



# Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## CHINA

### The Tibetan Plateau & Migrants on China's East Coast

24 August –13 Sep 2009



Przevalski's (Ala Shan) Redstart by David Shackelford

#### Trip Report compiled by Tour Leader Jesper Hornskov

In the species list the concept "bird-days" is used - it is the avian equivalent of man-hours: for example, separate flocks of ten and 15 Henri's Snowfinches moving through score 25 bird-days, as would the same single individual seen daily for 25 days. The sum of day totals - a handy measure of relative abundance, nothing more.

#### Annotated List of Bird Species recorded

##### Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Phasianidae

###### **Tibetan Snowcock**

*Tetraogallus tibetanus*

Eight birds 'scoped over on the ridge beyond the lofty Er La pass proved yet again that it - mostly - makes sense to carry on...

###### **Przevalski's Partridge (E)**

*Alectoris magna*

3+ bird-days. Noted on two dates.

###### **Daurian Partridge**

*Perdix dauurica*

c35 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

###### **Tibetan Partridge**

*Perdix hodgsoniae*

Four sunning themselves on a rock above Koko Nor on 31<sup>st</sup> allowed us all feather-by-feather looks. A very pretty species!

**Japanese Quail** *Coturnix japonica*

14 bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on 4 dates.

**Common Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus*

26 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

\*\*\*In addition, feral birds were common on Happy Island.

### **Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae**

**Greylag Goose** *Anser anser*

Three at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Bar-headed Goose** *Anser indicus*

360+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*

520+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 385 on Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*

c140 bird-days. Noted on five dates – incl one on Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>, a rather early date for this hardy species.

**Gadwall** *Anas strepera*

Seven at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Falcated Duck** *Anas falcata*

31 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

One male at Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos*

280 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 170 on Happy Island on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Spot-billed Duck (Chinese Spotbill)** *Anas zonorhyncha*

325+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 110 on Happy Island on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*

Nine bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*

55 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

84+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Baikal Teal** *Anas formosa*

53+ bird-days. Noted on three dates - incl at Koko Nor where it is not recorded annually. It was great to be able to familiarise ourselves with this vagrant to our native regions...

**Eurasian (Common) Teal** *Anas crecca*

c3,060 bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 2,170 at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina*

605+ bird-days. Noted on two dates at Koko Nor.

**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferina*

23 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\***Baer's Pochard** *Aythya baeri* / **Ferruginous Pochard** *Aythya nyroca*

One overhead in a flock of 45 Chinese Spotbills on 12<sup>th</sup>...

**Ferruginous Pochard** *Aythya nyroca*

Four at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

88+ bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**White-winged Scoter** *Melanitta deglandi stejnegeri*

Ten off Beidaihe Sandflats on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula*

3+ at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Merganser**

*Mergus merganser*

Three at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Grebes Podicipedidae**

**Little Grebe**

*Tachybaptus ruficollis*

11 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

\*\*\**T. r. poggei* differ from nominate in iris colour & vocalizations.

**Great Crested Grebe**

*Podiceps cristatus*

c105 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Black-necked (Eared) Grebe**

*Podiceps nigricollis*

c20 at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns Ardeidae**

**Yellow Bittern**

*Ixobrychus sinensis*

Five bird-days. Noted on the coast on two dates.

**Black-crowned Night Heron**

*Nycticorax nycticorax*

500+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates.

**Chinese Pond Heron**

*Ardeola bacchus*

13 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**[Eastern] Cattle Egret**

*Bubulcus coromandus*

Three at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey Heron**

*Ardea cinerea*

90+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Purple Heron**

*Ardea purpurea*

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**[Eastern] Great Egret**

*Ardea modesta*

38 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

*Note: This is a very recent split from Western Great Egret, A. alba.*

**Intermediate Egret**

*Egretta intermedia*

One seen well alongside Great & Little Egrets at Beidaihe on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Egret**

*Egretta garzetta*

c490 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Cormorants Phalacrocoracidae**

**Great Cormorant**

*Phalacrocorax carbo*

1,225+ bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Ospreys Pandionidae**

**[Western] Osprey**

*Pandion haliaetus*

38 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Hawks, Eagles & Kites Accipitridae**

**Crested (Oriental) Honey Buzzard**

*Pernis ptilorhynchus*

155 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 148 migr over Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Black Kite**

*Milvus migrans (lineatus)*

Nine bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Black-shouldered Kite**

*Elanus caeruleus*

Probably the same singleton on both 10+11<sup>th</sup>.

**Bearded Vulture**

*Gypaetus barbatus*

32 bird-days. Noted on five dates... paying close attention to age and moult-stages we were able to

ascertain that at least 12 individuals were present @ just one gully on 2<sup>nd</sup>!

**Himalayan Griffon (Vulture)** *Gyps himalayensis*

125 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Black (Cinereous) Vulture** *Aegypius monachus*

Possibly the same singleton seen on both 28+31<sup>st</sup>.

**Eastern Marsh Harrier** *Circus spilonotus*

53 bird-days. Noted on seven dates – superb views both at Koko Nor & on the coast.

**Pied Harrier** *Circus melanoleucos*

62 bird-days. Noted daily along the coast - repeated and prolonged views even of the 2<sup>nd</sup>-to-none adult male: WOW!

**Japanese Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter gularis*

34 bird-days. Noted on five dates along the coast - it was thrilling to witness one in prolonged but (at least while we were watching) unsuccessful pursuit of a Daurian Starling.

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*

73 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Himalayan Buzzard** *Buteo burmanicus*

One N of Xining on 26<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Formerly considered a race of Common Buzzard *B. buteo* but genetically closer to Upland Buzzard *B. hemilasius* (Rasmussen & Anderton 2005) from which it is ecologically separated & easily - well, fairly easily! - distinguished...

**Upland Buzzard** *Buteo hemilasius*

57 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis*

One passing S over the jagged peaks of the Qilian Mts seemed early - peak numbers are not seen until some 5-6 weeks later.

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos*

Six bird-days. Noted on five dates.

### Falcons & Kestrels Falconidae

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*

25+ bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Amur Falcon** *Falco amurensis*

What a beautiful bird to watch in flight! 16 bird-days. Noted seven dates - views gradually built up to 'the ultimate encounter' with an adult male soaring in good light at reasonable range. We even saw two going over the garden of our Beijing hotel on the last morning's pre-breakfast stroll!

**Eurasian Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*

55 bird-days. Noted on 12 dates.

**Saker Falcon** *Falco cherrug*

This magnificent falcon was found on several occasions on 16+ bird-days. Noted on the Plateau on three dates - most memorable a pair with four juveniles flying back and forth in superb light close to the road on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

One adult migr over Great Wall on 8<sup>th</sup>.

### Rails, Gallinules & Coots Rallidae

**Ruddy-breasted Crake** *Porzana fusca*

One heard on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

16 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Common Coot** *Fulica atra*

150 at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Cranes Gruidae**

**Black-necked Crane**

*Grus nigricollis*

11 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Stilts & Avocets Recurvirostridae**

**Black-winged Stilt**

*Himantopus himantopus*

102 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Pied Avocet**

*Recurvirosta avosetta*

Singles on two dates.

**Plovers & Lapwings Charadriidae**

**Northern Lapwing**

*Vanellus vanellus*

Eight at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey-headed Lapwing**

*Vanellus cinereus*

218 bird-days. Noted along the coast on four dates - main event 122 moving S over Happy Island on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Pacific Golden Plover**

*Pluvialis fulva*

83 bird-days. Noted on six dates. Main event 74 adults seen well at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Grey (Black-bellied) Plover**

*Pluvialis squatarola*

760+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates – highest count 400 on Happy Island on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Little Ringed Plover**

*Charadrius dubius*

88 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Kentish (Snowy) Plover**

*Charadrius alexandrinus*

465+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 155 at Beidaihe on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Lesser Sand Plover**

*Charadrius mongolus*

23 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Greater Sand Plover**

*Charadrius leschenaultii*

One at Beidaihe on 6<sup>th</sup>.

**Sandpipers and Allies Scolopacidae**

**Pintail Snipe**

*Gallinago stenura*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Swinhoe's Snipe**

*Gallinago megala*

Singles noted on 7+10+11<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Snipe**

*Gallinago gallinago*

80 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Western Black-tailed Godwit**

*Limosa limosa*

Five at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Black-tailed Godwit**

*Limosa melanuroides*

36 bird-days. Noted on three dates along the coast.

**Bar-tailed Godwit**

*Limosa lapponica*

116+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Whimbrel**

*Numenius phaeopus*

51+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Eurasian Curlew**

*Numenius arquata*

3,650+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates – up to 1,150+ per visit to the Happy Island wader roost!

**(Far) Eastern Curlew**

*Numenius madagascariensis*

38+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Spotted Redshank**

*Tringa erythropus*

63+ bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 57+ at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Redshank**

*Tringa totanus*

60 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Marsh Sandpiper**

*Tringa stagnatilis*

60 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Common Greenshank**

*Tringa nebularia*

197+ bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Green Sandpiper**

*Tringa ochropus*

25 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

**Wood Sandpiper**

*Tringa glareola*

62 bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Terek Sandpiper**

*Xenus cinereus*

20 bird-days. This charismatic wader was noted on six dates.

**Common Sandpiper**

*Actitis hypoleucos*

Ten bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Grey-tailed Tattler**

*Heteroscelus brevipes*

11 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Ruddy Turnstone**

*Arenaria interpres*

Two [RR] at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Great Knot**

*Calidris tenuirostris*

66 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Red Knot**

*Calidris canutus*

Four bird-days. Noted on three dates at Beidaihe - two feeding w/ Great Knots on 8<sup>th</sup> showed remarkable difference in size, one being 'normal' and the other Great-Knot-sized!

**Sanderling**

*Calidris alba*

Four bird-days. Noted at Beidaihe on two dates.

**Red-necked Stint**

*Calidris ruficollis*

265 bird-days. Noted along the coast on four dates.

**Little Stint**

*Calidris minuta*

18 juveniles at c4,200m on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Temminck's Stint**

*Calidris temminckii*

172+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event 90 w/ the Little Stints on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Long-toed Stint**

*Calidris subminuta*

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates along the coast - great views of unwary juveniles feeding at close range.

**Sharp-tailed Sandpiper**

*Calidris acuminata*

One at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Curlew Sandpiper**

*Calidris ferruginea*

24 bird-days. Noted on five dates... good views of both adults and juveniles, incl at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Dunlin**

*Calidris alpina*

31 bird-days. Noted on seven dates along the coast.

**Broad-billed Sandpiper**

*Limicola falcinellus*

16 bird-days. Noted on four dates along the coast - it was very satisfying to get prolonged looks of both adults and juveniles.

**Ruff**

*Philomachus pugnax*

Two (male & female) at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Coursers & Pratincoles Glareolidae**

**Oriental Pratincole**

*Glareola maldivarum*

149+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – unsurpassable views of two at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>!

**Gulls Laridae**

**Black-tailed Gull**

*Larus crassirostris*

405+ bird-days. This distinctive gull was noted on seven dates along the coast.

**Mew Gull**

*Larus canus*

At Beidaihe four adult *heinei* on 6<sup>th</sup> & a 2<sup>nd</sup> c-y almost certainly *kamtschatschensis* on 8<sup>th</sup>.

**[Mongolian] (Yellow-legged) Gull**

*Larus 'cachinnans' mongolicus*

53+ 1<sup>st</sup> c-y birds were identified – noted on five dates.

**Heuglin's (Lesser Black-backed) Gull**

*Larus taimyrensis (heuglini)*

A single bird identified as this species out of a confusing complex of other similar gulls.

**Pallas's (Great Black-headed) Gull**

*Larus ichthyaetus*

c70 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Common Black-headed Gull**

*Larus ridibundus*

1,650+ bird-days. Noted on nine dates.

**Saunders's Gull**

*Larus saundersi*

39 bird-days. Noted on four dates on Happy Island - real frame-fillers were seven adults & four 1st-winters parked at <30m on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Relict Gull**

*Larus relictus*

c465 bird-days. Noted on four dates - one at close range on our 1<sup>st</sup> afternoon at Beidaihe was a great way to start the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of our trip.

**Terns Sternidae**

**Gull-billed Tern**

*Sterna nilotica*

61+ bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on four dates.

**Caspian Tern**

*Sterna caspia*

17+ bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on four dates.

**Common Tern**

*Sterna hirundo*

73+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Little Tern**

*Sterna albifrons*

37 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Whiskered Tern**

*Chlidonias hybrida*

92+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – unbeatable views of both adults and juveniles at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**White-winged Tern**

*Chlidonias leucopterus*

96+ bird-days. Noted on six dates – unbeatable views of both adults and juveniles at Koko Nor on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Sandgrouse Pteroclididae**

**Pallas's Sandgrouse**

*Syrrhaptes paradoxus*

19 in desert W of Koko Nor on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Pigeons & Doves Columbidae**

**\*\*\*Common (Rock) Dove**

*Columba livia*

Feral

**(Blue) Hill Pigeon**

*Columba rupestris*

159+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates.

**Oriental Turtle Dove**

*Streptopelia orientalis*

112+ bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 36 on Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Collared Dove**

*Streptopelia decaocto*

36+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Spotted Dove**

*Streptopelia chinensis*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event three in the garden of our Beijing hotel on the last morning's pre-breakfast stroll!

**Cuckoos Cuculidae**

**Large Hawk-Cuckoo**

One in flight on Happy Island on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**[Rufous] (Northern) Hawk-Cuckoo**

A 1<sup>st</sup> c-y on Happy Island on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Cuckoo**

16 bird-days. Noted on six dates – main event six on Happy Island on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Oriental Cuckoo**

Five bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on three dates – main event three on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Lesser Cuckoo**

Two adults on Happy Island on 10<sup>th</sup> – Tingaling views of one through the ‘scope!

*Hierococcyx (Cuculus) sparverioides*

*Hierococcyx (Cuculus) hyperythrus*

*Cuculus canorus*

*Cuculus saturatus*

*Cuculus poliocephalus*

**Typical Owls Strigidae**

**Eurasian Eagle-Owl**

Two 'scoped in daylight near Xining on 25 Aug!

**Little Owl**

Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**(Northern) Long-eared Owl**

One in flight at dawn on 27<sup>th</sup>.

*Bubo bubo*

*Athene noctua*

*Asio otus*

**Swifts Apodidae**

**White-throated Needletail**

Noted on two dates - 135 over the Great Wall was not entirely unexpected given the time of year... great views of some of them as they performed 'just for us' (we were all on our own on a unrestored part of the wall!), wooshing by and allowing us to see the spines on their tails.

**Common Swift**

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates W of Koko Nor.

**Fork-tailed Swift**

7+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.

*Hirundapus caudacutus*

*Apus apus*

*Apus pacificus*

**Rollers Coraciidae**

**Dollarbird**

One at sunrise at Great Wall.

*Eurystomus orientalis*

**Kingfishers Alcedinidae**

**Black-capped Kingfisher**

Singles on three dates – prolonged ‘scope views of one on Happy Island on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Common Kingfisher**

11 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

*Halcyon pileata*

*Alcedo atthis*

**Hoopoes Upupidae**

**(Eurasian) Hoopoe**

161+ bird-days. 112+ in a day!

*Upupa epops*

**Wrynecks, Piculets & Woodpeckers Picidae**

**Eurasian (Northern) Wryneck**

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Rufous-bellied Woodpecker**

Singles on two dates.

**Great Spotted Woodpecker**

Nine bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Grey-headed Woodpecker**

*Jynx torquilla*

*Dendrocopos hyperythrus*

*Dendrocopos major*

*Picus canus*

Eight bird-days. Noted on six dates – seen very well.

### Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae

**Ashy Minivet**

*Pericrocotus divaricatus*

33 bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on two dates – a flock of 20 migr low over the sea embankment on 12<sup>th</sup> was a fine sight...

### Shrikes Laniidae

**Tiger Shrike**

*Lanius tigrinus*

A retiring 1<sup>st</sup> c-y bird at Beidaihe on 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Brown Shrike**

*Lanius cristatus*

62+ bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Isabelline (Rufous-tailed) Shrike**

*Lanius isabellinus*

11+ bird-days. Noted only W of Koko Nor.

**Grey-backed Shrike**

*Lanius tephronotus*

32 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Chinese Grey Shrike**

*Lanius sphenocercus*

Seven bird-days. Seen well on two dates along the coast - the species has departed by the time birdwatchers visit in spring...

**Tibetan Grey Shrike**

*Lanius giganteus*

Two W of Koko Nor on 29<sup>th</sup> - a low-density species, wide-ranging and often inconspicuous even when present (and thus easily missed), we were fortunate to see it well.

### Figbirds & Orioles Oriolidae

**Black-naped Oriole**

*Oriolus chinensis*

44 bird-days. Noted on five days – it was a fine sight to see half a dozen of these striking birds burst from the woods.

### Drongos Dicruridae

**Black Drongo**

*Dicrurus macrocercus*

34 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Hair-crested Drongo**

*Dicrurus hottentottus*

A party of three at Great Wall!

### Crows, Jays & Magpies Corvidae

**Eurasian Jay**

*Garrulus glandarius*

Two heard at Great Wall.

**(Eastern) Azure-winged Magpie**

*Cyanopica cyanus*

Quite common around Beijing, incl in the grounds of our hotel (29+ pre-breakfast on 13 Sep!).

\*\*\*\*\*Apparently (G Pettersson pers com) the Iberian taxon, *C. (c.) cooki*, has been shown to be sufficiently differentiated genetically to merit elevation to full species status. In addition to the ones we saw, *kansuensis* in NE Tibet & *interposita* at Beijing, the eastern species includes a further five taxa (Dickinson 2003)...

**(Red-billed) Blue Magpie**

*Urocissa erythrorhyncha*

14+ at Great Wall.

**Eurasian (Common) Magpie**

*Pica pica*

Fairly common – not systematically recorded.

**Tibetan (Eurasian) Magpie**

*Pica (pica) bottanensis*

Four W of Koko Nor on 29<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*The two *Pica* taxa occupy mutually exclusive ranges and display a number of vocal, morphological & habitat differences.

<b>Henderson's (Mongolian) Ground Jay (NE)</b> Prolonged views of one near Chaka.	<i>Podoces hendersoni</i>
<b>Red-billed Chough</b> 146 bird-days. Noted on 11 dates – main event 90 at Xining on 25 <sup>th</sup> .	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax</i>
<b>Rook</b> 70 bird-days. Noted on three dates.	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
<b>Carrion Crow</b> Three N of Xining on 26 <sup>th</sup> .	<i>Corvus corone</i>
<b>Large-billed Crow</b> 67 bird-days. Noted on three dates.	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
<b>Northern (Common) Raven</b> 45 bird-days. Noted on three dates.	<i>Corvus corax</i>

### **Tits & Chickadees Paridae**

<b>Marsh Tit</b> Heard at Great Wall.	<i>Poecile palustris</i>
<b>Willow (Songar) Tit</b> 42 bird-days. Noted N of Xining on two dates. <i>Note: Clements splits the birds we observed as Songar Tit, P. songara.</i>	<i>Poecile montanus (songata)</i>
<b>White-browed Tit (E)</b> 22 bird-days. Noted on five dates.	<i>Poecile superciliosa</i>
<b>Rufous-vented Tit</b> 34 bird-days. Noted N of Xining on two dates.	<i>Periparus rubidiventris</i>
<b>Yellow-bellied Tit (E)</b> This attractive endemic was seen very well at Great Wall – five birds.	<i>Periparus venustulus</i>
<b>Great Tit</b> 20 bird-days. Noted on five dates. ***'minor' is one of 3-4 'Great Tit' species in China. Keep your fingers crossed that the inappropriate name 'Japanese' Tit doesn't stick!	<i>Parus (major) minor</i>
<b>(Hume's) Groundpecker (Ground Tit) (E)</b> 142 bird-days. This emblematic species was noted on eight dates. ***Apparently most closely related to <i>Paridae</i> (Dickinson 2003; B King pers com.) but please let us refrain from concocting a new English name such as Tibetan Ground-tit!	<i>Parus (Pseudopodoces) humilis</i>

### **Penduline Tits Remizidae**

<b>Chinese Penduline Tit</b> Ten bird-days. Seen well on two dates along the coast - good going as the species peaks later in autumn (I've seen as many as 2,700 birds move through in a morning at Beidaihe).	<i>Remiz (pendulinus) consobrinus</i>
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### **Larks Alaudidae**

<b>Tibetan Lark</b> Six bird-days. This Mega was noted on just one day... outstanding encounters!	<i>Melanocorypha maxima</i>
<b>Hume's [Short-toed] Lark</b> 250+ bird-days. Noted on seven dates.	<i>Calandrella acutirostris</i>
<b>Asian (Lesser) Short-toed Lark</b> Singles noted on two dates.	<i>Calandrella cheleensis</i>
<b>Eurasian Skylark</b> Two on Happy island on 12 <sup>th</sup> .	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
<b>Oriental Skylark</b> 17+ bird-days. Noted on four dates.	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
<b>Horned Lark</b> Common in NE Tibet – not systematically recorded.	<i>Eremophila alpestris</i>

### Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

**Light-vented (Chinese) Bulbul** *Pycnonotus sinensis*  
26+ bird-days. Noted along the coast on five dates.

### Swallows & Martins Hirundinidae

**Sand Martin** (Bank Swallow) *Riparia riparia*

Ten bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Pale (Sand) Martin** *Riparia diluta*

35 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

28+ near Chaka on 29<sup>th</sup> & common along the coast – main event 5,000+ over Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Eurasian Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Asian (House) Martin** *Delichon dasypus*

13 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*

Up to twenty birds were encountered almost daily during our time exploring Happy Island.

### Cettia Bush Warblers & Allies Cettidae

**Korean (Manchurian) Bush Warbler** *Cettia canturians borealis*

One seen well on Happy Island on 10<sup>th</sup> – Tingaling!

\*\*\*It seems reasonable to treat the two mainland ‘races’ of *Cettia diphone* as a distinct species, as done by Brazil (2009)...

### Bushtits Aegithalidae

**White-browed Tit-warbler** *Leptopoecile sophiae*

32 bird-days. Noted on seven dates.

**Crested Tit-warbler (E)** *Leptopoecile elegans*

Five bird-days. Noted N of Xining on two dates - it took a while, but finally we got 'scope views of a pair at c3,000m

\*\*\*Typically not a species that draws attention to itself - however, patience and persistence can be amply rewarded... I have leafed through the dictionary and two Birdquest brochures in search of a superlative which fully does justice to this jewel, but in vain.

### Leaf Warblers & Allies Phylloscopidae

**Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*

161+ bird-days. Four heard-onlies in NE Tibet – along the coast up to 58+ ssp *fuscatus* daily.

\*\*\*Martens (2008) unconvincingly aligns *weigoldicus* (which breeds in NE Tibet; *fuscatus* occurs on migration) with Smoky Warbler *P. fuligiventer*

[http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06\\_Martens.pdf](http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06_Martens.pdf)

**Tickell's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus affinis*

125 bird-days. Noted on ten dates.

\*\*\*Martens (2008) elevates ‘our’ part of this species to full species status as *P. occisinensis*

[http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06\\_Martens.pdf](http://globiz.sachsen.de/snsd/publikationen/vertebrate-zoology/vz58-2/06_Martens.pdf)

**Yellow-streaked Warbler** *Phylloscopus armandii*

55 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Gansu Leaf Warbler (E)** *Phylloscopus kansuensis*

26 bird-days. Noted N of Xining on two dates.

\*\*\*This attractive warbler has only recently been reaccepted as a valid species, and its winter quarters remain to be discovered...

**Chinese Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus yunnanensis*

One heard (& seen ever so briefly) on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Yellow-browed Warbler**

*Phylloscopus inornatus*

282+ bird-days. Noted along the coast & at Beijing on seven dates.

**Hume's Leaf Warbler**

*Phylloscopus humei*

118 Bird-days. Noted in NE Tibet on seven dates.

**Arctic Warbler**

*Phylloscopus borealis*

Eight bird-days. Noted along the coast on five dates.

**Greenish Warbler**

*Phylloscopus trochiloides*

14 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

\*\*\*Those along the coast were spp *plumbeitarsus*, mosly no longer considered to merit full species status.

**Pale-legged Leaf Warbler**

*Phylloscopus tenellipes*

Nine bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on 10+11<sup>th</sup> ... everyone had super views of this skulking species.

**Reed Warblers & Allies Acrocephalidae**

**Oriental Great Reed Warbler**

*Acrocephalus orientalis*

Eight bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Black-browed Reed Warbler**

*Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*

20 bird-days. Noted on four dates – with a bit of luck (and pishing) we managed good views for all of us.

**Grassbirds & Allies Megaluridae**

**Spotted Bush Warbler**

*Bradypterus thoracicus*

Two N of Xining on 26<sup>th</sup> ... heard calling & then one started singing in response to the tape, but!

**Lanceolated Warbler**

*Locustella lanceolata*

13 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event ten on 10<sup>th</sup>, incl a couple seen well.

**Pallas's Grasshopper Warbler**

*Locustella certhiola*

Nine bird-days. Noted on three dates - superb views: from our experience, the species' reputation as an ultra skulker is not entirely deserved!

**Thick-billed Warbler**

*Phragmaticola aedon*

Seven bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae**

**Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tailed Warbler)**

*Cisticola juncidis*

21 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event nine on 11<sup>th</sup>, incl no less than seven birds together!

**Chinese Hill (White-browed Ch.) Warbler (E)**

*Rhopophilus pekinensis*

13 at Great Wall – great view of this enigmatic skulker.

**Babblers, Parrotbills Timaliidae**

**Plain (Pere David's) Laughingthrush (E)**

*Garrulax davidi*

46 bird-days. This N China endemic was noted on five dates.

**Elliot's Laughingthrush**

*Garrulax elliotii*

c75 bird-days. Noted on three dates N of Xining this charismatic W China/Tibet endemic was seen incredibly well on several occasions, for one of us winning the Bird of the Trip award w/ no close contenders!.

**Vinous-throated Parrotbill**

*Paradoxornis webbianus*

c35 bird-days. Noted on two dates at Beidaihe & at Great Wall this cute species represented a genus tick for most of us – and we all got nice, prolonged views as the birds responded uncharacteristically well to whistled imitations of their distinctive calls.

**White-eyes Zosteropidae**

**Chestnut-flanked White-eye** *Zosterops erythropleurus*  
c174 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event 165 migr at Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Kinglets Regulidae**

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus*  
21 bird-days. Noted N of Xining on two dates.

**Wrens Troglodytidae**

**Winter (Northern) Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes*  
Four N of Xining on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Nuthatches & Wallcreeper Sittidae**

**Chinese (Snowy-browed) Nuthatch (E)** *Sitta villosa*  
13 N of Xining on 26<sup>th</sup>.

**[Przevalski's] (White-cheeked) Nuthatch** *Sitta przewalskii (leucopsis)*  
Seven birds noted N of Xining - perhaps unique in its genus in engaging in flycatching?

**Wallcreeper** *Tichodroma muraria*

Hard-to-beat views of no less than three birds: noted on two dates.

*Note: This species is sometimes placed in its own family.*

**Treecreepers Certhiidae**

**Eurasian Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris*  
Seven bird-days. Noted N of Xining on two dates.

**Starlings Sturnidae**

**White-cheeked Starling** *Sturnus cineraceus*

c145 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Daurian Starling** *Sturnus sturninus*

Ten bird-days. Great 'scope views on Happy Island – noted on two dates.

**Rosy Starling** *Sturnus roseus*

Two in poplars W of Koko Nor on 28 Aug - one, a juvenile, was 'scoped... a scarce migrant.

**Thrushes Turdidae**

**Siberian Thrush** *Zoothera sibirica*

2+ (a female & an adult male) on Happy Island on 10<sup>th</sup>.

**White's (Scaly) Thrush** *Zoothera aurea*

11 bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on two dates - a jumpy/flighty species but with patience it all comes together :-)

*Note: Some authorities lump this with Scaly Thrush, Z.dauma*

**Kessler's (White-backed) Thrush (NE)** *Turdus kessleri*

12 in mts W of Koko Nor on 29 Aug - great 'scope views at close range of birds coming in to drink.

**Eyebrowed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus*

Nine bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on three dates.

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

An adult male seen well on 29<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Apparently the earliest-ever autumn record for Qinghai province by @ nine days...

**Chinese Song Thrush** *Turdus mupinensis*

One sitting out on a wire on 27<sup>th</sup>!

**Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae**

<b>Bluethroat</b>	<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
Three on Happy Island - one finally yielded unobscured views.	
<b>Siberian Rubythroat</b>	<i>Luscinia calliope</i>
25 bird-days. Noted on five dates – 13 on Happy Island on 10 <sup>th</sup> ...	
<b>Siberian Blue Robin</b>	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>
16 bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 11 on 10 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>[Himalayan] (Red-flanked) Bluetail</b>	<i>Tarsiger rufilatus</i>
Three (two 1 <sup>st</sup> c-y birds & a heard-only) were noted N of Xining.	
***The split (accepted by e.g. Rasmussen & Anderton 2005) is based mainly on morphological and vocal differences. While I have no real problem with the split it may be worth bearing in mind that there seem to be consistent differences in song between birds in NE Qinghai and those in the SE, as well as a range of ‘dialects’ across the species vast range in Siberia.	
<b>Przevalski's (Ala Shan) Redstart (E)</b>	<i>Phoenicurus alaschanicus</i>
14 bird-days. Noted on two dates W of Koko Nor.	
<b>Black Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>
97 bird-days. Noted in NE Tibet on nine dates.	
<b>Hodgson's Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>
We had good views of two females at a forested site near Xining.	
<b>White-throated Redstart (NE)</b>	<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>
21 bird-days. Noted on four dates – main event 15 (‘several seen well, incl both adults & juvs of both sexes’) on 26 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>Daurian Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus auroreus</i>
Eight bird-days. Noted on three dates.	
<b>Güldenstädt's (White-winged) Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus erythrogastrus</i>
35 bird-days. Noted on five dates – main event 22 (mostly in half an hour) at Er La.	
<b>Blue-fronted Redstart</b>	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>
31 bird-days. Noted on four dates.	
<b>White-bellied Redstart</b>	<i>Hodgsonius phaenicuroides</i>
A fully adult male sitting right out near Xining on 5 Sep was a rare treat - often unresponsive to tape-luring this remains a bogey bird for quite a few people!	
<b>River Chat</b>	<i>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</i>
Six bird-days. Noted on two dates – memorable views of two (just what we'd stopped hoping for!) on 5 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>[Siberian] Stonechat</b>	<i>Saxicola (torquatus) maura</i>
485+ bird-days. Noted on 11 dates – main event an estimated 200+ on Happy Island on 12 <sup>th</sup> .	
***Spp <i>maurus</i> , <i>przewalskii</i> & <i>stejnegeri</i> occur in China / Tibet. Dickinson (2003): “proposed splits of this complex species seem unsatisfactory if only in how the forms are ascribed to species”.	
<b>Isabelline Wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>
19 bird-days. Noted on five dates.	
<b>Pied Wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>
Singles seen on three dates.	
<b>Desert Wheatear</b>	<i>Oenanthe deserti</i>
Four bird-days. Noted on three dates.	
<b>Common Rock Thrush</b>	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>
Two near Xining on 25 <sup>th</sup> .	
<b>Blue Rock Thrush</b>	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
One sitting out nicely at Great Wall.	
<b>Sooty Flycatcher</b>	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>
Unsurpassable views of a very speckly 1 <sup>st</sup> c-y bird on Happy Island.	
<b>Asian Brown Flycatcher</b>	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>
Seven bird-days. Noted on three dates.	
<b>Red-throated (Taiga) Flycatcher</b>	<i>Ficedula albicilla</i>

53 bird-days. Noted on eight dates – main event 21 on Happy Island on 10<sup>th</sup> ... but it was our first, in the poplar grove, which we'll remember!

**Blue-and-white Flycatcher**

*Cyanoptila cyanomelana*

Singles on two days on Happy Island - great views of a scarce bird!

**Dippers Cinclidae**

**White-throated Dipper**

*Cinclus cinclus*

Two – one of each morph – seen well on 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Old World Sparrows Passeridae**

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow**

*Passer montanus*

Common – not systematically recorded.

**Rock Sparrow**

*Petronia petronia*

c130 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Henri's (Tibetan) Snowfinch (NE)**

*Montifringilla henrici*

158+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event a flock of 120!

**Tibetan (Black-winged) Snowfinch**

*Montifringilla adamsi*

25 bird-days. Noted on two dates.

\*\*\*Rather plain on the ground but spectacular in flight, this species is blessed with no less than four English names...

**White-rumped Snowfinch (E)**

*Onychostruthus taczanowskii*

131 bird-days. Noted on five dates this is arguably the most charismatic of the trip's snowfinches.

**Pere David's Snowfinch**

*Pyrgilauda davidiana*

50+ bird-days. Noted on two dates – main event an adult in good light on 4<sup>th</sup>.

**Rufous-necked Snowfinch (E)**

*Pyrgilauda ruficollis*

94 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Blanford's Snowfinch (E)**

*Pyrgilauda blanfordi*

13 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Accentors Prunellidae**

**Alpine Accentor**

*Prunella collaris*

Five seen extremely well in the Qilian Mts - at one point in the same 'scope field of view as three Robin Accentors.

**Robin Accentor**

*Prunella rubeculoides*

34 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Rufous-browed(breasted) Accentor**

*Prunella strophiatea*

13 bird-days. Noted on four dates.

**Brown Accentor**

*Prunella fulvescens*

76 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Wagtails & Pipits Motacillidae**

**Forest Wagtail**

*Dendronanthus indicus*

Singles migrating on 10+11<sup>th</sup>.

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail**

*Motacilla tschutschensis*

111+ bird-days. Noted on six dates.

\*\*\*This species consists of *tschutschensis* (includes *simillima*), *taivana* & *macronyx*: Alstrom & Mild (2003) conclude that “[...] the Yellow Wagtail complex is probably most appropriately classified as two species also under the BSC” (p34). Retained in *M. flava* are *flavissima*, *flava*, *beema*, *thunbergi* (incl. *plexa*), *iberiae*, *cinereocapilla*, *pygmaea*, *feldegg*, *lutea* & *leucocephala*. This treatment was adopted by Rasmussen & Anderton (2005).

**Citrine Wagtail**

*Motacilla citreola*

73+ bird-days. Noted in NE Tibet on eight dates – three *citreola* males W of Koko Nor on 28<sup>th</sup> were

the only ones attributed to subspecies.

**Grey Wagtail**

*Motacilla cinerea*

19 bird-days. Noted on ten dates – high unusual / main event was six migr together on 11<sup>th</sup> (mostly a solitary species).

**White Wagtail**

*Motacilla alba*

179 bird-days. Noted on 18 dates – only *leucopsis* was identified (w/ e g a nice adult male ‘scoped up on a wall on 29<sup>th</sup>).

\*\*\*Alstrom & Mild (2003) concludes that various factors “suggest that the White Wagtail is best treated as a single species under the BSC”.

**Richard’s Pipit**

*Anthus richardi*

473+ bird days. Noted on 11 dates – main event 340+ migr over Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Blyth’s Pipit**

*Anthus godlewskii*

17 bird-days. Noted on eight dates – especially satisfying views were had at Beidaihe, and we even had two going over the hotel garden pre-breakfast on 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Olive-backed Pipit**

*Anthus hodgsoni*

234+ bird-days. Noted on 14 dates – main event 115 migr over Happy Island on 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Pechora Pipit**

*Anthus gustavi*

Singles noted on three dates along the coast - one on 10<sup>th</sup> was uncharacteristically cooperative, sitting up repeatedly on a stick right in the open.

**Red-throated Pipit**

*Anthus cervinus*

33 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Rosy Pipit**

*Anthus roseus*

14+ bird-days. Noted in NE Tibet on four dates.

**Water Pipit**

*Anthus spinoletta*

Three bird-days. Noted in NE Tibet on two dates.

**True Finches Fringillidae**

**Grey-capped (Oriental) Greenfinch**

*Carduelis sinica*

17 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event was 15 on a wire on 31<sup>st</sup>, ‘scoped...

**Twite**

*Carduelis flavirostris*

85 bird-days. Noted on six dates.

**Plain Mountain Finch**

*Leucosticte nemoricola*

230+ bird-days. Noted on three dates – most impressively 220+ on 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Brandt’s (Black-headed) Mountain Finch**

*Leucosticte brandti*

Six bird-days. Noted on two dates – superb views of five ‘at the quarry’ on 1<sup>st</sup>!

**Mongolian (Trumpeter) Finch**

*Bucanetes mongolicus*

Six took some tracking down on 30<sup>th</sup>...

**Przevalski’s Rosefinch (E)**

*Urocynchramus pylzowi*

16 bird-days. Noted on three dates - superb views of birds displaying the full range of plumages.

\*\*\*Now considered to represent a monotypic family this pretty bird can prove hard to find.

Note: This species is sometimes placed in its own family.

**Common Rosefinch**

*Carpodacus erythrinus*

87 bird-days. Noted on ten dates – 28 at Great Wall was nice but it’s the adult male ‘scoped while leisurely feeding on grass seeds that we’ll all remember!

**(Chinese) Beautiful Rosefinch**

*Carpodacus pulcherrimus davidianus*

Ten bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Sinai Rosefinch**

*Carpodacus synoicus*

Four on 25<sup>th</sup> – great ‘scope views of a pair!

\*\*\*It seems likely that *beicki* will be proved specifically distinct from at least the nominate.

**(Chinese) White-browed Rosefinch**

*Carpodacus dubius*

33 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Streaked (Eastern Great) Rosefinch**

*Carpodacus rubicilloides*

16 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Great Rosefinch**

*Carpodacus rubicilla*

Four birds total were seen on the Tibetan Plateau with outrageous close views of one male.

**Red-fronted Rosefinch**

*Pyrrhospiza punicea*

Two on 27<sup>th</sup> remained heard-onlies – what a bummer!

**Tibetan (Roborovski's) Rosefinch (E)**

*Kozlowia roborowskii*

26 bird-days. Noted on two dates - perhaps not the best views ever, but also not the worst ever ;-)

**Red Crossbill**

*Loxia curvirostra*

37+ bird-days. Seen N of Xining on two dates.

\*\*\*Clements (1993) include our area in the range of ssp *himalayensis*.

**Grey-headed Bullfinch**

*Pyrrhula erythaca*

11+ bird-days. Noted N of Xining on three dates.

**Chinese Grosbeak**

*Eophona migratoria*

Eight bird-days. Noted on Happy Island on three dates - close-up 'scope views of this distinctive species were enjoyed by everyone.

**White-winged Grosbeak**

*Mycerobas carniceps*

Five bird-days. Noted on three dates – nice views of an adult male on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Buntings & Allies Emberizidae**

**Pine Bunting**

*Emberiza leucocephalos*

Five birds - incl two fully adult males - in mts W of Koko Nor on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Godlewski's (Eastern Rock) Bunting**

*Emberiza godlewskii*

Three bird-days. Noted on just two dates.

**Tristram's Bunting (NE)**

*Emberiza tristrami*

One on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Chestnut-eared Bunting**

*Emberiza fucata*

One flying over on 11<sup>th</sup>: b v d!

**Little Bunting**

*Emberiza pusilla*

19 bird-days. Noted on five dates.

**Yellow-browed Bunting**

*Emberiza chrysophrys*

18 bird-days. Noted on four dates – 'unbelievable' views were had by everyone!

**Yellow-breasted Bunting**

*Emberiza aureola*

Nine bird-days. Noted on just two dates – a female sitting up nicely in *Phragmites* on 7<sup>th</sup> was much admired.

**Chestnut Bunting**

*Emberiza rutila*

Four bird-days. Noted on two dates – a juvenile cooperated nicely on 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Black-faced Bunting**

*Emberiza spodocephala*

15 bird-days. Noted on three dates.

**Pallas's Reed Bunting**

*Emberiza pallasi*

12 bird-days. Noted on three dates – main event nine on 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded**

Sequence and taxonomy follows "A Guide to the Mammals of China", Smith & Xie (ed.) 2008.

**Himalayan Marmot**

*Marmota himalayana*

13+ animals.

**\*\*\*?Eastern Mole Vole**

*Ellobius tancrei*

This 'extremely timid' (Smith & Xie, 2008) species emerged as chief suspect when flowers were seen to gradually develop shorter stems over our lunch stop on 5<sup>th</sup>.

**?Tibetan Dwarf Hamster**

*Cricetulus tibetanus*

3+ animals. Noted at >4,500m on two dates.

\*\*\*With a better (if still inadequate) mammal guide and access excellent photos by P Los we were at least able to take one step forward in concluding that these were NOT (as previously 'assumed') Stoliczka's Mountain Vole *Alticola stoliczkanus*

**Gansu Pika** *Ochotona cansus*

2+ animals. Singles on two dates.

\*\*\*A further 3+ at c4,200m on 2<sup>nd</sup> was most likely also this apparently variably species.

**Plateau Pika** *Ochotona curzoniae*

Widespread – not systematically recorded.

**Chinese Red Pika** *Ochotona erythrotis*

Singles on two dates.

**Woolly Hare** *Lepus oiostolus*

12+ animals – fairly common...

**Tolai Hare** *Lepus tolai*

At least one near Xining on 25<sup>th</sup>.

\*\*\*Structure as well as coloration helped us clinch the ID.

**Pallas' Cat** *Felis manul*

One 'scoped on 2<sup>nd</sup> – Tingaling.

**Wolf** *Canis lupus*

Two seen loping along on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Tibetan Fox** *Vulpes ferrilata*

Four animals – noted only on 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Red Fox** *Vulpes vulpes*

Four animals. Singles on four dates...

**Mountain (=Alpine) Weasel** *Mustela altaica*

One darted across the road in front of Car One on 28<sup>th</sup>.

**Kiang** *Equus kiang*

No fewer than 170 of these stately animals were counted over two days.

**Goitred Gazelle** *Gazella subgutturosa*

15 animals on 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Tibetan Gazelle** *Procapra picticaudata*

194 animal-days. Noted on four dates.

**Blue Sheep** *Pseudois nayaur*

82 animals. Noted on four dates – five impressive males together on 27<sup>th</sup>!

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