VERDITER FLYCATCHER Muscicapa thalassina: several 24 April 1986; one on 26 April 1987.

GREY-HEADED FLYCATCHER Culicicapa ceylonensis: 1–5 most days.

BLACK-THROATED TIT Aegithalos concinnus: 3–10 most days.


[GREATER TIT Parus major: 1 on 26 April 1987 between Mabian and Huang Nian Shan.]

GREEN-BACKED TIT Parus monticolus: 6–20 daily.

YELLOW-CHEEKED TIT Parus spilonotus: 2 on 29 April 1987.


WHITE-EYE sp. Zosterops (japonicus?): flock of unidentified white-eyes heard 29 April–1 May.

RUSSET SPARROW Passer rutilans: several near and at Huang Nian Shan in roadside scrub and tree farm areas on 24 April and one on 7 May 1986.

EURASIAN TREE-SPARROW Passer montanus: near settlements between Mabian and Huang Nian Shan.

GREY-CAPPED GREENFINCH Carduelis sinica: common in the tree farm and settlements.

BLACK-HEADED GREENFINCH Carduelis ambituca: 1 male at western (tree farm) edge of Huang Nian Shan on 24 April 1986.


LITTLE BUNTING Emberiza pusilla: several on 24 April 1986 and four on 26 April 1987 in secondary scrub and tree farm.


BLACK-FACED BUNTING Emberiza spodocephala: several in second-growth and tree farm areas on 24 April 1986.

REFERENCE


B. King, c/o Bird Department, American Museum of Natural History, Central Park West at 79th Street, New York, NY 10024–5192, U.S.A.
Square brackets signify uncertain identification, or records outside the locality in question.

**ANNOTATED LIST**

**EURASIAN SPARROWHAWK** *Accipiter nisus*: singles at 1,000 m on 25 April and 1,200 m on 27 April; single accipiters probably this species at 1,900 m on 28 April, 2,200 m on 4 May, and 1,500 m on 6 May.

**COMMON BUZZARD** *Buteo buteo*: three at 2,500 m on 2 May.

**GOLDEN EAGLE** *Aquila chrysaetos*: one at 2,500 m on 2 May.

**NORTHERN HOBBY** *Falco subbuteo*: one at 2,500 m on 2 May.

**TEMMINCK’S TRAGOPAN** *Tragopan temminckii*: fairly common 1,500–2,500 m.

**LADY AMHERST’S PHEASANT** *Chrysolophus amherstiae*: common 1,000–1,500 m in secondary scrub.

[**WEDGE-TAILED PIGEON** *Treron sphena*: two birds, believed to be this species, heard on 28 April at 1,800 m.]

**ORIENTAL TURTLE-DOVE** *Streptopelia orientalis*: fairly common up to 1,300 m.

**LARGE HAWK-CUCKOO** *Cuculus sparverioides*: fairly common 1,500–2,500 m.

**ORIENTAL CUCKOO** *Cuculus saturatus*: fairly common 1,500–2,500 m.

**ORIENTAL SCOPS-OWL** *Otus sunia*: common 1,500–1,800 m.

**COLLARED OWLET** *Glaucidium brodiei*: one at 2,400 m on 2 and 4 May.

**ASIAN BARRED OWLET** *Glaucidium cuculoides*: one at 1,800 m on 1 May.

**TAWNY OWL** *Strix aluco*: one heard on 2 May and two heard on 3 May at 2,500 m.

**GREY NIGHTJAR** *Caprimulgus indicus*: fairly common at 2,500 m, 1–4 May.

**FORK-TAILED SWIFT** *Apus pacificus*: eight at 2,200 m on 4 May.

**GREAT SPOTTED WOODPECKER** *Picos major*: one at 1,900 m on 28 April and one at 2,400 m on 2 and 4 May.

**DARJEELING WOODPECKER** *Picos darjellenis*: two at 2,200 m on 1 May.

**CRIMSON-BREASTED WOODPECKER** *Picos caithpharius*: 2–4 daily, 2,400–2,500 m, 2–4 May.

**BAY WOODPECKER** *Blythipicus pyrrohitis*: one at 1,300 m, 26 April; one at 2,000 m, 1 May; one at 2,400 m, 4 May.

**HUME’S SHORT-TOED LARK** *Calandrella acutirostris*: one at 2,500 m on 2 May on a grassy knoll.

**BARN SWALLOW** *Hirundo rustica*: one at 2,500 m on 3 May.

**ASIAN HOUSE-MARTIN** *Delichon dasypus*: 50 at 1,100 m on 26 April.

**GREY WAGTAIL** *Motacilla cinerea*: several along river at 1,100 m on 27 April and 6 May.

**WHITE WAGTAIL** *Motacilla alba*: common in cultivated areas surrounding Defengding on 25 April and 6 May.

**OLIVE TREE-PIPIT** *Anthus hodgsoni*: several at 1,800 m on 27 and 28 April and one on 5 May.

**ROSY PIPIT** *Anthus roseatus*: common 1,800–2,800 m, 27 April–5 May.

**BLACK-WINGED CUCKOO-SHRIKE** *Coracina melanochistos*: one at 1,800 m on 29 April.

[**BROWN-RUMPED MINIVET** *Pericrocotus cantonensis*: two believed to be this species at 1,000 m on 6 May (could have been *P. diverticatus*), in scattered trees amidst cultivation.]

**LONG-TAILED MINIVET** *Pericrocotus eithologus*: common 1,000–2,600 m, 25 April–5 May.

**MOUNTAIN BULBUL** *Hypsipetes mclellandii*: two at 1,200 m on 2 May, in secondary scrub near village.

**BLACK BULBUL** *Hypsipetes leucocephalus*: one at 1,300 m on 7 May.

[**BLACK DRONGO** *Dicrurus macrocercus*: a loose migratory flock of about 30 in the river valley near Mabian on 25 April and five on 6 May in same area.]

**HAIR-CRESTED DRONGO** *Dicrurus hotteniottus*: one at 1,100 m on 25 April.

**EURASIAN JAY** *Garrulus glandarius*: one at 1,800 m on 30 April and 1 May.

**BLUE MAGPIE** *Urocissa erythrorhyncha*: fairly common in cultivated areas 900–1,300 m.

**BLACK-BILLED MAGPIE** *Pica pica*: fairly common around cultivated areas up to 1,300 m.

**EURASIAN NUTCRACKER** *Nucifraga caryocatactes*: one or two daily, 1,800–2,600 m, 28 April–4 May.

**LARGE-BILLED CROW** *Corvus macrorhynchos*: a few daily up to 2,800 m, 25 April–6 May.
[BROWN DIPPER Cinclus pallasii: one on 25 April and four on 6 May on river outside Dafengding.]

RUFOUS-BREASTED ACCENTOR Prunella strophiata: one at 2,300 m on 1, 2, and 4 May.

MAROON-BACKED ACCENTOR Prunella immaculata: four at 1,800 m on 29 April.

INDIAN BLUE ROBIN Erithacus brunneus: one at 1,800 m on 1 May.

ORANGE-FLANKED BUSH-ROBIN Tarsiger cyanurus: one at 2,400 m on 3 May.

WHITE-BROWED BUSH-ROBIN Tarsiger indicus: 2–5 daily, 2,400–2,500 m, 1–4 May.

PLUMBEOUS REDSTART Rhyacornis fuliginosus: common along streams up to 1,100 m.

BLUE-FRONTED ROBIN Cincilium frontale: one seen and four others heard 2,100–2,300 m on 4 May. The bird we saw responded strongly to tape playback, behaving territorially suggesting breeding. This is apparently only the second record for this species in China, the only other record being also from south-central Sichuan.

SLATY-BACKED FORKTAILE Enicurus schistaceus: one or two along river at 1,100 m, 25–26 April and 6 May.

SPOTTED FORKTAIL Enicurus maculatus: two at 1,100 m on 26/27 April.

PURPLE COCHOA Cochoa purpurea: two heard on 28 April and one heard on 1 May at 1,800 m; one heard at 2,300 m on 4 May.

STONECHAT Saxicola torquata: one at 1,800 m, 1 May.

RIVER CHAT Chaimarrornis leucocophalus: fairly common along river and streams up to 1,100 m.

[BLUE ROADTHRUSH Monticola solitarius: common along river and cliffs at 700–900 m near Dafengding, 25 April and 6 May.]

SCALY THRUSH Zoothera dauma: one heard on 28 April and two heard on 1 May at 1,800 m.

STREAK-BREASTED SCIMITAR-BABBLER Pomatorhinus ruficollis: 1–5 daily, 27 April–1 May, and 4 May, 1,800–2,000 m.

SCALY-BREASTED WREN-BABBLER Pnoepyga albiventris: 1–10 daily, 2,300–2,600 m, 1–4 May.

PYGMY WREN-BABBLER Pnoepyga pusilla: 1–5 daily, 1,700–1,900 m, 27 April–1 May and 4–5 May.

RUFOUS-CAPPED BABBLER Stachyris ruficeps: fairly common at 1,100 m, 26–27 April.

CHINESE BABAX Babax lanceolatus: five at 1,500 m, 6 May.

SPOTTED LAUGHINGTHROUGH Garrulax occlusus: 1–4 daily, 1,500–2,500 m, 1–6 May.

BLACK-FACED LAUGHINGTHROUGH Garrulax affinis: four on 2 May at 2,400 m.

RED-BILLED LEIOTHRIX Leiothrix lutea: common 1,100–1,800 m, 26 April–1 May and 6 May.

WHITE-BROWED SHRIKE-BABBLER Pteruthius flavicapsis: one on 30 April and five on 1 May at 1,800 m, two at 2,000 m on 4 May.

RED-TAILED MINLA Minla ignotincta: fairly common 1,700–1,900 m, 27–30 April and 4–5 May (2–10 daily).

GOLDEN-BREASTED FULVETTA Alcippe chrysotis: one daily 2,300–2,400 m, 1–3 May.

GOLD-FRONTED FULVETTA Alcippe variegaticeps: two pairs at 1,200 m on 26 April in bamboo in secondary forest. This is the first record of this rare species for Mabian county.

STREAK-THROATED FULVETTA Alcippe cinereiceps: 1–20 daily 1,800–2,600 m, 28 April–4 May.

GREY-CHEEKED FULVETTA Alcippe morrisonia: six at 1,300 m on 26 April.

STRIPE-THROATED YUHINA Yuhina gularis: 5–10 daily, 2,300–2,600 m.

WHITE-COLLARED YUHINA Yuhina diademata: five at 1,100 m on 27 April.

BLACK-CHINNED YUHINA Yuhina nigritina: 25 at 1,200–1,300 m on 26 April.

GREAT PARROTBILL Conostoma aemodium: 1–10 daily, 2,300–2,600 m, 1–4 May.

THREE-TOED PARROTBILL Paradoxornis paradoxus: 10 on 2 May and eight on 3 May, 2,400–2,600 m.

GREEN-HOODED PARROTBILL Paradoxornis zappeyi: two at 2,400 m, 1 May. This is the first record for Mabian county for this rare species.

FULVOUS PARROTBILL Paradoxornis fuliginosus: two at 2,400 m and two at 2,600 m on 3 May.

GOLDEN PARROTBILL Paradoxornis verreauxi: eight at 1,300 m on 26 April.

CHESTNUT-HEADED TESIA Tesia castaneocoronata: 1–5 most days, 1,800–2,400 m, 28 April–5 May.
BROWNISH-FLANKED BUSH-WARBLER *Cettia foripes*: common 1,000–2,200 m, 25 April–6 May.
CHESTNUT-CROWNED BUSH-WARBLER *Cettia major*: one at 2,400 m on 2 and 3 May.
ABERRANT BUSH-WARBLER *Cettia florolitaea*: 1–2 daily, 2,300–2,500 m, 2–4 May.
YELLOW-BELLIED BUSH-WARBLER *Cettia acaentia*: 3–8 daily, 2,200–2,600 m, 1–4 May.
SPOTTED BUSH-WARBLER *Bradypterus thoracicus*: 1–2 daily, 1,800 m, 28 April–1 May; 3–7 daily, 1,500–1,800 m, 4–6 May.
BROWN-BUSH-WARBLER *Bradypterus luteoventris*: a pair at 1,800 m, 29–30 April and 5 May.
BUFF-BARRED WARBLER *Phylloscopus pucher*: common 1,800–2,800 m (3–50 daily), 27 April–4 May.
LEMON-RUMPED WARBLER *Phylloscopus porrogalus*: common 1,100–2,600 m (2–30 daily), 26 April–4 May.
ASHY-THROATED WARBLER *Phylloscopus maculipennis*: 1–4 daily, 1,800–2,000 m, 28 April–1 May.
LARGE-BILLED LEAF-WARBLER *Phylloscopus magnirostris*: 1–5 daily, 1,100–1,900 m, 26–28 April, 1 May and 6 May.
GREENISH WARBLER *Phylloscopus trochile*: one at 2,400 m on 1 May.
BLYTH'S LEAF-WARBLER *Phylloscopus reguloides*: common to abundant, 1,100–2,200 m, 26 April–1 May, 4–5 May.
CHESTNUT-CROWNED WARBLER *Seicercus castaneiceps*: one at 1,200 m on 26 May.
GOLDEN-SPECTACLED WARBLER *Seicercus burkii*: common (3–40 daily) 1,100–2,200 m, 26 April–1 May, and 4–6 May.
RUFOUS-GORGETED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula sylvie*: common (2–20 daily), 1,100–2,600 m, 26 April–5 May.
SNOWY-BROWED FLYCATCHER *Ficedula hyperythra*: uncommon (1–3 daily) 1,800–2,000 m, 28–30 April and 4 May.
SLATY-BLUE FLYCATCHER *Ficedula tricolor*: fairly common (2–6 daily) 1,200–2,000 m, 26–30 April and 4 May; one at 2,400 m on 2 May.
[FUJIAN NILTAVA *Niltava davidi*: one on 30 April, three on 4 May and two on 5 May at 1,800 m were believed to be this species.]
[RUFOUS-BELLIED NILTAVA *Niltava sundara*: one at 1,300 m on 26 April and another at 1,100 m on 27 April were believed to be this species.]

1999

BROWN-BREASTED FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa mutu*: four at 1,100–1,200 m on 26 April.
VERDITIER FLYCATCHER *Muscicapa thalassina*: two at 2,000 m on 1 May.
GREY-HEADED FLYCATCHER *Culicicapa ceylonensis*: common 1,100–1,300 m on 26–27 April, 2–6 daily 1,800–2,400 m, 1–2 and 4 May.
FIRE-CAPPED TIT *Cephalopyrus flammiceps*: 10 on 28 April, two on 1 May and one on 4 May, 1,800–2,000 m.
RUFOUS-BELLIED TIT *Parus rubidiventris*: common 2,400–2,800 m, 1–3 May.
COAL TIT *Parus ater*: four on 2 May and two on 3 May, 2,500 m.
YELLOW-BELLIED TIT *Parus venustus*: five at 900 m in trees in village near cultivation at edge of Defending on 25 April; eight on 26 April, 1,100–1,300 m; one at 1,800 m on 30 April.
GREY-CRESTED TIT *Parus dichrous*: two on 2 May and four on 3 May at 2,400–2,600 m.
GREEN-BACKED TIT *Parus monticolus*: common 1,100–2,200 m, 26 April–1 May and 4–5 May; two at 2,400 m, 2 May.
YELLOW-BROWED TIT *Sylviparus modestus*: 4–6 daily 1,800–2,000 m; common (12–25 daily) 2,400–2,800 m.
COMMON TREECREEPER *Certhia familiaris*: two at 1,800 m on 27 April; two at 2,200 m on 4 May.
GOULD'S SUNBIRD *Aethopyga gouldiae*: fairly common 27 April–6 May, 1,500–2,500 m.
CHESTNUT-FLANKED WHITE-EYE *Zosterops erythropleura*: two at 2,400 m on 2 May.
JAPANESE WHITE-EYE *Zosterops japonicus*: flock of 15 in village at 900 m near Defending 25 April; three at 1,100 m on 26 April; one at 1,800 m on 30 April; 10 at 2,500 m, 3 May; three at 2,400 m, 4 May.
BLANDFORD'S ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus rubescens*: two at 2,700 m, 3 May; two at 2,400 m, 4 May.
DARK-BREASTED ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus nipalensis*: one at 1,800 m on 28–30 April; one at 2,500 m, 3 May.
COMMON ROSEFINCH *Carpodacus erythrinus*: one at 1,500 m on 27 April.
GREY-HEADED BULLFINCH *Pyrrhula erythaca*: one or two daily 29–30 April; 2–5 May, 1,800–2,600 m.
SLATY BUNTING *Lacourviliajornis siemensi*: a male behaving territorially at
Observations of Relict Gulls
Larus relictus on passage at Beidaihe, People's Republic of China

DAVID N. BAKEWELL, GEOFFREY J. CAREY, DANIEL G. DUFF, JOHN PALFERY, ALAN PARKER and MARTIN D. WILLIAMS

Relict Gulls were recorded on passage at Beidaihe in the autumns of 1986, 1987 and the spring of 1988. Most of the birds were in first-winter plumage, which had been previously unreported. Detailed descriptions of this plumage reveal the salient features of white head, dark backparts, hindneck streaking and distinctive wing and tail pattern. Brief notes on adult winter and probable second-winter plumages are also given.

In the autumns of 1986 and 1987, and in spring 1988, numbers of Relict Gulls Larus relictus were seen on passage on the coast of the Gulf of Bohai, at Beidaihe, Hebei province, People's Republic of China. The status of this little-known gull was summarized by Kitson (1980) and McVille (1984), and the current and historical position of the species in China is to be the subject of a subsequent communication (Bakewell, Duff and Williams in prep.). The observations at Beidaihe are the first concentration of sightings away from the breeding areas, and were mostly of birds in previously undescribed winter plumages (although photographs of a first-winter bird at Beidaihe in autumn 1987 have recently been annotated by Grant 1988). Immature Relict Gulls have previously been described in juvenile (Auezov 1971, Kitson 1980) and first-summer (Fisher 1985) plumages. This paper summarizes the dates of occurrence, behaviour and plumage details of the species at Beidaihe. Terminology follows Grant (1986).

DATES OF OCCURRENCE

The first record of Relict Gull at Beidaihe was of an adult, in moult from summer to winter plumage, on 23 August 1986. It was present for less than half an hour after initial observation, before flying south with Common Black-headed Gulls Larus ridibundus. This, and all subsequent observations during autumn 1986, were made on the Heng-Ho (Heng He) estuary, known as the 'Sand Flats' (Williams 1986, Williams et al. 1986). Two first-winter birds were recorded on 8 September, and thenceforth up to seven first-winters were present until the China Cranewatch expedition left Beidaihe on 20 November. The sedentary nature of these birds (they could be seen at any state of the tide or time of the day) and their habitual preference for particular areas on the Sand Flats suggested that a small number of birds