Report of a birding trip to

China

Sichuan and Tibetan Plateau

17 May – 3 June 2017

by

Dick Meijer, Hans Westerlaken and Peter van Scheepen

Grandala, Balang Shan (Photo: Jos Vroege)

Tibetan Plateau
Introduction

Attracted by a very promising list of possible birds in the Sichuan mountains and on the Tibetan Plateau in China we (Hans Westerlaken, Peter van Scheepen and Dick Meijer) decided to participate in the 2017–BirdingBreaks–trip to that area. Our possible targets during this tour included a variety of pheasants and partridges, the challenging *Phylloscopus*– and *Seicercus*–warblers among which some newly-described species, birds missed during previous trips to the Himalayas such as Black-necked Crane, Grandala and Temminck’s Tragopan, the many not always easy-to-identify rosefinches and of course, the range-restricted species to China such as Pere David’s Owl, Sichuan Jay, Sichuan and Sooty Tit and Crested Tit–Warbler.

We joined the BirdingBreaks (www.birdingbreaks.nl) trip that left Amsterdam on the 18th of May (HW, PvS and DM departed one day earlier though) and returned on the 3rd of June. Our group consisted of six birders (the other three were: Henk Levering, Kees Goudsmits and Jos Vroege, all Dutchmen and keen birders), was led by Sander Bot and guided by Jay, who was also our interpreter; our driver was Ding.

We recorded 303 – other members of our group saw a few species which we didn’t see and the other way round – species of bird of which 14 were only heard (4,6 %, which we consider a relatively high percentage of the trip list, see also Table 2) and we recorded 37 endemic species to China (see also Table 1). We found 12 species of mammal of which Gray (Eurasian) Wolf was the most exciting one. The top three birds of the trip voted by the participants were: Chinese Monal, Pere David’s Owl and Grandala. Woodsnipe (Balang Shan), Rufous–headed Robin (Jiuzhaigou) and Black–throated Blue Robin (Wolong), three near-endemic species high on the wish-list of most birders, were missed by us. Authorities have forbidden climbing Balang Shan before 6.00 hrs because of recent accidents in the dark so you will be always too late at the site for Woodsnipe. There are no recent records of the latter two species. Trying to find Rufous–headed Robin was to no avail at last years' stake out in Jiuzhaigou. We recorded more species (303 ↔ 254 and 267) than during previous trips to Sichuan and the Tibetan Plateau organized by BirdingBreaks. The trip was expertly guided by Jay and professionally led by Sander Bot. Ding was a careful driver, which is quite necessary in Chinese traffic. Accommodations were fine without exception and the food was delicious everywhere. We were not very lucky with the weather having quite a few rainy days, sometimes light snow fall, but we neither had fog in the high mountains nor wind. So there were no reasons to stop bird–watching and taking photographs.

We look back on a very pleasant and successful trip frequently in beautiful scenery.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English name</th>
<th>Scientific name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Bamboo–Partridge</td>
<td>Bambusicola thoracicus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chinese Monal</td>
<td>Lophophorus iluysii</td>
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<td>Verreaux's (Monal-) Partridge</td>
<td>Tetraophasis obscurus</td>
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<td>Golden Pheasant</td>
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<td>Blue Eared–Pheasant</td>
<td>Crossoptilon auritum</td>
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<td>Severtzov's (Chinese) Grouse</td>
<td>Bonasa sewerzowi</td>
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<td>Pere David's Owl</td>
<td>Strix davidi</td>
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<td>Salim Ali's Swift</td>
<td>Apus salimali</td>
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<td>Sichuan Jay</td>
<td>Perisoreus internigrans</td>
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<td>Yellow–bellied Tit</td>
<td>Periparus venustulus</td>
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<td>White–browed Tit</td>
<td>Poecile superciliosus</td>
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<td>Sichuan Tit</td>
<td>Poecile weigoldicus</td>
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<td>Sooty Tit</td>
<td>Aegithalos fuliginosus</td>
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<td>Przevalski’s Nuthatch</td>
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<td>Alpine Leaf Warbler</td>
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<td>Gansu Leaf Warbler</td>
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<td>Chinese Leaf Warbler</td>
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<td>Emei Leaf Warbler</td>
<td>Phylloscopus emeiensis</td>
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<td>Sichuan Bush–Warbler</td>
<td>Locustella chengi</td>
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<td>Chinese Fulvetta</td>
<td>Fulvetta striaticollis</td>
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<td>Gray–hooded Fulvetta</td>
<td>Fulvetta cinereiceps</td>
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<td>Three–toed Parrotbill</td>
<td>Cholornis paradoxa</td>
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<td>Spectacled Parrotbill</td>
<td>Sinosouthra conspicillata</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gray–hooded Parrotbill</td>
<td>Sinosouthra zappeyi</td>
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<tr>
<td>David’s Fulvetta</td>
<td>Alcippe david</td>
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<td>Sukaschev’s (Snowy–cheeked) Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla sukatchewi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Barred Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla lunulata</td>
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<td>Giant Laughingthrush</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pere David’s Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla davidi</td>
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<td>Buffy Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla berthemyi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gray–faced Liocichla</td>
<td>Liocichla omeiensis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sichuan Thrush</td>
<td>Zoothera griseiceps</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Przevalski’s Pinktail</td>
<td>Urocynchramus pylzowi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Slaty Bunting</td>
<td>Latoucheornis siemsseni</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pink–rumped Rosefinch</td>
<td>Carpodacus waltoni</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese White–browed Rosefinch</td>
<td>Carpodacus dubius</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tibetan Snowfinch</td>
<td>Montifringilla henrici</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

*Table 1: China endemic species (37) recorded by us (Handbook of the birds of the world Alive 2017)*
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>English name</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chinese Bamboo–Partridge</td>
<td>Bambusicola thoracicus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temminck’s Tragopan</td>
<td>Tragopan temminckii</td>
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<tr>
<td>Golden Pheasant</td>
<td>Chrysolophus pictus</td>
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<tr>
<td>Collared Owlet</td>
<td>Glaucidium brodiei</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eurasian Wren</td>
<td>Troglodytes troglodytes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chestnut–headed Tlesia</td>
<td>Cettia castaneocoronata</td>
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<td>Streak–breasted Scimitar–Babbler</td>
<td>Pomathorhinus ruficollis</td>
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<td>Black–streaked Scimitar–Babbler</td>
<td>Megapomatorhinus gravilox</td>
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<td>Spotted Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla ocellata</td>
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<td>Barred Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla lunulata</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffy Laughingthrush</td>
<td>Ianthocincla berthemyi</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fujian Niltava</td>
<td>Niltava davidi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White–tailed Robin</td>
<td>Cinclidium leucurum</td>
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<tr>
<td>Long–tailed Thrush</td>
<td>Zoothera dixoni</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table 2: Species heard only by us (14)*

**Map 1:** China with Sichuan

**Map 2:** Route
# Itinerary

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Activities and transport</th>
<th>Accommodation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 May</td>
<td>By train, Thalys and plane from Amsterdam to Chengdu.</td>
<td>On the plane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 May</td>
<td>Arrived in Chengdu, by taxi to Hotel and on foot to park.</td>
<td>Hotel Pastorale, Chengdu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 May</td>
<td>On foot to park, by bus to airport and Longcanggou; some roadside birding.</td>
<td>Longcanggou Hulin Guesthouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 May</td>
<td>By car and on foot in Longcanggou Forest Park.</td>
<td>Longcanggou Hulin Guesthouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>By car and on foot in Longcanggou Forest Park.</td>
<td>Longcanggou Hulin Guesthouse</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22 May</td>
<td>By bus from Longcanggou to Wolong, on foot along river in Ya'an.</td>
<td>NNR Hotel, Wolong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 May</td>
<td>By bus and on foot Balang Shan.</td>
<td>NNR Hotel, Wolong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 May</td>
<td>By taxi and on foot to Lama Monastery, by bus and on foot Balang Shan.</td>
<td>NNR Hotel, Wolong</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 May</td>
<td>By bus and on foot to Balang Shan via Dawir to Mengbi Shan and Maerkang.</td>
<td>Maerkang Jiarong Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 May</td>
<td>By bus and on foot Mengbi Shan.</td>
<td>Maerkang Jiarong Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 May</td>
<td>By bus from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai with birding stops.</td>
<td>Ruo Er Gai Grand Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 May</td>
<td>By bus and on foot Baxi forest and Tibetan Plateau.</td>
<td>Ruo Er Gai Grand Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 May</td>
<td>By bus and on foot Baxi forest and Flower Lake on Tibetan Plateau.</td>
<td>Ruo Er Gai Grand Hotel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 May</td>
<td>By bus from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou, birding on foot at the edge of the Tibetan Plateau,</td>
<td>Hotel Qianhe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>at the Great March's monument in Chuanzhusi and at the Gonggangling pass.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 May</td>
<td>By taxi to Jiuzhaigou, by shuttle into the park and on foot in the park.</td>
<td>Hotel Qianhe, Jiuzhaigou</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 June</td>
<td>By bus from Jiuzhaigou to Dujiangyan, birding on foot at Gonggangling pass.</td>
<td>Hotel Yurui, Dujiangyan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 June</td>
<td>On foot to city park in Dujiangyan and by bus to Chengdu airport, by plane from Chengdu to Beijing.</td>
<td>On the plane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 June</td>
<td>By plane from Beijing to Amsterdam, by Thalys and/or train back home.</td>
<td>At home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Day–by–day account

17 May

Went by intercity train to Antwerp and by Thalys from Antwerp to Schiphol at 18.30 hrs. and by KLM flight KL891 from Amsterdam to Chengdu at 21.05 hrs. ((flying time 9 hours and 30 minutes).

18 May

Arrived in Chengdu at 12.50 hrs. and went to Hotel Pastorale by taxi. Walked to and in park ‘Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng’ from 15.15 to 18.30 hrs. where Chinese Blackbird, White–browed Laughingthrush, Black–throated Tit, Crested Myna and Yellow–billed Grosbeak were our best species. Had quite hot weather with temperatures around 30 °C. and no wind. Slept at the Hotel Pastorale (500 m asl) (www.pastorale–Hotel.co).

19 May

Birded the Jincheng park again from 9.00 to 11.30 hrs. with Vinous–throated Parrotbill and Collared Finchbill as goodies and were picked up by our Chinese guide Jay and taken to the airport to meet the other members of our group at 12.30 hrs. Made acquaintance with our Dutch guide Sander and fellow–birders Kees, Henk and Jos. Drove together to Longcanggou from 15.00 to 18.00 hrs. Found Chinese Bamboo–Partridge (heard only), Himalayan Cuckoo, Tiger Shrike and Brownish–flanked Bush–Warbler (heard only) close to our hotel. Had fine weather. Slept at the Longcanggou Hulin Guesthouse (1220 m asl) in Longcanggou with good food and spacey rooms.

20 May

Drove uphill into the park on rather uneven dirt roads to 2440 m asl hoping to see one of the pheasants or Temminck’s Tragopan and went slowly downhill again, birding at various altitudes alternately walking and driving. Found Lady Amherst’s Pheasant, as well as: Speckled Wood–Pigeon (brief views), four species of parrotbill (Great, Three–toed, Gray–hooded and Golden), four species of woodpecker (Darjeeling, White–backed, Gray–headed and Bay), Lesser Cuckoo, White–throated Needletail, Black–browed and Yellow–browed Tit, Chestnut–headed Tesia (heard only), Brownish–flanked (seen this time), Yellowish–bellied (heard only) and the endemic Sichuan Bush–Warbler, the Phyllos Ashy–throated, Sichuan, Claudia’s and Kloss’s Leaf Warbler, the Seicercus Bianchi’s Warbler, Gray–hooded and Golden–breasted Fulvetta, Spotted (heard only) and Elliot’s Laughingthrush, Gray–faced Liocichla (heard only), White–collared Yuhina, Short–billed Minivet, Chestnut–vented Nuthatch (brief views), White–bellied Redstart (heard only or seen briefly by
some of us), Dark-sided Flycatcher and Gould’s Sunbird. Also birded the water ways at the entrance of the Longcanggou Forest park (Brown Dipper) and the tar road uphill from the entrance (Pygmy Cupwing). Had a rainy day. Slept at the Longcanggou Hulin Guesthouse again.

21 May

Drove uphill on the dirt road again until a fresh landslide blocked the road. Birded mainly by walking at various altitudes which didn’t produce the highly sought-after Temminck’s Tragopan but lots of other new species: Speckled Wood-Pigeon (good views this time), Yellow-bellied, Japanese and Fire-capped Tit, Yellowish-bellied (seen well this time) and Brown Bush-Warbler (heard only), Emei Leaf Warbler, Martens’s Warbler, a distant Black-streaked Scimitar-Babbler (heard only), Buffy Laughingthrush (heard only), Red-winged Laughingthrush, Gray-faced Liocichla (seen well this time), Ashy-throated Parrotbill, Ferruginous Flycatcher, Fujian Niltava (heard only), Red-tailed Minla and Vinaceous Rosefinch (briefly seen by some of us). Also walked downhill on the tar road next to the entrance. Had another rainy day. Slept at the Longcanggou Hulin Guesthouse again.
22 May

Walked the tar road next to the entrance uphill again (Crimson-breasted Woodpecker, David’s Fulvetta, Black-chinned Yuhina, Rufous-faced Warbler and Brown Bullfinch) and returned by taking the board walk along the river (Little Forktail and Blue Whistling-Thrush) in the morning and drove to Wolong in the afternoon with a lunch stop at Ya’an where we walked along the river (Forest Wagtail, Asian House-Martin and Brown-rumped Minivet). Had another rainy day. Slept at the National Nature Reserve Hotel in Wolong (1850 m asl), which served good food and had fairly okay rooms, although we had to get used to the water outlet of the shower being our toilet as well.

23 May

Drove to Balang Shan – a high pass at 4500 m asl, famous among bird-watchers – very early in the morning and birded at various altitudes which produced many spectacular new species. Had both Chinese Monal and White Eared-Pheasant from the old road next to the first tunnel, found Tibetan Snowcock on a steep slope below us, Snow Partridge near the very summit of the mountain and Verreaux’s Partridge and Vinaceous Rosefinch (seen well by all of us this time) in a forest lower down. Other target species seen by us included: Chestnut-crowned, Brown (heard only) and Spotted Bush-Warbler, Alpine and Yellow-streaked Leaf Warbler, Giant Laughingthrush, Chestnut Thrush, Rufous-vented Tit, Firethroat and Golden Pheasant (the latter heard only) at the tree line well above 4000 m and Grandala, Plain and Black-headed Mountain-Finch and Chinese White-browed and Streaked Rosefinch above the tree line. Had clear weather, no wind, occasionally light rain or snow, temperatures around 0 ° C. Slept at the NNR Hotel in Wolong again.
24 May

Drove to the Lama Monastery not far from our hotel in the morning where Golden Pheasant and Temminck’s Tragopan remained ‘heard only’, though both birds were not very far away from us. Had good views of Slaty Bunting, Chinese Babax, Slaty-backed Flycatcher and Sooty Tit, heard Barred Laughingthrush and had a glimpse of Indian Blue Robin. No effort was undertaken to find Black-throated Blue Robin. Went back to Balang Shan in the afternoon, this time we explored the other side of the mountain, where we found Snow Pigeon, Salim Ali’s Swift, Brown Bush-Warbler (good views this time), Chinese Rubythroat, Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch and heard Gray-headed Bullfinch. Fine weather at the Lama Monastery and quite chilly with light snowfall at Balang Shan. Slept at the NNR Hotel in Wolong again.

25 May

A day with many hours in the bus because we had to move from Wolong to Maerkang (6 hours). On the way we stopped at Balang Shan at the forest on the tree line where we found Sichuan Thrush, a recent split from Plain-backed Thrush. Near the first tunnel we had great views of Chinese Monal. This time the pass was closed due to heavy snowfall. We took the tunnel and found Przevalski’s Nuthatch at the obvious viewing point with toilet facilities and Tibetan booths, Hill Pigeon (near Dawir) and White-backed Thrush (high on Balang Shan). At Mengbi Shan (4000 m asl) we found Crested Tit-Warbler, Blood Pheasant, Gray-crested Tit and White-winged Grosbeak. Had our first sunny day. Slept at the Maerkang Jiarong Hotel (3100 m asl) in Maerkang, which was excellent.
26 May

Spent the whole day at Mengbi Shan walking downhill from just below the pass at 3900 m which produced Chinese Fulvetta, Collared Grosbeak, Crimson–browed Finch and Long–tailed Thrush (heard only) and finally, near milestone 67, the endemic Sichuan Jay. Had beautiful weather after a cold early morning. Slept at the Maerkang Jiarong Hotel again.

27 May

Drove from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai, after crossing the pass, mainly on the Tibetan Plateau (3500 m asl). Quickly found White–browed Tit–Warbler, White–browed Tit, White–throated Redstart and Black–necked Crane and after lunch in Hongyuan added Upland Buzzard, Saker Falcon (on a pylon), Ground Tit, Przevalski’s Pinktail, Pere David’s Laughingthrush and Tibetan Snowfinch to our ever growing list of recorded target species while driving north-east on the plain. Enjoyed the scenery of the Tibetan Plateau in beautiful weather. Slept at the Ruo Er Gai Grand Hotel (3500 m asl) in Ruo Er Gai, a very convenient place to stay.
28 May
Went to Baxi forest at the edge of the Tibetan Plateau in the morning, where some of us caught a glimpse of Sharpe’s Rosefinch and we heard faint calls of both Severtzov’s Grouse and Sukatschev’s Laughingthrush, but failed to get good views of these much sought-after birds. Lower down we found Blue Eared-Pheasant and Snowy-browed Nuthatch and eventually got excellent views of Long-tailed Rosefinch. Explored the Tibetan Plateau in the afternoon and easily found White-rumped and Rufous-necked Snowfinch in the dramatic landscape. A Gray Wolf leaving a carcass where Himalayan Vultures and Tibetan Foxes were feeding as well, was a quite exciting experience. A hunting Saker Falcon fitted perfectly in this picture. We also found the huge Tibetan Lark after a short walk to the wetter part of the plain. Had beautiful weather again. Slept at the Ruo Er Gai Grand Hotel again.

29 May
Went back to Baxi forest and had excellent and prolonged views of both Sukatschev’s Laughingthrush and Severtzov’s Grouse this time. Blood Pheasant and Siberian Rubythroat also performed very well. Drove to the crowded Flower Lake on the Tibetan Plateau in the afternoon, where we found many species to boost our trip list with Pallas’s and the mongolicus (Clements’) subspecies of Herring Gull (Vega Gull according to IOC) as perhaps the best species. A hunting Tibetan Fox quickly catching and eating two Plateau Pikas was the highlight of this afternoon. Again, we had beautiful weather after light rainfall in the morning. Slept at the Ruo Er Gai Grand Hotel again.

30 May
Went from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou which meant many hours in the bus. Had a short walk at the edge of the Tibetan Plateau (White-browed Tit and White-browed Tit–Warbler) and at the Great March’s monument in Chuanzhushi. A walk at the pass near Huanglong (3500 m asl) produced more than excellent views of the much sought-after Pere David’s Owl, also found Chinese Fulvetta again. The mass tourism attracted by the beautiful Jiuzhaigou National Park became clearly visible by the high density of huge hotels. Had fine weather again. Slept at the excellent Hotel Qianhe (1850 m asl) in Jiuzhaigou.
31 May

Spent the whole day in the huge – it takes a shuttle bus 30 minutes to drive from the entrance to the walking area – Jiuzaigou National Park which simply is ridiculously beautiful and therefore is reputed to get over 2 million visitors a year. Not surprisingly the park is well equipped with facilities to handle this high number of visitors. Walked the boardwalks at various altitudes and enjoyed the beauty of the crystal clear lakes, rapids and falls on the valley floor and primary forests on the steep slopes of the canyon. Birdwise White-crowned Forktail (great views), Baikal Bush-Warbler (close encounters), Spectacled Parrotbill (in reed) and Gansu Leaf Warbler (for some of us) are worth mentioning. Neither Rufous-headed Robin (always not easy) nor Pere David’s Tit (usually not difficult) could be found. Had a very rainy day. Slept at the Hotel Qianhe again.

1 June

Had a long drive from Jiuzaigou via the Gonggangling pass (Maroon-backed Accentor) continuously driving down hill in the same valley to Dujiangyuan, a suburb of Chengdu. Added Blue Rock-Thrush and Long-billed Plover to our trip list. Had to deal with traffic jams (in long tunnels) for the first time. Had good weather. Slept at the luxurious Yurui Hotel (700 m asl) in Dujiangyuan.
2 June

Walked to a nearby park in Dujiangyuan in the morning where Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Chinese Bamboo-Partridge (heard only again), Fire-breasted Flowerpecker, Gray-winged Blackbird, Great Barbet and Rufous-capped Babbler were perhaps the best birds. Were taken to Shuangliu International Airport in Chengdu and flew with domestic Chinese Southern flight KL 4547 (five hours' delay, flying time 2 hours and 50 minutes) to Beijing and were happy to be able to catch the also delayed flight KL 4302 from Beijing to Amsterdam. Good weather in Dujiangyuan. Slept on the plane.

3 June

Left Beijing at 02.30 hrs. (two and a half hours' delay) and arrived at 07.30 hrs. (flying time 10 hours) in Amsterdam.

*Peter van Scheepen – Jos Vroege – Hans Westerlaken – Kees Goudsmits – Dick Meijer*

*Henk Levering - Sander Bot – Jay*

*(Picture taken bij Ding with the telephone of Hans Westerlaken)*
Weather

We had quite a few rainy days specially in Longcanggou and Jiuzhaigou, also in Baxi forest. At Balang Shan it was chilly with a little rain and snow fall, but it was clear and windless and at Mengbi Shan, at the Tibetan Plateau and at the Gonggangling pass we had beautiful, sunny weather. In the lowlands around Chengdu it was hot.

Annoyances

Generally speaking we had a hassle–free trip and we felt very safe everywhere. When visiting China you have to take into account that communication with the Chinese people is rather difficult: very few people speak English and the menus in the restaurants are in Chinese. Occasionally communication took place with the aid of the translation–app on I–phones. We concluded that Chinese car drivers still need some training: their overtaking behavior in the mountains is very risky. It was annoying to have a rather long delay of a domestic flight without proper information about what was to be expected.

References

In the field we used:

- Per Alström, Identification of Phylloscopus and Seicercus warblers in China, Key Laboratory of Zoological Systematics and Evolution, Institute of Zoology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing and Swedish Species Information Center, Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Uppsala Sweden (2012) An essential paper to get the grip of these two difficult families of warblers.


While preparing and digesting this trip we used:


- **China Birding Tour**, *Sichuan to Edge of Tibetan Plateau Birding Tour.*


- **Henk Hendriks**, *Sichuan 2010.*


- **Laurens Stein**, *Checklist China, Sichuan 2014.*

- **Laurens Stein**, *Reisverslag China Sichuan & Tibetan Plateau 2014.*


- **Mark Zekhuis**, *Reisverslag China 2016.*

Useful web-sites:

- [www.jiuzhai.com](http://www.jiuzhai.com) *If you understand Chinese.*

- [http://www.ihuahu.com](http://www.ihuahu.com) *If it opens you should get info on the Flower Lake on the Tibetan Plateau.*


Acknowledgments

We are very grateful to our Chinese guide and interpreter Jay, we admired his professional skills during this tour. We thank our driver Ding, who drove us safely on often dangerous roads and was always very helpful, even after many hours of working. Our Dutch guide Sander is thanked for his daily efforts to have things run smoothly, being an enthusiastic and very keen bird-watcher at the same time. Kees Verburg is thanked for his proof reading of an earlier version of this report: our report benefited from his remarks.

Looking for the Chinese Rubythroat at Balang Shan

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Systematic list of birds

Sequence and taxonomy follow Clements 2017.

http://www.birds.cornell.edu/clementschecklist/download/

E = Endemic

1. Graylag Goose (Anser anser)

15 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May; 50 there on 29 May and 50 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

2. Ruddy Shelduck (Tadorna ferruginea)

60 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 11 on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May; 10 there on 29 May and 4 on 30 May.
3. **Gadwall** *(Anas strepera)*

   1 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

4. **Eurasian Wigeon** *(Anas penelope)*

   2 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

5. **Mallard** *(Anas platyrhynchos)*

   10 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 8 there on 19 May;
   3 at the Flower Lake on 29 May; 3 en route to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May;
   8 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May and 2 en route from Jiuzhaigou to
   Dujiangyan on 1 June.

6. **Red–crested Pochard** *(Netta rufina)*

   50 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

7. **Common Pochard** *(Aythya ferina)*

   10 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

8. **Ferruginous Duck** *(Aythya nyroca)*

   8 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.
9. **Tufted Duck** (*Aythya fuligula*)

   2 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

10. **Common Merganser** (*Mergus merganser*)

    6 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May.

11. **Tibetan Snowcock** (*Tetraogallus tibetanus*)

    2 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.

12. **Chinese Bamboo–Partridge** (*Bambusicola thoracicus*)

    Heard near Longcanggou on 19 May and at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

13. **Blood Pheasant** (*Ithaginis cruentus*)

    3 heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 25 May; 3 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; heard at Baxi forest on 28 May and 3 seen there on 29 May.
14. **Chinese Monal** (*Lophophorus lhuysii*)

2 seen at Balang Shan at the first tunnel on 23 May and 2 ♂ and 1 ♀ there on 25 May.

15. **Snow Partridge** (*Lerwa lerwa*)

2 seen at Balang Shan pass on 23 May.

16. **Verreaux's (Monal-)Partridge** (*Tetraophasis obscurus*)

1 seen and more heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 3 seen there on 25 May and heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

17. **Temminck's Tragopan**

(*Tragopan temminckii*)

1 heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

18. **Golden Pheasant**

(*Chrysolophus pictus*)

1 heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May and 8 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 24 and 25 May.
19. Lady Amherst’s Pheasant (*Chrysolophus amherstiae*)

1 ♂ seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

20. Ring–necked Pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*)

Heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; 2 seen and a few heard at Baxi forest on 28 May; 3 seen and a few heard there on 29 May; 1 seen and a few heard en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May and a few heard at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

21. White Eared–Pheasant (*Crossoptilon crossoptilon*)

5 seen at Balang Shan at the first tunnel on 23 May; 5 there on 25 May and 15 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

22. Blue Eared–Pheasant (*Crossoptilon auritum*)

2 seen at Baxi on 28 May and 7 there on 28 May.
23. **Severtzov's (Chinese) Grouse** (*Bonasa sewerzowi*)

Heard at Baxi forest on 28 May and 1 ♂♀ seen there on 29 May.

24. **Little Grebe** (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)

2 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May and heard at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

25. **Great Crested Grebe** (*Podiceps cristatus*)

6 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

26. **Eared Grebe** (*Podiceps nigricollis*)

1 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.
27. **Great Cormorant** (*Phalacrocorax carbo*)
   6 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

28. **Great Bittern** (*Botaurus stellaris*)
   3 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

29. **Gray Heron** (*Ardea cinerea*)
   15 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May and 1 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

30. **Great Egret** (*Ardea alba*)
   1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 2 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

31. **Little Egret** (*Egretta garzetta*)
   30 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May; 1 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May; 1 at Wolong on 23 May and 1 at Dujiangyan on 1 June.

32. **Cattle Egret** (*Bubulcus ibis*)
   Common at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May. Small numbers at most places visited.

33. **Chinese Pond–Heron** (*Ardeola bacchus*)
   1 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 2 there on 19 May; 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 2 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

34. **Black–crowned Night–Heron**
   (*Nycticorax nycticorax*)
   50 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May.

35. **Lammergeier** (*Gypaetus barbatus*)
   2 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May; 3 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 2 immatures sitting on the ground on the Tibetan Plateau on 29 May and 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May.
36. **Oriental Honey-buzzard** (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*)

3 seen en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May; 1 at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May and 70 at Balang Shan on 25 May.

37. **Cinereous Vulture** (*Aegypius monachus*)

3 seen en route from Wolong to Balang Shan on 24 May.

38. **Himalayan Griffon** (*Gyps himalayensis*)

Common in the mountains and on the Tibetan Plateau. At least 120 at the lower parts of Gonggangling pass on 30 May.
39. **Golden Eagle** (*Aquila chrysaetos*)

2 at the lower parts of Balang Shan on 24 May; 2 there and 1 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 2 at Baxi forest and 1 on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May; 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May and 5 en route from Jiuzhaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.

40. **Chinese Sparrowhawk** (*Accipiter soloensis*)

1 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 19 May.

41. **Eurasian Sparrowhawk** (*Accipiter nisus melaschistos*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 2 there on 21 May; 1 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 2 there on 26 May and 1 at Baxi forest on 28 May.

42. **Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May and 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

43. **Black Kite** (*Milvus migrans*)

Common on the Tibetan Plateau. 1 en route from Jiuzhaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.
44. Himalayan Buzzard (*Buteo refectus*)

1 seen at Balang Shan at the first tunnel on 23 May and 1 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

45. Upland Buzzard (*Buteo hemilasius*)

Up to 7 seen daily on the Tibetan Plateau.

46. White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*)

1 seen near Wolong on 24 May.

47. Eurasian Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

2 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 19 May and 1 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

48. Eurasian Coot (*Fulica atra*)

20 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

49. Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*)

45 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 27 May; 7 there on 28 May; 17 on 29 May and 1 on 30 May.

50. Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)

5 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

51. Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*)

2 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

52. Northern Lapwing (*Vanellus vanellus*)

1 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

53. Long-billed Plover (*Charadrius placidus*)

2 seen at Dujiangyan on 1 June.

54. Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.
55. **Spotted Redshank** (*Tringa erythropus*)

1 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

56. **Wood Sandpiper** (*Tringa glareola*)

2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

57. **Common Redshank** (*Tringa totanus*)

8 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 8 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

58. **Brown–headed Gull** (*Chroicocephalus brunnicephalus*)

2 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 27 May; 20 there on 28 May; 30 on 29 May and 2 on 30 May.

59. **Pallas's Gull** (*Ichthyaeetus ichthyaetus*)

4 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.
60. **Herring Gull (Mongolian)** (*Larus argentatus mongolicus*)  
1 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.


61. **White–winged Tern** (*Chlidonias leucopterus*)  
2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 3 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

62. **Whiskered Tern** (*Chlidonias hybrida*)  
6 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

63. **Common Tern** (*Sterna hirundo*)  
Small numbers seen on the Tibetan Plateau.

64. **Hill Pigeon** (*Columba rupestris*)  
4 seen at Dawir on 25 May.

65. **Snow Pigeon** (*Columba leuconota*)  
60 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May.

66. **Speckled Wood–Pigeon** (*Columba hodgsonii*)  
1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 4 there on 21 May; 1 on 22 May and 2 at the lower parts of Balang Shan on 25 May.

67. **Oriental Turtle–Dove** (*Streptopelia orientalis*)  
1 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; 5 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 2 there on 26 May; 6 at Baxi forest on 28 May; 1 there on 29 May and 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May.

68. **Eurasian Collared–Dove** (*Streptopelia decaocto*)  
1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May.

69. **Red Collared–Dove** (*Streptopelia tranquebarica*)  
1 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May.
70. **Spotted Dove** (*Streptopelia chinensis*)

10 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May; 4 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May and 5 at Dujiangyan on 1 June.

71. **Asian Koel** (*Eudynamys scolopaceus*)

1 heard near Longcanggou on 19 May; 1 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 2 seen at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

72. **Large Hawk–Cuckoo** (*Hierococcyx sparverioides*)

A few seen and many heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20–22 May; heard en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May; at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May and at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

73. **Lesser Cuckoo** (*Cuculus poliocephalus*)

2 seen and a few heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May, 1 seen and a few heard there on 21 May, 1 seen and a few heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

74. **Himalayan Cuckoo** (*Cuculus saturatus*)

2 seen and 1 heard near Longcanggou on 19 May; heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 and 22 May; at Baxi forest on 28 May and at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

75. **Common Cuckoo** (*Cuculus canorus*)

Seen and heard quite a few almost daily. Not recorded in the lower parts.
76. **Eurasian Eagle-Owl** (*Bubo bubo*)

1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

77. **Collared Owlet** (*Glaucidium brodiei*)

1 heard at Baxi forest on 28 May and 1 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

78. **Little Owl** (*Athene noctua*)

2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

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79. **Pere David's Owl** (*Strix davidi*)

1 seen very well at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.
80. **White-throated Needletail** (*Hirundapus caudacutus*)

3 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 and 21 May and 2 seen very well at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

81. **Himalayan Swiftlet** (*Aerodramus brevirostris*)

10 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May and 3 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.

82. **Pacific Swift** (*Apus pacificus*)

9 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May and 8 en route from Jiuzhaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.

83. **Salim Ali’s Swift** (*Apus salimalii*)

6 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May; 3 there on 25 May; 3 on the Tibetan Plateau on 27 and 28 May; 6 there on 29 May and 2 on 30 May.

84. **House Swift** (*Apus nipalensis*)

2 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 1 there on 19 May; 10 en route from Chengdu to Longcanggou on 19 May; 1 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May and 2 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

85. **Eurasian Hoopoe** (*Upupa epops*)

2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

86. **Common Kingfisher** (*Alcedo atthis*)

4 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 2 there on 19 May and 1 along the river in Ya’an on 22 May.

87. **Black-capped Kingfisher** (*Halcyon pileata*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 and 21 May and 1 en route from Dawir to Mengbi Shan on 25 May.

88. **Great Barbet** (*Psilopogon virens*)

1 seen at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

89. **Rufous-bellied Woodpecker** (*Dendrocopos hyperythrus*)

3 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.
90. Crimson–breasted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos cathpharius*)
   1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.

91. Darjeeling Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos darjellensis*)
   2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

92. White–backed Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos leucotos*)
   1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

93. Great Spotted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos major*)
   Heard at Baxi forest on 28 May and 1 seen and a few heard at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

94. Gray–headed Woodpecker (*Picus canus*)
   1 seen at Longcanggou on 19 May and heard there on 21 and 22 May.
   ➢ Black-naped Woodpecker (*Picus guerini*): *Handbook of the birds of the world Alive.*

95. Bay Woodpecker (*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*)
   1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

96. Eurasian Kestrel (*Falco tinnunculus*)
   2 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May and 1 at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

97. Eurasian Hobby (*Falco subbuteo*)
   1 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May.

98. Saker Falcon (*Falco cherrug milvipes*)
   1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May.

99. Gray–chinned Minivet (*Pericrocotus solaris*)
   1♀ seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

100. Short–billed Minivet (*Pericrocotus brevirostris*)
   2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 3 there on 21 May and 2 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.
101. Long–tailed Minivet (*Pericrocotus ethologus*)

1 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May; 4 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 2 there on 21 May; 2 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 at Baxi forest on 28 May.

102. Brown–rumped (Swinhoe’s) Minivet (*Pericrocotus cantonensis*)

2 seen along the river in Ya’an on 22 May.

103. Tiger Shrike (*Lanius tigrinus*)

1 ♂ seen near Longcanggou on 19 May and 2 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

![Tiger Shrike, Longcanggou Forest Park](image1)

![Brown Shrike, Longcanggou Forest Park](image2)

104. Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*)

4 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 9 there on 21 May and 2 en route from Dawir to Mengbi Shan.

105. Long–tailed Shrike (*Lanius schach*)

8 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng and 2 at Chengdu Airport on 18 and 19 May; 1 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May and 2 en route from Dujiangyan to Chengdu on 2 June.
106. **Gray-backed Shrike** (*Lanius tephronotus*)

Up to 20 seen almost daily.

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107. **Black-naped Oriole** (*Oriolus chinensis*)

2 seen at Longcanggou on 21 May and heard at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

108. **Black Drongo** (*Dicrurus macrocercus*)

1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May; 1 there on 29 May and 2 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May.

109. **Hair-crested Drongo** (*Dicrurus hottentottus*)

1 seen near Longcanggou on 21 May and 2 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.

110. **Sichuan Jay** (*Perisoreus internigrans*) *E*

5 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

111. **Eurasian Jay** (*Garrulus glandarius*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 1 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May and 3 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.
112. Azure–winged Magpie *(Cyanopica cyanus)*

6 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 11 at the edge of the Tibetan Plateau on 30 May.

![Azure-winged Magpie, Tibetan Plateau](image)

113. Red–billed Blue–Magpie *(Urocissa erythroryncha)*

5 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May; 3 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 1 there and 4 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May; 2 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and heard at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

![Red-billed Blue-Magpie, Longcanggou Forest Park (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

114. Eurasian Magpie *(Pica pica)*

2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 3 at the edge of the Tibetan Plateau on 30 May.
115. **Eurasian Nutcracker** (*Nucifraga caryocatactes*)

Heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 4 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

![Eurasian Nutcracker, Lama Monastery Wolong](image1)

116. **Red–billed Chough** (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*)

1 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May; 4 there on 24 May; 2 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 4 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May and 6 en route from Jiuzaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.

117. **Yellow–billed Chough** (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*)

8 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May; 1 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May and 2 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.

118. **Daurian Jackdaw** (*Corvus dauricus*)

10 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 6 at the lower parts of the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.

![Daurian Jackdaw, en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou (Photo Jos Vroege)](image2)
119. **Carrion Crow** (*Corvus corone*)

2 seen at Maerkang on 25 May; 4 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 at Baxi forest on 28 May.

120. **Large-billed Crow** (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)

Small numbers seen daily at the higher parts.

121. **Common Raven** (*Corvus corax*)

6 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 on the Tibetan Plateau on 29 May.

122. **Horned Lark** (*Eremophila alpestris*)

1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May; 3 at the Flower Lake on 29 May and 1 at the edge of the Tibetan Plateau on 30 May.

123. **Tibetan Lark** (*Melanocorypha maxima*)

4 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May and 2 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

124. **Oriental Skylark** (*Alauda gulgula*)

Common on the Tibetan Plateau.

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

5 seen along the river in Ya'an on 22 May; 5 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 1 below Baxi village on 28 May and 4 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.
126. **Eurasian Crag-Martin** (*Ptyonoprogne rupestris*)

   20 seen at Dawir on 25 May; 3 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May; 1 at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May and 6 en route from Jiuzaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.

127. **Barn Swallow** (*Hirundo rustica*)

   Small numbers seen daily in the lower parts. 4 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

128. **Red-rumped Swallow** (*Cecropis daurica*)

   Small numbers seen in the lower parts.

129. **Asian House-Martin** (*Delichon dasypus*)

   Common in the higher parts.
130. **Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher** (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May and 3 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

![Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher, Jiuzhaigou National Park (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

131. **Fire-capped Tit** (*Cephalopyrus flammiceps*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

132. **Yellow-browed Tit** (*Sylviparus modestus*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 2 there on 21 May and 1 on 22 May.

133. **Coal Tit** (*Periparus ater*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 1 heard there on 21 May and 1 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

134. **Rufous-vented Tit** (*Periparus rubidiventris*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 2 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 6 there on 26 May and 2 at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

135. **Yellow-bellied Tit** (*Periparus venustulus*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 1 there on 22 May and 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

136. **Gray-crested Tit** (*Lophophanes dichrous*)

2 seen at Mengbi Shan on 25 May and 4 there on 26 May.

137. **White-browed Tit** (*Poecile superciliosus*)

1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 1 below Baxi village on 28 May and 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May.
138. **Sichuan Tit** (*Poecile weigoldicus*)

1 seen below Baxi village on 28 May.

139. **Ground Tit** (*Pseudopodoces humilis*)

Common on the Tibetan Plateau.

140. **Green–backed Tit** (*Parus monticolus*)

4 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 5 there on 21 May; 1 on 22 May; 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 3 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May and heard at Dujiangyan on 2 June.
141. **Japanese Tit** (*Parus minor*)

3 seen en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May; heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 1 at Baxi forest on 28 May and 1 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.

142. **White-browed Tit–Warbler** (*Leptopoecile sophiae*)

3 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1♂ en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May.

143. **Crested Tit–Warbler** (*Leptopoecile elegans*)

1♂ ♀ seen at Mengbi Shan on 25 May.

144. **Black-throated Tit** (*Aegithalos concinnus*)

12 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 40 there on 19 May; 30 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May and 20 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.
145. Black–browed Tit (*Aegithalos iouschistos*)

8 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

146. Sooty Tit (*Aegithalos fuliginosus*)

2 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

147. Eurasian Nuthatch (*Sitta europaea*)

5 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.
148. Chestnut-vented Nuthatch (*Sitta nagaensis*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 and 21 May.

149. Przevalski’s Nuthatch (*Sitta przewalskii*)

E 1 seen at the lower part of Balang Shan on 25 May and 1 below Baxi village on 29 May.

150. Snowy-browed (Chinese) Nuthatch (*Sitta villosa*)

1 seen below Baxi village on 28 May.

151. Hodgson’s Treecreeper (*Certhia hodgsoni*)

2 seen at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.
152. **Eurasian Wren** (*Troglodytes troglodytes*)

2 heard at Mengbi Shan on 25 May and 1 at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

153. **White-throated Dipper** (*Cinclus cinclus*)

1 seen near Wolong on 24 May and 1 juvenile at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

154. **Brown Dipper** (*Cinclus pallasii*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

155. **Collared Finchbill** (*Spizixos semitorques*)

2 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 19 May; 1 near Longcanggou on 19 May; 1 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May and 2 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

156. **Red-whiskered Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus jocosus*) ?status??

2 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May and 1 there on 19 May.

157. **Light-vented Bulbul** (*Pycnonotus sinensis*)


158. **Black Bulbul** (*Hypsipetes leucocephalus*)

2 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May; 1 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 2 there on 22 May and 5 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

159. **Goldcrest** (*Regulus regulus*)

1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 25 May and 1 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

160. **Pygmy Cupwing** (*Wren-Babbler*) (*Pnoepyga pusilla*)

1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 1 seen and 2 heard there on 21 May and 1 heard on 22 May.

161. **Chestnut-crowned Bush-Warbler** (*Cettia major*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May.
162. **Chestnut–headed Tesia** (*Cettia castaneocoronata*)

3 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May.

163. **Rufous–faced Warbler** (*Abroscopus albogularis*)

10 seen along the river in Ya'an on 22 May and 2 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

164. **Brownish–flanked Bush–Warbler** (*Horornis fortipes*)

Many heard and a few seen at Longcanggou Forest Park and at Balang Shan before the first tunnel.

165. **Yellowish–bellied Bush–Warbler** (*Horornis acanthizoides*)

A few heard and 3 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park and at Balang Shan before the first tunnel.

166. **Aberrant Bush–Warbler** (*Horornis flavolivaceus*)

Many heard and a few seen at Longcanggou Forest Park and at Balang Shan before the first tunnel.

167. **Dusky Warbler** (*Phylloscopus fuscatus*)

1 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 1 below Baxi village on 29 May and 2 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou.

168. **Alpine Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus occisinensis* E)

3 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 and 24 May; 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 below Baxi village on 28 May and 1 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.
169. **Yellow-streaked Warbler** (*Phylloscopus armandii*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 6 there on 24 May; 2 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 1 below Baxi village on 29 May and 1 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.

170. **Buff-barred Warbler** (*Phylloscopus pulcher*)

3 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; heard there and 2 seen at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; a few seen and many heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May, 1 seen at Baxi forest on 29 May; 1 at Jiuzaigou and heard at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

171. **Ashy-throated Warbler** (*Phylloscopus maculipennis*)

15 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 10 there on 21 May and 3 on 22 May.

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

1 seen at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

173. **Sichuan Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus forresti*)

10 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; heard there on 21 May; 2 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 5 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May and heard at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.
174. **Chinese Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus yunnanensis*)

4 seen below Baxi village on 28 May and heard at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

175. **Hume's Warbler** (*Phylloscopus humei*)

4 seen and more heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 4 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May and 3 seen and more heard at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

176. **Greenish Warbler** (*Phylloscopus trochiloides*)

2 seen and a few heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 3 seen and a few heard at the Lama Monastery and Balang Shan on 24 May; 2 at Mengbi Shan on 25 and 26 May; 3 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 below Baxi village on 28 May; 2 there on 29 May; 2 at the Gonggangling pass and 1 at Chuanzhusi on 30 May; and 1 there on 1 at the Gonggangling pass June.
177. **Large–billed Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus magnirostris*)


178. **Claudia's Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus claudiae*)


179. **Emei Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus emeiensis*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

180. **Kloss's Leaf Warbler** (*Phylloscopus ogilviegranti*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 2 seen and a few heard there on 21 May; 1 seen and a few heard on 22 May; 1 seen and a few heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and heard at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

181. **Gray–crowned Warbler** (*Seicercus tephrocephalus*)

2 seen and a few heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; heard there on 21 and 22 May; 3 seen and a few heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 25 May.

182. **Martens's Warbler** (*Seicercus omeiensis*)

1 seen and 1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May and heard at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

183. **Bianchi's Warbler** (*Seicercus valentini*)

4 seen and a few heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 1 seen below Baxi village on 29 May; 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May and heard at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.
184. **Chestnut–crowned Warbler** (*Seicercus castaniceps*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May.

185. **Brown Bush–Warbler** (*Locustella luteoventris*)

1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May and 1 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

186. **Baikal Bush–Warbler**

(*Locustella davidii*)

1 seen and 1 heard at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

187. **Spotted Bush–Warbler**

(*Locustella thoracica*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May.

188. **Sichuan Bush–Warbler** (*Locustella chengi*) E

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 heard there on 21 May.

- New species, see Alström et al. (2015).

189. **Plain Prinia** (*Prinia inornata*)

6 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May and 4 there on 19 May.
190. Golden-breasted Fulvetta (*Lioparus chrysotis*)

6 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 3 there on 21 May.

191. Chinese Fulvetta (*Fulvetta striaticollis*)

2 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May and 1 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.

192. Gray-hooded Fulvetta (*Fulvetta cinereiceps*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

193. Great Parrotbill

(*Conostoma aemodium*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 heard there on 21 May.

194. Three-toed Parrotbill

(*Cholornis paradoxa*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

195. Spectacled Parrotbill (*Sinosuthora conspicillata*)

5 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.
196. **Vinous-throated Parrotbill** (*Sinosuthora webbiana*)

2 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 19 May and 1 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

197. **Ashy-throated Parrotbill** (*Sinosuthora alphonsoniana*)

6 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May and 5 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May.

198. **Gray-hooded Parrotbill** (*Sinosuthora zappeyi*) *E*

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

199. **Golden Parrotbill** (*Suthora verreauxi*)

5 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

200. **Stripe-throated Yuhina** (*Yuhina gularis*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

201. **White-collared Yuhina** (*Yuhina diademata*)

Common at Longcanggou Forest Park and at Balang Shan before the first tunnel.
202. **Black-chinned Yuhina** (*Yuhina nigrimenta*)

20 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May and 8 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

![Black-chinned Yuhina, Dujiangyan (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

203. **Chestnut-flanked White-eye** (*Zosterops erythropleurus*)

3 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 3 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

204. **Japanese White-eye** (*Zosterops japonicus*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 1 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May and 1 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

205. **Rufous-capped Babbler** (*Cyanoderma ruficeps*)

2 seen at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

206. **Streak-breasted Scimitar-Babbler** (*Pomatorhinus ruficollis*)

1 heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

207. **Black-streaked Scimitar-Babbler** (*Megapomatorhinus gravivox*)

1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

208. **David's Fulvetta** (*Alcippe davidii*)

5 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May and 5 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

*Split from Morrison's (Gray-cheeked) Fulvetta (*Alcippe morrisonia*).*
209. **Sukatschev's (Snowy-cheeked) Laughingthrush**  
 (*Ianthocincla sukatschewi*)  
 1 heard at Baxi forest on 28 May and 2 seen there on 29 May.

210. **Spotted Laughingthrush** (*Ianthocincla ocellata*)  
 1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May.

211. **Barred Laughingthrush** (*Ianthocincla lunulata*)  
 1 heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

212. **Giant Laughingthrush** (*Ianthocincla maxima*)  
 Small numbers seen and a few heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel, Mengbi Shan, Baxi forest and the Gonggangling pass.

213. **Pere David's (Plain) Laughingthrush** (*Ianthocincla davidi*)  
 2 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 below Baxi village on 28 May; 7 there on 28 May and 2 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.
214. **Buffy Laughingthrush** (*Ianthocincla berthemyi*)

1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

215. **White–browed Laughingthrush** (*Ianthocincla sannio*)

Common in the lower parts.

216. **Chinese Babax** (*Ianthocincla lanceolata*)

8 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 25 May and 1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

217. **Elliot's Laughingthrush** (*Trochalopteron elliotii*)

Small numbers seen and heard almost daily.
218. **Red-winged Laughingthrush** (*Trochalopteron formosum*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

219. **Red-billed Leiothrix** (*Leiothrix lutea*)

3 seen and a few heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 8 there on 21 May and heard on 22 May.

![Red-billed Leiothrix, Longcanggou Forest Park (Photo Sander Bot)](image)

220. **Red-tailed Minla** (*Minla ignotincta*)

5 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

221. **Gray-faced (Emei Shan) Liocichla** (*Liocichla omeiensis*)

2 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 2 seen there on 21 May.

222. **Dark-sided Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa sibirica*)

6 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 5 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

![Dark-sided Flycatcher, Jiuzhaigou National Park (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

223. **Ferruginous Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa ferruginea*)

5 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May and 2 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.
224. **Asian Brown Flycatcher** (*Muscicapa daurica*)

1 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

225. **Oriental Magpie–Robin** (*Copsychus saularis*)

20 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May; 1 en route from Chengdu to Longcanggou on 19 May; 2 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May and 1 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

226. **Fujian Niltava** (*Niltava davidii*)

2 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May. 1 seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May was most likely this species.

227. **Verditer Flycatcher** (*Eumyias thalassinus*)

3 at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 2 there on 21 May and 2 at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 24 May.

228. **Indian Blue Robin** (*Larvivora brunnea*)

1 seen and 1 heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 seen and a few heard at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

229. **White–bellied Redstart** (*Luscinia phaenicuroides*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 1 heard there on 21 May and 1 seen below Baxi village on 29 May.
230. **Blue Whistling-Thrush** (*Myophonus caeruleus*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May; 1 en route from Mengbi Shan to Maerkang on 25 May; 1 at Dawir on 25 May and 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

231. **Little Forktail** (*Enicurus scouleri*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.

232. **White-crowned Forktail** (*Enicurus leschenaulti*)

1 seen at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

233. **Firethroat** (*Calliope pectardens*)

1 seen and 1 heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 25 May.
234. **Siberian Rubythroat** (*Calliope calliope*)

1 ♂ seen near Baxi forest on 29 May.

235. **Chinese Rubythroat** (*Calliope tschebaiewi*)

5 seen and 2 heard at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May.

236. **White–tailed Robin** (*Cinclidium leucurum*)

1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 and 21 May.

237. **Grandala** (*Grandala coelicolor*)

10 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.
238. Himalayan Bluetail (*Tarsiger rufilatus*)

1 ♂ seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 and 24 May and 1 ♂ at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

239. Golden Bush–Robin (*Tarsiger chrysaeus*)

1 ♀ seen at Balang Shan at the first tunnel on 23 May.

240. Slaty–backed Flycatcher (*Ficedula sordida*)

3 seen and more heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; 2 seen and more heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 seen and more heard below Baxi village on 28 May; heard there on 29 May; 1 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May; 3 seen and more heard at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May and heard at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

241. Snowy–browed Flycatcher (*Ficedula hyperythra*)

1 seen and 1 heard at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.

242. Rufous–gorgeted Flycatcher (*Ficedula strophiata*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May and 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.
243. **Taiga Flycatcher** (*Ficedula albicilla*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

244. **Blue–fronted Redstart** (*Phoenicurus frontalis*)

10 seen after the second tunnel on 23 and 24 May and 2 at Mengbi Shan on 25 and 26 May.

245. **Plumbeous Redstart** (*Phoenicurus fuliginosus*)

Small numbers seen almost daily.

246. **White–capped Redstart** (*Phoenicurus leucocephalus*)

5 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 8 en route from Balang Shan to Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 3 en route from Maerkang to Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May; and 1 en route from Jiuzaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.
247. **Hodgson’s Redstart** (*Phoenicurus hodgsoni*)

1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 3 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 5 below Baxi village on 29 May.

248. **White-throated Redstart** (*Phoenicurus schisticeps*)

5 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 4 below Baxi village on 29 May; 2 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May and 1 there on 1 June.

249. **Black Redstart** (*Phoenicurus ochruros*)

Common on the Tibetan Plateau.

250. **Daurian Redstart** (*Phoenicurus auroreus*)

5 seen at both sides of the second tunnel at Balang Shan on 25 May.
251. **Blue Rock–Thrush** (*Monticola solitarius*)

2 seen en route from Jiuzhaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.

252. **Siberian Stonechat** (*Saxicola maurus*)

1 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May; 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzhaigou on 30 May.

253. **Gray Bushchat** (*Saxicola ferreus*)

1 seen at Longcanggou on 21 May and 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

254. **Long-tailed Thrush** (*Zoothera dixoni*)

2 heard at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.
255. **Sichuan Thrush** (*Zoothera griseiceps*)

2 seen at the lower parts of Balang Shan on 25 May.

- *Split from Plain-backed Thrush Turdus* (*Zoothera mollissima*), see Alström et al. (2016).

![Sichuan Thrush, Balang Shan (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

256. **Gray-winged Blackbird** (*Turdus boulboul*)

2 seen at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

![Gray-winged Blackbird, Dujiangyan (Photo Jos Vroege)](image) ![Chinese Blackbird, Chengdu](image)

257. **Chinese Blackbird** (*Turdus mandarinus*)

Common at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May; 2 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May; 1 at Dawir on 25 May and 5 at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

258. **Chestnut Thrush** (*Turdus rubrocanus*)

A common bird in the higher parts.
259. **White–backed (Kessler’s) Thrush** (*Turdus kessleri*)

   A common bird in the highest parts.

260. **Red–billed Starling** (*Spodiopsar sericeus*)

   1♀ seen at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

261. **Crested Myna** (*Acridotheres cristatellus*)

   12 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 3 there on 19 May; 5 en route from Chengdu to Longcanggou on 19 May; 5 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May and 6 at Dujiangyan on 1 June.

262. **Fire–breasted Flowerpecker** (*Dicaeum ignipectus*)

   20 seen and more heard at Dujiangyan on 2 June.

263. **Gould’s Sunbird** (*Aethopyga gouldiae*)

   10 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 20 May; 8 there on 21 May and 4 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

264. **Alpine Accentor** (*Prunella collaris*)

   3 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.
265. **Rufous-breasted Accentor** (*Prunella strophiata*)

1 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May; 2 there on 24 May; 1 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 5 there on 26 May and 3 at Baxi forest on 29 May.

![Rufous-breasted Accentor, Balang Shan (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

266. **Maroon-backed Accentor** (*Prunella immaculata*)

2 seen at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

267. **Forest Wagtail** (*Dendronanthus indicus*)

1 seen along the river in Ya’an on 22 May.

268. **Citrine Wagtail** (*Motacilla citreola*)

7 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 8 at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

![Citrine Wagtail, en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai (Photo Jos Vroege)](image)

269. **Gray Wagtail** (*Motacilla cinerea*)

Small numbers seen almost daily. Not seen on the Tibetan Plateau.
270a. **White Wagtail (Hodgson's)** (*Motacilla alba alboides*)

1 to 4 seen almost daily.

270b. **White Wagtail** (*Motacilla alba ocularis*)

4 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 and 19 May.

271. **Blyth's Pipit** (*Anthus godlewskii*)

1 seen at the Flower Lake on 29 May.

272. **Rosy Pipit** (*Anthus roseatus*)

10 seen at Balang Shan on 23, 24 and 25 May; 2 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May and 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.
273. **Olive-backed Pipit** (*Anthus hodgsoni*)

1 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May and 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

274. **Przevalski’s Pinktail (Finch)**

(*Urocynchramus pylzowi*)

4 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

275. **Slaty Bunting** (*Latoucheornis siemsseni*)

4 seen and a few heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 seen at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.
276. Godlewski's Bunting (*Emberiza godlewskii*)

4 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 6 below Baxi village on 28 May and 3 en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May.

![Godlewski's Bunting, en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou](image)

277. Yellow–throated Bunting (*Emberiza elegans*)

1 ♂♀ seen near Longcanggou on 19 May and 1 ♂ at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

278. Plain Mountain–Finch (*Leucosticte nemoricola*)

10 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May and 1 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May.

![Plain Mountain-Finch, Balang Shan](image)

![Black-headed (Brandt’s) Mountain-Finch, Balang Shan](image)
279. **Black-headed (Brandt’s) Mountain-Finch** (*Leucosticte brandti*)

40 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.

280. **Crimson-browed Finch** (*Pinicola subhimachala*)

4 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

281. **Brown Bullfinch** (*Pyrrhula nipalensis*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.

282. **Gray-headed Bullfinch** (*Pyrrhula erythaca*)

Heard at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 24 May; 8 seen at the lower part of Balang Shan on 25 May; 2 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 2 below Baxi village on 28 and 29 May; 11 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May and 4 at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

283. **Dark-breasted Rosefinch** (*Carpodacus nipalensis*)

3 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.
284. Common Rosefinch (*Carpodacus erythrinus*)

3 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 2 there on 24 May; 10 below Baxi village on 28 May; 4 there on 29 May and 2 at the Gonggangling pass on 30 May.

285. Himalayan Beautiful Rosefinch (*Carpodacus pulcherrimus*)

30 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 24 May; 2 there on 25 May and 1 at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

286. Pink-rumped Rosefinch (*Carpodacus waltoni*)

1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

287. Vinaceous Rosefinch (*Carpodacus vinaceus*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May; 2 at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 2 at the Lama Monastery on 24 May and 1 below Baxi village on 28 May.

288. Chinese White-browed Rosefinch (*Carpodacus dubius*)

2 seen at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May; 4 at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 10 there on 26 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May; 3 below Baxi village on 28 May; 2 there on 29 May and 3 at Gonggangling pass on 1 June.

289. Streaked Rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilloides*)

1 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May and 2 there on 24 May.

290. Long-tailed Rosefinch (*Uragus sibiricus*)

3 seen below Baxi village on 28 May.
291. Oriental Greenfinch (*Chloris sinica*)

15 seen at Longcanggou on 19 May; 30 there on 20 May; 16 on 21 May; 1 along the river in Ya'an on 22 May; heard at the Lama Monastery on 24 May; heard en route from Ruo Er Gai to Jiuzaigou on 30 May and 2 seen en route from Jiuzaigou to Dujiangyan on 1 June.

292. Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*)

8 seen on the Tibetan Plateau en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 6 below Baxi village on 28 May.

293. Tibetan Serin (*Serinus thibetanus*)

2 seen at Baxi forest on 28 May and 1 at Jiuzaigou National Park on 31 May.

294. Yellow-billed Grosbeak (*Eophona migratoria*)

5 seen at Chengdu Ecozone Jincheng on 18 May; 3 there on 19 May and 4 en route from Longcanggou to Wolong on 22 May.
295. **Collared Grosbeak** (*Mycerobas affinis*)

5 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.

![Collared Grosbeak, Mengbi Shan](image1)

296. **White-winged Grosbeak** (*Mycerobas carnipes*)

1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 25 May; 4 there on 26 May; 1 en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May and 1 seen and 1 heard below Baxi village on 28 May.

![White-winged Grosbeak, Mengbi Shan (Photo Jos Vroege)](image2)

297. **House Sparrow** (*Passer domesticus*)

2 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May and 1 ♀ at Balang Shan before the first tunnel on 23 May.

- House Sparrow is not a breeding bird in Sichuan. Introduced?

298. **Russet Sparrow** (*Passer rutilans*)

6 seen near Longcanggou on 19 May.
299. **Eurasian Tree Sparrow** (*Passer montanus*)

Small numbers seen daily. Not seen at Longcanggou Forest Park and Balang Shan.

300. **Rock Petronia** (*Petronia petronia*)

10 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

301. **Tibetan Snowfinch** (*Montifringilla henrici*)

2 seen on the Tibetan Plateau en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

302. **White-rumped Snowfinch** (*Montifringilla taczanowskii*)

Common on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 and 29 May.
303. *Rufous–necked Snowfinch* (*Montifringilla ruficollis*)

6 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 and 29 May.
Systematic list of mammals

1. Plateau Pika (*Ochotona curzoniae*)
   Very common on the Tibetan Plateau.

2. Glover’s Pika (*Ochotona gloveri*)
   1 seen at the lower part of Balang Shan on 25 May.
3. Swinhoe’s Striped Squirrel (*Tamiops swinhoei*)

1 seen at Mengbi Shan on 26 May and 2 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

4. Pere David’s Rock Squirrel (*Sciurotamias davidianus*)

1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May and 1 at Jiuzhaigou National Park on 31 May.

5. Himalayan Marmot (*Marmota himalayana*)

Common on the Tibetan Plateau. Heard at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.

6. Gray (Eurasian) Wolf (*Canis lupus*)

1 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May.
7. Tibetan Fox (Vulpes ferrilata)

3 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May and 1 there on 28 May.

8. Red Fox (Vulpes vulpes)

1 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May and 3 there on 28 May.

9. Blue Sheep (Pseudois nayaur)

41 seen at the highest parts of Balang Shan on 23 May.

10. Siberian Roe (Red) Deer (Capreolus pygargus)

3 seen on the Tibetan Plateau on 28 May and 1 at Baxi forest on 29 May.

11. Central Asian Red Deer (Cervus wallichii)

1 seen en route from Maerkang to Ruo Er Gai on 27 May.

12. Sichuan Sika Deer (Cervus nippon sichuanicus)

4 seen at Baxi forest on 28 May.

13. Hog Badger (Arctonyx collaris)

1 found dead at Mengbi Shan on 26 May.
Systematic list of reptiles and amphibians

1. **Snake** (*Pseudoxenodon sp.*)
   1 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.

2. **Omei Treefrog** (*Rhacophorus omeimontis*)
   3 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 21 May.
3. Chinese Toad (*Bufo gargarizans*)

2 seen at Longcanggou Forest Park on 22 May.
Butterflies and Dragonflies
Flowers