

ПРИМОРСКИЙ КРАЙ

A Directory to our Trip Reports

Australia*	96	M. Elwonger
Belize	91	M. Elwonger
Bhutan	97	L. Steingarten
Bhutan	88	M. Elwonger
Caribbean (Yucatan, Cozumel, Grand Cayman, Jamaica)	96	G. M. Flieg
Caribbean (Lesser Antilles)	96	G. M. Flieg
Colombia: Santa Marta	95	M. Elwonger
Ecuador & Galapagos	94	M. Elwonger
Guatemala (Atitlán)	96	M. Elwonger
Hong Kong	90	D. Rogers
Indonesia: North Sulawesi, Halmahera, Batanta, Salawati, Vogelkop, and Biak	96	T. Mark
Kenya	87	M. Elwonger
Kenya and Uganda*	96	M. Seeger
Malaysia	90	D. Rogers
Mexico (Colima)	94	M. Elwonger
Mexico (Tamaulipas)	94	M. Elwonger
New Zealand*	96	G. M. Flieg
Panama (Canal Zone & Darien)	95	M. Elwonger
Peru: Manu	95	M. Elwonger
Peru: Marañón	96	Barry Walker
Russia: Primorye*	97	M. Elwonger
Sabah 90		D. Rogers
Spain 90		D. Rogers
Thailand	90	D. Rogers
Turkey 97		G Kirwan
Venezuela. (NW)	92	M. Elwonger

*Currently available in draft form only.

Any of the above reports are available from:
Mike Flieg
6803 Nashville
St Louis MO 63139
(314) 645-3356
Fax (314) 645-3366
gmflieg@aol.com

ПРИМОРСКИЙ КРАЙ

Primorye

May-June 1997

Notes from an Ornifolks Field Trip
with New Impressions

leaders:

Yuri Gluschenko

Bikin River Assistance by Yuri Shibnev

Interpretive Assistance by Sergey Shaitarov

Evgeny Khramov and *New Impressions* for Logistics

Report by Mike Flieg

List and Publication by Mark Elwonger

printed Monday, September 8, 1997

Todd Mark's 60-min tape (edited version) is now available!

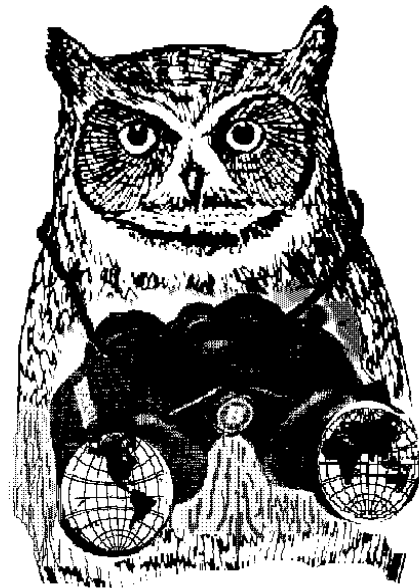
This tape includes:



- | | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Schrenck's Bittern | <i>Ixobrychus eurhythmus</i> | | |
| Great Bittern | <i>Botaurus stellaris</i> | | |
| Hazel Grouse | <i>Bonasa bonasia</i> | | |
| Baillon's Crane | <i>Porzana pusilla</i> | | |
| Band-bellied Crane | <i>Porzana paykullii</i> | | |
| Far Eastern Curlew | <i>Numerius madagascariensis</i> | | |
| Swinhoe's Snipe | <i>Gallinago megala</i> | | |
| Oriental Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus saturatus</i> | | |
| ..."Hodgson's" Hawk-Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus (f.) fugax</i> | | |
| Indian Cuckoo | <i>Cuculus micropterus</i> | | |
| ..."Oriental" Scops-Owl | <i>Otus (s.) sunia</i> | | |
| Black Woodpecker | <i>Dryocopus martius</i> | | |
| White-backed Woodpecker | <i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i> | | |
| Sky Lark | <i>Alauda arvensis</i> | | |
| Scaly Thrush | <i>Zoothera dauma</i> | | |
| Gray-backed Thrush | <i>Turdus hortulorum</i> | | |
| Siberian Rubythroat | <i>Luscinia calliope</i> | | |
| Siberian Blue Robin | <i>Luscinia cyane</i> | | |
| Asian Brown Flycatcher | <i>Muscicapa dauurica</i> | | |
| Yellow-rumped Flycatcher | <i>Ficedula zanthopygia</i> | | |
| Vinous-throated Parrotbill | <i>Paradoxornis webbianus</i> | | |
| Reed Parrotbill | <i>Paradoxornis heudei</i> | | |
| Asian Stubtail | <i>Urosphena squameiceps</i> | | |
| Japanese Bush-Warbler | <i>Cettia diphone</i> | | |
| Grey's Grasshopper-Warbler | <i>Locustella fasciolata</i> | | |
| Lanceolated Warbler | <i>Locustella lanceolata</i> | | |
| Pleske's Warbler | <i>Locustella pleskei</i> | | |
| | | Paddyfield Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus agricola</i> |
| | | Black-browed Reed-Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i> |
| | | Thick-billed Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus aedon</i> |
| | | Great Reed-Warbler | <i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i> |
| | | Dusky Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i> |
| | | Radde's Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i> |
| | | Lemon-rumped Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i> |
| | | Pale-legged Leaf-Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i> |
| | | Eastern Crowned-Warbler | <i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i> |
| | | Blue-and-white Flycatcher | <i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i> |
| | | Asian Paradise-Flycatcher | <i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i> |
| | | Willow Tit | <i>Parus montanus</i> |
| | | ..."Japanese" Tit | <i>Parus (m.) minor</i> |
| | | Wood Nuthatch | <i>Sitta europaea</i> |
| | | Oriental Greenfinch | <i>Carduelis sinica</i> |
| | | Common Rosefinch | <i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i> |
| | | Ashy Minivet | <i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i> |
| | | Forest Wagtail | <i>Dendronanthus indicus</i> |
| | | Eurasian Tree-Creeper | <i>Certhia familiaris</i> |
| | | Long-tailed Tit | <i>Aegithalos caudatus</i> |
| | | Common Stonechat | <i>Saxicola torquata</i> |
| | | Black-naped Oriole | <i>Oriolus chinensis</i> |
| | | Japanese Grosbeak | <i>Eophona personata</i> |
| | | Yellow-breasted Bunting | <i>Emberiza aureola</i> |
| | | Black-faced Bunting | <i>Emberiza spodocephala</i> |
| | | Meadow Bunting | <i>Emberiza cioides</i> |
| | | Chestnut-eared Bunting | <i>Emberiza fucata</i> |
| | | Reed Bunting | <i>Emberiza schoeniculus</i> |
| | | Varied Tit | <i>Parus varius</i> |

The Mammal List

sitka deer
Sciurus vulgaris
muskrat
raccoon dog
vulpis vulpis
tymecus sibiricus
elapho shienki (snake)
tassel-eared squirrel
ondata sibirica
moose
wapiti wapiti



Ornifolks

The Itinerary

Primorye

- 19-May-97** **de-Friz Peninsula**
On the north shore of Amurski Bay; also visiting Lazurnaga Inlet on the western shores of Ussuriysky Bay and the Vladivostok Botanical Gardens.
- 20-May-97** **Vladivostok to Paktusov Island to Karamzina Island**
Arriving at Pakhtusova Island in time for camp and some evening birding before leaving for Karamzina in hopes for Streaked Shearwaters.
- 21-May-97** **Pakhtusov Island to Rikord Island**
Evening to Verkhovskiva Island for shearwaters.
- 22-May-97** **Rikord Island to Slavyanka to Golubiny Utyos**
Stayed in Hunter's lodges near Lotus Lake.
- 23-May-97** **Golubiny Utyos**
Ten-mike hike around the coastal mountain birding shore and cliffs.
- 24-May-97** **Krugloye Maloye & Krugloye Bolshoye Lakes**
- 25-May-97** **Stuck and rained out at Hunter's Camp**
- 26-May-97** **Khasan to Kedrovaya Pad**
Birding Lotus Lake and stoppig for supplies in Gvasdevo. Drive NE via coastal road. Camp north of Kamenistaya Hill.

27-May-97 Grayaznai Creek in Kedrovaya Pad to Khanka Lake

Stopping at Yuri's university in Ussurisk where we view his department's skin collection.

28-May-97 Khanka Lake

Drive to marsh on east shore of Khanka Lake, west of Alexandrovka.

29-May-97 Khanka: Chortovo marsh

Marshes and fallow ricefields NW of village Novoselskoye.

30-May-97 Lipovoye Lakes and Ohoytnik Camp**31-May-97 Ohoytnik Camp to Bikin River Valley**

Stops on major rivers and in Luchegorsk. Camp on river Alchan

01-Jun-97 Verkhny Pereval

Nezhniy Perevalskay sopka.

02-Jun-97 Verkhny Pereval

Mixed conifer-broadleaf forest.

03-Jun-97 Krasny Yar & Bikin River

Downstream to Verkhny Pereval by boat.

04-Jun-97 Kushnarikha River and marshes

Bog-bashing for Black-necked Cranes.

05-Jun-97 Verkhny Pereval to Dalnerechensk

5/28 5/29 5/30 5/31 6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4

Latin binomial

5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/1	6/2	6/3	6/4	Latin binomial
6								<i>Emberiza yessoensis</i>
								<u>Sturnidae</u>
		5	L		2			<i>Sturnus sturninus</i>
								<i>Sturnus philippensis</i>
c	c	c	6		10	8	fc	<i>Sturnus cineraceus</i>
								<u>Corvidae</u>
1	2				2	3	5	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
	1	3	2		2			<i>Cyanopica cyana</i>
fc	fc	fc	c	x	4	2	2	<i>Pica pica</i>
6			1					<i>Corvus dauuricus</i>
c								<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>
c	fc	fc	fc	10	2			<i>Corvus corone</i>
	1		1	x	fc	x	c	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
	3	h	4	5	1	2	5	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>
				15	fc	x	fc	<i>Pericrocotus divaricatus</i>
		2						<i>Terpsiphone paradisi</i>

The taxonomic order used in this trip list follows Sibley, Ahlquist & Monroe, except that the family order is that used in DeShauensee, Birds of China.

English Name	5/19	5/20	5/21	5/22	5/23	5/24	5/26	5/27
Ochre-rumped Bunting	12				3	c	3	
Starlings and Allies Count 3								
Purple-backed Starling		2	4	fc	fc		6	
Chestnut-cheeked Starling				1	3			
White-cheeked Starling	7		3	fc			fc	c
Crows and Allies Count 10								
Eurasian Jay	1		h					2
Azure-winged Magpie				1				6
Black-billed Magpie	fc	1		fc	7		fc	c
Daurian Jackdaw								20
Rook								fc
Carrion Crow	6						3	c
Large-billed Crow	fc	2	4	x	5	2	fc	10
Black-naped Oriole				2	3		6	3
Ashy Minivet				2 h			2 h	5
Asian Paradise-Flycatcher								

Abbreviations used in the Trip List

- fc Fairly common
- L Leader reported only
- h heard
- s seen
- f female
- x quantities unreported
- NY Nest with young
- ON On nest
- FY Feeding young

May 18

Our group arrived in Vladivostok on Alaska Airlines after a long flight which included stops at Magadan and Khabarovsk. We met Evgeny and were taken to the Hotel Russ where we checked in, and had a nice dinner before showering and retiring for the night.

May 19

De Friz Peninsula on Amur Bay, Lazurnaya Bay on Ussuriysky Bay, Vladivostok Botanical Garden

Some had some time to bird the grounds of the Hotel Russ and the surrounding area where Eurasian Tree Sparrow, Yellow-rumped Flycatcher, Eurasian Nuthatch, Coal Tit, Large-billed Crow, and two species of buntings were recorded. We piled into our truck and went to the De Friz peninsula, where we scoped waterfowl and shorebirds which included Falcated Duck, Terek and Curlew Sandpiper, and Great Knot.

Trip Exclusives from DeFriz:

- Black-bellied Plover
- Mongolian Plover
- Ruddy Turnstone
- Curlew Sandpiper
- Dunlin
- Red-necked Stint
- Sanderling
- Red Knot
- Great Knot
- Common Greenshank
- Terek Sandpiper
- Bar-tailed Godwit

May 20

To Rikord island via Pakhtusov Island where we spent the night at Paktusova Camp, then an excursion to Karamzina Island.

We birded this island which lies NNW of Rikord in hopes of getting the rare Pleske's Warbler. We heard (and probably herded) the warbler constantly, but getting one to perch on an exposed perch was futile in the evening wind. We saw many other species, and decided to spend the night so that we could find the bird at first light. We took an excursion to Karamzina Island where there are over 40,000 Streaked Shearwaters nesting; the weather was horrible but we did manage to get good looks at one. Trip exclusives seen that day included Arctic Loon, Swinhoe's Storm-Petrel, Streaked Shearwater and Bluethroat.

May 21

We left for Rikord after breakfast and great looks at Pleske's Warbler. The day was spent exploring Rikord. During the evening we took another excursion to Verkhovsky Island (150 km from Rikord) where fifteen thousand Swinhoe's Storm Petrels breed, again with no luck (It wasn't a complete disappointment since some had seen one on the previous evening). Birding Rikord was great. It is a migrant trap, and





Latham's Snipe, Japanese Waxwing, and many species of buntings and warbler were seen. Our best bird was an Isabelline Wheatear which was videotaped (**This bird represented only the second record of this species for the Far East, and the first for the Primorye**). Trip exclusives, testimony to Rikord's reputation as a migrant/vagrant trap, include Japanese Waxwing, Inornate Warbler, Pleske's Warbler, Mugimaki Flycatcher, Narcissus Flycatcher, Chestnut Bunting and Little Bunting.

May 22

To Slavianka by boat, then on to the hunter's lodge ESE of Khasan near Golubiny Utyos

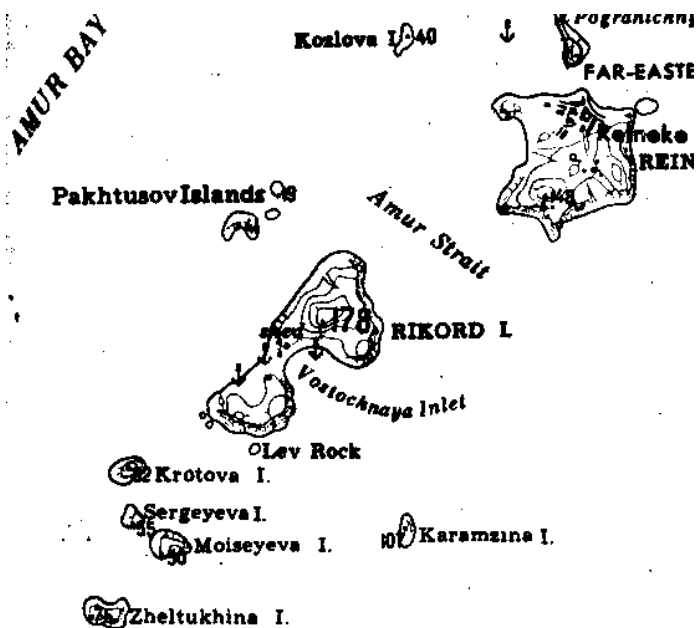
Our first stop was for a migrating flock of Black or Cinereous Vultures. Next we stopped for Pied Harrier, Vinous-throated Parrotbill, and Azure-winged Magpie before our arrival at the hunting cottages ESE of the village of Khasan. We stopped at Lotus Lake to look for Baer's Pochard (No luck) We were the first Western birders to visit this delta area. TM was able to tape in the Shrenk's Bittern for the night owls. Trip exclusives this day included Little Grebe, ... "Black" Brant,

Vinous-throated Parrotbill, Red-breasted Flycatcher and Common Rosefinch.

May 23

Khasan: Golubiny Utyos--a 16 km. hike to the shore and cliffs.

We crossed a major channel (which was too deep to wade) either in Yuri's blow up punt, or by Sergei's wild nude piggy back ride (Louise has pix!). We went to the shore by way of the cliffs where we observed a late-bound Brambling. Along the cliffs, Yuri had a stakeout for Eagle Owl which was seen by all. Another stakeout for Hill Pigeon was futile, but Chinese Gray Shrike was a trip exclusive. TM was able to tape in a Shrenk's Bittern for the night owls.



								<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
3								<i>Phylloscopus borealis</i>
1								<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>
					2 h			<i>Phylloscopus tenellipes</i>
			1	3	1 h	1 h	3	<i>Phylloscopus coronatus</i>
								<i>Paradoxornis webbianus</i>
		1						<i>Paradoxornis heudei</i>
								<u>Aegithalidae</u>
		h		L h	8		2	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>
								<u>Paridae</u>
	4	2		4	2	x	FY	<i>Parus palustris</i>
					1		1 FY	<i>Parus montanus</i>
					fc		c	<i>Parus ater</i>
	3			3	4	x	1	<i>Parus (m.) minor</i>
								<u>Sittidae</u>
			2	2	2		3	<i>Sitta europaea</i>
								<u>Zosteropidae</u>
	4	5		3	4			<i>Zosterops erythropleurus</i>
								<u>Fringillidae</u>
								<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>
				L	4	2		<i>Carduelis sinica</i>
								<i>Carduelis spinus</i>
3	1	3	2	5	4		7	<i>Uragus sibiricus</i>
								<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>
					2	1		<i>Coccothraustes coccothraustes</i>
			1					<i>Eophona migratoria</i>
				3	5	2	4 h	<i>Eophona personata</i>
				3			1	<i>Emberiza cioides</i>
								<i>Emberiza tristrami</i>
	1		1	fc	fc	x	c	<i>Emberiza fucata</i>
								<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>
3				c	c		2	<i>Emberiza elegans</i>
c	fc			4			10	<i>Emberiza aureola</i>
								<i>Emberiza rutila</i>
c	fc	c	2	2	1	2	5	<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i>
10	2	10	2					<i>Emberiza schoeniculus</i>

English Name	5/19	5/20	5/21	5/22	5/23	5/24	5/26	5/27
Inornate Warbler			1					
Arctic Warbler			3		1			
Greenish Warbler					1			
Pale-legged Leaf-Warbler	L h		4		1 h			4
Eastern Crowned-Warbler			c	fc				fc
Vinous-throated Parrotbill				3				
Reed Parrotbill								
Long-tailed Tits Count 1								
Long-tailed Tit								6
Tits and Allies Count 4								
Marsh Tit	p		6	2				4
Willow Tit								
Coal Tit	6		3	4				
..."Japanese" Tit	2		10	4				2
Nuthatches and Allies Count 1								
Wood Nuthatch	4		10	10			1	1
White-eyes Count 1								
Chestnut-flanked White-eye			20	fc				fc
Finches and Allies Count 18								
Brambling					1	1 f		
Oriental Greenfinch	2						1	
Eurasian Siskin		1	3					
Long-tailed Rosefinch	1	4	6	4			1	
Common Rosefinch				L h				
Hawfinch			8	5	1	4		
Yellow-billed Grosbeak			1 h					
Japanese Grosbeak			1					2
Meadow Bunting					6		L	
Tristram's Bunting		1	10	6				1
Chestnut-eared Bunting	10	3	fc	x	c	c	c	c
Little Bunting			4					
Yellow-throated Bunting	2							1
Yellow-breasted Bunting	20	3	fc	x	2			
Chestnut Bunting			6					
Black-faced Bunting	4	2	10	x	10		10	c
Reed Bunting						4	3	

May 24

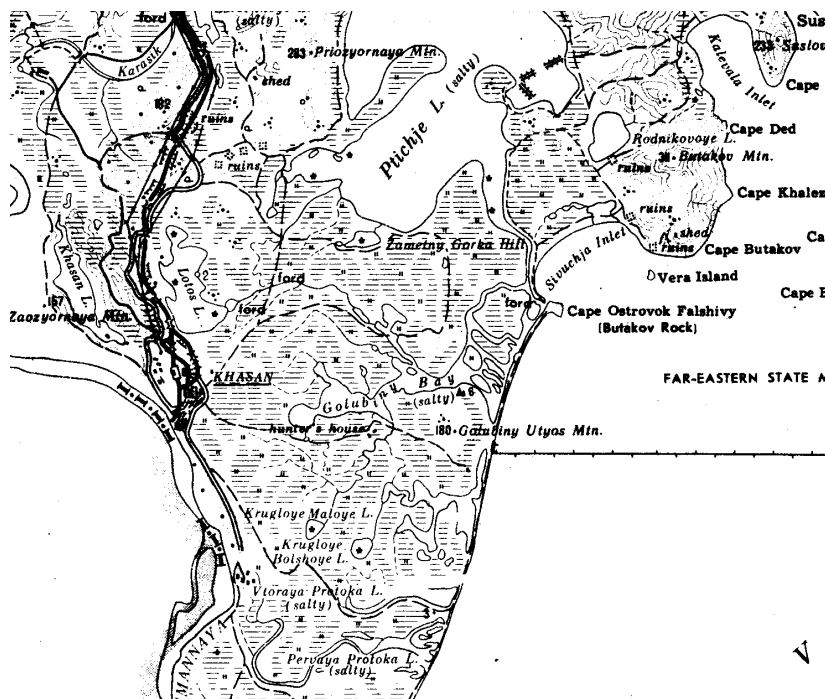
Khasan: Krugloye Maloye and Bolshoye (Big and Little Circle Lakes)—another long hike! Our target species was the Baer's Pochard which is known to nest in these lakes, but not today! Tufted Duck and Sharp-tailed Sandpiper were trip exclusives. TM taped in the bittern for the day people.

May 25

To Barabash NOT--Our vehicle is stuck...no... mired in mud. It's a Rain Out! We returned to the cabin for much needed R&R, and a few bridge games. A dozer will come from the village mañana. A full day of rain with little birding accomplished.

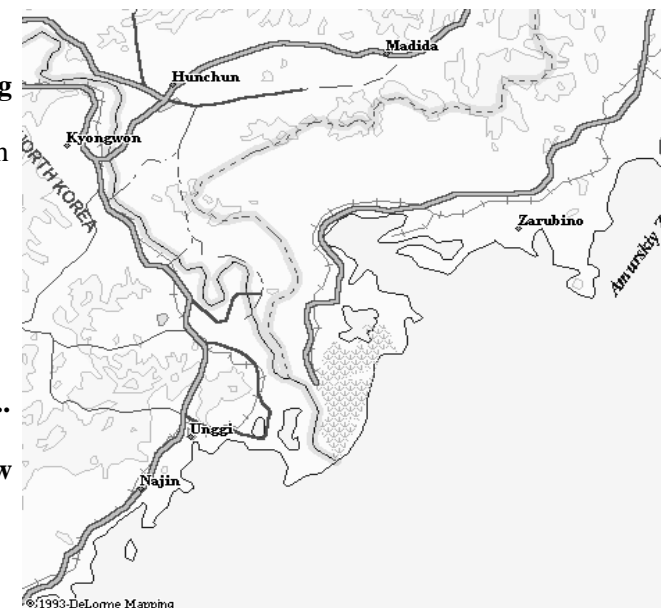
May 26

We are pulled out at 10:30 AM, and escorted to the main road. You guessed it; we were stuck twice more, but had no problem this time due to our support vehicle. After stopping at Lotus Lake again we found our only Baer's Pochard of the trip within a group of Common Pochard, both trip exclusives. We set up a line and tried gallantly for the Jankowski's Bunting. This bird disappeared from this area years ago, but we had to give it the old college try. We continued on to Kedrovoya Pad where we camped for the night.



May 27

To Khanka Lake- near Grayaznai Creek in Kedrovaya Pad to Khanka via USSURISK A short visit to Kedrovaya Pad in the AM, where we tried to tape out a Gray's Grasshopper Warbler which would respond,





but not show itself. Then we left for Khanka Lake. MAE stopped our vehicle to give us looks at our first Ural Owls.

May 28

Khanka Lake-a 50 km. drive from camp-a 24 km hike (death march)- Alexandrovka

After watching Pechora Pipits display, we hiked a long way in rubber boots, but did see the Red-crowned Crane as well as a nest of Oriental Stork, and a large group of Dusky Warbler at the lakeshore. In the evening we were treated first to an Amur Falcon airshow, and after dinner the Russian MIGs put on their own display over the Chinese border by breaking the sound barrier, releasing bundles of flares and chaff, and flying low altitude drills.

May 29

Village Novoselskoye, Chortovo Marsh, Gaivaron.

The first order of business was to check the ricefields for White-naped Crane- which we did, finding several. In a walk through the woods behind camp, Yuri spotted a perched Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo, which allowed scope looks. We also had great looks at Mandarin Ducks as they circled us in a flooded field. Shorebirds were scarce as the rice fields had been cut, and were dry. On the previous trip (1994) 32 species had been identified in one field.

May 30

Khanka Lake -Lu Povoye--Lake Ohoytnik Camp

This was our Big Day-our chance to see the bird of the trip-the Reed Parrotbill. At the onset of Parrotbill adventure we had only Yuri's blow up punt boat which would hold two uncomfortably. The plan was that Yuri and Todd were to go to find and tape the bird, and the rest of us would be ferried one at a time to the area. They found the bird rather accidentally as when Todd was taping a Manchurian Reed-Warbler, upon playback there must have been a parrotbill in the background, because the target flew in to the tape. Well we asked the proprietor of the fishing lodge if we could use a boat. He agreed, but the only one available would hold only 3 and almost tipped over a few feet from shore. This was not an option. Next we found a overturned aluminum motorboat without a motor. We tipped it over, bailed out the water and decided to take it into the marsh. We found 2 poles, a broken kayak paddle, and the 2 paddles for the inflatable punt. We were off-- "Rub-a-dub-dub--11 birders in a tub". What a joke, paddlers were prod by polers, poles were getting whacked by paddles, and a good time was had by all. We couldn't get the bird to respond, so we gave it up for the afternoon. After lunch, we finally were able to locate the Paradise Flycatcher (Yuri had been hearing it near our camp), and with the aid of tape

5/28 5/29 5/30 5/31 6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4

Latin binomial

								<u>Muscicapidae</u>
								<i>Monticola gularis</i>
								<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
h	h	3 h	h	3			2	<i>Turdus hortulorum</i>
								<i>Turdus obscurus</i>
				2 L	5		2	<i>Turdus pallidus</i>
								<i>Turdus (n.) eunomus</i>
1	1			1	1			<i>Muscicapa griseisticta</i>
4	6		3		2		3	<i>Muscicapa dauurica</i>
2	5	3		fc	fc	4	10	<i>Ficedula zanthopygia</i>
								<i>Ficedula narcissina</i>
								<i>Ficedula mugimaki</i>
								<i>Ficedula parva</i>
				3	4 h	3	6	<i>Cyanoptila cyanomelana</i>
								<i>Luscinia sibilans</i>
2 h		2 h						<i>Luscinia calliope</i>
								<i>Luscinia svecica</i>
	h			4	fc	6	h	<i>Luscinia cyane</i>
			2			h	2	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>
4	4	5	4	fc	fc	1	c	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>
								<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>
								<u>Sylviidae</u>
					10s,h			<i>Urosphena squameiceps</i>
fc								<i>Cettia diphone</i>
							4	<i>Locustella lanceolata</i>
fc	1	3						<i>Locustella certhiola</i>
1	1							<i>Locustella ochotensis</i>
								<i>Locustella pleskei</i>
								<i>Locustella fasciolata</i>
a	c	c	fc	3			1 L	<i>Acrocephalus bistrigiceps</i>
		1						<i>Acrocephalus agricola</i>
3	fc	a	c	fc				<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>
1	1	2		fc			1 L	<i>Acrocephalus aedon</i>
6		L h		2				<i>Phylloscopus fuscatus</i>
1	1						2	<i>Phylloscopus schwarzi</i>
				2	c		6	<i>Phylloscopus proregulus</i>

we finally saw this fantastic bird.

Many of us vowed to return in late afternoon and try for the parrotbill again. AND here is the rest of the story. We did return to our tub, we went back out into the reed beds, harassed the fisherman, and with a minimum of trouble, taped out the **Reed Parrotbill**, where all had gripping looks of this rare and very beautiful species. Yuri Gluschenko and Yuri Shibnev were responsible for documenting the existence of the Lake Khanka subspecies of this parrotbill.

May 31

To Bikin River Camp via Lychegorsk. River Alchan



En route to the Bikin River we paused briefly to inspect Primorye's local colonies of Common House Martin and House Sparrow. We arrived in the early afternoon to a lovely lakeside campsite, where we would spend the next four days. We had some very good luck with woodpeckers here--Black, Great Spotted, Little Spotted, White-backed, and Gray-faced were seen around the campsite. A field nearby was a display arena for Swinhoe's Snipe.

June 1

Verkhny Pereval: Nezhniy Perevalskay sopka. River Alchan

Early in the day we took a trail through the forest, gradually climbing to a high ridge. We ran into Forest Wagtail, and had great looks at a flock of Ashy Minivets at the summit. We also located a nest with

young of Eurasian Treecreeper. After lunch we watched displaying Swinhoe's Snipe and had a fly-by Gray-faced Buzzard.

June 2

Bikin River: (broadleaf forest)

Yuri Shibnev arrived in camp in the early morning and we left to explore an extended forest near town. We crashed through the forest looking in vain for Black Woodpecker, which was finally seen at our camp. Some got flyby looks at a Brown Hawk Owl. Here we first encountered calls of Indian Cuckoo and Willow Tit.

June 3

Bikin River: Krasny Yar- River trip downstream to Verkhny Pereval

We arranged a shuttle to begin the 80km downriver trip in search of the Scaly-sided Merganser. This species is endangered; the Bikin River is their current known center of abundance.

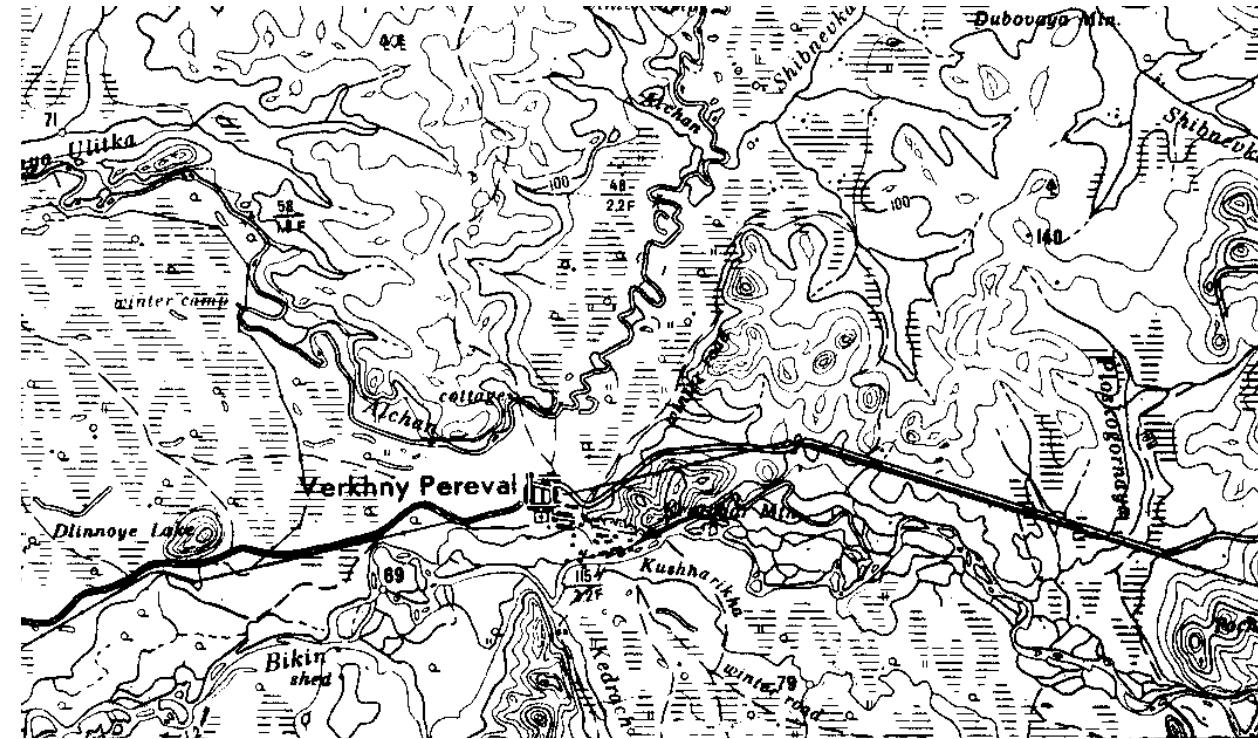
5/28 5/29 5/30 5/31 6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4

Latin binomial

								<u>Picidae</u>
	1					1		<i>Jynx torquilla</i>
				1				<i>Dendrocopos nanus</i>
								<i>Dendrocopos kizuki</i>
				2				<i>Dendrocopos minor</i>
				fc	fc	2	8	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>
	1	1	1	3	6		1	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>
					1		h	<i>Dryocopus martius</i>
			1	2	3		3	<i>Picus canus</i>
								<u>Alaudidae</u>
fc	fc	fc						<i>Alauda arvensis</i>
								<u>Hirundinidae</u>
	6					4		<i>Riparia riparia</i>
fc	fc	fc	fc		20	25	fc	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
15	15	fc	fc			4	2	<i>Hirundo daurica</i>
			ON					<i>Delichon urbica</i>
					4			<i>Delichon dasypus</i>
								<u>Passeridae</u>
			2					<i>Passer domesticus</i>
fc	c	fc	c	1	fc	fc	x	<i>Passer montanus</i>
			4		1			<i>Dendronanthus indicus</i>
	1		4		3	6	2	<i>Motacilla alba</i>
								<i>Motacilla lugens</i>
5		1			1			<i>Motacilla flava</i>
					3	6		<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
6	2							<i>Anthus richardi</i>
								<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
fc								<i>Anthus gustavi</i>
								<u>Laniidae</u>
2	3	2	x				10	<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
								<i>Lanius sphenocercus</i>
								<u>Bombycillidae</u>
								<i>Bombycilla japonica</i>
								<u>Certhiidae</u>
				2 NY				<i>Certhia familiaris</i>

English Name 5/19 5/20 5/21 5/22 5/23 5/24 5/26 5/27

English Name	5/19	5/20	5/21	5/22	5/23	5/24	5/26	5/27
Woodpeckers Count 8								
Eurasian Wryneck							2	
Brown-capped Woodpecker								
Pygmy Woodpecker			1	1				3
Lesser Spotted Woodpecker							2	2
White-backed Woodpecker			3	1			1	3
Great Spotted Woodpecker								1
Black Woodpecker								
Gray-faced Woodpecker				L h			L h	2
Larks Count 1								
Sky Lark	fc				fc	fc	c	c
Swallows and Allies Count 5								
Bank Swallow								
Barn Swallow	20			fc	fc	fc	fc	c
Red-rumped Swallow	3			2	2	10	c	10
Common House-Martin								
Asian House-Martin	5				2		3	
Sparrows and Allies Count 10								
House Sparrow								
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	fc			fc	4	6	fc	fc
Forest Wagtail			L					
White Wagtail			1	3	3	2	2	3
Black-backed Wagtail	1	2	3	1	1			
Yellow Wagtail	3		1	2	1	3	1	1
Gray Wagtail				1			1	5
Richard's Pipit	6		4	4			2	
Olive-backed Pipit		5	20	3	1			
Pechora Pipit								
True Shrikes Count 2								
Brown Shrike		7	10	6	4	6	6	fc
Chinese Gray Shrike					2			
Waxwings and Allies Count 1								
Japanese Waxwing			5 TRM					
Northern Creepers and Allies Count 1								
Eurasian Tree-Creeper								



Although the literature states that this species rarely flies, don't believe it! The mergansers took off when they saw us, and went downstream. We managed to see a group of males, and a few pairs, but were really rewarded when we saw our first group of young ducklings (about 12). Later we saw a group of 8 teenagers with the duck. This was great. The Bikin River is a wild river, and will hopefully be preserved as pristine, but the possibility of a dam may still exist.

June 4

Bikin River: Kushnarikha river and marsh

This day was very frustrating for most. Our target bird was the Hooded Crane. We crossed the Bikin River and trudged along a muddy trek which finally terminated into a large very wet field. Yuri Shibnev walked the perimeter while we walked down the center. He was lucky enough to flush the only Black Grouse of the trip. Hooded cranes had nested in this field, so we expected someone to flush them at any time. When we reached the end of the field, and Yuri rejoined our group, we decided to break into two groups. One returned by the same path, while the other would circle the other perimeter. As the second group was getting great looks at a Willow Tit, the first saw a pair of Hooded Cranes flying low over the marsh. Some of us stayed on here after lunch, but never saw the cranes again.

June 5

to Dalnerechensk

A few steps until we reached the railroad station for return to Vladivostok via the Trans-Siberian Express.

June 6**Return to Vladivostok**

Souvenir shopping then return home

Primorye

(Appearing in *Ornithologists Newsletter* }

Our Russian Far East trip was a great success. Two hundred twenty seven species were logged in Primorye. After a day shorebirding on the DeFries Peninsula (Curlew Sandpiper, large flocks of Great Knots, Terek Sandpiper) our itinerary took us from Vladivostok to Rikord Island via a 65' recommissioned submarine tender across the Amur Bay. Here with the help of Yuri Gluschenko and Sergei Shaitarov, we got great looks at Pleske's Warbler *Locustella pleskei*. This was a great trap for vagrants and northbound migrants, and we racked up Swinhoe's Storm-Petrel, Isabelline Wheatear (only the second for the Far East and first for Primorye), "Dusky" Thrush (*Turdus (n.) eunomus*), Rufous-tailed Robin, Narcissus Flycatcher, and Chestnut & Tristram's Bunting. Then off to Slavyanka, where a migrating flock of Black Vultures (*Gyps monachus*) awaited. After a few birding stops for Vinous-throated Parrotbill and Azure-winged Magpie, we arrived at our cozy hunting cottages northeast of the village of Khasan. We were the first western birders to visit this delta area. A hike to the coast across the marsh afforded us looks at Chinese Gray Shrike but a thrashing of the Golubiny Utyos mountainside failed to turn up Yellow-legged Buttonquail. The next day Sharp-tailed Sandpipers were recorded on a hike to Krugloye Maloye and Bolshoye Lakes (Big and Little Circle Lakes). Then we stuck our rugged six-wheel drive troop carrier deep in the thick boggy mire and spent the third day relaxing, staying dry and socializing.

Stopping at Lotus Lake on the way out, we spotted both Baer's and Common Pochard. Not unexpectedly, our *sashay* through the sandy thin scrub hills failed to turn up a Jankowski's Bunting (unreported for many years from Primorye). On the drive north we had good looks at a pair of Ural Owls and a Daurian Redstart before arriving at our camp on Grayznai Creek in Kedrovaya Pad Reserve. Our first encounter with forest birding in the Primorye was frustrating as we tried to tape out, to no avail, a Grey's Grasshopper-Warbler in its thick understory territory. Radde's Warbler pouring its guts from a treetop perch was more cooperative.

5/28 5/29 5/30 5/31 6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4

Latin binomial

								<i>Synthliboramphus antiquus</i>
								<i>Cerorhinca monocerata</i>
								<u>Laridae</u>
								<i>Larus crassirostris</i>
1								<i>Larus argentatus</i>
								<i>Larus schistisagus</i>
fc	fc	fc	fc	1	1			<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
fc	fc	fc	fc	1	1	1	1	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
	2							<i>Sterna albifrons</i>
fc	fc	fc						<i>Chlidonias hybridus</i>
fc	fc	fc						<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
								<u>Columbidae</u>
c	c	fc	fc			x		<i>Columba livia</i>
								<i>Columba rupestris</i>
fc	fc	fc	fc	c	fc	6	16	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
								<u>Cuculidae</u>
	1 s				3 h			<i>Cuculus fugax</i>
					2h		4s&h	<i>Cuculus micropterus</i>
fc	c	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	fc	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>
	2h	1	h	3h	fc	h	10	<i>Cuculus saturatus</i>
								<u>Strigidae</u>
				h				<i>Otus (s.) sunia</i>
								<i>Bubo bubo</i>
1				1				<i>Strix uralensis</i>
					1	h		<i>Ninox scutulata</i>
2		1						<i>Asio flammeus</i>
								<u>Apodidae</u>
				8	4	a	10	<i>Hirundapus caudacutus</i>
								<i>Apus pacificus</i>
								<u>Coraciidae</u>
	1			1	2	10	5	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
								<u>Alcedinidae</u>
3	1	L h	1	3	L	2	4	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
								<u>Bucorvidae</u>
1	2	1	2		2	1	1	<i>Upupa epops</i>

Primorye with Ornithologists: May-June 1997

English Name 5/19 5/20 5/21 5/22 5/23 5/24 5/26 5/27

Loons Count 2									
Red-throated Loon	Sp	20	1		2				
Arctic Loon		5							
Grebes Count 3									
Little Grebe				4					
Red-necked Grebe				10		2	2		
Great Crested Grebe	10	2		100	10	fc	c	4	
Petrels and Allies Count 2									
Streaked Shearwater		1							
Swinhoe's Storm-Petrel		2							
Cormorants Count 3									
Great Cormorant		3		6	20	20	12		
Japanese Cormorant		c	6		fc	4			
Pelagic Cormorant		10	6						
Herons Count 9									
Gray Heron	x	5	1	fc	15	fc	20	6	
Purple Heron				1					
Great Egret	1			6	1	4		1	
Intermediate Egret				6	3	3	3		
Cattle Egret				8			3		
Striated Heron								1 Lh	
Black-crowned Night-Heron				1			1		
Schrenck's Bittern					1	1	h	1	
Great Bittern									
Storks and Allies Count 1									
Oriental Stork									
Ducks and Allies Count 20									
... "Black" Brant				4					
Mandarin Duck								1f	
Gadwall	6				3	5			
Falcated Teal	6			4				1	
Eurasian Wigeon	20			fc	15	10	1		
Mallard	10			5	6	5	6		
Spot-billed Duck	2			4	2	8	4		
Northern Shoveler	fc								
Northern Pintail	fc					1			

Primorye with Ornithologists: May-June 1997

5/28 5/29 5/30 5/31 6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4

Latin binomial

								<u>Rallidae</u>
h		h						<i>Porzana pusilla</i>
					h			<i>Porzana paykullii</i>
		4						<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
H		2						<i>Fulica atra</i>
								<u>Charadriidae</u>
								<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
						2		<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
								<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>
6	15	10	4	2	1			<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>
								<u>Scolopacidae</u>
								<i>Gallinago hardwickii</i>
				4	3		4	<i>Gallinago megala</i>
								<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
20								<i>Limosa limosa</i>
								<i>Limosa lapponica</i>
								<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>
4	3	2	1	1	2	1	4	<i>Numenius madagascariensis</i>
h								<i>Tringa erythropus</i>
	1							<i>Tringa totanus</i>
								<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
								<i>Tringa glareola</i>
								<i>Xenus cinerea</i>
						8		<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
						1		<i>Heteroscelus brevipes</i>
								<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
								<i>Calidris tenuirostris</i>
								<i>Calidris canutus</i>
								<i>Calidris alba</i>
								<i>Calidris ruficollis</i>
								<i>Calidris acuminata</i>
								<i>Calidris alpina</i>
								<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>
								<u>Glareolidae</u>
								<i>Uria aalge</i>
								<i>Cephus carbo</i>

Primorye with Ornithologists: May-June 1997

English Name 5/19 5/20 5/21 5/22 5/23 5/24 5/26 5/27

Rails Count 4							
Baillon's Crake				1	3	h	
Band-bellied Crake					h	L h	
Common Moorhen			6	5	8	10	
Eurasian Coot			2	2	4	4	
Plovers and Allies Count 4							
Black-bellied Plover	fc						
Little Ringed Plover	10						
Mongolian Plover	25						
Northern Lapwing	5					2	1
Snipe and Allies Count 22							
Latham's Snipe		1	2				
Swinhoe's Snipe							
Common Snipe	6			5	3		
Black-tailed Godwit	fc						
Bar-tailed Godwit	20						
Whimbrel	fc				fc	150	
Far Eastern Curlew	3			1			
Spotted Redshank	3		2	1			
Common Redshank	5						
Common Greenshank	15						
Wood Sandpiper	10				25		
Terek Sandpiper	10						
Common Sandpiper	20	1	2			1	1
Gray-tailed Tattler	fc	3	3				
Ruddy Turnstone	2						
Great Knot	150						
Red Knot	40						
Sanderling	2						
Red-necked Stint	fc						
Sharp-tailed Sandpiper					3		
Dunlin	fc						
Curlew Sandpiper	3						
Pratincoles and Allies Count 4							
Common Murre		100	6	20			
Spectacled Guillemot		c	20	c			

Primorye with Ornithologists: May-June 1997

5/28 5/29 5/30 5/31 6/1 6/2 6/3 6/4 Latin binomial

								<u>Gaviidae</u>
								<i>Gavia stellata</i>
								<i>Gavia arctica</i>
								<u>Podicipedidae</u>
								<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
L h								<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>
4		2						<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>
								<u>Procellariidae</u>
								<i>Calonectris leucomelas</i>
								<i>Oceanodroma monorhis</i>
								<u>Phalacrocoracidae</u>
2	2	4	5	4		8	1	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
								<i>Phalacrocorax capillatus</i>
								<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>
								<u>Ardeidae</u>
fc	6	fc	fc	2		6	4	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
3	2	5	1					<i>Ardea purpurea</i>
fc	fc	fc						<i>Ardea alba</i>
								<i>Mesophoyx intermedia</i>
								<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
								<i>Butorides striatus</i>
		1						<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
								<i>Ixobrychus eurhythmus</i>
2 H		1 s						<i>Botaurus stellaris</i>
								<u>Ciconiidae</u>
4 NY	1							<i>Ciconia boyciana</i>
								<u>Anatidae</u>
								<i>Branta (b.) nigricans</i>
2	12		2	2	1	16	2	<i>Aix galericulata</i>
1								<i>Anas strepera</i>
2						1		<i>Anas falcata</i>
								<i>Anas penelope</i>
fc	c	c	fc	1	1	10	4	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
3	4	6						<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
4								<i>Anas clypeata</i>
								<i>Anas acuta</i>

Primorye with Ornithologists: May-June 1997

English Name	5/19	5/20	5/21	5/22	5/23	5/24	5/26	5/27
Garganey	10					5		
Green-winged Teal	3				5	3		
Common Pochard							3	
Baer's Pochard							1	
Tufted Duck						8		
Greater Scaup	fc			6	10	60		
Harlequin Duck		3	4					
... "White-winged" Scoter		150		15				
Red-breasted Merganser	20	fc	c	6	10	10		
Scaly-sided Merganser								
Common Merganser								
Hawks and Allies Count 10								
Osprey				2			1	
Oriental Honey-buzzard							2	1
Black Kite								
Cinereous Vulture				8			20	
Western Marsh-Harrier				1	3	3		
Pied Harrier	sp			1			1	
Japanese Sparrowhawk	1 sp							
Northern Goshawk								
Gray-faced Buzzard								
Common Buzzard								
Falcons Count 4								
Eurasian Kestrel	3		1				2	6
Amur Falcon	1							1
Eurasian Hobby			2					
Peregrine Falcon	L	1						
Grouse and Allies Count 4								
Japanese Quail	1			1	2	3	1	
Ring-necked Pheasant				4	10 ON	s&h	4	fc
Black Grouse								
Hazel Grouse							2	
Cranes Count 3								
White-naped Crane								
Hooded Crane								
Red-crowned Crane								

Primorye with Ornithologists: May-June 1997

	5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31	6/1	6/2	6/3	6/4	Latin binomial
fc	10	4							<i>Anas querquedula</i>
									<i>Anas crecca</i>
									<i>Aythya ferina</i>
									<i>Aythya baeri</i>
									<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
									<i>Aythya marila</i>
									<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>
									<i>Melanitta (f.) deglandi</i>
									<i>Mergus serrator</i>
							9+12y		<i>Mergus squamatus</i>
							8		<i>Mergus merganser</i>
<u>Accipitridae</u>									
							4		<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
					1	1		4	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
2		1	1						<i>Milvus migrans</i>
									<i>Aegypius monachus</i>
6	6	fc	6						<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>
1	3	3	6	1	1			4	<i>Circus melanoleucos</i>
1									<i>Accipiter gularis</i>
							1		<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>
					2		2		<i>Butastur indicus</i>
							1	1	<i>Buteo buteo</i>
<u>Falconidae</u>									
5	1	10	fc						<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
1	6						2		<i>Falco amurensis</i>
	2		1	4	1	20	2		<i>Falco subbuteo</i>
									<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
<u>Phasianidae</u>									
		L h							<i>Coturnix japonica</i>
fc	fc	H	H	h	h			h	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>
								1f LS	<i>Tetrao tetrix</i>
								4	<i>Bonasa bonasia</i>
<u>Gruidae</u>									
		3							<i>Grus vipio</i>
								2	<i>Grus monacha</i>
3									<i>Grus japonensis</i>