

Draft Report
Ornifolks in the Republic of China
(Taiwan)

December 2006

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Itinerary

- 30-Dec-06..... Wulai & Taipei Botanical Gardens
- 31-Dec-06..... Ping Lin, I-lan, Taruko Gorge entrance. Night Hua-Lien.
- 01-Jan-07..... Hua-Lien=> Taroke NP, trail @ elev 500m, other stops.
Dayuling @Hohuanshan, W of pass. Rueiyenshe trail @
7200ft. Eve Woling.
- 02-Jan-07..... Ching-ging hostel, Ruiyen Trail, Auwanda National Forest.
- 03-Jan-07..... Auwanda Birdwatching Trail- 4000 ft elev. Taiwan Endemic
Species Research & Conservation Center. Guantien for
Pheasant-tailed Jacana.
- 04-Jan-07..... Tainan City=> N to Sitsau, Ba Chiang Estuary, Augu,
Zhongpu, Alishan.
- 05-Jan-07..... Alishan: Hotel Grounds, Zizhong Trail, Yushan NP Visitor
Center, Hwy 21.
- 06-Jan-07..... Alishan NP, down to Shihjwo, Huben area. Night @ Touliou.
- 07-Jan-07..... Touliou=>Huben=>Anmashan=>Guguan
- 08-Jan-07..... Return to Taipei

Abundance codes used in this report:

0-5=>U	H=Heard.
6-20=>FC	L=leader
21-50=>C	X=quantity unknown
51+ =>A	

Special Species Accounts

Taiwan Partridge

Arborophila crudigularis

Several heard shortly after dawn at Auwanda, en route to the birding trail; also heard near Huben.

Chinese Bamboo-partridge

Bambusicola thoracica sunorivox

Pairs or small groups seen at dusk by AW and PJ (separate occasions) at Auwanda, and heard the following morning. Also reported from Guguan.

Swinhoe's Pheasant

Lophura swinhoii

A pair was located for all to see, about an hour before dusk, by a local guide who led us into a relatively undisturbed canyon above Huben. Several pairs were seen and heard early the following morning at the same site.

Mikado Pheasant

Syrnaticus mikado

Our driver knew a site along Hwy 21 and found a pair that we were able to view briefly from the bus as they foraged along the roadside an hour before dusk.

Black-browed Barbet

Megalaima oorti nuchalis

Easy to locate in or near fruiting trees at many locations

Mandarin Duck

Aix galericulata

A pair seen at Wulai.

White-bellied Pigeon

Treron sieboldii

One or two large flocks milling around the forest canopy near the visitor center at Auwanda

Saunders's Gull

Larus saundersi

Quickly found at the edge of a flock of Black-headed Gulls on a high tide roost at the Ba Chiang Estuary.

Black-faced Spoonbill

Platalea minor

A group of eight in a rice paddy/ fish farming area near Ping-lin (I-lan?)

Island Thrush

Turdus poliocephalus niveiceps

A dapper male appeared at a well-attended stake-out of some fruiting trees at mid-elevation near Anmashan. Associating with a mixed flock, it was seen for a minute or two but did not reappear for the next two hours.

Collared Bush-robins

Tarsiger johnstoniae

Several in the garden and forest trails near the hotel at Ali Shan.

Yellow Tit	<i>Parus holsti</i>
Not uncommon in mixed flocks in the upper reaches of Taruko Gorge. Single birds along Riuyen Trail, Auwanda.	
Flamecrest	<i>Regulus goodfellowi</i>
Easy to locate and fairly common at Ali Shan.	
Styan's Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus taivanus</i>
About six at the entrance to Taroke Gorge.	
Hwamei	<i>Garrulax canorus taewanus</i>
One was reported below the hostel grounds at Ching-ging (not seen by all)	
White-whiskered Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax morrisonianus</i>
A Pair below the hostel grounds at Ching-ging. Fairly common on the hotel grounds at Ali Shan.	
Steere's Liocichla	<i>Liocichla steerii</i>
Common and hard to miss at most montane sites.	
Taiwan Barwing	<i>Actinodura morrisoniana</i>
A few in the mid-canopy below the hotel at Ali Shan, more common and easily seen in front of the hotel on the following morning.	
Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis musicus</i>
Easy to locate at lowland and mid-elevation sites.	
White-eared Sibia	<i>Heterophasia auricularis</i>
Fairly common at most mid and upper elevations.	
Taiwan Yuhina	<i>Yuhina brunneiceps</i>
Abundant and with most mixed flocks at mid and upper elevation sites.	

Incipient Species

The following species which we recorded on our trip are considered highly likely candidates for full species status by Nigel J. Collar:

Chinese Bamboo-partridge	<i>Bambusicola thoracica sunorivox</i>
Black-browed Barbet	<i>Megalaima oorti nuchalis</i>
Island Thrush	<i>Turdus poliocephalus niveiceps</i>
Hwamei	<i>Garrulax canorus taewanus</i>
Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler	<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis musicus</i>

For Nigel's full article see *BirdingASIA No.2, December 2004: Endemic Species of Taiwan Birds—First Impressions*. Or for a direct link see <http://www.birdingintaiwan.com/spotlightontaiwan.htm>

	30- Dec- 06	31- Dec- 06	01- Jan- 07	02- Jan- 07	03- Jan- 07	04- Jan- 07	05- Jan- 07	06- Jan- 07	07- Jan- 07		
Taiwan Partridge					Uh				h		<i>Arborophila crudigularis</i>
Chinese Bamboo-Partridge				4 AW	u h				DR	2s+Ch	<i>Bambusicola thoracica sunorivox</i>
Swinhoe's Pheasant								2	5		<i>Lophura swinhoii</i>
Mikado Pheasant							2				<i>Syrmaticus mikado</i>
Common Pheasant					2						<i>Phasianus colchicus formosanus</i>
Bean Goose		1									<i>Anser fabalis</i>
Mandarin Duck	2										<i>Aix galericulata</i>
Eurasian Wigeon		C				FC					<i>Anas penelope</i>
Spot-billed Duck		FC				A					<i>Anas poecilorhyncha</i>
Northern Shoveler		FC				A					<i>Anas clypeata</i>
Northern Pintail						A					<i>Anas acuta</i>
-Common Teal		A			A	AA					<i>Anas crecca crecca</i>
Common Pochard		U									<i>Aythya ferina</i>
Tufted Duck		A				1					<i>Aythya fuligula</i>
Gray-capped Woodpecker			1	2	1			2			<i>Dendrocopos canicapillus</i>
Black-browed Barbet	U	1	2	3				U	U		<i>Megalaima oorti nuchalis</i>
Common Kingfisher	1	1			1	4			2		<i>Alcedo atthis</i>
House Swift	U					1	1				<i>Apus nipalensis</i>
-Formosan Scops-owl								2h			<i>Otus spilocephalus hambroeki</i>
Collared Scops-owl		h			2s						<i>Otus lettia</i>
Rock Pigeon	C	U			A	A		X	X		<i>Columba livia</i>
Ashy Wood-pigeon				U			U	1			<i>Columba pulchricollis</i>
Oriental Turtle-dove					U	A					<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>
Spotted Dove	U	U			FC	A		X	X		<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>
Red Collared-dove						FC		X			<i>Streptopelia tranquebarica</i>
White-bellied Pigeon					25						<i>Treron sieboldii</i>
Slaty-legged Crane		2									<i>Rallina eurizonoides</i>
White-breasted Waterhen								1			<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
Common Moorhen		FC			A	A			1		<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>

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Eurasian Coot		FC				FC				<i>Fulica atra</i>
Common Snipe		A(sp)			A(sp)					<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>
Eurasian Curlew						A				<i>Numenius arquata</i>
Common Redshank						A				<i>Tringa totanus</i>
Marsh Sandpiper		C				C				<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>
Common Greenshank		C				A				<i>Tringa nebularia</i>
Wood Sandpiper		C			1	FC				<i>Tringa glareola</i>
Common Sandpiper		U				U				<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>
Ruddy Turnstone						2				<i>Arenaria interpres</i>
Dunlin		C				A				<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Pheasant-tailed Jacana					1					<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>
Black-winged Stilt		A				AA				<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>
Pied Avocet		U				FC				<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>
Asian Golden-plover						FC				<i>Pluvialis fulva</i>
Gray [Black-bellied] Plover						U				<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
Little Ringed Plover		FC				U				<i>Charadrius dubius</i>
Kentish [Snowy] Plover		C				A				<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>
Heuglin's Gull						10 sp				<i>Larus heuglini</i>
Black-headed Gull		2				A				<i>Larus ridibundus</i>
Saunders's Gull						1				<i>Larus saundersi</i>
Gull-billed Tern						2				<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>
Caspian Tern						FC				<i>Sterna caspia</i>
White-winged Tern						C				<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>
Osprey	1	1				1				<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Oriental Honey-buzzard							1		2	<i>Pernis ptilorhynchus</i>
Black-eared Kite						1				<i>Milvus lineatus</i>
Crested Serpent-eagle	1		1	1	1			1		<i>Spilornis cheela hoya</i>
Eastern Marsh-harrier						1 sp				<i>Circus spilonotus</i>
Crested Goshawk							1		2	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
Common Buzzard						1				<i>Buteo buteo</i>
Black Eagle				1			1			<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>

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Common Kestrel						2			1		<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>
Peregrine Falcon		1				2					<i>Falco peregrinus</i>
Little Grebe		FC			FC	A					<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>
Great Cormorant		FC				A					<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>
Little Egret	A	A			A	A		C	C		<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Gray Heron	A	A				A					<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Great Egret		FC			FC	A					<i>Ardea alba</i>
Intermediate Egret						U					<i>Egretta intermedia</i>
-[Eastern] Cattle-Egret					FC	A					<i>Bubulcus [Ardea] ibis coromanda</i>
Striated [Green-backed] Heron	1	1									<i>Butorides striata</i>
Black-crowned Night-Heron	U	A			FC	A		C			<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
Malayan Night-Heron	1			1	2						<i>Gorsachius melanolophus</i>
Yellow Bittern						1					<i>Ixobrychus sinensis</i>
Cinnamon Bittern						1					<i>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</i>
Eurasian Spoonbill		1									<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>
Black-faced Spoonbill		8									<i>Platalea minor</i>
Brown Shrike		1			2	1		U			<i>Lanius cristatus</i>
Long-tailed Shrike		1			1	1					<i>Lanius schach</i>
Eurasian Jay	3			2	FC		U				<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>
Taiwan Magpie	4	2									<i>Urocissa caerulea</i>
Gray Treepie	U	U		1	U				1		<i>Dendrocitta formosae formosae</i>
Black-billed Magpie	1					U					<i>Pica pica</i>
Spotted Nutcracker							5				<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes austoni</i>
Large-billed Crow	4		U	U	FC		U	FC	U		<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>
Gray-chinned Minivet	C		U	U	A		X		FC		<i>Pericrocotus solaris</i>
Black Drongo	C	C	U	U	FC	C		X	X		<i>Dicrurus macrocercus</i>
Bronzed Drongo	FC							U	U		<i>Dicrurus aeneus</i>
Black-naped Monarch			U	U							<i>Hypothymis azurea</i>

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Brown Dipper	2										<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>
Blue Rock-thrush		1						1			<i>Monticola solitarius</i>
Taiwan Whistling Thrush		1 +h	5s10h		FC			H	H		<i>Myiophonus insularis</i>
Scaly Thrush					1	1	4		2		<i>Zoothera dauma dauma</i>
Island Thrush									1 M		<i>Turdus poliocephalus niveiceps</i>
Pale Thrush	1			1	4		1				<i>Turdus pallidus</i>
Dusky Thrush					3		1	U			<i>Turdus naumanni</i>
Vivid Niltava			1						10		<i>Niltava vivida vivida</i>
Orange-flanked Bush-robin							2				<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>
White-browed Bush-robin				1							<i>Tarsiger indicus formosanus</i>
Collared Bush-robin							3	U			<i>Tarsiger johnstoniae</i>
Daurian Redstart				3		1					<i>Phoenicurus aureoreus</i>
Plumbeous Redstart	6	FC		U	U						<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>
White-tailed Robin					U		1				<i>Cinclidium leucurum</i>
Common Starling			U								<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Crested Myna		FC			X	U					<i>Acridotheres cristatellus</i>
Eurasian Nuthatch			2		U		1				<i>Sitta europaea</i>
Coal Tit			FC	U			U				<i>Parus ater</i>
Green-backed Tit			6	FC	U		FC	U	U		<i>Parus monticolus</i>
Yellow Tit			FC	1	1						<i>Parus holsti</i>
Black-throated Tit			3	FC			A				<i>Aegithalos concinnus</i>
Plain Martin	U				A	U					<i>Riparia paludicola</i>
Barn Swallow		A						X			<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Pacific Swallow			FC	FC	FC						<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>
Striated Swallow						U					<i>Hirundo striolata</i>
Asian House-martin	U										<i>Delichon dasypus</i>
Flamecrest							6+FC h	FC			<i>Regulus goodfellowi</i>
Collared Finchbill				FC				U	U		<i>Spizixos semitorques</i>
Light-vented Bulbul	C	C		1	FC	A		A	U		<i>Pycnonotus sinensis</i>
Styan's Bulbul			6								<i>Pycnonotus taivanus</i>
Black Bulbul	C										<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus nigerrimus</i>

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Striated Prinia								1			<i>Prinia criniger</i>
Yellow-bellied Prinia								FC			<i>Prinia flaviventris</i>
Plain Prinia		FC		U							<i>Prinia inornata</i>
Japanese White-eye	C			U	FC	U		FC	C		<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>
Brownish-flanked Bush-warbler			L H	U							<i>Cettia fortipes robustipes</i>
Russet Bush-warbler							1				<i>Bradypterus mandelli</i>
Oriental Reed-warbler		FC									<i>Acrocephalus orientalis</i>
Yellow-browed Warbler						1					<i>Phylloscopus inornatus</i>
Rufous-faced Warbler			U	FC			U	1			<i>Abroscopus albogularis</i>
Hwamei				?							<i>Garrulax canorus taewanus</i>
White-whiskered Laughingthrush				4			FC				<i>Garrulax morrisonianus</i>
Steere's Liocichla				FC	2		C	U			<i>Liocichla steerii</i>
Spot-breasted Scimitar-babbler			H								<i>Pomatorhinus erythrocnemis</i>
Streak-breasted Scimitar-babbler	U	U						FC	FC		<i>Pomatorhinus ruficollis musicus</i>
Rufous-capped Babbler	1		1	FC			1		FC		<i>Stachyris ruficeps</i>
Taiwan Barwing							2	8			<i>Actinodura morrisoniana</i>
Streak-throated Fulvetta							U	1			<i>Alcippe cinereiceps formosana</i>
Dusky Fulvetta							8				<i>Alcippe brunnea brunnea</i>
Gray-cheeked Fulvetta			FC	FC	A			C	C		<i>Alcippe morrisonia</i>
White-eared Sibia			FC	FC	FC		FC				<i>Heterophasia auricularis</i>
Taiwan Yuhina			FC	A	A		U	C	C		<i>Yuhina brunneiceps</i>
White-bellied Yuhina			FC	U							<i>Yuhina zantholeuca</i>
Vinous-throated Parrotbill				30							<i>Paradoxornis webbianus</i>
Oriental Skylark					H						<i>Alauda gulgula</i>
Fire-breasted Flowerpecker					3						<i>Dicaeum ignipectus</i>
Eurasian Tree Sparrow	U	A	FC	X	X	A		A	X		<i>Passer montanus</i>
Black-backed Wagtail			4		2			1			<i>Motacilla lugens</i>
Yellow Wagtail	4	U	U								<i>Motacilla flava</i>
Gray Wagtail		A			1		1	1	1		<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>
Olive-backed Pipit				FC	U		1				<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>
Alpine Accentor			FC								<i>Prunella collaris</i>
Scaly-breasted Munia		6			6			C	C		<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>
Eurasian Siskin								FC	X		<i>Carduelis spinus</i>
Black-faced Bunting		FC				U					<i>Emberiza spodocephala</i>