

**BIRDING IN YUNNAN  
CHINA**

**3-21 MARCH 2009**

**DION HOBBCROFT**

Eighteen days spent birding in Yunnan province was well organised by Jia Min ([chinabird.com](http://chinabird.com)) and locally led by Liu Yuxiang. Our trip began in Kunming with a morning visit to Xishan. This bird rich location did not disappoint with the first of several Rusty-capped and Spectacled Fulvettas with large numbers of brilliantly coloured Silver-eared Mesia and Red-billed Leiothrix feeding at arm's length. We made the flight from Kunming to Mangshi on Lucky Air and drove through in comfortable time to Ruili. A fortuitous stop revealed a large flock of the scarce Collared Myna congregating before going to roost.

We spent the next four nights in Ruili. Our first day at Moli was excellent in the morning with incredible views of tame Grey-bellied Tesia and Streaked Wren-Babblers near the waterfall. An afternoon at Wanding turned up Blue-bearded Bee-eater and a Chinese stakeout for Wire-tailed Swallow. The next two mornings were spent exploring forest patches at Nanjingli that produced many good birds ranging from Grey, Rufous-backed and Long-tailed Sibia to Red-faced Liocichla, Red-billed Scimitar-Babbler, White-gorgeted Flycatcher and flocks of Pin-tailed Green-Pigeon and Crested Finchbills. Afternoon drives to Jiele Reservoir yielded Black-backed Forktail and a massive male Manchurian Bush Warbler while Nongdaozen added birds like Indian (Black-billed) Roller and Baya Weaver to the China list.

Leaving Ruili behind we made for delightful Tengchong and spent an afternoon and morning at the very birdy Laifengshan. We quickly found the Brown-winged Parrotbill and a host of good babblers including tame Chinese Babax, Spot-breasted Scimitar-Babbler whilst a male Silver Pheasant stole the show the next morning. We continued to Yungfengshan Monastery spending two nights in the basic accommodation. Here the lack of rain, in fact a full blown drought seemed to have adversely affected bird populations on the ridge top forest. Perseverance yielded some good sightings like Long-tailed Wren-Babbler, Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler and Golden-breasted Fulvetta but a variety of laughingthrushes and sibilas appeared missing in action. Perhaps the best sighting was of a Yellow-rumped Honeyguide, possibly the first recent record in Yunnan.

An itinerary change took us to Baihualin and this was a great location although our one full day was hampered by dynamiting road menders and a thunderstorm-cold front with strong winds. We walked into the forest for about 12 kilometres each way with Slender-billed Scimitar-Babbler, White-gorgeted Flycatcher, Pygmy Blue Flycatcher, Rufous-throated Partridge and a shy Red-tailed Laughingthrush amongst the best sightings.

We now hit the tourist towns of Dali and Lijiang. A morning walk at Cangshan on the Cloudy Walk was very pleasant highlighted by a wonderful pair of Bar-winged Wren-

Babblers and what we thought was Forrest's Rock Squirrel. Two mornings at Jade Dragon Snow Mountain produced the hoped for Yunnan Nuthatch and the skulking Rufous-tailed Moupinia although as to be expected overall bird numbers were low due to the winter-like conditions exacerbated by drought. Flocks of Dusky Thrush, several scarce Black-bibbed Tits and a beautiful Yellow-throated Bunting were welcome sightings.

We made a visit to Tiger Leaping Gorge opting for the quieter side where a three kilometre walk takes you to the site. The birding was excellent with highlights including a superb Wallcreeper and a flock of the Brown-winged Parrotbill subspecies *ricketti*. The following morning exploring some forest nearby that looked good for the elusive Giant Nuthatch turned up a major surprise when a Derbayan Parakeet loudly announced its presence before flying over our heads.

We made our way to Zhongdian now re-branded as Shangrila. The wonderful Napa Hai wetlands were home to a bunch of Black-necked Cranes with a single Common Crane whilst the raptor show turned on incredible views of Cinereous Vulture, White-tailed and Steppe Eagle. Exploring woodlands out towards Bita Hai revealed a large flock of roadside Blood Pheasants plus our only Kessler's Thrush and White-throated Redstarts.

Returning to Kunming we made a final couple of visits to Xishan adding Long-tailed Thrush, Yellow-bellied Tit and Chinese Thrush to the trip list. We finished up seeing over 300 species in this fascinating bird rich province of China.

Many thanks to Bill Mueller and Daphne Gemmill for joining me on this great trip and making it possible.

## ITINERARY

- 3 March:** Arrive Kunming in afternoon spending the late afternoon tea shopping.
- 4 March:** Early morning Xishan before flying to Mangshi and driving to Ruili.
- 5 March:** Early morning at Moli and afternoon at Wanding "Zoo"
- 6 March:** Early morning at Nanjingli (east side) and afternoon at Jiele Reservoir.
- 7 March:** Early morning at Nanjingli (west side) and afternoon at Nongdaozen.
- 8 March:** Early morning Moli and afternoon drive to Tenchong and Laifengshan.
- 9 March:** Early morning Laifengshan and afternoon Yungfengshan Monaster (YFMS)
- 10 March:** Whole day YFSM
- 11 March:** Early morning YFSM and then drive to Baihualin.
- 12 March:** Whole day Baihualin
- 13 March:** Drive from Baihualin to Dali via Baoshan. Afternoon birding base of Cangshan.
- 14 March:** Early morning Cangshan then drive to Lijiang with late afternoon at Black Dragon Pool Park.
- 15 March:** Early morning Jade Dragon Snow Mountain (JDSM) and afternoon at Lashi Hai protected bird wetland.
- 16 March:** Early morning JDSM and afternoon at Lijiang Cemetery Stupa.

**17 March:** Tiger Leaping Gorge (TLG)

**18 March:** Early morning near Shigu-TLG turnoff then drive to Zhongdian and spend late afternoon at Napa Hai protected bird wetland.

**19 March:** Early morning on road to Bita Hai turning back at first high pass and afternoon back at Napa Hai.

**20 March:** Fly Zhongdian to Kunming with afternoon visit to Xishan.

**21 March:** Early morning to Xishan and afternoon flight to Australia.

## BIRDS

**Rufous-throated Partridge:** (1) seen fleetingly at Baihualin on 12 Mar with several heard.

**Hill Partridge:** Heard at YFSM on 10-11 Mar.

**Mountain Bamboo-Partridge:** (1) seen by Daphne from cable car to Cangshan after being alerted by Dion who could hear it scratching below him but could not see it.

**Red Junglefowl:** Heard in the early morning at Moli on 8 Mar.

**Silver Pheasant:** (1) perfect male on the quiet road around the back of Xishan on 9 Mar.

**Blood Pheasant:** (20) beside the highway just north of the Bita Hai turnoff on 19 Mar.



Silver Pheasant at Laifengshan (Daphne Gemmill)

**Bar-headed Goose:** (200) on both 18-19 Mar at Napa Hai.

**Ruddy Shelduck:** (5) on 11 Mar at, (6) on 14 Mar at, (20) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar with (20) on both 18-19 Mar at Napa Hai.

**Mallard:** (20) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar with (20-50) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Chinese Spotbill:** (50) at Jiele Reservoir, Ruili on 6 Mar, (20) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar with (4-6) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Northern Shoveler:** (2-10) seen on 4 dates with high count at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Northern Pintail:** (2) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar.

**Gadwall:** (6) on 14 Mar, (20) on 15 Mar at Lashi Hai, (1) at Napa Hai on 19 Mar and (2) in Kunming on 20 Mar.

**Common Teal:** (10-100) seen on five dates with high count on both days at Napa Hai.

**Common Goldeneye:** (1) female at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar.

**Common Merganser:** (4) Lashi Hai on 15 Mar, (3) TLG on 17 Mar and (20) at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Little Grebe:** (5) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar, (10) on 14 Mar near Dali and (2) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar.

**Great Crested Grebe:** (2) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar, (4) near Dali on 14 Mar, (1) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar and (2) Dianchi Lake at Kunming on 19 Mar.

**Rock Pigeon:** Recorded on 6 days with high count in Kunming.

**Speckled Wood-Pigeon:** (1) seen by Daphne at YFSM on 10 Mar.

**Oriental Turtle-Dove:** (2-4) seen on 6 days most numerous from Lijiang to Zhongdian.

**Spotted Dove:** (1-10) recorded on 8 days with high count on 8 Mar.

**Emerald Dove:** (2) seen on 5 Mar; (1) at Moli and (1) at Wanding Zoo.

**Pin-tailed Green-Pigeon:** (15) in a fruiting fig at Nanjingli on 6 Mar and heard on 7 Mar in the same general area.

**Mountain Imperial-Pigeon:** (4) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Grey Nightjar:** Heard at YFSM on 9-11 Mar.

**Himalayan Swiftlet:** (10-50) recorded at Moli, Xishan and Nanjingli.

**Asian Palm Swift:** (10) at Moli-Wanding on 5 Mar.

**Fork-tailed Swift:** (100) at Caoshan on 14 Mar were display flying and landing on rocky ledges so nesting process underway.

**House Swift:** Seen on 6 days with a high count of (200) on 13 Mar.

**Little Cormorant:** (100) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar.

**Great Cormorant:** (100) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar, (20) in flight on the Salween River near Baihualin on 13 Mar, (10) on 15 Mar at Lashi Hai and (10) at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Black Stork:** (5-10) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Little Egret:** (1-20) seen on 5 days.

**Great Egret:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (3) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Intermediate Egret:** (2) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (1) on 8 Mar.

**Cattle Egret:** (2-20) seen on 4 days.

**Grey Heron:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (3) at Napa Hai on 18 Mar.

**Chinese Pond Heron:** (1-2) all in winter plumage seen on 5 days.

**Oriental Honey Buzzard:** (1-2) on 5-7 Mar in Ruili area.

**Black-winged Kite:** (1-2) seen on 7 days.

**Black Kite:** (1) on 11 Mar at Gudong was the only sighting.

**White-tailed Eagle:** (5) at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Himalayan Griffon:** (5-30) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Cinereous Vulture:** (1-3) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar including one bird that flew very close and landed on the ground about 50 metres away.

**Crested Serpent-Eagle:** Heard at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Hen Harrier:** (1) female working a scrub covered hillside near Napa Hai on 18 Mar.

**Crested Goshawk:** (1) at YFSM on 9 Mar and (1) at Cao Shan on 14 Mar.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk:** (1) at Lijiang Temple Cemetery on 16 Mar.

**Himalayan Buzzard:** (1-10) seen on 11 days with high count on 7 Mar.

**Steppe Eagle:** (1) juvenile feeding on a dog carcass at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Mountain Hawk-Eagle:** (1) in flight at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Eurasian Kestrel:** (1-20) seen on six days with high count on 7 Mar.



Steppe Eagle at Napa Hai (Daphne Gemmill)

**Common Crane:** (1) at Napa Hai on both 18-19 Mar.

**Black-necked Crane:** (50) at Napa Hai on both 18-19 Mar.

**White-breasted Waterhen:** (2) on 6 Mar at Jiele Reservoir.

**Common Moorhen:** (1-3) seen on three dates.

**Eurasian Coot:** (10-100) seen on three dates with high count at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Little Ringed Plover:** (1) on 11 Mar at Gudong.

**Grey-headed Lapwing:** (1) on 8 Mar, (6) on 9 Mar in Tengchong and (1) on 14 Mar.

**Eurasian Lapwing:** (1-3) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Green Sandpiper:** (1-2) seen on four dates.

**Common Sandpiper:** (2) on 11 Mar and (1) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar.

**Heuglin's Gull:** (1) thought to be this species photographed at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Pallas's Gull:** (1) on 14 Mar near Dali and (2-3) at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Brown-headed Gull:** (5) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar and (10) at Napa Hai on 19 Mar.

**Black-headed Gull:** (300) at Green Lake in Kunming on 4 Mar, (20) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar and (300) plus at Dianchi Lake in Kunming on 20 Mar.

**Derbyan Parakeet:** (1) male seen in flight on 18 Mar in old growth pine forest as you descend towards the turnoff to TLG from Lijiang. It perched nearby and was heard several more times before flying off as its raucous screeches became more distant.

**Green-billed Malkoha:** (1) on 7 Mar at Nanjingli.

**Greater Coucal:** (1) at Dongzhao on 8 Mar; heard on both 7 and 9 Mar.

**Large Hawk Cuckoo:** (1) seen well at Baihualin on 12 Mar. Heard on another five dates.

**Banded Bay Cuckoo:** (1) seen well on 7 Mar at Nanjingli; also heard in this area on 6 Mar.

**Mountain Scops Owl:** Heard at YFSM predawn on 11 Mar.

**Asian Barred Owlet:** Heard at Moli on 8 Mar.

**Collared Owlet:** Heard at Nanjingli, YFSM and Baihualin.

**Himalayan Tawny Owl:** Heard by Daphne at YFSM on evening of 10 Mar.

**Eurasian Kingfisher:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (1) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar.

**White-throated Kingfisher:** (1-2) seen on 4 days.

**Pied Kingfisher:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (2) on drive to Mangshi on 8 Mar.

**Blue-bearded Bee-eater:** (2) at the zoo in Wangding on 5 Mar.

**Little Green Bee-eater:** (2) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (1) by the Salween River on drive from Baihualin to Baoshan on 13 Mar.

**Indian Roller:** (1) on drive to Dongzhao on 8 Mar.

**Yellow-rumped Honeyguide:** (1) male photographed at YFSM on 10 Mar.



Yellow-rumped Honeyguide at Yungfengshan Monastery (Dion Hobcroft/Daphne Gemmill)

**Speckled Piculet:** (1-2) Moli on 5 and 8 Mar, (2) Nanjingli on 7 Mar and (1) TLG on 17 Mar.

**White-browed Piculet:** (1) bird seen three times at Moli on 8 Mar.

**Bay Woodpecker:** Heard at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Grey-capped Pygmy Woodpecker:** (1) Xishan on 4 Mar, (1) Nanjingli on 7 Mar, (1-2) Laifengshan on 8-9 Mar.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker:** (1) male at Xishan on 21 Mar.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker:** Heard at Ruili on 6 Mar, YFSM on (10-11) and probably near Bitai Hai on 19 Mar.

**Great Barbet:** (2-5) seen in the mornings at Nanjingli on 6-7 Mar, (1) Laifengshan on 9 Mar, heard or seen (3) on both days at YFSM and heard at Baihualin.

**Golden-throated Barbet:** (1) YFSM on 11 Mar and heard here on 10 Mar; also (2) seen at Baihualin.

**Blue-throated Barbet:** (2) seen 5, 6 and 7 Mar in Ruili area and heard on 8 Mar.

**Coppersmith Barbet:** (1) at Moli on 5 Mar and (1) at Dongzhao on 7 Mar in Ruili area.

**Common Hoopoe:** (2) on 13 Mar and (1) near TLG on 17 Mar.

**Red-headed Trogon:** (1) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar, (2) seen very well at YFSM on 11 Mar with (1) seen fleetingly at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Large Cuckoo-shrike:** (1) on both 8-9 Mar at Laifengshan.

**Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike:** (1-2) on four days in Ruili area on 5-8 Mar with high count at Moli.

**Grey-chinned Minivet:** (2) at Hoolock Gibbon Research Centre on 11 Mar and (2) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Long-tailed Minivet:** (2-10) seen on 6 days and heard on a further three.

**Short-billed Minivet:** (5) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar and (2) at Hoolock Gibbon Research Centre on 11 Mar.

**Scarlet Minivet:** (10) on 4 days in Ruili area on 5-8 Mar.

**Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike:** Singles at Nanjingli on both 6-7 Mar.

**Slender-billed Oriole:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar, (2) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar, (1) at Moli on 8 Mar and (2) at Laifengshan on 9 Mar.

**Maroon Oriole:** (1-10) seen on 4 days in Ruili area on 5-8 Mar with high count at Nanjingli.

**Ashy Woodswallow:** (2) 20 km N of Ruili on Mangshi highway on 4 Mar.

**Black Drongo:** (1-10) seen on 6-8 Mar in Ruili area.

**Ashy Drongo:** (1-5) seen on 6 days including at Xishan, daily in the Ruili area and at YFSM.

**Bronzed Drongo:** (2-10) seen on 4 days in Ruili area on 5-8 Mar.

**Yellow-bellied Fantail:** (1) at Moli on 5 Mar with (2) on both 10-11 Mar at YFSM.

**White-throated Fantail:** (1-10) seen on 8 days and heard on a further two.

**Brown Shrike:** (1) near Baoshan on 13 Mar.

**Burmese Shrike:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (1) at Dongzhao on 7 Mar.

**Long-tailed Shrike:** (2-20) seen on 8 days in agricultural areas.

**Grey-backed Shrike:** Singles seen on 5 days.

**Eurasian Jay:** (1-5) at Laifengshan on 8-9 Mar.

**Red-billed Blue Magpie:** (1-2) at JDSM on 15-16 Mar.

**Grey Treepie:** (2) seen on 6-7 Mar in Ruili area; also heard here on 5 and 8 Mar. Heard at YFSM on 10 Mar.

**Black-billed Magpie:** (2) nest building in Zhongdian on 19 Mar and (1) at Dianchi in Kunming on 20 Mar.

**Red-billed Chough:** (2) at JDSM on 15 Mar with (10-20) in Zhongdian area on 18-19 Mar.

**Daurian Jackdaw:** (5) at TLG on 17 Mar with (10-20) in Zhongdian area on 18-19 Mar.

**Eastern Jungle Crow:** (2) at Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar.

**Large-billed Crow:** (1-20) seen on 5 days at JDSM and Zhongdian area.

**Oriental Skylark:** (20) at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar with small number at JDSM on the same date. (2) or more at Napa Hai on 18-19 Mar.

**Striated Prinia:** (2) on 18 Mar near TLG; heard on three dates.

**Hill Prinia:** (2) on 7 Mar at Nanjingli with (1) possible on 8 Mar.

**Grey-breasted Prinia:** (4) at Jiele Reservoir on 7 Mar and (2) at Moli on 8 Mar.

**Oriental Reed-Warbler:** (1) on 14 Mar in lakeside willows at Dali Lake with others heard.

**Striated Grassbird:** (1-2) in agricultural wetland areas in Ruili area on 6-7 Mar.

**Black-throated Laughingthrush:** (2-5) seen on three days in Ruili area.

**White-browed Laughingthrush:** (3-10) seen on 6 days including Ruili area, Laifengshan and TLG.

**Elliot's Laughingthrush:** (4) at Cangshan on 14 Mar with (2-10) in the 17-19 Mar in Zhongdian area.

**Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush:** (2-4) daily at YFSM on 10-12 Mar.

**Red-tailed Laughingthrush:** (1) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Red-faced Liocichla:** (2) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Puff-throated Babbler:** (1) on 5 Mar at Wanding Zoo with (2) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar.

**Spot-breasted Scimitar Babbler:** (2) at Laifengshan on 8 Mar and heard the next morning; (2) at Salween River near Baihualin on 13 Mar and (2) at Xishan on 21 Mar being also heard on 12 and 14 Mar.

**Streak-breasted Scimitar Babbler:** (1-10) seen on 9 days with high count at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Red-billed Scimitar Babbler:** (1) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar gave a great view.

**Slender-billed Scimitar Babbler:** (2) at Baihualin on 12 Mar in a mixed flock.

**Streaked Wren-Babbler:** (5) at Moli on 5 Mar with (2) here on 8 Mar.

**Bar-winged Wren-Babbler:** (2) at Cangshan on 14 Mar

**Long-tailed Wren-Babbler:** (2) at YFSM on 10 Mar and heard here the next day.

**Rufous-capped Babbler:** (1-3) seen on 5 days and heard on 2 others.

**Golden Babbler:** (1-2) seen on 3 days in Ruili area at Nanjingli and Moli.

**Grey-throated Babbler:** (2) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar.

**Rufous-tailed Babbler:** (2) at JDSM on 16 Mar.

**Silver-eared Mesia:** (5-10) seen on 5 days including Xishan, Ruili and Baihualin.

**Red-billed Leiothrix:** (1-10) seen on 5 days including Xishan, Nanjingli, Laifengshan and Black Dragon Pool Park.

**Blue-winged Minla:** (2-20) seen on 7 days including Xishan, Ruili area and Baihualin.

**Chestnut-tailed Minla:** (1-4) at YFSM on 9-11 Mar, (2) Baihualin on 12 Mar, (2) Cangshan on 14 Mar and (10) TLG on 17 Mar.

**Red-tailed Minla:** (4-10) at YFSM on 9-10 Mar with (5) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Chinese Babax:** (3-5) at Laifengshan on 8-9 Mar with (1) at Cangshan on 14 Mar.

**White-browed Shrike-Babbler:** (1-2) seen on 4 days and heard on another 4 with records from Xishan, Ruili area, YFSM and Baihualin.

**Black-eared Shrike-Babbler:** (2) on 10 Mar at YFSM and (1) on 12 Mar at Baihualin.

**Chestnut-fronted Shrike-Babbler:** Single males at YFSM on both 9-10 Mar.

**Golden-breasted Fulvetta:** (2) at YFSM on 9 Mar.

**Rufous-winged Fulvetta:** (2-10) at YFSM on 9-10 Mar with (5) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**White-browed Fulvetta:** (4-10) at JDSM on 14-15 Mar with (2) in Zhongdian area on both 16 and 19 Mar.

**Spectacled Fulvetta:** (1-10) at Xishan on 4, 20 and 21 Mar, (4) at Black Dragon Pool Park on 14 Mar and (2) at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Streak-throated (Manipur) Fulvetta:** (10-20) at YFSM on 10-11 Mar with (2) Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Rusty-capped Fulvetta:** (1-5) seen on 8 days including Xishan, Nanjingli, Laifengshan, YFSM and TLG.

**Grey-cheeked Fulvetta:** (3-50) seen on 6 days including Laifengshan, YFSM, Baihualin and Xishan.

**Nepal Fulvetta:** (5) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar were thought to be this species due to the broad white eyeing and crown stripes.

**Rusty-fronted Barwing:** (1) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar and (1) at Moli on 8 Mar with (20) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Rufous-backed Sibia:** (2) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Grey Sibia:** (1) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar.

**Black-headed Sibia:** (2) at Laifengshan on 9 Mar with (4) at Baihualin 12 Mar.

**Beautiful Sibia:** Heard only at YFSM and Baihualin.

**Long-tailed Sibia:** (6) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Striated Yuhina:** (10-20) at Moli and Nanjingli on 5-7 Mar.

**Whiskered Yuhina:** (2) at Laifengshan on 9 Mar and (4) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Stripe-throated Yuhina:** (5) at Cangshan on 14 Mar.

**White-collared Yuhina:** (1) at Xishan on 4 Mar, (5) at Cangshan on 14 Mar and (1) JDSM on 15 Mar.

**Rufous-vented Yuhina:** (1) at YFSM on 11 Mar, (5) at Cangshan on 14 Mar and (10) at TLG on 17 Mar.

**White-bellied Yuhina:** (2) at Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar, (1) YFSM on 9 Mar and (1) Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Chestnut-flanked White-eye:** (1) on 9 Mar at Laifengshan with (10) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Japanese White-eye:** (4-10) recorded on 9 days. Every white-eye in this complex looked at specifically for ID was Japanese.

**Brown-winged Parrotbill:** (10) at Laifengshan on 8 Mar and (5) of subspecies *ricketti* at TLG on 17 Mar.



Long-tailed Wren-Babbler at Yungfengshan Monastery (Daphne Gemmill)

**Common Tailorbird:** Heard at Ruili and the Salween River near Baihualin on 13 Mar.

**Mountain Tailorbird:** Heard at Ruili with (3) seen well at Xishan on 21 Mar.

**Brownish-flanked Bush Warbler:** (1) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar and heard on 8 Mar at Laifengshan.

**Manchurian Bush Warbler:** (1) male at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar.

**Chestnut-headed Tesia:** (1) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Grey-bellied Tesia:** (5) at Moli on 5 Mar.

**Dusky Warbler:** (1) at Wanding on 5 Mar.

**Buff-throated Warbler:** (1) on 8 Mar en route to Tengchong.

**Ashy-throated Warbler:** (2-6) seen on 5 days with high count at YFSM on 10 Mar.

**Pallas's Leaf Warbler:** Recorded at Laifengshan and Xishan.

**Yellow-browed Warbler:** (1-10) recorded on 5 days with high count at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar.

**Tickell's Leaf Warbler:** (2) at JDSM on 15 Mar.

**Buff-barred Warbler:** (1-10) seen on 7 days with high count at Laifengshan, Baihualin and Cangshan.

**Lemon-rumped Warbler:** Singles seen on 10, 12 and 17 Mar.

**Greenish Warbler:** (1-5) recorded on 5 and 8 Mar.

**Blyth's Leaf Warbler:** (5-10) at YFSM on 10-11 Mar.

**White-tailed Warbler:** (2-10) recorded on 10 days with high count at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Yellow-vented Warbler:** (2) at Moli on 8 Mar.

**Grey-crowned Warbler:** (2-4) recorded on 5-8 Mar in Ruili area with (1) on 12 Mar at Baihualin.

**Chestnut-crowned Warbler:** (1-3) recorded on 9-12 Mar at YFSM and Baihualin.

**Black-faced Warbler:** (1-4) recorded on 9-12 Mar at YFSM and Baihualin.

**Yellow-bellied Warbler:** (2) on 5-8 Mar daily in the greater Ruili area.

**Goldcrest:** (1) on 10 Mar at YFSM, (2) on both 14-15 Mar at JDSM with (2-10) on both days around Zhongdian.

**Wallcreeper:** (1) showed well at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Chestnut-vented Nuthatch:** (1-4) seen on 7 days including feeding chicks in a nest hollow at YFSM on 10 Mar.

**White-tailed Nuthatch:** (1) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Yunnan Nuthatch:** (2-6) at JDSM on 15-16 Mar and (1-4) in conifer forest in Zhongdian area on 18-19 Mar.

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch:** (2-4) on three days in greater Ruili area on 5-8 Mar.



Yunnan Nuthatch at Jade Dragon Snow Mountain (Daphne Gemmill)

**Brown-throated Treecreeper:** (1) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher:** (1-4) seen on 5 days and heard on a further three.

**Fire-capped Tit:** (2) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Coal Tit:** (1) at JDSM on 15 Mar with (2) seen on both 18-19 Mar in pine forests on wither side of Zhongdian.

**Grey-crested Tit:** (2-4) at JDSM on 15-16 Mar with (2) on road to Bitu Hai on 19 Mar.

**Great Tit:** (1-6) seen on 8 days including in the Ruili area, Salween River, JDSM and Zhongdian areas.

**Green-backed Tit:** (2-10) seen on six days with high count at Xishan on 4 Mar.  
**Yellow-cheeked Tit:** (1) Moli on 5 Mar, (1-4) at YFSM on 9-10 Mar and (6) at Baihualin on 19 Mar.  
**Yellow-bellied Tit:** (1) at Xishan on 21 Mar.  
**Black-bibbed Tit:** (2) at JDSM on 16-16 Mar and (1) near Zhongdian on 19 Mar.  
**Songar Tit:** (2) near Zhongdian on 18 Mar.  
**Yellow-browed Tit:** (2) YFSM on 10 Mar and (1) Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Black-throated Tit:** (2-10) seen on 7 days with high counts at Xishan, YFSM and TLG.  
**Black-browed Tit:** (10) seen on 4 days including JDSM and Zhongdian.

**Winter Wren:** (1) at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Rufous-breasted Accentor:** (1) at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Plain Martin:** (10) at Wanding on 5 Mar and (1) at Salween River near Baihualin on 13 Mar.

**Eurasian Crag Martin:** (2) at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Barn Swallow:** (2-200) recorded on 12 days with high count near Nongdaozen on 7 Mar.

**Red-rumped Swallow:** (10-20) seen on 4 days with high count at Wanding on 5 Mar.

**Wire-tailed Swallow:** (1) at Wanding on 5 Mar.

**Asian House Martin:** (10-30) at Moli on 5 and 8 Mar with (1) on 14 Mar at Cangshan.

**Striated Bulbul:** (1) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Black-crested Bulbul:** (4) at Moli on 5 Mar where also heard on 8 Mar.

**Red-whiskered Bulbul:** (1-40) seen on 6 days with high count in Ruili area.

**Brown-breasted Bulbul:** (1-100) seen on 6 days with high count at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Red-vented Bulbul:** (2-40) seen on 5 days with high count at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar.

**Sooty-headed Bulbul:** (2-10) on 13-14 Mar at Dali area.

**Flavescent Bulbul:** (1-5) seen at Nanjingli on 6-7 Mar with (2) en route to Tengchong on 8 Mar.

**Crested Finchbill:** (2) Xishan on 4 Mar, (1-20) at Nanjingli on 6-7 Mar and (2) TLG on 17 Mar.

**White-throated Bulbul:** (2-5) seen on 4 days at various sites around Ruili.

**Ashy Bulbul:** (10) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Mountain Bulbul:** (2-10) seen on 5 days with high count at Baihualin.

**Black Bulbul:** (5-40) seen on 7 days including mixed flocks of two subspecies: *leucothorax* and *concolor*.

**Golden-fronted Leafbird:** (1) at Moli on 8 Mar.

**Orange-bellied Leafbird:** (2-6) recorded on three days in Ruili area.

**Common Iora:** (2-4) at Moli on 5 and 8 Mar.

**Orange-flanked Bush Robin:** (1-3) seen on 8 days with high count at YFSM on 11 Mar.

**White-tailed Robin:** (1) male at Moli on 5 Mar and (1) female at YFSM on 9 Mar.  
**Black Redstart:** (1) male on 14 Mar at Cang Shan.  
**Hodgson's Redstart:** (1-4) females seen on three days with high count on 17 Mar on road into TLG.  
**White-throated Redstart:** (2) males seen near Bitu Hai on 19 Mar.  
**Blue-fronted Redstart:** (1-3) seen on 8 days with high count on 16 Mar.  
**White-capped Water Redstart:** (1-5) seen on 5 days with high count on 17 Mar at TLG.  
**Plumbeous Water Redstart:** (2-10) seen on three days with high count on 17 Mar at TLG.  
**Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher:** Singles seen on 5, 6 and 12 Mar at Moli, Nanjingli and Baihualin.  
**White-gorgeted Flycatcher:** Singles at Nanjingli on 7 Mar and Baihualin on 12 Mar.  
**Little Pied Flycatcher:** (2) at Moli on 5 Mar, (4) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar and (1) male at Laifengshan on 9 Mar.  
**Verditer Flycatcher:** (2) at Moli on 5 Mar and (1) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar.  
**Pygmy Blue Flycatcher:** (1) male in a mixed flock at Baihualin seen by Daphne.  
**Large Niltava:** Singles seen at Nanjingli on 6-7 Mar; also heard at YFSM on 10 Mar and Baihualin on 12 Mar.  
**Small Niltava:** (2) males at Moli on 5 Mar.  
**Hill Blue Flycatcher:** (1) male seen poorly at Moli on 5 Mar and heard here again on 8 Mar.  
**Oriental Magpie Robin:** (1-10) seen on 8 days.  
**White-rumped Shama:** (1) seen at Wanding on 5 Mar.  
**Black-backed Forktail:** (1) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar.  
**Slaty-backed Forktail:** (2) at Moli on both 5 and 8 Mar with (1) Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar.  
**White-crowned Forktail:** (2) at Moli on 5 Mar and (1) on road into TLG on 17 Mar.  
**Spotted Forktail:** (1) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.  
**Common Stonechat:** (1-20) seen on 11 days.  
**Pied Bushchat:** (4-20) seen on three days in the Ruili area on 5-8 Mar.  
**Grey Bushchat:** (1) Laifengshan on 10 Mar and (2) on 17 Mar at TLG.



Slaty-backed Forktail at Moli (Daphne Gemmill)

**Chestnut-bellied Rock Thrush:** (1) male at Nanjingli on 6 Mar, (1-2) at Laifengshan on 8-9 Mar and (1) seen by Daphne at YFSM on 11 Mar.

**Blue Whistling Thrush:** (2) at Moli Waterfall on 6 Mar, (2) in highway culverts on drive towards Nanjingli on 7 Mar, (2) on 13 Mar and (1) at TLG on 17 Mar.

**Long-tailed Thrush:** (1) near the summit of Xishan, Kunming on 20 Mar.

**Black-breasted Thrush:** (1) female at Xishan on 4 Mar, (1-2) at Laifengshan on 8-9 Mar and (1) on 14 Mar at

**Chestnut Thrush:** (1) male near TLG on 18 Mar.

**Kessler's Thrush:** (1) on 19 Mar at highest pass north of Bitu Hai on highway.

**Eye-browed Thrush:** (2) attracted to a fruiting Fig at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Dusky Thrush:** (3) at JDSM on 16 Mar and (20) on 18 Mar where we saw the Derbyan Parakeet and Chestnut Thrush.

**Chinese Thrush:** (1) JDSM on 16 Mar, (1) on road into TLG on 17 Mar and (1) Xishan on 21 Mar.

**Chestnut-tailed Starling:** (5) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar.

**White-vented Myna:** (5) 20 km N Ruili on Mangshi Road on 4 Mar.

**Collared Myna:** (80) in one large flock 20 km N Ruili on 4 Mar. Gathering into a large roosting flock staging on some large electric cable towers in the late afternoon. A small number of White-vented Mynas mixed in.

**Crested Myna:** (1) on 8 Mar at 20 km N of Ruili.

**Ruby-cheeked Sunbird:** (1) female at Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar.

**Purple Sunbird:** (3) at Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar.

**Mrs. Gould's Sunbird:** (2-3) at YFSM on 10-11 Mar with (4) at Cangshan on 14 Mar.

**Green-tailed Sunbird:** (2) daily at YFSM on 10-11 Mar and (2) Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Black-throated Sunbird:** (1-2) daily 5-8 Mar at various forest sites around Ruili.  
**Crimson Sunbird:** (10) at Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar with (4) at Moli on 8 Mar.  
**Streaked Spiderhunter:** (1-2) on 5-8 Mar at various forest sites around Ruili.  
**Fire-breasted Flowerpecker:** (1-4) recorded on 6 days with high count at YFSM on 10 Mar and TLG on 17 Mar.

**White-rumped Munia:** (6) at Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar and (6) at Moli on 8 Mar.  
**Scaly-breasted Munia:** (5) at Jiele Reservoir on 6 Mar and (5) at Nongdaozen on 7 Mar.

**Russet Sparrow:** (4) at Xishan on 4 Mar, (2) at base of YFSM on 11 Mar, (6) JDSM on 16 Mar, (10) at TLG on 17 Mar and (5) again at Xishan on 21 Mar.  
**Eurasian Tree Sparrow:** (5-10) recorded on 8 days.  
**Baya Weaver:** (5) at Nongdaozen on 7 Mar.

**White Wagtail:** (1-40) seen on 13 days with high count at Lashi Hai on 15 Mar; subspecies *alboides* and *leucopsis* dominant.  
**Citrine Wagtail:** (1) on both 5-6 Mar in Ruili area.  
**Grey Wagtail:** (1) on 7 Mar in Ruili.  
**Richard's Pipit:** (1) Nongdaozen on 7 Mar.  
**Olive-backed Pipit:** (4) at Laifengshan on 9 Mar, (3) Baihualin on 12 Mar and (2) on 13 Mar.  
**Rosy Pipit:** (30) in rice fields near Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar.  
**Buff-bellied Pipit:** (1) in with a flock of Rosy Pipits in rice fields near Wanding Zoo on 5 Mar.

**Black-headed Greenfinch:** (1-10) seen on 6 days with high count on 14-15 Mar at JDSM. Recorded nesting at YFSM feeding chicks in a concealed nest in a small pine tree on 10 Mar.  
**Tibetan Siskin:** (10) on 9 Mar at Laifengshan and (10) on 13 Mar near Dali.  
**Brambling:** (2-5) on 15-16 Mar at JDSM.  
**Red Crossbill:** (1) immature near Zhongdian on 19 Mar.  
**Spot-winged Grosbeak:** (4) at Nanjingli on 6 Mar.

**Crested Bunting:** (1) female at Salween River near Baihualin on 13 Mar.  
**Little Bunting:** (1-10) seen on 4 days with high count at Black Dragon Pool Park on 14 Mar and Lijiang Hill Cemetery on 17 Mar.  
**Yellow-throated Bunting:** (1) male at Black Dragon Pool Park on 14 Mar and (1) male at JDSM on 16 Mar.  
**Godlewski's Bunting:** (1-5) seen on 5 days with high count on 15 Mar at JDSM.

## MAMMALS

**Yellow-throated Marten:** (1) at Nanjingli on 7 Mar.

**Northern Tree Shrew:** (1) at Xishan on 4 Mar, (1) at Moli on 8 Mar and (1) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Pallas's Squirrel:** (2) at Xishan on 4 Mar, (2) Laifengshan on 9 Mar, (2) YFSM on 11 Mar and (4) Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Orange-bellied Himalayan Squirrel:** (1) YFSM on 11 Mar and (1) found dead at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Black Giant Squirrel:** (1) at Baihualin on 12 Mar.

**Forrest's Rock Squirrel:** (3) at Cangshan on 14 Mar are possibly this species.



Forrest's Rock Squirrel? at Cang Shan (Daphne Gemmill)

## REPTILES

**Blue-throated Calotes:** (2) seen in the Wandering area on 5 Mar. Photograph by Dion Hobcroft.

**Gecko sp.:** (1) at Baihualin under the lights of the room on 11 Mar probably *Gehyra mutilata*.

**Groove-necked Keelback:** (1) photographed at Baihualin on 12 Mar is known specifically as *Rhabdophis nuchalis*. Photographed below by Dion Hobcroft.



