

## PANGE BIRD LIST

(Pange Area, Lower Subansiri District, Arunachal Pradesh)

Compiled by Robert L. Fleming, Jr.

Dates of observation: Three days: 27 February to 01 March 1997

### Observers:

Omak Apang, Robert Fleming, Daniel Jantzen, Sarah Werner, Daniel Taylor-Ide, Luke Taylor-Ide and Daniel Winkler.

### Area Covered:

The roadhead up to Pange huts (following the Hapoli-pange Track); in the immediate area of the Pange forest huts ("Clouded Leopard Camp"); and on the track to the Talle Valley as far as the pass (territory east of the Pange stream is within the Talle Wildlife Sanctuary).

### General comments:

We were surprised at the lack of bird activity at these elevations at this time of year. We also found the rain made viewing difficult (even external surfaces of waterproof binoculars fogged over due to the cool temperatures and high humidity here).

### Species Account

*Ictinaetus malayensis*, **Black Eagle**. Single bird circling high over Pange forest huts. Interesting that this species could function in the Pange area given the cloud cover and frequent rainy periods.

*Circus cyaneus*, **Northern Harrier**. A single male contouring low over open country right at the edge of forest near the Hapoli-Pange roadhead.

*Arborophila torqueola*, **Common Hill Partridge**. Many birds heard calling in dense forest in the Pange area. Not seen. The call of these birds seemed higher pitched and slighly more "frantic" than those heard far west in Nepal.

*Columba pulchricollis*, **Ashy Wood Pigeon**. Only one sighting in mixed oak-chestnut forest on the Hapoli-Pange track.

*Chalcophaps indica*, **Emerald Dove**. One noted in Pange track at c. 1830 m., which is quite high for the species.

*Glaucidium brodiei*, **Collared Pigmy Owl**. Heard commonly (and seen twice) in Pange area.

*Glaucidium cuculoides*, **Barred Owlet**. Several heard calling the Pange area.

*Aceros nipalensis*, **Rufous-necked Hornbill**. A group of five birds in warm temperate forest at 1830 m. above the track to Pange. This would seem to be well out of altitude range, however appears not to be an unusual altitude here as we met two village men out hunting these hornbills.

*Dendrocopos darjellensis*, **Darjeeling Pied Woodpecker**. Noted in appropriate forest habitat near Pange.

*Blythipicus pyrrhotis*, **Red-eared Bay Woodpecker**. Calls heard issuing from low in dense vegetation in thick forest.

*Psarisomus dalhousiae*, **Long-tailed Broadbill**. A loosely-knit flock at about 1830 m. on the Pange Track.

*Oriolus traillii*, **Maroon Oriole**. One sighting along the Pange track in typical warm temperate forest habitat (1830 m., Sal Werner).

*Kitta flavirostris*, **Yellow-billed Blue Magpie**. Noted around the Pange forest huts as well as in the Talle Valley (note: observers Daniel Jantzen and Daniel Winkler felt that birds in the Talle Valley did not match illustrations of known magpie species.)

*Dendrocita formosae*, **Himalayan or Gray Tree Pie**. Heard along the Pange track.

*Hysipetes mccllellandii*, **Rufous-bellied (Mountain) Bulbul**. Small flocks in warm temperate forest Pange area.

*Pomatorhinus ruficollis*, **Rufous-necked Scimitar Babbler**. Often heard in thickets in suitable forest habitat up to about 2135 m.

*Spelaeornis caudatus*, **Tailed Wren-Babbler**. Singing lustily from thicket near Pange, 27 eb (2290 m. ) Song is a strong mellow “peewhee, peewhee, peewhee, whew”. Voice apparently unrecorded. (See Ali and Ripley, Handbook, Vol 7 , pg. 160).

*Garrulax striatus*, **Straited Laughing-Thrush**. Conspicuous bird in subtropical to warm temperate forest often working high in trees. Noted up to 2135 m. in Pange.

*Garrulax caerulatus*, **Gray-sided Laughing-Thrush**. A large flock occupied territory adjacent to the Pange forest huts (working in mixed bamboo).

*Garrulax austeni*, **Brown-capped Laughing-Thrush**. One sighting at mid-tree level in warm temperate forest along side the Pange track; in mixed flock with other species.

*Garrulax erythrocephalus*, **Red-headed Laughing-Thrush**. Often heard in dense thickets in warm temperate forest in Pange area.

*Leiothrix lutea*, **Red-billed Leiothrix**. Several sightings in warm temperate forest around Pange but not noted as frequently as we would have expected.

*Minla strigula*, **Chestnut-tailed Minla**. Only seen in bamboo and mixed bush near Pange track. Pange.

*Yuhina gularis*, **Stripe-throated Yuhina**. Conspicuous around the Pange forest huts in warm tem-

perate forest.

*Yuhina nigrimenta*, **Black-chinned Yuhina**. An amazingly common bird in Arunachal, ranging from lowland Namdapha up to Pange (600 m. to 1830 m.)

*Alcippe nipalensis*, **Nepal Babbler**. A common species from the lowlands up to 2135 m. in the Pange area. In large flocks in low to middle level vegetation; sometimes with other species.

*Heterophasia pulchella*, **Beautiful Sibia**. Possibly the most conspicuous bird at this time of year in the Pange forests.

*Muscicapa strophhiata*, **Orange-gorgetted Flycatcher**. Two sightings in dense forest near Pange forest huts.

*Seicercus affinis*, **Gray-cheeked Warbler**. In low vegetation at 1990 m. near the Pange forest huts acting like a Yellow-eyed Warbler, flying from one understory thicket to another. The interrupted white eye ring (the ring most conspicuously white behind the eye ) a good field mark.

*Erithacus cyanurus*, **Orange-flanked Bush Robin**. Tame, wintering along Pange road cuts at moderate elevations.

*Erithacus chrysaeus*, **Golden Bush Robin**. Wintering in dense thickets amid open terrain around the Pange forest huts.

*Saxicola torquata*, **Collared Bush Chat**. In open country near house at the start of the Hapoli-Pange track.

*Zoothera dixonii*, **Long-tailed Mountain Thrush**. Many single birds seen along Hapoli-Pange track. Confiding, flying only at last minute. One bird shot by frustrated “hornbill hunters” at Pange.

*Turdus rubrocanus*, **Gray-headed Thrush**. One seen flying between thickets in the grounds of the Pange Forest huts.

*Melanochlora sultanea*, **Sultan Tit**. An amazingly common and widespread bird, ranging from the lowlands up to 2030 m near Pange.

*Parus spilonotus*, **Black-spotted Yellow Tit**. Conspicuous and often with other birds in the warm temperate forests around Pange.

*Aegithalos concinnus*, **Red-headed Tit**. Only one sighting along the track from Hapoli to Pange.

*Sitta himalayensis*, **White-tailed Nuthatch**. In warm temperate mixed oak forests near Pange. Often with other species.

*Certhia nipalensis*, **Nepal Tree Creeper**. Only one sighting- near Pange (Sal Werner).

*Anthus hodgsoni*, **Hodgson's Tree Pipit**. Small flocks on migration along the road to Pange.

*Dicaeum ignipectus*, **Fire-breasted Flowerpecker**. Noted infrequently in forest near Pange.

*Aethopyga nipalensis*, **Nepal Sunbird**. Noted in appropriate forest habitat in Pange area.

*Mycderobas affinis*, **Allied Grosbeak**. Two males and a female feeding in the Pange-Hapoli track, Pange.

*Carduelis spinoides*, **Himalayan Greenfinch**. Sitting on tops of bushes at edge of fields, or perched on power lines; the Apa Tani Valley.

*Carpodacus nipalensis*, **Nepal Rosefinch**. Perched in bushes at edge of Pange Forest huts.

*Pyrrhula nipalensis*, **Brown Bullfinch**. On top of oak trees in mixed warm temperate forest near Pange.

*Pyrrhula erythaca*, **Beavan's Bullfinch**. Feeding on grass seeds in track near Pange; also in bushes at edge of track.

*Pyrrhula erythrocephala*, **Red-headed Bullfinch**. Noted in Pange around but not as many as seen preceding species.