# Thailand Birding & Nature | Species List

February 17 – March 11, 2023 | with Naturalist Journeys



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Compiled by Carlos Sanchez

(HO)= Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only

**Summary:** A trip of superlatives! Over the course of three weeks, we explored a wide variety of habitats from lush montane forests north of Chiang Mai to the saltpans of Pak Thale a couple hours drive from Bangkok, observing an astounding array of bird (432 species) and other wildlife. There were two activities on the trip that made a deep impression on our guests: walking the cool forest boardwalk at the summit of Doi Inthanon in the early morning and the boat trip at Laem Phak Bia to see Chinese Egret an White-faced Plover. Together with the impressive number of birds and places we visited, we also got to enjoy its fiery and lively cuisine, visit one of the most iconic Buddhist temples, and appreciate the gentle friendliness of the Thai people.

# BIRDS (432 species recorded, of which 9 were heard only):

# **DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae (12)**

**Lesser Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna javanica*—locally numerous, often in the hundreds, at wetland sites throughout northern Thailand such as Chiang Saen Lake.

**Graylag Goose** *Anser anser*—two vagrant individuals at Chiang Saen Lake (02/25), a first record for Thailand. **Greater White-fronted Goose** *Anser albifrons*—a single vagrant individual at Chiang Saen Lake (02/25), only the second record for Thailand.

**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*—we saw several small flocks of this beautiful duck at Chiang Saen Lake (02/25).

**Cotton Pygmy-Goose** *Nettapus coromandelianus*—about forty of these pretty little pygmy geese at Chiang Saen Lake (02/26) — one of the world's smallest waterfowl.

**Garganey** *Spatula querquedula*—a few small groups of these highly migratory ducks at Chiang Saen Lake (02/25 and 26).

Northern Shoveler Spatula clypeata—a single individual at Nong Luang Lake (02/25).

**Indian Spot-billed Duck** *Anas poecilorhyncha*—the most common dabbling duck around Chiang Saen (02/24 and 25).

Northern Pintail Anas acuta—three individuals at Nong Luang Lake (02/25).

**Green-winged Teal** *Anas crecca*—three at Nong Luang Lake (02/25).

**Ferruginous Duck** *Aythya nyroca*—about a dozen birds at Nong Luang Lake and another individual at Chiang Saen (02/25).

**Baer's Pochard** Aythya baeri—we observed a female at Nong Luang (02/25) and a male at Nong Luang – Wang Chai (02/26). This diving duck is Critically Endangered with a population of less than a thousand individuals. According to recent statistics, population decline has been accelerating and captive breeding programs are now underway.

PARTRIDGES, PHEASANTS, AND ALLIES: Phasianidae (8)

**Ferruginous Partridge** *Caloperdix oculeus*—two of these lovely partridges came out into the open to feed on seed at Dab Toon's hide (03/07).

**Rufous-throated Partridge** *Arborophila rufogularis*—heard from the Ang Ka boardwalk and then seen at the summit of Doi Inthanon National Park (03/03).

**Bar-backed Partridge** *Arborophila brunneopectus*—we saw this attractive partridge well at Dab Toon's hide near Baan Makka Lodge (03/07).

**Hume's Pheasant** *Syrmaticus humiae*—we saw an adult male and several female-plumaged birds at Doi Lang (West) in the early morning (02/28). This species is quite uncommon with a small global range.

**Kalij Pheasant** *Lophura leucomelanos*—a striking female paid a visit to Dab Toon's hide not too far from Baan Maka Lodge (03/07).

**Scaly-breasted Partridge** *Tropicoperdix chloropus*—a few of these partridges came in late to Dab Toon's hide (03/07).

**Mountain Bamboo-Partridge** *Bambusicola fytchii*—nice views of four and then seven individuals at Doi Lang West (02/22 and 23).

**Red Junglefowl** *Gallus gallus*—yes, genuine 'wild chickens'! Fantastic views of these attractive pheasants at Mae Ping National Park (02/20) and Dab Toon's hide (03/07).

# **GREBES: Podicipedidae (1)**

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*—we saw this widespread species at Mueang Sam-Ma Swamp and Ban Khum fish ponds

# PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (15)

Rock Pigeon Columba livia—widespread and common in all cities and towns

**Speckled Wood-Pigeon** *Columba hodgsonii*—about a couple dozen or so at a traditional post-roosting site near the summit of Doi Inthanon National Park were a real treat (03/03).

**Ashy Wood-Pigeon** *Columba pulchricollis*—several perched quietly behind the restrooms at the summit of Doi Inthanon National Park (03/03)

**Oriental Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis*—a few birds feeding quietly in the middle of the road at Doi Lang (West) on (02/22 and 28).

Red Collared-Dove Streptopelia tranquebarica—common and widespread in disturbed habitats.

Spotted Dove Spilopelia chinensis—numerous and widespread, recorded daily

**Asian Emerald Dove** *Chalcophaps indica*—we saw this beautiful terrestrial dove at the Rang Bon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon (03/03), as well as several sightings at Kaeng Krachan NP and the Dab Toon hide (03/06, 07, and 09).

Zebra Dove Geopelia striata—common in the lowlands in all disturbed habitats

**Pink-necked Green-Pigeon** *Treron vernans*—a few of these colorful green pigeons at at Ban Pho Ngam and elsewhere in the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (03/06).

**Thick-billed Green-Pigeon** *Treron curvirostra*—common at Kaeng Krachan National Park, where we got very nice scope views as they were perching on snags and feeding in fruiting figs along the park road (03/07 and 08).

**Yellow-footed Green-Pigeon** *Treron phoenicopterus*—an uncommon and local species in Thailand, with the dry dipterocarp forests of Mae Ping being one of the most reliable sites for it. We saw a single individual on (02/20). **\*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*** 

**Yellow-vented Green-Pigeon** Treron seimundi (HO)—heard along the road in the upper part of Kaeng Krachan National Park. A highly localized and uncommon species in Thailand. (03/08).

**Pin-tailed Green-Pigeon** *Treron apicauda*—nice scope views of about a half-dozen individuals at the Fang Hot Springs (02/24); one does not usually get perched views of these uncommon birds!

**Wedge-tailed Green-Pigeon** *Treron sphenurus*—we saw a single bird in the scope at Kaeng Krachan NP at KM9 (03/07); an uncommon bird in Thailand that is not easy to see well.

**Mountain Imperial-Pigeon** *Ducula badia*—a pair of these giant arboreal pigeons posed for scope views at Doi Lang (West) at (02/28).

# **CUCKOOS AND ALLIES: Cuculidae (8)**

Greater Coucal Centropus sinensis—common and widespread in disturbed areas.

**Lesser Coucal** *Centropus bengalensis*—one seen at Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (03/06) and another at Baan Maka Lodge (03/09). Much less common than Greater Coucal.

Raffles's Malkoha Rhinortha chlorophaea—a pair at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/09); this species looks and behaves a lot like a Squirrel Cuckoo from the Americas

**Green-billed Malkoha** *Phaenicophaeus tristis*—individuals seen briefly at Mae Ping NP (02/20), Fang Hot Springs (02/24), Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07), and Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/09); a large, glossy green cuckoo of forested habitats.

**Asian Koel** *Eudynamys scolopaceus*—although secretive, very vocal and common enough that we saw it on most days.

**Asian Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx maculatus*—seen at the edge of the campground at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07). This stunning iridescent species parasitizes the nests of sunbirds and spiderhunters.

**Banded Bay Cuckoo** *Cacomantis sonneratii*—great views at Mae Ping NP (02/19), Doi Lang West (02/28), Doi Inthanon NP (03/02), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07). It regularly parasitizes the nest of Common Iora.

**Plaintive Cuckoo** *Cacomantis merulinus*—several seen at the Pied Harrier roost and the Parakeet Conservation Area (02/24 and 03/04). Often heard elsewhere, especially in central Thailand.

# NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae (2)

**Large-tailed Nightjar** *Caprimulgus macrurus*—a few observations at dawn and dusk on the road to Kaeng Krachan NP or around Baan Makka Lodge (03/07 and 03/09).

**Indian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus asiaticus*—fantastic views in the Doi Noi scrublands of a roosting individual. \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

#### **SWIFTS: Apodidae (5)**

**Brown-bakced Needletail** *Hirundapus giganteus*—about a dozen or so of these giant swifts drinking from a reservoir at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22).

**Himalayan Swiftlet** *Aerodramus brevirostris*—seen at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22) and Huai Ton Tueng Reservoir (03/03).

**Germain's Swiftlet** *Aerodramus germani*—very common in central Thailand, where we saw them daily in a variety of habitats. The nests are harvested for the Chinese market to make bird nest soup – fascinating!

**Cook's Swift** *Apus cooki*—common over Doi Lang, where we saw them flying overhead throughout most of our time birding there (02/22, 23, and 28).

**Asian Palm-Swift** *Cypsiurus balasiensis*—scattered sightings, mostly in disturbed lowland habitat with palm trees nearby.

# TREESWIFTS: Hemiprocnidae (2)

Crested Treeswift Hemiprocne coronata—seen at the Doi Lo rice paddies (02/18) and Mae Ping NP (02/20). Gray-rumped Treeswift Hemiprocne longipennis—one of these flying boomerangs in the distance at Kaeng Krachan National Park one morning

#### RAILS, COOTS, AND ALLIES: Rallidae (6)

**Eurasian Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*—very similar to the Common Gallinule of the Americas; common at wetland sites near Chiang Rai and the pond at Baan Maka Lodge.

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica atra*—very common at the various lakes and wetlands around Chiang Rai (02/22-26).

**Gray-headed Swamphen** *Porphyrio poliocephalus*—abundant at Chiang Saen, where we saw gatherings of several hundred at a time (02/24-26)!

White-browed Crake *Poliolimnas cinereus*—two birds seen at length in the Wiang Nong Lom wetland, the Pied Harrier roost (02/24).

White-breasted Waterhen Amaurornis phoenicurus—shy but surprisingly numerous at most wetlands sites with at least some vegetation to offer some cover.

**Ruddy-breasted Crake** *Zapornia fusca*—we saw a habituated individual at Baan Maka Nature Lodge — what fantastic views! (03/06).

# **THICK-KNEES:** Burhinidae (1)

**Indian Thick-knee** Burhinus indicus (HO)—heard on our final evening at Baan Maka Nature Lodge in the new vegetable garden (03/09).

# STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae (2)

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus* himantopus—abundant and conspicuous in coastal wetlands and rice paddies throughout Thailand.

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*—distant but diagnostic views at a late afternoon stop at Pak Thale, where there were at least three of these elegant shorebirds visible in the scope (03/05).

#### PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (10)

**Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola*—about three dozen or so at the saltpans of Pak Thale, mixed in with various other shorebirds (03/05).

**Pacific Golden-Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*—a couple at Doi Lo (02/18) and about fifty or so at Pak Thale (03/05). **Gray-headed Lapwing** *Vanellus cinereus*—fantastic views of about two dozen individuals in the Mae Ai rice paddies in the northern part of the country; a winter migrant in Thailand (02/23).

**Red-wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus indicus*—widespread and conspicuous in open habitats throughout Thailand **Lesser Sand-Plover** *Charadrius mongolus*—large numbers wintering on the saltpans of Pak Thale and Lam Pak Bia (03/05).

**Greater Sand-Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii*—a few individuals at Pak Thale and about a half-dozen at Laem Phak Bia sandspit (03/05).

**Malaysian Plover** *Charadrius peronii*—a few individuals at the Lam Pak Bia sandspit, scuttling about on the open sandy beach (03/05).

**Kentish Plover** Charadrius alexandrinus—about a half-dozen in the saltpans at Pak Thale (03/05).

White-faced Plover Charadrius dealbatus—one of these uncommon birds at Laem Phak Bia sandspit; formerly a subspecies of Kentish Plover but quite different in appearance (03/05).

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius*—seen at Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22), Nong Luang (02/35), and the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (03/06).

# JACANAS: Jacanidae (2)

Pheasant-tailed Jacana *Hydrophasianus chirurgus*—about two dozen individuals observed scattered throughout our journey in Thailand, all on non-breeding plumage: Doi Lo rice paddies (02/18), Chiang Saen (02/24 and 02/25), and Nong Luang (02/26).

**Bronze-winged Jacana** *Metopidius indicus*—seen in small numbers in northern Thailand around Chiang Saen (02/24 and 02/25), as well as the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (3/10) and Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/06).

#### SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (26)

Whimbrel Numenius phaeopus—several dozen at the Pak Thale saltpans (03/05).

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata*—several dozen individuals were still wintering at the Pak Thale saltpans; one of the world's largest shorebirds (03/05).

Bar-tailed Godwit Limosa lapponica—numerous on the Lam Pak Bia saltpans (03/05).

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*—hundreds at Lam Pak Bia (03/05) and about a hundred or so flying overhead at the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies on our final day (03/10).

**Ruddy Turnstone** *Arenaria interpres*—a couple of these familiar shorebirds at the Pak Thale saltpans (03/05) **Great Knot** *Calidris tenuirostris*—a couple hundred of these shorebirds at Pak Thale – classified as **Endangered** by IUCN (03/05).

**Red Knot** *Calidris canutus*—about forty or so birds mixed together with Great Knot at Pak Thale, with a few birds approaching fiery high breeding plumage (03/05).

**Broad-billed Sandpiper** *Calidris falcinellus*—maybe about a dozen birds at Pak Thale, where we studied them in the scope quite nicely. The key characteristic of the bill is the slight downward notch at the end. (03/05).

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*—about a dozen at Pak Thale (03/05); some were even in bright red breeding plumage!

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*—we managed to pick out at least one bird in a muddy rice paddy on Ban Don Sanam Road on our final day (03/10).

Long-toed Stint Calidris subminuta — scope views at Pak Thale and Ban Don Sanam Road (03/05 and (03/10).

**Spoon-billed Sandpiper** *Calidris pygmaea*—— we saw three individuals at different places during our morning birding at Pak Thale, enjoying incredible and prolonged scope views (03/05). Listed as **Critically Endangered** by IUCN **VOTED AS BIRD OF THE TRIP!** 

Red-necked Stint Calidris ruficollis—the most common 'peep' by far in the saltpans of Pak Thale (03/05).

Sanderling Calidris alba—three at Laem Phak Bia sandspit were our only ones of the trip (03/05).

**Asian Dowitcher** *Limnodromus semipalmatus*—several dozen of these very large dowitchers, almost the size of a godwit, mixed together with various other large shorebirds at Pak Thale (03/05). Classified as **Near-Threatened** by the IUCN.

Common Snipe Gallinago gallinago—three at the Doi Lo rice paddies, at least (02/18).

**Pin-tailed Snipe** *Gallinago stenura*—seen at the Mae Ai rice paddies (02/23), Pied Harrier roost (02/24), and Nong Luang lake (02/25).

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*—big congregation of these unusual shorebirds in one impoundment at Pak Thale (03/05). A stocky shorebird with a diagnostic upswept bill.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*—singles at Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22), Pied Harrier roost (02/24), and Laem Phak Bia sandspit (03/05). Very similar to the Spotted Sandpiper of the Americas.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*—common but scattered in small numbers in rice paddies and wetlands throughout our northern Thailand route. Very similar to the Solitary Sandpiper of the Americas.

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*—good numbers at wetland and coastal sites in Petchaburi, including the Bang Tabun OK Lake (03/06) and Pak Thale (03/05) — a taller, slimmer, and more elegant version of the Common Redshank.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*—moderate numbers of these larger shorebirds at the Bang Tabun OK Lake (03/06) and Pak Thale (03/05). We also saw one at Nong Luang in northern Thailand (02/25).

**Nordmann's Greenshank** *Tringa guttifer*—several dozen individuals mixed with Great Knot at Pak Thale were an excellent find (03/05)! Classified as **Endangered** by IUCN

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*—we saw these delicately built shorebirds at Pak Thale at close range (03/05). Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*—small numbers at scattered wetland sites throughout Thailand, including about a dozen at Nong Pla Lai (03/05).

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus*—a few of these attractive, red-legged shorebirds at Pak Thale (03/05). They have a distinctive black and white wing pattern in flight.

#### **COURSERS AND PRATINCOLES: Glareolidae (2)**

**Oriental Pratincole** *Glareola maldivarum*—our best views were at the Doi Lo rice paddies on the pre-extension (02/18), although we did see them later at Chiang Saen (02/25) and Nong Pla Lai (03/06).

**Small Pratincole** *Glareola lactea*—we saw about fifty of these lovely shorebirds at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project, where they nest (02/22).

#### **GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (8)**

**Brown-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus brunneicephalus*—hundreds at Pak Thale, Laem Phak Bia, and Bang Tabun Ok Lake (03/05 and 03/06). This is the most common gull in Thailand by a large margin.

**Little Tern** *Sternula albifrons*—the smallest tern species in Thailand; abundant at Pak Thale, Laem Phak Bia, and Bang Tabun Ok "Lake (03/05 and 03/06).

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica*—about a dozen at Pak Thale (03/05) and another single bird among the loafing tern flock at Laem Phak Bia (03/05).

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*—the world's largest tern species; numerous at Pak Thale and Lam Pak Bia, often loafing with other terns and gulls (03/05).

Whiskered Tern Chlidonias hybrida—very numerous on our morning exploring the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies, a common wintering species in Thailand (03/06).

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo*—a couple hundred at Pak Thale (03/05).

**Great Crested Tern** *Thalasseus bergii*—couple dozen breeding plumage individuals at the Laem Phak Bia sandspit, showing off their bright yellow beaks and distinctive black caps (03/05).

Lesser Crested Tern Thalasseus bengalensis—about a dozen loafing in a saltpan at Pak Thale (03/05).

# **STORKS: Ciconiidae (3)**

**Asian Openbill** *Anastomus oscitans*—the most common stork species in Thailand, with particularly large concentrations (over a thousand!) observed at Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (03/06). The population of this species is increasing exponentially in the country.

Milky Stork Mycteria cinerea—great scope views of a single bird in one of the impoundments at Pak Thale (03/05). Quite rare in Thailand with a small overall global population. Classified as **Endangered** by the IUCN. **Painted Stork** Mycteria leucocephala—great numbers of these attractive storks around Pak Thale (03/05) and Bang Tabun OK Lake (03/06); this species is undergoing a spectacular recovery in Thailand after nearly being extirpated from the country.

#### **DARTERS:** Anhingidae (1)

**Oriental Darter** *Anhinga melanogaster*—seven roosting in a tree at Chiang Saen (02/25) and another three or so birds in the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies area (03/06); another wetland species undergoing a big recovery in Thailand.

#### **CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae (3)**

**Little Cormorant** *Microcarbo niger*—common at freshwater wetland sites throughout, a true midget! **Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo*—four birds at Nong Bong Khai Non-hunting area in Chiang Rai province (02/25). Very local species in Thailand.

**Indian Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax fuscicollis*—several gatherings in the impoundments of Pak Thale (03/05) and another dozen or so at Bang Tabun Ok Lake (03/06).

#### PELICANS: Pelecanidae (1)

**Spot-billed Pelican** *Pelecanus philippensis*—three distant birds at Bang Tabun Ok Lake (03/06); within the region, this species breeds mostly in Cambodia and disperses to central Thailand in the non-breeding season.

#### HERONS AND EGRETS : Ardeidae (14)

**Great Bittern** *Botaurus stellaris*—scope views of this largest of bitterns at Nong Luang lake; this is a very scarce winter visitor to Thailand and quite a special sighing to see one so well in the scope (02/25).

**Yellow Bittern** *Ixobrychus sinensis*—seen at Doi Lo rice paddies (02/18) and in the pond's reedbed at Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/06 and 03/09).

**Gray Heron** *Ardea cinerea*—widespread at wetland sites throughout.

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*—a bit more secretive than the preceding species but equally widespread and common.

Great Egret Ardea alba—common and widespread

**Intermediate Egret** *Ardea intermedia*—hundreds observed while birding Nong Pla Lai in central Thailand (03/06). **Chinese Egret** *Egretta eulophotes*—one bird on our Laem Phak Bia boat tour was an excellent find; this species is uncommon and declining, listed as **Vulnerable** by IUCN.

Little Egret Egretta garzetta—the most common 'white egret' in Thailand – everywhere!

**Pacific Reef-Heron** *Egretta sacra*—one dark morph at the Laem Phak Bia sandspit gave us great views; a stocky heron of rocky shores in Asia, Australia, and the Pacific Islands (03/05).

**Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis*—very common and widespread, here represented by the more orange 'Eastern' subspecies (*B. ibis coromandus*).

Chinese Pond-Heron Ardeola bacchus—ubiquitous.

**Javan Pond-Heron** *Ardeola speciosa*—although most pond-herons we observed in coastal Thailand were not identifiable to species since they were in non-breeding plumage, we did see a few breeding plumage Javan Pond-Herons at Nong Pla Lai, including one in a mangrove tree during lunch time (03/06).

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*—we saw this widespread species only once at the bridge with the flowing river underneath, the Doi Lang West entry checkpoint (02/28).

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*—seen at the Mae Ai rice paddies (02/23) and Nong Pla Lai rice paddies area (03/06).

# IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae (2)

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus*—singles on two dates at the wetland sites in Chiang Rai province (02/24 and 02/25). Formerly scarce but rapidly increasing in Thailand.

**Black-headed Ibis** Threskiornis melanocephalus—a single at Doi Lo in Chiang Mai was one of only a handful of records for this species in that province (02/18). Fifty or more individuals recorded during our birding morning at Nong Pla Lai (03/06); this species is undergoing a recovery in Thailand after being nearly decimated in the region.

#### **OSPREY: Pandionidae (1)**

Osprey Pandion haliaetus—one of these familiar raptors at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22).

#### HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (11)

**Oriental Honey-Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhynchus*—singles at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22) and Doi Inthanon National Park (03/02).

**Crested Serpent-Eagle** *Spilornis cheela*—great views of this classic tropical Asian raptor at Kaeng Krachan National Park (03/08).

**Greater Spotted Eagle** *Clanga clanga*—an aberrant individual soaring over rice fields at the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies on our morning of birding (03/10).

**Rufous-winged Buzzard** *Butastur liventer*—we observed one of these small raptors along the road in Lamphun province (02/19).

**Eastern Marsh-Harrier** *Circus spilonotus*—numerous at the harrier roost in Chiang Rai province, while far less common in the rice paddies further south in central Thailand.

**Pied Harrier** *Circus melanoleucos*—a spectacular and elegant raptor, seen at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22), large harrier roost in Chiang Rai (02/24), and Nong Luang in the same general area (02/25).

**Crested Goshawk** *Accipiter trivirgatus*—we observed this large *Accipiter* several times throughout the tour, including Doi Lang West (02/28), Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/06), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08 and 03/09).

**Shikra** Accipiter badius—surprisingly uncommon this year — seen only on the extension at Mae Ping NP (02/19).

**Chinese Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter soloensis*—silhouette views of a small, perched *Accipiter* at Mae Ping National Park was this species (02/19).

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*—about a dozen or so individuals observed at open agricultural and wetland sites throughout the tour.

**Brahminy Kite** *Haliastur indus*—this distinctive and richly colored raptor was quite common along the coast at Pak Thale and a little further inland around Nong Pla Lai. It is primarily a scavenger that feeds on dead fish and crabs.

# OWLS: Strigidae (4)

**Collared Owlet** Glaucidium brodiei (HO)—heard on three days but remained unseen.

**Asian Barred Owlet** *Glaucidium cuculoides*—seen at Fang Hot Springs (02/24) and heard at Kaeng Krachan National Park; a common semi-diurnal predator of small birds.

**Spotted Owlet** *Athene brama*—our best views were at the Inthanon Highland Resort, where one reliably sat on the same perch by a bungalow every late afternoon (03/01).

**Brown Boobook** Ninox scutulata (HO)—heard quite well at Baan Makka Lodge but not come in this year.

# **TROGONS: Trogonidae (2)**

**Red-headed Trogon** *Harpactes erythrocephalus*—seen by a few people in the upper elevation area of Kaeng Krachan NP as we were coming down from a quiet afternoon (03/08).

**Orange-breasted Trogon** *Harpactes oreskios*—great views on two days at Kaeng Krachan National Park, including a pair nesting in a tree cavity right by the road (03/07 and 03/09). The combination of orange belly and bluish bill is quite unique among trogons, including Asian trogons which are primarily red-bellied.

# **HOOPOES: Upupidae (1)**

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*—regular at the campground at Mae Ping on all visits (02/19 and 02/20). We also saw two on the main tour at the Parakeet Conservation area below Doi Inthanon NP (03/04).

# **HORNBILLS: Bucerotidae (3)**

**Great Hornbill** *Buceros bicornis*—a bird of many superlatives and an iconic species of tropical Asian forests; several individuals observed on three days at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07, 08, and 09).

**Rusty-cheeked Hornbill** Anorrhinus tickelli (HO)—heard in the stream crossing area of Kaeng Krachan NP but did not provide views (03/09).

**Oriental Pied-Hornbill** *Anthracoceros albirostris*—seen daily around Kaeng Krachan National Park, where it is by far the most common and adaptable hornbill.

#### **KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (6)**

**Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo atthis*—singles at Doi Lo (02/18), Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22), Nong Luang (02/25), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08); a winter visitor in Thailand that migrates northward in the spring. **Banded Kingfisher** *Lacedo pulchella*—male and female, both spectacular in their own way, observed at Kaeng Krachan NP on 03/08. The scientific name *pulchella* means 'very pretty' — and our group agreed. **VOTED BIRD OF THE TRIP!** 

**Stork-billed Kingfisher** *Pelargopsis capensis*—spectacular views of this colossal kingfisher at Ban Pho Ngam in the early morning (03/06), surely a highlight of the tour.

White-throated Kingfisher Halcyon smyrnensis—these beauties were widespread in small numbers throughout our journey, primarily in rice paddies and wetland sites.

**Black-capped Kingfisher** *Halcyon pileata*—we saw only one on the entire trip on the back side of Pak Thale in low, scrubby mangroves (03/05).

**Collared Kingfisher** *Todiramphus chloris*—several of these colorful kingfishers in the mangroves on our boat trip to the Laem Phak Bia sandspit (03/05).

# **BEE-EATERS: Meropidae (4)**

**Blue-bearded Bee-eater** *Nyctyornis athertoni*—scope views of a pair of these large, forest-dwelling bee-eaters at Fang Hot Springs in a blooming Indian Coral Tree (02/24).

**Asian Green Bee-eater** *Merops orientalis*—common in small numbers in open woodlands, farmland, and wetland areas. Formerly lumped together with Arabian Bee-eater.

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops philippinus*—our best views were on the wires at Ban Pho Ngam where we saw the Stork-billed Kingfisher (03/06).

**Chestnut-headed Bee-eater** *Merops leschenaulti*—seen at Doi Lang West (02/23) and the Huai Ton Tueng Reservoir (03/03).

# **ROLLERS: Coraciidae (1)**

**Indian Roller** *Coracias benghalensis*—delightfully common throughout the tour in agricultural areas, wetlands, and open woodland.

# **ASIAN BARBETS: Megalaimidae (7)**

**Coppersmith Barbet** *Psilopogon haemacephalus*—the most adaptable Asian barbet to human disturbance; observed often in a variety of wooded habitats.

**Blue-eared Barbet** *Psilopogon duvaucelii*—observed a couple times at Kaeng Krachan National Park, including several birds feeding at a fruiting *Ficus* tree near the Ban Krang Campground (03/07 and 08).

**Great Barbet** *Psilopogon virens*—bird in the scope at Fang Hot Springs (02/24), also seen at Doi Ang Khang (02/27); hard to appreciate their relatively large size from a distance, as these birds are about the size of a toucanet!

**Green-eared Barbet** *Psilopogon faiostrictus*—a common voice in the seasonally dry forests of Kaeng Krachan National Park; we saw them well there on two dates

**Lineated Barbet** *Psilopogon lineatus*—one of the most widespread and common barbets, more often heard than seen on our tour but we got great looks on quite a few days.

**Golden-throated Barbet** *Psilopogon franklinii*—common in the north, where we saw it at Doi Lang West (02/22 and 28). Also seen at Mae Ouam in Doi Inthanon NP (03/02).

Blue-throated Barbet Psilopogon asiaticus—nice scope views in the gardens of Doi Ang Khang (02/27).

#### **WOODPECKERS: Picidae (14)**

**Eurasian Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*—it was the Doi Lo rice paddies where we saw this bizarre pseudo-woodpecker (02/18).

**Heart-spotted Woodpecker** *Hemicircus canente*—we saw this charismatic bobble headed woodpecker a couple times at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 09).

**Gray-capped Woodpecker** *Yungipicus canicapillus*—we saw these small woodpeckers at Mae Ping on the extension and Doi Lang (W).

**Freckle-breasted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos analis*—seen in the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (03/06); this woodpecker prefers disturbed areas and more open country with scattered trees.

**Stripe-breasted Woodpecker** *Dendrocopos atratus*—a common and attractive woodpecker of montane forests at Doi Lang (02/28) and Doi Inthanon (03/03).

**Bay Woodpecker** Blythipicus pyrrhotis (HO)—heard well one afternoon in the upper elevations of Kaeng Krachan while we were watching a pair of Long-tailed Broadbill visiting a nest (03/08).

**Greater Flameback** *Chrysocolaptes guttacristatus*—pairs seen at Mae Ping NP (02/19) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Common Flameback** *Dinopium javanense*—multiple individuals observed at Kaeng Krachan NP in the lower elevations (03/07 and 03/08); slightly different facial pattern and call than Greater Flameback.

**Lesser Yellownape** *Picus chlorolophus*—one seen at Mae Ping NP in the afternoon (02/18). \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\* Gray-headed Woodpecker *Picus canus*—lengthy views at Kaeng Krachan National Park (03/07); very different from the subspecies found in Europe and northern Asia, and some authorities consider it to be a separate species. Black-headed Woodpecker *Picus erythropygius*—we saw about six individuals of this colorful woodpecker species at Mae Ping NP (02/19); a dry dipterocarp forest species.

**Greater Yellownape** *Chrysophlegma flavinucha*—seen at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07)! Colorful and spectacularly patterned species.

**Great Slaty Woodpecker** *Mulleripicus pulverulentus*—a family group of about four individuals offered scope views at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07) — currently accepted as the world's largest extant woodpecker species.

White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*—after some effort, we finally had reasonable views of this species at Mae Ping NP (02/20). \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

# FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (3)

**Collared Falconet** *Microhierax caerulescens*—pairs seen on two days at Mae Ping NP in the dry dipterocarp forest (02/18 and 02/19); these tiny falconets average shorter and lighter than shrikes!

**Eurasian Kestrel** Falco tinnunculus—one at the Ton Maphrao rice paddies area (03/06).

**Peregrine Falcon** Falco peregrinus—soaring in the distance at Nong Pla Lai (03/10).

#### PARROTS: Psittaculidae (3)

**Gray-headed Parakeet** *Psittacula finschii*—heard often but not so easy to see well; we saw this small parakeet on 02/19 and 02/20 in the dry dipterocarp forest both perched and flying overhead. \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

**Blossom-headed Parakeet** *Psittacula roseata*—three individuals seen in a parakeet conservation area near Doi Inthanon NP (03/04); a **Near-Threatened** species that is in decline across its range.

**Vernal Hanging-Parrot** *Loriculus vernalis*—great views of this tiny little parrot in a mixed feeding flock on the edge of the Ban Krang Campground in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

#### **BROADBILLS: Eurylaimidae (5)**

**Long-tailed Broadbill** *Psarisomus dalhousiae*—we got to enjoy a pair nesting in the upper elevations of Kaeng Krachan NP one afternoon (03/08).

**Silver-breasted Broadbill** *Serilophus lunatus*—a delicately beautiful broadbill; we got to observe this species on the edge of the Ban Krang Campground (03/08).

**Black-and-red Broadbill** *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos*—seen well along the road at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07). **Banded Broadbill** *Eurylaimus javanicus*—spectacular views on the edge of the Ban Krang Campground (03/08), where we got to see one perch out on an open branch only a few feet away. Wow!

**Black-and-yellow Broadbill** *Eurylaimus ochromalus*—one on the edge of the Ban Krang Campground in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

#### **GERYGONES AND THORNBILLS: Acanthizidae (1)**

**Golden-bellied Gerygone** *Gerygone sulphurea*—part of a primarily Australian family of warbler- and wren-like species; observed in the mangroves at at Pak Thale (03/05)

# **CUCKOOSHRIKES: Campephagidae (8)**

**Gray-chinned Minivet** *Pericrocotus solaris*—a couple observed at the Mae Ouam trail at Doi Inthanon (03/02).

Short-billed Minivet Pericrocotus brevirostris—observed at Doi Ang Khang (02/27) and Doi Lang (W) (02/28).

**Long-tailed Minivet** *Pericrocotus ethologus*—the most common and widespread minivet in the northern mountains, recorded at Doi Lang (W), Fang Hot Springs, and Doi Ang Khang.

**Scarlet Minivet** *Pericrocotus speciosus*—seen often in small numbers in the northern mountains, as well as a single sighting in the stream crossing area of Kaeng Krachan NP.

**Brown-rumped Minivet** *Pericrocotus cantonensis*—seen at Fang Hot Springs (02/24) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08 and 03/09).

Rosy Minivet Pericrocotus roseus—seen at Fang Hot Springs (02/24) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/09).

**Large Cuckooshrike** *Coracina macei*—seen a couple times at Mae Ping NP in the dry dipterocarp forest (02/18 and 02/20). \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

**Black-winged Cuckooshrike** *Lalage melaschistos*—singles at Doi Lang (02/23), Doi Ang Khang's King's Project (02/27), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

#### VIREOS AND SHRIKE-BABBLERS: Vireonidae (2)

White-browed Shrike-Babbler Pteruthius aeralatus—common by voice at all the mountain sites in the north of the country, where it is a common component of mixed feeding flocks.

White-bellied Erpornis *Erpornis zantholeuca*—we saw this aberrant crested 'vireo' at Doi Inthanon NP (03/02), Rang Bon Doi hide (03/02), and the Dab Toon Hide near Baan Maka (03/07).

# **OLD WORLD ORIOLES: Oriolidae (4)**

Black-naped Oriole Oriolus chinensis—the most common and widespread oriole in Thailand.

**Slender-billed Oriole** *Oriolus tenuirostris*—after some effort, seen reasonably well at the Ban Nor Lae Army Camp on Doi Ang Khang (02/27).

**Black-hooded Oriole** *Oriolus xanthornus*—seen in the dry dipterocarp forest environment of Mae Ping NP (02/18 and 02/19) and the Parakeet Conservation Area near Doi Inthanon (03/04).

Maroon Oriole Oriolus traillii—seen at Doi Lang (W) (02/23) by some in the group.

#### **WOODSWALLOWS: Artamidae (1)**

**Ashy Woodswallow** *Artamus fuscus*—our best views of this common species were at the Huai Ton Tueng Reservoir, where we saw several dozen birds (03/02); the only entirely Asian representative of a mostly Australian bird family.

# **VANGAS: Vangidae (2)**

Large Woodshrike Tephrodornis virgatus—a single sighting in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike** Hemipus picatus—seen a couple times at Mae Ping NP on the extension (02/19) and in a mixed feeding flock at the Ban Krang Campground in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08); studies show that the flycatcher-shrikes, philentomas, and woodshrikes of Asia are most closely related to the amazing vangas of Madagascar!

#### **IORAS: Aegithinidae (2)**

**Common Iora** Aegithina tiphia—observed at Doi Lang (02/23) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08), usually in scrubby areas of secondary growth; the ioras are endemic to tropical Asia.

Great Iora Aegithina lafresnayei—seen daily on our visits to Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07, 03/08, and 03/09).

#### FANTAILS: Rhipiduridae (2)

**Malaysian Pied-Fantail** *Rhipidura javanica*—very common in open habitats in the lowlands of Petchaburi Province in central Thailand – a charismatic and lively species.

White-throated Fantail Rhipidura albicollis—a single bird observed in a small mixed feeding flock on Doi Inthanon (03/02).

#### **DRONGOS: Dicruridae (6)**

Black Drongo Dicrurus macrocercus—very common in all agricultural and disturbed open areas.

**Ashy Drongo** *Dicrurus leucophaeus*—quite common in the canopy of wooded areas; we observed both resident and migratory (white-faced) races.

**Bronzed Drongo** *Dicrurus aeneus*—great views on Doi Inthanon (03/02) and at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/09), where we got to enjoy the opalescent, bronzy sheen.

**Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus remifer*—not uncommon in the highland areas we visited in northern Thailand.

**Hair-crested Drongo** *Dicrurus hottentottus*—common and widespread throughout the tour in a variety of habitats, although the thin wires on the crown are not always easy to see.

**Greater Racket-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus paradiseus*—common throughout, especially in the wooded areas around Kaeng Krachan; this species often forms the nucleus of mixed feeding flocks.

# MONARCH FLYCATCHERS: Monarchidae (1)

**Black-naped Monarch** *Hypothymis azurea*—we observed this beautiful species at Mae Ping (02/18 and 02/19), Inthanon Highland Resort (03/01), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/09)! Great species

#### **CRESTED SHRIKEJAY: Platylophidae (1)**

**Crested Shrikejay** Platylophus galericulatus (HO)—heard well in the stream crossing area of Kaeng Krachan NP (03/09), but did not show itself at all to the group. Genetic evidence revealed that this 'jay' is distinct from that family and belongs in its own family near the shrikes.

# **SHRIKES: Laniidae (4)**

**Brown Shrike** *Lanius cristatus*—common winter resident in Thailand, recorded in singles in the north and in the agricultural areas of central Thailand on four separate dates.

**Burmese Shrike** *Lanius collurioides*—recorded at Mae Ping (02/19 and 02/20) and the Doi Ang Khang army camp (02/27).

**Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach*—recorded only in the north, always in open country and agricultural areas.

**Gray-backed Shrike** *Lanius tephronotus*—recorded at Doi Lang (W), Mae Fa Luang Arboretum, and Doi Ang Khang Royal Agricultural Project (02/26, 02/27, and 02/28).

# **CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (7)**

**Eurasian Jay** *Garrulus glandarius*—great views at Fang Hot Springs (02/24) of the highly distinctive "White-faced Jay," a highly distinctive subspecies endemic to southeast Asia and often considered a separate species. We also saw a couple at Mae Ping (02/19) in the dry dipterocarp forest.

**Common Green-Magpie** *Cissa chinensis*—a firm favorite of the group, this spectacular yet rather shy forest magpie showed briefly along the road at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/09).

Rufous Treepie Dendrocitta vagabunda—seen at Mae Ping (02/20) and Huai Ton Tueng Reservoir (03/03).

Gray Treepie Dendrocitta formosae—nice scope views at the Chinese Cemetery at Doi Ang Khang (03/01).

Racket-tailed Treepie Crypsirina temia—our first encounter was at the Parakeet Conservation Area at the base of Doi Inthanon (03/04); better views at the Laem Phak Bia sandspit (03/05) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07), allowing us to appreciate the crazy blue eye and greenish sheen.

**Large-billed Crow** *Corvus macrorhynchos*—quite a few sightings at Mae Ping and Petchaburi Province, the common large crow of the country (and very common in downtown Bangkok!).

# **FAIRY FLYCATCHERS: Stenostiridae (1)**

**Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher** *Culicicapa ceylonensis*—observed briefly in a mixed feeding flock at Doi Lang (02/22), Fang Hot Springs (02/24), Doi Ang Khang (03/01), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08); a classic tropical Asian species that usually travels through the forest with mixed feeding flocks.

#### TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae (3)

**Sultan Tit** *Melanochlora sultanea*—the largest member of the tit and chickadee family, occurring only in tropical Asia; observed a couple times in the lower elevations of Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/09).

**Japanese Tit** *Parus minor*—observed on four days while exploring the mountain sites north of Chiang Mai; very similar in appearance to the Great Tit of Europe and once considered the same species.

**Yellow-cheeked Tit** *Machlolophus spilonotus*—we saw this colorful tit at Doi Ang Khang (02/27) and the Mae Ouam trail of Doi Inthanon NP (03/02).

#### LARKS: Alaudidae (2)

**Indochinese Bushlark** *Mirafra erythrocephala*—one in the Doi Noi scrublands before the main tour (02/18). \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

Oriental Skylark Alauda gulgula—seen while birding the Mae Ai paddies (02/23).

# CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES: Cisticolidae (9)

**Common Tailorbird** *Orthotomus sutorius*—we saw this common yet unobtrusive species several times while birding northern Thailand.

**Dark-necked Tailorbird** Orthotomus atrogularis—a trio seen at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07); tailorbirds get their name from the way they construct their nests, edges of a large leaf sewn together with plant fiber to make a cradle in which the actual grass nest is built

Hill Prinia Prinia superciliaris (HO)—heard in the afternoon at Doi Lang West (02/26).

Rufescent Prinia Prinia rufescens—a pair at Mae Ping NP (02/18). \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

**Gray-breasted Prinia** *Prinia hodgsonii*—seen at the Doi Lo rice paddies (02/18) and Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22).

**Yellow-bellied Prinia** *Prinia flaviventris*—common passerine in scrubby disturbed areas and edges of rice paddies. **Plain Prinia** *Prinia inornata*—another prinia of secondary habitats, observed regularly in the same disturbed habitats as the previous species.

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis*—heard (repeated metallic 'tick' notes) then seen at Nong Pla Lai rice paddies on two days (03/06 and 03/10); occurs from Spain all the way to northern Australia!

**Golden-headed Cisticola** *Cisticola exilis*—fantastic views of a perched individual in a patch of scrub at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22).

#### **REED WARBLERS: Acrocephalidae (3)**

Thick-billed Warbler Arundinax aedon—one at Nong Luang (02/25).

**Black-browed Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus bistrigiceps*—a smaller reed warbler; nice views through the pond's reeds at Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/09).

**Oriental Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus orientalis*—a larger reed warbler and not quite as secretive as the former; observed at at Doi Lo (02/18), Ban Pho Ngam (03/06), and and Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (03/06).

# **GRASSBIRDS AND ALLIES: Locustellidae (4)**

**Pallas's Grasshopper-Warbler** *Locustella certhiola*—after a short wait, we got great fleeting yet solid views of this secretive bird at the Doi Lo paddies (02/18).

Lanceolated Warbler Locustella lanceolata—views as good as it gets of this secretive bird at Nong Luang in Chiang Rai province (02/25). Migrates north to nest in the taiga boreal forest of Eurasia.

**Baikal Bush Warbler** *Locustella davidi*—brief but good views in dense grassy vegetation at Nong Luang in Chiang Rai province (02/25).

**Striated Grassbird** *Megalurus palustris*—the largest species in its family; observed daily in the agricultural areas of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai.

# **CUPWINGS: Pnoepygidae (1)**

**Pygmy Cupwing** *Pnoepyga pusilla*—it took some effort, but everyone in the group eventually got great views of this miniscule little forest sprite on the Ang Ka Summit Trail on Doi Inthanon (03/02 and 03/03).

# **SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (7)**

**Gray-throated Martin** *Riparia chinensis*—seen near the Rim Khong Restaurant on the banks of the Mekong River (02/25).

Bank Swallow Riparia riparia—about a dozen birds at Nong Pla Lai (03/10), just migrating through the area.

Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica—common and widespread, seen almost daily

Pacific Swallow Hirundo tahitica—seen on the boat ride to the Laem Phak Bia sandspit (03/05).

Wire-tailed Swallow Hirundo smithii—about a half-dozen birds at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22). The delicate tail wires are not always easy to see in the field.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*—observed at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Striated Swallow** *Cecropis striolata*—a few observed at the Pied Harrier Roost (02/24) and the Huai Ton Tueng Reservoir (03/03); the *Cecropis* swallows are quite a bit larger and bulkier than Barn Swallows with a much stiffer wingbeat.

#### **BULBULS: Pycnonotidae (16)**

Black-headed Bulbul Brachypodius atriceps—very common in and around Kaeng Krachan NP.

**Black-crested Bulbul** *Rubigula flaviventris*—common and widespread, although our best views by far were at the bird blinds near Baan Makka Nature Lodge (03/07).

**Crested Finchbill** *Spizixos canifrons*—very local and uncommon right along the Myanmar-Thai border; observed at the military camp at Doi Ang Khang (02/27) and Doi Lang (02/28).

**Striated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus striatus*—good views of this large and distinctive bulbul at the Doi Ang Khang army base (02/27).

**Red-whiskered Bulbul** *Pycnonotus jocosus*—common in disturbed habitats of northern Thailand.

**Brown-breasted Bulbul** *Pycnonotus xanthorrhous*—seen only in the vicinity of Myanmar-Thai border at Doi Ang Khang (02/27 and 03/01).

**Sooty-headed Bulbul** *Pycnonotus aurigaster*—very common in northern Thailand, although it was also common in the dry forest around Baan Maka Nature Lodge.

**Stripe-throated Bulbul** *Pycnonotus finlaysoni*—common in Kaeng Krachan NP and the nearby hides. Seen daily during our time there.

**Flavescent Bulbul** *Pycnonotus flavescens*—seen regularly in the montane forests of the north, including Doi Lang West (02/23), Doi Ang Khang military base (02/28), and the Chinese Cemetery (03/01).

**Yellow-vented Bulbul** *Pycnonotus goiavier*—singles at the Mae Ai rice paddies (02/23) and Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/06); this species is one of the most adaptable bulbuls to urban environments.

Streak-eared Bulbul Pycnonotus conradi—one of the most common bulbul species in Thailand.

**Ochraceous Bulbul** *Alophoixus ochraceus*—we saw this large bulbul at the Ban Krang Campground (03/08) and the stream crossing area (03/09) of Kaeng Krachan NP.

**Puff-throated Bulbul** *Alophoixus pallidus*—fantastic views of this huge bulbul at the Rang Bon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon (03/02). We really got to appreciate its size after seeing it with various other forest songbirds!

**Gray-eyed Bulbul** *Iole propinqua*—a single bird visiting the Rang Bon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon (03/02).

**Black Bulbul** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*—one individual at the Fang Hot Springs, feeding in a flowering tree (02/24); looks a bit like Madagascar Bulbul and belongs to the same genus.

**Mountain Bulbul** *Ixos mcclellandii*—we did not see this usually common species much on this year's tour: Doi Ang Khang Agricultural Project (02/27) and Doi Ang Khang (03/01).

# **LEAF WARBLERS: Phylloscopidae (16)**

**Ashy-throated Warbler** *Phylloscopus maculipennis*—observed only at the top of Doi Inthanon, along the Ang Ka Summit Trail boardwalk (03/03).

**Buff-barred Warbler** *Phylloscopus pulcher*—seen at the Ang Ka Summit Trail on the top of Doi Inthanon, feeding in Rhododendron bushes (03/03).

Yellow-browed Warbler Phylloscopus inornatus—seen by some at Doi Lang West (02/26).

**Hume's Warbler** *Phylloscopus humei*—one of the duller leaf warblers with wingbars; seen daily at Doi Lang and Doi Ang Khang (02/23, 02/27, and 02/28).

Chinese Leaf Warbler Phylloscopus yunnanensis—observed once at Doi Lang West (02/28).

Radde's Warbler Phylloscopus schwarzi—sightings at Doi Inthanon (03/02) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Yellow-streaked Warbler** *Phylloscopus armandii*—one individual at Mae Ping NP (02/18). **\*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\* Dusky Warbler** *Phylloscopus fuscatus*—we saw this unmarked, bland leaf warbler at Doi Lo paddies (02/18), Chiang Rai (02/25), and the Huai Ton Tueng Reservoir (03/03).

Buff-throated Warbler Phylloscopus subaffinis—one individual observed at Doi Lang West (02/23).

Martens's Warbler *Phylloscopus omeiensis*—a more colorful, bright yellow leaf warbler with distinctive head stripes; observed only once at Doi Lang West (02/23).

Greenish Warbler Phylloscopus trochiloides—seen at the Thung Kik campground of Mae Ping (02/19).

**Two-barred Warbler** *Phylloscopus plumbeitarsus*—seen in the Ban Krang Campground of Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

**Sulphur-breasted Warbler** *Phylloscopus ricketti*—we saw this colorful leaf warbler twice: once at the Ban Krang Campground (03/08) and again at the stream crossing area (03/09) of Kaeng Krachan NP.

**Blyth's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus reguloides*—observed (and photographed!) at the top of Doi Inthanon on the Ang Ka Summit Trail (03/03).

Claudia's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus claudiae*—seen at Doi Lang West (02/22) and Ban Krang Campground of Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

**Davison's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus intensior*—numerous at Doi Lang West and Doi Ang Khang, where we saw it on all of our visits.

#### **BUSH WARBLERS: Scotocercidae (4)**

**Slaty-bellied Tesia** *Tesia olivea*—spectacular bird of the forest understory with a lime green cap. We saw this nervous bundle of energy at Doi Inthanon NP (03/02 and 03/03).

**Yellow-bellied Warbler** *Abroscopus superciliaris*—a pair of these attractive 'warblers' were foraging in a small feeding flock in the upper elevation area of Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

**Mountain Tailorbird** *Phyllergates cucullatus*—seen well on the edge of the Ang Ka Summit Trail at Doi Inthanon (03/03); not related to the other tailorbirds, which belong in the same family as prinias and cisticolas.

Aberrant Bush Warbler Horornis flavolivaceus (HO)—heard in very dense fern thickets at Doi Lang West (02/23).

# **BUSHTITS: Aegithalidae (1)**

**Black-throated Tit** *Aegithalos concinnus*—tiny and colorful relative of the Bushtit of North America but much more solitary; two seen at Doi Lang West on our last visit there (02/28).

# PARROTBILLS: Paradoxornithidae (3)

**Yellow-eyed Babbler** *Chrysomma sinense*—lovely views of this charismatic species at the Doi Lo paddies (02/18). **\*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*** 

**Spot-breasted Parrotbill** *Paradoxornis guttaticollis*—Seen at the Doi Ang Khang military base (02/27) and the Chinese Cemetery (03/01)! The family relations of parrotbills are a bit of a 'paradox.'

**Gray-headed Parrotbill** *Psittiparus gularis*—we encountered an impressive feeding flock of about a dozen fast moving birds at Doi Lang West (02/23 and 02/28).

#### WHITE-EYES: Zosteropidae (2)

**Chestnut-flanked White-eye** *Zosterops erythropleurus*—many observed feeding in a flowering tree outside the Mae Fa Luang Arboretum (02/26).

Indian White-eye Zosterops palpebrosus—seen well in a flowering bottlebrush at Doi Ang Khang Royal Agricultural Project (02/27). We also saw a few birds at the Chinese Cemetery (03/01) and the Mae Ouam Trail of Doi Inthanon (03/02).

#### **BABBLERS: Timaliidae (8)**

Chestnut-capped Babbler *Timalia pileata*—very handsome babbler seen at Doi Lo (02/18) and the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22).

Pin-striped Tit-Babbler Mixornis gularis—common at Kaeng Krachan NP, where we saw it daily.

Golden Babbler Cyanoderma chrysaeum—observed at Doi Lang West in a mixed feeding flock (02/23).

**Rufous-fronted Babbler** *Cyanoderma rufifrons*—our best views were at the Dab Toon hide just outside Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

White-browed Scimitar-Babbler Pomatorhinus schisticeps—seen at Doi Lang West (02/23) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08). The scimitar-babblers vaguely resemble thrashers but are far more social.

Large Scimitar-Babbler Megapomatorhinus hypoleucos—two birds came down at the Dab Toon hide outside Kaeng Krachan NP for excellent views (03/07); a true giant among the scimitar-babblers we saw

**Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler** *Megapomatorhinus erythrogenys*—observed at Doi Lang West (02/28) and the Chinese Cemetery on Doi Ang Khang (03/01).

Gray-throated Babbler Stachyris nigriceps—one visited the feeding station at Rang Bon Doi hide (03/02).

# **GROUND BABBLERS: Pellorneidae (4)**

**Rufous-winged Fulvetta** *Schoeniparus castaneceps*—quite common at the summit of Doi Inthanon (03/02 and 03/03), where it creeps along nuthatch-like around moss laden branches in small flocks.

**Puff-throated Babbler** *Pellorneum ruficeps*—seen well at the Mae Fa Luang Arboretum (02/26) and Dab Toon's hide near Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Buff-breasted Babbler** *Pellorneum tickelli*—great views of several very friendly individuals at the Rang Bon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon (03/02).

**Streaked Wren-Babbler** *Turdinus brevicaudatus*—nice views behind the main building at the Doi Ang Khang Royal Agricultural Project (02/27).

#### LAUGHINGTHRUSHES AND ALLIES: Leiothrichidae (15)

**Brown-cheeked Fulvetta** *Alcippe poioicephala*—sociable little brown birds that visited both the Rang Pon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon (03/02) and Dab Toon hide near Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Yunnan Fulvetta** *Alcippe fratercula*—common pudgy round birds at Doi Lang West, where we encountered small feeding flocks on several visits.

**Himalayan Cutia** *Cutia nipalensis*—we saw this uncommon, unique, and colorful bird in a large mixed feeding flock at Doi Lang West (02/23).

**Silver-eared Laughingthrush** *Trochalopteron melanostigma*—common at feeding stations around Doi Lang West (02/28) and the cafe at Doi Inthanon (summit) (03/02 and 03/03).

**Black-backed Sibia** *Heterophasia melanoleuca*—common at Doi Lang West and the Ang Ka Summit Trail on Doi Inthanon, much more arboreal than the laughingthrushes.

**Blue-winged Minla** *Actinodura cyanouroptera*—common member of mixed feeding flocks on Doi Lang and Doi Ang Khang. Due to their habit of feeding high in the trees, the blue in the wings is not always easy to appreciate. **Chestnut-tailed Minla** *Actinodura strigula*—sounds a bit redundant, but another pretty one! Laughingthrushes are just such a smart, varied, and colorful bird family in the Asian tropics. We saw this one at the summit of Doi Inthanon on both visits (03/02 and 03/03).

**Spectacled Barwing** *Actinodura ramsayi*—seem at Doi Lang West (02/23) and the Mae Ouam Trail of Doi Inthanon NP (03/02). Like the sibias, the barwings are much more arboreal than their laughingthrush relatives.

**Silver-eared Mesia** *Leiothrix argentauris*—exquisitely colored small laughingthrush that was delightfully common at the Royal Agricultural Project on Doi Ang Khang (02/27). We also saw a few on Doi Inthanon (03/02).

Rufous-backed Sibia Leioptila annectens—seen only a couple times at Doi Lang West (02/23).

**Scarlet-faced Liocichla** *Liocichla ripponi*—another gorgeous laughingthrush, seen well at a feeding station at Doi Lang West (02/28).

**Lesser Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Garrulax monileger*—great views on the grounds of Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/06) and the Dab Toon hide near Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

White-crested Laughingthrush Garrulax leucolophus—very handsome and lively laughingthrushes with brilliant white crests and a bandit mask; nice views at Mae Ping NP (02/18 and 02/19) and the Inthanon Highland Resort grounds (03/01).

White-browed Laughingthrush *Pterorhinus sannio*—secretive and elusive, although we managed to get reasonable views after some effort at the Chinese Cemetery on Doi Ang Khang (03/01).

**Greater Necklaced Laughingthrush** *Pterorhinus pectoralis*—we saw these sociable and boisterous birds really well at the Dab Toon hide (03/07), where we got to enjoy them at length.

#### **NUTHATCHES: Sittidae (4)**

**Burmese Nuthatch** *Sitta neglecta*—highly local inhabitant of dry dipterocarp forest in Thailand. We saw this charming bird a couple times at Mae Ping NP (02/18 and 02/19). \*\*EXTENSION ONLY\*\*

**Chestnut-vented Nuthatch** *Sitta nagaensis*—common participant in feeding flocks of montane forests in the north, such as Doi Lang and Doi Ang Khang.

**Velvet-fronted Nuthatch** *Sitta frontalis*—observed at Mae Ping NP (2/18) and Doi Lang West (02/22 and 02/23); the most widespread tropical Asian nuthatch, distinctive due to its blue plumage and reddish bill.

**Giant Nuthatch** Sitta magna—a true giant among nuthatches at about the size of a starling! Observed at Doi Lang (02/22) and Doi Ang Khang (02/27). **ENDANGERED** due to deforestation and increasing fragmentation of available habitat.

#### TREECREEPERS: Certhiidae (1)

**Hume's Treecreeper** *Certhia manipurensis*—a very close relative of the Brown Creeper of North America, with a similar habit of spiraling up trees like a brown mouse. Seen well at Doi Lang West (02/22) and the Mae Ouam Trail of Doi Inthanon NP (03/03).

#### **STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae (7)**

**Golden-crested Myna** *Ampeliceps coronatus*—a lowland species of the tree canopy, observed on one morning at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

**Common Hill Myna** *Gracula religiosa*—a pair nesting right by the road at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/08); the subspecies here sounds quite different from the introduced population in South Florida.

**Black-collared Starling** *Gracupica nigricollis*—a common, terrestrial starling of agricultural areas in northern Thailand.

**Siamese Pied Starling** *Gracupica floweri*—a recent split from the former Asian Pied Starling. Very common and widespread throughout Thailand in agricultural areas and secondary growth.

Chestnut-tailed Starling Sturnia malabarica—large flocks crowding around flowering coral trees at Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22), Fang Hot Springs (02/24), and Non Bong Khai Non-hunting Area (02/25). This species has a penchant for the nectar of this tree.

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres tristis*—common and widespread.

**Great Myna** Acridotheres grandis—common and widespread.

# **THRUSHES: Turdidae (7)**

**Dark-sided Thrush** *Zoothera marginata*—quite a bill on this thrush! Seen on the Ang Ka boardwalk at Doi Inthanon (03/02).

White's Thrush Zoothera aurea—seen by some near our lunch stop on Doi Inthanon. Unfortunately, this skittish thrush species did not cooperate for views for most of the group (03/03).

**Scaly Thrush** *Zoothera dauma*— one behind the little café at Doi Ang Khan Royal Agricultural Project (02/27). **Orange-headed Thrush** *Geokichla citrina*—we saw this colorful thrush sitting on the road for quite some time in the stream crossing area of Kaeng Krachan NP (03/09).

**Black-breasted Thrush** *Turdus dissimilis*—seen in good numbers this year at Mae Fa Luang Arboretum (02/26), Doi Ang Khang Royal Agricultural Project (02/27), and Wat Phra That (03/01).

**Gray-sided Thrush** *Turdus feae*—several feeding in a fruiting tree at the summit of Doi Inthanon (03/02 and (03/03) offered great views.

**Eyebrowed Thrush** *Turdus obscurus*—seen at the Doi Ang Khang military base on the Burmese border (02/27) and our café lunch stop on Doi Inthanon NP (03/02).

#### **OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS AND CHATS: Muscicapidae (35)**

Asian Brown Flycatcher Muscicapa dauurica—seen at Inthanon Highland Resort (03/01), Kaeng Krachan NP's Ban Krang Campground (03/08), and Baan Maka Nature Lodge (03/09) — a rather plain migratory flycatcher that breeds in northern China, Japan, and the Russian taiga; unlike the flycatchers of the Americas, the Old World Flycatchers cluster together with the thrushes and often have musical songs.

**Oriental Magpie-Robin** *Copsychus saularis*—one of the most common garden birds in Thailand, seen throughout in towns and agricultural areas.

**White-rumped Shama** *Copsychus malabaricus*—this lovely songster was common in Kaeng Krachan NP; another classic and widespread species of tropical Asia.

White-gorgeted Flycatcher Anthipes monileger—we saw these cute little flycatchers at a stakeout on Doi Inthanon (03/02); found only in the Himalayas and mountains of northern southeast Asia.

Hainan Blue Flycatcher Cyornis hainanus—these blue-and-white flycatchers were seen only on the edge of the Ban Krang Campground in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08); despite the name, these birds occur across much of mainland southeast Asia, as well as Hainan. Blue flycatchers of the genus Cyornis are a diverse and important component of the tropical Asian avifauna from India to Indonesia.

**Pale Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis unicolor*—heard singing in the canopy of a large tree at Doi Lang, giving us a little trouble but we eventually located it (02/23 and 02/28).

**Chinese Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis glaucicomans*—a male at the Ban Krang Campground was our only one of the trip (03/08).

Hill Blue Flycatcher Cyornis banyumas—seen at Doi Lang West (02/23) and Doi Inthanon NP (03/02).

**Indochinese Blue Flycatcher** *Cyornis sumatrensis*—seen at several sites in and around Kaeng Krachan NP, including the Dab Toon hide (03/07, 03/08, and 03/09).

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*—seen at Wat Phra That on Doi Ang Khang (03/01) and the Mae Ouam Trail on Doi Inthanon (03/02); spectacular blue color when the sun hits it just right!

**Rufous-bellied Niltava** *Niltava sundara*—both male and female performed beautifully at Doi Lang West, where we saw them at length on each of our visits (03/22, 03/23, 03/28).

**Blue-and-white Flycatcher** *Cyanoptila cyanomelana*—great scope views of this scarce migrant at the KM 9 marker in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07). The color scheme is reminiscent of North America's Black-throated Blue Warbler.

**Verditer Flycatcher** *Eumyias thalassinus*—quite common in a variety of wooded habitats across the length of our route. This pretty blue flycatcher behaves a bit like a pewee, often sallying from a prominent perch.

White-browed Shortwing Brachypteryx montana—seen in the understory on the Ang Ka Summit Trail (03/02 and 03/03), as well as a stakeout in the forest on the Mae Ouam Trail; the white eyebrows literally glowed as it worked the dark understory.

**Siberian Blue Robin** *Larvivora cyane*—unfortunately, we only saw a couple lingering females on our tour: Rang Bon Doi hide (03/02) and Dab Toon hide (03/07). This species has a diagnostic tail quivering behavior.

White-bellied Redstart Luscinia phaenicuroides—a single male at a stakeout on Doi Lang West (02/23); this 'redstart' is actually related to the European Nightingale.

Blue Whistling-Thrush Myophonus caeruleus—a massive, very thrush-like 'flycatcher' that was quite common in the northern highlands, and there was also a bird frequenting Baan Maka Nature Lodge. We observed both the yellow-billed (flavirostris) and black-billed (caeruleus) subspecies.

**Slaty-backed Forktail** *Enicurus schistaceus*—beautiful and elegant 'flycatcher' of forest streams, seen well at the stream near the Rong Fai Fa Ban Khun Klang Restaurant (03/02).

**Siberian Rubythroat** *Calliope*—beautiful male in a line of scrubby vegetation at Ton Maphrao in the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies area of Phetchaburi province (03/06).

White-tailed Robin Myiomela leucura—seen at the Mae Fa Luang Arboretum (02/26) and the Rang Bon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon NP (03/02).

Himalayan Bluetail Tarsiger rufilatus—seen once at the Mae Fa Luang Arboretum (02/26).

**Slaty-backed Flycatcher** *Ficedula sordida*—seen a couple times at Doi Lang West (02/23 and 02/28), usually sticking higher up in the trees than the other small flycatcher species.

**Slaty-blue Flycatcher** *Ficedula tricolor*—great views of an obliging pair at Doi Lang West on both visits (02/22 and 02/23).

**Snowy-browed Flycatcher** *Ficedula hyperthyra*—after looping around the Ang Ka boardwalk a couple times, everyone finally got great views of this usually confiding highland flycatcher (03/03).

**Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher** *Ficedula strophiata*—very cooperative male at Doi Lang West (02/22, 02/23, and 02/28); different color scheme from the primarily blue flycatchers, being primarily black and silver.

**Sapphire Flycatcher** *Ficedula sapphira*—seen by some at Doi Lang West (02/23).

**Little Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula westermanni*—we saw this cute little flycatcher at Doi Lang West (02/23), Fang Hot Springs (02/24), and the Mae Ouam Trail on Doi Inthanon (03/03).

**Ultramarine Flycatcher** *Ficedula superciliaris*—we saw this especially beautiful flycatcher at Doi Lang West a couple times (02/23 and 02/28).

**Taiga Flycatcher** *Ficedula albicilla*—one of the most common wintering flycatchers in Thailand, at scattered sites throughout the tour but especially common at Kaeng Krachan NP.

White-capped Redstart Phoenicurus leucocephalus—a specialist of fast flowing rivers; seen at the stream running by the little restaurant on Doi Inthanon before our lunch break (03/02).

**Daurian Redstart** *Phoenicurus auroreus*—sightings at Doi Ang Khang military camp (02/27) and the Chinese Cemetery (03/01).

Blue Rock-Thrush Monticola solitarius—seen well at Fang Hot Springs (02/24).

Amur Stonechat Saxicola stejnegeri—common in agricultural areas throughout Thailand.

**Pied Bushchat** *Saxicola caprata*—we saw this striking little flycatcher in scrubby vegetation and edge habitats at Doi Noi (02/18), Mae Ping (02/20 and 02/22), and Chiang Rai (02/25).

**Gray Bushchat** *Saxicola ferreus*—seen daily around at Doi Lang West, always in scrubby edge habitats.

#### FLOWERPECKERS: Dicaeidae (3)

**Thick-billed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum agile*—one in the campground at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08), a quite drab member of this family.

**Fire-breasted Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum ignipectus*—observed only once on the trip, Doi Inthanon NP (03/02). **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker** *Dicaeum cruentatum*—seen sporadically throughout; the most adaptable flowerpecker to disturbance and urbanization. Flowerpeckers are distant cousins of the sunbirds and specialize on eating the berries of parasitic mistletoe.

# **SUNBIRDS: Nectariniidae (10)**

**Ruby-cheeked Sunbird** *Chalcoparia singalensis*—male seen at the Ban Krang Campground in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

**Brown-throated Sunbird** *Anthreptes malacensis*—a male at the Ton Maphrao paddies at Nong Pla Lai in Phetchaburi province (03/06).

**Purple Sunbird** *Cinnyris asiaticus*—we had good luck with this species this year, seeing it at Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22), Chiang Rai (02/25), Inthanon Highland Resort (03/01), and the Parakeet Conservation Area (03/04).

**Olive-backed Sunbird** *Cinnyris jugularis*—we saw this most widespread Asian sunbird at Mae Ping NP (02/18), Inthanon Highland Resort (03/01), and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/09).

**Black-throated Sunbird** *Aethopyga saturata*—sightings at Doi Lang West (02/28) and Doi Inthanon NP (03/03). **Mrs. Gould's Sunbird** *Aethopyga gouldiae*—arguably, the prettiest of the sunbirds found regularly in Thailand; we had excellent views at the Doi Ang Khang Royal Agricultural Project (02/27) and the summit of Doi Inthanon (03/03).

**Green-tailed Sunbird** *Aethopyga nipalensis*—seen well at the summit of Doi Inthanon (03/02 and 03/03), feeding on nectar from the various plants in flower there. The subspecies we saw on this trip is endemic to Doi Inthanon (angkanensis).

**Crimson Sunbird** *Aethopyga siparaja*—observed at Kaeng Krachan NP on two days (03/08 and 03/09). **Little Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera longirostra*—our best views were at the Rang Bon Doi hide on Doi Inthanon (03/02).

**Streaked Spiderhunter** *Arachnothera magna*—this gigantic sunbird gave us quite the show at the Rang Bon Doi hide (03/02), where the size difference was very noticeable from the much smaller Little Spiderhunter (which is actually large compared to the other sunbirds).

#### FAIRY-BLUEBIRDS: Irenidae (1)

**Asian Fairy-Bluebird** *Irena puella*—we enjoyed our best views on the edge of the Ban Krang Campground at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08), where a male and female were associating with a slow moving mixed feeding flock.

#### **LEAFBIRDS: Chloropseide (3)**

**Blue-winged Leafbird** *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*—common songbird at Mae Ping NP and Kaeng Krachan NP; the leafbird family is endemic to tropical Asia

**Golden-fronted Leafbird** *Chloropsis aurifrons*—we had good luck with this species this year, seeing it at Mae Ping NP (02/19), Fang Hot Springs (02/24), the Parakeet Conservation Area (03/04), and the Ban Krang Campground in Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

**Orange-bellied Leafbird** *Chloropsis hardwickii*—seen at the Mae Fa Luang Arboretum (02/26) and the Royal Agricultural Project on Doi Ang Khang (02/27).

#### **WEAVERS: Ploceidae (3)**

**Streaked Weaver** *Ploceus manyar*—seen at rice paddies at Nong Pla Lai, including at least one or two males in full breeding plumage (03/10). This is mostly an African family with a handful of species in tropical Asia.

Baya Weaver Ploceus philippinus—very common in the agricultural fields at Nong Pla Lai (03/06 and 03/10).

**Asian Golden Weaver** *Ploceus hypoxanthus*—the most numerous weaver on our trip, with good numbers at Nong Pla Lai on two days (03/06 and 03/10).

# **WAXBILLS AND MUNIAS: Estrildidae (3)**

**Scaly-breasted Munia** *Lonchura punctulata*—very common in agricultural and disturbed areas throughout our tour route.

White-rumped Munia Lonchura striata—seen nesting at the Golden Triangle near the Burmese border (02/24). Red Avadavat Amandava amandava—at least eight or so female-type birds at the Doi Lo paddies (02/18).

# **OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (3)**

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*—common and increasing in Thailand, represented by subspecies *indicus*. **Plain-backed Sparrow** *Passer flaveolus*—nothing plain about these beauties! Good views at Baan Maka Nature Lodge near Kaeng Krachan NP (03/06).

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*—common and widespread.

# PIPITS AND WAGTAILS: Motacillidae (9)

**Forest Wagtail** *Dendronanthus indicus*—seen by one vehicle while driving down from the upper elevations of Kaeng Krachan NP.

**Gray Wagtail** *Motacilla cinerea*—common near flowing water; a winter resident in Thailand.

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutschensis*—very common in rice paddies, with several dozen in a rice paddy at Nong Pla Lai alone (03/06).

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*—nice views at Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22) and the Pied Harrier Roost (02/24).

White Wagtail Motacilla alba—seen frequently in agricultural areas of northern Thailand.

Richard's Pipit Anthus richardi—one at the Mae Ai paddies (02/23).

Paddyfield Pipit Anthus rufulus—one at the Mae Taeng Irrigation Project (02/22).

Olive-backed Pipit Anthus hodgsoni—a winter resident in Thailand of forest edges and open forest; small numbers at the Ban Krang Campground (03/08) and Doi Lang West (02/28).

**Red-throated Pipit** Anthus cervinus—one seen while birding the Nong Pla Lai rice paddies (02/06).

#### FINCHES: Fringillidae (2)

**Spot-winged Grosbeak** *Mycerobas melanozanthos*—resident across the Himalayas and mountains of southern China/Indochina; a great flock behind the faux geyser at Fang (02/24).

**Common Rosefinch** Carpodacus erythrinus—a male seen near some dying bamboo on our way down from Doi Lang West (02/28) and two more at the Chinese Cemetery on Doi Ang Khang (03/01); very similar in appearance to our House Finch.

# **OLD WORLD BUNTINGS: Emberizidae (2)**

**Yellow-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza aureola*—rapidly declining species which nests in Russia and winters in southeast Asia; heavily hunted for food on migration in China. Over a 100 in the Tan Maphrao rice paddies of Nong Pla Lai (03/06). **CRITICALLY ENDANGERED** 

**Chestnut Bunting** *Emberiza rutila*—seen across the Chinese cemetery at Doi Ang Khang (03/01) – a lucky find!

# MAMMALS (17 species recorded):

#### TREESHREWS: Scandentia (1)

**Northern Treeshrew** *Tupaia belangeri*—seen at the hides near Baan Makka Nature Lodge and the grounds of the lodge itself; the ears are remarkably human-like!

#### **BATS: Chiroptera (1)**

Lyle's Flying Fox Pteropus lylei—seen while birding around Pak Thale (03/05).

#### **RODENTS: Rodentia (6)**

Pallas's Squirrel Callosciurus erythraeus

Gray-bellied Squirrel Callosciurus caniceps—the common squirrel at Kaeng Krachan NP and surrounds.

**Finlayson's Squirrel** *Callosciurus finlaysonii*—seen several times on Doi Inthanon. Sometimes known as Variable Squirrel, but a species in Central America already shares that name.

**Himalayan Striped Squirrel** *Tamiops mcclellandii*—common chipmunk-like species seen on most days of the trip. **Black Giant Squirrel** *Ratufa bicolor*—great views of this truly gigantic squirrel on all visits to Kaeng Krachan NP. **Asian Red-cheeked Squirrel** *Dremomys rufigenis*—a very uncommon squirrel, seen only on the Ang Ka boardwalk on Doi Inthanon (03/02 and 03/03).

# PRIMATES: Primates (4)

**Dusky Leaf Monkey** *Trachypithecus obscurus*—seen daily during our visits to Kaeng Krachan NP, where it is one of the most visible diurnal mammals.

Crab-eating Macaque Macaca fascicularis—roadside sightings in the lowlands around Petchaburi (03/06).

Stump-tailed Macaque Macaca arctoides—family group at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/09).

**Lar Gibbon** *Hylobates lar*—nice scope views (and the call is perhaps one of the most evocative of tropical Asian forests) at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07 and 03/09).

#### **ELEPHANTS: Proboscidea (1)**

**Asian Elephant** *Elaphas maximus*—what great fortune to see this majestic animal at Kaeng Krachan, the mammal highlight of the tour (03/09).

# **EVEN-TOED UNGULATES AND CETACEANS: Artiodactyla (3)**

Northern Red Muntjac Muntiacus vaginalis—seen at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07). Eld's Deer Rucervus eldii—seen at Mae Ping NP (02/20). This deer species is Endangered. Sambar Deer Rusa unicolor—seen at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/07).

#### **CARNIVORANS: Carnivora (1)**

Javan Mongoose Urva javanica—seen once at Mae Ping NP (02/19).

# REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (5 species recorded):

# Emma Gray's Forest Lizard Calotes emma

Flat-tailed House Gecko Hemidactylus platyurus—heard and seen often throughout the tour.

**Tokay Gecko** *Gekko gecko*—seen once around the cabins at Baan Makka Nature Lodge and heard on many other occasions.

**Common Water Monitor (Lizard)** *Varanus salvator*—seen at both Pak Thale (03/05) and Kaeng Krachan NP (03/09). A large and powerful reptilian predator and scavenger, second only to the Komodo Dragon in body mass among lizards.

Barred Flying Dragon Draco taeniopterus—seen once at Kaeng Krachan NP (03/08).

# BUTTERFLIES (only a few of the ones we saw):

Common Windmill Byasa polyeuctes
Yellow Orange Tip Ixias pyrene
Common Nawab Polyura athamas
Common Bluebottle Graphium sarpedon
Dark Blue Tiger Tirumala septentrionis
Tailed Judy Abisara neophron

Common Sailer Neptis hylas Cruiser Vindula erota Common Lascar Pantoporia hordonia False Tiger Moth Dysphania militaris

# PLANTS (significant or unique species):

Coelogyne corymbosa—lovely epiphytic orchid growing on the Ang Ka Summit Trail on Doi Inthanon. Otochilus porrectus—the small white orchid growing alongside the previous species on the summit of Doi Inthanon.

Dendrobium lindleyi—the lovely yellow orchid we often saw growing on trees.

**Coral Tree** *Erythrina sp*—the red flowering tree that birds were always swarming around for nectar *Rhododendron veitchianum*—the white-colored rhododendron growing on the Ang Ka Summi Trail.

**Tree Rhododendron** *Rhododendron arboreum*—the red-colored rhododendron growing on the Ang Ka Summit Trail.

Sapria ram—a parasitic flower that is a close cousin of the Rafflesia, the world's largest flower.