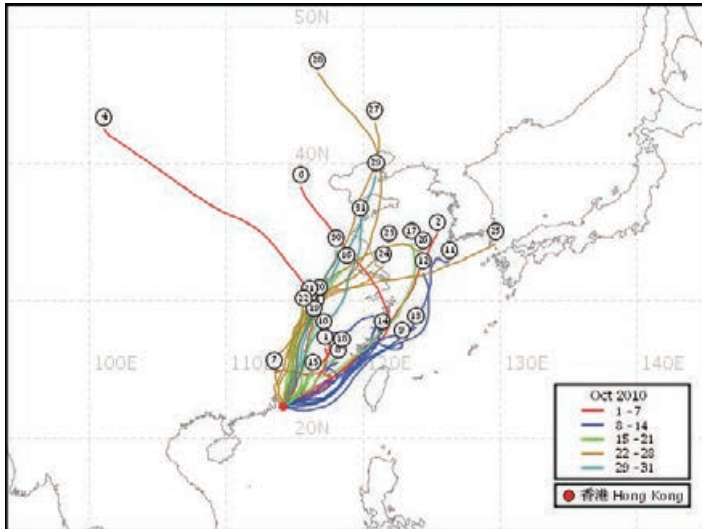


Figure 1. Backward Air Mass Trajectory Map for October 2010. (Downloaded from [http://www.hko.gov.hk/wxinfo/trajectory/trajectoryMonthly\\_e.shtml](http://www.hko.gov.hk/wxinfo/trajectory/trajectoryMonthly_e.shtml))

圖1. 於2010年10月的氣團後向流跡地圖。(下載自 [http://www.hko.gov.hk/wxinfo/trajectory/trajectoryMonthly\\_e.shtml](http://www.hko.gov.hk/wxinfo/trajectory/trajectoryMonthly_e.shtml))

### Records Committee Comment

*A highly fortuitous find, given the location, and the apparently very short stay of the bird. That it was present only on the day it was first seen proved very frustrating for those who were unable to drop everything to make the trip. Identification was straightforward, and the early October date fits very well an established pattern of long-distance migrants arriving from central Asian or northwest China breeding areas.*

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## 近屯門爛角咀發電廠的 藍胸佛法僧 *Coracias garrulus*

香港首個紀錄

David J Stanton

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2010年10月5日下午約12時30分，我剛到過新界西稔灣的曾咀煤灰湖考察，正沿著稔灣路駕車離去。由於我在前一個星期曾在該處的電纜和欄杆上見到多達8隻三寶鳥 *Eurystomus orientalis*，所以一直掃視那些位置。當我駛經接近爛角咀發電廠的一個路塹時，我見到一隻看來有點陌生的雀鳥站在一段短小的架空電纜上。我起初想那可能是隻蜂虎 Bee-eater *Merops* sp.。於是，我在最近的地方掉頭，返回該處看清楚一些。

當我駛到距離該鳥約50米的轉彎處，便明顯認出那是一隻佛法僧。我相當肯定當時的香港鳥類名錄中並沒有佛法僧的記錄。於是我馬上致電正在 AEC 辦公室的利雅德。他在確定這一點的同時，我可以聽到他在搜索車匙，與柯祖毅一起出門趕到現場。我們並通知了其他數名鳥友，以在最短時間內將這消息發放出去。

在等候利雅德和柯祖毅的時候，我取出望遠鏡，開始對該鳥作詳細記錄，並拍下了一張記錄照。在其他鳥友到達之前，我觀察了此鳥一個小時。在這段期間，此鳥曾棲息在架空電纜、欄杆及電燈柱等物件上，並不時從短草堤圍突襲蜻蜓及其他昆蟲。

此鳥當日整天都逗留此地，翌日卻不復見。鳥友為此鳥拍得數張佳作，包括插圖59這張。我對此鳥的描述如下：

### 大小及結構

體形壯實的雀鳥，大小看來與三寶鳥相近。

### 頭部

頭部灰藍色，枕和嘴基長有暗黃色羽毛。黑色貫眼紋在眼後隨即消失。眼睛為黑色。

### 上體

鮮藍色伸延至翼部邊沿，覆羽為藍色，飛羽顏色較深，對比鮮明。上體和肩羽呈帶粉紅的暗黃啡色，初級覆羽呈淺藍色，初級飛羽則為較深的藍黑色。

### 下體

下體和尾下覆羽帶淡灰藍色，喉部有些淡灰藍色條紋。

### 嘴部及腳部

黑色嘴部在嘴峰微向下彎，末端呈微鈎狀。腳部為暗粉紅色。

### 辨認

根據我當時寫下的筆記，並與香港觀鳥會討論區其後貼出的照片對照，確定這是一隻第

一年的藍胸佛法僧 (Eurasian Roller) *Coracias garrulus*。牠的毛色較暗，屬較年長的亞成鳥，這些特徵足以確定牠的年齡。

佛法僧是十分獨特的雀鳥，因此唯一可能是與其他佛法僧混淆。區內另外唯一一種佛法僧是棕胸佛法僧 (Indian Roller) *C. benghalensis*。棕胸佛法僧與藍胸佛法僧的不同之處，在於前者有彩藍綠色的頭頂及綠藍色的上體，這些均是此鳥所沒有的。

## 分佈

儘管棕胸佛法僧也曾在馬來西亞半島有過境記錄 (Robson 2000)，但牠主要屬留鳥 (Robson 2000, Rasmussen & Anderson 2005)，與藍胸佛法僧不同。這個鳥種在中國西南面是留鳥 (Cheng 1987)，以其普遍公認的定棲習性，不大可能迷途到香港。

藍胸佛法僧是長途遷徙鳥種，於古北區西部及中部繁殖，並於非洲度冬 (Svensson and Grant 1999, Rasmussen & Anderson 2005)。根據 Cheng (1987) 所述，這個鳥種是中國西北部的罕有遷徙鳥，也可能在該處繁殖。有關這鳥種的紀錄只限於新疆的天山山脈北部和西部以及西藏。最近拍得的照片證實，這個鳥種會在新疆繁殖 (Paux 2011)。

這個鳥種一般在中國西北地區出現，並在非洲南部度冬，在香港出現驟眼看來似乎並不尋常，因為香港遠離牠一般出現的地域，而且完全偏離牠的自然遷徙路徑。然而，曾經有在新疆繁殖、非洲度冬的雀鳥在10月份出現於香港的先例。紅背伯勞 (Red-backed Shrike) *Lanius collurio* (於2008年10月6日及2009年10月7日記錄) 便是最近的例子。

從香港天文台10月的反軌跡路線圖—氣團抵港路線圖 (圖1) 可見，發現該佛法僧之前一天 (2010年10月4日) 的氣流來自新疆／亞洲中部。這股氣流就是有力的證據，證明這隻在香港發現的佛法僧來自野外。其他同期在香港出現的中亞鳥種，包括布氏葦鶯 (Blyth's Reed Warbler) *Acrocephalus dumetorum* 和粉紅椋鳥 (Rosy Starling) *Pastor roseus*，也可能是被這股氣流帶來的。

## 紀錄委員會評註

就此鳥出現的地點以及逗留時間之短而言，這是一個十分偶然的發現。此鳥只在被發現的那天出現，對於未能夠放下手上工作到達現場的鳥友來說，無疑令人沮喪。要辨認此鳥不難，而發現日期在10月初，也十分吻合那些來自中亞或中國西北繁殖地的長途遷徙鳥種的既定模式。

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## **Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum* at Lok Ma Chau Wetland Mitigation Area**

The first Hong Kong record

*Paul J. Leader*

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On the morning of 20 November 2009, I was conducting a routine survey of the Lok Ma Chau MTRC Mitigation Area. The weather was cold, following an intense surge of the northeast monsoon that had arrived in Hong Kong on the 16<sup>th</sup>, with temperatures dropping to about 8° C in the New Territories on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Upon arrival at Lok Ma Chau that morning, it was clear that there unusually high numbers of hirundines present for the time of year. Most conspicuous were Red-rumped Swallows *Cecropis daurica*, of which about 120 were present, along with about 55 Pale Martins *Riparia diluta* and ten Asian House Martins *Delichon dasyopus*. At about 09:15, whilst scanning through the Asian House Martins, my attention was drawn to a larger looking individual with a notably larger white rump patch. I suspected this was a Common House Martin *D. urbicum*, but the bird was initially distant and I was aware that there are plumage differences between the northern and southern populations of Asian House Martin. When closer views were obtained, these confirmed the identification as Common House Martin. The bird was subsequently seen by many others and was well photographed. I watched the bird for about an hour during the morning and again in the afternoon. It was seen initially in dull conditions, but in bright sunshine later in the day. It was mostly watched at distances ranging between 20 - 50 m, but it came as close as 2 m at times. It was still present the following morning.

When first seen, the bird was on the other side of the pond I was surveying, but the large white rump was immediately obvious. Detailed comparison with Asian House Martin was readily possible as both species were regularly foraging together. The most conspicuous feature was the large white rump that was about twice the length of that of the Asian House Martins present, and usually appeared rounded towards the tail rather than square-cut as in Asian House Martin (note that this difference is less apparent in Plates 60 and 61, probably due to the angle of the birds). The rump patch was clearly whiter than most of the Asian House Martins present, but some darker marks were present along the edge of rump. The underparts were pure white, although at times looking dusky along the flanks. The black on the head reached to the bill, but did not extend below the bill. The underwing coverts were dusky grey, concolorous with the rest of the underwing (although looking darker at times, especially in dull light). Much time was spent confirming this feature, which was well seen when the bird banked in good light. The bird was clearly larger than the largest Asian House Martins present, being approximately 25% longer in total length with a clearly longer tail and deeper tail fork.



**Plate 60.**

Common House Martin

*Delichon urbicum lagopodum*

Lok Ma Chau, 20<sup>th</sup> November

2009

Martin Hale

白腹毛腳燕

落馬洲 2009年11月20日

夏敖天

Note the extensive white rump, including the longest uppertail coverts, length of tail and depth of tail fork.

留意大片的白色腰斑



**Plate 61.**

Asian House Martin

*Delichon dasypus*

Lok Ma Chau, 20<sup>th</sup> November

2009

Martin Hale

煙腹毛腳燕

落馬洲 2009年11月20日

夏敖天

Note smaller rump patch with obviously black upper tail coverts, black extending below the bill, length of tail and depth of tail fork.

留意較小片的腰斑、明顯黑色的尾上覆羽、延至喙部下面的黑色以及尾巴的長度及深度



**Plate 62.**

Common House Martin  
*Delichon urbicum lagopodum*  
Lok Ma Chau, 20<sup>th</sup> November  
2009

Martin Hale

白腹毛腳燕

落馬洲 2009年11月20日

夏赦天

Note the all-white underparts,  
lack of black below the bill, and  
dusky-grey underwing coverts  
showing little contrast with  
flight feathers.

留意純白色的下體、喙部下面沒  
有呈黑色、暗灰色的翼下覆羽與  
飛羽的對比度很小



**Plate 63.**

Asian House Martin  
*Delichon dasypus*  
Lok Ma Chau, 20<sup>th</sup> November  
2009

Martin Hale

煙腹毛腳燕

落馬洲 2009年11月20日

夏赦天

Note blackish underwing  
coverts clearly contrasting with  
flight feathers and grey wash  
across flanks and upper breast.

留意黑色的翼下覆羽與飛羽的對  
比清晰，以及橫跨脇部和上胸

The combination of large white rump, white underparts, dusky grey (rather than blackish) underwing coverts, lack of black below the bill, and size and structure, eliminate Asian House Martin.

Most authorities recognize three taxa of Common House Martin: nominate *urbicum* (breeding in western, central and northern Europe, east to west Siberia), *meridionale* (breeding in southern Europe, northern Africa and west Central Asia east to the Tien Shan) and *lagopodum* (breeding in east Asia from the upper Yenisey, Altai and Mongolia east to the Sea of Okhotsk and northeast China; Turner 2004). Two taxa breed in China (Cheng 1987), *meridionale* (widespread in Xinjiang; Ma Ming pers. comm.) and *lagopodum* (northeast China).

The Lok Ma Chau bird can be attributed to *lagopodum* on the basis of all white upper tail coverts and short tail (Turner and Rose 1989). The wintering grounds of *lagopodum* are unclear, but are generally considered to be in southeast Asia.

### **Records Committee Comment**

*Breeding to the east of HK and wintering in southeast Asia, it was only a matter of time before Common House Martin was recorded in HK. The detailed notes from an observer familiar with house martins occurring in the region and the excellent photographs illustrating crucial plumage features ensured this record was accepted in a straightforward manner. Careful checking of house martins, especially in autumn, is likely to bring the greatest chance of further records.*

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## 落馬洲濕地緩解區的 白腹毛腳燕 *Delichon urbicum*

香港首個紀錄

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2009年11月20日早上，我在落馬洲港鐵的緩解區進行例行調查。當日天氣寒冷；11月16日有強烈東北季候風抵港，新界的氣溫在11月18日跌至攝氏8度左右。那天早上抵達落馬洲，見到這個季節有那麼多燕科雀鳥出現，情況顯得異常。最多的是金腰燕 *Cecropis daurica*，約有120隻，其次是淡色沙燕 *Riparia diluta*，約有55隻，以及煙腹毛腳燕 *Delichon dasypus*，約有10隻。在上午9時15分左右，正當我掃視那些煙腹毛腳燕時，一隻看來體型較大、腰部白斑面積明顯較大的雀鳥引起我的注意。我懷疑那是一隻白腹毛腳燕 *D. urbicum*。但那雀鳥當時離我頗遠，而我也知道煙腹毛腳燕南北兩個種群的羽毛是有差別的。經較近距離觀察之後，可以確定那是一隻白腹毛腳燕。那雀鳥其後經很多人觀察和拍下清晰的照片。那天早上，我觀察那雀鳥約1小時，並在下午再次觀察。最初見到那雀鳥時天色陰暗，但當日稍後時間卻陽光普照。觀察那雀鳥的大部分時間都與牠保持20至50米的距離，但牠間中會在離我2米的地方掠過。牠在翌日早上仍在那兒。

起初見到那雀鳥時，牠在我正進行調查的池塘的另一邊，但我第一眼就見到那大面積的白色腰斑。要與煙腹毛腳燕作詳細比較並不困難，因為兩個鳥種經常會一起覓食。最明顯的特徵是那大面積的白色腰斑，長度約為當場的煙腹毛腳燕的兩倍，而且通常在近尾部那端顯得較圓，與煙腹毛腳燕呈方型的不同(插圖60和插圖61)顯示的差別沒有那麼明顯，大概是由於雀鳥的角度關係)。白腹毛腳燕的腰斑明顯較大部分當場的煙腹毛腳燕的腰斑為白，但在腰的邊沿卻有一些較深色的斑。下體呈純白色，儘管有時沿脇部的色澤會顯得較暗。頭部的黑色伸延至嘴部，但沒有伸延至嘴部下面。翼下覆羽呈暗灰色，與翼下其他部分同色(雖然有時看來較深色，尤其是在光線昏暗時)。我花了很多時間去確認這個特徵；當這雀鳥飛翔而內側向着充足光線時，便會較易見到這個特徵。這雀鳥明顯較當場體型最大的煙腹毛腳燕還要大，總長度多出約25%，尾部明顯較長，尾部分叉也較深。

這雀鳥有着大面積的白色腰、白色下體、呈暗灰色(而非黑色)的翼下覆羽，以及嘴部下面沒有呈黑色，加上牠的體型和身體結構，可以排除這是煙腹毛腳燕的可能性。

大部分專家認為白腹毛腳燕有三個亞種：分別名為 *urbicum* (於歐洲西、中及北部繁殖，東至西伯利亞西部)、*meridionale* (於歐洲南部、非洲北部及中亞西部繁殖，東至天山)及 *lagopodum* (在亞洲東面繁殖，由葉尼塞河上游、阿爾泰山脈及蒙古起，東至鄂霍次克海及中國東北部；Turner 2004)。兩種會在中國繁殖(Cheng 1987)，分別為 *meridionale* (廣泛分布於新疆；Ma Ming 的個人通訊)及 *lagopodum* (中國東北部)。



落馬洲出現的白腹毛腳燕，應屬於 *lagopodum*，這論點是基於這雀鳥的尾上覆羽為全白色，尾部也短小(Turner and Rose 1989)。*lagopodum* 的度冬地不詳，但一般認為是在東南亞。

### 紀錄委員會評註

在香港東面繁殖，並在東南亞度冬，在香港錄得白腹毛腳燕只是遲早的事。由熟悉區內毛腳燕鳥種的觀鳥者作出詳細記錄，加上清晰顯示至關重要的羽毛特徵的優質照片，確保這個紀錄可以毫無困難地獲得接納。如果能夠仔細觀察毛腳燕，尤其是在秋天的時間，很大機會可以再錄得更多白腹毛腳燕的紀錄。

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## Red-throated Thrush *Turdus ruficollis* on Po Toi

The first Hong Kong record

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In mid-November 2009, there was an influx of Yellow-throated Bunting *Emberiza elegans* on Po Toi. Despite numerous attempts to locate them, I had no luck even to have a fleeting glance. On 19 November 2009, I went to Po Toi again with the determination of capturing a good photograph of them. After a quick look in the surrounding area of the pier, I went straight in the direction of the temple as the buntings had occurred there two days before. I met some birders on the way who told me that nothing was there. Despite the discouragement I decided to go there and check.

I was walking on the path close to the temple when I noticed a bird on the rock. A trekker passed by and surprisingly this bird was not flushed away. I was curious about this confiding bird so I used my binoculars to check what it was. It appeared to have an overall greyish colour on its back and I was sure it was a thrush. It was the same size as a Grey-backed Thrush *Turdus hortulorum*, but the greyish tone of this bird was much paler than an adult Grey-backed Thrush. Moreover, it did not have the prominent orange flanks of a Grey-backed Thrush. The colour of the bill was dark which was also different from a Grey-backed Thrush. I was quite sure the bird did not appear in the book "The Birds of Hong Kong and South China" (Viney *et al.* 2005), with which I was familiar.

I decided to take more photographs. The bird appeared to be fearless of my presence and it was only about 1.5 to 2 meters away from me during my observation. It was feeding on the short glassy slope and then hopped down to the path to drink. It was typical of Po Toi birds when on their first day - hungry and tired. I was able to see clearly that it had some rufous from throat to chest. It was lightly streaked on its breast and had some rufous on its tail. I heard the bird call occasionally "tzee tzee tzee" while foraging. When I tried to take a video to record its call, it flew down in the direction of the sea into the bushes and disappeared. I checked with my camera setting and found the bird stayed from 11:18 to 11:33.

I was not able to make any telephone call as the network was not available. I immediately looked for and found Geoff Welch to confirm what species of thrush it was. Having looked through the pictures in my camera, he made a tentative suggestion that it was a Black-throated Thrush *T. atrogularis* and wanted to see the bird in order to confirm the identification. I took him to the temple area to try to locate the bird, but we could not find it. After posting some pictures in the HKBWS forum, Geoff was able to view the prominent features of the bird and he confirmed that it was a first-winter female Red-throated Thrush *T. ruficollis*.



**Plate 64.**  
Red-throated Thrush  
*Turdus ruficollis*  
Po Toi  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
Eling Lee  
赤頸鸚  
蒲台2009年11月19日  
李佩玲



**Plate 65.**  
Red-throated Thrush  
*Turdus ruficollis*  
Po Toi  
19<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
Eling Lee  
赤頸鸚  
蒲台2009年11月19日  
李佩玲

Later the Record Committee accepted this as a Red-throated Thrush, the first Hong Kong record and the 500th bird species on the Hong Kong list.

### **Acknowledgements**

I wish to thank Geoff Welch and other experts for their assistance in helping to identify this bird.

### ***Records Committee Comment***

*Coming so soon after the hybrid Black-throated x Naumann's Thrush earlier in the month, this bird attracted considerable interest. Unfortunately, however, it did not remain on Po Toi long enough for anyone other than those present on the island that day to see it. Its confiding nature and the excellent photographs allowed identification of what might have been a tricky bird, given its rather plain and poorly-marked plumage. As a long-distance migrant thrush occurring in late autumn and in good plumage condition, there was no trouble in its being added to Category I. A worthy 500th addition to the HK List!*

### **References**

Viney, C., Phillipps, K. and Lam, C.Y. 2005. *The Birds of Hong Kong and South China*. 8<sup>th</sup> edition. Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, Hong Kong.

## 蒲苔島的赤頸鵝 *Turdus ruficollis*

香港首個紀錄

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2009年11月中，蒲苔島來了多隻黃喉鵝 *Emberiza elegans*，我多次到訪卻跟牠們緣慳一面。2009年11月19日，我再次來到蒲苔島希望可以見到這群害羞的黃喉鵝，我先在碼頭附近窺探一番並沒有收穫，便走到天后廟附近看看，因為有鳥友早兩天在這裡見過此鳥，沿途遇到一些鳥友告知廟附近並沒有發現，然而我卻堅持前去一看。

沿着小徑拾級而上，在距離天后廟約6米左右，我看見一隻鳥從石頭後面跳出，同一時間，一名健行者途經上址，但此鳥並沒有給嚇跑，令我十分驚訝及好奇；於是我用望遠鏡看看這是什麼鳥，牠的顏色及大小跟灰背鵝 *Turdus hortulorum* 很相似，背部全是灰色，然而牠卻沒有灰背鵝的橙脇及黃嘴，牠比我以前見過的灰背鵝更為灰白，當時我肯定此鳥並不列在香港及華南鳥類圖鑑內。

我決定多拍相片以便辨認，我跟牠的距離只有1.5到2米，牠看來餓壞了，只顧在斜坡草叢上覓食，完全沒有理會我的存在。後來牠從斜坡跳到小徑附近喝水，這使我跟牠更接近，我清楚看到牠的喉及胸部都有棕紅色，胸部有明顯的灰斑紋，尾部邊緣亦略帶棕紅。牠跟我以往在蒲苔見的鳥都有同一特色 – 疲倦及飢餓；牠覓食的同時也有鳴叫 – “tzee tzee tzee”，然而當我準備給牠拍短片時，牠卻向下方大海方向飛進草叢內，根據相機的記錄，此鳥停留時間為 11:18 到 11:33。

因蒲苔島沒有任何電話網絡，我便跑去找資深鳥友 Geoff Welch 幫忙辨認，因相機的螢幕太細，未能準確確認，我便帶他到天后廟附近再次嘗試找出此鳥，可惜無功而還。Geoff 從他的小屋找來兩本圖鑑辨認，初步認為是黑頸鵝，及後我在鳥會的討論區發放了多張相片，Geoff 得以更清楚地看到牠的特徵，最後確認為雌性赤頸鵝。此鳥後來被紀錄委員會確認為香港首個紀錄及為香港第500個鳥類紀錄。

在此特別感謝 Geoff Welch 及專家們的幫忙及辨認。

### 紀錄委員會評註

紀錄了混種黑頸鵝 × 紅尾鵝不久後便發現了此赤頸鵝，可惜牠並沒有久留，只有當天在蒲苔島的人有幸見過，幸好優良的相片記錄令到這隻本來沒有什麼特徵且頗難辨認的雀鳥身份得已確認，這隻長途飛行候鳥在秋季出現的時間及其整齊的羽毛令紀錄委員會毫無困難地把牠加到第一類，是為香港第500種雀鳥。

### 參考資料

Viney, C., Phillipps, K. and Lam, C.Y. 2005. *The Birds of Hong Kong and South China*. 8<sup>th</sup> edition. Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, Hong Kong.

## White Wagtail *Motacilla alba baicalensis* at Yuen Long

The first record of this taxon in Hong Kong

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In recent years I have been looking closely at White Wagtail *Motacilla alba* subspecies in Hong Kong, specifically at differences in habitat use. On the afternoon of 23 January 2010 I had been looking at wagtails in the Tai Tong area south of Yuen Long, concentrating especially on birds using the drainage channels in this area. During the afternoon I had recorded several individuals of both regularly-occurring subspecies (*leucopsis* and *ocularis*), as well as two individuals of the subspecies *lugens*, which occurs less frequently in Hong Kong.

On returning into Yuen Long town from the south in the late afternoon I noticed that White Wagtails were gathering in reasonable numbers at the confluence of two drainage channels, presumably preparing to move into a communal roost. Most individuals were of the common subspecies *leucopsis* but I noticed one which did not fit the typical appearance of any of the usual subspecies. Being aware of previous claims of *baicalensis* in Hong Kong I considered that the bird may be that subspecies. Unfortunately I did not have a camera with me to photograph the bird but I took the following notes on the bird's appearance.

### Description

Black, white and grey plumage, typical of White Wagtails. Mantle grey, similar to *ocularis* (paler than *leucopsis*). Head pattern reminiscent of *leucopsis*; extensively white on face (with slight yellowish wash), with white forehead, forecrown, ear coverts and throat; no dark eyestripe. Rear of crown and nape dark grey, blackish at front and sides of crown; dark grey nape merging gradually into paler grey of mantle. Black 'bib' on breast apparently more extensive than on *leucopsis*, extending further onto throat, breast and sides of neck. Patchy black present on lower throat perhaps indicating moult into breeding plumage. Bill seemed rather fine and narrow.

Wing coverts dark-centred with narrow white fringe (not as extensively white as *leucopsis*). Narrow white fringe also on tertials, but this extensively worn, almost disappearing except on longest tertial. Seemed long-tailed in flight (structure more similar to *ocularis* than *leucopsis*).

### Identification of *baicalensis*

Of the commoner subspecies, the head pattern of this individual most closely resembled *leucopsis*, but the mantle was paler grey, and the amount of white in the coverts was clearly less than would be expected in any age class of that subspecies (*leucopsis* typically show extensive white in the wing coverts). The body and wings thus more closely resembled *ocularis*, but the head pattern, especially the lack of an

eye-stripe, did not fit that subspecies. Overall, the characters shown by this individual led me to the conclusion that this was indeed *baicalensis*.

Most White Wagtails in Hong Kong are of the subspecies *leucopsis*, which is a common winter visitor, passage migrant and also remains to breed. Adult male *leucopsis* is a very distinctive taxon, with a black back and extensive white in the wings, but females and first-winter birds have paler, greyer backs and may be more easily confused with *baicalensis*. The following summary is based on descriptions of the two subspecies in Alström and Mild (2003).

Both *leucopsis* and *baicalensis* have similar head patterns, with white sides to the face (lacking any eye-stripe), a white throat and a small white bib on the breast. The white on the sides of the face of *leucopsis* is apparently slightly more extensive and the bib is typically slightly smaller (both laterally and vertically). Some first winter *leucopsis* may lack the bib altogether. The Yuen Long bird showed a slightly more extensive bib than most *leucopsis*, particularly as a result of the darker feathers on the upper breast, which may indicate that the bird was starting moult into breeding plumage.

The mantle of *leucopsis* in adult plumage is darker than that of *baicalensis*, but first-winter *leucopsis* typically have paler upperparts, and there may be some overlap in colour. The mantle and rump on *baicalensis* should be grey, with black restricted to the uppertail coverts; any evidence of black on the mantle or rump would indicate *leucopsis*. The flanks on *baicalensis* are usually grey-washed; on adult *leucopsis* these are typically pure white, but some first winters may show grey flanks. The Yuen Long bird was pale-backed, paler than a typical *leucopsis*, but the rump and flank pattern were not noted.

The extent of white in the coverts is an important feature for separating the subspecies. The median and greater coverts of *leucopsis* show more extensive white on average than *baicalensis*. Adult *leucopsis* typically show fully white median coverts (some show dark at the base or on the shaft) and the greater coverts are typically all white on the outer web, sometimes with dark inner webs; the result is a generally white panel on the wing coverts, (sometimes with a diffuse grey band from the dark inner webs which may 'shine through' the white).

Most first-winter *leucopsis* moult the median coverts to completely white feathers and also moult most of the greater coverts, although some darker-centred outer greater coverts may be retained. In contrast, most *baicalensis* retain all or nearly all juvenile median and greater coverts in the first winter, and these are more extensively dark-centred than on *leucopsis*.

Adult *baicalensis* also usually have extensively dark-centred median and greater coverts, often forming a double wing bar (although on some individuals, especially males, the white is more extensive and may form a white wing panel similar to that found on *leucopsis*). The dark-centred greater coverts with narrow white fringes and worn tertials on the Yuen Long bird may indicate that these were retained juvenile feathers, supporting identification as a first-winter *baicalensis* (tertials are also usually retained in the first winter in this subspecies, although some are often also retained in *leucopsis*).

Biometrics presented in Alström & Mild (2003) and summarised here in Table 1 also indicate that *baicalensis* is relatively longer-tailed than *leucopsis*, with a wing:tail ratio close to 1:1, similar to *ocularis*. The notes taken on the Yuen Long bird indicate that this individual appeared relatively long-tailed.

**Table 1.** Wing and tail lengths for White Wagtail subspecies *leucopsis*, *baicalensis* and *ocularis* (from Alström and Mild 2003).

Subspecies	Sex	Wing (mm)	Tail (mm)
<i>leucopsis</i>	Male	86-92 (89.8)	83-90 (87.7)
	Female	81-89 (86.2)	80-87 (83.9)
<i>baicalensis</i>	Male	87-97 (92.4)	88-97 (91.6)
	Female	87-92 (89.2)	85-91 (88.8)
<i>ocularis</i>	Male	91-96 (93.0)	90-96 (93.6)
	Female	85-92 (88.0)	84-91 (87.6)

Values given are the range of measurements, with the mean value in parentheses.

Alström and Mild (2003) also suggest that there may be differences in vocalizations between *baicalensis* and *leucopsis*, suggesting that the calls of *baicalensis* resemble those of *ocularis* (written as *tche-rip*, *tchre-lit*, *tse-lit* or *tchle-wit*), whereas the calls of *leucopsis* are slightly sharper and higher-pitched (*tchi-tchik*). These differences are complicated by considerable individual variation in voice, and in any case the Yuen Long bird was not heard to call.

Other subspecies of White Wagtail recorded in Hong Kong (*ocularis*, *lugens* and *personata*) have distinctive face patterns that would not be confused with *baicalensis*. Subspecies *alba* and *dukhunensis* (which Alström and Mild (2003) treat as synonymous) are very similar to *baicalensis* in winter plumage and may be inseparable, but this (these) subspecies occurs further west (wintering as far as east as India and Bangladesh). In breeding plumage individuals of this (these) subspecies have fully black throats; if the Yuen Long bird was moulting into breeding plumage (as suggested by the black and white on the upper breast), the lack of any black feathering on the upper throat may rule out the possibility of *alba* ('*dukhunensis*').

### Range of *baicalensis*

Alström and Mild (2003) describe the breeding range of *baicalensis* as south central and southeastern Siberia, south of c. 60N and eastward from c. 100-150 km east of the Yenisey (c.95E) to the Stanovoy Mountains (c. 125E) and southward to northern and central Mongolia (except for northwestern parts) and northeasternmost Nei Mongol, China. The wintering range is listed as northern India, Nepal, Bangladesh, northern Myanmar, northern Thailand and southern China (Sichuan, Yunnan, Guizhou, Guangxi and Guangdong). Given that the breeding range extends further east than Hong Kong (at c. 122E) and the wintering range apparently includes southern China, the occurrence of this subspecies in Hong Kong is not unexpected.

This sighting of the *baicalensis* White Wagtail at Yuen Long brought to a close an amazing week in which I had personally found individuals from all ten taxa of *Motacilla* wagtails so far recorded in Hong Kong: Grey Wagtail (*M. cinerea*), Citrine



Wagtail (*M. citreola*), three subspecies of Eastern Yellow Wagtail (*M. tschutschensis tschutschensis*, *taivana* and *macronyx*) and five subspecies of White Wagtail (*M. alba leucopsis*, *ocularis*, *lugens*, *baicalensis* and *personata*). To me the confirmation of another subspecies of White Wagtail among the busy streets of Yuen Long shows how much still remains to be discovered about even the commonest Hong Kong bird species.

***Records Committee Comment***

*As John says, the occurrence of baicalensis in HK is not unexpected given the distributions described in Alström and Mild (2003). Identification of this subspecies relies on relatively subtle plumage and structural characters, and careful, patient checking of White Wagtails will be required to find the birds that are undoubtedly occurring.*

**References**

Alström, P. & Mild, K. 2003. *Pipits & Wagtail of Europe, Asia and North America. Identification and Systematics*. Christopher Helm (Publishers) Ltd., London.

## 元朗的白鶺鴒 *Motacilla alba baicalensis*

此亞種在本港的首個紀錄

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近年來我一直細心留意本港白鶺鴒 *Motacilla alba* 的亞種，尤其是不同亞種在使用棲息地方面的分別。2010年1月23日下午，我在元朗南面的大棠觀看那裡的鶺鴒，特別是牠們使用排水渠的情況。那個下午我紀錄了兩個經常出現的亞種（即 *leucopsis ocularis*）的幾個個體，以及兩隻屬於本港較不常見的 *lugens* 亞種的個體。

傍晚時分從南面回程到元朗市中心的途中，我注意到大量白鶺鴒在兩條排水渠的匯合處聚集，似乎預備一起前往一個集體晚棲地點。大部分的白鶺鴒屬常見的 *leucopsis* 亞種，但我發現其中一隻並不符合任何一個常見亞種的典型特徵。由於我知道過往據稱有 *baicalensis* 亞種在香港出現，我認為此鳥可能是這個亞種。可惜當時我沒有帶備相機，所以沒有拍照；我只能就這鳥的特徵作以下的筆記：

### 描述

一般白鶺鴒的黑、白及灰色羽毛。背部灰色，與 *ocularis* 亞種相近（但較 *leucopsis* 亞種淡色）。頭部紋理令人聯想起 *leucopsis* 亞種；面頰大片白色（亦帶些少黃色痕跡），有白色的前額、前冠、耳羽和喉嚨；沒有深色的過眼紋。冠和後枕的後部深灰色，冠的前面和側面黑色；深灰色的後枕，漸漸融合為背上的淺灰色。胸口上黑色的「口水肩」，明顯地比 *leucopsis* 亞種身上的更大幅，一直延至喉嚨、胸部以至頸的兩側。喉嚨下部一塊黑斑似乎顯示演進至繁殖羽的羽毛。嘴部比較幼細。

翼羽中間深色帶白色幼邊（沒有 *leucopsis* 亞種般大片白色）。三級飛羽上也有白色幼邊，惟磨損非常嚴重，除了最長的三級飛羽外，這個特徵幾乎不見於其他三級飛羽。飛行時看來長尾（結構上彷如 *ocularis* 亞種，多於似 *leucopsis* 亞種）。

### *baicalensis* 亞種的辨識

在較為普遍的亞種當中，此鳥的頭部條紋與 *leucopsis* 亞種最接近，但其背部為淺灰色，而覆羽上白色所佔的範圍亦明顯較 *leucopsis* 亞種任何年齡組別應有的為少（*leucopsis* 亞種在覆羽上有大片的白色）。另外，這鳥的身體和翅膀與 *ocularis* 亞種相似，但頭部沒有貫眼紋，與這亞種不符。總的來說，這鳥的特徵，使我認定牠應該屬於 *baicalensis* 亞種。

香港大部分的白鶺鴒均為 *leucopsis* 亞種，是一種常見的冬候鳥和過境遷徙鳥，有些甚至留港繁殖。成年的 *leucopsis* 雄鳥是一個很獨特的類別，背部黑色而翼上有大片白色，但雌鳥和首年度冬鳥則較淺色，背部較灰色，與 *baicalensis* 亞種很易混淆。以下的摘要取自 Alström 和 Mild（2003）對這兩個亞種的描述：

*leucopsis* 和 *baicalensis* 亞種均有相似的頭部紋理，面頰白色（但沒有過眼線），喉嚨白色以及胸口有一塊小的白色口水肩。*leucopsis* 亞種面頰的白色明顯地比較大片，而“口水肩”通常略小（無論從橫向和縱向來看）。有些首年度冬的 *leucopsis* 可能沒有口水肩。元朗的個體展現的口水肩，比一般的 *leucopsis* 個體略大，尤其是由於胸部上方的羽毛比較深色所致，這也許反映這鳥正開始換成繁殖羽。

在成年羽毛方面，*leucopsis* 亞種背部的毛色較 *baicalensis* 亞種的深色，然而一般首年度冬的 *leucopsis* 上身比較淺色，並且在顏色上有重疊。*baicalensis* 亞種的背部和腰部應該是灰色，唯有尾巴上方的羽毛才有黑色；因此，背部和腰上呈現任何黑色的痕跡指出應屬 *leucopsis* 亞種。*baicalensis* 亞種的脇部通常是灰色；成鳥方面 *leucopsis* 亞種的脇部通常是純白色，不過有些首年度冬鳥可能有灰色的脇部。元朗的個體背部淺色，比一般的 *leucopsis* 亞種還要淺色，不過腰和脇部的紋理未及留意。

羽毛上白色的規模是分辨各亞種的重要特徵。*leucopsis* 亞種比 *baicalensis* 亞種在中間和大覆羽上平均展現較多的白色。一般 *leucopsis* 亞種的成年個體有全白色的中覆羽（有些在羽毛底或軸上為深色），而大覆羽的羽毛外則基本上全白色，有時會有深色的內層；結果是翼羽上一個普遍是白色的翼鏡，（有時候由暗色的內則有一個淡灰色的灰斑，好像“穿透”白色部分）。

首年度冬 *leucopsis* 亞種的中覆羽毛色大部分演變至全白色，而幾乎全部的大覆羽也演變，儘管有些中心深色的大覆羽仍然得以保留。對比之下，大部分 *baicalensis* 亞種保留全部甚或幾乎全部首年度冬亞成鳥的中覆羽和大覆羽，而這些羽毛比 *leucopsis* 亞種的更廣泛地中央深色。

*baicalensis* 亞種的成年個體亦通常有廣闊而中間為深色的中覆羽和大覆羽，往往造成雙翼斑（不過在個別鳥兒，尤其是雄鳥，因白色的範圍廣闊，會好像 *leucopsis* 亞種形成一道白色的翼鏡）。元朗錄得的個體那些中央深色的大覆羽有幼白色的邊緣和磨損了的三級飛羽，或許正是亞成鳥保留下來的羽毛，這看法支持將牠辨認作一隻首年度冬的 *baicalensis*（此亞種通常在首個冬天仍然保留幼鳥的三級飛羽，雖然 *leucopsis* 亞種也會保留部分這類羽毛）。

Alström 和 Mild（2003）的生物量度經總結在表一，亦說明 *baicalensis* 亞種的尾部比 *leucopsis* 亞種的稍長，與 *ocularis* 亞種一樣差不多有1:1的翼尾比例。有關元朗錄得的個體所作的筆記，也顯示這鳥的尾比較長。

表1. *leucopsis*, *baicalensis* 和 *ocularis* 亞種白鶺鴒翼和尾的長度（摘自Alström 和 Mild 2003）。

亞種	性別	翼長(毫米)	尾長(毫米)
<i>leucopsis</i>	雄性	86-92 (89.8)	83-90 (87.7)
	雌性	81-89 (86.2)	80-87 (83.9)
<i>baicalensis</i>	雄性	87-97 (92.4)	88-97 (91.6)
	雌性	87-92 (89.2)	85-91 (88.8)
<i>ocularis</i>	雄性	91-96 (93.0)	90-96 (93.6)
	雌性	85-92 (88.0)	84-91 (87.6)

以上的數值為量度的範圍，括號內為平均值。

Alström 和 Mild (2003) 亦指出, *baicalensis* 亞種和 *leucopsis* 亞種的叫聲也有分別, 其中 *baicalensis* 亞種的叫聲與 *ocularis* 亞種的比較接近 (可以筆錄為 *tche-rip*, *tchre-lit*, *tse-lit* 或 *tchle-wit*), 但是 *leucopsis* 亞種的比較尖和高音 (*tchi-tchik*)。這些分別也因應個體聲音方面的偏差而變得更為複雜。畢竟, 今次在元朗發現的個體並沒有作聲。

本地錄得白鵲鵒的其他亞種 (*ocularis*, *lugens* 和 *personata*) 有與眾不同的面部紋理, 致使牠們不會與 *baicalensis* 亞種混淆。*alba* 亞種和 *dukhunensis* 亞種 (Alström 和 Mild (2003) 將之視為一樣) 的冬羽與 *baicalensis* 亞種亦十分接近, 簡直是不能分辨, 但是這些亞種在西面更遠的地方才出現 (度冬時最東只會達到印度和孟加拉)。在繁殖羽方面, 這些亞種的個體有全黑色的喉嚨; 倘若元朗發現的個體正在蛻變到繁殖羽的話 (皆因上胸有黑白兩色), 喉嚨上方沒有黑色羽毛, 足以排除是 *alba* (*'dukhunensis'*) 亞種的可能性。

### *Baicalensis* 亞種的分佈範圍

Alström 和 Mild (2003) 形容 *baicalensis* 亞種的繁殖範圍為西伯利亞的中南和東南部, 即北緯大約60度以南, 和葉尼塞河 (約東經95度) 以東約100-150公里, 至斯塔諾夫山脈 (約東經125度), 並南至蒙古北部和中部 (西北部除外), 和中國內蒙古的最東北。越冬範圍包括印度北部、尼泊爾、孟加拉、緬甸北部、泰國北部和中國南部 (四川、雲南、貴州、廣西、廣東)。由於繁殖範圍一直向東伸延至香港 (東經122度) 而越冬範圍包括中國南部, 這亞種在本港出現因此並不出奇。

在元朗目睹白鵲鵒 *baicalensis* 亞種正好標誌一個精彩星期的終結, 當中我有機會看盡目前本地錄得 *Motacilla* 鵲鵒所有十個種類, 計有: 灰鵲鵒 (*M. cinerea*)、黃頭鵲鵒 (*M. citreola*)、東方黃頭鵲鵒的三個亞種 (*M. tschutschensis tschutschensis*, *taivana* 和 *macronyx*) 以及白鵲鵒的五個亞種 (*M. alba leucopsis*, *ocularis*, *lugens*, *baicalensis* 和 *personata*)。對我來說, 能夠在元朗喧鬧的街道裡確認白鵲鵒另一個亞種正好說明, 就算一些最普通的本地鳥種, 仍有很多事情尚待我們發掘。

### 紀錄委員會的評語

正如何祖毅所言, 鑒於 Alström 和 Mild (2003) 對 *baicalensis* 亞種分佈的描述, 此亞種在本港出現並非在預料之外。這個亞種的辨識, 有賴相對不清的羽毛和結構特徵, 另外也要對白鵲鵒有細心和沉著的檢查, 才能毫無疑問地證明這個亞種的確出現。

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**Hybrid Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush**  
*Turdus atrogularis × naumanni*  
**at Pui O, Lantau**

*John Allcock*

*c/o HKBWS, 14/F Ruby Commercial Building, 480 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong*

*Vivian Cheung Heung Mui*

*c/o HKBWS, 14/F Ruby Commercial Building, 480 Nathan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong*

At about 15:20 on Saturday 7 November 2009 VCHM was photographing birds at Pui O when she noticed a bird with which she was not familiar, but which she recognized to be a thrush. Fortunately she was able to take four photos with her Canon 40D/400 mm lens before the bird then flew away and could not be relocated. Two of the photos are reproduced here (Plates 66 and 67).

Vivian posted the photos to the HK Wildlife and Hong Kong Bird Watching Society websites, asking for confirmation of the identification of the bird. The photos initially appeared to show a male Black-throated Thrush *Turdus atrogularis*, a species not previously recorded in Hong Kong. Many bird watchers traveled to Pui O the following day to look for the bird, but unfortunately the bird could not be relocated on that or subsequent days.

Examination of the photos provided by Vivian revealed several characteristics to indicate the identification as Black-throated Thrush, including a plain and pale grey back, whitish underparts, black face and upper breast and yellowish base to the bill. In combination these features are suggestive of a male Black-throated Thrush. A visible contrast in the greater coverts would suggest that the bird was in first-winter plumage.

It was noted by Geoff Welch, however, that the bird had reddish bases to some of the tail feathers, particularly on the outer tail; this feature should never be shown by Black-throated Thrush (Svensson 1992) but is present on Red-throated Thrush *T. ruficollis*, a closely-related species which was also at that time unrecorded in Hong Kong (there has been a subsequent record of Red-throated Thrush, also in November 2009, p.269). Black-throated and Red-throated Thrushes are sometimes considered conspecific (the species usually being referred to as Dark-throated Thrush *T. ruficollis* when both taxa are included) and have been known to hybridise. The presence of the reddish bases to the tail feathers indicated that the Pui O bird was in fact a hybrid, rather than a pure male Black-throated Thrush.

All of VCHM'S photos showed the bird perched, either from behind or in profile. Subsequently, photos of the bird were also posted by a Shenzhen-based photographer, Xin Tian Yu, showing the bird feeding on the ground, and seen from the front (Plate 68). Whilst these also showed the characteristic features of Black-throated Thrush, they also revealed that the flanks were heavily marked with rufous mottling. This mottling appeared too heavy and too extensive for Black-throated or Red-throated Thrush, which typically show relatively unmarked flanks and belly with, at most,



**Plate 66.**

Hybrid Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush  
*Turdus atrogularis* × *naumanni*  
Pui O, Lantau, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
Vivian Cheung Heung Mui

黑喉鵯與紅尾鵯混種鳥  
大嶼山貝澳 2009年11月7日  
張香妹



**Plate 67.**

Hybrid Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush  
*Turdus atrogularis* × *naumanni*  
Pui O, Lantau, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
Vivian Cheung Heung Mui

黑喉鵯與紅尾鵯混種鳥  
大嶼山貝澳 2009年11月7日  
張香妹



**Plate 68.**

Hybrid Black-throated × Naumann's Thrush  
*Turdus atrogularis* × *naumanni*  
Pui O, Lantau, 7<sup>th</sup> November 2009  
Xin Tian Yu

黑喉鵯與紅尾鵯混種鳥  
大嶼山貝澳 2009年11月7日  
信天羽

some light streaking on the flanks. Seeing this mottling on the flanks I suggested that this patterning may indicate that, rather than Red-throated, the second parent may in fact be Naumann's Thrush *T. naumanni*, a third closely-related species which is recorded rarely in Hong Kong. Naumann's Thrush shows distinctive red 'diamonds' on the flanks similar to the pattern seen on the Shenzhen photos of the Pui O bird, and different from the narrower streaking sometimes shown by Black- or Red-throated.

On the Birds Korea website (Moore's 2002), Nial Moore's discusses a bird seen in Korea showing characteristics of a hybrid between Red-throated and Naumann's Thrush. Like the Pui O bird, the individual described in Korea initially appeared to have relatively unmarked underparts (thus appearing similar to Red-throated Thrush), but when seen from different angles it became apparent that the flanks were in fact rather heavily mottled, similar to Naumann's Thrush.

The discussion on the Birds Korea website (Moore's 2002) highlights differences in the undertail covert patterning as a feature separating the taxa, as described in Svensson (1992). Black- and Red-throated Thrushes show unmarked whitish or buffish undertail coverts, while Naumann's Thrush typically shows marks on the undertail coverts. Unfortunately the undertail coverts of the Pui O bird are not clearly visible on any of the photographs, and this feature is therefore not of use for this individual. One of the photos does, however, suggest there may be some darker markings on the undertail coverts (Plate 68).

In summary, features indicating Black-throated Thrush as a parent include:

- Plain grey crown and mantle with concolorous plain grey rump;
- Black on face covering lores, supercilium and ear coverts as far back as the eye;
- Mottled black and white on chin and throat;
- Black gorget on lower throat and breast, with well-defined lower border;
- Yellow base to bill with darker culmen and tip.

Features indicating Naumann's Thrush as a parent include:

- Extensive rufous mottling on flanks, extending onto front of belly; this mottling apparently showing a diamond pattern rather than narrow streaks;
- Distinct rufous tones to outer tail feathers (a feature also shown by Red-throated Thrush).

According to Brazil (2009) Black-throated Thrush breeds from western Urals to Lake Baikal and northwest Mongolia, wintering to southwest, south and southeast Asia and has been recorded as an accidental visitor to Korea, Japan and Zhejiang. The range of Naumann's Thrush is given as south-central Siberia from the Yenisei to the Lena. Given the published range, the occurrence of a pure-bred Black-throated Thrush in Hong Kong is certainly a possibility. The debate about the characters of the Pui O bird, however, led to the final conclusion that this bird showed characteristics of it being a hybrid between Black-throated and Naumann's Thrush.

**Records Committee Comment**

*Vivian was fortunate to have seen such an attractive and distinctive bird, and to have taken such high quality pictures which led to the considerable debate and discussion about the true identity of this interesting individual. Unfortunately, it did not wait around for others to see it in the flesh, so to speak, but the photographs do ample justice. We now await the only remaining member of the quartet of thrushes mentioned, Black-throated Thrush, to be discovered in HK!*

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## 大嶼山貝澳的黑喉鵯與紅尾鵯混種鳥

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2009年11月7日(星期六)下午約3時20分, Vivian 在貝澳拍攝鳥類期間, 發現了一隻她感到陌生的野鳥, 她只知道這是一隻鵯。幸好當時她以 Canon 40D 相機及 400mm 鏡頭為該鳥拍到4張相片, 之後牠便不知所終。其中兩張相片見圖(66 及 67)。

Vivian 把相片上載到香港自然生態論壇及香港觀鳥會討論區, 請求大家協助辨識。起初大家都認為這是一隻從末在香港紀錄過的雄性黑喉鵯 (*Turdus atrogularis*)。之後數天, 很多鳥友前往貝澳嘗試尋找該鳥, 可惜都無功而還。

初步檢視 Vivian 所拍的相片, 該鳥顯示了黑喉鵯的特徵, 包括背部呈淡灰色, 下體白色, 面部及上胸黑色, 嘴緣底部黃色, 所有的特徵均顯示牠是一隻雄性黑喉鵯, 而大覆羽的對比亦顯示牠是第一次度冬。

後來 Geoff Welch 注意到牠的尾羽底部略帶紅色, 尤以外層的尾羽較為明顯。黑喉鵯從沒有過此特徵 (Svensson 1992), 但是牠的近親赤頸鵯 (Red-throated Thrush *T. ruficollis*) 卻有此特徵。赤頸鵯當時未曾有在香港紀錄過 (同年11月確認了首個赤頸鵯紀錄)。黑喉鵯與赤頸鵯有時會被認為是同種 (一般稱為赤頸鵯 Dark-throated Thrush *T. ruficollis*), 牠們亦有混種。這隻帶著微紅尾羽的鵯顯然是一隻混種鳥, 而不是純種的雄性黑喉鵯。

Vivian的所有相片只能從後拍到此鳥的背部或其輪廓。其後一名深圳攝影者「信天羽」拍到一張此鳥正面的相片, 當時牠正在地上覓食 (見圖68), 相中顯示出黑喉鵯的特徵, 但亦拍到牠的脇部有著紅褐色的色斑。一般黑喉鵯及赤頸鵯在其脇及腹部並沒有這種色斑, 牠們極其量只會在脇部有較淺色的色斑。當發現這種色斑後, 我便認定這鳥的父或母並非赤頸鵯而是紅尾鵯 (Naumann's Thrush. *T. naumanni*), 一種很少在香港記錄過的近親。紅尾鵯在脇部有著非常鮮明的紅鑽石紋, 其形態就跟深圳相片上的相像, 跟黑喉鵯或赤頸鵯的狹小色斑很不一樣。

Nial Moores 曾在韓國觀鳥網頁討論過一隻可能是赤頸鵯或紅尾鵯的混種鳥, 跟貝澳這隻一樣, 初時認為牠的下身沒有特別的色斑(所以認為牠是赤頸鵯), 後來從另一角度再看, 發現牠的脇部有深色的色斑, 跟紅尾鵯較相似。

韓國觀鳥網頁的討論區認為如 Svensson (1992) 所言, 應用鳥的尾下覆羽的特徵用作分類。黑喉鵯和赤頸鵯的尾下覆羽是白色或暗黃色而沒有標記的, 但紅尾鵯的尾下覆羽一般都有斑紋, 可惜這批貝澳的相片都未能清楚看到牠的尾下覆羽, 所以這個特徵未能用作分辨此鳥, 但其中一張相看到一些深色的斑紋在其尾下覆羽 (圖 68)。

總括而言，父或母為黑喉鶇的特徵包括：

- 頭冠及背部為灰色，其腰部亦為同色的灰
- 面部黑色包括眼先，眼眉及耳羽至眼睛
- 頰及喉部有黑白斑的斑狀
- 喉部下方及胸部有黑色護喉，及有一個鮮明的頸環
- 黃色嘴基但嘴尖比較深色

父或母為紅尾鶇的特徵包括：

- 脇有廣闊的棕紅斑紋伸展到前腹部，斑紋並非窄小的而是呈鑽石型的
- 獨特的棕紅色伸展到外尾羽(赤頸鶇有著同樣的特徵)

根據 Brazil (2009)，黑喉鶇在烏拉爾西部到貝加爾湖及蒙古西北一帶繁殖，並在西南亞、南亞及東南亞度冬，曾在韓國、日本及浙江錄得偶見鳥，而紅尾鶇分佈在西伯利亞的中南部葉尼塞河至勒拿河一帶。就其紀錄範圍而言，純種黑喉鶇在香港出現是絕對有可能的。在討論貝澳這鳥的身份鑑定時，最後結果認為牠的特徵顯示牠是黑喉鶇及紅尾鶇的混種。

### 紀錄委員會評註

Vivian 很幸運可以看到這隻誘人及與眾不同的鳥，並拍下這些高素質的相片，引發大家熱烈地討論及爭論牠的身份。很可惜此鳥再沒有給其他人看到牠的廬山真面目，但相片的高素質顯然得到大家的認同。我們熱切期待這四種鶇的最後一種－黑喉鶇駕臨香港。

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## The Status of Bonelli's Eagle in China with Special Reference to Hong Kong

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### Global Status

Bonelli's Eagle *Aquila fasciatus* is a dashing small to medium-sized eagle occupying a wide fragmented range across the lower latitudes of the Palearctic from western Europe and north Africa through the Mediterranean, Middle East and Arabia, into the Oriental region throughout most of the Indian sub-continent across the northern parts of south-east Asia to south China. According to Ferguson-Lees & Christie (2001), it is local and uncommon, mostly scarce to rare, with drastic decreases throughout its entire range since the 1950s. They gave population estimates in the mid 1990s of around 1,000 pairs in all of Europe, with over 80% in the stronghold in Spain, and smaller numbers in the Middle East. No accurate figures were available for the Asian populations but given the area of suitable habitat and assuming a density of 1 pair/100-200 square kilometres (based on Spanish data), the global population was estimated at probably not exceeding more than around 15,000 pairs and possibly much less. There is a separate race *A. f. renschi* in the Lesser Sundas, for which there is little data on population size.

As a result of the widespread and continuing declines, Birdlife International (2011) estimated the global population to be significantly lower, at 10,000 mature individuals. Whilst it was designated as Endangered in Europe, the global population is not considered to be Vulnerable because of its wide range, population size and estimated rates of decline below trigger levels, and is instead rated as Least Concern. The reality is that over most of its range in Asia, accurate population estimates are lacking and the overall situation could be more critical than indicated by the above assessment. The objective of this paper is to review status in China, including Hong Kong, based on latest field data to help fill this information gap.

Ferguson-Lees & Christie (2001) state that Bonelli's Eagle is solitary or often in pairs, and is resident over most of its range. It is highly territorial with a preference for rocky arid foothills and lower mountains with cliffs and steep-sided valleys, although in India it is also found in woodland. In winter it is frequently found at lower elevations in plains and wetlands, especially if these are within or close to its home range.

### Status in China

Cheng (1987) reported the status of Bonelli's Eagle in China as an "uncommon resident in the south". Whilst La Touche (1931-34) considered it to be "not uncommon at Foochow [= Fuzhou] and in the surrounding country" in Fujian, recent authors and field-workers in South China, as described below, report very few records. It would appear that Bonelli's Eagle is not common anywhere in south China, and there are large areas with no records. Its current status can best be summarised as a locally scarce resident. Whilst there is no evidence of migration, immature birds tend to wander more than adults, who appear to remain loyal to their territories once established.



**Plate 69.** Bonelli's Eagle adult *Aquila fasciatus* 白腹隼鷂  
Kowloon Peak, 16<sup>th</sup> August 2008 飛鵝山 2010年8月16日  
Ng Lin Yau 吳璉宥



**Plate 70.** Bonelli's Eagle juvenile *Aquila fasciatus* 白腹隼鷂  
Mai Po NR, 8<sup>th</sup> August 2010 米埔自然護理區 2010年8月8日  
Thomas Chan 陳土飛

The huge changes in China over the last century resulting from wars, the excesses of the Great Leap Forward and the Cultural Revolution, the opening up of the country in the last 30 years and the subsequent rapid and ongoing economic growth, have all had immense impacts on habitats and wildlife. Information on birds published by foreign naturalists up to the 1930s was followed by a 40 year period of turmoil and restrictions when very little information was available. From the 1980s birdwatchers again began visiting the remaining wild areas of China and rebuilding the knowledge base. This process is continuing, boosted by an expansion of interest in birds by the public at large. However, despite these efforts, information on the distribution and status of birds remains patchy. There is as yet no national atlas and no comprehensive database for birds of prey. The distribution of Bonelli's Eagle has therefore been summarised from published records and correspondence with active field naturalists.

### **Previously Published Distribution and Habitat in China excluding Hong Kong**

Caldwell & Caldwell (1931) reported Bonelli's Eagle in China from the mountains of Fujian, Hubei and Zhejiang. They stated it was largely restricted to the mountainous region of central and northern Fujian where it could be seen soaring over open areas searching for small mammals and members of the pheasant group. They noted it also fed upon reptiles and rodents.

La Touche (1931-34) gave the distribution as resident in the Yangtze [= Changjiang] Valley from Zhejiang to Hubei, east-central Fujian and north Guangdong, but added that the full range in China was not ascertained. He noted this species at Fuzhou and in the surrounding country, both on the hills and in the valleys, where he obtained eggs in March 1912 and young in May 1896. He also referred to the summer record by Wilder of a bird shot near Beijing in Hebei Province in 1935, far north of its known range and possibly an escape or misidentification.

De Schauensee (1984) stated that Bonelli's Eagle bred in east China south of the Yangtze to Guangdong and Guangxi, and probably also Yunnan. He noted the habitat to be wooded country and more open country in winter, with prey being mainly large birds and mammals.

The distribution map given by Cheng (1987) shows Bonelli's Eagle resident south from the Yangtze River with locations for eight specimen records. He named the resident areas as the Yangtze River, the southern part of Guizhou Province, the south-western part of the Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, Fujian and Guangdong Provinces. His specimen records included Hubei and Zhejiang Provinces. He added that it was occasional in Hebei Province, apparently based on the single specimen referred to above. He reported breeding habitat to be well-wooded country or forests nesting on lofty trees as well as cliffs.

Zheng & Wang (1998) state in the China Red Data Book that Bonelli's Eagle is distributed mainly along and south of the Yangtze River, and that it is resident in Guizhou [Anshun and Wangmo], Hubei, Anhui [Feixi], Zhejiang [Ningbo, Wenzhou and Longquan], Guangxi, Guangdong, Fujian [Fuzhou] and Hainan [Yuedong]. They note it inhabits highlands rich in water and builds its nest in high trees or on cliffs.

MacKinnon & Phillipps (2000) repeat the range given by Cheng, noting that it breeds in the "middle reaches" of the Yangtze although Cheng's map suggests a wider range, and add that it lives in open mountainous regions often soaring in pairs.

### **Recent Reports in China excluding Hong Kong**

Despite increased coverage of South China in the last 25 years, the number of records remains very sparse. In a summary of South China hill birds collated from 60 visits between 1984 and 1996, Lewthwaite (1996) reported Bonelli's Eagle from only four out of nine sites in Guangdong, Hunan, Jiangxi and Fujian. These were Heishiding, Babaoshan and Nankunshan in Guangdong and Wuyishan in Fujian. Notwithstanding the visits extended over a total of 263 field days, the maximum daily counts at each of the four sites were only one or two birds.

Lee *et al.* (2006) summarized bird records from a series of biodiversity surveys carried out between 1997 and 2004 in Guangdong, Guangxi and Hainan by Kadoorie Farm and Botanic Garden [KFBG], a Hong Kong based conservation organization. Despite visiting a total of 54 forest sites, recording over 800 field days and travelling extensively in South China, Bonelli's Eagle was only observed on three occasions. It was not particularly associated with the forest habitats surveyed and instead was found in open, shrubby hilly areas with occasional big trees and rocky outcrops. The three records were from Mulun [north Guangxi], Xidamingshan [west Guangxi] and Wuzhishan [Hainan]. The Hainan record was initially considered to be the first for the island, as the range was beyond that given by Cheng (1987) and MacKinnon & Phillipps (2000), but a previous record from Ledong County has subsequently been found (Guangdong Institute of Entomology & Zhongshan University, 1983) which stated that Bonelli's Eagle lives in hilly forest but forages for birds, snakes and rats in open country early in the morning.

Woodward (2006) also travelled widely in south China obtaining information for his site guide to birds in South-East China, covering Hong Kong, Macau, Guangdong, Hainan, Guangxi, Hunan, Jiangxi and Fujian. He made approximately 75 visits to around 50 sites between 1999 and 2006 and during about 120 field days recorded Bonelli's Eagle only once, at Sizhishan in Fujian [T. Woodward, *pers. comm.*].

In the China Bird Reports for the three years from 2003 to 2005, there were only four records from Jiangxi, three from Guangdong, two from Yunnan [noted as rare] and one from Tibet. This last report at Bayi, Linzhi on 13 May 2005 was claimed as the first record for Tibet. All records referred to only one or two birds.

Similarly, a total of 13 sight records between 2003 and 2007 on the chinabirder.com website, some of which are repeats of those referred to in the China Bird Reports above, comprised three each from Guangdong, Yunnan and Fujian [including the Sizhishan record above], and singles from Hubei, Jiangxi, Tibet, Anhui and Hainan. Other recent trip reports refer to records in Wuyuan in north Jiangxi, and winter records from Lake Poyang.

### Status in Hong Kong

Bonelli's Eagle has been recorded in Hong Kong regularly since 1958 and breeding has been confirmed in several different locations since 1978. Before 1958 there had only been a few isolated records in 1950, but based on the presence of suitable habitat it appears likely that this species had been either overlooked or mistaken for other birds of prey. There had also been one documented breeding record in 1936 of a raptor's nest with two downy young at Castle Peak which was thought probably to be this species.

Carey *et al.* (2001) classified Bonelli's Eagle in Hong Kong as a locally distributed scarce resident. They reported birds present in 47 [3.9%] out of 1,220 one kilometre squares during a Breeding Bird Survey carried out between 1993 and 1996, and stated that up to ten pairs may be present. The extent of how widespread the species was in Hong Kong was shown by the same records which because of their wide geographical spread resulted in birds seen in 27 [29%] out of 92 five kilometre squares. Many records refer to pairs of soaring adults, often following the same route at the same time each day. This behaviour, taken as evidence of holding territory, is often the only indication of this secretive species' presence. Typical locations are rugged open hillsides and poorly vegetated ridges, with a number of records from adjacent urban areas and occasionally over forest. Both adult and immature birds, but more frequently the latter, are also regularly recorded hunting at Mai Po over the Deep Bay Marshes.

### Recent Reports from Hong Kong

A review has been made of the annual records submitted to HKBWS for the four years 2007-2010, the same timescale as the Breeding Bird Survey referred to above. The results are summarized below in Table 1. They show that about half of the records were from Mai Po, and the total number of records and bird-days each year have been fairly consistent between 20 and 29 total records and 26 to 39 bird-days.

**Table 1.** Summary of Hong Kong Records for Bonelli's Eagle (2007-2010)

Year	Mai Po	Elsewhere	Total records	Total bird-days	Maximum count
2007	14	15	29	39	2
2008	17	9	26	35	3
2009	11	18	29	36	2
2010	15	4	20	26	3

When the locations of the above records are plotted on the 5km x 5km squares used for the Breeding Bird Survey, the results cover 16 squares for the months of March to August (the period covered by the previous survey) or 20 squares if all months are included. This is a little less than the 27 squares in which birds were seen during the Breeding Bird Survey (1993-1996). However, the two sets of data are not directly comparable as the Breeding Bird Survey covered all areas of Hong Kong including remote hillsides and hence would be expected to be higher. Note that whilst the Breeding Bird Survey ran from March to August, Cramp & Simmons (1980) report

that Bonelli's Eagle breeds early in the year with little apparent variation across its range. Eggs are typically laid from January with incubation and fledging taking 97-105 days, and the dependent young accompany parents for at least a further 8 weeks. However, as adults remain in their home ranges throughout the year, the areas where adults were recorded under the Breeding Bird Survey are still considered to represent breeding ranges despite the early breeding. Cramp & Simmons (1980) also report that each adult pair usually hunt up to 4km from their eyrie, and that the areas of territories in France were at least 30-40 square kilometres, mostly 50-130 square kilometres, but up to twice this or more in unfavourable areas. Thus, a typical territory of 100 square kilometres would be equivalent to four adjacent 5km x 5km squares, and the smallest territories would be between one and two adjacent 5km x 5km squares. Using these criteria Carey *et al* (2001) estimated that possibly up to ten pairs were resident in Hong Kong. Applying the same criteria to the records for 2007-2010 suggests that at least six pairs are resident, with the expectation that more would be found if other remote sites were visited.

Thus, despite the ongoing developments and increasing use of the countryside, it appears that Hong Kong still has between six and ten pairs of Bonelli's Eagles and that ongoing successful local breeding is indicated by the regular sightings of juvenile birds, especially at Mai Po.

#### **Summary of Status in China including Hong Kong**

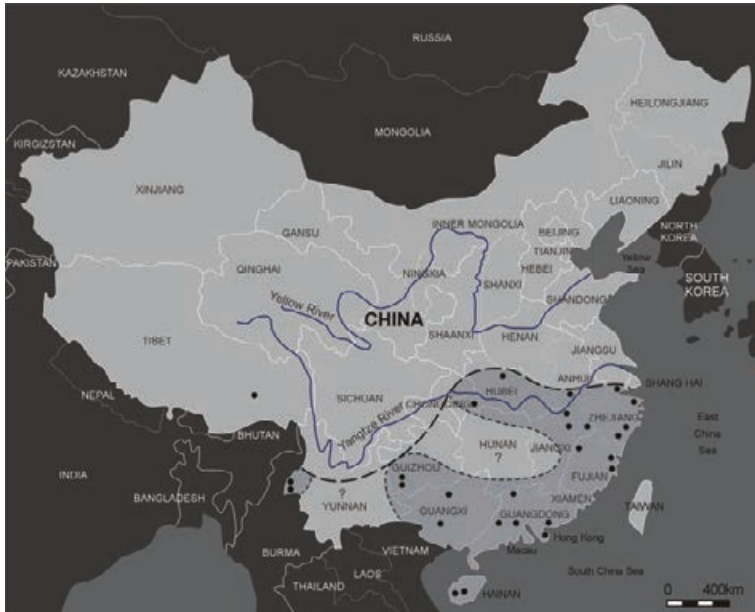
Figure 1 shows an updated distribution map based on the above data. The range within south China includes the following provinces and regions, all of which lie either along or south of the Yangtze River: Anhui, Fujian, Guangdong, Guangxi, Guizhou, Hainan, Hong Kong, Hubei, Jiangxi, Yunnan and Zhejiang. Records in mainland China are very few and far between and nowhere in the areas visited does it appear to be numerous. Whilst it is not possible to estimate the number of birds present, the total appears to low and may not contribute significantly to the world population which may therefore be overestimated. Based on the numbers involved, it also appears that Hong Kong is one of the more reliable places in China to encounter Bonelli's Eagle.

#### **Trends**

Given the lack of comprehensive survey information over time, trends in China generally cannot be determined. The collection of reliable long-term data is thus a high priority. In Hong Kong, which has been relatively well studied for 50 years, Bonelli's Eagle was formerly regarded as an occasional visitor (Macfarlane & Macdonald 1966), and then as probably resident with up to three pairs (Webster 1975). With up to ten pairs now present, this species appears to have increased, possibly due to a reduction in nest-robbing and disturbance, and fewer hill fires. However, in the rest of China, along with most other birds of prey, it remains very scarce, except perhaps around north Fujian and adjacent parts of Jiangxi and Zhejiang. The apparent range expansions to Hainan and Yunnan may simply be to the result of greater observer effort.



One factor worth noting is this species' apparent tolerance of urban development, at least within its hunting ranges, and use of man-made structures as nest sites. In Hong Kong, nest sites are typically on rocky crags in remote or inaccessible areas, but the number of sites is limited and man-made structures have been used in recent years including an electricity pylon. In addition a pair has been regularly recorded prospecting an advertising frame atop a high-rise office block within 5km of a known breeding site. Birds are also regularly noted soaring around high-rise buildings in Shenzhen next to the border hills with Hong Kong.



**Figure 1.** Distribution Map for Bonelli's Eagle in China  
[Note black dots indicate locations of specimen or sight records]

Cramp & Simmons (1980) state the prey is chiefly medium-sized mammals and birds, with rabbit *Oryctolagus cuniculus* and partridges, especially Red-legged Partridge *Alectoris rufa*, being most favoured in the Palearctic. However, Bonelli's Eagle is also known to take advantage of seabirds, domestic ducks and pigeons, and waterfowl and shorebird concentrations, such as those at Lake Poyang and Mai Po. The largest prey species recorded in Hong Kong have been Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* and an attempted Great Cormorant *Phalacrocorax carbo*.

### Threats and Conservation Priorities

Globally, Birdlife International (2011) summarized threats to Bonelli's Eagle as persecution from hunters and pigeon fanciers, pesticides, electrocution from power lines, loss of habitat, reduction in prey and human disturbance.

The China Red Data Book (Zheng & Wang 1998) noted Bonelli's Eagle is under national second-grade protection. This legal protection is different to the status assessment in the Red Data Book, which rated it "Rare" [using outdated categories], while the China Species Red List (Wang & Xie 2004), using IUCN criteria, found it "Least Concern" – perhaps surprising in view of the sparse records. The Red Data Book states that threats possibly relate to large-scale logging. This certainly causes disturbance to remote areas and direct loss of possible breeding sites. However, the threats to any bird of prey in China are much more extensive and wide-ranging.

Birds of prey have always been sought after and traded as desirable food or medicinal items. Egg collecting, taking of young from the nest, and trapping or shooting of free-flying birds is still widely practiced, despite the declaration of many protected areas and laws prohibiting killing or taking of wild birds. Casual or recreational shooting is also a high risk, especially for such large targets as birds of prey. In farming areas, Bonelli's Eagles may also be persecuted for taking domestic ducks or chickens.

Melville (1982) reviewed the bird trade through Hong Kong and estimated that in 1979 over 1 million wild birds of all species were imported from China including Bonelli's Eagles. Whilst capturing and trading birds of prey is now banned, illegal activities continue and it is very difficult to assess volumes. During regular monitoring of markets in Guangzhou and Shenzhen from 2000 to 2003, no large raptors were found on open sale, and smaller raptors were generally found only at Dongmen Market, Shenzhen, where enforcement was apparently weaker (Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden 2004). No Bonelli's Eagle was seen on open sale. However, this could signify a clandestine trade, or else rarity or commercial extinction.

Notwithstanding that the rugged hillsides preferred by Bonelli's Eagles are of lower commercial value than forest or lowland habitats, all habitats in China are at risk from rapid development and increased human disturbance. As with any predator, the combination of safe undisturbed nesting sites and availability of prey are crucial for survival. Birds and mammals are under intense survival pressures in many parts of China due to combinations of habitat loss, human interference and hunting pressures. Poisoning risks increase with the indiscriminate use of agricultural chemicals, and numbers and variety of prey species decrease with more intensive farming practices. Winter survival may also be affected by lower waterfowl numbers due to loss of wetlands, river control and land drainage. The widespread use of poisoned grain for waterfowl also places predators at greater risk.

Lastly, the establishment of wind farms and increased use of overhead power lines is likely to pose future threats following experience in Europe and elsewhere.

Thus, the threats are numerous and widespread. Conservation priorities are firstly education to value birds of prey, not as food or medicinal items, but in their natural environment, and secondly vigorous enforcement of the available legal protection at the local level, both for birds and the habitats and reserves which they occupy. Respect for the remaining wildlife and wild areas and effective protection are essential for the survival of such species as Bonelli's Eagle in today's rapidly changing China.

In Hong Kong, the main threat is perceived to be disturbance at nest sites by walkers and climbers, and changes in habitat and thus prey species. For example, it is possible that the reduced incidence of hill fires and the consequent succession from grassland to scrub in many hill areas may have an adverse impact on Bonelli's Eagle.

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## 白腹隼鷂在中國特別在香港的狀況

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### 全球總體狀況

白腹隼鷂乃一種中小型雄糾糾的猛禽，牠的分佈地廣闊但零散，主要在古北界的低緯度地區，由西歐及北非起東至地中海、中東和阿拉伯，伸展至東方包括印度次大陸的大部分地區以至東南亞北部及南中國。跟據 Ferguson-Lees & Christie (2001) 的記載，牠在很多地方都是不常見、甚至大部分時候是罕見至極稀有物種，自1950年以來牠的分佈地急劇地減少。作者估計在1990年代中期白腹隼鷂約有1000對在整個歐洲分佈，其中百分之八十集中在西班牙，另有小量分佈於中東一帶。至於亞洲族群的數量則無法作出準確的估計。但如果跟據西班牙的數據，即每100至200平方公里的合適生境便一對白腹隼鷂而言，全球的總數量估計不超過15,000對，但實際的數字可能更少。此外，有關在小異他群島的另一亞種 *A. f. renschi* 的數目亦非常缺乏。

由於白腹隼鷂族群數量廣泛而持續地下降，國際鳥盟(2011)估計其全球的總數量將顯著地減少至10,000隻個體。儘管牠在歐洲被列為瀕危物種，但由於牠分佈廣泛、族群數量及估計的下降速率均低於危險的水平，所以牠甚至不被評為易危，而只列作無危物種。事實上，白腹隼鷂在亞洲大部分分佈地均缺乏準確的族群數字，而總體的狀況可能比以上的評估更危急。這份文章的目標是以最新的野外數據揭示白腹隼鷂在中國(包括香港)的狀況，以填補數據的空缺。

Ferguson-Lees & Christie (2001) 曾敘述白腹隼鷂是獨行或時常一雙行事的猛禽，在大部分地區都是留鳥，有高度的領域性，喜好乾旱的岩石山麓及有陡峭懸崖及深邃山谷的矮山，儘管在印度牠也在林地出沒。冬天時牠經常在低海拔的平原及濕地覓食，尤其這些地方是接近其棲息地。

### 在中國的狀況

Cheng (1987)曾記錄白腹隼鷂在中國是“南方不常見的留鳥”，La Touche (1931-34)則把牠在福建的狀況列為“於福州及周邊地區並非不常見”，此後，如以下所述，近期的作者已很少紀錄。白腹隼鷂似乎在南中國所有地方並非常見物種，在大部分地方甚至是沒有記錄的；故此牠最新近的狀況該是“地區性稀少的留鳥”。由於沒有證據顯示牠有遷徙的習性，而未成年鳥比成鳥有較多的遊蕩行為，成鳥一旦確立了自己的領域便會以此為據地。

在過去百年，由於戰爭、大躍進及文化大革命等政運動為中國帶來巨大改變，加上近30年急劇和持續的經濟發展，均為野外的生境及野生動物帶來沉重的衝擊。由外國自然學者所出版的中國雀鳥資料只至1930年代為止，其後是40年是混亂及限制時代，期間只有很少的資訊出版。1980年後觀鳥者開始重新視察中國剩餘的野外地區並嘗試重整資料庫，由於民衆對觀鳥的興趣日增，使重整資料的過程得以延續。然而，雖然投入了好些努力，這鳥種的分佈及狀況的資料仍然是不甚完整的。由於仍未有全國性的圖庫、也沒

有整全的猛禽資料庫，我們只能透過自然生態學者出版的記錄及通訊才得到白腹隼鷂的分佈。

#### 有關白腹隼鷂在中國較早期的分佈狀況及其生境(香港以外)

Caldwell & Caldwell (1931)記載白腹隼鷂在中國分佈於福建、湖北及浙江的山區，他們更確定白腹隼鷂大都限於福建中部及東北部的山區出沒，他們在那裡的開闊地域盤旋高飛並以小型的哺乳類動物及雉雞為食，同時也會吃爬蟲類及齧齒動物。

La Touche (1931-34)指白腹隼鷂乃長江一帶河谷的留鳥，分佈地由浙江至湖北起至福建中至東部及廣東的北部，然而牠在中國的詳細分佈卻沒有確實的資料。作者指出在1912年3月他曾在福州及附近郊野的山坡及峽谷拾獲白腹隼鷂的鳥蛋，而在1896年曾找到幼鳥。他亦提及Wilder氏曾於1935年的夏天在北京附近的河北省地區曾有射殺白腹隼鷂的紀錄，但由於地點遠離其分佈地，故極有可能是逸鳥或錯認。

De Schauensee (1984) 記載白腹隼鷂在中國東部長江以南至廣東及廣西一帶繁殖，亦非常可能遠至雲南。牠們喜好樹林及開闊的野外生境，主要獵食體型較大的雀鳥及哺乳類動物。

Cheng (1987)所繪製的分佈圖顯示白腹隼鷂在長江以南出沒，在不同地點共有8個標本記錄，他指出其居留地包括：長江、貴州省南部、廣西族自治區的西南部、福建及廣東省。大部分的標本記錄是在湖北及浙江省獲得，而就那單一標本而結論，很明顯地牠只是偶然在河北省出沒。作者還記錄了其繁殖生境，牠喜好多樹木的地域或森林區，愛在高大的樹木或懸崖上造巢。

Zheng & Wang (1998) 在《中國瀕危動物紅皮書》指出白腹隼鷂主要分佈在長江流域南部；在以下地區為留鳥：貴州(安順及望謨)、湖北、安徽(肥西)、浙江(寧波、溫州及龍泉)、廣西、廣東、福建(福州)及海南(粵東)。他們指出白腹隼鷂喜好水分充足的高地生境，愛在高樹或懸崖上造巢。

MacKinnon & Phillipps (2000) 引述 Cheng 的分佈地域時指出雖然 Cheng 的分佈圖顯示較大範圍的分佈，但白腹隼鷂主要在長江的中游繁殖，另外牠們時常一雙一對地在開闊的山區出沒。

#### 中國近期的報告(香港除外)

儘管在過去的25年白腹隼鷂的分佈正在增加中，其錄得的實際數字依然非常稀少。在一份根據1984至1996年間以60次視察結果所編成的華南山林鳥摘要裡 Lewthwaite (1996) 指出白腹隼鷂在廣東、湖南、江西及福建等9個地點中只在其中的4個出沒，這包括廣東的黑石頂、八寶山、南昆山及福建的武夷山。儘管後來視察的次數增加至263天，但在這4個地點每天最多的數量才只有1至2隻鳥。

Lee *et al.* (2006) 總結了一系列由嘉道理農場暨植物園於1997至2004年間在廣東、廣西及海南所進行的生物多樣性調查，他指出儘管他們視察了共54個地點、超過800天的記錄及在華南地區大規模地遊歷，白腹隼鷂卻只有三個記錄。牠的出沒與所調查的森

林生境並沒有太大的關係，反而喜好開闊而灌木繁茂的山地及偶有大樹和岩石露出的地方。三個記錄分別在木論(廣西北部)、西大明山(廣西西部)及五指山(海南)錄得，海南的記錄最初被定為島上的首個記錄，因為牠是超越了Cheng(1987)及MacKinnon & Phillipps(2000)所記載的範圍；然而其後找到在樂東黎族自治縣更早期的紀錄(廣東省昆蟲研究所及中山大學1983)，記錄指出白腹隼鷂在山地地區棲息但清早會在開闊野外捕獵雀鳥、蛇和老鼠為食。

Woodward (2006) 也曾在南中國地區廣泛地考察取得這鳥種的資訊，地點包括：香港、澳門、廣東、海南、湖南、江西受福建。在1999年至2006年期間他在這50個地點考察了近75次，於這約120天的野外考察只在福建獅子山有一次白腹隼鷂的記錄[根據與T. Woodward 私人通信]。

在2003至2005年的《中國鳥類年報》指出該年度江西有4個記錄、廣東3個、雲南2個(稀有紀錄)及西藏1個。在2005年5月13日在林之八一的最後一個記錄聲稱為西藏的首次記錄。所有的記錄均只包括一至兩隻鳥。

同樣地，在2003至2007年間 chinabirder.com 網站出現過13次記錄，部分與上述的中國鳥類年報的記錄重覆，這些記錄包括廣東、雲南、福建(包括上述的獅子山記錄)等地各三次，湖北、江西、西藏安徽及海南各一次。較近期的紀錄包括江西北部的婺源及鄱陽湖的冬季紀錄。

### 在香港的狀況

自1958年起白腹隼鷂在香港便有定期的記錄，1978年後更發現了幾個繁殖地點。在1958年前只有數個零散的記錄，然而由於香港有其適合的生境，這鳥種的記錄極有可能被忽視或被錯認為其他猛禽。1936件曾在青山記錄到猛禽的繁殖，在巢內2隻毛茸茸的幼鳥皆有可能是白腹隼鷂。

Carey *et al.* (2001) 把白腹隼鷂歸類為本地分佈稀少的留鳥。在1993至1996年間所做的一項鳥類繁殖調查顯示，在1,220個一平方公里的調查範圍中牠在3.9% 即47個調查範圍被記錄過，調查更估計香港有約10對的白腹隼鷂。至於這鳥種在香港分佈的廣泛程度可由同一調查得知，在92個5平方公里的調查範圍裡牠在27個被記錄過，由此可反映其廣泛分佈的狀況。許多的記錄均指出牠在是一雙一對地在高空翱翔，每天經常在相同的路線及相同的時間出沒；這些防衛領土的行爲正正展示了這神秘鳥種的存在。牠們出沒地點一般為粗糙不平的山邊和植被貧乏的山脊，另有一些在市區附近錄得、偶有森林出沒的記錄。成鳥及未成年鳥(由其是後者)均有定期在埔及后海灣沼澤覓食的紀錄。

### 香港近期的的報告

與上述鳥類繁殖調查時期相同的香港觀鳥會在2007至2010四年年度記錄總結，結果歸納在下面表列。結果指出一半的記錄在米埔錄得，每年的記錄總數在20至29之間、總鳥日在26至39之間，四年數字非常一致。



表列一 2007至2010年香港記錄的白腹隼鷗摘要

年份	米埔	其他地方	記錄總數	總鳥日	最高數量
2007	14	15	29	39	2
2008	17	9	26	35	3
2009	11	18	29	36	2
2010	15	4	20	26	3

當把以上的記錄地點劃分成與鳥類繁殖調查相同的5公里×5公里的方形調查範圍，3月至8月的結果覆蓋了16個方形調查範圍(從前的調查時期)，如包括所有月份則為20個方形調查範圍。這數字只是略略少於鳥類繁殖調查(1993-1996)所得出的27個方形調查範圍。然而，兩組的數字並不能直接比較，因為鳥類繁殖調查覆蓋香港所有地區包括偏遠的山區，故得出的數字是應該較高的。另外雖然鳥類繁殖調查的時期是由3月至8月，但 Cramp & Simmons (1980)指出白腹隼鷗早在年初已開始繁殖，這情況在其分佈地相差 not 遠。牠通常在1月下孵，由孵卵至開始學習飛行需時97至105天，其後幼鳥會繼續跟隨雙親生活約8星期。然而由於成鳥全年均會在居住地活動，儘管牠在年初已開始繁殖，在鳥類繁殖調查所錄得的地區亦同時可作為其繁殖範圍。Cramp & Simmons (1980)亦指出每對成鳥通常在牠們巢穴附近的4公里範圍內覓食，而在法國牠的領域則最少有30至40平方公里、大部分為50至130平方公里，而在一些不太理想的地區則為這數字的2倍或更多。故此，牠們的典型領域為100平方公里，即等同4個相連的5公里×5公里的方形調查範圍，而最小的領域則在1至2個相連的5公里×5公里的方形調查範圍內。以此為基，Carey *et al* (2001)估計約有10對的白腹隼鷗以香港為家。以相同的準則應用在2007至2010的記錄則可得出在香港有6對留鳥的結論，如果調查可覆蓋其他偏遠地區的話，得到的數字可以更高。儘管鄉郊地區出現持續的發展及使用量增加，仍然有6至10對的白腹隼鷗以香港為家，而幼鳥經常性的出沒(特別是在米埔)則成為牠持續並成功地在香港繁殖的証據。

### 白腹隼鷗在中國及香港狀況的摘要

以上述數據為基礎，插圖1展示了最新的分佈圖。牠在南中國的分佈範圍包括下列長江沿岸或以南的省份及地區：安徽、福建、廣東、廣西、貴州、海南、香港、湖北、江西、雲南及浙江。牠在中國的記錄非常少、地點相距遠，以及數量很少。現階段未能準確地估計牠的數目，而由於出沒次數過低，亦未能對全球族群數字有重要的影響，如以此作統計，可能錯誤估計全球數目。從上述的數字可見香港是中國其一個較容易見到白腹隼鷗的地方。

### 未來的趨勢

由於一直沒有全面的調查資料，牠在中國的未來趨勢難以確定，所以收集長期而可靠的數據是當務之急。在香港白腹隼鷗的研究已有50年的歷史，由從前的偶然到訪鳥(Macfarlane & Macdonald 1966)發展到可能有最多三對留鳥(Webster 1975)，至現在最多十對留鳥，牠的數字似乎在增加中，這可能是因為巢穴被破壞和打擾的情況及山火減少了。然而在中國其他地方，除了福建北部及相連的江西和浙江外，牠與其他猛禽一樣依然是一非常稀少的物種。而牠的分佈範圍明顯擴展至海南和雲南有可能是由於較多的觀察活動。

另一值得討論的要素是這鳥種對都市發展的容忍度(至少在其覓食範圍內)及以人造的結構物作為巢穴。在香港牠的典型巢穴是築在偏遠或難以接近的崖壁上，然而在少數的繁殖地點近年出現於以人造結構物造巢的情況，這包括高壓電塔。此外，更有一對經常被記錄到在繁殖點5公里外的一座商業大廈頂層的廣告牌上探索，更有一些個體經常性地在香港邊界外位於深圳的高樓大廈附近翱翔。

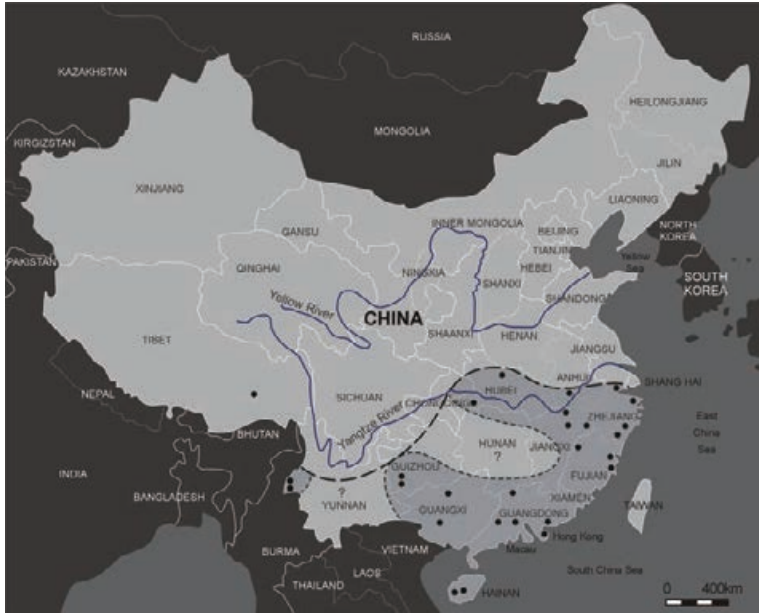


圖1 白腹隼鷂在中國的分佈圖  
[點圓點代表標本或記錄的位置]

Cramp & Simmons (1980)指出牠的獵物主要為中型的哺乳類動物及雀鳥，在古北界最愛吃的獵物是穴兔及雉科(特別是紅腿石雞)；但是白腹隼鷂亦會於密集成群的海鳥、家鴨和鴿子，以及水邊鳥裡捕獵，這情況常在鄱陽湖及米埔出現。在香港錄得體型最大的獵物為蒼鷺，亦曾有企圖捕獵普通鸕鶿的記錄。

### 威脅及保育

國際鳥盟(2011)指出白腹隼鷂的威脅來自獵人及鴿子愛好者的捕殺、殺蟲劑、接觸而觸電死亡、生境消失、獵物減少及人類的干擾。

《中國瀕危動物紅皮書》(Zheng & Wang 1998)指出白腹隼鷂乃國家二級保護動物，這法制上的保護跟紅皮書給其“稀有”狀況的評估有所不同(使用過時的分類)，《中國物種紅色名錄》(Wong & Xie 2004)跟據國際自然保護聯盟的標準把牠評估為“無危” - 可能是基於牠廣泛分佈的記錄。《紅皮書》指出牠的威脅可能與砍伐樹木有關，因為這會



在偏遠地區造成騷擾並直接地令繁殖地點消失。然而，不管是那一種猛禽，牠們在中國所面對的威脅都是大規模和廣泛的。

猛禽經常是被追捕的對象和作為美食或藥物的販賣物。儘管眾多地點已劃成保護區，也有既定的法例防止殺害及捕捉野生雀鳥，採集鳥蛋、巢內的雛鳥以及誘捕或野外射擊飛鳥等活動依然普遍。隨意或娛樂性的射擊活動亦對雀鳥，尤其是猛禽這樣大的一個目標，構成危險。在農場的地區，白腹隼鷂更因捕食家鴨和雞隻而被射殺。

Melville (1982) 回顧香港的雀鳥買賣時，曾估計在1979年約有一百萬隻不同物種的野鳥包括白腹隼鷂由中國輸入香港。儘管捕捉及買賣猛禽現已被禁，非法活動依然繼續但卻無法估計其數量。在2000至2003年間於廣州及深圳所進行的定期性監測並無發現大型猛禽的公開買賣，而小型猛禽則在執法較為寬鬆的深圳東門市場找到(KFBG 2004)。雖然在公開買賣場所並沒發現白腹隼鷂的影踪，但這可能是反映了交易轉為地下進行，又或是交易稀少甚至絕跡。

儘管白腹隼鷂所偏好的起伏不平山坡的商業價值比不上森林或低地的生境，但在中國所有的生境都因急遽的發展和日漸增加的人為干擾而備受威脅。對於所有的捕獵者而言，安全不受干擾的巢穴及獵物的供應仍生存之道。因為生境受破壞、人為干擾及捕獵等混合的因素，雀鳥及哺乳類動物在中國許多地方正面對沈重的生存壓力。任意使用農藥增加中毒的危機，農耕活動越是密集，猛禽的數量和多樣性越是下降。由於濕地的消失、河道的管制及土地的引流，冬天時水鳥數量的減少令猛禽度冬受到影響，廣泛使用下了毒的穀粒對付水鳥亦使捕獵者陷入危機。

最後，跟據歐洲及其他地方的經驗，建造風車場及越來越多的架空電纜很可能是未來要面對的危機。

故此由於白腹隼鷂正在面對眾多而廣泛的威脅，保育政策應優先制定於教育人們專重猛禽作為一自然環境存在的生物，而非人類的食物或藥物；其次在地方層次應該嚴厲執行既有的保育法例以保護雀鳥及牠們所需要的生境。在現時中國急遽發展的時期，尊重現有的野生動物和野外環境以及有效的保育政策是保障這些鳥種如白腹隼鷂的生存機會所必須的。

在香港白腹隼鷂的威脅主要來自行山及登山者對鳥巢的騷擾，以及生境的改變和因而引起的獵物物種改變。例如火山的出現，以及開闢草原連接至山區灌木叢生境的減少，均會對白腹隼鷂的生存有負面的影響。

## 鳴謝

本人謹此向以下曾經給予鼓勵、提供記錄資料、對雀鳥狀況及威脅提供建議的朋友致意：費樂思、何芬奇、劉惠寧、李國誠、Geoff Welch 及Tim Woodward。最後特別感謝費樂思和陳輩樂，他們為文章的初稿提供了建設性的意見使本文生色不少。

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## Vocalisations of an unidentified cuckoo at Tai Mei Tuk

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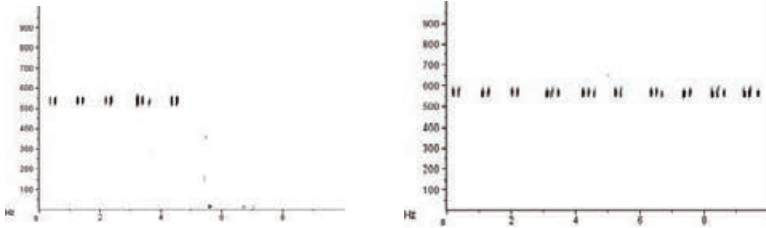
2 Villa Paloma, Shuen Wan, Tai Po, Hong Kong

On 29 April 2008 RWL heard a mellow 3-note call from a wooded hillside at the end of Tai Mei Tuk Road. Immediately recognizing it as unusual, he scanned the woodland for the source. The bird called again and he located a cuckoo *Cuculus* on a small branch near the top of a *Schima superba* tree. Its size and general appearance, together with its call, suggested it was either Himalayan Cuckoo *C. saturatus* or Oriental Cuckoo *C. optatus*. It was subsequently seen or heard in the same area to 7 May, during which time it was photographed (Plate 71) and its vocalisations recorded. Given the similarity in plumage of *saturatus* and *optatus* (King 2005, Lindholm and Lindén 2007), it was not considered possible to identify the bird by means of photographs.



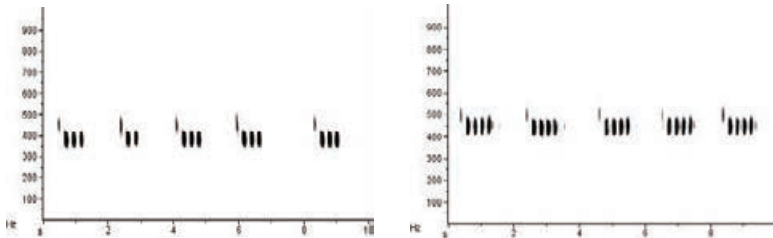
**Plate 71.** Unidentified cuckoo *Cuculus* sp. 未辨識的杜鵑  
Tai Mei Tuk, Hong Kong, 7<sup>th</sup> May 2008 香港大尾篤 2008年5月8日  
Ondy Wong 黃才安

Its voice was recorded by GJC and Ondy Wong, though only short bursts of the main part of its song in each case. It appears to have vocalised less often after the first day it was noted. Sonograms of the recordings made by GJC and OW are provided in Figures 1-2. These indicate a song comprised of two- or three-note strophes, with a pitch of 500-600Hz, uttered in series at slightly more than one per second.



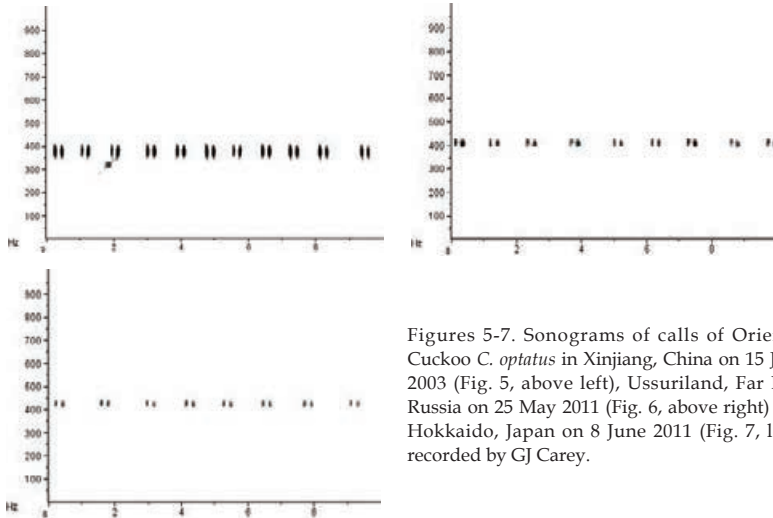
**Figures 1 and 2.** Sonograms of calls of unidentified cuckoo *Cuculus* sp. recorded at Tai Mei Tuk, Hong Kong, 3 May 2008 (Figure 1, left) and 30 April 2008 (Figure 2, right).

A distinguishing feature of the call of *saturatus* is the presence of a quieter and slightly higher-pitched introductory note ahead of the main elements of the call, which generally comprise three or four notes. This can be seen in Figures 3-4, which illustrate sonograms of birds recorded at Emei Shan, Sichuan and Ba Da Gong Shan, Hunan, both in China. Although three-note strophes were given by the Tai Mei Tuk bird, these did not include a first element that might be regarded as introductory in the same way. It can also be seen that the main notes of each strophe are lower in pitch than the Tai Mei Tuk bird, lying in the range 350-500Hz, and that strophes are uttered at intervals of about two seconds, considerably slower than the Tai Mei Tuk bird. It would thus appear that the bird at Tai Mei Tuk was not *saturatus*, or at least not a typical adult individual of this species.



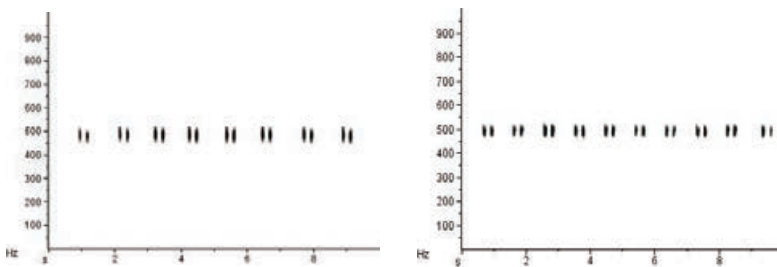
**Figures 3-4.** Sonograms of calls of Himalayan Cuckoo *C. saturatus* at Emei Shan, Sichuan on 20 May 2001 (Fig. 3, left) and Ba Da Gong Shan, Hunan on 5 June 2010 (Fig. 4, right), recorded by GJ Carey.

Comparison was also made with the calls of *optatus* from Xinjiang in China, Ussuriland in Far East Russia and Hokkaido, Japan. Figures 5-7 illustrate these. These calls are also lower in pitch than the Tai Mei Tuk bird, lying in the range 350-450Hz, and comprise two notes, with the first slightly higher-pitched than the second. The interval between the start of successive strophes appears to be rather variable, ranging from 0.9s to 1.25s. In comparison Lindholm and Lindén (2007) recorded a mean frequency of 401Hz and a mean interval of 1.06s in a sample of 58 birds recorded in Russia.



Figures 5-7. Sonograms of calls of Oriental Cuckoo *C. optatus* in Xinjiang, China on 15 June 2003 (Fig. 5, above left), Ussuriland, Far East Russia on 25 May 2011 (Fig. 6, above right) and Hokkaido, Japan on 8 June 2011 (Fig. 7, left), recorded by GJ Carey.

Finally, comparison was made with the calls of birds in the central mountains of Taiwan. As noted by King (2005), the taxonomic status of birds breeding on the island requires review; although generally regarded as *saturatus* (e.g. Liu *et al.* 2010), the call better fits *optatus*, as, although slightly higher-pitched, it generally comprises a double-note call and lacks the introductory note characteristic of *saturatus* in mainland Asia. Figures 8-9 indicate the call of Taiwanese birds is at a frequency of approximately 475-500Hz, which is closest to the Tai Mei Tuk bird of all the geographic locations considered here. Lindholm and Lindén (2007) recorded a mean frequency of 475Hz in a sample of eight birds recorded in Taiwan. The frequency with which each strophe is uttered is slightly less than one per second.



Figures 8-9. Sonograms of calls of Cuckoo sp. *Cuculus* in Taiwan, China on 10 May 2004 (Fig. 8, left), and 14 May 2004 (Fig. 9, right), recorded by GJ Carey.

### Discussion

Based on a comparison with vocalisations of *optatus* and *saturatus* in mainland Asia, Taiwan and Japan, the bird at Tai Mei Tuk would appear to be closest to *optatus*,

as the main phrase of the song is a two-note call and there is no introductory note. Differences in frequency from birds in Xinjiang, Russia and Japan, and a closer similarity to birds in Taiwan suggest that the Tai Mei Tuk bird may be of the latter population. However, the calls are at a slightly higher pitch than is typical on Taiwan.

It appears from Plate 71 that the Tai Mei Tuk bird was a first-summer individual, as there appears to be a colour contrast between the outer and inner primaries indicating different ages of feathers. Immature cuckoos may not utter a courtship call that is typical of adults (pers. obs.), and it is possible that the same is true of this bird, which might explain the difference in frequency between it and typical individuals in Taiwan, or possibly even typical *optatus* in Xinjiang, Russia and Japan. Liu *et al.* (2010) state that birds in Taiwan can be commonly heard from March to July; its presence in HK as late as early May is presumably due to its being a first-summer bird.

With regard to distribution in China, Cheng (1987) stated that *saturatus* breeds in southern provinces from Sichuan and Yunnan east to Fujian and Taiwan, and that 'horsfieldi' [= *optatus*] breeds in Xinjiang, Inner Mongolia and northeast provinces south to Hebei, Shanxi, Shaanxi and the Yangtze River. However, recent records refer to *saturatus* singing on territory north to Beijing, Hebei and Shaanxi (China Ornithological Society 2006) and to *optatus* on song only in the far north, in Xinjiang and Heilongjiang (China Ornithological Society 2007, 2008). Earliest dates when *saturatus* has been noted singing on territory in coastal provinces of southeast China are 5 April at Ba Bao Shan (Nanling National Nature Reserve), Guangdong (RWL, unpub. data) and 4 April at Damingshan National Nature Reserve, Guangxi (Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden (2003).

In summary, it does not appear possible to identify the Tai Mei Tuk bird with a satisfactory degree of certainty, though the authors believe it was most likely a bird of the Taiwanese population, whose taxonomic status is uncertain. Cuckoos rarely sing on migration, and that the bird was calling on a relatively early date perhaps adds further support to its being a member of a southern population rather than a bird from Japan or Russia.

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## 大尾篤 未能辨認的杜鵑鳴聲

賈知行

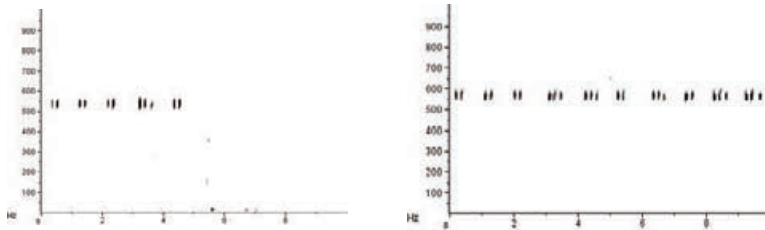
香港元朗加州花園商場127號AEC Ltd

*Richard Lewthwaite*

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2008年4月29日，Richard Lewthwaite 在大尾篤路盡頭一個長滿樹木的山丘旁，聽到一段圓潤的3音節鳴聲。他立即意識到這鳴聲並不尋常，於是逐部分細察林地，找尋發聲的源頭。這鳥再鳴叫的時候，他在一棵木荷樹頂附近的枝桠上找到一隻杜鵑 *Cuculus* sp.。從牠的體型和外貌，加上牠的叫聲，想到牠可能是中杜鵑 Himalayan Cuckoo *C. saturatus* 或霍氏中杜鵑 Oriental Cuckoo *C. optatus*。隨後幾天直至5月7日，牠在這地點仍然給人見到及聽到，牠也被拍照（插圖71）及錄下叫聲。由於兩種中杜鵑（*saturatus* 及 *optatus*）（King 2005, Lindholm and Lindén 2007）的全身羽毛相似，所以不考慮通過照片來辨別這兩種鳥。

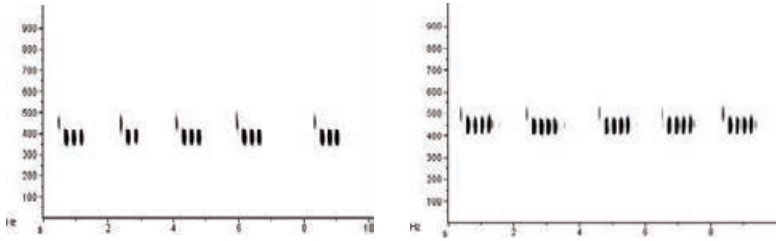
雖然牠的鳴唱每次都是突發而且短暫，但賈知行和黃才安仍能錄下牠的叫聲。自從這鳥首天被發現之後，牠在之後幾天鳴叫的次數減少了。圖表1及2乃賈知行和黃才安把錄音製成聲波譜圖。圖中顯示一首歌曲由二或三音節的歌詠組成，音高為500至600赫茲（Hz），每略多於1秒鐘就連續地發出。



圖表1及2.未辨別鳥種的中杜鵑 *Cuculus* sp.鳴聲的超聲波譜圖；紀錄地點：香港大尾篤，2008年5月3日（圖表1,左）及2008年4月30日（圖表2,右）。

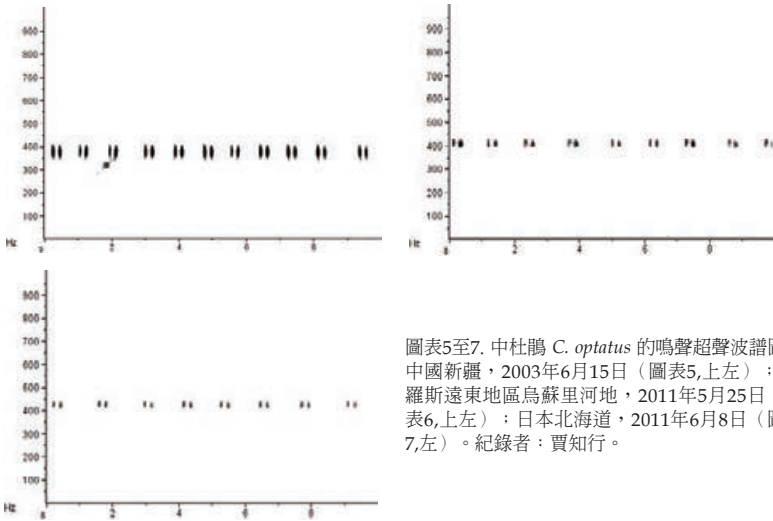
用以區別中杜鵑（*saturatus*）鳴叫聲的特徵是牠的叫聲比較安靜，並且在開端稍微高音，叫聲的主體通常包含三或四音節。這些特徵在圖表3及4顯示，此超聲波譜圖是分別在中國四川省峨嵋山和湖南省八大公山錄下的鳥鳴聲。雖然在大尾篤錄下的鳥鳴聲也是三音節歌詠，但其開端音節並不具有上述鳥鳴聲的主要特徵。在圖表3-4所顯示的鳥鳴聲譜圖，每一段歌詠的主要音節比大尾篤杜鵑鳥的鳴聲較低音，在350至500赫茲的範圍，同時各段歌詠發出的間隙約為兩秒鐘，比大尾篤的鳥鳴明顯較慢。由此可見大尾篤的鳥不會是 *saturatus*，或者至少不是這個鳥種的典型成鳥。





圖表3及4. 中杜鵑 (Himalayan Cuckoo *C. saturatus*) 鳴聲的超聲波譜圖，中國四川省峨嵋山，2001年5月20日 (圖表3,左)；湖南省八大公山 (圖表4,右)，2010年6月5日；紀錄者：賈知行。

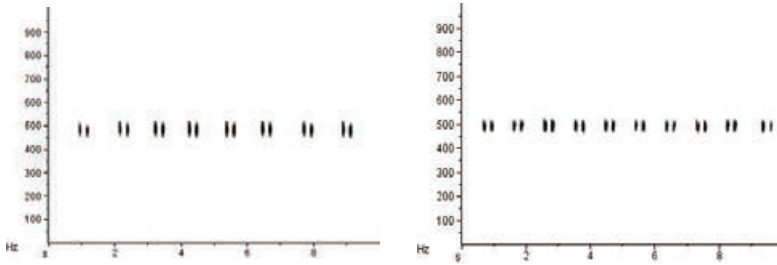
我們同時把中國新疆、俄羅斯遠東地區的烏蘇里河地和日本北海道的 *optatus* 鳴叫聲作比較。圖表5至7說明比較結果。上述三地鳥鳴的錄音，其音調均低於大尾篤鳥，在350至450赫茲的範圍，包含兩音節，首個音節比第二個音節稍為高音。每段歌詠的間隙頗多變化，約在0.9秒至1.25秒之間。而與 Lindholm 和 Lindén (2007)在俄羅斯錄下的58個鳥鳴的樣本比較，其鳴聲頻率中位值為401赫茲，音節間隙中位值為1.06秒。



圖表5至7. 中杜鵑 *C. optatus* 的鳴聲超聲波譜圖，中國新疆，2003年6月15日 (圖表5,上左)；俄羅斯遠東地區烏蘇里河地，2011年5月25日 (圖表6,上左)；日本北海道，2011年6月8日 (圖表7,左)。紀錄者：賈知行。

最後，我們又把台灣中部山區的鳥鳴聲作比較。King(2005)認為須重新檢討台灣繁殖鳥的分類狀況，雖然一般認為牠們屬於 *saturatus* (e.g. Liu *et al.* 2010)，但其鳴聲比較切合 *optatus*，儘管鳴聲稍為高音，可是通常包含二音節，並且欠缺如在亞洲大陸的 *saturatus* 那種獨特的開端音節。圖表8及9指出台灣的鳥鳴聲頻率大概在475至500赫茲，故此被認為在所有分類中是最接近大尾篤鳥的紀錄。Lindholm 和 Lindén (2007)在台灣紀錄8隻鳥鳴聲樣本的頻率中位值為475赫茲，每一段歌詠的發出的間隙稍為少於一秒鐘。





圖表8及9. 中杜鵑 (Cuckoo sp. *Cuculus*) 的叫聲超聲波掃描圖，中國台灣，2004年5月10日 (圖表8, 左)；2004年5月14日 (圖表9, 右)。紀錄者：賈知行。

### 討論

基於與亞洲大陸、台灣及日本的 *optatus* 和 *saturatus* 鳴聲的比較，大尾篤鳥最可能是 *optatus*，因為其鳴唱的主體為二音節，而且沒有發端音節。由於牠的鳴聲頻率與新疆、俄羅斯和日本的不同，而較為接近台灣的鳥，所以我們建議大尾篤鳥可能是屬於後者的種群。不過，其鳴聲音調則比典型的台灣鳥鳴聲稍高。

從插圖71來看，大尾篤鳥是單隻的第一年夏季鳥，因為該鳥的初級飛羽的外部 and 內部的顏色有異，顯示為不同時期的羽毛；杜鵑的未成年鳥未必如成鳥般發出求偶期的叫聲 (個人觀察)，這情況也可能同樣出現在大尾篤鳥身上，這就解釋了為何牠鳴聲的頻率與典型的台灣鳥不同；同一理由或者也出現在新疆、俄羅斯和日本的典型 *optatus* 身上。Liu *et al.* (2010) 指出，台灣的鳥鳴聲通常在3月至7月聽到，而香港的鳥遲至5月初才聽到，想必因為牠是第一年夏季鳥之故。

關於在中國的分佈情況，Cheng (1987) 指出 *saturatus* 的繁殖地區分佈在南部省份，由四川、雲南東部至福建和台灣；中杜鵑 (*horsfieldi*) [= *optatus*] 的繁殖地由新疆、內蒙古和東北省，南至河北、山西、陝西和長江。不過，近期在中國境內北面至北京、河北和陝西有 *saturatus* 的鳴唱紀錄 (China Ornithological Society 2006)；而 *optatus* 的鳴唱紀錄只在新疆和黑龍江等遠北地區得到 (China Ornithological Society 2007, 2008)。在中國東南沿海省份，*saturatus* 鳴唱的最早日期紀錄為4月5日在廣東八寶山 (南嶺國家自然保護區, RWL, 未公佈數據)；以及4月4日在廣西大明山國家自然保護區 (Kadoorie Farm & Botanic Garden 2003)。

總括而言，現階段仍未有充足的資料以確定大尾篤杜鵑的鳥種，雖則本文作者相信牠極有可能屬於台灣鳥的種群，而其分類則未能確定。杜鵑在遷徙時極少鳴唱，而大尾篤鳥在相對較早的日子鳴唱，這現象進一步證明牠可能屬於南方種群而非來自日本或俄羅斯。

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## Identification of a vocalising *Phylloscopus* warbler on Po Toi

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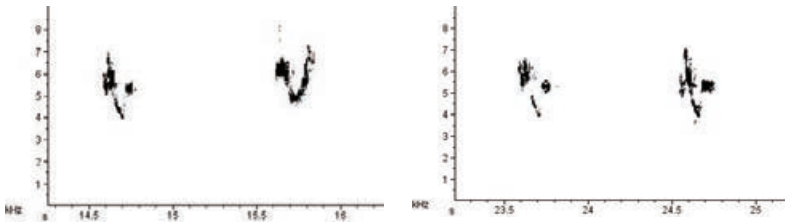
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On 13 April 2009 MDW heard an unusual call from a warbler *Phylloscopus* on Po Toi. It sounded to his ears rather like a cross between the calls of Greenish/Two-barred Warbler *P. trochiloides/plumbeitarsus* and Yellow-browed Warbler *P. inornatus*. He used a video camera to record its vocalisations.

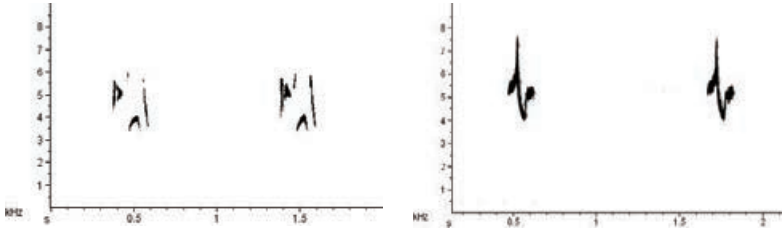
In terms of appearance, it resembled a drab Yellow-browed Warbler, and was dull greenish above with a pale supercilium; it had two pale wing bars, but neither pale rump nor crown stripe. Realising it was potentially a bird of some interest, he submitted the record to the Records Committee as a possible Hume's Leaf Warbler *P. humei*, or possibly even a hybrid Hume's x Yellow-browed Warbler.

It was clear that, given the potential similarity between Hume's and worn Yellow-browed at the end of the winter and the brevity of the notes provided, it would not be possible to accept the record based on plumage description alone. However, GJC analysed the recording provided by MDW and compared it with his own recordings of *P. humei humei*, *P. humei mandellii*, *P. plumbeitarsus* and *P. trochiloides* from the breeding grounds and *P. inornatus* wintering in HK. Sonograms of these and the Po Toi bird are provided in Figures 1-7.



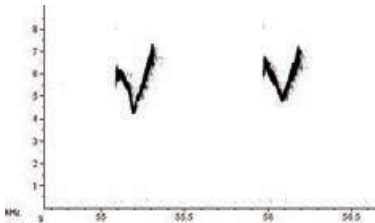
**Figures 1-2.** Sonograms of calls of a warbler *Phylloscopus* on Po Toi, Hong Kong on 13 April 2009, recorded by MD Williams

Figures 1 and 2 illustrate four of the 20 calls of the Po Toi bird that were recorded. Those occurring at approximately 14.5s, 23.5s and 24.5s were typical utterances and comprised all but two of those recorded. It can be seen that this typical call had a tripartite structure consisting of a short inflected first part, a steeply descending second part and a short, inflected third part. The frequency range was approximately 4-7 kHz. It can be seen from comparison with Figures 3 and 4, which illustrate calls of *P. humei* on the breeding grounds, that this structure and frequency range closely matches the recording of *mandellii* from Qinghai, but is different from nominate *humei* in Xinjiang.

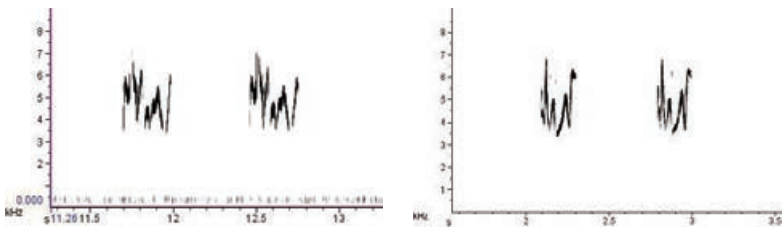


**Figures 3-4.** Sonograms of calls of Hume's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus humei* at Tian Shan, Xinjiang on 7 July 2003 (*P.h. humei*, Fig. 3, left) and Da Tong, Qinghai on 17 June 2006 (*P.h. mandellii*, Fig. 4, right), recorded by GJ Carey.

It can be seen in Figure 1 that the call at 15.5-16.0s is similar to the calls of a wintering *inornatus* from Hong Kong (see Figure 5). This call was uttered twice, and was the only potentially atypical call of this nature uttered by the Po Toi bird. However, it differs from a typical *inornatus* call in that the longer, inflected, terminal section that is so distinctive of the latter is not as marked, nor is the pitch attained so high.



**Figure 5.** Sonogram of calls of Yellow-browed Warbler *Phylloscopus inornatus* at Tai Po Kau, Hong Kong on 15 December 2011, recorded by GJ Carey.



**Figures 6-7.** Sonograms of calls of Two-barred Warbler *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* at Lake Baikal, Russia, on 22 June 2008 (Fig. 6, left) and of Greenish Warbler *P. trochiloides* at Huzhubei Shan, Qinghai on 8 July 2007 (Fig. 7, right), recorded by GJ Carey

Finally, it is clear that the calls of the Po Toi bird do not match the more complex structure of the typical calls of Greenish Warbler and Two-barred Warbler *P. plumbeitarsus* (Figures 6-7).

## Discussion

Based on a comparison with vocalisations of relevant *Phylloscopus* taxa on the breeding grounds, it would appear that the calls of the Po Toi bird most closely matched recordings of Hume's Leaf Warbler *P.h. mandellii* from Qinghai. Although two of the calls differ and show some similarity to the typical call of *inornatus*, there remain significant differences in the structure and pitch to rule this species out.

Luijendijk (2000) shows that the calls of *humei* are variable and, in addition to the typical call, a 'single-tone' call has been uttered by vagrant *humei* in the Netherlands. In addition, given that *inornatus* on the wintering grounds in HK also utters calls that are shorter than normal, lacking the first section, it would appear reasonable to assume that *mandellii* could utter similarly atypical vocalisations. For this reason, it is not considered that the Po Toi shows any evidence of hybrid origin.

Although Irwin *et al.* (2001) stated that the call of *mandellii* was audibly distinct from that of *humei* (which is also our experience), Martens (2010) stated that they do not appear to differ to any significant extent. The latter, however, does not provide further data to support this statement. While the call of the Po Toi bird more closely resembles *mandellii* recorded in Qinghai than it does nominate *humei* in Xinjiang, given the disagreement in the literature, it would be premature at this stage to assign the Po Toi bird to either taxon. Further work on call vocalisations of the two taxa is required, though the authors believe this bird is likely to have been *mandellii*.

Based on breeding distribution, *mandellii* is the more likely taxon of Hume's Leaf Warbler to occur in Hong Kong. *P.h. humei* is essentially a southwest Siberia breeding species, occurring much further north than *mandellii*, whilst *mandellii* is a west China breeding species that extends further east than *humei*. Cheng (1987) states that in China *humei* breeds in parts of Xinjiang and occurs as a migrant in southwest Tibet, and that *mandellii* breeds in Qinghai, Gansu, Ningxia, Shaanxi (Taibaishan), southwest Shanxi, Sichuan and Yunnan, while Martens (2010) adds southwest Inner Mongolia. Southwest Shanxi marks the easternmost extent of its range, at a point due north of Guangzhou.

Based on this analysis, the Po Toi bird has been accepted as the eighth HK record of Hume's Leaf Warbler, though the first of a presumed passage migrant, as all previous records have occurred in the period 4th November to 5th February. Given the plumage similarities of *humei* and *inornatus* in late winter and spring, it may be that familiarity with the call will result in more records at this time.

## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank Paul Leader, John Allcock and Mike Leven for comments on a draft, and Richard Lewthwaite for providing the summary of range.

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## 以鳴聲去鑑定一隻在蒲台島上的 *Phylloscopus* 柳鶯

賈知行

香港元朗加州花園商場127號AEC Ltd

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在2009年4月13日，MDW 在蒲台島上聽見一種不尋常的柳鶯 *Phylloscopus* 的叫聲，叫聲像暗綠柳鶯/雙斑柳鶯( *P. trochiloides* / *plumbeitarsus* )與黃眉柳鶯 *P. inornatus* 的混合體。他以攝像機紀錄了牠的鳴聲。

在外貌方面，牠貌似一隻暗色的黃眉柳鶯，上體暗綠色，眉淺色。翅膀上有兩道翼帶，但缺乏淡色的腰及冠紋。他覺得這是一種具研究價值的鳥類，所以向紀錄委員會提交了可能是淡眉柳鶯 *P. humei* 的紀錄，亦提出此鳥有可能是淡眉柳鶯及黃眉柳鶯雜交的個體。

單靠他簡單的敘述及在冬末時淡眉柳鶯及羽毛破舊的黃眉柳鶯外貌上很相似，本來不會接受其單靠外貌描述而作出定斷。但賈知行分析MDW所提供的錄音，與他在繁殖地所紀錄的 *P. humei humei*、*P. humei mandellii*、*P. plumbeitarsus*、*P. trochiloides* 及在香港度冬的 *P. inornatus* 錄音相比。圖1-7展示了各鳥及蒲台島上柳鶯的聲波圖。

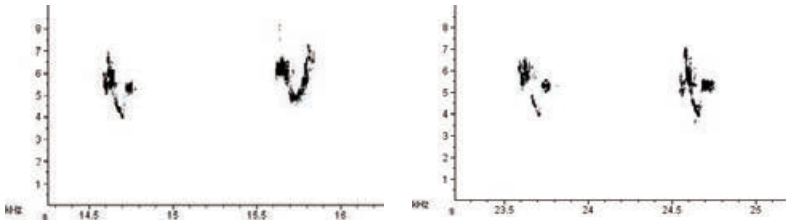


圖1及2. 於2009年4月13日香港蒲台島紀錄的 *Phylloscopus* 屬柳鶯的聲波圖。M.D. Williams 紀錄

圖1及2展示了在蒲台島上20段錄音紀錄的其中4段。那些叫聲發生在約14.5s、23.5s和24.5s，都是典型的音調，整段聲音都是由圖中的兩個音調組成。這典型的叫聲由三部分構成，包括的短屈折變化的第一部分，急劇下降的第二部分和短屈折變化的第三部分組成，頻率約為4-7kHz。與圖3-4 *P. humei* 在繁殖地的叫聲比較可以看出結構和頻率與青海 *mandellii* 的錄音最接近，但與新疆的指命亞種 *humei* 的叫聲不同。

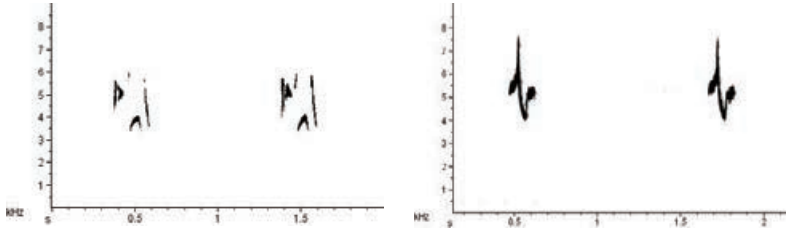


圖3及4. 於2003年7月7日新疆天山紀錄的淡眉柳鶯(*Phylloscopus humei*)的聲波圖(圖2左, *P.h.humei*)及2006年6月17日青海大同的聲波圖(圖3右, *P.h.mandellii*)。賈知行紀錄

在圖1中, 15.5-16.0s 的叫聲與香港度冬的 *inornatus* 相似(見圖5)。這叫聲發出了兩次, 是這蒲台島上所發現的鳥的非典型叫聲。牠這種叫聲與典型的 *inornatus* 叫聲不同, 後者叫聲末段較長及具變化的, 前者的較後部分不是如此明顯及聲調比較低。

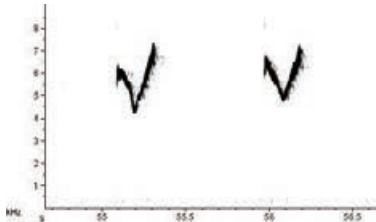


圖5. 於2011年12月15日香港大埔滘紀錄的黃眉柳鶯(*Phylloscopus inornatus*)的聲波圖 賈知行紀錄

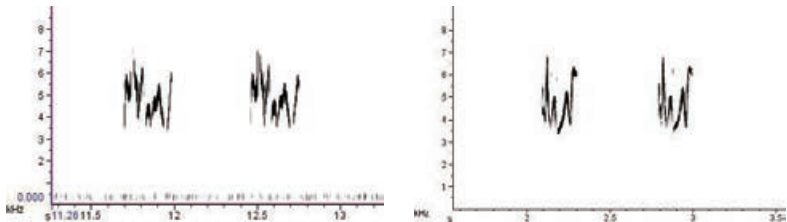


圖6及7. 於2008年6月22日俄羅斯貝加爾湖紀錄雙斑綠柳鶯 *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus* 的聲波圖(圖6左)及2007年7月8日於青海互助北山紀錄的暗綠柳鶯 *P. trochiloides* 的聲波圖(圖7右) 賈知行紀錄

結果是蒲台島上的柳鶯叫聲與典型結構複雜的暗綠柳鶯 *P. trochiloides* 及雙斑綠柳鶯 *P. plumbeitarsus* 叫聲不同(圖6及7)。

## 討論

與相關的 *Phylloscopus* 屬柳鶯在繁殖地的叫聲比較, 發現蒲台島上的柳鶯叫聲與青海的淡眉柳鶯 *P.h.mandellii* 最相近。雖然當中有兩段叫聲不是完全吻合以及與 *inornatus* 的典型叫聲有一定的相似性, 但其餘分段明顯不同的結構及音調排除了 *inornatus* 的可能性。



Luijendijk (2000) 表示 *humei* 的叫聲是多變的，除了典型的叫聲，單調的叫聲亦曾在荷蘭發現的迷鳥 *humei* 紀錄。此外，鑑於在香港度冬的 *inornatus* 也發出比正常短及缺乏第一部分的叫聲，我們推論 *mandellii* 亦可以發出類似的非典型叫聲。基於這個原因，在蒲台島上的柳鶯不認為是雜交的個體。

雖然 Irwin 等 (2001) 指出 *mandellii* 的叫聲從聽覺上與 *humei* 不同 (這也是我們的經驗)，但 Martens (2010) 表示兩者沒有顯著的不同，但後者沒有提供更多的數據來支持他的說法。在蒲台島上發現的柳鶯叫聲接近青海紀錄的 *mandellii* 多於新疆命名為 *humei* 的叫聲。基於學者的意見分歧，我們認為在現階段是過早把此鳥分類。進一步分析此兩種叫聲是必需的，但筆者較傾向牠是 *mandellii*。

從繁殖地分佈考慮，*mandellii* 是較有可能在香港出現的淡眉柳鶯亞種。*P.h.humei* 在西伯利亞的西南方繁殖，分布比 *mandellii* 更北；但 *mandellii* 是在中國西部繁殖，比 *humei* 擴展得更東。Cheng (1987) 指出在中國 *humei* 種群在新疆的部分地區繁殖，遷徙會經過西藏的西南部，*mandellii* 種群在青海、甘肅、寧夏、陝西 (太白山)、山西西南部、四川及雲南繁殖，而 Martens (2010) 亦紀錄了此種在內蒙古的西南部繁殖。山西西南標誌著此種的最東的界限，此地亦為廣州的北面。

基於這個分析，蒲台島上的柳鶯已被接納為香港第八個淡眉柳鶯的紀錄，雖然以往都認為此種是過境鳥類，因以往所有紀錄都出現於11月4日至2月5日期間。鑑於冬末和春季 *humei* 和 *inornatus* 的羽毛相似性，我們或可用叫聲去分辨此種從而得出更多的紀錄。

## 鳴謝

我們要感謝利雅德、柯祖毅及利偉文對此稿的意見，以及 Richard Lewthwaite 提供的分佈摘要。

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## **Guidelines for the Submission of Records**

### **HKBWS Records Committee**

#### **Recording and record submission**

One of the most important functions of the Hong Kong Bird Watching Society is the publication of the Hong Kong Bird Report. The value of this publication, which includes a detailed summary of birds recorded each year, depends on members submitting records of their observations. The submission of records also provides the raw data on which the Society and other researchers can draw conclusions about such things as the importance of a particular site or habitat in Hong Kong, the rarity of a particular species, patterns of migration or habitat preferences. For these reasons, members are encouraged to submit records at the end of each year.

What kinds of records are required? The answer to this question is most kinds, except those relating to species that are common and widespread in appropriate habitat. In particular, we welcome records of all but the most common migrants and winter visitors, of scarce residents or records of common residents occurring in unusual numbers or habitat. If in doubt, it is best to submit the record.

The Society prefers to receive records entered into a simple Excel spreadsheet as this facilitates analysis and allows easy extraction of records for both species and sites. This Excel file should contain seven columns containing the following data: species number, species name, date, place, number of birds, notes and observer name. Observations can then be entered, using one row for each record. A sample and blank copy of the Excel file is given on the HKBWS website.

#### **Rarities**

While the birds of Hong Kong are better known than those of many parts of Asia, new species are regularly being added to the Hong Kong List, and the status of a number of other species remains uncertain. Further, field identification techniques for some species still require refinement. The Society has a Records Committee to assess records and ensure that a high standard of reporting is maintained. This quality control provides, in part, the Society with a reputable voice in relation to the birds of Hong Kong and the region.

While the Records Committee may examine any record submitted, close attention is generally only given to those of rarities. The list of species for which substantiation is required is given on the HKBWS website. Adequate substantiation in the form of a written description, photograph, video, audio recording or some combination of these is required if the record is to be considered valid and published. A standard recording form for unusual records (URF) is available from the HKBWS website.

Ideally, field notes of rarity should cover the following points:

1. Date, time, duration and location of sighting, number present and sex or age, if known.
2. Binoculars or telescopes used, distance of bird from observer, weather and light conditions.
3. Description of habitat and a record of other birds, if any, it was associating with.
4. Activity of bird (at rest, in flight, swimming etc).
5. General size, shape and structure compared with other more familiar species. Structural features that may be important should be detailed (e.g. bill length compared to length of head, relative position of wing tips to tail tip, primary projections, hind claw length etc).
6. The most detailed description possible of plumage and bare parts, and not just those considered helpful in identification. Try to organise the components of the description logically, for example: head, upperparts, upper- and underwings, upper- and undertail, underparts, bare parts (iris, bill, gape if seen, legs and feet).
7. Any vocalisations. Try to indicate the quality of the sound (harsh, piercing, rattling, hoarse, liquid etc), and compare it with calls of other species.
8. Previous experience with the species or similar species.
9. Names of other observers or photographers present.

A rough sketch or diagram is often very helpful, and photographs, of course, are invaluable. Try to get others to see the bird, as two descriptions are better than one, and make sure you take notes on the spot, as it is all too easy to imagine field marks after consulting a book! Records of species not on the Hong Kong List generally require more than usually detailed descriptions for acceptance.

With regard to species that have distinctive vocalisations, the Records Committee realises that in some cases call only records are acceptable. However, no matter how distinctive, the call should be described in as much detail as possible.

If you are able to take reasonable notes of a bird but still cannot identify it, send in the description as it may be possible for the Committee to identify it for you. The increasing number of field guides on the market often make positive identification appear straightforward, but it should be remembered that there are still a number of species that are difficult to separate, and it is only by careful observations that some birds can be identified.

# 長春社

成立於一九六八年，是香港歷史最悠久的民間環保團體。我們積極倡導可持續發展的理念，致力於自然保育、保護環境和文化遺產。我們的使命是提升當代和未來社群的生活素質，並確保香港履行對鄰近地區以至全球生態環境的責任。我們倡導合適的政策、監察政府工作、推動環境教育和帶領實踐公眾參與，為完成使命全力以赴。

## 自然保育

推行生態可持續環境管理計劃，關注香港樹木保育情況。



## 環境教育

在學校、社區等舉行多方面的環境教育工作，向市民宣揚環保。



## 政策監察

監察政府環保政策和推行保育運動；定期舉辦研討會，鼓勵決策者之間的對話。



## 資源管理

每年回收物品包括舊衣及其他回收品，為堆填區減少超過400公噸廢物。



## 能源保育

分析香港的能源政策，探討及推動社區內的節能減碳項目。



## 社區參與

推行「零山火」計劃，向市民發派煙筒，鼓勵掃集人士以煙筒代替燃燒真蠟，一能降低山火紀錄，保護生態。



## 中國項目

在中國雲南省興建沼氣廁所，解決偏遠地區森林燒採引起的環境問題。



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# Mai Po Nature Reserve, a birdwatcher's paradise

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bird species, among which are globally endangered species such as Saunders' Gull and around 15% of the world's population of the Black-faced Spoonbill. A visit to Mai Po between October to April will reward you with the spectacle of tens of thousands of migratory waterbirds.

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For visiting Mai Po and using the facilities such as birdwatching hides and the Floating Boardwalk, please visit our website at [wwf.org.hk](http://wwf.org.hk)



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## **Notes for applications to visit Mai Po Marshes Nature Reserve**

Members should note that entry to the Mai Po Nature Reserve is restricted in order to minimize disturbance to the wildlife. Applications for permits to enter the restricted area will not normally be entertained unless the applicants are experienced bird watchers, scientists conducting research or on official duty to the area.

When applying for a permit, HKBWS members and birdwatching visitors to Hong Kong are advised to state clearly reasons for wishing to visit the reserve. To apply, write to the following address, marking the envelope "Application for Mai Po permit":

Director of Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation  
Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department  
Cheung Sha Wan Government Offices  
303 Cheung Sha Wan Road, Kowloon, Hong Kong

You should send photocopies of the following together with your application letter:

- HKID card or Passport
- Hong Kong Bird Watching Society membership fees receipt
- WWF-Hong Kong membership fees receipt
- Previous entry permit, if any

Visitors should note that it is a requirement of the Wildlife Protection Ordinance that a permit is obtained to enter the Reserve. Furthermore, it is a requirement of WWF-Hong Kong, who manages the Reserve, that users of its facilities are members of that organization. Relevant applicant forms for HKBWS and WWF-Hong Kong could be obtained from the following websites:

[www.hkbws.org.hk/BBS/](http://www.hkbws.org.hk/BBS/)

<https://apps.wwf.org.hk/eng/membership.php>







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