

# **WCS Afghanistan Biodiversity Conservation Project**

**Field Report No 4 (Wakhan Winter Avifauna)**



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**An annotated list of bird species observed by the Ecosystem Health Team  
in Wakhan in November–December 2006**

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**Introduction**

The present report provides an annotated list of the 41 bird species observed by the Ecosystem Health Team (Dr Ali Madad Rajabi, Dr Hafizullah Ziauddin, and myself) during a mission that took place in the Wakhan valley, between Qazideh and Kret villages, from 27 November to 11 December 2006. Since the main purpose of the mission was not to thoroughly examine the avifauna of the region, this list does not ambition to be exhaustive. We recorded bird species opportunistically, often during our spare time. The present document is a compilation of our joint efforts to better understand birdlife in Wakhan.



Plate 1 — Typical landscape of the lower Wakhan in December 2006. In the background the high peaks of the Hindu Kush mountain range where the unsettled frontier with Pakistan runs. Across the river on left side is Tajikistan.

Four reports of previous expeditions in the region already included bird lists: Petocz (1978); Fitzherbert and Mishra (2003); Schaller (2004); and Ostrowski (2006). Our list continues to improve our knowledge of the avifauna of Wakhan and Afghan Pamir, mostly in three ways:

- It is the first document since the seminal work of Petocz (1978) to record bird species occurring in the region during winter.
- Based on the observations we made in summer 2006 it confirms the status of resident in the region for 19 species: the lammergeier (*Gypaetus barbatus*), the Himalayan griffon (*Gyps himalayensis*), the golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*), the chukar partridge (*Alectoris chukar*), the rock dove (*Columba livia*), the hill pigeon (*Columba rupestris*), the Himalayan woodpecker (*Dendrocopos himalayensis*), the shore lark (*Eremophila alpestris*), the Gldenstdt's redstart (*Phoenicurus erythrogaster*), the dipper (*Cinclus cinclus*), the magpie (*Pica pica*), the red-billed chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*), the eastern carrion crow (*Corvus corone orientalis*), the raven (*Corvus corax*), the tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*), the Brandt's mountain finch (*Leucosticte brandti*), the twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*), the crimson-winged finch (*Rodopechys sanguinea*), and the great rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilla*).
- It documents eight bird species not previously recorded in the region: the greylag goose (*Anser anser*), the hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*), the ibisbill (*Ibidorhyncha struthersii*), the European kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*), the Alpine accentor (*Prunella modularis*), the yellow-breasted tit (*Parus flavipectus*), the Spanish sparrow (*Passer hispanolensis*), and the streaked rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilloides*).

## List of recorded bird species

Table 1 — Taxonomic list of bird species observed by the Ecosystem Health Team during a mission in Wakhan in November and December 2006, with mention of those recorded in previous reports: Petocz (1978); Fitzherbert and Mishra (2003); Schaller (2004); Ostrowski (2006). New records are in grey.

Common name	Genus	Species	Petocz (1978)	Fitzherbert and Mishra (2003)	Schaller (2004)	Ostrowski (2006)
Greylag goose	<i>Anser</i>	<i>anser</i>				
Shoveler	<i>Anas</i>	<i>clypeata</i>	×			
Mallard	<i>Anas</i>	<i>platyrhynchos</i>	×	×	×	
Teal	<i>Anas</i>	<i>crecca</i>	×	×	×	×
Goosander	<i>Mergus</i>	<i>merganser</i>	×			
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus</i>	<i>barbatus</i>	×	×	×	×

Himalayan griffon	<i>Gyps</i>	<i>himalayensis</i>		×	×	×
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila</i>	<i>chrysaetos</i>	×	×	×	×
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>gentilis</i>		×		
Hen harrier	<i>Circus</i>	<i>cyaneus</i>				
Merlin	<i>Falco</i>	<i>columbarius</i>	×	×	×	
Saker falcon	<i>Falco</i>	<i>cherrug</i>	×		×	
Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha</i>	<i>struthersii</i>				
Chukar partridge	<i>Alectoris</i>	<i>chukar</i>	×	×		×
Rock dove	<i>Columba</i>	<i>livia</i>	×	×		×
Hill pigeon	<i>Columba</i>	<i>rupestris</i>		×	×	×
European kingfisher	<i>Alcedo</i>	<i>atthis</i>				
Himalayan woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos</i>	<i>himalayensis</i>				×
Shore lark	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>alpestris</i>	×	×	×	×
Güldenstädt's redstart	<i>Phoenicurus</i>	<i>erythrogaster</i>	×	×	×	×
White-capped redstart	<i>Chaimarromis</i>	<i>leucocephalus</i>	×	×	×	
Black-throated thrush	<i>Turdus</i>	<i>ruficollis</i> <i>atrogularis</i>	×			
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma</i>	<i>muraria</i>	×	×	×	
Dipper	<i>Cinclus</i>	<i>cinclus</i>	×	×		×
Brown dipper	<i>Cinclus</i>	<i>pallasii</i>	×			
Yellow-breasted tit	<i>Parus</i>	<i>flavipectus</i>				
Alpine accentor	<i>Prunella</i>	<i>collaris</i>				
Brown accentor	<i>Prunella</i>	<i>fulvescens</i>	×			
Magpie	<i>Pica</i>	<i>pica</i>	×	×		×
Red-billed chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax</i>	<i>pyrrhocorax</i>	×	×	×	×
Yellow-billed chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax</i>	<i>graculus</i>		×		
Eastern carrion crow	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>corone orientalis</i>		×		×
Raven	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>corax</i>		×	×	×
Common starling	<i>Sturnus</i>	<i>vulgaris</i>	×			
Tree sparrow	<i>Passer</i>	<i>montanus</i>	×	×		×
Spanish sparrow	<i>Passer</i>	<i>hispaniolensis</i>				
Brandt's mountain finch	<i>Leucosticte</i>	<i>brandti</i>	×		×	×
Twite	<i>Carduelis</i>	<i>flavirostris</i>	×		×	×
Crimson-winged finch	<i>Rodopechys</i>	<i>sanguinea</i>	×			×
Great rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus</i>	<i>rubicilla</i>	×			×
Streaked rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus</i>	<i>rubicilloides</i>				

## Annotations

Greylag goose (*Anser anser*) — Two birds flying over Baba Tungi water lake on 2 December, and one individual alone resting along the Wakhan River at Goz Khun, on 3 December.

Shoveler (*Anas clypeata*) — Single adult bird flushed at Goz Khun on 3 December.

Mallard (*Anas platyrhynchos*) — Adult individuals, often in pairs, foraging along Pjanj River in lower Wakhan valley.

Teal (*Anas crecca*) — One bird flying east at the confluence of the Pjanj and Qazideh/Noshakh rivers on 9 December.

Goosander (*Mergus merganser*) — Two birds flying east over Wakhan River near Sast, on 28 November.

Lammergeier (*Gypaetus barbatus*) — One to three individuals of this magnificent species observed daily between Qazideh, lower Wakhan valley, and Kret, upper Wakhan valley.

Himalayan griffon (*Gyps himalayensis*) — We observed six individuals together with two lammergeiers in Kret, on 29 November.

Golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) — One adult and two juveniles (fledged in 2006) observed along the cliffs of Goz Khun on 3 and 4 December. The adult bird was hunting chukar partridges (*Alectoris chukar*) whereas juveniles were more or less begging for food. The occurrence of two juveniles of seemingly the same clutch is a sign of efficient resource use since siblicide towards smaller/less fed younger is common in this species (McGrady 1997).

Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*) — A single male observed at sunset, hunting passerines in stubbles, between Ishkeshim and Qazideh, on 8 December. Noticeably, that individual had a white spotted back although not a juvenile.

Hen harrier (*Circus cyaneus*) — Single individuals observed hunting passerines in Kret, Qila-e Panja, Urgundi Payan, and Qazideh, between 1 and 9 December.

Merlin (*Falco columbarius*) — One specimen observed hunting shore larks (*Eremophila alpestris*) at dawn on 8 December, and presumably another one on 9 December, near Qazideh.

Saker falcon (*Falco cherrug*) — A magnificent, most probably 1st-year individual roosting on a rock near Qila-e Panja on 28 November.

Ibisbill (*Ibidorhyncha struthersii*) — A single isolated individual along Wakhan River near Avgarch, on 3 December.

Chukar partridge (*Alectoris chukar*) — A common ‘game’ species in Wakhan. Often heard and encountered in flocks exceeding 10 birds. Actively hunted by inhabitants throughout winter in lower and upper Wakhan.

Rock dove (*Columba livia*) — A common species in the lower and upper Wakhan Valley most often in mixed flocks with hill pigeons.

Hill pigeon (*Columba rupestris*) — A common and gregarious species in the lower and upper Wakhan Valley seen in cultivated lands, most often in wheat and barley stubbles.

European kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*) — A single individual in buckthorn (*Hippophae* sp.) thickets by the Wakhan River on 3 December.

Himalayan woodpecker (*Dendrocopos himalayensis*) — One adult male observed in a poplar plantation at Qazideh on 9 December.

Shore lark (*Eremophila alpestris*) — A very common species observed in large flocks sometimes exceeding 50 individuals in cultivated lands of Wakhan, usually foraging in wheat and barley stubbles.

Güldenstädt’s redstart (*Phoenicurus erythrogaster*) — A very common species in buckthorn thickets by the Wakhan and Pjanj rivers. We counted 90–110 different individuals (sex ratio 1:1) over a 1-km linear transect in Goz Khun delta on 3 December.

White-capped redstart (*Chaimarrornis leucocephalus*) — A single individual observed sunbathing in cliffs near Qazideh on 9 December.

Black-throated thrush (*Turdus ruficollis atrogularis*) — A common species in buckthorn thickets by the Wakhan and Pjanj rivers. A flock of 11 birds observed at Goz Khun on 4 December.

Wallcreeper (*Tichodroma muraria*) — A single individual observed foraging in cliffs near Qazideh on 9 December.

Dipper (*Cinclus cinclus leucogaster*) — A single individual of *leucogaster* subspecies observed near Qazideh along the course of the Pjanj River on 9 December.

Brown dipper (*Cinclus pallasii*) — A single individual observed foraging in an arm of the Wakhan River near Goz Khun on 3 December.

Yellow-breasted tit (*Parus flavipectus*) — One individual observed foraging near the village of Kuzget in Upper Wakhan on 30 November.

Alpine accentor (*Prunella collaris*) — Four individuals in cliffs near Qazideh on 9 December.

Brown accentor (*Prunella fulvescens*) — A common species seen in buckthorn thickets by the Wakhan and Pjanj rivers.

Magpie (*Pica pica*) — Common in all the villages of Wakhan we visited, between Qazideh and Kret. The species seems to be always associated with human settlements.

Red-billed chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*) — A very common species in the lower Wakhan valley during winter. This species aggregates in large flocks sometimes exceeding 250 birds and forages in stubble fields.

Yellow-billed chough (*Pyrrhocorax graculus*) — We observed two flocks of this species in lower Wakhan between Qazideh and Qila-e Panja on 27 November. Although the species appears less common than the chough (*Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax*), the two flocks exceeded 50 individuals each.

<sup>1</sup>Eastern carrion crow (*Corvus corone orientalis*) — A ubiquitous species in Wakhan. Mostly observed in small flocks (4–8 individuals) in the vicinity of treed areas.

Raven (*Corvus corax*) — Single birds observed episodically in Wakhan.

Starling (*Sturnus vulgaris*) — One flock of 4 birds in Qila-e Panja on 28 November.

Tree sparrow (*Passer montanus*) — Ubiquitous among human settlements in Wakhan.

Spanish sparrow (*Passer hispaniolensis*) — Observed in small flocks of two to eight birds between Goz Khun and Kret, 1–4 December.

Brandt's mountain finch (*Leucosticte brandti*) — One flock of 70–90 birds observed foraging in stubbles at Avgarch, near the house of Mr Safar Mohamed, on 4 December.

Twite (*Carduelis flavirostris*) — Five birds observed in stubbles between Qazideh and Ishkeshim on 8 December.

Crimson-winged finch (*Rodopechys sanguinea*) — A flock of 7 birds foraging in stubbles between Qazideh and Ishkeshim together with 5 twites (*Carduelis flavirostris*) on 8 December.

Great rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilla*) — Several specimens of this species were observed in buckthorn thickets at Goz Khun on 3 and 4 December.

Streaked rosefinch (*Carpodacus rubicilloides*) — Two adult males observed between Kret and Kuzget on 30 November. Then 10–15 specimens of both sexes observed in Goz Khun on 3 and 4 December. The species was seen feeding on buckthorn berries (Plate 2).

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<sup>1</sup> The eastern carrion crow can hardly be distinguished in the field from the jungle crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*), a Himalayan forest bird that occurs in the Chitral and Gilgit regions of Pakistan (Roberts, 1992). We cannot rule out that its distribution range also includes Wakhan and that we have in fact misidentified it as the eastern carrion crow. An attempt to capture some specimens should be made in the future to clarify this issue, since in the hand these two species can be identified with certainty.



Plate 2 — In December buckthorn (*Hippophae* sp. (*rhamnoides*?)) bushes full of orange berries dominated riverine scrubs around Goz Khun, Wakhan. In other places of Central Asia and as close as just across the river in Tajikistan, buckthorn fruits are collected and processed in cordials for traditional medicine (Gintzburger et al., 2003). There seem to be no such tradition in Wakhan to the great benefit of numerous bird species, including black-throated thrushes, great and streaked rosefinches, and sparrows, which extensively feed on the fruits in winter.

### Status of species newly recorded in the area

We recorded 8 species new to the region.

The greylag goose is a winter migrant to the Indian subcontinent. In Afghanistan it is reported to winter in the Seistan basin, west of Baluchistan (A. Scott *in* Roberts, 1992). The specimens we have observed during the mission could have been either late migrants or individuals wintering in Wakhan.

The hen harrier is a winter migrant visitor to Pakistan, usually encountered in the Himalayan outer foothills. Specimens are known to winter in the Gilgit and Chitral valleys of Pakistan (Roberts, 1992). The species has probably been overlooked in the past in Wakhan, and we believe it could be a regular winter visitor in this area, especially during mild winters.

The ibisbill is an endemic species confined to the high plateau mountain regions of central Asia, extending from Kazakhstan in the west to Nepal in the east. It is of rare occurrence in northern Pakistan (Roberts, 1992). Although Fitzherbert and Mishra (2003) did not record the species, they quote it as breeding in upland rivers and lakes of Wakhan. Unfortunately they do not provide their source of information. This species is prized by birdwatching tourists as a local rarity and is therefore an important addition to the bird list of the region.

The European kingfisher is known as a resident species in Chitral, Pakistan (Perreau, 1910 in Roberts, 1992). The specimen we observed was at an altitude of 2900 m close to the maximum recorded for this species in the Indian subcontinent (eg. 3100 m) (Grimmett et al. 1999).

The four specimens of alpine accentor were carefully observed and we are positive that they were not Altai accentors (*Prunella himalayana*), a wintering visitor to the Indian subcontinent (Grimmett 1999) and a species already recorded in the region (Petocz, 1978). We suspect that the Alpine accentor could breed in the Afghan Pamir.

The occurrence of the yellow-breasted tit was already suspected but unconfirmed by Fitzherbert and Mishra (2003).

The Spanish sparrow is a winter visitor to the Indian subcontinent (Grimmett, 1999) however it is not reported to occur at high altitudes such as those where we have recorded the bird in Wakhan (i.e. up to 3500 m).

Similarly to the Alpine accentor we made very detailed observations of streaked rosefinches that support the identification of this species. The streaked rosefinch is a resident species of northern India and Nepal subject to minor altitudinal movements throughout its range. In Wakhan the bird was observed between 2900 and 3500 m, an winter range consistent with what is observed in India (Grimmett, 1999). The population we have observed in Wakhan could have been a 'wintering spillover' from the traditional Indian range or a genuine resident population extending to the north-west the known distribution of the species.

## Discussion

Schaller's (2004) and Fitzherbert and Mishra's (2003) expeditions to Wakhan and Pamir were carried out in autumn, and were therefore unlikely to ascertain the residency status of the bird species they encountered. In addition Schaller (2004) reported only the species he observed at higher altitudes. Combined to our earlier report (Ostrowski 2006) the present document clarifies the status (resident, breeder, wintering, migratory) of a number of species that occur in the region. It also highlights the presence of species (i.e. golden eagle, lammergeier, ibisbill) that are known to be attractive to birdwatchers and eco-

tourists. Overall, the bird list for Wakhan/Pamir region now amounts to 149 different bird species (see Appendix). Unfortunately we have not yet been able to read the report of the bird survey mission conducted by Mr Bilal Habib in Wakhan and Pamir during summer and early autumn 2006. We have no doubt that it will significantly inflate this total, and also bring some clarifications about the status of several species.

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## Appendix

Table 2 — Taxonomic list of bird species observed in the Wakhan district as per 11 December 2006. Information was compiled from <sup>1</sup>Petocz (1978), <sup>2</sup>Fitzherbert and Mishra (2003), <sup>3</sup>Schaller (2004), <sup>4</sup>Ostrowski (2006), and <sup>5</sup>present mission.

Common name	Genus	Species	References
Great crested grebe	<i>Podiceps</i>	<i>cristatus</i>	2, 4
Grey heron	<i>Ardea</i>	<i>cinerea</i>	1, 2
Bar-headed goose	<i>Anser</i>	<i>indicus</i>	1
Greylag goose	<i>Anser</i>	<i>anser</i>	5
Ruddy shelduck	<i>Tadorna</i>	<i>ferruginea</i>	1, 3, 4
Mallard	<i>Anas</i>	<i>platyrhynchos</i>	1, 2, 3, 5
Shoveler	<i>Anas</i>	<i>clypeata</i>	1, 5
Pintail	<i>Anas</i>	<i>acuta</i>	1
Wigeon	<i>Anas</i>	<i>penelope</i>	1
Teal	<i>Anas</i>	<i>crecca</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Goosander	<i>Mergus</i>	<i>mergamser</i>	1, 5
Lammergeier	<i>Gypaetus</i>	<i>barbatus</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Egyptian vulture	<i>Neophron</i>	<i>percnopterus</i>	1, 4
Himalayan griffon	<i>Gyps</i>	<i>himalayensis</i>	2, 3, 4, 5
Griffon vulture	<i>Gyps</i>	<i>fulvus</i>	1
Goshawk	<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>gentilis</i>	2, 5
Marsh harrier	<i>Circus</i>	<i>aeruginosus</i>	3
Hen harrier	<i>Circus</i>	<i>cyaneus</i>	5
Common buzzard	<i>Buteo</i>	<i>buteo</i>	1, 2, 3
Long-legged buzzard	<i>Buteo</i>	<i>rufinus</i>	1, 2
Steppe eagle	<i>Aquila</i>	<i>nipalensis</i>	1
Golden eagle	<i>Aquila</i>	<i>chrysaetos</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
Bonelli's eagle	<i>Hieraaetus</i>	<i>fasciatus</i>	2
Short-toed eagle	<i>Circaetus</i>	<i>gallicus</i>	4
Gyrfalcon	<i>Falco</i>	<i>rusticolus</i>	1
Merlin	<i>Falco</i>	<i>columbarius</i>	1, 2, 3, 5
Lesser kestrel	<i>Falco</i>	<i>naumanni</i>	1
Kestrel	<i>Falco</i>	<i>tinnunculus</i>	1, 2, 3, 4
Laggar falcon	<i>Falco</i>	<i>juggar</i>	1
Saker falcon	<i>Falco</i>	<i>cherrug</i>	1, 3, 5
Himalayan snowcock	<i>Tetraogallus</i>	<i>himalayensis</i>	1, 2, 3
Chukar	<i>Alectoris</i>	<i>chukar</i>	1, 2, 4, 5
Common crane	<i>Grus</i>	<i>grus</i>	1
Coot	<i>Fulica</i>	<i>atra</i>	1, 2
Little ringed plover*	<i>Charadrius</i>	<i>dubius</i>	1

Lesser sand plover	<i>Charadrius</i>	<i>mongolus</i>	1, 4
Greater sand plover	<i>Charadrius</i>	<i>leschenaultii</i>	4
Common snipe	<i>Gallinago</i>	<i>gallinago</i>	1
Red-necked phalarope	<i>Phalaropus</i>	<i>lobatus</i>	1
Lapwing	<i>Vanellus</i>	<i>vanellus</i>	1
Little stint	<i>Calidris</i>	<i>minuta</i>	1
Greenshank	<i>Tringa</i>	<i>nebularia</i>	1, 4
Wood sandpiper	<i>Tringa</i>	<i>glareola</i>	1
Green sandpiper	<i>Tringa</i>	<i>ochropus</i>	4
Redshank	<i>Tringa</i>	<i>totanus</i>	1, 3
Common sandpiper	<i>Actitis</i>	<i>hypoleucos</i>	1, 2, 4
Black-winged stilt	<i>Himantopus</i>	<i>himantopus</i>	1, 3
Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha</i>	<i>struthersii</i>	5
River tern	<i>Sterna</i>	<i>aurantia</i>	3
Common tern	<i>Sterna</i>	<i>hirundo</i>	1
Great black-headed gull	<i>Larus</i>	<i>ichthyaetus</i>	1
Brown-headed gull	<i>Larus</i>	<i>brunnicephalus</i>	3
Pallas's sandgrouse	<i>Syrhaptes</i>	<i>paradoxus</i>	1, 4
Rock dove	<i>Columba</i>	<i>livia</i>	1, 2, 4, 5
Hill pigeon	<i>Columba</i>	<i>rupestris</i>	2, 3, 4, 5
Snow pigeon	<i>Columba</i>	<i>leuconota</i>	1, 2
Eastern stock dove	<i>Columba</i>	<i>eversmanni</i>	1
Turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>turtur</i>	1
Rufous turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>orientalis</i>	1, 2
Laughing dove	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>senegalensis</i>	2
Eagle owl	<i>Bubo</i>	<i>bubo</i>	1
Bruce's scops owl	<i>Otus</i>	<i>brucei</i>	1
Little owl	<i>Athene</i>	<i>noctua</i>	1
Common cuckoo	<i>Cuculus</i>	<i>canorus</i>	1, 3, 4
European nighthawk	<i>Caprimulgus</i>	<i>europaeus</i>	1
Common swift	<i>Apus</i>	<i>apus</i>	1, 4
Alpine swift	<i>Apus</i>	<i>melba</i>	1
European bee-eater	<i>Merops</i>	<i>apiaster</i>	4
European roller	<i>Coracias</i>	<i>garrulus</i>	1, 4
European kingfisher	<i>Alcedo</i>	<i>atthis</i>	5
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa</i>	<i>epops</i>	1, 2, 3, 4
Wryneck	<i>Jynx</i>	<i>torquilla</i>	1
Himalayan woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos</i>	<i>himalayensis</i>	4, 5
Scaly-bellied woodpecker	<i>Picus</i>	<i>squamatus</i>	4
Short-toed lark	<i>Calandrella</i>	<i>brachydactyla</i>	4
Shore lark	<i>Eremophila</i>	<i>alpestris</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5

Small skylark	<i>Alauda</i>	<i>gulgula</i>	1
Crested lark	<i>Galerida</i>	<i>cristata</i>	1
Crag martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne</i>	<i>rupestris</i>	1, 2, 4
House martin	<i>Delichon</i>	<i>urbica</i>	1, 4
Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>rustica</i>	1, 4
Meadow pipit	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>pratensis</i>	1
Water pipit	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>spinoletta</i>	1, 2
Olive-backed pipit	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>hodgsoni</i>	1
Tree pipit	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>trivialis</i>	4
Yellow wagtail	<i>Motacilla</i>	<i>flava</i>	1
Citrine wagtail	<i>Motacilla</i>	<i>citreola</i>	1, 4
White wagtail	<i>Motacilla</i>	<i>alba</i>	1, 2, 3, 4
Grey wagtail	<i>Motacilla</i>	<i>cinerea</i>	1, 2, 4
Black redstart	<i>Phoenicurus</i>	<i>ochruros</i>	1, 2, 4
Common redstart	<i>Phoenicurus</i>	<i>phoenicurus</i>	1
Güldenstädt's redstart	<i>Phoenicurus</i>	<i>erythrogaster</i>	1, 2, 3, 4, 5
White-capped redstart	<i>Chaimarrornis</i>	<i>leucocephalus</i>	1, 2, 3, 5
Eversmann's redstart	<i>Phoenicurus</i>	<i>erythronotus</i>	1
Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia</i>	<i>svecica</i>	1
Black-throated thrush	<i>Turdus</i>	<i>ruficollis</i>	1, 5
Stonechat	<i>Saxicola</i>	<i>torquata</i>	1, 2, 4
Northern wheatear	<i>Oenanthe</i>	<i>oenanthe</i>	1, 2
Isabelline wheatear	<i>Oenanthe</i>	<i>isabellina</i>	1, 3, 4
Desert wheatear	<i>Oenanthe</i>	<i>deserti</i>	1, 4
Red-tailed wheatear	<i>Oenanthe</i>	<i>xanthopyrna</i>	1, 2, 4
Wallcreeper	<i>Tichodroma</i>	<i>muraria</i>	1, 2, 3, 5
Dipper	<i>Cinclus</i>	<i>cinclus</i>	1, 2, 4, 5
Brown dipper	<i>Cinclus</i>	<i>pallasii</i>	1, 5
Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia</i>	<i>communis</i>	2, 4
Barred warbler	<i>Sylvia</i>	<i>nisoria</i>	1
Greenish warbler	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>trochiloides</i>	1, 4
Yellow-browed warbler	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>inornatus</i>	1
Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>collybita</i>	1
Brooks's leaf warbler	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>subviridis</i>	4
Plain leaf warbler	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>neglectus</i>	4
Asian paradise flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone</i>	<i>paradise</i>	4
Eastern rock nuthatch	<i>Sitta</i>	<i>tephronota</i>	1, 2, 4
Golden oriole	<i>Oriolus</i>	<i>oriolus</i>	4
Great grey shrike	<i>Lanius</i>	<i>excubitor</i>	1
Lesser grey shrike	<i>Lanius</i>	<i>minor</i>	1
Bay-backed shrike	<i>Lanius</i>	<i>vittatus</i>	3

Red-backed shrike	<i>Lanius</i>	<i>collurio</i>	2
Long-tailed shrike	<i>Lanius</i>	<i>schach</i>	1, 4
Alpine accentor	<i>Prunella</i>	<i>collaris</i>	5
Altai accentor	<i>Prunella</i>	<i>himalayana</i>	1
Brown accentor	<i>Prunella</i>	<i>fulvescens</i>	1, 5
Magpie	<i>Pica</i>	<i>pica</i>	2, 4,
Red-billed chough	<i>Pyrrhonorax</i>	<i>pyrrhonorax</i>	2, 3, 4, 5
Yellow-billed chough	<i>Pyrrhonorax</i>	<i>graculus</i>	2
Carrion crow	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>corone orientalis</i>	2, 4, 5
Raven	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>corax</i>	2, 3, 4, 5
Rose-colored starling	<i>Sturnus</i>	<i>roseus</i>	1, 4
Common starling	<i>Sturnus</i>	<i>vulgaris</i>	1, 5
Common mynah	<i>Acridotheres</i>	<i>tristis</i>	2
Yellow-breasted tit	<i>Parus</i>	<i>flavipectus</i>	5
Willow tit	<i>Parus</i>	<i>montanus</i>	1
House sparrow	<i>Passer</i>	<i>domesticus</i>	1, 2
Tree sparrow	<i>Passer</i>	<i>montanus</i>	1, 2, 4, 5
Spanish sparrow	<i>Passer</i>	<i>hispaniolensis</i>	5
Brandt's mountain finch	<i>Leucosticte</i>	<i>brandti</i>	1, 3, 4, 5
Red-fronted serin	<i>Serinus</i>	<i>pusillus</i>	1, 4
Twite	<i>Carduelis</i>	<i>flavirostris</i>	1, 3, 4, 5
Crimson-winged finch	<i>Rodopechys</i>	<i>sanguinea</i>	1, 4, 5
Common rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus</i>	<i>erythrinus</i>	1, 4
Great rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus</i>	<i>rubicilla</i>	1, 4
Streaked rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus</i>	<i>rubicilloides</i>	5
Hodgson's rosefinch	<i>Leucosticte</i>	<i>nemoricola</i>	1
Snowfinch	<i>Montifringilla</i>	<i>nivalis</i>	1
Corn bunting	<i>Miliaria</i>	<i>calandra</i>	1
Rock bunting	<i>Emberiza</i>	<i>cia</i>	1
Snow bunting	<i>Plectrophenax</i>	<i>nivalis</i>	1
Grey-necked bunting	<i>Emberiza</i>	<i>buchanani</i>	2
Red-headed bunting	<i>Emberiza</i>	<i>bruniceps</i>	4

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\*Petocz (1978) mentions that the little ringed plover occurs in the area, however the scientific name he provides, *Charadrius hiaticula*, corresponds to the ringed plover, a different species.