



# The Status of Nepal's Birds: The National Red List Series



## Volume 4





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**Keywords:** Nepal, biodiversity, threatened species, conservation, birds, Red List.

**Front Cover**  
*Otus bakkamoena*  
 A pair of Collared Scops Owls; owls are highly threatened especially by persecution  
 Raj Man Singh / Brian Hodgson

**Back Cover**  
*Aceros nipalensis*  
 A pair of Rufous-necked Hornbills; species Hodgson first described for science and sadly now extinct in Nepal.  
 Raj Man Singh / Brian Hodgson

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Notes on front and back cover design:

The watercolours reproduced on the covers and within this book are taken from the notebooks of Brian Houghton Hodgson (1800-1894). For 23 years, Hodgson was posted to Nepal as an official of the British East India Company—at a time when Nepal was virtually terra incognita to Europeans. Hodgson was an energetic polymath who, in addition to carrying out his political and diplomatic duties, published widely on the ethnography, linguistics, architecture, religion and natural history of Nepal and the Himalayas. He published more than 140 scientific papers on zoological subjects, ranging from descriptions of new species to checklists of the fauna. A projected massive volume surveying the birds and mammals of the central Himalaya was unfortunately never completed due to lack of funds, but the present paintings are taken from sketchbooks which Hodgson presented to the Zoological Society of London toward the end of his life. These voluminous collections comprise approximately 1500 pages of drawings, studies and miscellaneous notes. The species depictions were done in watercolours very largely by one Nepalese artist, Raj Man Singh trained by Hodgson to paint birds and mammals in a natural, lifelike manner surprisingly modern in comparison with European and American artists of the day.

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### Foreword

Nepal is situated at the heart of the great Himalayan range and at a unique juncture of two of the world's important biogeographic regions. Altitudinal variation over a short span ranges from 60 m above sea-level to 8,848 m, *Sagarmatha*, the highest point on Earth. Traversing north to south or east to west, one experiences great contrasts in vegetation and wildlife associated. This unique biogeographical setting has bestowed Nepal with rich biodiversity. Nepal is also diverse in its ethnicity, culture and religion, giving it one of the richest social settings in the world.

Nepal is exceptionally rich in terms of avian diversity. So far 878 species of birds have been reported from the country which equals 8% of avifauna recorded in the world. *Danphe*, the national bird of Nepal, is one of the most colourful birds in the world. *Kande Bhyakur* or Spiny Babbler is endemic to our country. Nepal is a very rare country where as many as nine species of vultures are recorded, a high total that no other country of this size can boast. Bar-headed Goose has been recorded flying atop the *Sagarmatha*; the world's largest living woodpecker Great Slaty Woodpecker haunts mature terai forests of west-central Nepal; the world's tallest flying bird *Sarus* dwells in farmlands of central lowland Nepal, whereas the world's largest passerine, Raven guards the mountain villages. Nepal is indeed not a small country when avian diversity is considered.

Much of the biodiversity in the country has been conserved through the establishment and commendable management of the protected area system. Protected areas cover nearly one quarter of the country's land mass and represents diverse ecosystems at various elevations. Unfortunately not all is good with birds. One fifth of Nepal's birds are nationally threatened and several are even extirpated in Nepal. In particular, ecosystems and biodiversity outside the protected areas suffer the greatest threat, primarily due to habitat loss, hunting and disturbance, poisoning, climate change, agrochemicals, and invasive species. All vulture species and birds of prey are in decline, so are many large wading birds of the country. The Nepal government remains committed to reversing this trend and conserve the rich natural heritage that it has been graced with. The Ministry and its various departments especially the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation has been working relentlessly with various conservation partners in a unified way. We must gear up support from all quarters to protect our vanishing avifauna.

This phenomenal and biblical document on birds of Nepal will be an invaluable source of reference to researchers, ornithologists, natural resource managers, conservationists, campaigners, policy makers and planners alike. This document provides important information on taxonomy, distribution, populations, ecology and finally a fair assessment of bird's status applying IUCN regional criteria for threat categories. The information contained here will form the baseline for further development and research in the field of avian conservation in Nepal and in this region. I hope much more bird research and conservation work will be initiated in the future.

I would like to thank the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation, National Trust for Nature Conservation, Zoological Society of London, Himalayan Nature and all other conservation partners and the very large number of individuals who have been involved with coordination, supports and sharing their long-standing knowledge to complete the work. Finally I thank Zoological Society of London for generously supporting this work through the much required resources.

Uday Chandra Thakur  
Secretary  
Ministry of Forests and Soil Conservation  
Government of Nepal



## Foreword

My first visit to Nepal was in 1978, having travelled overland with friends from the UK. I will forever remember the remarkable diversity of bird life that greeted us in the Sal forests of the Terai – the feeding parties, seemingly in a hurry, packed full of woodpeckers, drongos, flycatchers, and warblers. Bird after bird was new for me and I was in heaven. Three years later, on a second trip, a stunning male Satyr Tragopan, eventually revealing itself from a bamboo clump on the steep Himalayan slopes above Ghasa, remains one of my most memorable birding experiences.

Then, and now, Nepal's bird life is renowned and enjoyed for its splendour and extraordinary diversity. To date, 878 species of bird have been recorded in the country - putting Nepal in the premier league of bird-rich countries. This bird diversity is however under threat, and as the world over, many species are in decline.

This study has been undertaken to assess for the first time the national conservation status of Nepal's birds, and in particular to identify those species that are threatened with extinction in the country. Such an assessment is vital in order to guide conservation activities in the country. The study has been led by three renowned bird experts, Carol and Tim Inskipp, and Hem Sagar Baral. The study runs to well over 3000 pages, with over 2000 references. It would not have been possible however without the extraordinary contribution from Nepali birders who have contributed an immense amount of original material. During the assessment process two national workshops, each hosted by the National Trust for Nature Conservation, were held, in October 2012 and October 2015. These were each attended by over 60 bird experts, almost all Nepalis and comprised field workers, bird guides, field ornithologists and researchers, NGO staff and government officers who provided invaluable records and comments on the species' assessments. The findings of this review are both revealing and cause for great concern. Nearly 20% of Nepal's birds (167 species) are threatened with extinction in the country (Satyr Tragopan is one of them) including 37 species which are threatened on a global scale. A further 62 species are near-threatened nationally. Nine species are now extirpated in Nepal and have not been recorded since the 19th century. Lowland grassland specialist birds are the most threatened group of birds with 55% of the birds threatened, followed by wetland birds (25%) and tropical and subtropical broadleaved forest birds (24%). Of particular note, is the importance of Nepal for the following globally threatened species, which have globally important populations in the country: Cheer Pheasant *Catreus wallichii*; Swamp Francolin *Francolinus gularis*; Bengal Florican *Houbaropsis bengalensis*; Red-headed Vulture *Sarcogyps calvus*; White-rumped Vulture *Gyps bengalensis*; Grey-crowned Prinia *Prinia cinereocapilla*, and Slender-billed Babbler *Turdoides longirostris*.

Nepal is a signatory to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity, and alongside other nations, has committed by 2020 to prevent species extinction, and to improve the conservation status of threatened species, particularly those that are most in decline. This review therefore provides an excellent basis for putting in place the necessary strategies and action plans, so that this commitment might be met and continued beyond 2020. It further provides a baseline against which progress can be measured, and Nepal's birds can be monitored over the longer term. The Status of Nepal's Birds has been an immense project and is testimony to the dedication and commitment of its main authors. It was only possible due to the contribution of many committed scientists and conservationists, and the close collaboration between: the Government of Nepal, Ministry of Forest and Soil Conservation, Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation; the National Trust for Nature Conservation; the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and the Zoological Society of London. It is vital that all involved, and others, now rally together to deliver on the conservation actions that are needed. So that Nepal can continue to be proud of its extraordinary and diverse bird life, including the spectacular Satyr Tragopan!



Richard Grimmett, Head of Conservation, BirdLife International

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# Passeriformes



**Large Niltava** *Niltava grandis*  
Raj Man Singh / Brian Hodgson

***Pomatorhinus schisticeps*** Hodgson, 1836 NT

Subspecies: *Pomatorhinus schisticeps schisticeps*

Common Name

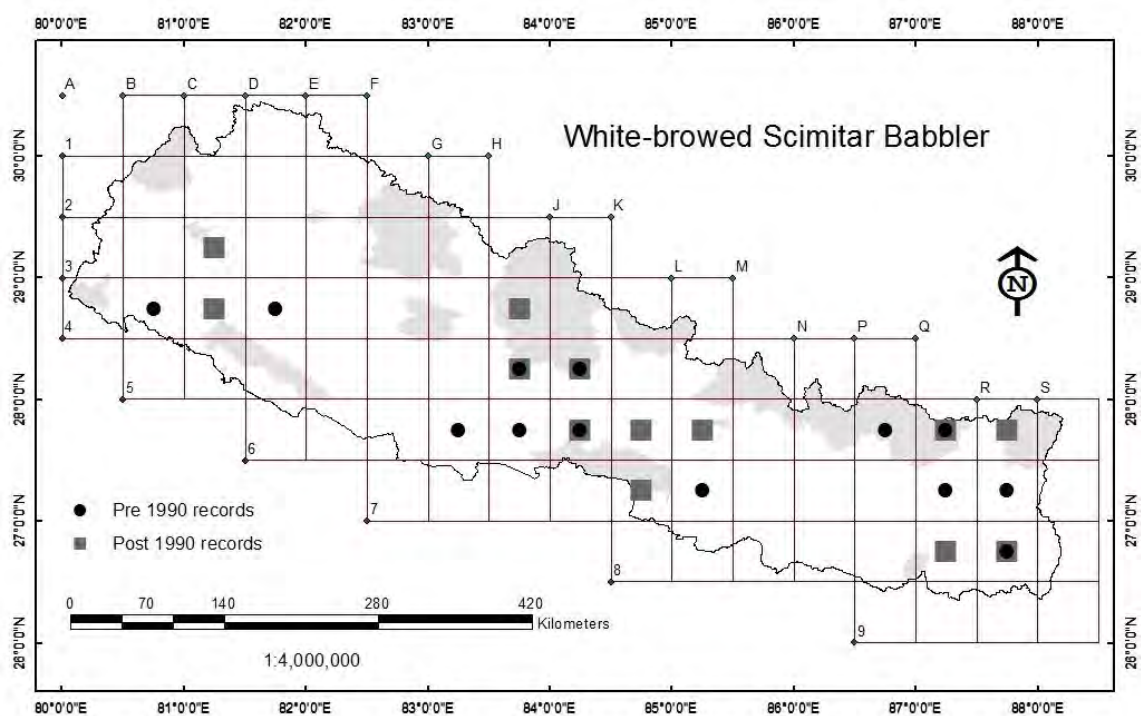
White-browed Scimitar Babbler, (English),  
Phusrotauke Palkote (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



White-browed Scimitar Babbler is a local resident mainly found in the lowland foothills.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836, Warren and Harrison 1971).

The species was described as 'occasional' for Nepal by Fleming *et al.* (1976) and 'a sedentary resident, occasionally seen' by Inskipp and Inskipp (1991).

The species' status in protected areas is: a rare resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001), a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); and recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Cox 2003) and in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Buckton 1996). It was also recorded in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009). In addition, it has been described as an uncommon resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007) and a frequent resident in the Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), probably based on pre-1990 records, as no other post-1990 records from these protected areas could be located.

Compared to pre-1990 records (please see map), only a handful of records are known post-1990 outside the protected areas' system, indicating a decline in distribution of the species.

Post-1990 reports of the species from outside the protected areas' system include: two below Sarangkot in November 1992 (Baral 1993) and one from Pokhara area, Kaski District in December 2008 (Naylor *et al.* 2008),



recorded at Khande Bhanjyang (H5), Kaski District (undated) (Arend van Riessen), regularly recorded from Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge Area (Jhalak Chaudhary), two from Malekhu area, Dhading District in January 1991 (Baral 1992), from the Kathmandu Valley, two near Godaveri in December 2005 and two at Nagarjun in May 2006 (Mallalieu 2008); from Dharan, Sunsari District (Subba 1995), and the lower Mai Valley, Ilam District in January 2006 (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1695 m (Mallalieu); lower limit: 245 m

#### Population

There is no population estimate for this species.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-browed Scimitar Babbler inhabits forest undergrowth and thick scrub (Grimmett *et al.* 2000); also evergreen and bamboo thickets (Fleming *et al.* 1976). In Chitwan it is associated with Churia hill forests.

It is found in pairs during the breeding season, otherwise in small parties (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is often in hunting parties with other babblers (Grimmett *et al.* 1998) and laughingthrushes (Ali and Ripley 1987). Forages chiefly in thick undergrowth; sometimes climbs into trees. Probes among leaf litter, bark crevices and moss (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Chiefly feeds on insects, small seeds and berries (Ali and Ripley 1987). The breeding period is chiefly from the end of March till June (Ali and Ripley 1987) and usually 3-4 eggs are laid (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007).

#### Threats

It is seriously threatened by loss and degradation of Churia Hill forests and foothill forests. It may also be threatened by loss of bamboo thickets and by illegal hunting and disturbance.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-browed Scimitar Babbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Chitwan National Park, marginally in Bardia National Park, Parsa Wildlife Reserve and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, and possibly in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park and Annapurna Conservation Area.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Near-threatened (NT) upgraded from the Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-browed Scimitar Babbler has been assessed as Near-threatened. Currently it is known to occur regularly only from the Churia Hills of Chitwan National Park and locally in the Pokhara valley. A comparison of pre- and

post-1990 maps indicates that its distribution has reduced. . As the species may be partially dependent on lowland bamboo thickets, the loss and degradation of such habitat throughout lowland Nepal may have caused a decline in its population; it is also threatened by the loss of foothill forests and possibly by illegal hunting.

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***Prinia flaviventris*** (Delessert, 1840) NT

Subspecies: *Prinia flaviventris flaviventris*

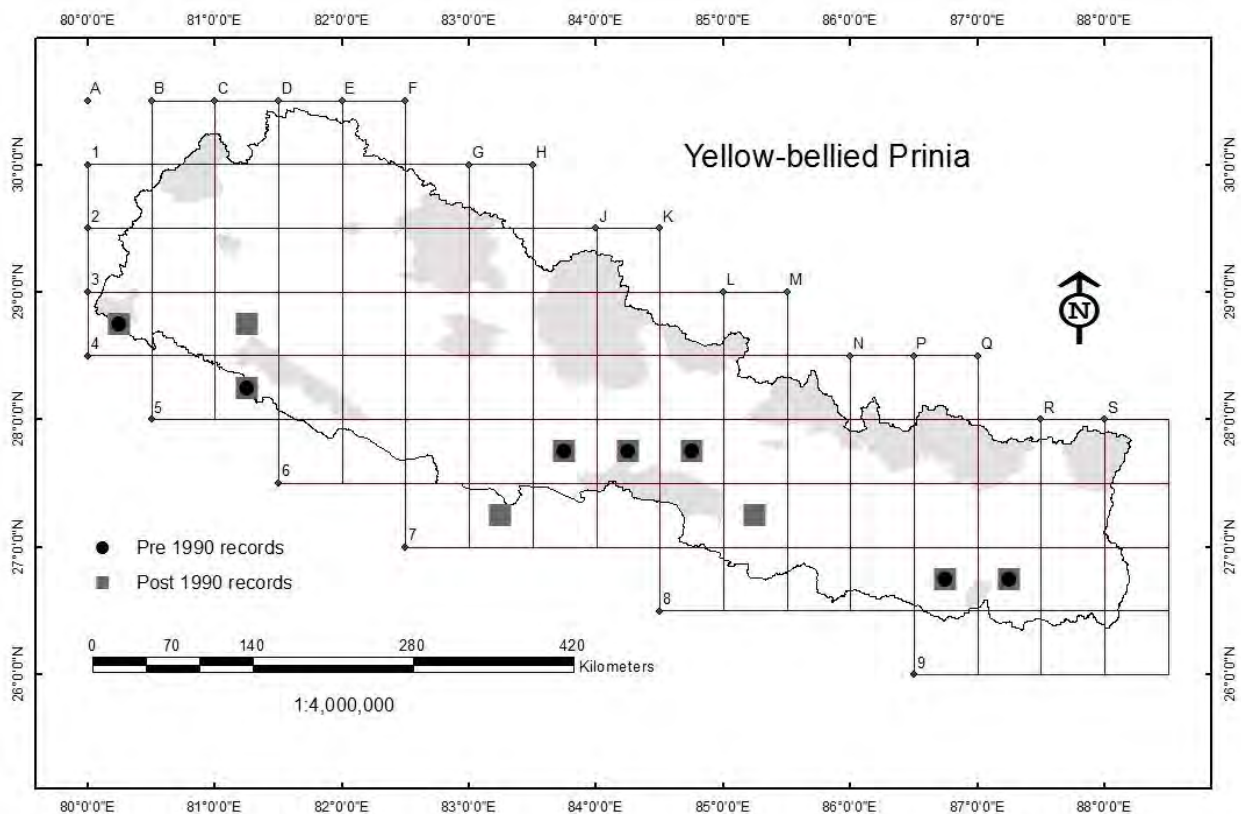
Common Name

Yellow-bellied Prinia (English),  
Pitodar Ghasephisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Cisticolidae



Distribution



Yellow-bellied Prinia is a local resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first definite record was a specimen collected from Bilauri, Kanchanpur District in February 1937 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a local resident in the lowlands and mapped it from western, central and eastern Nepal.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded from some additional localities compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Blackbuck Conservation Area, Khairapur (Ram Bahadur Shahi); a fairly common resident in Chitwan National



Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Kapil Pokharel) and a fairly common resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a). The species has been widely recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone: resident in Madi area and in Barandabhar Forest (BES), recorded at Meghauri from 2010 (Ashik Gurung), Sauraha, Chitwan District (Bishnu Mahato), Kumroj Community Forest grassland throughout the year and Pandavnagar in February 2015 (Sagar Giri); Jagatpur Community Forest grassland (Suchit Basnet); Janakauli in March 2010 (Giri 2010) and near Tharu Cultural Village Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011).

It has been recorded from only a few localities outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include: regularly recorded from Ghodaghodi Tal, 2012-15 (Hathan Chaudhary); Nepalgunj airport, Banke District 2013-15 (Ashik Gurung); Lumbini IBA, Rupandehi District e.g. one in April 1993 (Baral 1994) and Suwal *et al.* (2002), but no records from there from 2005-14 (Dinesh Giri).

In central Nepal recorded from between Gaur, Rautahat District and Sedhawa, Siraha District in April 2003 (Cox 2003) and by the Bagmati River, Rautahat in April 2013 (Hem Bahadur Katuwal).

In the east it has been recorded from Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. two in February 2005 (Baral 2005b) and seen there more recently (Badri Chaudhary).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 300 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Yellow-bellied Prinia. It may be declining because of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Yellow-bellied Prinia inhabits tall grass along river beds and in reedbeds (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Typically it is solitary or a few may be scattered in the same area. It is very active, foraging in tall grass and occasionally clambering to the top of grass stems to look around; sometimes it feeds on the ground (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983) and in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005).

#### Threats

Outside the protected areas' system Yellow-bellied Prinia is seriously threatened by habitat loss and degradation. Within protected areas it is at risk from inappropriate grassland management (grass burning and cutting) and invasive alien plant species. Throughout its Nepal range it is threatened by habitat fragmentation.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Yellow-bellied Prinia. Post-1990 it has been recorded from all lowland protected areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Near-threatened (NT) upgraded from the Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Yellow-bellied Prinia has been assessed as Near-threatened. It is a local resident in the lowlands recorded from western, central and far eastern Nepal. Since 1990 the species has been recorded from some additional localities compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. Post-1990 the species has been recorded in all lowland protected areas. There are few known localities outside the protected areas' system both pre- and post-1990. Yellow-bellied Prinia is threatened by habitat fragmentation throughout its Nepal range and from alien plant species in some areas. Within the protected areas' system it is at risk from inappropriate grassland management (grass cutting and burning) and outside it is threatened by habitat loss and degradation. As a result its population is declining.

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***Riparia paludicola*** (Vieillot, 1817) NT

Subspecies: *Riparia paludicola chinensis*

Common Name

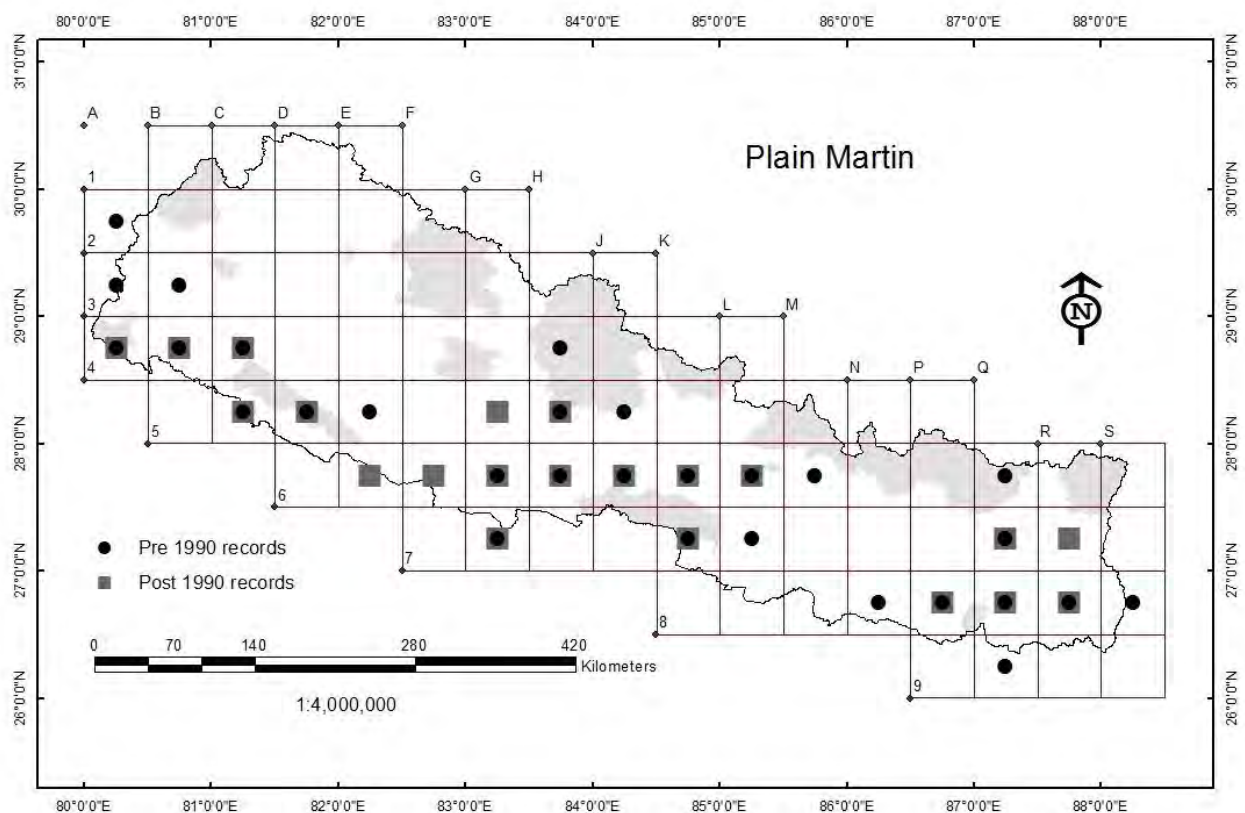
Plain Martin (English),  
Bhittegaunthali (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Hirundinidae



Distribution



Plain Martin is fairly common in some protected areas and in some localities outside the protected areas' system; uncommon elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Jhapa District (Cox 1992) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped it widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species's distribution has significantly decreased, especially in central and eastern Nepal, see text below and map.

The species' status in protected areas post-1990 is: a common resident at Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6)



(Bara and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Baral and Pradhan 1992, Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); recorded on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), and a fairly common resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a).

It has been recorded from Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar (Baral 1996, Pradhan 2005); Barandabhar (Ghimire 2009); common at Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); recorded at Janakauli Community Forest (K6), Chitwan District e.g. in March 2010 (Giri 2010); west of Chitwan National Park (H6), Nawalparasi District in February 2010 (Baral 2010a); Tharu Cultural Village Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011a), and in Namuna Community Forest (H6), Nawalparasi District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012)

The species is less widely and less frequently recorded outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below.

In the west records include: a common resident in Ghodaghodi lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992a, CSUWN and BCN 2012); recorded at Geta, Dhanghadi (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992b); Tikapur Park (C5), Kailali District in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Baral 1992b) and in June (Grimm and Fischer 2003); recorded in Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands (E6, F6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in February 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Bhairahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1994); Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Baral 2011b); Jagdishpur (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1993), February 2011 (Acharya 2011) and listed by Suwal *et al.* (2002); common at Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in January 1992 (Halliday 1992); recorded in Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District e.g. in November 2007 (Baral 2007), November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009) and February 2010 (Baral 2010a); Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000); Simaltal (J6), Tanahu District in November 1992 (Baral 1993), and Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported its status was uncertain in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; it was present at Saibu and the Bagmati valley below Chobar in April/May and September/November; recorded at Bungamati in December 2005 and at Bhaisepati in January 2006. Other records from the Kathmandu Valley include from by the Manora River in January 1993 (Baral 1993) and the Valley in November 1997 (Chaudhary 1998). Other records from central Nepal include: Malekhu (K6), Dhading District in 1991 (Baral 1992c) and Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2011 (Baral 2011c), and a common migrant at Chitlang (L6), Chandrigiri Range, Makwanpur District in 1991/92 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992).

In the east records include from: Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District e.g. in September and December 1992 (Baral 1993), January 1994 (Choudhary 1994) and April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); common at Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in April and May 1991 (Halberg 1991); recorded at Bhojpur (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in February, March and April 1999 (Choudhary 1999), December 2000 (Chaudhary 2001) and February 2005 (Baral and Birch 2005); north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in March 2010 (Baral 2010b); Bhagalpur (Q8), Udayapur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Chimdi Lake (Q8), Sunsari District (Surana *et al.* 2007); Patnali, Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in May 2008 (Giri 2008) and October 2010 (Baral 2010c); between Dobhan and Mitlung (R7) in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), Taplejung District in April 2008, and Jhapa District (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Benin, Bhutan, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China (mainland), Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hong Kong (China), India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Israel, Kenya, Laos, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Zambia, Zimbabwe (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 1500 m (- 2990 m); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

A total of 102 was counted in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjoining areas between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012). No other population surveys have been carried out for the species. The large number of 1000+ was estimated in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001). 1000+ nests were recorded at Brahmasthan, Chitwan National Park in January 2013, but a large dam constructed at that locality in 2014 destroyed this breeding site (DB Chaudhary).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Plain Martin frequents the vicinity lakes and rivers. It is a typical hirundine. Usually it feeds over water, sometimes over land, often in flocks with other hirundines and swifts and is especially active at dusk. It is frequently seen perched in rows on telegraph wires in the early morning (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects: Diptera and small beetles Coleoptera taken on the wing (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983, Kovacs 1988, Madge *et al.* 1974), in the Kathmandu Valley in 1974 (Madge *et al.* 1974) and in the 1950s (Proud 1955); near Trisuli (Petersen 1983), and at Koshi Barrage in March 1981 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1981). 100+ nests in February and March 2013-15 at Gajuri in between Belku and Malekhu, Dhading District in a road cut t (Tika Giri)

### Threats

Plain Martin is threatened by disturbance of river banks leading to loss of nesting sites, even in some protected areas. It was proved breeding in the Kathmandu Valley in the 1950s and 1974 and at Koshi Barrage in 1981 (see Habitat and Ecology section above), but no breeding records are known from these well covered sites since 1990. However, the species is also breeding in near newly created habitat in road cuts e.g..at Gajuri, Dhading District (C. Inskipp, Tika Giri).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Plain Martin. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke, Chitwan and Shivapuri Nagarjun National Parks and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Near-threatened (NT) upgraded from the Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Plain Martin has been assessed as Near-threatened. It is fairly common in some protected areas and in some localities outside the protected areas' system, and uncommon elsewhere. Since 1990 the species' distribution has significantly decreased, especially in central and eastern Nepal. The species is threatened by disturbance of river banks leading to loss of nesting sites, even in some protected areas. It no longer breeds at two well covered localities where it bred in the 1970s and 1980s and the nesting site of a large colony in Chitwan National Park was destroyed in 2014. However, the species is also breeding in new habitats created by road cuts at some localities. Overall its population is likely to have significantly declined.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009_006.pdf)



## *Saxicola leucurus* (Blyth, 1847) NT

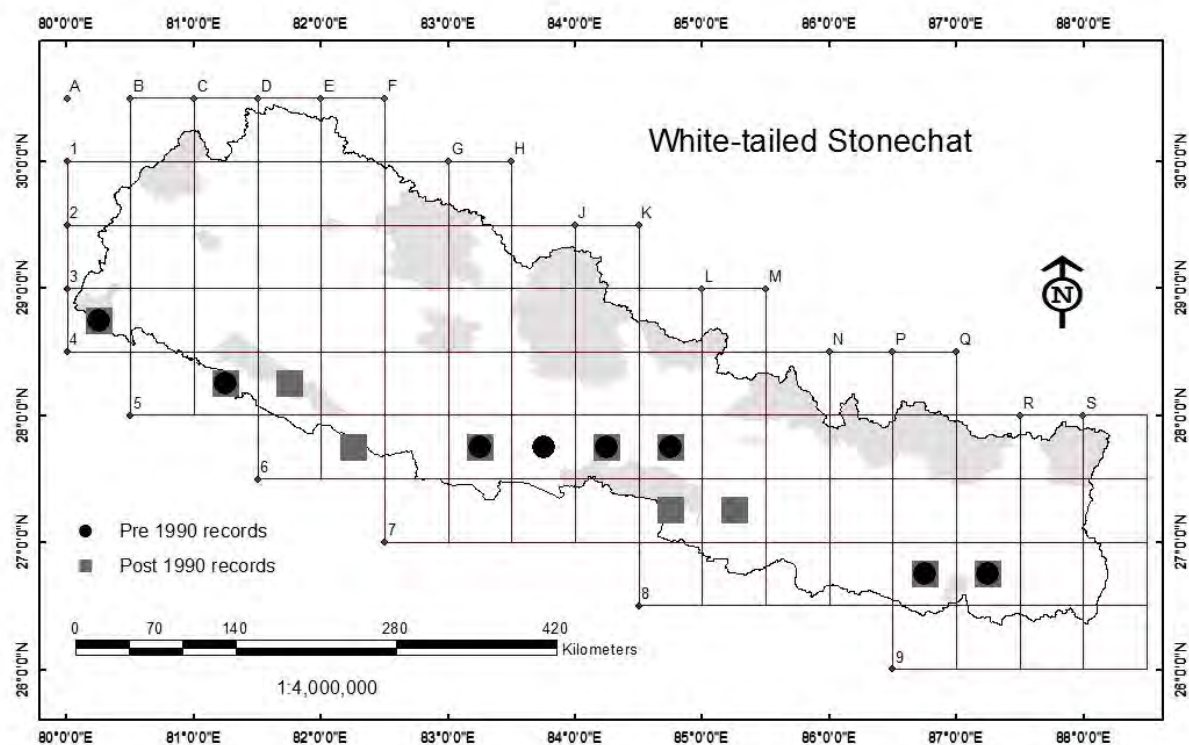
### Common Name

White-tailed Stonechat, (English),  
Kaanse Jhyapsi (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



### Distribution



White-tailed Stonechat is a local resident in the lowlands. It has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the far east. The species was first recorded for Nepal at Bilauri, Kanchanpur District in January 1937 (Bailey 1938).

Pre-1990 the species was chiefly recorded in protected areas. Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as occasionally recorded resident in suitable habitat. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a local resident, fairly common in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, Chitwan National Park and at Koshi Barrage, and with single records from elsewhere. The latter comprise one record from Bardia National Park in November 1985 (Cox 1985); a specimen from Kapilvastu District (Nepali 1982), one sight record from Tamaspur, Nawalparasi District (Redman and Murphy 1979) (now in Chitwan National Park buffer zone), and recorded in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Heinen 1990). There are two records from the Kathmandu Valley in April and May (years unknown) (Fleming *et al.* 1976), but Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) considered these records doubtful.

Post-1990 improved coverage has resulted in more records from the west, but the overall situation in the country remains the same as pre-1990 with almost all records from within protected areas and their buffer zones.

The species' status in protected areas since 1990 is: common in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001, Halliday and Baral 1992, Kumal 2001 and Tamang undated in Inskipp 2001); a fairly common resident in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001), and a frequent resident in Koshi Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). It has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Barandbahar in 2000 (Adhikari *et al.* 2000); at Janakauli, Chitwan District in February 2008 (Giri 2008); Sauraha in April 1996 (Baral 1996), and at least 20 birds in grassland about 5 km east of Sauraha in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012). A comprehensive bird survey in the Koshi area in April 2012 only found the species in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and the immediate vicinity, and not on two islands north of the reserve (H. S. Baral *in litt.* January 2013, Baral *et al.* 2013).

The few known post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system are: in the west three at Nepalgunj, Banke District (D5) in December 1998 (Chaudhary 1999); recorded in Dang Deukhuri Important Bird Area, Dang District (E6) in 2009 (Thakuri 2009a,b), and two at Jagdishpur Reservoir (G6), Kapilvastu District in March 2005 or 2006 (Baral 2008). In central Nepal one was recorded at Dahidamar, Bara District (L7) along the proposed North South Fast Track Road in March 2008 (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

Globally the species has also been recorded in Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 75 m; lower limit: 300 m (- 915)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-tailed Stonechat. The high number of 40 was seen at Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in March 1998 (Chaudhary 1998). However, only 12 birds were recorded in 2014 (Dhiraj Chaudhary pers. comm. to Hem Sagar Baral). Its population is probably declining as a result of habitat degradation within protected areas.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-tailed Stonechat inhabits reeds and tall grassland, often in wet areas (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It was recorded in high elephant grass bordering rivers in the Rapti dun by Fleming *et al.* (1976). The species' behaviour is very similar to that of Common Stonechat. It usually keeps singly or in pairs, and perches prominently on tops of bushes, tall herbaceous plants, or posts. It has an alert upright stance, often flicking its wings and jerking its tail up and down while simultaneously fanning its tail rapidly (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987) which it catches by flying or hopping to the ground, picking up prey and then returning to the same perch or a new one. Flying insects are caught in aerial sallies (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It was proved breeding in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982), in Chitwan National Park (Alström and Olsson 1983, Blanchon and Dubois 1987 and Gurung 1983), and north of Koshi barrage (Grimmett 1982).

#### Threats

White-tailed Stonechat is threatened by loss and degradation of its lowland grassland habitat caused by burning, flooding, overgrazing and over-harvesting of wetland resources including grass. The invasive weed *Mikania micrantha* is an additional serious threat in Chitwan National Park and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-tailed Stonechat. It has been recorded from Chitwan National Park and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Near-threatened (NT) upgraded from the Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-tailed Stonechat has been assessed as Near-threatened because of loss and degradation of its grassland habitat. It is a local resident, recorded almost entirely from lowland grasslands within protected areas. The species has been recorded in several protected areas and is considered common/fairly common at two of these. There are very few known records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Its population is probably declining as a result of habitat degradation within protected areas caused by burning, flooding, overgrazing and over-harvesting of wetland resources including grass. The invasive weed *Mikania micrantha* is an additional serious threat in Chitwan National Park and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

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***Seicercus poliogenys* (Blyth, 1847) NT**

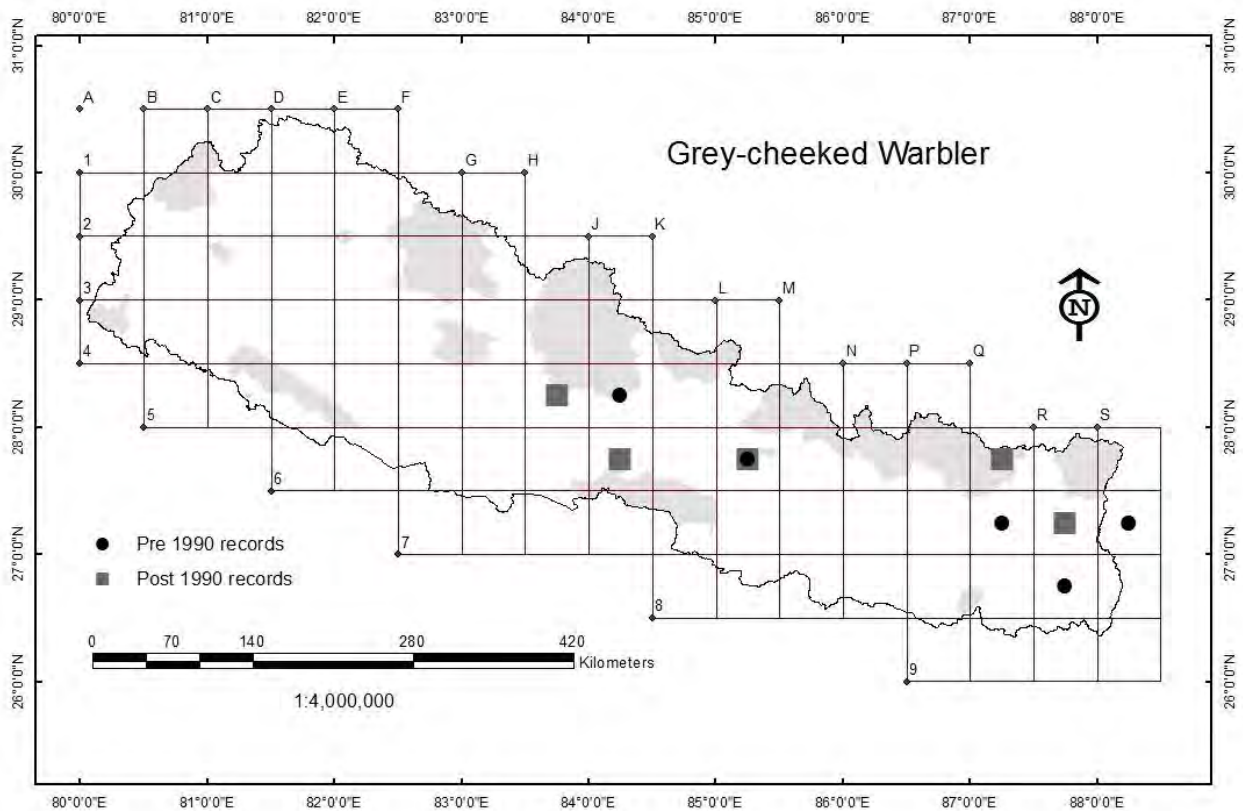
Common Name

Grey-cheeked Warbler (English),  
Setochasme Phisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Grey-cheeked Warbler is a rare resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Ghandruk, Annapurna Conservation Area (the western limit of the species' range) in west-central Nepal east to below Jamuna, Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was from the Singhalila ridge in the far east in April and May 1912 (Stevens 1924).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was scarce, probably resident and mapped its distribution from central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 there has been little change in the species' distribution, see map and text below.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: rare, probably resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Birdfinders 2011, Fouarge 1993, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003, Thakuri and Poudyal 2011) and rare in Makalu Barun National Park (Tymstra 1993 in Cox 1999, Baral 2005, Inskipp *et al.* 2005).



Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Raniban forest, Pokhara valley and near the Australian camp between Khande and Thula kharka). Kaski District Pokhara in February-March in a few recent years up to 2015 (Hari KC).

In central Nepal records include: one or two from Siraichuli area, Mahabharat range in April 2004 (BES); one at Chandragiri in July 2015 (Katuwal *et al.* 2015); also in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area. Known records here are singles in June 1992 (Baral 1993, Murphy 1993), April 1993 (Flack 1993); November 1994 (Fletcher 1994); September 2000 (Fuller 2000), and December 2001 (Naylor *et al.* 2002).

In the east records include singles between Hatiya and Shaksila Gola (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992) and below Jamuna (R7), Ilam District, Mai valley in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3200 m (summer); 2000 m (winter) lower limit: 2440 m (summer); 800 m (- 250 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Grey-cheeked Warbler. Its population is probably declining because of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Grey-cheeked Warbler inhabits bamboo and dense undergrowth in broadleaved evergreen forest (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is a small warbler which flits actively about undergrowth and bushes of dense forest. It frequently makes aerial sallies, and flutters and hovers among foliage and twigs. The species often joins mixed hunting parties in the non-breeding season (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Grey-cheeked Warbler is seriously threatened by loss and degradation of broadleaved evergreen forest with bamboo and dense undergrowth.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Grey-cheeked Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna Conservation Area.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Near-threatened (NT) upgraded from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Grey-cheeked Warbler has been assessed as Near-threatened. It is a rare resident, recorded from west-central areas (the limit of the species' range) to the far east. Since 1990 there has been little change in the species' distribution. Post-1990 there are a few records from two protected areas (and one record from a third). There have also been several records of single birds from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, but none since 2001 and very few other records outside the protected areas' system. Grey-cheeked Warbler is seriously threatened by loss and degradation of broadleaved evergreen forest with bamboo and dense undergrowth. As a result its population is probably declining.

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***Timalia pileata*** Horsfield, 1821 NT  
Subspecies: *Timalia pileata bengalensis*

Common Name

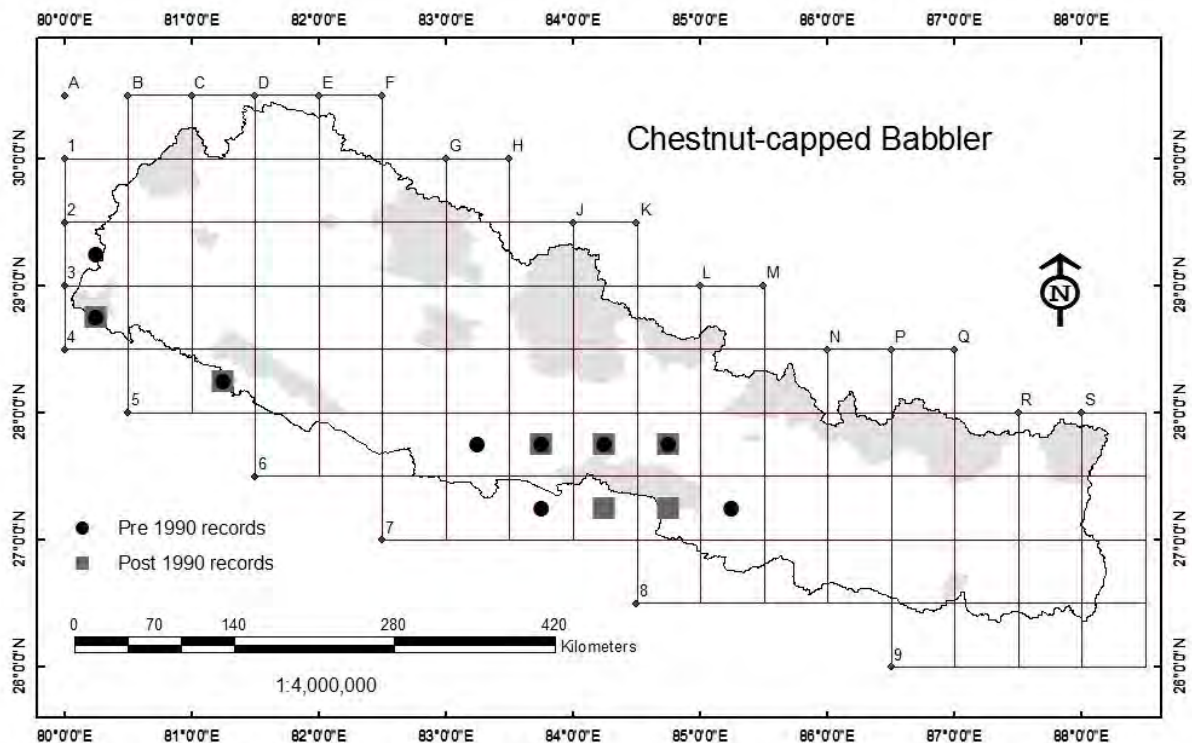
Chestnut-capped Babbler (English),  
Ratotauke Ghansabhyakur (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Chestnut-capped Babbler is a local resident in the lowlands. Post-1990 records indicate that it is confined to Chitwan National Park and its buffer zone and two other protected areas, both in the west, Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve and Bardia National Park. Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (many records e.g. Baral and Inskipp 2009) and Barmdeo Mandi, Dadeldhura District (Rand and Fleming 1957) are the western limits of the species' range.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species fairly common and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as locally common.

Its recent status in protected areas is: a common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009), Bardia National Park (NTNC workshop, October 2012), and in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). It is also recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Hem Subedi).

Post-1990 Chestnut-capped Babbler has also been recorded from various parts of Chitwan National Park buffer

zone e.g. at Bees Hazari Tal in 1996 (Baral 1996), west of the park in February 2010 (Baral 2010), and in Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011) and in Parsa Wildlife Reserve buffer zone (NTNC workshop, October 2012).

There are mainly single pre-1990 records from other several localities where it has not been recorded subsequently, see map. These are specimens collected at: Bilauri, Kanchanpur District in January and February 1937 (Bailey 1938), and in December 1952 (Rand and Fleming 1957), at Barmdeo Mandi, Dadeldhura District in January 1953 (Rand and Fleming 1957), Tikapur, Bardia District in January 1949 (Ripley 1950), Beltari, Rupandehi District in March 1982 (Nepali 1982), Tribeni, Nawalparasi District in January and February 1936 (Bailey 1938) and at Hetauda, Makwanpur District in May 1947 (Biswas 1962). Suitable habitat may no longer exist at some of these localities e.g. Hetauda.

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013). Nepal is the western limit of the species' range.

### Elevation

Upper limit: 300 m; lower limit: 150 m

### Population

Chestnut-capped Babbler was surveyed together with other lowland grassland species by Baral (2001) who described it as perhaps the most common of the grassland specialists. However, the species has probably declined as a result of habitat loss and degradation and because its distribution has become highly fragmented.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: 10,000; maximum population: 30,000

### Habitat and Ecology

Chestnut-capped Babbler is a grassland specialist and inhabits tall, moist lowland grasslands (Baral 2000, 2001); also scrub jungle mixed with tall grass and damp reed beds (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It requires tall grasses (Baral 2000, 2001). In the non-breeding season it associates in small parties. The babbler usually keeps out of sight in thick cover although it may sun itself for a few seconds or sing in the open. Typically it clambers up and down grass stems, systematically searching for insects. Chestnut-capped Babbler was proved breeding in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983). In Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve adult birds were seen carrying food and mist-netted birds had a well-developed brood patch indicating breeding (Baral 2000).

### Threats

Chestnut-capped Babbler is threatened by the loss, degradation and fragmentation of its lowland grassland habitat.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Chestnut-capped Babbler. It has been recorded in Chitwan and Bardia National Parks, and in Sukla Phanta and Parsa Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Near-threatened (NT) upgraded from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Chestnut-capped Babbler has been assessed as Near-threatened. It is a local lowland grassland specialist. Its distribution has reduced and it is now apparently confined to Chitwan National Park and Parsa Wildlife Reserve and their buffer zones, and Bardia National Park and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve. The species is common in Chitwan and Bardia National Parks and in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve. It is threatened by the loss, degradation and fragmentation of its lowland grassland habitat and as a result its population is probably declining.

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***Abroscopus schisticeps*** (J. E. & G. R. Gray, 1847) LC

Subspecies: *Abroscopus schisticeps schisticeps*

Common Name

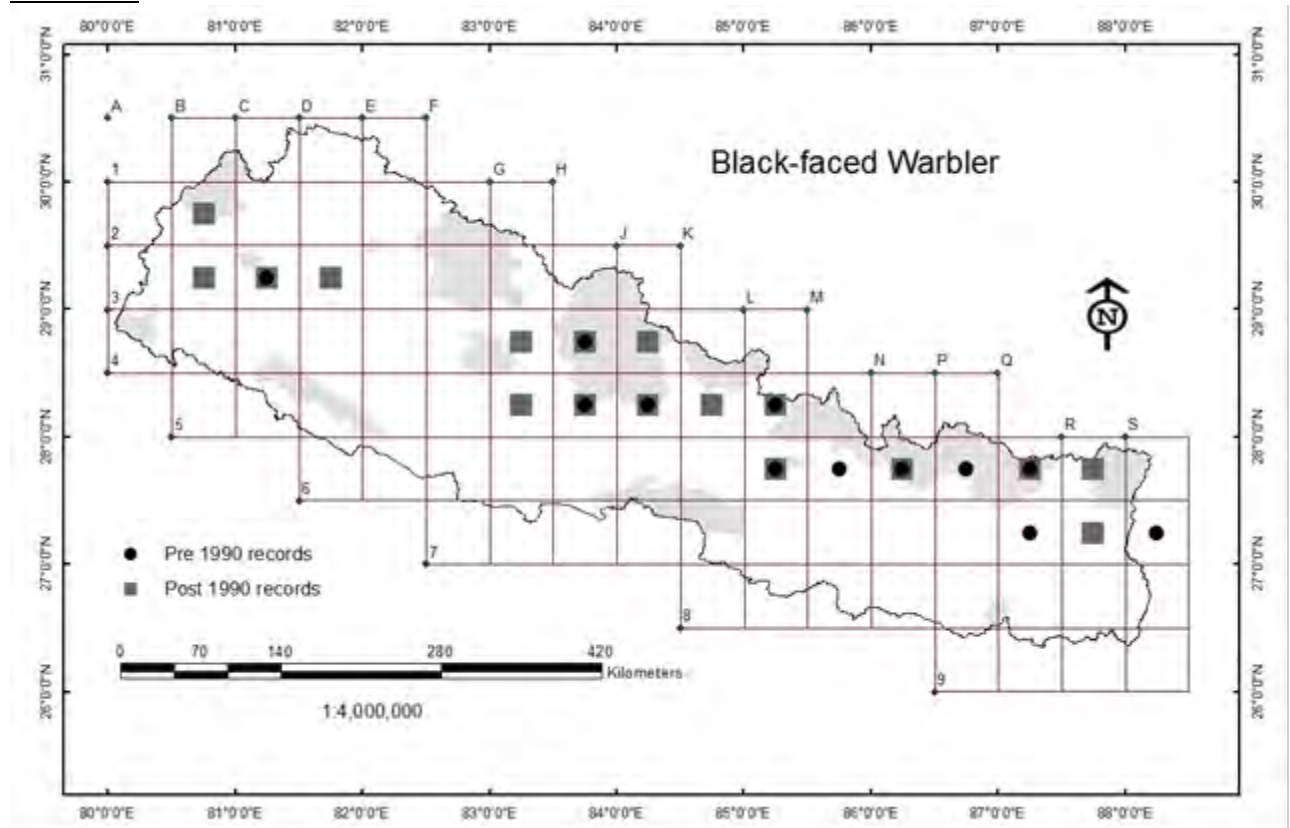
Black-faced Warbler (English),  
Gaajale Phisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sylviidae



PORAG JYOTI PHUKAN

Distribution



Black-faced Warbler is a local resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east, although it is more widespread in the west than in the east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Gray and Gray 1847, Warren and Harrison 1971) from a B. H. Hodgson specimen.

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it a local resident and mapped its distribution chiefly from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 there has been an increase in distribution in the west, probably because of better recording, and a decrease in the east; overall the distribution has increased, see map and text below.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: frequent in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a frequent resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu

Conservation Area (Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN (2007) and in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a locally fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Carpenter *et al.* 1995 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Since 1990 the species has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat, see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: several records from Dadeldhura District (B3) in May 2010 and also recorded in Baitadi District (B3) in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); a few localities in the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4) in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in March and June 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013b), and between Bhujung and Pasgam (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon resident in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area between 2004 and 2006; however, other records, e.g. 12 in January 2010 (Giri 2010) and 32 in April 2011 (Baral 2011) indicate it is fairly common there. Records from other localities include: an uncommon resident in Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri Range (L6), Makwanpur District in 1991/92 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and recorded between Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6) Nuwakot District in May 1999 (Chaudhary 1999).

In the east records include from Mamankhe (R7), Taplejung District in November 2000 (Goble 2000).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2700 m; lower limit: 1525 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Black-faced Warbler. The large number of 32 was seen on 25 April 2011 on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area (Baral 2011). The population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Black-faced Warbler inhabits moist broadleaved forests, especially in moss-covered trees, bamboo and thick undergrowth (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species is a small and active warbler, which feeds in a similar manner to *Phylloscopus* warblers by gleaning from foliage and twigs, and making frequent aerial sallies. It is usually found in fast-moving parties of 10-15 birds, often with other warblers and small babblers. It forages actively in the middle forest storey and tall bushes in forest (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved north of Syabru, Langtang National Park (Heath 1986). The species probably descends from higher altitudes in winter (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Black-faced Warbler is threatened by loss and degradation of broadleaved forests; however, as its breeding habitat extends to the upper temperate zone, it is less affected than species at lower altitudes.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-faced Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Khaptad, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-faced Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a local resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east, although it is more widespread in the west. Since 1990 there has been an increase in distribution in the west, probably because of better recording, and a decrease in the east; overall its distribution has increased. Black-faced Warbler has been recorded quite widely both inside and outside the protected areas' system, within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat post-1990. The species is threatened by loss and degradation of broadleaved forests; however, as its breeding habitat extends to the upper temperate zone, it is less affected than species at lower altitudes. Its population may be stable.

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***Acridotheres fuscus* Wagler, 1827 LC**

Subspecies: *Acridotheres fuscus fuscus*

Common name

Jungle Myna (English),

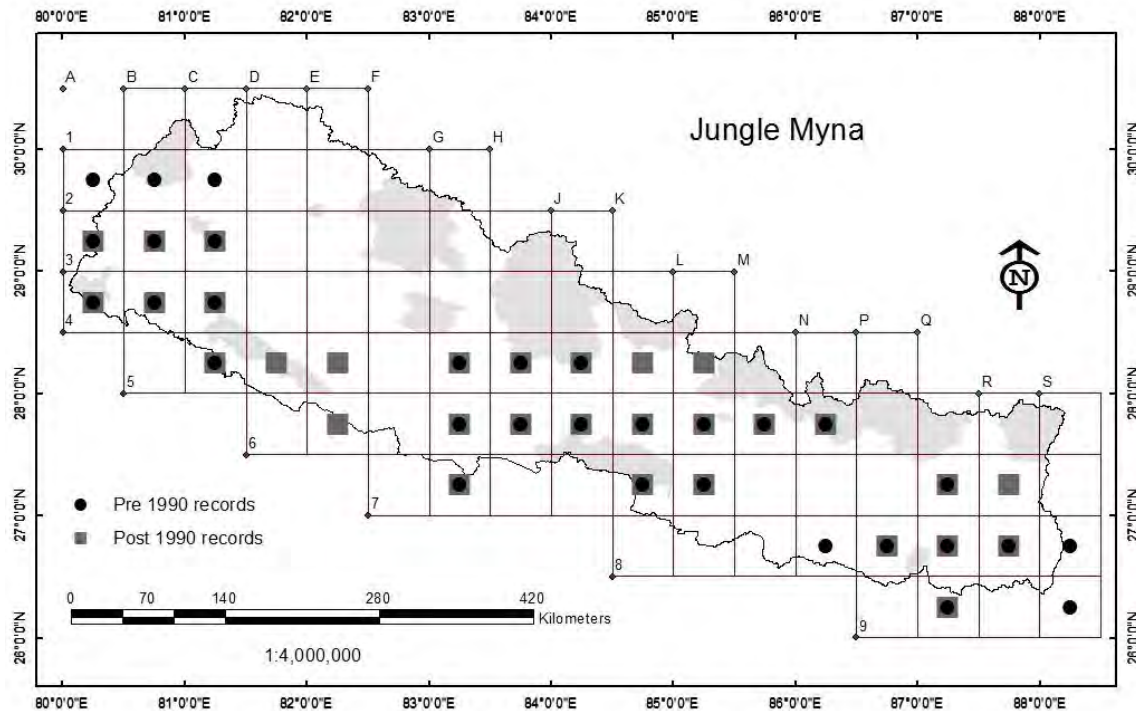
Ban Rupee (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sturnidae



Distribution



Jungle Myna is a common and widespread resident below 1525 m. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Amargadhi, Kaphali Danda and Chulla, Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species as a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species a common resident from the terai up to 1525 m and mapped its distribution from the far west to the far east.

Before 1990, the species was noted up to 2200 m at Khaptad [C3] in April and May 1988 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988).

There is no significant difference in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); frequent and probably resident in Annapurna



Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), uncommon in Modi River watershed area (H5) of Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); recorded at Dhunche (L5) in May 1992 at (Baral 1992) and at Syabrubesi (L5) in May 2003 (Chaudhary 2003) of Langtang National Park; a fairly common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded in Nagarjun (L6) in February 2005 (Baral 2005a) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009) and a fairly common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005b). The species has been recorded at Barandabhar Forest and wetland (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District and Gundre Khola in November 2007 (Baral 2007), Tharu Cultural Village Resort in December 2011 (Baral 2011a), Nawalparasi District, buffer zones of Chitwan National Park. It has been recorded in Bardia National Park buffer zone in the Khata Corridor (C5), Bardia District (Chaudhari 2007).

Jungle Myna has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range, see map and text below. Post-1990 records follow.

In the west records include: from Amargadhi, Kaphali Danda and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 and Dasarath Chand Municipality (B3), Baitadi District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); between Ridhabhot (G5), Bikos (G5), Sidure (G6), Rupakot (G6) and Buachhidi (G5), Gulmi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999); between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999) and a resident in Balewa (H5) (Basnet 2009), Baglung District; Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011b); Banpale Danda (H5) (Karki *et al.* 1997), Pokhara (H5) in March 2011 (Birdfinders 2011), Begnas Tal (J5) in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999), Kaski District; Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000); between Chandi Bhanjyang and Kavri Dharmasala (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999), Rampur Valley (H6) (Gautam 2003), Palpa District; Besisahar and Bhulbhule (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998); Budhi Gandaki near Arughat (K5), Gorkha District in November 1992 (Prodon 1992).

In the central region records include: Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005a); Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2011 (Baral 2011c); a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009); a common resident in Chitlang Forest (L7) (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) and recorded from Hetauda (L7) in February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004), Makwanpur District; along Kathmandu (L6), Lalitpur (L6), Makwanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) District sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); between Kopuwa and Mewa (L7), Rautahat District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Panauti and Dhulikhel (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in November 1994 (Baral 1994a), and between Sermathang and Melamchi Bazaar (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2007 (Byskov 2007).

In the east records include: from Trijuga River area and Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998); Ram Dhuni Forest (Q8) in February 2007 (Choudhary 2007), an occasionally recorded migrant in Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2011 (Baral 2011c), Sunsari District; an occasionally recorded resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), Biratnagar (Q9) in March 1994 (Baral 1994b), Morang District; Gorja Gaun (R7), Taplejung District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District (Baral 2003a); between Prajapate and Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992), and the lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Fiji, India, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Samoa, Singapore, Thailand, Tokelau (to New Zealand) and Tonga (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2200 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Jungle Myna. Post 1990, as many as 800 birds were recorded on 30 March 2009 between Pokhara and Chitwan National Park (Baral 2009), 600 birds were recorded on 16 February 2003 at Chitwan National Park (Baral 2003b).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Jungle Myna inhabits well-wooded areas, cultivation, and edges of towns and villages (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species is pugnacious, tame, but not so bold and seen in pairs or family groups in summer, but collects in large flocks up to 100 or more during winter (Fleming *et al.* 1976); very partial to flower-nectar and an important cross-pollinator for many species (Ali and Ripley 1987). Its population from urban areas of Kathmandu valley may be declining (Hem Sagar Baral pers. obs.) due to loss of suitable habitat and possible competition with the sympatric Common Myna. The arrival of Great Myna may also pose a threat to Jungle Myna—the effects of which are currently not well known. The species is reported having poorly understood local seasonal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding was confirmed at Chitwan (Gurung 1983), Hetauda (Biswas 1963), Naubise, Dhading District (Hem Sagar Baral) and in the Kathmandu Valley (Scully 1879, Proud 1949). The species feeds on fruits and berries, grain, flower-nectar and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Jungle Myna may have benefitted by conversion of the forests into agricultural land and settlement areas. Threats to Jungle Myna are not understood.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Jungle Myna. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Annapurna and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Jungle Myna has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been no significant difference in distribution compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. Jungle Myna may have benefitted by conversion of forests into agricultural lands and settlement areas. Its population may be stable.

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***Acridotheres ginginianus* Latham, 1790 LC**

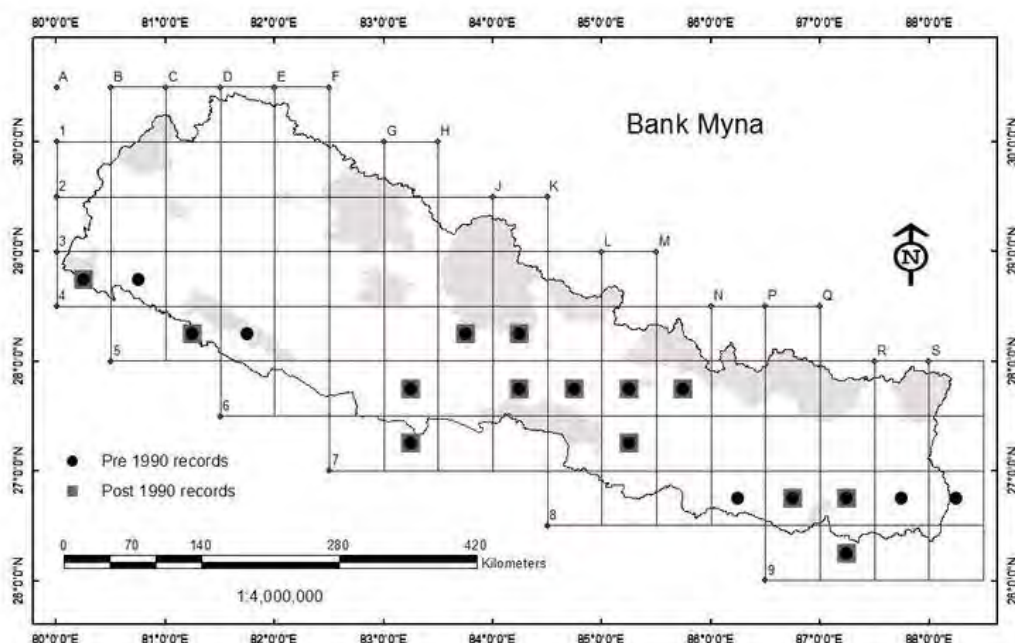
Common name

Bank Myna (English),  
Bhith Rupee (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sturnidae



Distribution



Bank Myna is a fairly common and widespread local resident of the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species a locally, fairly common resident, occurring mainly in the terai, only occasionally seen at higher altitudes and mapped its distribution in the lowlands from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 there has been a reduction in distribution compared to pre-1990, despite better coverage (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C5) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and a frequent breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005). The species has been recorded at Sauraha, buffer zone of Chitwan National Park in March 1994 (Zerning and Braasch 1995).

Bank Myna has been recorded from several localities outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990.



In the west records include: from Jagdishpur Reservoir Area (G6), Kapilvastu District in December 2010 (Baral 2011); Lumbini (G7) in January 2011 (Acharya 2011) and Gaidahawa Lake Area (G6) in February 2011 (Baral 2011), Rupandehi District; Begnas Lake (J5) in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999), Pokhara (H5), in March 2009 (Baral 2009), Kaski District; between Dumre (J6), Tanahun District and Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in November 1994 (Fletcher 1994).

In central Nepal records include: recorded in Kathmandu Valley (L6) in July 1991 (Mackenzie 1991), February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004) and Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in May 2000 (Giri 2000). In the east records include: from Trijuga River area (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Patnali Forest (Q8) in October 2000 (Stair and Stair 2000), Dharan Forest (Q8) in February 1998 (Choudhary 1998), a common resident in Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Sunsari District, and a fairly common resident in Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District (Jha and Subba 2012).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Kuwait, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Taiwan (China) and United Arab Emirates (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 1370 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Bank Myna. Post 1990, as many as 202 birds were recorded on 11 December 1997 (Chaudhary 1998a) and more than 200 were recorded on 17 March 1998 (Chaudhary 1998b) at Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Bank Myna is found near villages, often associated with grazing animals and rarely occurs in urban areas in Nepal (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); other areas include irrigated cultivation, sewage farms and damp grassland (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is pugnacious, bold, tame and gregarious. It occurs in small flocks during the breeding season and in large flocks in winter (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is subject to some poorly understood local movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding was confirmed at Chitwan (Gurung 1983), Mahendranagar (A4) (Wolstencroft 1981), Bardia District (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982), and the eastern tarai (P8) (Gregory-Smith and Batson 1976). The species is omnivorous and feeds fruits, grains and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Bank Myna may be threatened by habitat loss, especially cattle grazing lands.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Bank Myna. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia and Chitwan, National Parks and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Bank Myna has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded at four protected areas and several localities outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Since 1990, there has been a small reduction in distribution compared to pre-1990, despite better coverage. The species may be threatened by habitat loss especially cattle grazing lands. Its population is probably decreasing but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Acridotheres grandis* Moore, 1858 LC**

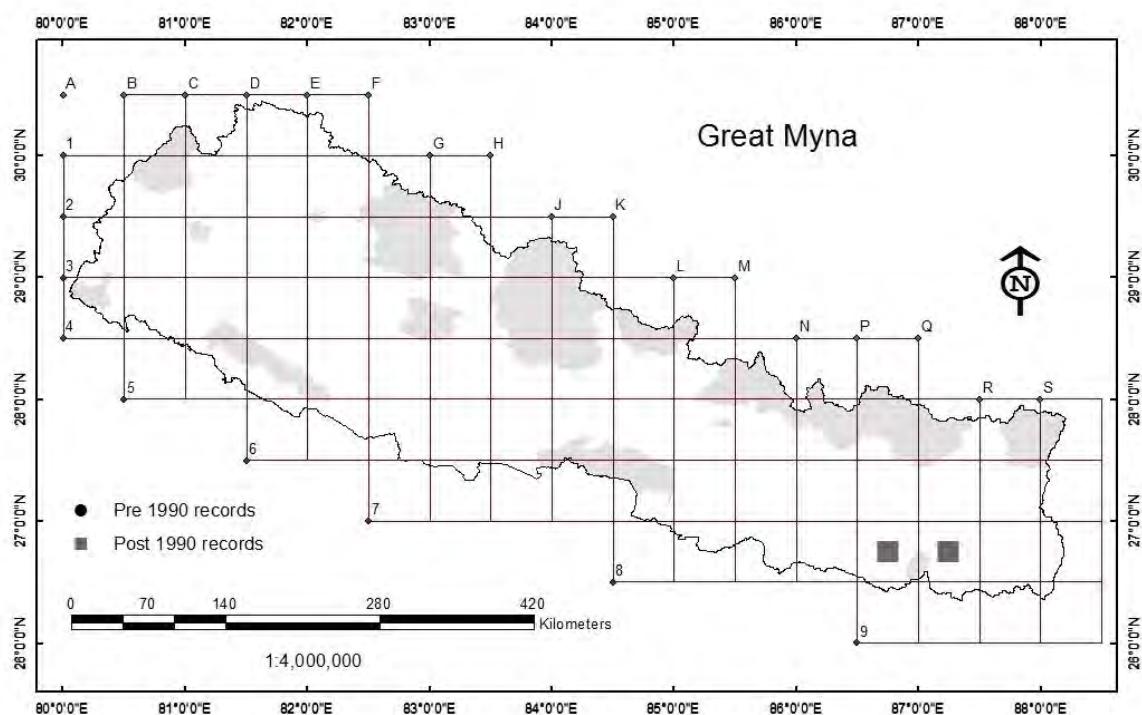
Common name

Great Myna (English),  
Jure Rupi (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sturnidae



Distribution



Great Myna is a recent breeding colonist to the far eastern lowlands, where it is a rare and local resident.

Tripura was previously considered as the western limit for the species (Ali and Ripley 1987). Since then it has slowly expanded its range westwards and was predicted to occur in Nepal by Choudhury (2004).

Two birds recorded on 2 and 9 March 2011 at Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and its buffer zone (P8, Q8) constituted the first record of the species in Nepal (Giri and Choudhary 2011). Subsequently, there have been several records of the species, mainly pairs, including a pair breeding in Kushaha and raising young successfully (Badri Chaudhary pers. comm. 2014).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2015).

Elevation

Lower limit: 75 m

### Population

Current population estimate is less than 10 birds in Nepal.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: 10

### Habitat and Ecology

Great Myna inhabits open country, cultivation and villages (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species' habits are similar to those of Jungle Myna (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It can be seen insect-hunting on wet meadows among grazing cattle, or feeding from Silk Cotton and other flowers. It also feeds on fruits, berries and grain (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Threats to Great Myna are not known. It is a highly adaptable species – it might pose a threat to Jungle Myna.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Great Myna.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Great Myna has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a recent colonist to the far east, where it is a rare and local breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and buffer zone. Threats to Great Myna are not known. It is a highly adaptable species.

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***Acridotheres tristis*** Linnaeus, 1766 LC

Subspecies: *Acridotheres tristis tristis*

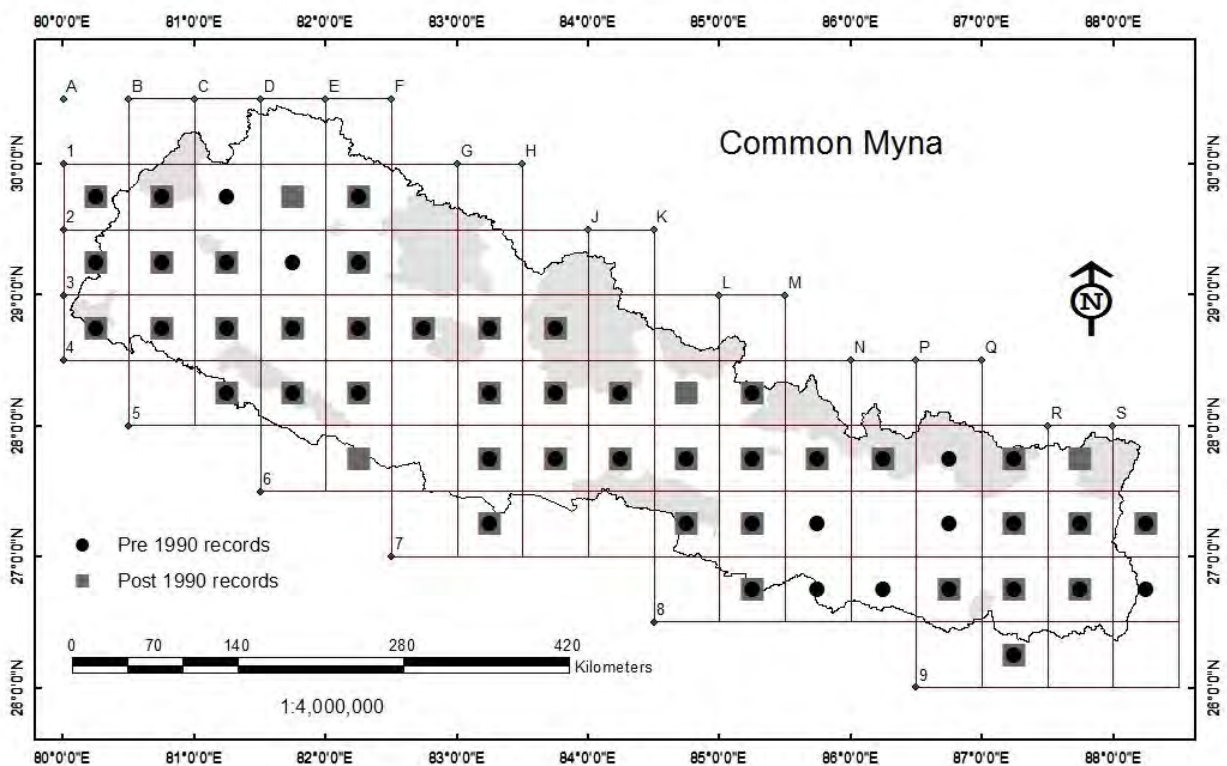
Common name

Common Myna (English),  
Dangre Rupee (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sturnidae



Distribution



Common Myna is a very common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Amargadhi and Chulla, Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an abundant resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species an abundant resident, regularly found up to at least 1830 m throughout the year, occasionally summering up to 3050 m and wintering up to 2135 m. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also mapped its distribution widely from the far west to the far east.

There is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); fairly common in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) of Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012). Barber (1990) considered the

species was an uncommon summer visitor in Rara National Park (E2); however, Giri (2005) reported the species was a frequent resident in the area; a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), a resident in Modi River watershed area (H5) of Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); rare and probably a resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded at Nagarjun (L6) in March 1997 (Giri 1997), of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Barandabhar Forest and wetland (Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District and Gundre Khola in November 2007 (Baral 2007) and Tharu Cultural Village Resort in December 2011 (Baral 2011a), Nawalparasi District, buffer zones of Chitwan National Park. It has been recorded in Bardia National Park buffer zone in the Khata Corridor (C5) (Chaudhari 2007).

Common Myna has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range, see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: from Amargadhi and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Dasarath Chand Municipality (B3), Baitadi District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012), a common breeding resident in Mohana River Corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), recorded in Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); Chisapani (C4) in March 1997 (Giri 1997) Bardia District; between Daurogaon, Beuli, Kalikot, Takula, Chhirna (D2) Kalikot District and Narakot (E3), Jumla District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Kotuwa (D4), Rawtkot (D4) and between Gaibanne, Madela, Lihie and Okharpata (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Khalanga, Rimna, Kalimati, Kauli, Jiridaha (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Sallibazar (E5), Salyan District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); recorded at Dang-Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); between Rimna, Chisapani, Karki Jiula, Kalimati (F4), Rukum District (Baral *et al.* 2013b); between Malika Dhuri, Lusum and Deurali Thanti (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and a resident in Balewa (H5) (Basnet 2009), Baglung District; recorded between Rupakot and Buachidi (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999), Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2011, 2013), Gulmi District; a resident in Jagdishpur Reservoir Area (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Bhairahawa (G6) in April 1993 (Baral 1994a), Lumbini (G7) in February 2011 (Acharya 2011) and Gaidahawa Lake Area (G6) in February 2011 (Baral 2011b), Rupandehi District; Banpale Danda (H5) (Karki *et al.* 1997), Pokhara (H5) in March 2009 (Baral 2009), Begnas Tal (J5) in March 2001 (Malling Olsen 2004), Kaski District ; Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000); between Kavri Dharmasala and Argali (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b), Rampur Valley (H6) (Gautam 2003), Palpa District; Bhulbhule and Bahundanda (J5) in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998) and Besisahar (J5) in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), Lamjung District, and Budhi Gandaki near Arughat (K5), in November 1992 (Prodon 1992).

In the central region records include: from Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Dhading (K6) in April 2011 (Baral 2011c), Dhading District; a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley [L6] (Mallalieu 2008), recorded along Bagmati River corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009); a common resident in Chitlang Forest (L7) (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) and Hetauda (L7) in May 2000 (Giri 2000), Makwanpur District; Judibela Community Forest (L7) and Aadarsha Community and National Forest (L7) in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013c), between Lal Bakaiya and Kopuwa (L7) in April 2003 (Cox 2003), Rautahat District; Bakaiya Community Forest (L7) and Dudhaura Khola Forest Area (L7) in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013c), between Kat Mandir and Forest Camp N of E-W Highway (L7) in April 2003 (Cox 2003), Bara District; between Gaur (L8), Rautahat District and Sedhawa (L8), Siraha District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); along Kathmandu (L6), Lalitpur (L6), Makwanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) District sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); Panauti and Dhulikhel (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in November 1994 (Baral 1994b); between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6) in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004) and between Sermathang and Melamchi Bazaar (M6) in May 2007 (Byskov 2007), Sindhupalchok District;

In the east records include: from Trijuga River area and Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994



(Choudhary 1994); between Tumlingtar, Giddhegaun, Chewabesi, Kangduwa, Bumlingtar and Archalegaun (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in April, May and June 2009 (Cox 2009); Ram Dhuni Forest (Q8) in April 1999 (Choudhary 1999), Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003), a common resident in Chimdi Lake Area (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2011 (Baral 2011c) and Jabdi (Q8) in October 2011 (Baral 2011d), Sunsari District; a fairly common resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), a fairly common resident in Biratnagar (Q9) (Jha and Subba 2012), Morang District; Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003a); between Gorja Gaun and Dobhan (R7) in October 1996 and between ridge spur and Suketar (R7) in November 1996 (Buckton 1996), Taplejung District; Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010); lower Mai Valley (R8), (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) and Phidim (R7), Sidin (R8) and Pranbung (S7), Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, British Indian Ocean Territory, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), Comoros, Cook Island, Egypt, Fiji, Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Kazakhstan, Kiribati, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Lebanon, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, New Caledonia (to France), New Zealand, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Réunion (to France), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sri Lanka, St Helena (to UK), Tajikistan, Thailand, Tonga, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, USA, Uzbekistan, Vanuatu, Vietnam and Zimbabwe (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3050 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Common Myna. Post-1990 as many as 1500 birds were recorded at Chitwan National Park on 19 November 2004 (Baral and Chaudhary 2004), and 1000 on 15 February 2003 between Koshi area and Chitwan National Park (Baral 2003b).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Common Myna is scattered everywhere around houses, gardens and fields, and also around isolated houses in forest (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is pugnacious, bold and tame, occurs in small parties except in the breeding season (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998); contests for nesting sites in walls, buildings, often battling one another, and congregates in noisy crowds in the evening (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The species feeds on trees or the ground and scavenges in built-up areas, and the flocks often follow grazing cattle or the plough, or feed on cultivation (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding was found in the Dhorpatan valley (G5) (Lelliott 1981), at Chitwan (Gurung 1983), Hetauda (Biswas 1963), in the Kathmandu Valley (Madge and Madge 1982, Proud 1949) and eastern lowlands (Q8) (Gregory-Smith and Batson 1976). The species is omnivorous and feeds on chiefly fruits, grains, insects and grubs and the food extends to kitchen scraps, refuse dumps, small animals such as baby mice, frogs, lizards and crabs and flower nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Threats to Common Myna are not known. It may have benefitted due to deforestation and increase in settlements.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Common Myna. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Rara, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Common Myna has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a very common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There is no significant difference in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Threats to Common Myna are not known. It may have benefitted due to deforestation and increase in settlements. Its population is probably increasing.

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***Acrocephalus aedon* (Pallas, 1776) LC**

Subspecies: *Acrocephalus aedon aedon*

Common Name

Thick-billed Warbler (English),

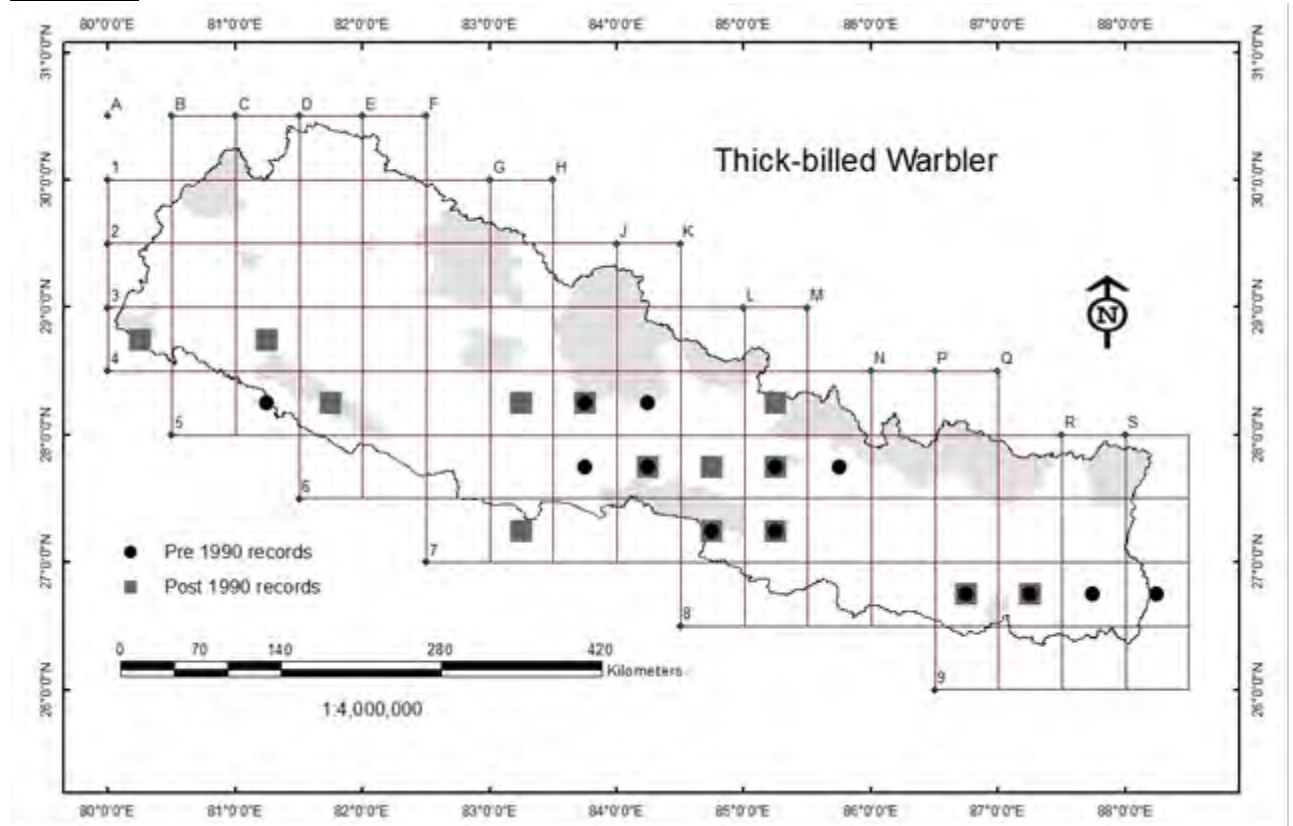
Motothunde Tyaktyake (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Thick-billed Warbler is a winter visitor, fairly common in the Koshi area, Sunsari District and uncommon elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first definite record was a specimen collected from Trisuli Bazaar (L6, Nuwakot District) in November 1956 (Fleming and Traylor 1961).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was an occasionally recorded winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an uncommon winter visitor and mapped it mainly from west-central Nepal eastwards, with one record from the west.

Since 1990 there has been an increase in records from the west, probably because of better coverage; otherwise there has been no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990 (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded

in February 2012 in Banke National Park (Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001); a vagrant to Langtang National Park (Mialler and Mialler 1996 in Karki and Thapa 2001), and a fairly common winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has also been recorded from Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar (Baral 1996) and at Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012).

Since 1990 Thick-billed Warbler has been less widely recorded outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas, except for the Koshi area (see map and text below). Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: winter visitor to Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); recorded at Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011a), and Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in March 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), December 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005) and February 2010 (Baral 2010a).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon migrant and winter visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Arend van Riessen reported it was an occasional winter visitor to Chobar and Saibu hill, and has been less frequent since 2009.

Other records in central Nepal include from the Upardangadhi hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012) and along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: from Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District in October 1993 (Chaudhary 1994) and November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997); Dharan Forest Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. January 1997 (Chaudhary 1997) and January 2010 (Baral 2010a); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in November 1993 (Chaudhary 1994), December 1998 (Chaudhary 1999) and September 2010 (Baral 2010b), and Kosi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in October 2011 (Baral 2011b).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Egypt, Hong Kong (China), India, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, North Korea, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), South Korea, Thailand, United Kingdom, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1500 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Thick-billed Warbler. The unusually large number of 12 was recorded at Koshi Camp, Sunsari District on 22 September 2010 (Baral 2010b).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Thick-billed Warbler inhabits tall grass, scrub, reeds and also bushes at edges of forest and cultivation (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). It generally prefers drier areas, with less grassland and more scrub compared to Clamorous Reed Warbler. It skulks in dense bushes, usually moving about with clumsy, heavy hops. Typically, it keeps low down in vegetation and so is probably under-recorded. It readily clambers about reeds and vertical vegetation stems (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Thick-billed Warbler is threatened by the removal of tall grass, reeds and scrub, including the intensification of



cultivation, which has resulted in the loss of scrub and herbaceous vegetation at field edges (Inskipp and Baral 2011).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Thick-billed Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and is a vagrant to Langtang National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Thick-billed Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a winter visitor, fairly common in the Koshi area, Sunsari District and uncommon elsewhere. Since 1990 there has been an increase in records from the west, probably because of better coverage; otherwise there has been no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system, except in the Koshi area. Thick-billed Warbler is threatened by the removal of tall grass, reeds and scrub, including the intensification of cultivation, which results in the loss of scrub and herbaceous vegetation at field edges. The species is probably declining, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2012\\_002.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2012_002.pdf)
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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2007\\_007.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2007_007.pdf)

***Acrocephalus agricola*** (Jerdon, 1845) LC

Common Name

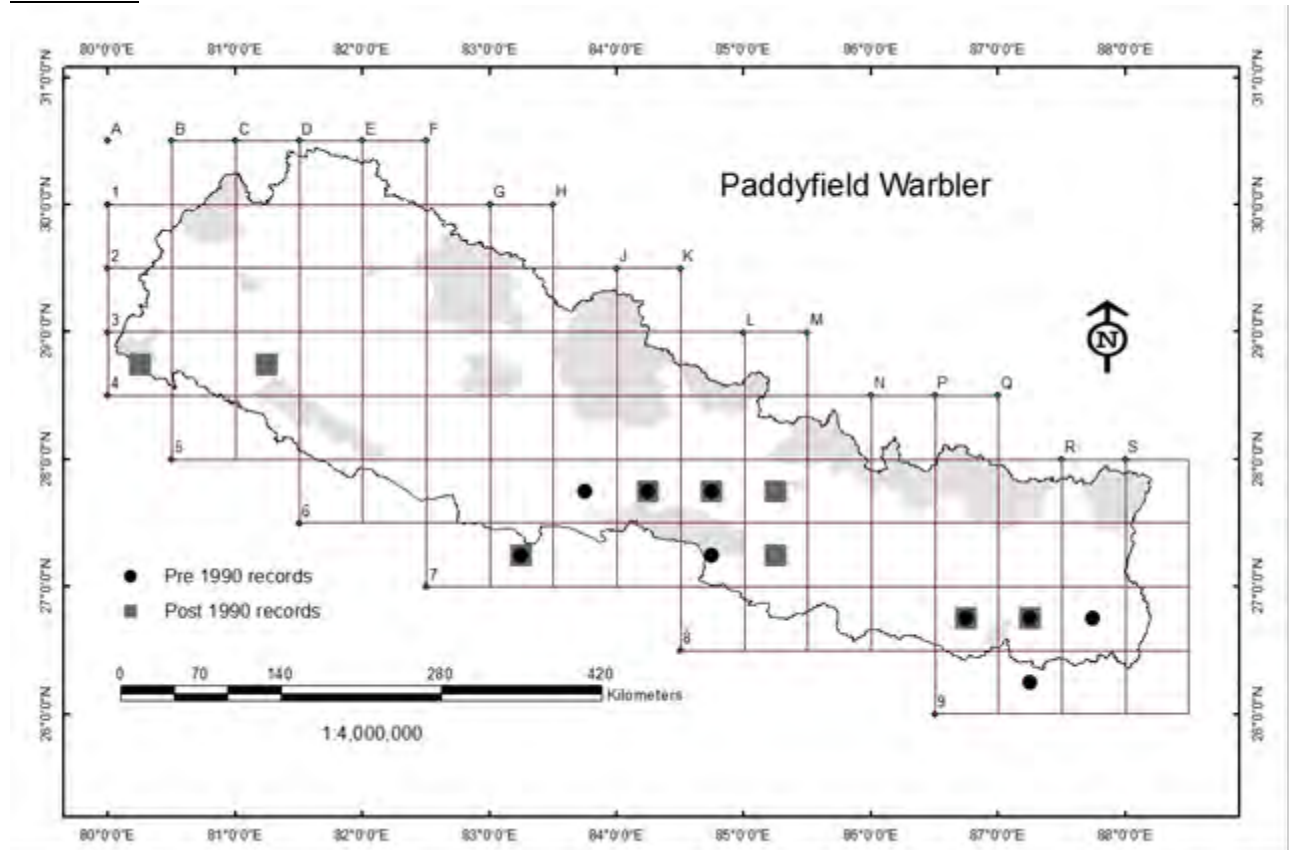
Paddyfield Warbler (English),  
Sano Tyaktyake (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Paddyfield Warbler is a local visitor, almost entirely to the lowlands, and mainly recorded in the Koshi area. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first definite record for Nepal was a specimen collected from Sundar Gundar, Morang District in February 1938 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was an occasionally recorded winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a local winter visitor to the terai and mapped its distribution from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 Paddyfield Warbler has been recorded more widely in the west than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage, but otherwise its distribution has not changed significantly (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); an uncommon passage migrant in Bardia

National Park (Inskipp 2001); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), and a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar (Baral 1996) and in Janakauli Community Forest (K6), Sunsari District in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

There are rather few records outside the protected areas' system, except near Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (see text and map below).

In the west records include from Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District (Suwal *et al.* 2002).

Known records from central Nepal records are one from between Kopuwa Gau school, Rautahat District and Mewa Ga school, Rautahat District (L7) in April 2003 (Cox 2003) and two birds in the Bagmati Nature Park, Kathmandu Valley (L6) in November 2005 (Hem Sagar Baral in Mallalieu 2008).

In the east: recorded at Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in January 1994 (Chaudhary 1994) and February 2003 (Chaudhary 2003); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in December 1993 (Chaudhary 1994) and December 1998 (Chaudhary 1999), and in October 2007 in Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Armenia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, China (mainland), Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hong Kong (China), Hungary, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Slovenia, Sweden, Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 150 (-1340 m); lower limit: 55 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Paddyfield Warbler. Its population is possibly declining as a result of wetland loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Paddyfield Warbler inhabits reedbeds and tall, damp grassland (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is skulking and lively, adept at climbing up and down stems of reeds and other tall marsh plants. Frequently it flicks and cocks its tail and raises its crown feathers. Usually it only flies short distances low over the reeds and with tail slightly spread and depressed (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Paddyfield Warbler is seriously threatened by the loss and degradation of wetlands.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out for Paddyfield Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded from

Bardia National Park and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves; also marginally in Chitwan National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Paddyfield Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a local visitor, almost entirely to the lowlands, and mainly recorded in the Koshi area. Since 1990 Paddyfield Warbler has been recorded more widely in the west than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage, but otherwise its distribution has not changed significantly. The species has been recorded from four protected areas, but there rather few records outside the protected areas' system, except near Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve since 1990. It is seriously threatened by loss and degradation of wetlands, and its population may be declining as a result, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Acrocephalus concinens*** (Swinhoe 1870) LC

Subspecies: *Acrocephalus concinens stevensi*

Common Name

Blunt-winged Warbler (English)

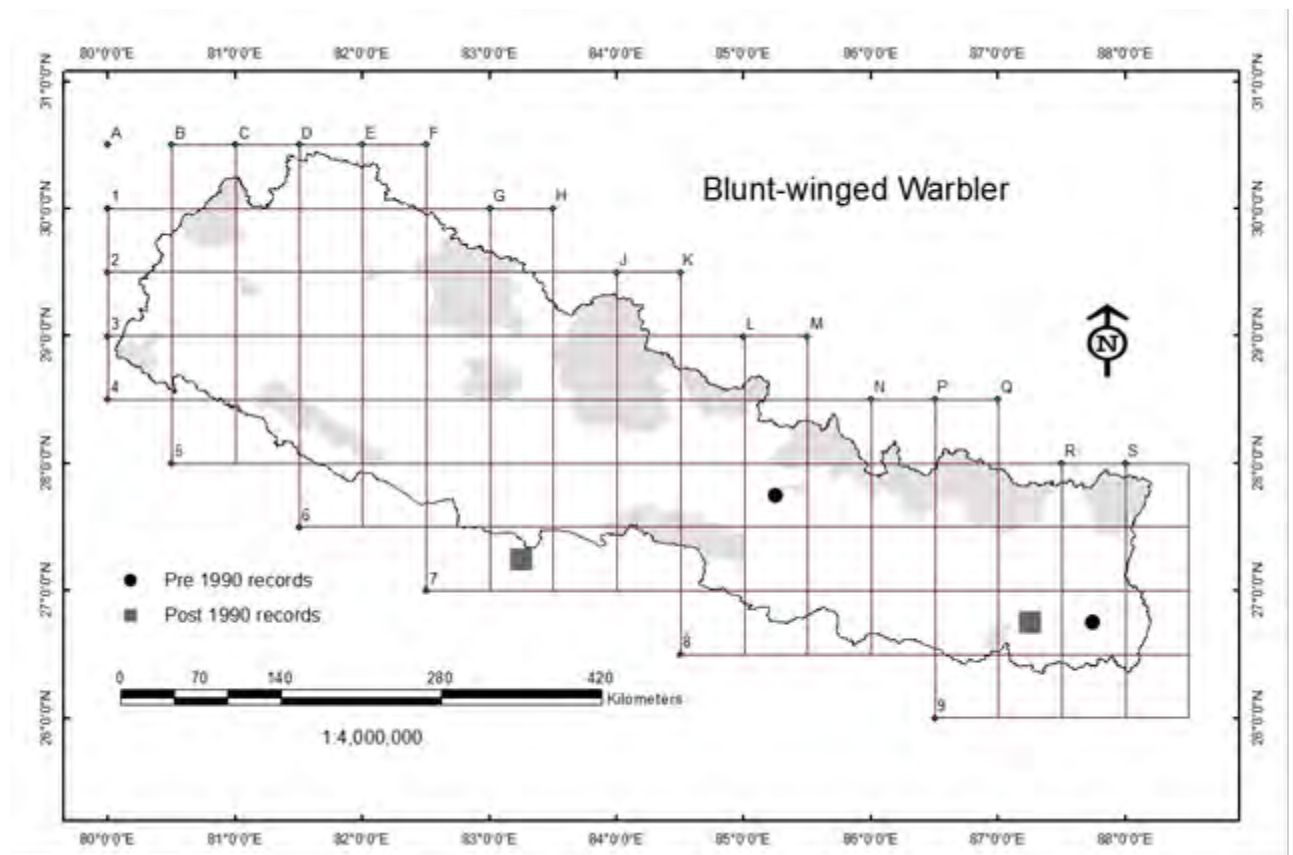
Thutepankhe Tyaktyake (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Blunt-winged Warbler is a very rare and local visitor and passage migrant.

The first Nepal record was a specimen collected from north-west of Bhadrapur, Jhapa District in February 1965 (Fleming 1968, Fleming and Traylor 1968).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an occasionally recorded winter visitor and passage migrant. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the status of Blunt-winged Warbler was uncertain and only three confirmed records had been received. In addition to the first Nepal record of the species, both other records were from the Vishnumati River, Kathmandu Valley in March and November (Fleming *et al.* 1976).

Since 1990 there have been a larger number of records compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage and better identification resources available to birders. The species has chiefly been recorded in the Koshi area (see map and text below).

Baral (2005) reported the species as a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. Other observations indicate that it is a rare winter visitor and/or passage migrant to the reserve, e.g. singles in February 1996 (Harrap 1996, Robson 1996), January 1997 (Chaudhary 1997) and April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), and two in January 2011 (Baral 2011a). It has not been reported from any other protected areas pre- or post-1990.

Post-1990 the species has only been recorded from two localities outside the protected areas' system. Singles were recorded at Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011b), and at Koshi Camp, Sunsari District in April and May 2001 (Giri and Choudhary 2001, Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), February 2005 (Baral and Birch 2005) and in March 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1525 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No surveys have been carried out for Blunt-winged Warbler, but observations indicate that it is very rare. It may be declining.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Blunt-winged Warbler inhabits tall grasses, reedbeds and willows along river banks (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Its habits resemble those of Paddyfield Warbler *A. agricola* and it could be overlooked. The species is skulking and usually flies only for short distances low over reeds before dropping into cover again. It is adept at climbing up and down reed stems (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Blunt-winged Warbler is threatened by habitat loss and deterioration.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Blunt-winged Warbler. It has only been recorded from one protected area, Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, both pre- and post-1990.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Blunt-winged Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a very rare and local visitor and passage migrant. However, the species is probably under-recorded because of its skulking behavior and identification difficulties. Since 1990 there have been a larger number of records compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. The species has chiefly been recorded in the Koshi area. It has only been recorded from



one protected area, Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. There are records from only two other localities post-1990, mainly from the Koshi area. Blunt-winged Warbler is threatened by habitat loss and deterioration and is possibly declining.

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***Acrocephalus dumetorum* Blyth 1849 LC**

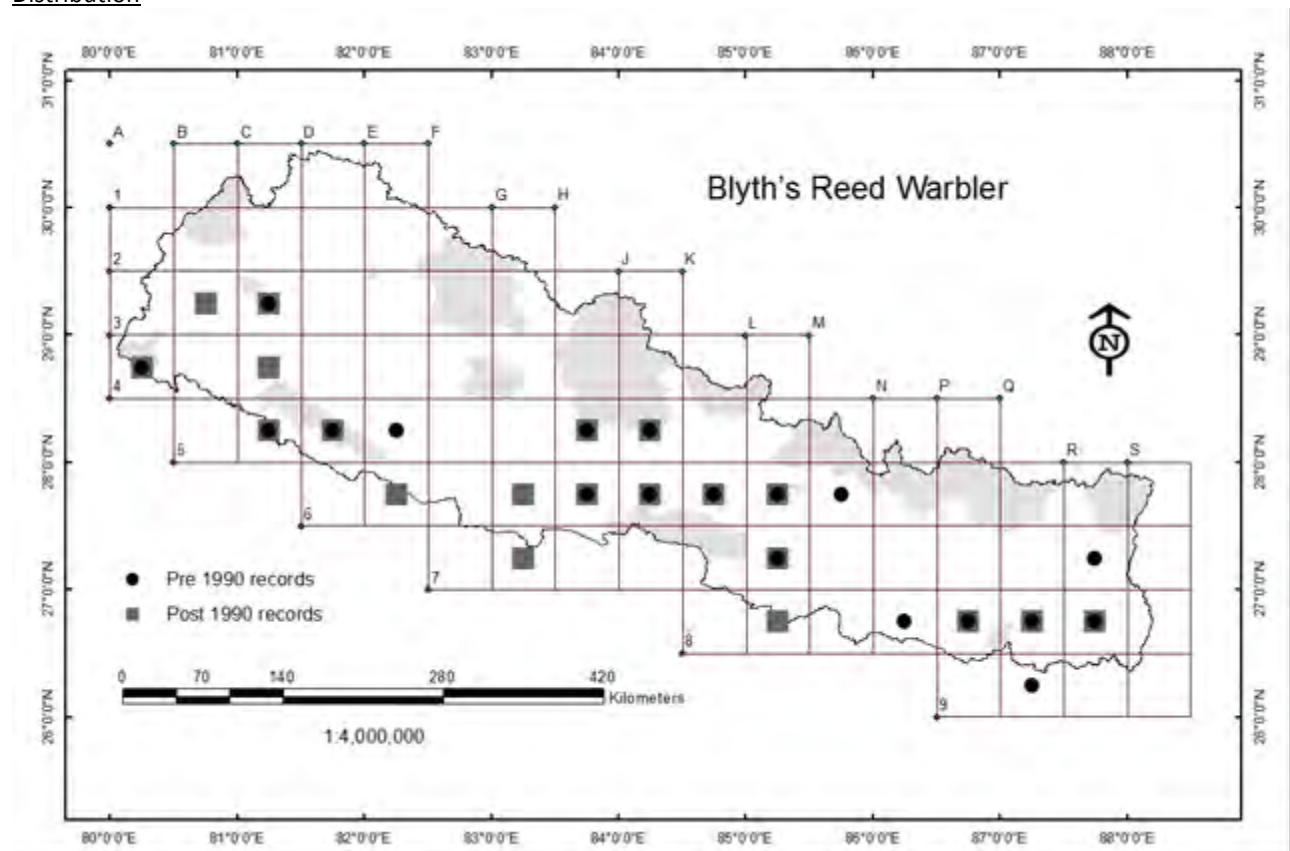
Common Name

Blyth's Reed Warbler (English),  
Tyaktyake (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Blyth's Reed Warbler is a fairly common and quite widespread winter visitor and passage migrant. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a fairly common passage migrant. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant, most frequent in winter up to 1525 m, but noted on passage up to 2900 m, and mapped its distribution mainly from west-central Nepal eastwards and a few records from the west.

Since 1990 there have been more records from the west, probably because of better coverage; otherwise there are no significant changes in distribution post-1990, compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); a

frequent passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a fairly common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a frequent winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), and to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park's buffer zone e.g. at Janakauli in February 2008 (Giri 2008); at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar Important Bird Area in March 2010 (Giri 2010) and between the Narayani River and Tharu Lodge, Nawalparasi District (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007).

The species has been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system post-1990 within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat (see map and text below), although not as frequently as within protected areas. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow:

In the west records include from: Amargadhi old village (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Baral 1992) and April 1995 (White and White 1995); Dang-Deukhuri foothill forests Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in November 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004) and December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Baral 2011); Jagdishpur Reservoir (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008), and Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District, e.g. in April 1993 (Baral 1994), January 2003 (Giri 2003), and January 2011 (Acharya 2011).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported the species was a common migrant and uncommon in winter in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records in central Nepal are from Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); between Gaur, Rautahat District and Sedhawa (L8), Sarlahi District, between Mewa Gau school, Rautahat District and Belwa school (L7), Bara District and between Kat Mandir, Bara District and Forest Camp north of E-W Highway (L7), Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003), and along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: many from Koshi area (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in January 2010 (Baral 2010), 30 in April 1997 (Baral 1997a), December 2000 (Chaudhary 2001); recorded in Dharan forests Important Bird Area, Sunsari District (Q8), e.g. in March 2001 (Baral 2001) and in 2008 (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Raja Rani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District in 2005 (Basnet *et al.* 2005), and Chisapani and Saktim (R8), Mai valley in March 2008, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Hong Kong (China), India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 1525 m (-2900 m on passage); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

The large number of 70 was recorded in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in May 1998 (Baral 1998) and 62 in May 1997 (Baral 1997b). The population is probably stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Blyth's Reed Warbler inhabits bushes and trees at the edges of forest and cultivation, and in gardens (Inskipp

and Inskipp 1991). Typically, it hops and creeps about within bushes and sometimes quite high in trees, as well as in ground cover. It frequently flicks, raises and fans the tail; its flight is usually flitting (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Blyth's Reed Warbler is at risk from intensive cultivation, which has led to the loss of bushes at field edges in some areas (Inskipp and Baral 2011). However, its habitat has also increased in other areas by the replacement of forests by less intensive cultivation, where some bushes have been retained at field edges and corners. It is also threatened by the spread of urbanisation, although it is adapted to gardens.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Blyth's Reed Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Chitwan, Khaptad and Shivapuri Nagarjun National Parks; Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves and in the Annapurna Conservation Area.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Blyth's Reed Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and quite widespread winter visitor and passage migrant recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there have been more records from the west, probably because of better coverage; otherwise there are no significant changes in distribution post-1990, compared to pre-1990. Post-1990 the species has been recorded in several protected areas and also quite widely outside the protected areas' system, within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. While its habitat is declining in some areas by the spread of urbanisation, it is increasing in other places by the replacement of forests by cultivation, which retains some bushes at field edges and corners. Its population is probably stable.

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***Actinodura nipalensis* (Hodgson, 1836) LC**

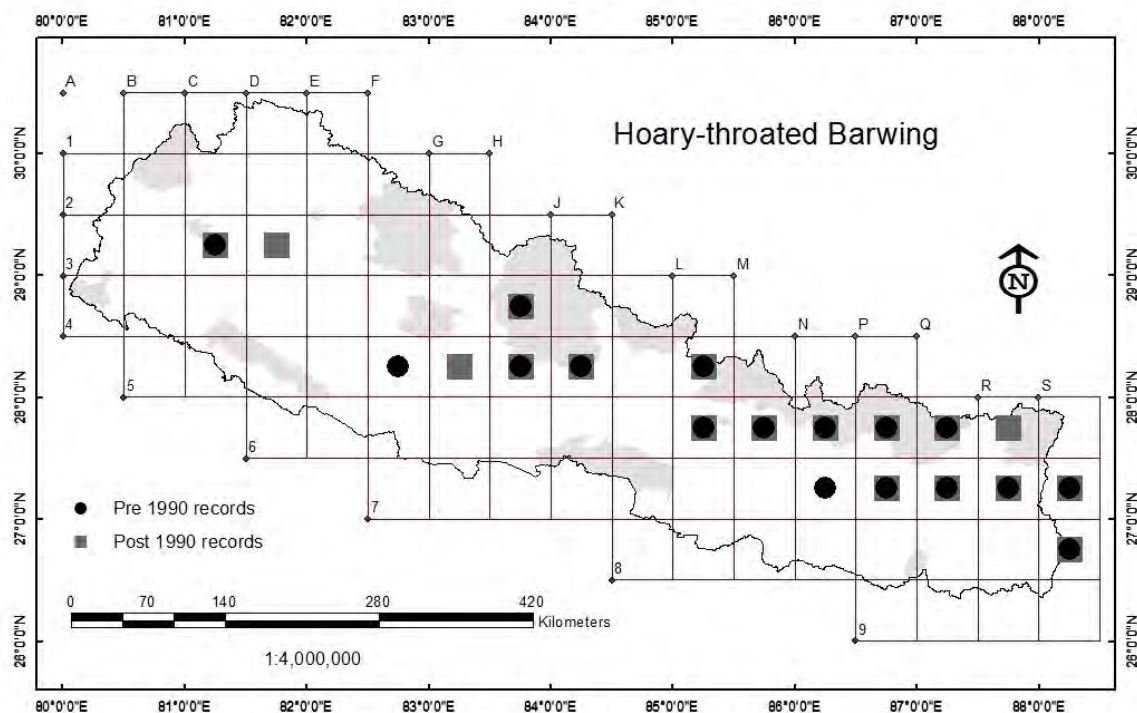
Common name

Hoary-throated Barwing (English),  
Banchaahar (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Hoary-throated Barwing is a locally fairly common resident. It has been recorded from Khaptad National Park (Halliday 1993), the westernmost limit of the species' range east to the Mai valley, Ilam District (Cox 1992) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) describe it as a fairly common resident.

There has been no significant difference in distribution pre- and post-1990 (see map).

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Halliday 1993); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (BirdLife International 2013, Panthi 2013); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013, Subedi 2013); described a frequent resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park by SNP and BCN (2007) and an uncommon resident between 2004 and 2006 by Mallalieu (2008); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). It has also been recorded in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009).



It has been recorded less frequently outside the protected areas' system since 1990, but is still widespread in the east (see map and text below).

Known records in the west include: Badimalika region, Bajura District (D3) in 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); Beuli to Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

Known records in central Nepal include: from Chisapanitar, Chitwan District in October 2015 (Basu Bidari, BES); near Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004); near Sermathang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012). Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon resident on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area between 2004 and 2006.

Known records in the east include: from between Phedi and Gurase (P7), and between Gurase and Sanam (P7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between Panggom and Paiya (P6), Solukhumbu District in December 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between Sete and Goyom (P6) and near Puiyan (P6), Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); Bhotebas, Sankhuwasabha District (Q7) in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Pikhua Khola valley (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 (Cox 2009); on Tinjure Danda (Q7), Tehrathum District in 1997/1998 (Rai 2003); between Basantapur and Chauki (R7), Tehrathum District and between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); at Hange Tham, upper Mai valley (S7) in September 2010 (Baral 2010), and between Dapar and Simle (S8), Mai Khola, Ilam District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m (-3500 m); lower limit: 1980 m (-1500 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Hoary-throated Barwing. Its population has probably declined because of loss and thinning of forest.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Hoary-throated Barwing inhabits mossy oak-rhododendron forests (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991) mainly in the temperate zone. The species is found in pairs or small parties, often with other babblers. It forages among ferns and mosses growing on trees, often clinging to the trunk or hanging upside-down from branches, usually in the upper half of forest trees (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Hoary-throated Barwing was collected in breeding condition in May and June 1962 at Bigu, Jiri and Thodung (N6) (Diesselhorst 1968), and seen nest-building on Shivapuri, Kathmandu Valley in April 1988 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988) and at Kutumsang, Sindhupalchok District in May 1988 (Tyler 1988). The species mostly feeds on insects including beetles and caterpillars; also gastropods, berries, seeds, nectar, flower-buds and moss (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is subject to some seasonal altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Hoary-throated Barwing is threatened by the loss of forest and forest thinning which leads to the drying out of forests and a reduction in epiphytic mosses and ferns. However, as it mainly inhabits temperate forests, it is less threatened than species at lower altitudes.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Hoary-throated Barwing. It has been recorded in Khaptad, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Hoary-throated Barwing has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally fairly common resident recorded from the west to the far east. There has been no significant change in distribution pre- and post-1990. It has been found in several protected areas. Since 1990 it has been recorded less frequently outside the protected areas' system since 1990, but is still widespread in the east. The species is threatened by the loss of forest and forest thinning which leads to the drying out of forests and a reduction in epiphytic mosses and ferns. Its population has probably declined as a result although not to an extent that warrants a threat category for the species.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2008\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2008_006.pdf)
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***Aegithalos concinnus*** (Gould, 1855) LC

Subspecies: *Aegithalos concinnus iredalei*

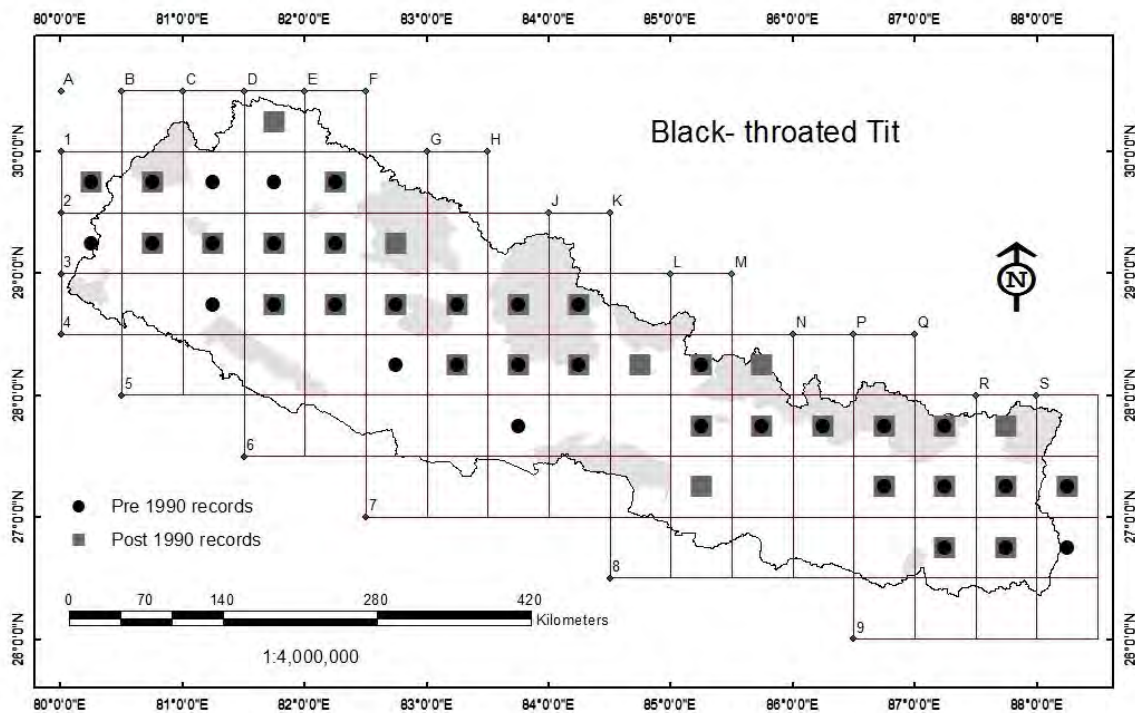
Common name

Black-throated Tit (English),  
Kalikanthe Chichilkote (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Aegithalidae



Distribution



Black-throated Tit is a common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the upper Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it was an abundant resident and recorded it widely from the far east to the far west.

Since 1990 there has been no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: common in Mahakali valley (A2) and Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in December 2011 and March/April 2012, probably resident (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006). Giri (2005) listed it as uncommon, possibly resident in Rara National Park, but Regmi (2000) found it common in forests around the lake in March 2000; an uncommon resident in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995) a common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Subedi 2003) and in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5)

(Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), also on Nagarjun, e.g. Mallalieu (2008); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in October 1996 (Cox 1996) and May 2009 (Baral and Shah 2009); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It was also recorded in Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche, e.g. in April 1998 (Basnet 1998) and August 2009 (Baral 2009); Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone at Lukla in May 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994) and Phakding in May 1993 (Baral 1996); Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in the Irkhuwa Khola valley (Cox 1999a) and on the Pikhwa Danda and Chitre Danda (Q6) in May and June 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: several localities in Dadeldhura District (B3) and also in Baitadi District (B3) in May and June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Yangar (D1), Humla District in September 1994 (Prodon 1994); between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D1), Humla District in May/June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013); between Daurogoan and Beuli (D3) and between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997; between Kotuwa and Gai banne (D4) and between Gai banne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Jumla District (E3) in March 2000 (Regmi 2000); common in Jumla District (E3) in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); between Lagana and Karki Jiula, Nayakwada, Rokayagaon and Ramidanda VDCs (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); by the Dhola Khola (G4), between Archegaun and Dimlatti (G4), Myagdi Khola, in the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4) and on the north face of Malika Dhuri (G5), Myagdi District in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); recorded in Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in November 2010 and February, March and June 2011, probably resident (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Paudur Hill (H5), Kaski District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012), and between Banglungpani and Gankpokhara (J5) and on Telbrung Danda (J5, Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) described it as a common resident between 2004 and 2006; sites included Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, Godaveri, Haatiban, Tokha and Namu Buddha. Other records from the Kathmandu Valley include from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, e.g. in November 2000 (Basnet 2000), January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005) and January 2010 (Baral 2010). Other localities in central Nepal include: in Chitlang forest (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District in 1991/92 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); between Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992); Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999) and May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007); along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013); near Melamchi (M5), Sindhupalchok District and near Sermathang and Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and recorded daily on the Helambu trek from Sundarjal to Sermathang (L5, L6, M6) in January 2012 (Dymond 2012).

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); between Shivalaya and Bhandar (N6), Ramechhap District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Kinja (N6), Ramechhap District, between Junbesi and Nunthala (P6) and Nunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); common in Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Sanam (P7) and Bung (P6) and between Paiya and Phakding (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between Bhotebas and Khandbari (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Tinjure forests (Q7), Terhathum District (Rai 2003); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta in September 2003 (Baral 2003); between Dhoban and Gopetar (R7), Taplejung District in May 1994 (Halberg 1994); between Mamangkhe and Kande Bhanjyang (R7), between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka (R7) and between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); common above 1500 m in the Mai valley (R7, S7) (Robson *et al.* 2008); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010), and recorded from Taplejung (R7) and Ilam Districts (S8) in November and December 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2600 m (-3000 m); lower limit: 1450 m (-1065 m)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Black-throated Tit. In the absence of any significant threats and no evidence of a decline, its population may be stable. The large number of 80 was seen in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area on 12 February 2007 (Baral 2007).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Black-throated Tit inhabits open shrubberies, bushes and open forest with clearings, where it prefers forest edges. The species chiefly eats insects, also tiny seeds and fruits (Ali and Ripley 1987). Its behaviour is that of a typical tit. Like other tits forages systematically, probing bark crevices, searching branches and leaves and frequently hanging upside-down from twigs; sometimes it attacks buds which contain small invertebrates. It is highly gregarious in common with other tits, usually keeping in small parties and often with mixed hunting parties of insectivorous species (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species keeps in the bush storey, never high up in trees (Martens and Eck 1995). Breeding has been proved in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988); north-west of Pokhara (Wolstencroft 1981); in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area and Langtang National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1980), and on Shivapuri and on Nagarjun in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Mallalieu 2008).

### Threats

Complete loss of bushes and trees to make way for intensive farming or urbanization would threaten Black-throated Tit. However, it must have benefited from thinning and degradation of forest, Forest degradation has also lead to the spread of scrub and bushes. It is not considered significantly threatened.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-throated Tit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Himalayan protected areas except for Sagarmatha National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List Assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-throated Tit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common and widespread resident, recorded post-1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been no significant change in its distribution compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded in all protected areas except Sagarmatha National Park. Complete loss of bushes and trees to make way for intensive farming or urbanization would threaten Black-throated Tit. However, it must have benefited from thinning and degradation of forest, Forest degradation has also lead to the spread of scrub and bushes. It is not considered significantly threatened. As a result, its population may be stable.

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***Aegithalos iouschistos*** (Blyth, 1845) LC  
Subspecies: *Aegithalos iouschistos iouschistos*

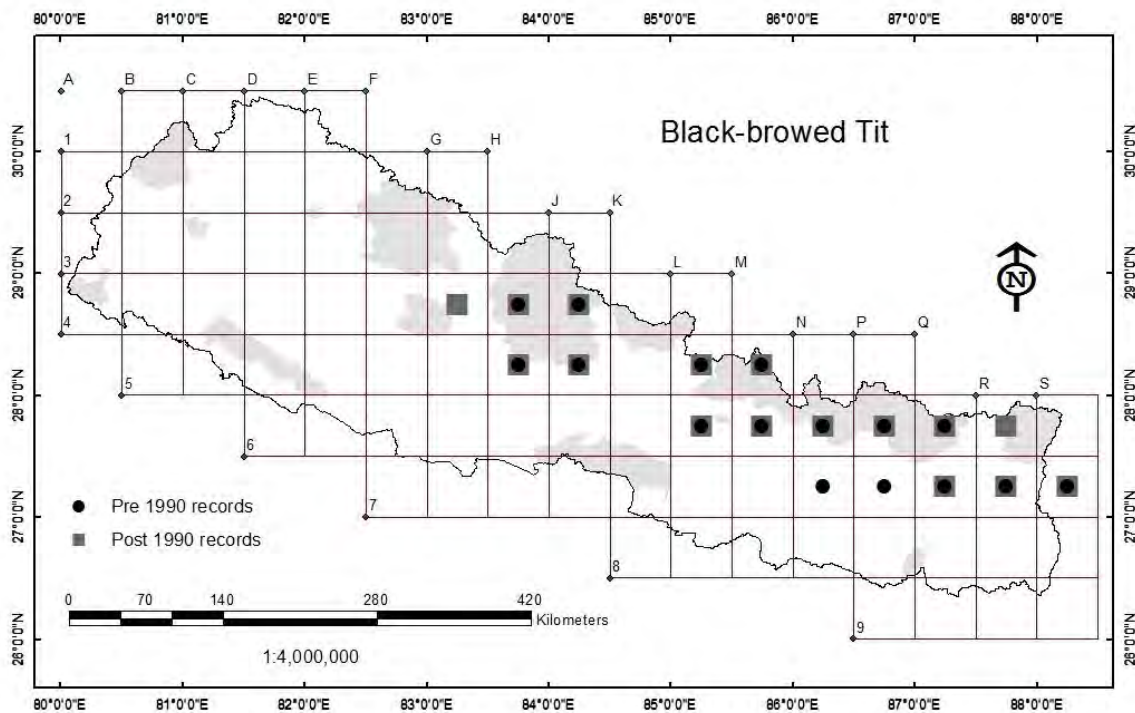
Common name

Black-browed Tit (English),  
Kailopete Chichilkote (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Aegithalidae



Distribution



Black-browed Tit is a frequent and fairly widespread resident recorded from west-central Nepal eastwards. The most westerly record of the species is from Dhorpatan (G4) in April 1973 (Martens and Eck 1995).

The species was described from Nepal from a B. H. Hodgson specimen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1844, Warren and Harrison 1871).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped it widely from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 the species' range has not changed significantly post-1990 compared to pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species' post 1990 status in protected areas is: an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a frequent resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and frequent, presumably resident in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

It has been recorded in Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche (L5) in April 1998 (Basnet 1998) and in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in the Apsuwa watershed (Q6) in May 2009 (Cox 2009) and by the

Irkhuwa Khola (Q7) in May 1995 (Cox 1995 in Cox 1999a).

The species has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system since 1990.

In the west records include from between the north face of Malika Dhuri and Lumsum (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b).

In central Nepal records include from Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999) and near Sermathang and Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east it has been recorded between Sete (N6) and Junbesi (P6), Solukhumbu District and between Junbesi and Nunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); between Junbesi and Nunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District and between Puiyan and Surkhe (P6), Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); at Gonbo, Taksindu (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Dapar and Simle, Ilam District (R7) in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Mai Majuwa (R7), Ilam District, Sidim (R7), Panchthar District and Pranbung (S7), Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3400 m (-3700 m); lower limit: 2590 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Black-browed Tit. The large number of 13 was seen at Sing gumpa on 7 May 1999 (Choudhary 1999). In the absence of any evidence of a decline or significant threats to its behaviour, its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Black-browed Tit inhabits clearings in open forests, forest edges and bushy places nearby; also forests with a dense lower storey in the upper temperate and subalpine zones. Forest composition varies, e.g. *Quercus semecarpifolia*, *Magnolia campbelli*/*Arundinaria*; *Rhododendron*/*Lithocarpus pachyphylla*/*Tsuga dumosa*; *Pinus wallichiana*, *Abies spectabilis* and *Quercus semecarpifolia*/*Abies spectabilis* (Martens and Eck 1995). The species has typical tit-like behaviour. It eats insects and their eggs and larvae and also some vegetable matter (Ali and Ripley 1987). Black-browed Tit usually keeps in small homogenous parties, but is sometimes in company with other tits, warblers and nuthatches (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The nest was first described in Ilam District in May (Fleming *et al.* 1976); breeding was also confirmed at Ghora Tabela, Langtang National Park (Wolstencroft 1982), at Thodung (Diesselhorst 1968), near Jaubari (Anon. 1988) and in the upper Mai valley, Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Schrijver and Scharringa 1989). The species has very little seasonal movement (Fleming *et al.* 1976).

### Threats

Complete deforestation would threaten Black-browed Tit. As its forest habitat lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, it is not considered to be significantly at risk. The species benefits from some forest thinning and its habitat may have spread.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Rufous-fronted Tit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-browed Tit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a frequent and fairly widespread resident recorded from west-central Nepal eastwards. Since 1990 the species' range has not changed significantly post-1990 compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded from several protected areas and less frequently and less widely outside the protected areas' system. As its forest habitat lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, it is not considered to be significantly at risk. The species benefits from some forest thinning and its habitat may have spread. In the absence of any evidence of a decline or significant threats to its behaviour, its population may be stable.

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***Aegithalos niveogularis* (F. Moore, 1855) LC**

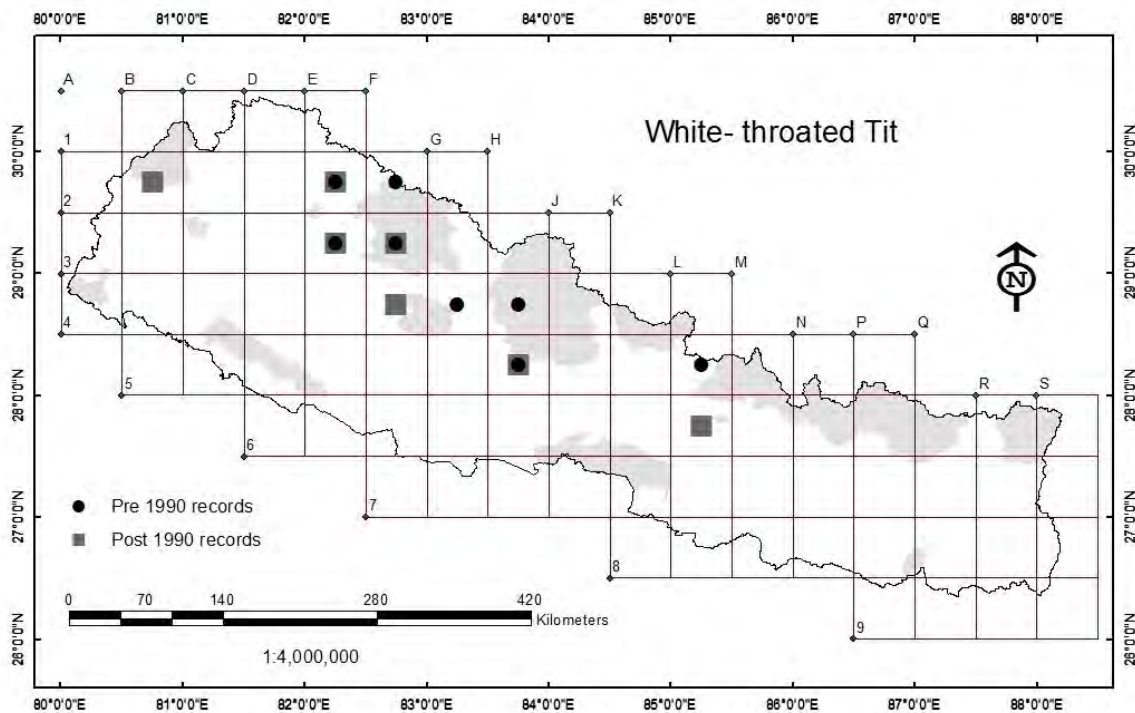


Common name

White-throated Tit (English),  
Setokanthe Chichilkote (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Aegithalidae

Distribution



White-throated Tit is a local and fairly common resident in the north-west. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far north-west to Annapurna Conservation Area in west-central Nepal.

The first Nepal record of the species was near Jumla in May 1952 (Polunin 1952).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described the species as an occasionally recorded resident in the north-west. Localities included Rara (E2), Jumla (E3) and Dolpo (F3) and also Langu (F2). There were also three reports from Ghorepani (H5), one from Kalopani (H4) in Annapurna Conservation Area and an isolated record from Gosainkund (L5), Langtang National Park, a considerable range extension for the species (Inskipp and Inskipp (1991).

Since 1990 the species' distribution has been extended west to Api Nampa Conservation Area in the far west, due to better coverage; otherwise there is no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990, see text below and maps.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas follows. Two were seen in the Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012). It is uncommon, possibly resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); records in the park include: four between Okharpata and Rara Lake and two



around the lake in March 1997 (Giri 1997); recorded near Danphe Lagna and around the lake; reasonably common in the park in March 2000 (Regmi 2000), and over ten on 14 and 16 April and four on 18 April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009). Priemé and Øksnebjerg (1992, 1995) reported it was common in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) in forests below 3800 m. It has been recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013). Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) listed it as a rare winter visitor to the Annapurna Conservation Area. Known records are three at Ghorepani (H5) in March 1996 (Daulne and Goblet 1996) and recorded between Pilicho and Pipar and between Pipar and Korja in May 2011 (Poudyal *et al.* 2011). Karki and Thapa (2001) listed the species for Langtang National Park as a rare migrant, but no post-1990 records could be located. The record of four seen on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park in May 1994 in Lama (1994) and Mallalieu (2008) has been withdrawn by the observers (Suchit Basnet).

Outside the protected areas' system six were recorded near Pina (E3), Jumla District and four in the Ghatta valley (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009).

Globally the species has also been recorded from India, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3965 m; lower limit: 2800 m (-2600 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-throated Tit. In the absence of any evidence of a decline and no significant threats to its habitat, its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-throated Tit inhabits scrub and bushes in birch and pine forests (Fleming *et al.* 1976); also recorded in bushes (*Rosa*, *Berberis*) and scattered trees on abandoned terraces close to forest edge; dense clumps of young *Pinus wallichiana*, *Berberis* and *Rosa* bushes close to rather open forest (*Pinus*, *Cupressus*, *Juniperus*) (Martens and Eck 1995) and in mixed oak/pine forest and mixed deciduous forest (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992). It is a west Himalayan species adapted to a dry climate (Martens and Eck 1995). In the non-breeding season it keeps in small parties, often with leaf warblers and other tits. Usually it forages fairly close to the ground. It is an active species but lingers longer in an area than most tits (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species chiefly eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in the Langu valley (Hillard and Jackson 1989).

#### Threats

Threats to White-throated Tit have not been identified. Its habitat is not considered significantly threatened.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-throated Tit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Rara and Shey-Phoksundo National Parks; Api Nampa and Annapurna Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

## Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-throated Tit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a local and fairly common resident in the north-west. Since 1990 the species' distribution has been extended west to Api Nampa Conservation Area in the far west, due to better coverage; otherwise there is no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990. Almost all post-1990 records are from within several protected areas. Threats to the species have not been identified and its habitat is not considered significantly threatened. As a result, its population is possibly stable.

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***Aegithina tiphia*** Linnaeus, 1758 LC

Subspecies: *Aegithina tiphia tiphia*

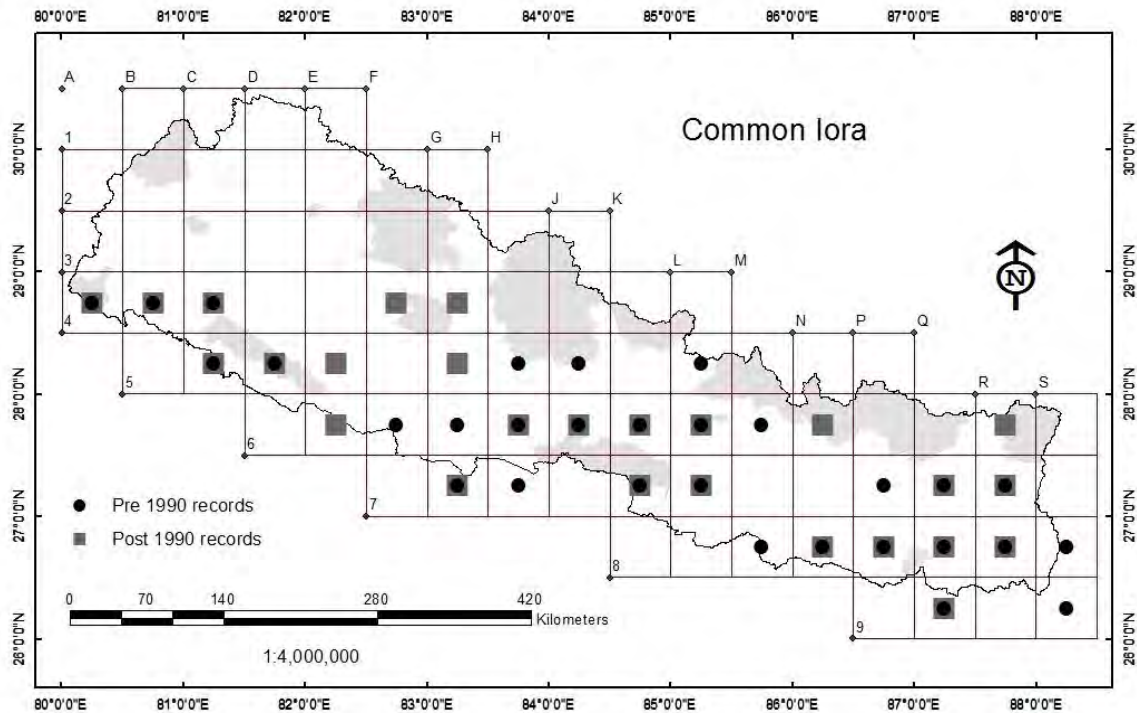
Common name

Common lora (English),  
Suselichari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Aegithinidae



Distribution



Common lora is a common and widespread resident of the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species common up to 365 m, occasionally seen up to 1900 m and a summer visitor to Kathmandu Valley and mapped its distribution mainly in the lowlands from the far west to the far east.

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); recorded at Shivapuri (L6) in May 1993 (Redman 1993) and Nagarjun (L6) in December 1998 (Smith 1999) of Shivapuri-

Nagarjun National Park; probably a resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a fairly common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a); and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Barandabhar Forest and wetlands (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), buffer zone of Chitwan National Park. It has been recorded in Bardia National Park buffer zone in the Khata Corridor (C5) (Chaudhari 2007),

Common lora has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range, see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: a fairly common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and recorded in Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Chisapani (C4) in March 1997 (Giri 1997), Bardia District; Dang-Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); a summer visitor at Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011a); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in April 1997 (Turner and Trainer 1997); between Kavri Dharmasala and Argali (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999), Rampur Valley (H6) (Gautam 2003), Palpa District .

In central Nepal records include: from Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Kathmandu Valley (L6) in November 1997 (Chaudhary 1998a), along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009); Nijgadh (L7), Bara District section of Bagmati and Bakaiya River valley (Banet and Thakuri 2013), Dudhaura Khola Forest (L7), Bara District, Judibela Community Forest (L7) and Adarsha Community Forest and nearby national forests (L7), Rautahat District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Katahare and Durga community forests (N8), Sindhuli District (Phuyal and Dhaubadel 2007), and Belkhu, Dhading District (Hem Sagar Baral).

In the east records include: from Bhagalpur and Trijuga River area (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); between Maruwabesi, Archalegau and Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); Ramdhuni Forest (Q8) in February 2007 (Choudhary 2007), Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2011 (Baral 2011) and Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Sunsari District; Khani Pokhari Forest (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992), an uncommon resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005) and a common resident in Biratnagar (Q9) (Jha and Subba 2012), Morang District; three community forests (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994); recorded during spring 1995 at Kanchenjunga Region (R7) (Brown 1995); lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006), and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 365 m (-1900 m); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Common lora. Post-1990, 76 birds were recorded on 7 December 1993 at Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Choudhary 1994).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Common lora inhabits open broadleaved forests and scrub jungle (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991), forest edges,

cultivation, outskirts of villages (Ali and Ripley 1987), groves, roadside avenues and large trees in open country and gardens (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to erratic movements in the non-breeding season within its range (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is arboreal and usually found in pairs, often in the mixed hunting parties, searching methodically among foliage of trees and bushes for insects, hopping about branches, frequently clinging sideways (Ali and Ripley 1987), and sometimes hanging upside down in search of insects (Ali and Ripley 1987, Fleming *et al.* 1976, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species has bred at Chitwan (Gurung 1983), Gaucher Forest (L6) (Fleming *et al.* 1979), Hetauda (Biswas 1960) and near Dhankuta (Q7) (Isherwood 1978). It feeds on insects and larvae, spiders, beetles, and ants (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Common lora would be threatened by complete loss of forest and trees, but must have benefitted from forest thinning and degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Common lora. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern, unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Common lora has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been no significant change in distribution, compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded in many protected areas, and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Common lora would be threatened by complete loss of forest and trees, but must have benefitted from forest thinning and degradation. Its population is probably stable.

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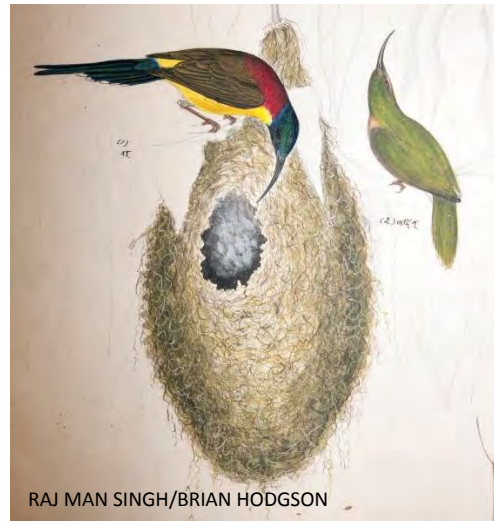
***Aethopyga gouldiae* Vigors, 1831 LC**

Subspecies: *Aethopyga gouldiae gouldiae*

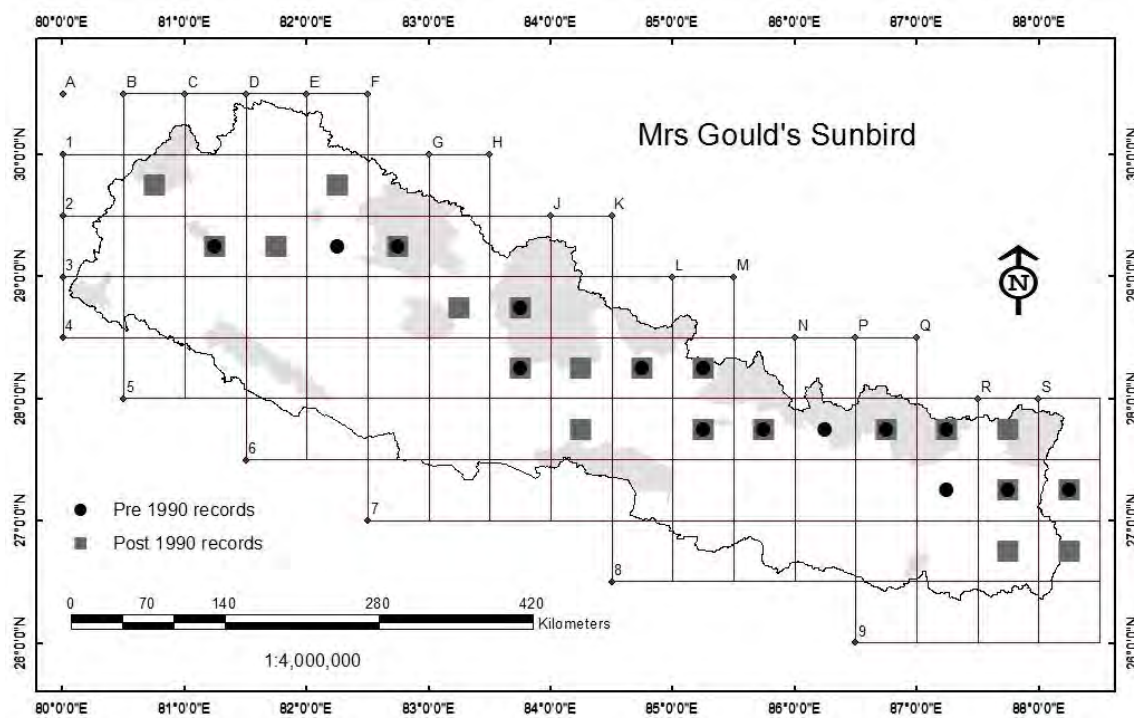
Common name

Mrs Gould's Sunbird (English),  
Kanti Bungechara (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Nectariniidae



Distribution



Mrs Gould's Sunbird is an uncommon resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from the Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Kodari (M6) in May 1937 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was an uncommon resident and mapped its distribution mainly in the eastern highlands.

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded in Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area in March-April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare and uncertain resident in Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), scarce in Modi River watershed area

(H5) in Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); recorded at Bodreni Community Forest of Chitwan National Park (J6) in March 2008 (Giri and Choudhary 2008); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013); a fairly common breeding resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded in Nagarjun (L6) in February 1997 (Roberts 1997) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a rare summer visitor in Sagarmatha National Park (P6) (Basnet 2004); an uncommon resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Tarkeghyang, buffer zone of Langtang National Park in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004); Phakding, buffer zone of Sagarmatha National Park in April 2006 (Oldfield 2006), and Gonthala village, Apsuwa Khola, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

There is a much smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Post-1990 records include: between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Palung, Archegaun, Dimlatti, Bagara and Bajhansi Kharka (G4), Myagdi District in May-June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000); rare in winter in the Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) and recorded at Nagarkot (M6), Bhaktapur District in February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004); Surkey and Taksindu (P6), Solukhumbu District in 2011 and 2013 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Targaun (S8), Ilam District in November 1992 (Cox 1992), and Hange Tham (S7), Mai Majuwa (S7), Mabu (R7) and Sidim (R8) of Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3655 m (summer), 2700 m (winter); lower limit: 2500 m (summer); 1830 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Mrs Gould's Sunbird. Post 1990, as many as 19 birds were recorded between 26 March and 6 April 2010 at Chameliya Valley, Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Mrs Gould's Sunbird inhabits rhododendron in oak and other conifer forest, and other flowering trees and shrubs in forest, and undergrowth. It favours the low parts of trees in damp ravines (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is very active and vivacious, rather shy and constantly on move, often descending around mid-day to drink at pool. It is usually found on north-facing slopes in moderate height shrubbery during winter and near flowering rhododendron trees and mistletoe during spring (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding was confirmed above Dhunche (Durham University Himalayan Expedition 1977). The species feeds on nectar, insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Mrs Gould's Sunbird may be threatened by deforestation and loss of its rhododendron, but less so than sunbirds occurring at lower altitudes.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Mrs Gould's Sunbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from Global Red List status: Least concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Mrs Gould's Sunbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is an uncommon resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas, though less widely outside the protected areas' system. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably due to better coverage. Threats to Mrs Gould's Sunbird is not known. Its population may be stable.

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***Aethopyga ignicauda*** (Hodgson, 1837)

Subspecies: *Aethopyga ignicauda ignicauda*

Common name

Fire-tailed Sunbird (English),

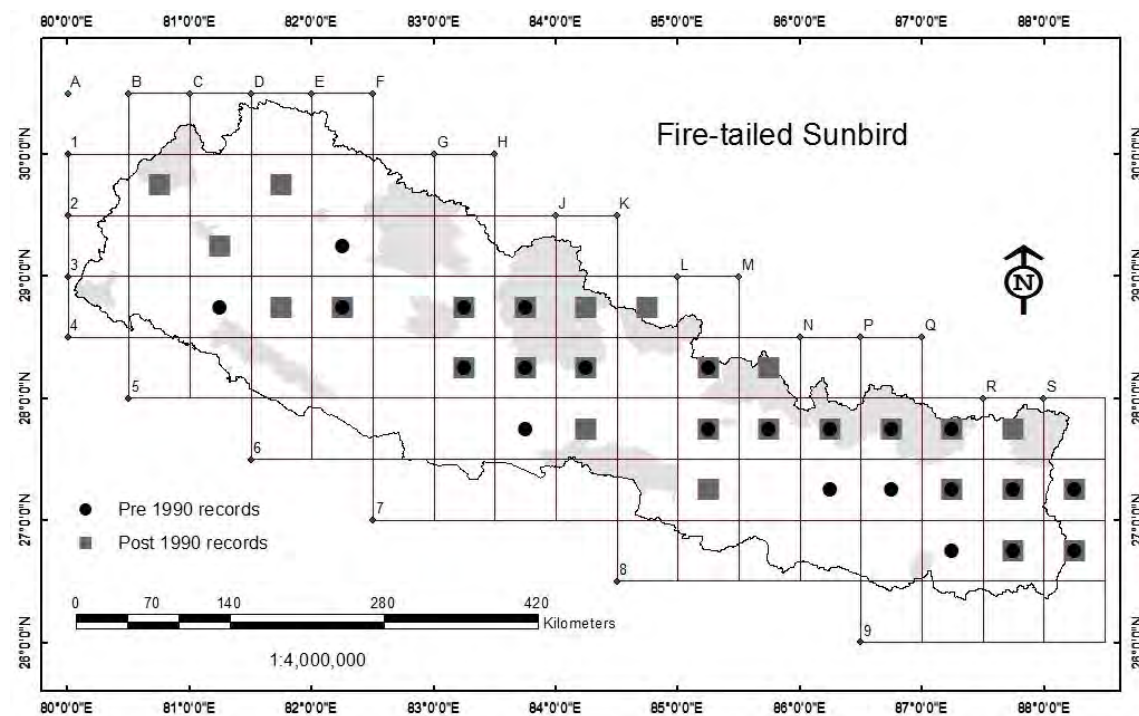
Lalpuchhre Bungechara (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Nectariniidae



Distribution



Fire-tailed Sunbird is a fairly common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in 19<sup>th</sup> century by Hodgson (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a fairly common resident and mapped its distribution mainly in the east.

Since 1990 its distributional range has been extended west to Api Nampa Conservation Area and the species has also been recorded more widely elsewhere in the west, probably due to better coverage; otherwise there is no other significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded at Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area in March-April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common summer visitor in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Subedi 2003); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), scarce in the Modi River watershed area (H5) in Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013a); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and

Thapa 2001); a frequent resident in Shivapuri (L6) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a rare summer visitor in Sagarmatha National Park (P6) (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Tarkeghyang and Timbu in May 2004, buffer zone of Langtang National Park (Chaudhary 2004), and between Jophal Danda and Apsuwa Khola, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

Fire-tailed Sunbird has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: between Daurogaun and Beuli (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Kotuwa, Gaibanne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jiri Daha and Lagana (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); different locations (G4) of Myagdi District in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Lumpek (H5) in November 1999 (Fleming 2002), Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013b), Gulmi District, and Baglungpani (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992).

In the central region records include from: Upardangaddhi hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); fairly common in winter in the Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) and recorded in Nagarkot (M6), Bhaktapur District in February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004); a common resident to Chitlang forest (L7), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), along Lendanda (L7), Makwanpur District section of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); between Deorali and Bamti Bhandar (N6), Ramechhap District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012), and between Bhandar (N6), Ramechhap District and Sete (N6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009).

In the east records include from: between Pangom and Paiya (P6) in December 2011 (Carter and James 2011) and between Surkey and Mushe (P6) in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012), Solukhumbu District; between Kimbochhe and Chhepuwa (Q6) in December 1992 (Cox 1992), Gupha Pokhari and Gurja Gaun (R7) in October 1996 (Buckton 1996), Sankhuwasabha District; between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Tehrathum District in October 1996 (Buckton 1996); between Targaun and Romyang (S8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992), Dobate (R8) in September 2010 (Baral 2010), Ilam District, and Mabu (R7), between Goruwale and Sidim (R8), Mai Majuwa (S7) of the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008),.

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar and Thailand (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 4000 m (summer), 2135 m (-2895 m) (winter); lower limit: 3000 m (summer), 1050 m (610 m-) (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Fire-tailed Sunbird. More than 100 birds were recorded on 23 April 2001 at Ghopte, Langtang National Park (O'Connell-Davidson *et al.* 2001).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population : unknown ; maximum population : unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Fire-tailed Sunbird breeds in rhododendron bushes above the tree-line and open coniferous forest with an understory of rhododendron, and winters in broadleaved and mixed broadleaved-coniferous forest (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species frequently sings during summer; the female of the species dashes back and forth with nesting material while the male dances on nearby branches, rarely assisting the female. It frequently shoots

out above the rhododendron grove chasing insects. In winter small flocks gather in flowering *Leucosceptrum* trees. It can become aggressive towards food competitors (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding has been proved at Gosainkund (Tyler 1988) and at Tashi Lapcha, Rolwaling in May 1980 (Cooper 1980). The species feeds on chiefly nectar, also insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Fire-tailed Sunbird is threatened by habitat loss especially removal of rhododendron bushes and *Leucosceptrum canum* trees.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Fire-tailed Sunbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Fire-tailed Sunbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Since 1990 its distributional range has been extended west to Api Nampa Conservation Area and the species has also been recorded more widely elsewhere in the west, probably due to better coverage; otherwise there is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Fire-tailed Sunbird is threatened by habitat loss especially removal of rhododendron bushes and *Leucosceptrum canum* trees. Its population is probably decreasing.

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***Aethopyga nipalensis*** Hodgson, 1837 LC

Subspecies: *Aethopyga nipalensis nipalensis*, *horsfieldi*

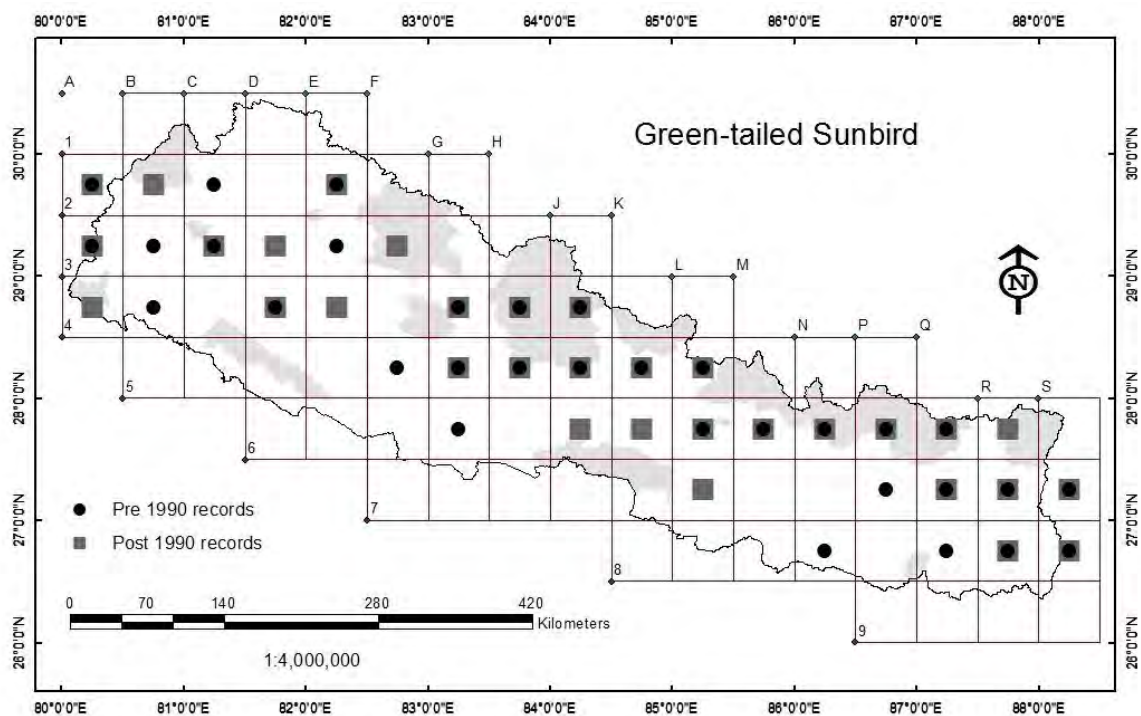
Common name

Green-tailed Sunbird (English),  
Nepal Bungechara (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Nectariniidae



Distribution



Green-tailed Sunbird is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal by Hodgson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a common resident and mapped its distribution well from central and east.

There has been significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); fairly common in the Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), uncommon in Modi River watershed area (H5) in Annapurna Conservation

Area (Suwal 2000); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded in Nagarjun (L6) in March 1994 (Baral 1994) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); recorded in Sagarmatha National Park (P6) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013). The species has been recorded between Tarkeghyang and Sermathang (M6), buffer zone of Langtang National Park in May 2007 (Byskov 2007); between Lukla and Phakding, buffer zone of Sagarmatha National Park in April 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994); at Pikhuwa Danda and Apsuwa Khola in May 2009, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park (Cox 2009).

Green-tailed Sunbird has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Amargadhi, Kaphali Danda, Khalkhale, Sadnegalli (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Daurogoan, Beuli and Kalikot (D3) Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Gaibanne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jiri Daha, Lagana and Karki Jiula (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); different locations (G4) of Myagdi District in May-June 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Patle and Malika Dhuri (G5), in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) Reshunga Forest, Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013b), Gulmi District; a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004), and Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In the central records include from: Shaktikhor (J6) in February 2004 (Giri and Choudhary 2004), Upardangaddhi hills (J6) in January 2012 (Dymond 2012), Chitwan District; a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), along Hansdol (L6) section of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common resident in Chitlang Forest (L7), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District (Chaudhary 2004), and between Deurali, Bamti (N6), Ramechhap District and Sete (N6), Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012).

In the east records include from: Kimbochhe, Chhepuwa, Phyksinda and Mude (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992); Tinjure Forest (Q7), Tehrathum District (Rai 2003); Dharan Forest (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Tungwa village (R7) in December 1992 (Cox 1992), between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7) in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), Taplejung District; Targaun, Harkatte, Romiyang, Pashupatinagar and Mani Bhanjyang (S8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and Ilam (R8) in September 2010 (Baral 2010), Ilam District; Mai Pokhari Forest (R7) in May 2004 (Basnet 2005), and Mabu (R7) and Mai Majuwa (S7) (Robson *et al.* 2008), Hange Tham (S7) in September 2010 (Baral 2010), Mai valley.

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam.

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m (-3505 m summer); 2745 m (winter); lower limit: 1830 m (summer); 915 m (-305 m winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Green-tailed Sunbird. As many as 40 birds were recorded on 1 June 1996 at Phulchoki (Baral 1996).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Green-tailed Sunbird inhabits oak-rhododendron and mixed forest and secondary growth (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species often associates with mixed foraging flocks in the non-breeding season (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species feeds on mainly nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Although Green-tailed Sunbird inhabits secondary growth as well mature forest, and is adapted to forest thinning and degradation, it is at risk from the complete loss of trees.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Green-tailed Sunbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from Global Red status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Green-tailed Sunbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. Although Green-tailed Sunbird inhabits secondary growth as well mature forest, and is adapted to forest thinning and degradation, it is at risk from complete loss of trees. As a result, its population may be stable or possibly declining.

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***Aethopyga saturata*** Hodgson, 1836 LC

Subspecies: *Aethopyga saturata saturata*

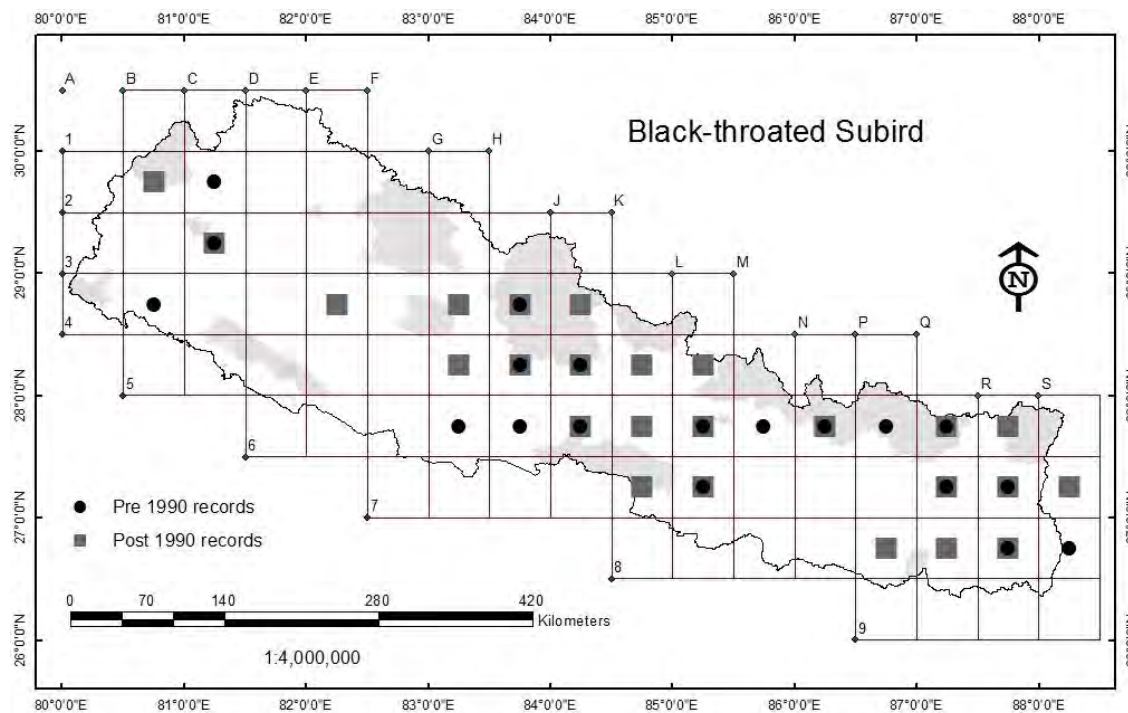
Common name

Black-throated Sunbird (English),  
Kalikanthe Bungechara (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Nectariniidae



Distribution



Black-throated Sunbird is a fairly common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was first described from Nepal by Hodgson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an occasional resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a resident, occasionally found between 1000m and 1830m, and up to 2200 m in summer and mapped its distribution mainly in central and eastern Nepal.

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 throughout Nepal, but especially in the east, probably partly because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded in Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area during March-April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5)

(Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), scarce in Modi River watershed area (H5) in Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a rare resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a fairly common resident in Shivapuri (L6) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a frequent resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005) and Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Tarkeghyang, buffer zone of Langtang National Park in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004); between Sankhuwa Khola and Chitre Danda, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun national park in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

In central and eastern Nepal Black-throated Sunbird has been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, though less widely in the west. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: between Kalimati, Kauli, Karki Jiula (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); between Bagara and Bajhansi Kharka (G4) and Kaamla and Shivaratri Khola (G5), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Forest, Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013b); a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Chandrakot (H5) in March 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004), and Sarangkot (H5) in April 2007 (Oldfield 2007), Kaski District.

In the central region records include: from Upardangadhi hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); an uncommon resident to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) but fairly common in lower slopes of Phulchoki (Hem Sagar Baral pers. obs.); an uncommon resident to Chitlang forest (L7) (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and the Gangate (L7) section of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013), Makwanpur District.

In the east records include from: between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar (Q7) in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011), Sankhuwasabha District; between Otama and Yasin (R7), Taplejung District in May 1994 (Halberg 1994); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010), and Mabu (R7) and Hange Tham (S7), Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2200 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Black-throated Sunbird. Post-1990 more than 10 birds were recorded on 12 April 2003 (O'Connell-Davidson *et al.* 2003).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Black-throated Sunbird inhabits flowering bushes in open forests, and the edges of dense forest; also secondary growth (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species usually feeds in bushes and lower branches (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to some altitudinal movements, descending infrequently to 305 m (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding was confirmed in the Chitlang Valley (Biswas 1963). The species feeds chiefly on nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987).



### Threats

Although Black-throated Sunbird would suffer from the complete loss of trees and shrubs it has benefited from forest thinning and degradation to scrub, for example s in the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-throated Sunbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from its Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-throated Sunbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 it has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system in central and eastern Nepal, though less widely in the west. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably partly due to better coverage and also because of the species' preference for open forest and scrub, a habitat which has increased with forest thinning and degradation. Its population is probably increasing.

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<http://www.nhm.ac.uk/jdsml/research-curation/research/projects/birdtype/browse.dsml?vol=2&page=1>

***Aethopyga siparaja*** Raffles, 1822 LC

Subspecies: *Aethopyga siparaja seheriae*

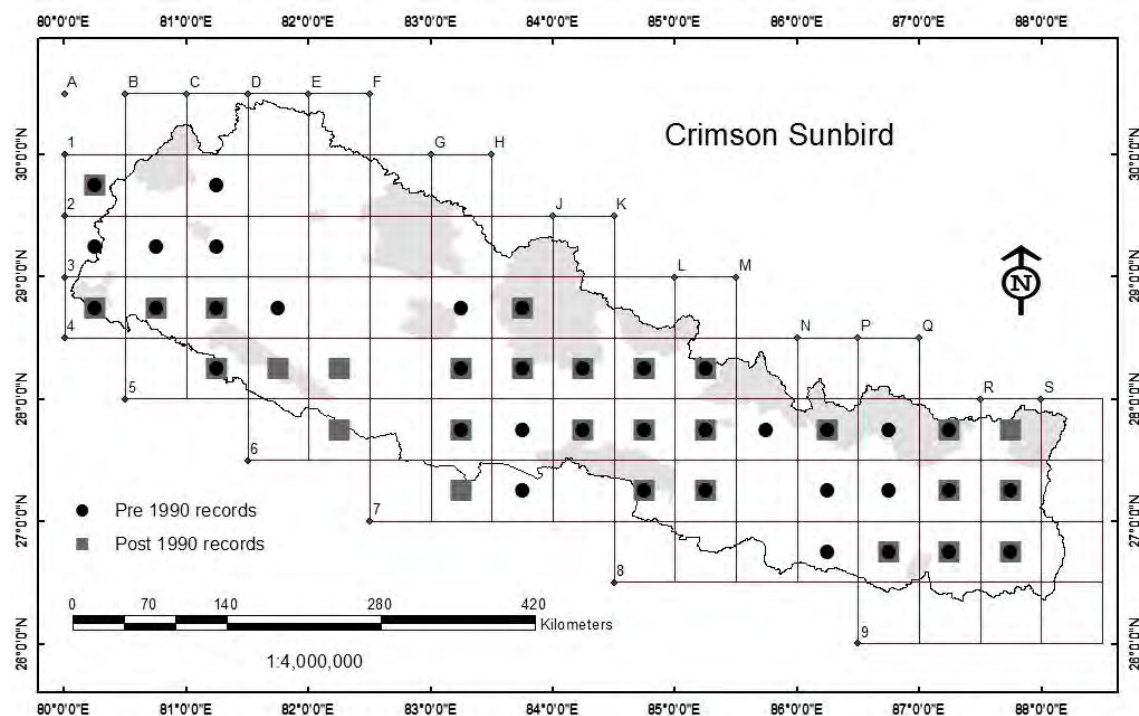
Common name

Crimson Sunbird (English),  
Sipraja Bungechara (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Nectariniidae



Distribution



Crimson Sunbird is a fairly common and widespread resident in the lowlands and frequent up to 1200 m. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley in the far east (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a resident, fairly common up to 915m, occasionally seen up to 1200 m, and scarce up to 1800 m and mapped its distribution fairly well from the far west to the far east.

The species has been recorded a little more widely in the west but overall there has been a small reduction in distribution since 1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded in Mahakali Valley (A2) in Api Nampa

Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); an occasionally recorded resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); an occasionally recorded resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); vagrant in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a frequent resident in Shivapuri (L6) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); formerly a common resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005), but now an uncommon species there (Hem Sagar Baral); a fairly common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Barandhabhar Forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area in March 2010 (Giri 2010), Sauraha in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012), buffer zones of Chitwan National Park; between Keksuwa khets, Simle Gau and lower Pikhua Khola, in May 2009, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park (Cox 2009).

Crimson Sunbird has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: a common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); from Chisapani (C4) in March 1997 (Giri 1997) and Khata Corridor (C5) (Chaudhari 2007), Bardia District; Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between Kaamla, Shivrati Khola, Darbang (G5) and Tatopani (H4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Argali and Sidure (G6) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013b), Gulmi District; between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and a resident in Balewa (H5) (Basnet 2009), Baglung District; between Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District and Kapilvastu (G6), Kapilvastu District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005), and Baglungpani (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992).

In the central region records include from: Lothar River (J6), Chitwan District in December 1998 (Smith 1999); Malekhu (K6), Dhading District in January 1991 (Baral 1993); Trisuli Bazaar (L6), Nuwakot District in April 2001 (O'Connell-Davidson *et al.* 2001); recorded in Phulchoki (L6), Kathmandu Valley in November 2000 (Basnet 2000), February 2002 (Arlow 2002), along Bagmati River corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009); in Ravi Opi VDC-9, Kavrepalanchok District (M6) (Sudarshan Karki verbally 2015); along Kathmandu (L6), Lalitpur (L6), Makwanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) District sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

In the east records include from: Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Tumlingtar (Q7) and between Gothe Bazaar and Phedi (Q7) in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011), between Kangduwa, Bumlingtar, Maruwabesi gau, Archale gaun and Tumlingta (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); Dharan Forest (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); an uncommon resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Mitlung (R7) Taplejung District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994), and the lower Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1200 m (-2400 m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Crimson Sunbird. More than 20 birds were recorded on 20 November 2011 at Pokhara, Kaski District (Vicente 2011).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Crimson Sunbird inhabits flowering shrubs in light forests, groves, gardens, orchards, sal and pine forests (Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species usually occurs singly, is fond of red flowers and forages mainly low down in bushes and trees, and on garden flowers. It often hovers and returns to the same branch after examining flowers, piercing their bases for nectar or searching through the leaves for insects (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding was confirmed at Amlekghanj (Biswas 1963) and Chitwan (Gurung 1983). It feeds on mainly nectar, sometimes insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Crimson Sunbird may have been benefited from deforestation and forest thinning due to the spread of agriculture and also the conversion of forests into shrub lands as it inhabits secondary forests and fragmented scrub (Robson *et al.* 2008).

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Crimson Sunbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Crimson Sunbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in a number of protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely in the west, but overall there has been a small reduction in distribution, despite better coverage. Crimson Sunbird may have been benefited from deforestation, due to the spread of agriculture and conversion of forests into shrub lands, as it inhabits secondary forests and fragmented scrub. Its population may be stable or possibly declining.

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***Alauda gulgula*** Franklin, 1831 LC

Subspecies *Alauda gulgula gulgula*, *inopinata*, *lhamarum*

Common Name

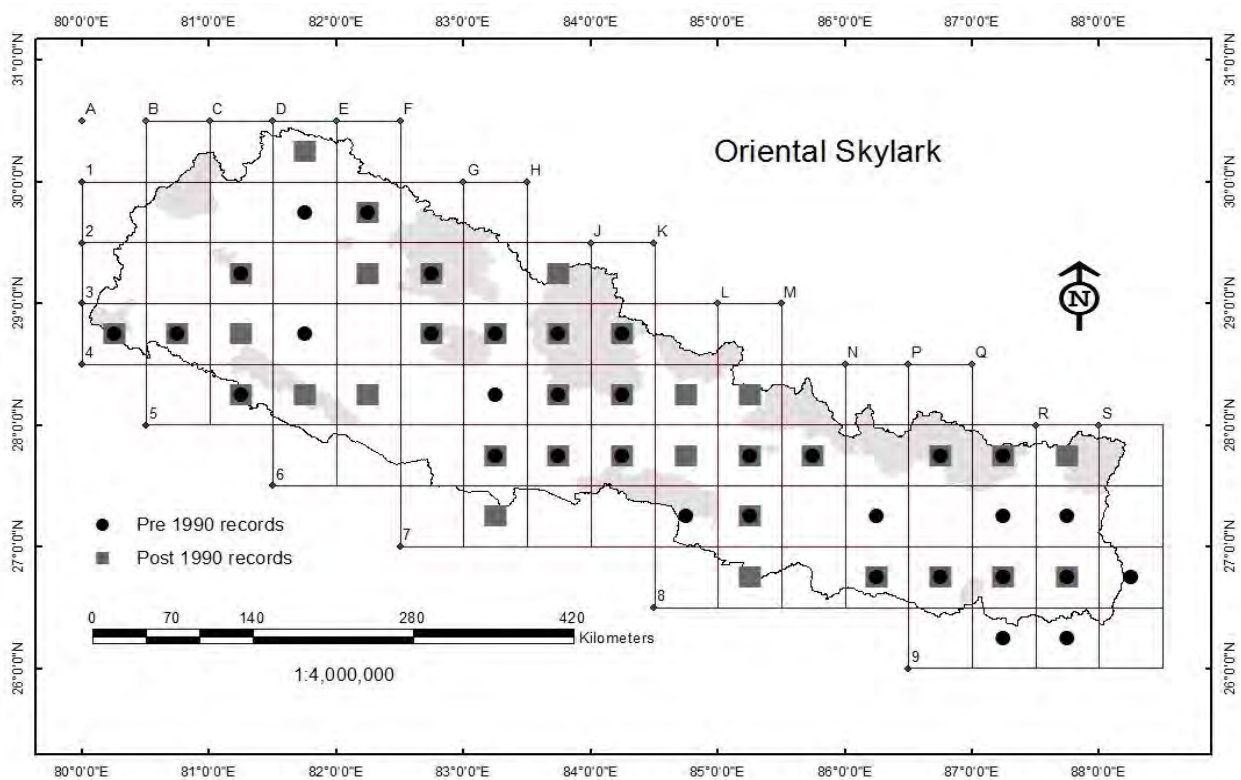
Oriental Skylark (English), Brahmichati Bhardwaaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Oriental Skylark is fairly common and widespread, resident below 150 m, also breeds between 2500 m and 3600 m and a winter visitor recorded 1280 – 1700 m. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Jhapa District (Cox 1992) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a fairly common resident and winter visitor; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also described it as a fairly common resident and winter visitor and mapped its distribution widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 there has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); an uncommon summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005);

recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a fairly common resident and winter visitor to Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013, Subedi 2003) and to Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Acharya 2002, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); rare, possibly resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a rare summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a frequent resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005); a fairly common resident or visitor to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Paudel 2008). It has also been recorded from Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District e.g. in April 1996 (Baral 1996) and February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012), and near Tharu Cultural Jungle Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011a).

The species has also been quite widely recorded outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below.

In the west records include from: Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992); Tikapur (C5), Kailali District in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); upper Humla (D1), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Baral 1992); between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3) and between Gothichaur and Navakuna (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Jumla District (E3) in April 1995 (White and White 1995); between Lihie and Okharpata (E3), Jumla District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Padmara (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E5) (Thakuri 2009a,b); Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Baral 2011b); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in April 1995 (White and White 1995) and February 2011 (Acharya 2011), and also listed by Suwal *et al.* (2002), and recorded in Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District in November 2007 (Baral 2007).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Records from other localities include from: Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in February 1991 (White and White 1991) and in February 1994 (Cottridge *et al.* 1994); near Adarsha Community Forest and national forest, Chandi Khola, Rautahat District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); between Mewa gau school, Rautahat District (L8) –and school west of Belwa, Bara District (L7), between Gaur, Rautahat District and Sedhawa, Siraha District (L8) and between Sedhawa, Siraha District and camp west of Lal Bakaiya, Rautahat District (L8) in April 2003 (Cox 2003), and Panauti (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005).

In the east records include from: Siraha District (N8) in March 1995 (White and White 1995); Kosi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994), November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997) and November 2004 (Baral and Chaudhary 2004); near Sunderpur forest and Bhagalpur forest (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); near Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999), December 2000 (Chaudhary 2001) and February 2002 (Chaudhary 2002); near Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in May 2011 (Baral 2011c) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); near Patnali (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2001 (Baral 2001); north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010), and Jhapa District (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Egypt, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3600 m (summer); 1700 m (winter); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

A total of 987 birds was counted in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013). No other population surveys have been carried out for Oriental Skylark. Its population may be declining as a result of changes in agricultural practices.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Oriental Skylark inhabits open valley bottoms and adjacent grassy slopes and also arable land in mountains, but it avoids terraced landscapes all over the midlands (Martens and Eck 1995). Fleming *et al.* (1976) describe its habitat as fallow and ploughed fields; also open grassland (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). The species is a typical lark. It is found in pairs or scattered flocks. It feeds by walking about methodically, seeking insects and seeds from the ground and on plants. It perches freely on stone walls, low stumps and stones. When alarmed it crouches and freezes to try and escape notice. During his song flight the male sings for several minutes, whilst circling, then nearly closes his wings and descends to the ground in a steep dive (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species' diet is weed seeds, tiny root bulbs and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Lumbini, Rupandehi District in May 1995 (White and White 1995).

### Threats

Oriental Skylark is threatened by changes in agricultural practices especially in the lowlands, notably pesticide use and the cultivation of field corners and edges which were previously uncultivated (Inskipp and Baral 2011). It may also be at risk from trapping in the terai.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Oriental Skylark. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Bardia, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Manaslu, Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Oriental Skylark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident and winter visitor that has been recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990. There is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. The species has been recorded from many protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system. Oriental Skylark is threatened by changes in agricultural practices especially in the lowlands, notably pesticide use and the cultivation of field corners and edges which were previously uncultivated. It may also be at risk from trapping in the terai. Its population may have declined, but not to the extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Alcippe castaneiceps* (Hodgson, 1837) LC**

Subspecies: *Alcippe castaneiceps castaneiceps*

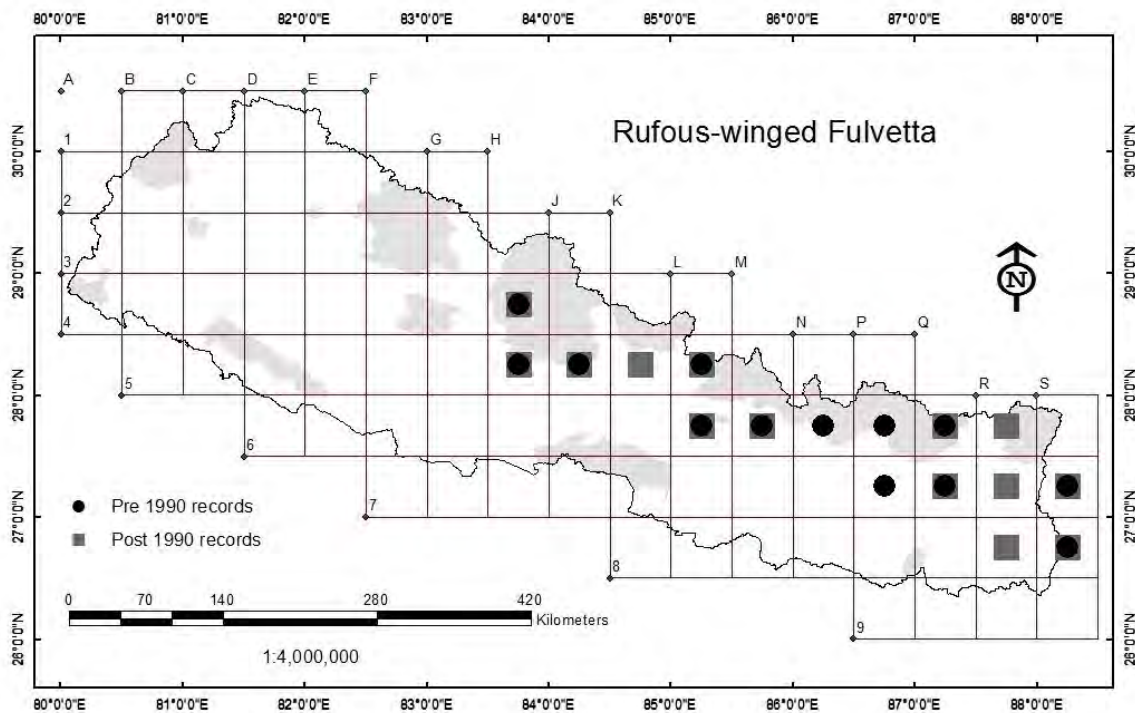
Common name

Rufous-winged Fulvetta (English),  
Katustauke Phulbutta (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Rufous-winged Fulvetta is a common to fairly common resident, subject to some altitudinal movements. It has been recorded from the upper Kali Gandaki valley, Annapurna Conservation Area (a few records, e.g. Madge *et al.* 1974, Mischler 1977), the western known limit of the species' range east to Hans Pokhari Danda, Ilam District (Mills and Preston 1981).

The species was described from Nepal in the 19th century (Hodgson 1838, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Its distribution has not changed significantly pre- and post-1990 (see records given below and map).

The species' status in protected areas pre- and post-1990 follows. It was a fairly common resident in the Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA) pre- and post-1990, e.g. Madge *et al.* (1974), Inskipp and Inskipp (1977), Hall (1981), Giri (1996), Chaudhary (1999), Baral *et al.* (2001), Naylor and Giri (2004), Thakuri and Poudyal (2011). It was recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Thakuri 2013) and a frequent resident in Langtang National Park both pre- and post-1990, e.g. Robson (1982) and post-1990 (Karki and Thapa 2001). Scully (1879) found the species common on Shivapuri in what is now the Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park in summer 1877; it was recorded as fairly common on Shivapuri by SNP and BCN (2007) and also as fairly common there between 2004 and 2006 (Mallalieu 2008). Pre-1990 Rufous-winged Fulvetta was a common resident in the Arun valley in what is now the Makalu Barun National Park, e.g. Morioka and Sakane (1981), Nepali (1984), van Riessen (1989). Cox (1999) also reported it as a common resident in the park where he recorded it in the

Hongu and Irkhuwa Khola valleys in April/May 1995 (Cox 1999). The species was frequent in the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); its status in the conservation area pre-1990 is unknown. Up to four birds were seen on several days in May 2009 in the national park buffer zone (Cox 2009).

Known records outside the protected areas system follow.

In west-central areas post-1990 records include from Belawa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); one bird north of Besishar, Lamjung District in December 1991 and flocks in the Midim Khola valley, Lamjung District in January 1992 (Halliday 1992); also two on Telbrung Danda, Lamjung District in February 2000 (Byrne 2000).

Scully (1879) found the species common on hills around the Kathmandu Valley. It was also reported as common on hills around the Valley and on the Mahabharat Range by Biswas (1962). Numerous records indicate it was common to fairly common there in the 1970s and 1980s, e.g. Inskipp *et al.* (1971), Baker (1981), Robson (1982). Mallalieu (2008) also reported it was a fairly common resident between 2004 and 2006, only found on Phulchoki and Shivapuri. The high day total of 80 was recorded on Phulchoki in February 2007 (Baral 2007) and in February 2010 (Baral 2010).

In other central areas post-1990 records include from Chitlang forest, Makwanpur District where it was found to be common during a 1992 survey (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) and found at Daman (NTNC workshop, October 2012); also one seen near Sermathang, Sindhupalchok District in June 2002 (Halberg 2002) and four there in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004)

In the east post-1990 the species has been recorded quite widely and found to remain fairly common to common. Known records include one between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar, Sankhuwasabha District in February 2011 (Carter and James 2011); three between Chichira and Bhotebas, Sankhuwasabha District in May 1991 (Halberg 1991); recorded between Phyaksinda and Mude, Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); common in Tinjure forest, Tehrathum District in 1997/98 surveys (Rai 2003); six seen between Basantapur and Chauki, Tehrathum District, and a daily maximum of 12 between Lali Kharka and Taplejung, Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); also recorded above the Indua Khola, Taplejung District in December 1992 (Cox 1992).

The species was fairly common to common in the Mai valley pre-1990, e.g. Lambert (1979), Inskipp and Inskipp (1981), McKnight *et al.* (1989). It was recorded almost daily in a survey of the Mai valley in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008). Two were seen in the Mewa Khola valley, Ilam District in December 1992 (Cox 1992) and also recorded at Hange Tham in the upper Mai valley (NTNC workshop, October 2012).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013). Nepal is the western limit of the species' range.

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2745 m (-3505 m) (summer), 2745 m (winter); lower limit: 825 m (summer), 1525 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Rufous-winged Fulvetta. No evidence of a significant population change is apparent (although it is less widespread on hills surrounding the Kathmandu Valley compared to the 19<sup>th</sup> century). The high day total of 70 birds was recorded at Saisima in the park in November 2005 (Baral 2005) and at Ilam in January 2008 (Baral 2010).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Rufous-winged Fulvetta inhabits mixed subtropical and oak forests (Fleming *et al.* 1976); thick undergrowth in moist broadleaved forests (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); also frequents secondary growth. Outside the breeding

season, it keeps in flocks, often in mixed feeding parties with other small babblers, tits and warblers. It is constantly on the move, hunting at low and medium heights in forest; sometimes climbs up mossy trunks, seeking insects and tree sap (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). One was observed collecting moss in April 1988 on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988). A pair was seen with young at Chichira, Sankhuwasabha District in May 1991 (Halberg 1991). The species was also proved breeding at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park in April 1994 (Bland 1994). A pair were seen nest-building between Lali Kharka and Taplejung, Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). Nests have been found [in Nepal] above 2287 m in May in clumps of moss near the ground or in low bushes (Fleming *et al.* 1976).

### Threats

Rufous-winged Fulvetta is threatened by the complete removal of broadleaved forests, but can adapt to secondary growth with bushes.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Rufous-winged Fulvetta. It has been recorded in Annapurna, Kanchenjunga and Manaslu Conservation Areas, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rufous-winged Fulvetta has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common to fairly common resident recorded from west-central to far east Nepal. The species has been recorded in several protected areas and also quite widely outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. While Rufous-winged Fulvetta is threatened by the complete removal of broadleaved forests, it can adapt to secondary growth with bushes. Its distribution has not changed significantly pre- and post-1990 and there no significant changes in population are apparent.

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***Alcippe nipalensis*** (Hodgson, 1837)

Subspecies: *Alcippe nipalensis nipalensis*

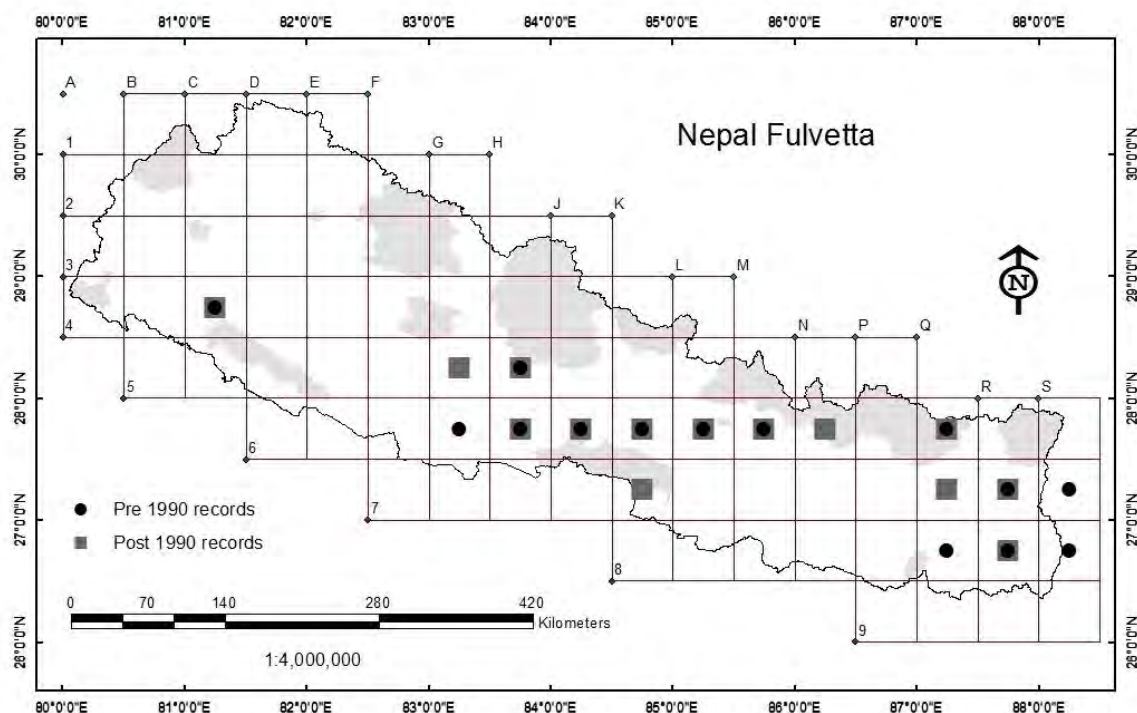
Common name

Nepal Fulvetta (English),  
Nepal Phulbutta (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Nepal Fulvetta is a resident, common on some hills surrounding the Kathmandu Valley, but uncommon elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia National Park, east to the Mai valley, Ilam District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008). In May 1989 it was recorded a little further east, on Hans Pokhari Danda, Ilam District (Mills and Preston 1981, DeLuce and Goodyear 1990).

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1838, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also reported the species was common on hills surrounding the Valley and uncommon elsewhere, so the species' status has not changed significantly since 1990. Its distribution is also largely the same, although better recording has resulted in a few new localities.

In the far west there was one record: a small flock near Narsinghkanda, Bardia District in November 1985 (Cox 1985). The species is listed as a rare resident in Bardia National Park (Kumal 2001 and Tamang undated in Inskipp 2001).

It was recorded during a survey of Reshunga forest Important Bird Area, Gulmi District: eight in February, three in March and two in June 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013).

The species was an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area pre-1990, e.g. Turton (1982), Cooper

and Cooper (1989) and also post-1990 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); other post 1990 records include Giri (1996), Baral *et al.* (2001), Mallalieu (2005), Naylor *et al.* (2009).

Nepal Babbler is uncommon and possibly resident in Chitwan National Park. Known pre-1990 records are: Inskipp and Inskipp (1980), King (1980), Gurung (1983) and Kovacs (1987, 1988). Post-1990 known records include two in May 2003 (Cox 2003), two in January 2009 (Baral 2009) and four in May 2011 (Baral 2011). However, the species is not included in the Baral and Upadhyay (2006) checklist of the park. Ten were recorded west of the park in the buffer zone in February 2010 (Baral 2010a).

Todd (2001) reported it from Parsa Wildlife Reserve in winter. Two were seen in the reserve in April 2003 (Cox 2003).

Biswas (1962) observed Nepal Babbler was a very common bird of central Nepal, where it was recorded near the bases of hills around the Kathmandu Valley and on the Mahabharat Range in 1947. Ripley (1950) also described the species as very common in the Valley in 1947 and Proud (1949) also found it very common in the late 1940s. Although the species' abundance has reduced since the 1940s and its distribution has become more restricted, it is still a common bird in the Valley. The high day total of 60 was recorded in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in October 1970 (Inskipp *et al.* 1971). Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also noted it was common in Valley. There are numerous later records from Valley, mainly from Phulchoki and Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park. For example, the large day total of 65 was recorded in January 2005 (Baral 2005). Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common resident between 2004 and 2006, mainly recorded on Phulchoki and Shivapuri; also on Nagarjun in May 2006 and at Haatiban in November 2005. SNP and BCN (2007) listed the species as a fairly common resident on Shivapuri. A 1992 survey of Chitlang forest, Chandragiri Range, Makwanpur District found the species a common resident (Manandhar *et al.* 1992).

Karki and Thapa (2001) reported Nepal Babbler was common in Langtang National Park. However, no pre-1990 records are known and only one record could be located: a single bird at Gumnachowk in May 1995 (Toohig 1995).

The species was recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in May 2009 (Baral and Shah 2009).

Although it is listed as a locally common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), few pre-and post-1990 records could be located. Cox (1999) recorded it in the upper Arun valley in May/June 1995. Pre-1990 it was seen in the Barun valley in November 1984 (Nepali 1984) and two specimens were collected in the Arun valley in 1973 (further locality details are unknown, so they were possibly taken outside the national park) (Anon. 1983). Three were seen between Navagaon and Tashigaon and two between Tashigaon and Shunin Oral in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998). In the park buffer zone the species was recorded between Pikhua and the Apsuwa Khola in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994) and one was seen in the buffer zone in June 2009 (Cox 2009).

Post-1990 there are a number of records from outside the protected areas system, chiefly in central areas and the east, although it is uncommon. Known post-1990 records are: from Belawa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Nagarkot, Bhaktapur District and Pharping, Kathmandu District (Hathan Chaudhary); five seen between Chichira and Bhotebas, Sankhuwasabha District in May 1991 (Halberg 1991); recorded from the lower Arun valley in December 1991 or January 1992 (White and White 1992); 25 between Bhotebas and Mude, Sankhuwasabha District in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998); eight to ten near Targaun, Taplejung District in December 1992 (Cox 1992), one between Suketar and Lali Kharka, Taplejung District in October 2000 (Goble 2000), and two in Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010b). In addition, there are a few records from the Mai valley Important Bird Area. Pre-1990 records include in November/December 1979 (Robson 1979), one at Hange Tham in January 1989 (Halliday 1989) and several between Jamuna and Ilam in March 1989 (McKnight *et al.* 1989). Post-1990 it was recorded in the lower Mai valley in January 2006 (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) and one was seen at Memen in the valley in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2285 m (summer), 1830 m (winter); lower limit: 245 m (winter)

### Population

No surveys have been carried out for Nepal Fulvetta. There is no indication of a change in population, although the species may be declining as a result of forest loss and degradation.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Nepal Fulvetta inhabits dense undergrowth in moist forests (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991), in bushes of mixed forest and cutover jungle (Fleming *et al.* 1976); also in secondary forest growth (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It forages mainly in bushes, undergrowth and small trees, sometimes on the ground. Nepal Fulvetta is usually quite shy, coming into the open infrequently (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species keeps in small parties with other babblers and warblers (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It has been found breeding on Phulchoki (Proud 1949, Ripley 1950, Biswas 1962), and on Shivapuri (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Nepal Fulvetta is threatened by the removal of bushes and undergrowth in subtropical and lower temperate forests. However, it can adapt to secondary growth.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Nepal Fulvetta. It has been recorded in Annapurna and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Makalu Barun National Parks and Parsa Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Nepal Fulvetta has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a resident, common on some hills surrounding the Kathmandu Valley, but uncommon elsewhere. The species occurs from west to far east Nepal and has been recorded in several protected areas. There has been no significant change in distribution pre- and post-1990, although better recording has resulted in several new localities. The species may be declining as a result of forest loss and degradation; however, it can adapt to secondary growth and it is not threatened to any degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Alcippe vinipectus* (Hodgson, 1837) LC**

Subspecies: *Alcippe vinipectus vinipectus*, *chumbiensis*

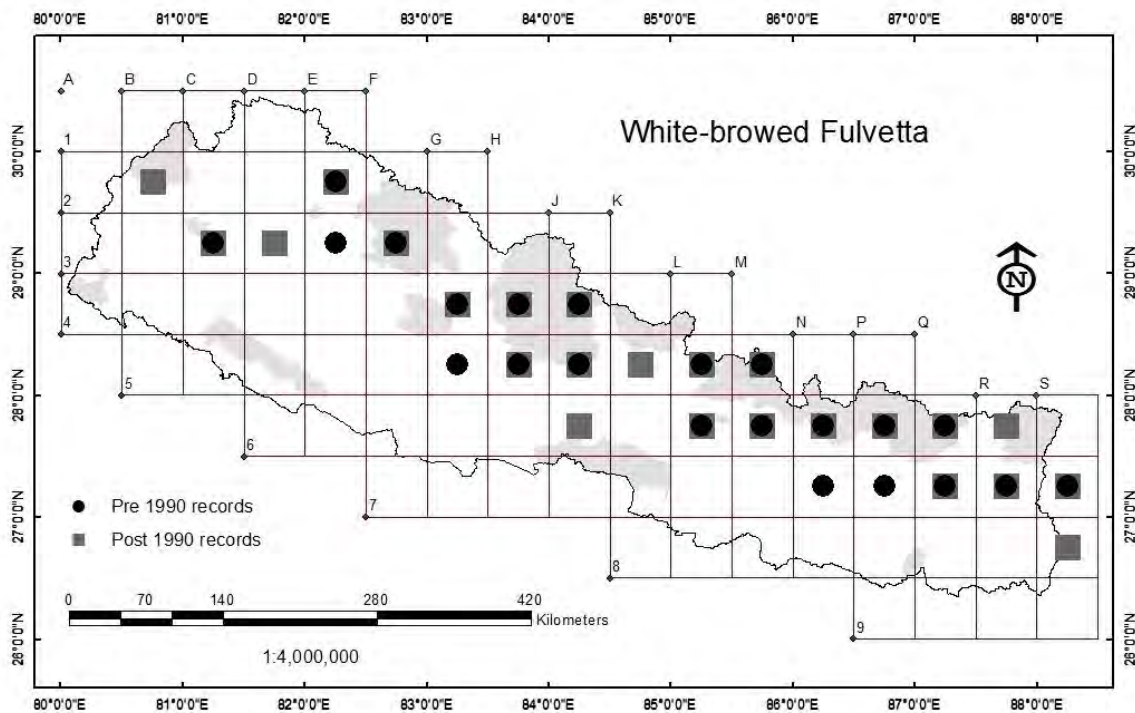
Common name

White-browed Fulvetta (English),  
Peetnayan Phulbutta (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



White-browed Fulvetta is a common resident subject to some altitudinal movements. It is widespread with post-1990 records from Api Nampa Conservation Area in the far west (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) to Hans Pokhari Danda, Ilam District (Cox 1992)

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012), a common resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Halliday 1993, Khadka 1996), frequent and possibly resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005), recorded in Shey Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995), recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013), a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001), recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009), a fairly common resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004), a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a) and in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

White-browed Fulvetta has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range (see text below and map). No significant changes in distribution have been noted pre- and post-1990 (see map).

Known records outside the protected areas' system post-1990 are given below.



In the west records include: Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Reshunga Important Bird Area, Gulmi District in November 2010 (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Jumla District south of Rara National Park in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); Chaurikot to Hurikot, Dolpa District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Myagdi Khola valley, Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b) and Belawa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009).

In central areas records include: at Siraichuli, Chitwan District in January 2006 (Hem Subedi); near Sermathang, Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004) and between Kutumsang and Chisapani, Sindhupalchok District in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007). Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006, when it was only recorded in the Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area and on Shivapuri.

In the east records include: between Shivalaya and Sete, Dolakha District and between Sete and Phakding, Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* (2009); between Bhandar and Sete, Dolakha District and between Sete and Phakding, Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); Gurase, Sankhuwasabha District and between Sanam and Bung, Najing Dingma and Panggom, Panggom and Paiya and Paiya and Phakding Solukhumbu District in February 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between Kimboche and Chhepuwa, Sandkhuwasabha District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Pikhwa Danda, Bhojpur District in May 2009 (Cox 2009), Tinjure forest, Tehrathum District in 1997 and 1998 (Rai 2003); between Basantapur and Chauki, Tehrathum District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Pranbung, Panchtar District, and above Maimajuwa and at Hange Tham, Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); Ilam, Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010a); Hange Tham, Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010b) and on Hans Pokhari Danda, Ilam District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4200 m (summer), 3000 m (winter); lower limit: 2400 m (summer), 2135 m (-1525 m) (winter)

#### Population

No surveys have been carried out for White-browed Fulvetta. Observations do not indicate any significant changes in population.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-browed Fulvetta inhabits bushes in broadleaved and coniferous forests and shrubberies of birch, juniper and rhododendron in the temperate and subalpine zones (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It also frequents bamboo (Fleming *et al.* 1976). When not breeding, it keeps in flocks, sometimes with other babblers and tits. It is inquisitive and tame. The species forages restlessly low down in bushes and undergrowth (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It has been proved breeding in Khaptad National Park (Barber 1989), Langtang National Park (Tyler 1988), Khumbu (Diesselhorst 1968) and on Nangi Danda (Proud 1957).

#### Threats

White-browed Fulvetta is threatened by complete loss of shrubberies or bushes in forest; however, it can adapt to some habitat degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-browed Fulvetta. It has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey Phoksundo, Langtang, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar; Kanchenjunga and Makalu Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-browed Fulvetta has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common and widespread resident with post-1990 records from the far west to the far east. It is well represented in protected areas. White-browed Fulvetta is also widespread outside the protected areas system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. The species is threatened by complete loss of shrubberies or bushes in forest; however, it can adapt to some habitat degradation. No significant changes in distribution have been noted pre- and post-1990. Observations do not indicate any changes in population.

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***Ammomanes phoenicura*** (Franklin, 1831) LC

Subspecies: *phoenicura*

Common name

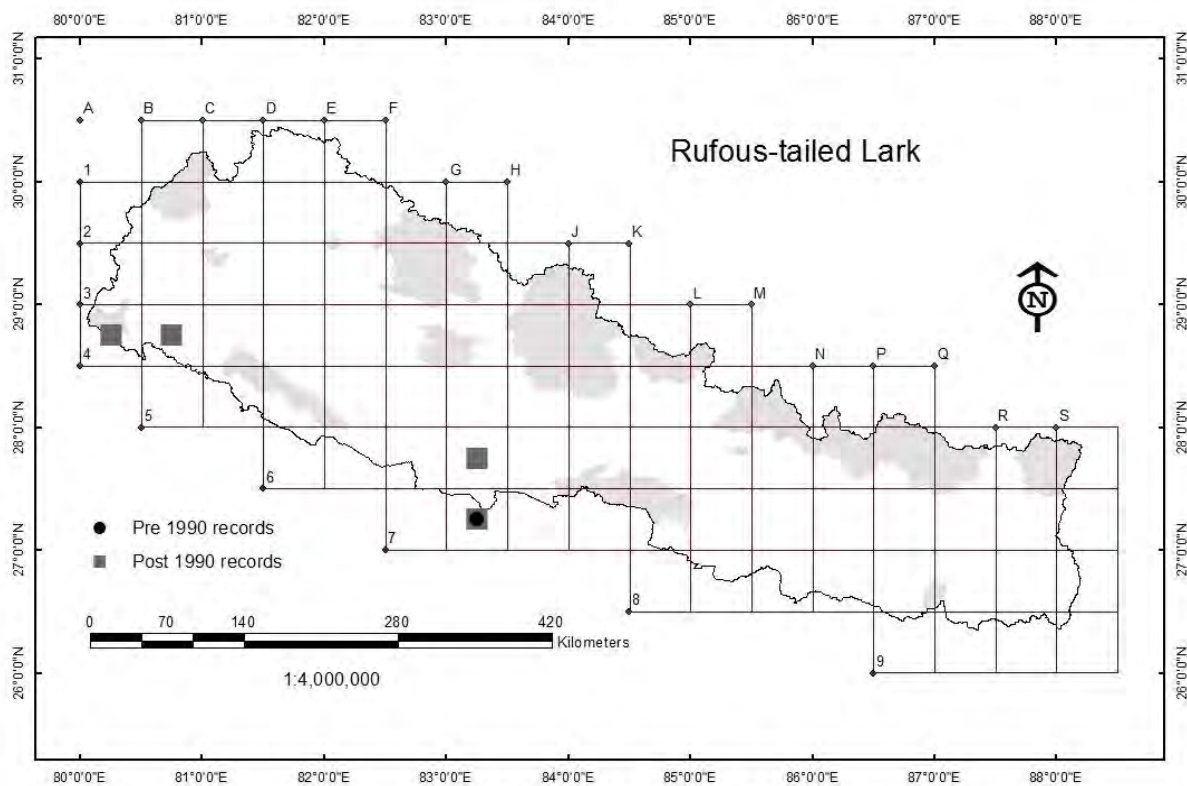
Rufous-tailed Lark (English), Agni Bhardwaaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Rufous-tailed Lark is a rare and local resident in the western terai. The species only marginally occurs in Nepal; its main range is further south in India.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Lumbini IBA, Rupandehi District in December 1989 (Anon. 1992, Nepali 1990). It was probably overlooked previously.

The species has been recorded in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve: one was seen in March 1998 (Baral and Inskipp 2009, Giri 1998, Robson 1998). It is considered rare and possibly resident (Baral and Inskipp 2009).

Other records include: a pair at Geta airport, 10 km north of Dhanghadi (B4), Kailali District in December 1994 (Crosby 1995, Lama 1995); one 6 km W of Taulihawa (G6), Kapilvastu District in November 2006 (Cox 2008); four in Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in November 1992 (Mackenzie 1994), two pairs with singing males in April 1993 (Baral 1993, Lama 1993), and also recorded at Lumbini in April 1995 (White and White 1995) and listed there by Suwal *et al.* (2002).

Globally the species has also been recorded from India, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 100 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Rufous-tailed Lark. Any population changes are uncertain.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; Maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Rufous-tailed Lark inhabits cultivation, fallow and ploughed ground, stubbles, open country with scattered bushes and stony outcrops (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It runs about in rapid zigzags when feeding. During aerial display the male rises to about 30 m, flies around with deeply flapping wingbeats and then plunges to the ground in steep descent (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species' diet is seeds of grass and weeds, grains of paddy and other cereals, and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Threats to Rufous-tailed Lark are uncertain; it could possibly be at risk from changes in agricultural practices such as the loss of field corners and edges which were previously uncultivated, and possibly also by pesticides (Inskipp and Baral 2011).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Rufous-tailed Lark. It has been marginally recorded in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rufous-tailed Lark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a rare and local resident in the western terai. The species was first recorded in 1990 although it was probably overlooked previously. It only marginally occurs in Nepal; its main range is further south in India.

Since 1990, it has been recorded in one protected area where it is rare and also recorded at three other localities, although it is probably still overlooked. Threats to Rufous-tailed Lark are uncertain; it could possibly be at risk from agricultural changes such as loss of field corners and edges which were previously uncultivated, and also pesticides.

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***Anthus campestris*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies *Anthus campestris griseus*

Common name

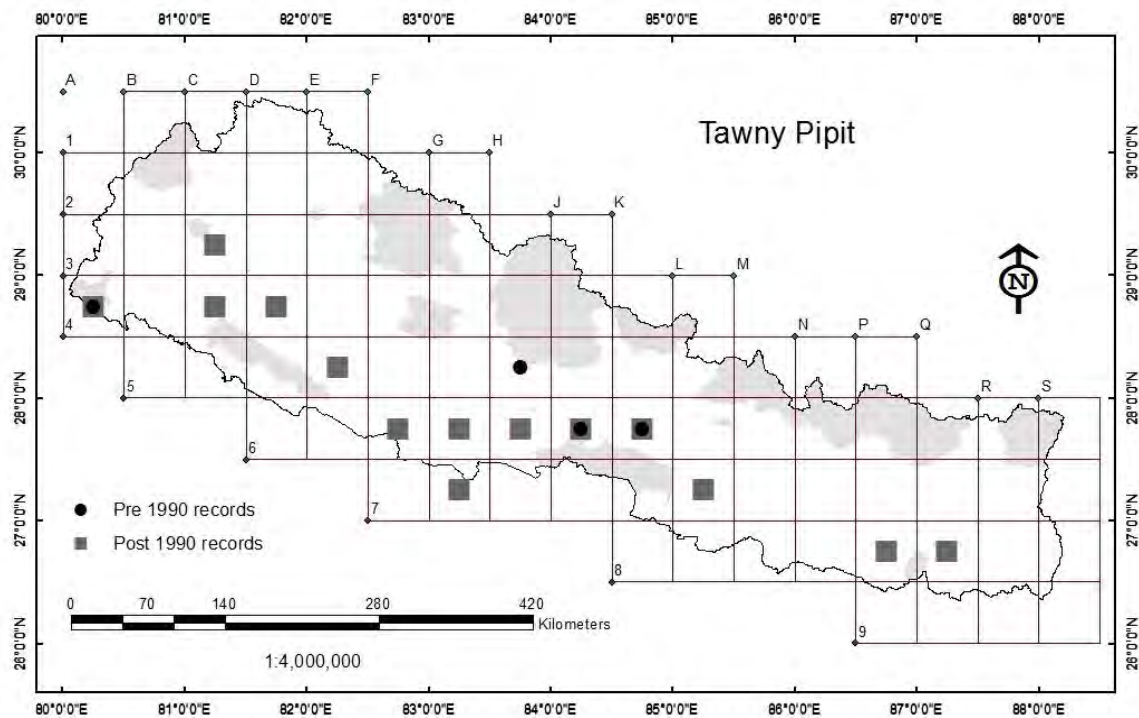
Tawny Pipit (English), Dhulika Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Tawny Pipit is a winter visitor below 305 m and a passage migrant; it is uncommon in the Koshi area, and very uncommon or rare elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Koshi area e.g. Baral (2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in Chitwan National Park in March 1977 (Anon. 1977).

Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a vagrant and listed the following records: singles migrating west at Khande (Khare) on 20 and 21 October 1985 (de Roder 1985) and one in Chitwan National Park in February 1989 (Linderstrom 1989). Another bird, probably of this species was seen in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in February 1977 (Anon. 1977, Fleming 1977).

Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely, especially in the west and also more frequently, probably because of better coverage and improved identification.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is as follows. Baral and Inskipp (2009) listed it as an uncommon winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve but only four post-1990 records could be located: in December 1996 or January 1997 (Baral 1997), March 1997, December 1997 (Chaudhary 1998), and March 2010 (Royle and Royle 2010), and it is probably very uncommon or rare there. It is a rare winter visitor or passage migrant in Bardia National Park: in March 1997 (Giri 1997) and February or March 2005 (van der Dol



2005): a rare passage migrant in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), e.g. one or two in February 1997 (Betton 1997), and an uncommon winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). It has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Sauraha, Chitwan District in February 2002 (Ofner and Basnet 2002) and January 2012 (Dymond 2012) and near Meghauli, Chitwan District in January 2001 (Hofland 2001).

Outside the protected areas' system since 1990 the species has been recorded fairly widely in the west and there are several records for central Nepal and also in the far east.

In the west records include from: near Mahendranagar (A4), Kanchanpur District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); between Daurgoan and Beuli (C3), Kalikot District and at Rawtkot (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); grasslands by the Rapti River (E5), Dang Deukhuri Important Bird Area, Dang District in November 2006 (Cox 2008); Khadara Phanta (F6), Kapilvastu District (Cox 2008, Cox and Giri 2007); by the Kachaniya Khola (F6), Kapilvastu District in April 2007 (Cox 2008); Jagdishpur (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Bajuwa Tal (G7), Kapilvastu District in November 2006 (Cox 2008), and at Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011).

In central Nepal records include from: Rampur valley (H6), Palpa District (Gautam 2003); Kathmandu Valley in April 1992 (Harrop 1992) and in March 1999 (Choudhary 1999), and near Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in January 2001 (Hofland 2001).

In the east records include from: near Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District e.g. in September 1992 (Baral 1993); March 1997 (Harrap and Basnet 1997) and in February 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District in March 1999 (Choudhary 1999); near Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012), and north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chad, China (mainland), Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Yemen (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 305 m (winter) -1370 m (on passage); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

Any population change since 1990 is uncertain as the species was probably overlooked in the past.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum Population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Tawny Pipit inhabits uncultivated bare ground, stony semi-desert with scattered scrub and fallow or ploughed fields. Its habits are similar to those of other pipits. It walks and runs swiftly with occasional alert pauses and

frequently wags its tail up and down like a wagtail. Its flight is undulating but less powerful than that of Richards Pipit *A. richardi* and its escape flight is quite long (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects and weed-seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Threats to Tawny Pipit have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Tawny Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Bardia and Chitwan National Parks, and in Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Tawny Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a winter visitor below 305 m and a passage migrant; it is uncommon in the Koshi area, and very uncommon or rare elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east. The species has been recorded significantly more widely post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west and also more frequently, probably because of better coverage and improved identification. It has been recorded from several lowland protected areas. Threats to the species have not been identified. Any population change is uncertain as it was probably overlooked pre-1990.

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***Anthus cervinus*** (Pallas, 1811) LC

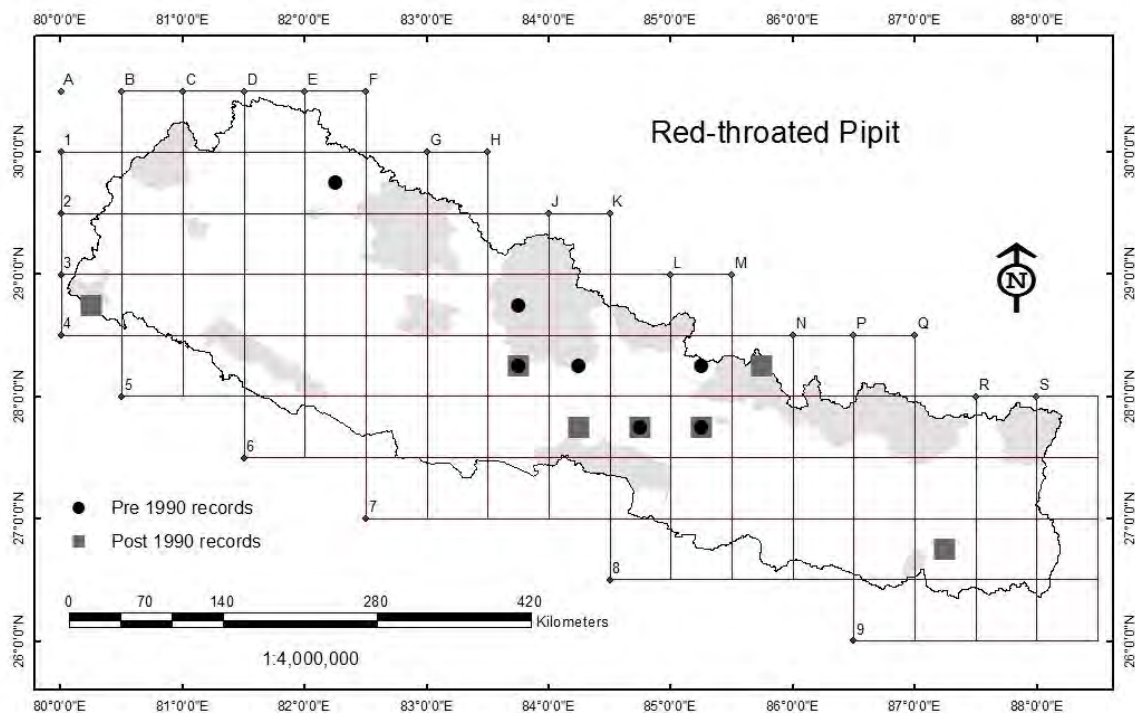
Common name

Red-throated Pipit (English), Lalkanthe Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Red-throated Pipit is a winter visitor and passage migrant, frequent in the Koshi area in the far east, and rare elsewhere.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson, 1829, 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an uncommon winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant, mainly found between October and February with several records in March and June, presumably of spring migrants.

Since 1990 its distribution has been extended to the far west, probably because of better coverage.

Post-1990 the species is rare, possibly a winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) e.g. Baral (1997) and Baral (2011). Giri (2005) listed it as an occasionally recorded passage migrant in Rara National Park and Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) listed it as a rare passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area, but no other post-1990 records could be located from either protected area. It is a rare passage migrant in Langtang National Park (M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001), e.g. Taylor *et al.* (1996). Baral and Upadhyay (2006) listed it as an uncommon winter visitor to Chitwan National Park, but only one post-1990 record could be found – a single bird in November 1998 (Choudhary 1998). It is a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), e.g. Thompson (1994). It has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer

zone at Bees Hazari Tal in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

There are several post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system:

In the west records include by Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in March 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002), February 2003 (Harris 2003) and in April 2009 (Ryan and Chantler 2009).

In central Nepal one was recorded at Malpokhari, Kathmandu Valley in January 1992 (Baral 1992).

In the east records are all from the Koshi area: six at Prakashpur (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); four at Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District in February 1995 (Baral 1995); six by the Koshi River between Prakashpur and Kusaha (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2001 (Baral 2001), and four at Koshi (Q8), Sunsari District in December 2007 (Giri 2007).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, China (mainland), Congo, Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hong Kong (China), Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia, Federated States of, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 915 m (winter) (-5180 m on passage); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Red-throated Pipit. The large number of 40 was seen at Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in January 2011 (Baral 2011). Any population change is uncertain.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population; unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Red-throated Pipit inhabits marshes, wet grassland and stubble (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It has often been recorded in small groups. If disturbed it usually flies off high before dropping into low vegetation or onto open ground. It has a creeping walk and a buoyant, undulating flight (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Threats to Red-throated Pipit have not been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Red-throated Pipit. Since 1990 it has been

recorded in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and marginally in Langtang and Chitwan National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserves.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Red-throated Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a winter visitor and passage migrant, frequent in the Koshi area in the far east, and rare elsewhere. Since 1990 its distribution has extended to the far west, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded from several protected areas and there are several records outside the protected areas' system. Threats to the species have not been identified. Any change in population is uncertain.

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***Anthus godlewskii*** (Taczanowski 1876) LC

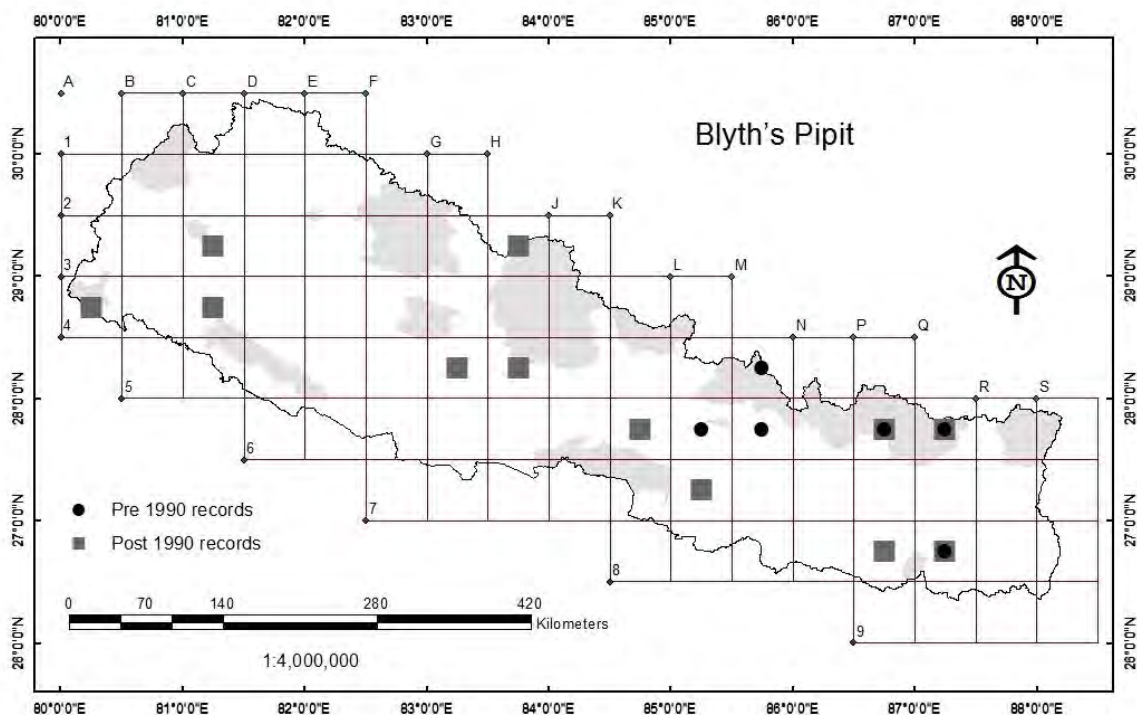
Common name

Blyth's Pipit (English), Chotothunde Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Blyth's Pipit is a passage migrant and winter visitor. In the Koshi area it is an uncommon winter visitor and is sometimes fairly common on passage; elsewhere it is generally rare, although it is probably overlooked. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Koshi area, e.g. Baral (2005), Baral *et al.* (2013) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded winter visitor and passage migrant. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a passage migrant of uncertain status and distribution. Only specimen records were accepted because up to nearly that date no reliable field identification criteria had been established to separate the species from Richard's Pipit *A. richardi* or Tawny Pipit *A. campestris*. Specimens had been collected from east-central Nepal eastwards to the upper Arun valley and Haraincha, Sunsari District (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely, but this is probably because of better coverage and improved identification, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is as follows. It is listed as an uncommon winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve by Baral and Inskipp (2009) but the only post-1990 record that could be located



was in January 1995 (Baral 1995 in Baral and Inskipp 2009); it is probably a rare winter visitor to the reserve. The species is a passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) and a rare passage migrant in Bardia National Park: recorded in April 2001 (Giri and Choudhary 2001, Inskipp 2001, Inskipp and Inskipp 2001). It is a rare passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area: recorded in upper Mustang, Annapurna Conservation Area by Suwal (2003) and at Pipar (H5) in April or May 1998 (Kaul and Shakya 1998, Thakuri and Poudyal 2011). It is a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6): recorded in February 1998 (Chaudhary 1998). The species is listed a rare passage migrant in Langtang National Park by Karki and Thapa (2001), but no post-1990 records could be located. It is listed as an uncommon winter visitor to Sagarmatha National Park by Basnet (2004), but is probably a passage migrant e.g. recorded at Gokyo (c. 4710 m) in May 1994 (Tomney 1994a) and at Pheriche (c. 4250 m) in May 2011 (Tomney 2011b). It was recorded in Makalu Barun National Park between April and June 1995, where it is probably a rare passage migrant (Cox 1995 in Cox 1999). It is a passage migrant, sometimes fairly common e.g. Baral *et al.* (2013) and Inskipp and Inskipp (2012) and an uncommon winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District in April 1996 (Baral 1996).

Outside the protected areas' system post-1990 the species has been recorded less widely and there are a smaller number of records; however, it is probably overlooked, see map and text below.

In the west records include from: Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999) and January 2001 (Roberts 2001).

In central Nepal records include from: east of Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District in February 2009 (Harrap and Karki 2009); Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in February 1995 (Wheeldon 1995).

In the east records include from: Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District e.g. in April 1993 (Lewis 1993), October 1993 (Choudhary 1994), February 1994 (Drijvers 1995) and February 1996 (Harrap 1996); near Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District in February 1999 (Ghimire 1999), and north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in March 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, China (mainland), Denmark, Finland, France, India, Israel, Japan, Kuwait, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, Oman, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), South Korea, Sri Lanka, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 4710 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

A total of 57 was counted in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjoining areas between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013) and 70 near Koshi Bird Observatory, Sunsari District on 10 October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012). No other population surveys have been carried out for the species. Any change in population is uncertain because of identification difficulties up to the 1980s.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Blyth's Pipit inhabits grassy meadows (Fleming *et al.* 1976); also cultivation, fallow fields, grassland and marshes. Its gait resembles that of Tawny Pipit *A. campestris* and it lacks the strutting gait of Richard's *A. richardi*. The frequency of tail wagging is intermediate between these two species. Its flight is similar to that of Richard's, but without the fluttering pause before landing (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects and weed-seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

No threats to Blyth's Pipit have been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out for Blyth's Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad and Makalu Barun National Parks and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and marginally Bardia and Chitwan National Parks and in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Blyth's Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a passage migrant and winter visitor. In the Koshi area it is an uncommon winter visitor and is sometimes fairly common on passage; elsewhere it is generally rare, although it is probably overlooked. Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely, but this is probably because of better coverage and improved identification. It has been recorded from several protected areas and less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Threats to the species have not been identified. Any change in population is uncertain because of identification difficulties up to the 1980s.

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***Anthus hodgsoni*** Richmond, 1907 LC  
 Subspecies *Anthus hodgsoni hodgsoni*,  
*yunnanensis*

Common name

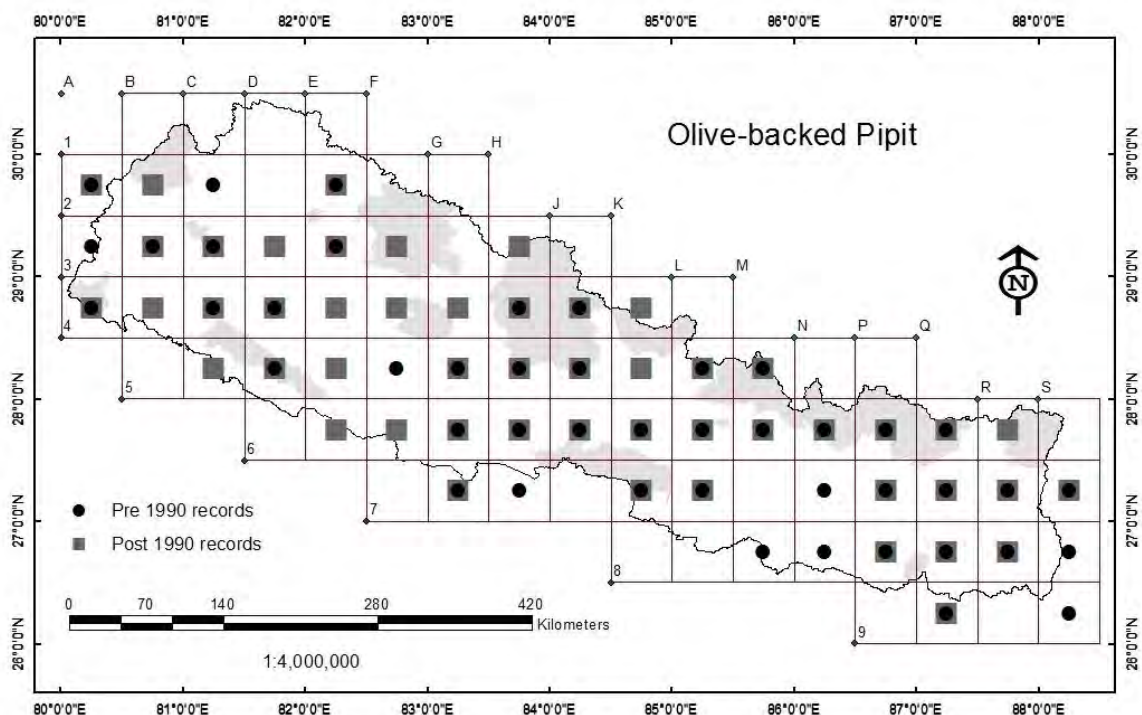
Olive-backed Pipit (English), Rukh Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
 Family: Motacillidae



TULSI SUBEDI

Distribution



Olive-backed Pipit is a common and widespread resident and winter visitor. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Hange Tham, Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Baral 2010b) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a common and widespread resident and winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped it widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species' distribution has increased significantly compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably due to better coverage and possibly also due to the spread of its habitat, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a fairly common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in the Mahakali valley (A2) in March-April 2012 and the Chameliya valley (B2) in December 2011 and March-April 2012, Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a frequent winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); locally common in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna

2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Acharya 2002, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a common winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001); a common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a common summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident and visitor to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999); a fairly common winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a), and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It has been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Sauraha, Chitwan District e.g. common in January 2012 (Dymond 2012), Bees Hazari Tal (Baral 1996a, Pradhan 2005) and in Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000), Janakauli Community Forest, Chitwan District in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Tharu Cultural Village Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011a), Namuna Community Forest (H6), Nawalparasi District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche in November 1995 (Baral 1996b), Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone (P6), at Phakding and Lukla, Solukhumbu District (P6) in May 1993 (Baral 1996b) and May 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994), and Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species is also widely distributed outside the protected areas' system post 1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: near Khalanga (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Dhanghadi (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1991); a fairly common winter visitor in the Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992a, CSUWN and BCN 2012); recorded at Rawtkot (D3), Dailekh District and between Beuli and Kalikot (D4), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Jumla District (E3) in April 1995 (White and White 1995) and very common there in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); recorded between Jiri Daha and Lagana, Nayakwada VDC and between Lagana and Karki Jiula, Nayakwada, Rokayagaon and Ramidanda VDCs, Jajarkot District (E4) in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Kapilvastu and Rupendehi Districts (F6, G6, G7) in January 2002 (Cox 2002); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Jagdishpur (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Baral 2011b); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District e.g. April 1993 (Baral 1993a) and January 2006 (Mallalieu 2006) and listed by Suwal *et al.* (2002); by Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District e.g. in January 1992 (Halliday 1992); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 2007 (Baral 2007) and April 2009 (Hewatt 2009); Pokhara valley and adjacent hillsides (H5) Kaski District (Anon 2012); and Sarangkot (H5), Kaski District in December 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002); Naudanda (H5), Kaski District in November 1992 (Baral 1993b); Baglungpani (J5), Lamjung District in January 1992 (Halliday 1992), and Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 and between Pusgam, Libiyani and Rupatal (J5), Lamjung District in April 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common passage migrant and winter visitor in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other Kathmandu Valley records include: van Riessen (2007), Taudaha pond (Baral 1997) and in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in November 2000 (Basnet 2000). Records from other localities include: from Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); common in the Upardangaddhi hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Malekhu (K6), Dhading District (Baral 1992b); Nalang (K6), Dhading District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); a common migrant at Chitlang (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999); between Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007); along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013); common throughout Helambu (L6, M6) in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Tundikhel, Dhulikhel (M6), Kavre District in November 1994 (Baral 1994a), and Panauti (M6), Kavre District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005), and near Sermathang (M6), and Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); recorded daily between Shivalaya (N6), Ramechhap District and Jorsalle (P6), Solukhumbu District in December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994), November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997) and November 2004 (Baral and Chaudhary 2004); common in Solukhumbu District (P6), 2011 to 2013 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Bung and Najingdingma (P6), Solukhumbu District, between Sanam (P7) and Bung (P6), Solukhumbu District and at Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James

2011); between Tumlingtar and Chewabesi (Q7) in November 1994 and Bhotebas, Khandbari and Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Tinjure forest (Q7), Terhathum District (Rai 2003); between Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District and Gupha Pokhari (R7), Sankhuwasabha District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Koshi Camp (Q8), e.g. in February 2005 (Baral and Birch 2005), November 2007 (Baral 2007) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Madhuban (Q8), Sunsari District in December 1993 (Choudhary 1994); Prakashpur (Q8), Sunsari District in November 1993 (Choudhary 1994); Bhagalpur, Titrigachhi, Sukrabare and Ram Duhni forest (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in October 2011 (Baral 2011c) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Patnali (Q8), Sunsari District in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001) and October 2010 (Baral 2010a); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District in November 1996 (Choudhary 1997) and listed by Baral and Sapkota (2008); Three Community Forest (Q8), Dhankuta in September 2003 (Baral 2003); Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District in March 1994 (Baral 1994b); between Tungwa and Themba (R7), Taplejung district in December 1992 (Cox 1992); lower Mai valley (R8), Ilam District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in June 1997 (Choudhary 1998) and January 2008 (Baral 2010b); recorded almost daily in the Mai valley (R7, R8) in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); Dobate (S7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010c), and at Hange Tham (S7), Ilam District, Mai Valley in September 2010 (Baral 2010b).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), Denmark, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Germany, Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Laos, Malaysia, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Myanmar, Netherlands, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), South Korea, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4000 m (summer), 2560 m (winter); lower limit: 2200 m (-1800 m) (summer), 75 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Olive-backed Pipit. Its population is possibly increasing as a result of the spread of its habitat. The large number of 300 was estimated in Chitwan National Park on 8 April 1999 (Choudhary 1999).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown: maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Olive-backed Pipit breeds in clearings of open forest, scrub with scattered trees and high altitude shrubberies (Grimmett *et al.* 1998); winters in shaded glades (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Characteristically it vigorously pumps its tail up and down, more strongly than other pipits. In song flight, the male flies upwards a short distance from a tree top on quivering wings, then parachutes down with wings and tail spread. It habitually perches on trees and readily walks along branches. It feeds mainly on the ground, walking rather deliberately, with intervening short runs. Its stance is rather upright and its flight is buoyant and undulating (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects and their larvae, grass- and weed-seeds and other vegetable matter; also grit (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved on Shivapuri (Fleming *et al.* 1976), in the Dhorpatan valley (Lelliott 1981), Mamche Dande (Proud 1961) and at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994). It is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Although complete clearance of all trees threatens Olive-backed Pipit, it has probably benefitted from selective felling and overall the extent of its habitat has probably increased.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Olive-backed Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in all protected areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Olive-backed Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common and widespread resident and winter visitor, recorded since 1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 the species' distribution has increased significantly compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably due to better coverage and possibly also due to the spread of its habitat. It has been recorded in all protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system. Although complete clearance of all trees threatens Olive-backed Pipit, it has probably benefitted from selective felling and overall the extent of its habitat has probably spread. As a result its population may be increasing.

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***Anthus richardi*** Vieillot, 1818 LC

Subspecies *Anthus richardi richardi*

Common name

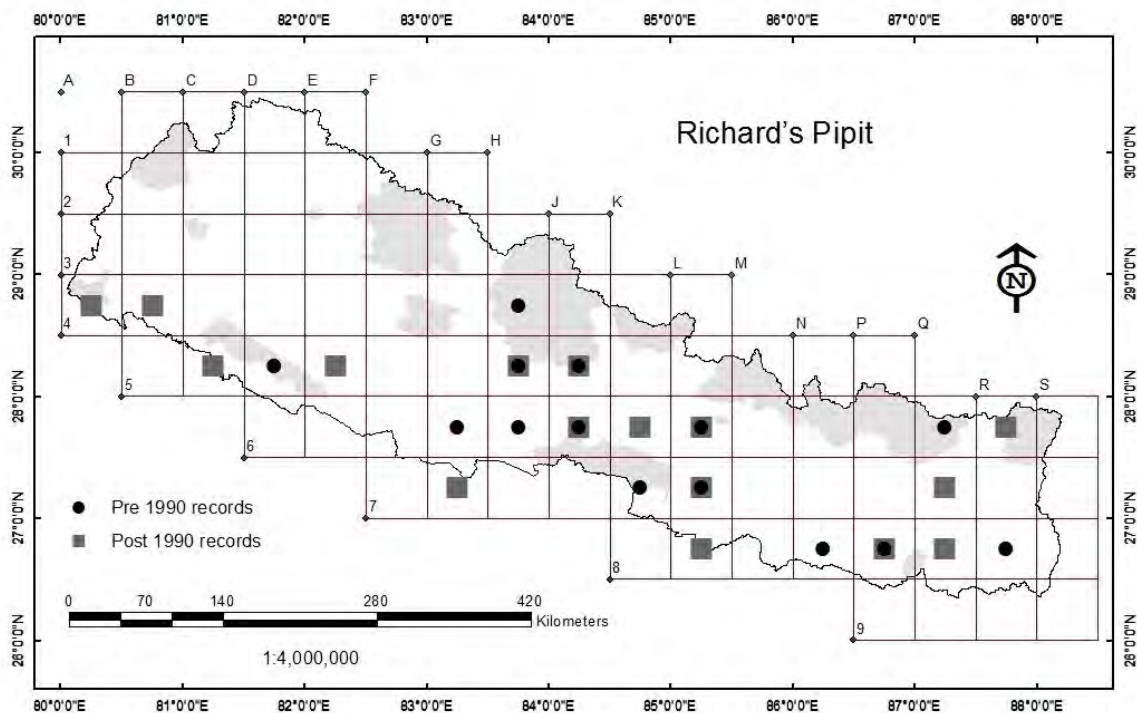
Richard's Pipit (English), Hiunde Chiuya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Richard's Pipit is a quite widespread winter visitor and passage migrant; fairly common in some protected areas, and frequent elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Carpenter *et al.* 1994) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was an occasionally recorded winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as an occasionally recorded winter visitor and passage migrant and mapped it mainly from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 the species' distribution has extended to the far west, probably because of better coverage; otherwise its distribution has not changed significantly compared to pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species' distribution in protected areas post-1990 is: a fairly common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) and a winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C5), e.g. in January 2001 (Chaudhary 2001), February 2003 (Baral 2003) and February 2005 (van der Dol 2005). It is listed as a frequent winter visitor and passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5) by Inskipp and Inskipp (2003), but

later records indicate it is uncommon. It is a frequent recorded winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in October or November 1994 (Carpenter *et al.* 1994 in Inskipp 2008). It has been recorded from Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Bees Hazari Tal (Baral 1996, Pradhan 2005); Janakauli, Chitwan District in March 2010 (Giri 2010), and Sauraha, Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012).

It has been recorded fairly widely outside the protected areas' system see text below and map.

In the west records include from: Ghodaghodi Tal (B4), Kailali District in January 1992 (Baral 1992); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands (E5), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); by Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in February 1993 (Fouarge 1993), March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999), December 2001 (Naylor *et al.* 2002) and April 2009 (Ryan and Chantler 2009); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District, e.g. in April 1993 (Baral 1993) and January 2003 (Giri 2003); at Begnas Tal (J5), Kaski District in February 1993 (Fouarge 1993), and between Dumre and Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in November 1994 (Fletcher 1994).

In central Nepal records include: a rare winter visitor and passage migrant in the Kathmandu Valley, e.g. Taudaha pond, Kathmandu Valley (Baral 1997); by the Bagmati River, Kathmandu Valley in February 1999 (Dannenberg 1999) and by the Bagmati River below Chobar in February and April (A. van Riessen in Mallalieu 2008). Other localities in central Nepal include: Narayangarh (J6), Chitwan District in April 2001 (Malling Olsen 2004); along the North South Fast Track Road (L7), (Basnet and Sapkota 2008, 2013), and between the camp west of Lal Bakaiya, Rautahat and Kopuwa gau school (L8), Rautahat District in April 2003 (Cox 2003).

In the east records include from: Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District e.g. September 1992 (Baral 1993), February 1994 (Drijvers 1995) and March 2001 (Baral 2001); Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Patnali, Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2001 (Baral 2001); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999), November 2001 (Koshi Camp 2001) and February 2003 (Baral 2003); Madhuban (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010a); near Koshi Bird Observatory in October 2011 (Baral 2011) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012), and north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010b).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Algeria, Angola, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brunei, Bulgaria, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, China (mainland), Congo, Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Guinea, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Malawi, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Western Sahara, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1500 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

A total of 144 birds was counted in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjoining areas between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013). No other population surveys have been carried out for Richard's Pipit. In the absence of significant threats and any evidence of a population or distribution decline, its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Richard's Pipit frequents moist grassland and cultivation (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). On the ground it progresses with swift runs combined with a strutting walk on strong legs. Often it has an upright carriage, except when moving quickly. It has a powerful flight, more undulating than that of other large pipits, with bursts of flapping beats, alternating with long bounds. Before landing it may hover above the ground, fluttering with dangling legs. It has a long escape flight and uses low perches, such as rocks and low mounds (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats beetles and other insects and larvae (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Threats to Richard's Pipit have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Richard's Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia and Chitwan National Parks; Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Richard's Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a widespread winter visitor and passage migrant, fairly common in some protected areas and frequent elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east, but more widely in the west compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded from several protected areas and fairly widely outside the protected areas' system. Threats to the species have not been identified. Its population may be stable.

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***Anthus roseatus* Blyth, 1847 LC**

Common name

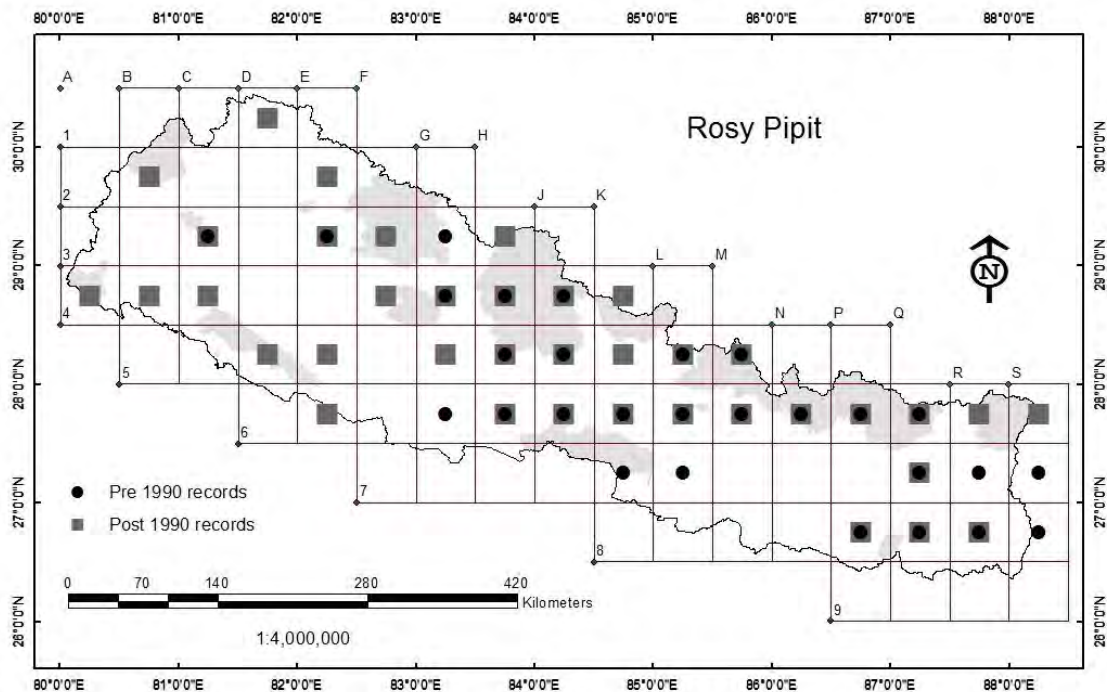
Rosy Pipit (English), Gulaphikanthe Chuiya(Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Rosy Pipit is a fairly common resident and passage migrant. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area e.g. Inskipp *et al.* (2008) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal from a B. H. Hodgson specimen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1847).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident and migrant. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a fairly common resident and passage migrant, and mapped it widely, but mainly from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 the distribution of the species has increased significantly in the west, probably as a result of better coverage, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a fairly common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in the Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Kumal 2001 and Tamang undated in Inskipp 2001); a rare summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a common summer visitor to Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg (1992, 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi

and Thagunna 2013); a fairly common resident and passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Acharya 2002, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a frequent winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a common summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common summer visitor to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a fairly common winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a), and a common summer visitor to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6, S6) (e.g. Brown 1995, Halberg 1994, Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013, White and White 1999).

It is recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Beeshazari Tal (Baral 1996, Pradhan 2005), in Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000), Tharu Cultural Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011), and Sauraha, Chitwan District, e.g. in January 2012 (Dymond 2012) and in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Q6) in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species post-1990 status outside the protected areas' system is quite widespread, see text below and map.

In the west records include: a common winter visitor to Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); upper Humla (D1), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); recorded at Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Jumla District (E3) in April 1995 (White and White 1995); between Bharagaon and Pina (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); a common winter visitor and passage migrant in the Pokhara valley, e.g. by Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999), December 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002) and in January 2012 (Dymond 2012) and in Pokhara valley and adjacent hillsides (H5), Kaski District (Anon. 2012), and Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon passage migrant and winter visitor in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records for the Valley include from Taudaha pond (Baral 1997) and by the Bagmati River in February 1999 (Dannenberg 1999). Other localities in central Nepal include: common at Chitlang (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); recorded at Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999), Hetauda, Makwanpur District in November 2015 (Kanchan Parajuli Saroj); Tundikhel, Dhulikhel (M6), Kavre District in November 1994 (Baral 1994).

In the east records include from: Sakaripati (P6), Solukhumbu District in April 2013 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District e.g. in February 1994 (Drijvers 1995), February 1997 (Choudhary 1997) and February 2005 (Baral 2005b); between Mudhe (Q6) and Bhotebas (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in October 2000 (Choudhary 2000), February 2005 (Baral and Birch 2005) and March 2010 (Baral 2010a); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in March 2010 (Baral 2010b); Madhuban (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010c); Trijuga River, Sunderpur Forest (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Patnali (Q8), Sunsari District, Dharan Forests Important Bird Area in March 2001 (Baral 2001), and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010c).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Pakistan, South Korea, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5050 m (summer); 1500 m (winter); lower limit: 4000 m (summer); 760 m (--75 m) (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for the species. The large number of 300 was recorded by the Kusaha, Sunsari District in March 1992 (Baral 1992) and 302 at Tundikhel, Dhulikhel, Kavre District in January 1994 (Baral 1994). In the absence of significant threats and no evidence of a population or distribution decline, the species' population is possibly stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Rosy Pipit inhabits wet places in the alpine meadow region in the breeding season and mainly avoids rocky terrain (Martens and Eck 1995). It winters in marshes, damp grassland and cultivation (Grimmett *et al.* 2000); also on wet grassy stream banks in winter and on migration (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It forages by walking in low ground vegetation and in swift short runs, often wagging its tail up and down. By contrast in winter it is rather skulking, running and creeping on the ground with body held almost horizontal in contrast to the more erect posture typical of many other pipits in the region. It forages among grass clumps, boulders and along stream banks in summer (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects, seeds (probably from berries) and grit (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

No threats to Rosy Pipit have been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Rosy Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Bardia, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rosy Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common resident and passage migrant recorded since 1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 the distribution of the species has increased significantly in the west, probably as a result of better coverage. It has been recorded from many protected areas and also quite widely outside the protected areas' system. No threats to the species have been identified. In the absence of significant threats and no evidence of a population or distribution decline, the species' population is possibly stable.

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***Anthus rubescens*** (Tunstall, 1771) LC

Subspecies: *Anthus rubescens japonicus*

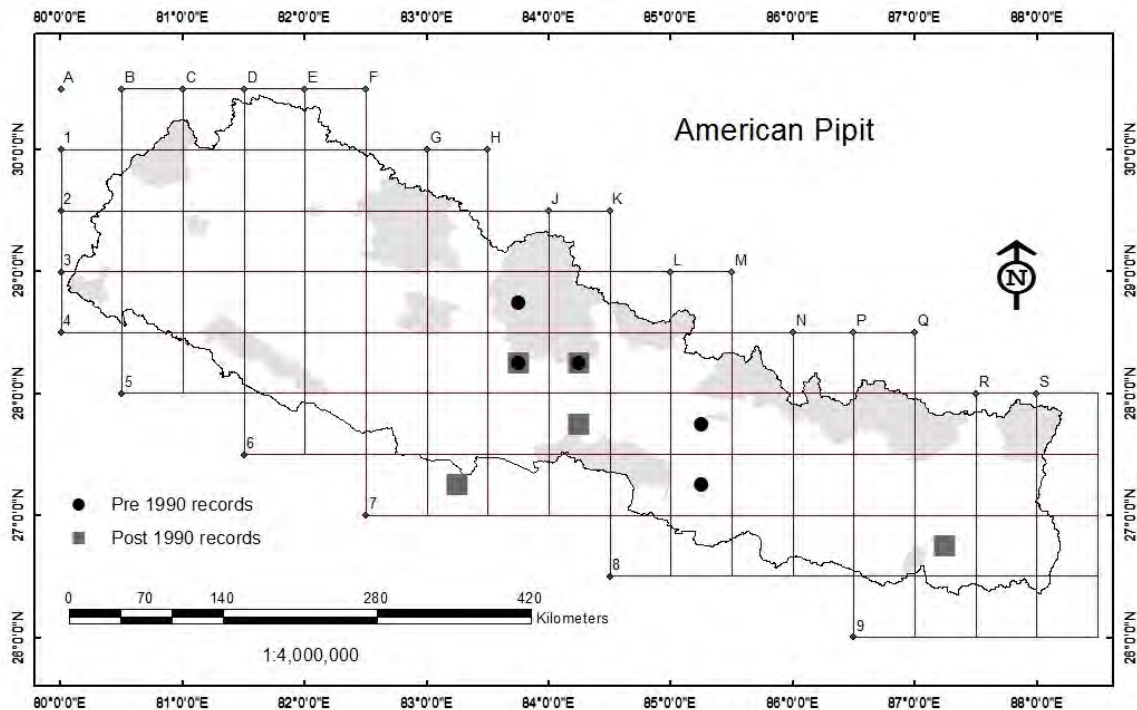
Common name

American Pipit (English), Kailakokhe Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



American Pipit is a rare winter visitor and passage migrant. Since 1990 it has been recorded from west-central Nepal; Kathmandu Valley and Chitwan National Park buffer zone in central Nepal and Koshi in the far east.

The pre-1990 status of American Pipit *A. rubescens* and Water Pipit *A. spinoletta* are uncertain as they were previously considered conspecific. Birds not specifically identified pre-1990 were reported between 75 m and 2700 m in winter and on passage. Several of these records were from Phewa Tal, Kaski District and there were mainly single records from elsewhere (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

The first confirmed Nepal record was at Jomosom (H4), Annapurna Conservation Area in March 1986 (Holt *et al.* 1986).

Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported four other confirmed records, all in January 1989: 50 by the Manora River, Kathmandu Valley, 20 by Phewa Tal, Kaski District, ten in the Pokhara valley, Kaski District and six in Chitwan National Park (K6) (Cooper and Cooper 1989). One was also seen in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Meghauli (J6), Chitwan District in April 1990 (Henson 1991).

Only five post-1990 records were located. In the protected areas' system seven were seen at Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in January 1994 (Thompson 1994) and two in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Meghauli (J6) in January 2001 (Hofland 2001).



Outside the protected areas' system known records are: one at Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1993); 15 at Phewa Tal, Kaski District in December 2001 (Naylor *et al.* 2002), and one at Begnas Tal (J5), Kaski District in April 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bahamas, Bermuda (to UK), Bhutan, Canada, Cayman Islands (to UK), China (mainland), Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, El Salvador, Germany, Greenland (to Denmark), Guatemala, Honduras, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Mexico, Myanmar, North Korea, Oman, Pakistan, Russia (Asian), South Korea, St Pierre and Miquelon (to France), Syria, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Turks and Caicos Islands (to UK), United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2715 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for American Pipit. Any population change since 1990 is uncertain as it was previously considered conspecific with Water Pipit *A. spinoletta*.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

American Pipit frequents paddy stubbles, and damp grassy edges of rivers and lakes. Its behaviour resembles that of Water Pipit. *A. spinoletta*. It keeps singly or in flocks. When foraging, it walks on the ground and in swift short runs, often wagging the tail up and down. Its flight is undulating and buoyant and its escape flight is usually low and short. It rarely perches on bushes or trees (Grimmett *et al.* 1998).

#### Threats

No threats to American Pipit have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out for American Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

American Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a rare winter visitor and passage migrant. Its pre-1990 status is uncertain as it previously considered conspecific with Water Pipit *A. spinoletta*. Most post-1990 records have been outside the protected areas. The species has been recorded in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve. Threats to the species have not been identified. Any change in population is uncertain.



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***Anthus rufulus* Vieillot, 1818 LC**

Subspecies *Anthus rufulus rufulus*

Common name

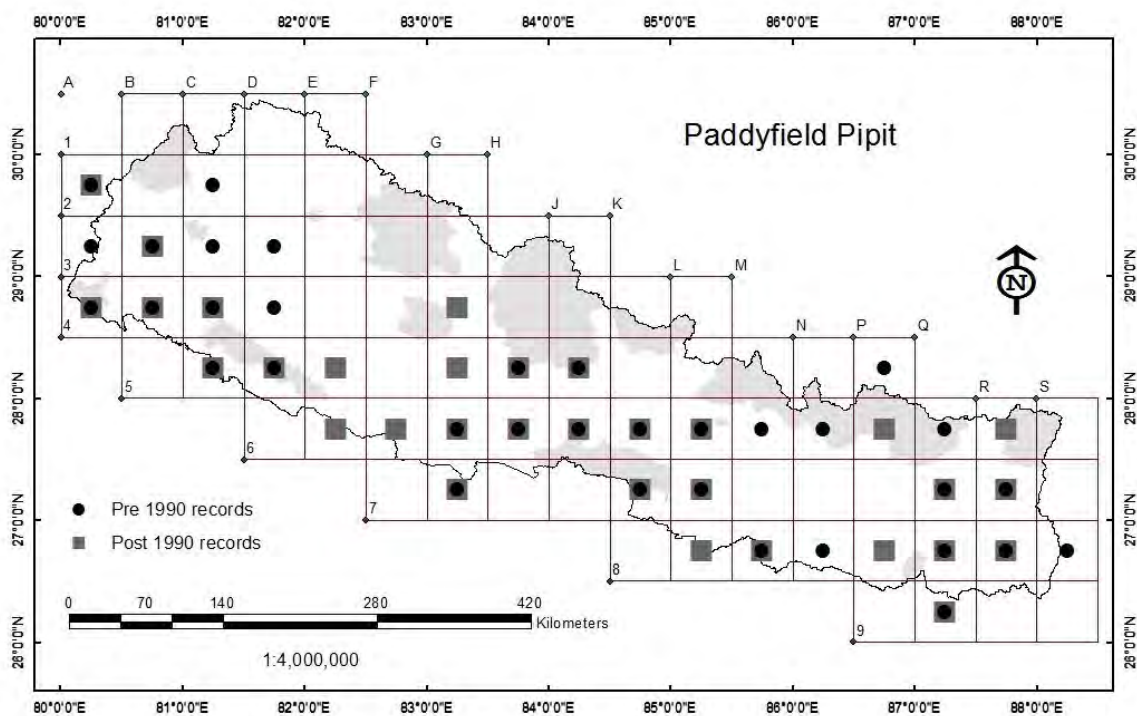
Paddyfield Pipit (English), Aali Chuiya(Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Paddyfield Pipit is a common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the lower Mai valley, Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident and winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a common resident and mapped it widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species' distribution has not changed significantly compared to pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in the Mahakali valley (A2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (Baral *et al.* 2012); Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a rare resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp

and Inskipp 2003); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Baral and Pradhan 1992, Todd 2001); a common resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Brown 1995, Carpenter *et al.* 1994).

It has been recorded in Bardia National Park buffer zone in the Khata corridor forest (C5), Bardia District (Chaudhari 2007) and in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar Important Bird Area (Baral 1996, Pradhan 2005); Barandabhar Important Bird Area (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009) and at Sauraha, Chitwan District e.g. in January 2012 (Dymond 2012) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012), Janakauli Community Forest, Chitwan District in February 2008 (Giri 2008a) and Namuna Community Forest (H6), Nawalparasi District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012), and Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche in April 1992 (Baral 1992a).

The species has been widely recorded more widely outside the protected areas' system than within protected areas, post-1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: Mahendranagar (A4), Kanchanpur District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Amarghadi (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Dhanghadi (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1991); Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992b, CSUWN and BCN 2012); Tikapur Park (C5), Bardia District in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); lower Karnali basin, Bardia-Katarniaghat corridor (C5), Bardia District (Singh 2007); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District (Grimm and Fischer 2003); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Salli Bazaar (E5), Salyan District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Khadara Phanta (F6), Kapilvastu District in January 2011 (Acharya 2011); Kapilvastu (F6, G6) and Rupandehi Districts (G6, G7) (Cox 2002); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); between Sidure and Rupakot, Bari Gad (G6), Gulmi District in May 1999 and between Dimlatti and Bagara (G4), Myagdi Khola, Myagdi District (Cox 1999); Jagdishpur (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Baral 2011); Bhairahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1994); along the Kathi River course (G6), near the Kapilvastu/Rupandehi Districts border and along the Telar, Tinau and Dano River courses (G7), Rupandehi District (Miller 2011a,b,c,d); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District e.g. in April 1993 (Baral 1993), January 2003 (Giri 2003) and January 2006 (Mallalieu 2006); Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District e.g. in Anon. (2012) and by Phewa Tal, e.g. in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999), December 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002) and January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Laukhani (H6), Nawalparasi District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012), and Begnas Tal (J5), Kaski District, e.g. in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999) and January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon resident in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other Kathmandu Valley records include from Taudaha pond (Baral 1997), common by the Bagmati River in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009). Other localities in central Nepal include: Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2011 (Baral 2011b); Nalang (K6), Dhading District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); a common resident at Chitlang (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in February 1994 (Cottridge *et al.* 1994); by the Bagmati River (L7), Judibela Community Forest (L7) and Adarsha Community Forest and national forest (L7), Chandi Khola, Rautahat District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013), and recorded at several localities in Siraha, Rautahat and Bara Districts (L7, L8) in April 2003 (Cox 2003).

In the east records include from: by the Kamala River (M8), Sarlahi District in July 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); Chadung (P6), Solukhumbu District in July 2011 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997), March 2001 (Baral 2001) and February 2005 (Baral 2005b); between Tumlingtar and Chewabesi (Q7), Arun River, Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); near Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); Dharan (Q8), Sunsari District (Subba 1995); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Patnali (Q8), Dharan Forests Important Bird Area, Sunsari District in May 2008 (Giri 2008b); Itahari (Q8), Sunsari District (Pandey 2003); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in November 2001 (Koshi Camp 2001), February 2003 (Baral 2003) and November 2011 (Baral 2011c); Madhuban (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010); Titrigaachi (Q8), Sunsari District in February 2010 (Baral 2010); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in November 2011 (Baral 2011c) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Chimdi Lake (Q8), Sunsari District (Surana *et al.* 2007); Bhagalpur and Sunderpur Forest, Trijuga River (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Raja Rani Community Forest (Q8) Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005);

Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District (Jha and Subba 2012, Subba 1994); Jamuna (R7), Ilam District and Garuwa (R8), Jhapa District, Mai valley in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008), and the lower Mai valley (R8), Ilam District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1830 m (-2440 m summer); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

A total of 314 was counted in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjoining areas between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013). The large number of 80+ was counted in the Lumbini area, Rupandehi District on 26 April 1993 (Baral 1994). No other population surveys have been carried out for Paddyfield Pipit. Its population may possibly be declining as a result of intensive farming.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Paddyfield Pipit frequents edges and banks of terraced fields and open meadows (Fleming *et al.* 1976); short grassland, green fodder crops, stubbles, ploughed and fallow fields and grassy areas (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It forages by running rapidly on the ground, wagging its tail. It has a less powerful gait than Richard's Pipit *A. richardi*. When flushed, it usually flies a short distance. It readily perches on bushes, rocks and clods of earth. In song flight, the male rises in a series of fluttering ascents, circles high over his territory, and then descends steeply on stiff wings held above the back like a parachute; he also sings from a prominent perch (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects and their larvae, weed seeds, grass blades and other vegetable matter (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983), Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1949), Koshi (Harrap 1985) and Koshi Camp, Sunsari District (Chaudhary 2013).

#### Threats

Paddyfield Pipit may be at risk from intensive farming such as the ploughing of field corners and edges which were previously uncultivated and pesticides or herbicides which may poison the birds directly or poison their food sources, and also through the loss of farmland habitat resulting from urbanisation (Inskipp and Baral 2011). However, Mallalieu (2008) reported the species was recorded among spreading urbanization on the east side of Kathmandu between 2004 and 2006. It may be at risk from trapping in the terai.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Paddyfield Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Paddyfield Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common and widespread resident recorded since

1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 its distribution has not changed significantly compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded in several protected areas and more widely outside the protected areas' system. It may be at risk from intensive farming such as the ploughing of field corners and edges which were previously uncultivated and pesticides or herbicides which may poison the birds directly or poison their food sources. It may be at risk from trapping in the terai. Its population may possibly be declining, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Anthus similis*** (Jerdon, 1840) LC

Subspecies: *Anthus similis jerdoni*

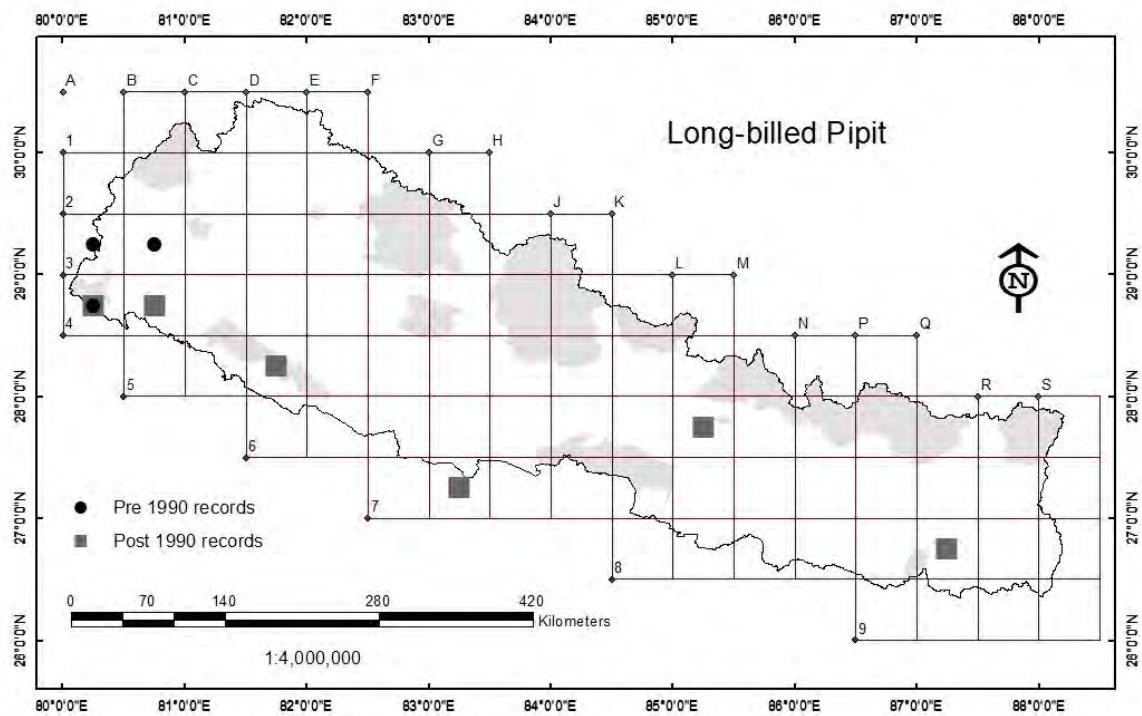
Common name

Long-billed Pipit (English),  
Lamothunde Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Long-billed Pipit is an occasionally recorded winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve; elsewhere it is rare, possibly resident and chiefly recorded in the west.

The first Nepal record of the species was a specimen collected at Banbassa, Kanchanpur District in January 1937 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was scarce, possibly resident in the far west from the terai up 1700 m. In 1990 the species was also recorded at Chitwan (Buckton and Morris 1990) and one in Chitwan National Park buffer zone on Meghauri airfield (J6) in January 1990 (Honkala 1990).

Since 1990 its distribution has expanded, probably because of better coverage, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a frequent winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012), and a rare passage migrant to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), e.g. two in October 1993 (Baral 1993).

There are several records outside the protected areas' system, mainly in the west: singles at Geta airport (B4), Kailali District in December 1994 (Lama 1995); in Lumbini Development Area (G7), Rupandehi District in January 2003 (Giri 2003, Giri and Choudhary 2003); Lumbini farmland Important Bird Area (G7), Rupandehi District (Hanlon and Giri 2007), and near Lumbini Buddha Garden (G7), Rupandehi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011).

There is also one record from central Nepal: one in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in April 1999 (Choudhary 1999, Francis *et al.* 1999).

Globally the species has also been recorded in Afghanistan, Angola, Bangladesh, Botswana, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Sudan, Swaziland, Syria, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1700 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Long-billed Pipit. Its population may be declining as a result of habitat loss.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Long-billed Pipit breeds on dry, rocky slopes of the foothills (Fleming *et al.* 1976); winters in dry grassland, dry cultivation and scrub (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). It is non-gregarious and usually keeps singly or in pairs. Its posture is upright when alert, more horizontal when feeding. It flicks its tail upwards while simultaneously fanning it and does not wag its tail downwards like most pipits. When disturbed it escapes in flight or runs off a long distance before skulking in cover. Its flight is strong and bounding and it has a habit of hovering above the ground before landing, like Richard's Pipit *A. richardi*. (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to altitudinal movements and is a partial migrant (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects and berries (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Long-billed Pipit may be suffering from habitat loss.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Long-billed Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Banke National Park and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, and marginally in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Long-billed Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a frequent winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve; elsewhere it is rare, possibly resident and chiefly recorded in the west. Since 1990 its distribution has expanded, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded from a few protected areas and there are a few records outside the protected areas' system. The species may be threatened by habitat loss. Its population is possibly declining, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Anthus spinoletta*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies *Anthus spinoletta blakistoni*

Common name

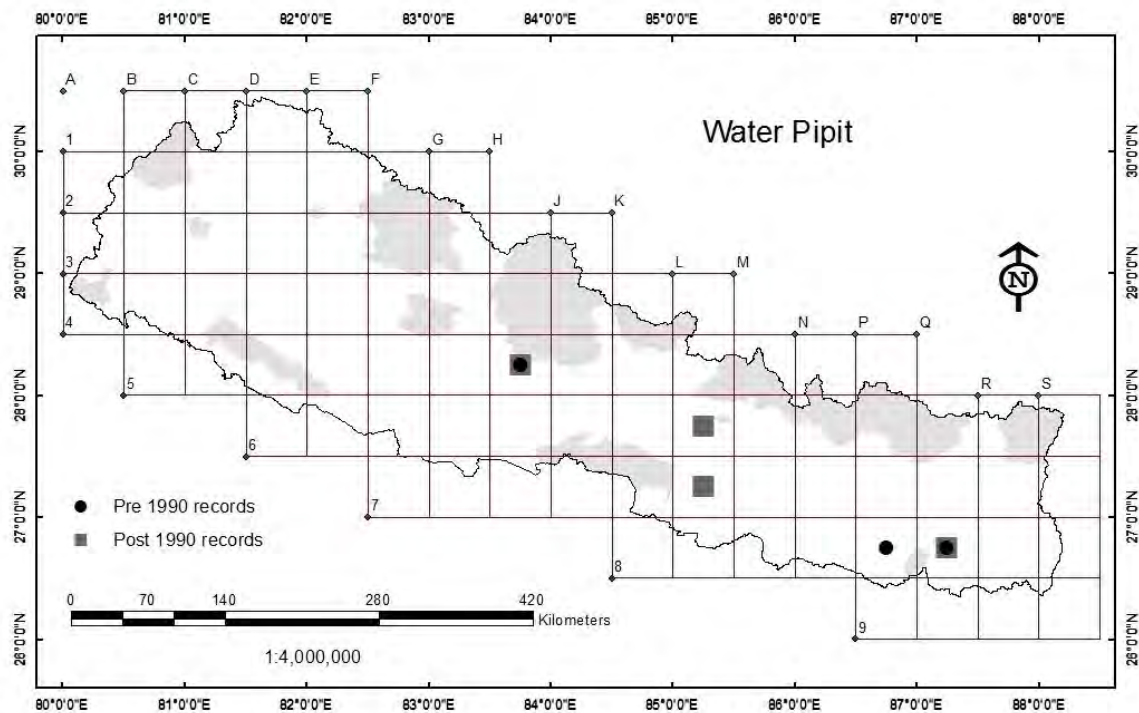
Water Pipit (English), Jal Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Water Pipit is a rare passage migrant and winter visitor. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Lumbini, Rupandehi District (Suwal *et al.* 2002) in the west to the Koshi area (Thompson 1994) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was a specimen collected at Pokhara, Kaski District in December 1963 (Fleming and Traylor 1968).

The pre-1990 status of Water Pipit and American Pipit *A. rubescens* are uncertain, as they were previously considered conspecific. Birds not specifically identified pre-1990 were reported between 75 m and 2700 m in winter and on passage. Several of these records were from Phewa Tal, Kaski District and there were mainly single records from elsewhere (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) give two other confirmed pre-1990 records: singles by Phewa Tal, Kaski District in March 1989 (Cox *et al.* 1989) and at Kosi Barrage in January 1989 (Cooper and Cooper 1989). The species was also recorded in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in February 1990 (Gardiner 1991, Gretton 1990).

Since 1990 records located from protected areas: from Pipar, Annapurna Conservation Area in April 1997 (Emmanuel *et al.* 1997 in Thakuri and Poudyal 2011) and in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve between December 1993 and Feb 1994 (Thompson 1994). Karki and Thapa (2001) list the species as a rare passage migrant, but no post-1990 records could be located.

Records outside the protected areas' system:

In the west records include two at Pokhara airport, Kaski District September or October 1999 (Sparks 1999), and recorded in the Pokhara valley, Kaski District (Anon 2012).

In central Nepal records include ten by the Bagmati River, west of Patan, Kathmandu Valley in April 1996 (Taylor *et al.* 1996) and one at Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in January 1994 (Baral 1994a).

In the east records include: 11 at Kusaha (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); three at Prakashpur (Q8), Sunsari District in September 1994 (Baral 1994b); one at Aqua camp, Koshi, Sunsari District in April 1998 (Petersson 1998), and ten at Titrigaachi (Q8), Sunsari District in February 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1370 m (- 3400 m on passage); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Water Pipit. Any population change since 1990 is uncertain as it was previously considered conspecific with American Pipit *A. rubescens*.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Water Pipit inhabits marshes, irrigated cultivation, rice stubbles and damp grassy edges of pools and ditches. Usually it keeps in small, scattered flocks. It forages by walking in low vegetation and in swift, short runs, often wagging its tail up and down. Its flight is undulating and buoyant and its escape flight is usually low and short. It rarely perches on perches or trees (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Threats to Water Pipit have not been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

Since 1990 it has been recorded rarely in Annapurna Conservation Area and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Water Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a rare passage migrant and winter visitor, recorded since 1990 from west-central Nepal to the far east. Its pre-1990 status is uncertain as it was then considered conspecific with American Pipit *A. rubescens*. Since 1990 it has been recorded rarely in two protected areas and from several localities outside the protected areas' system. Threats to the species have not been identified. Any change in population is uncertain.

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***Anthus sylvanus*** (Hodgson, 1845) LC

Common name

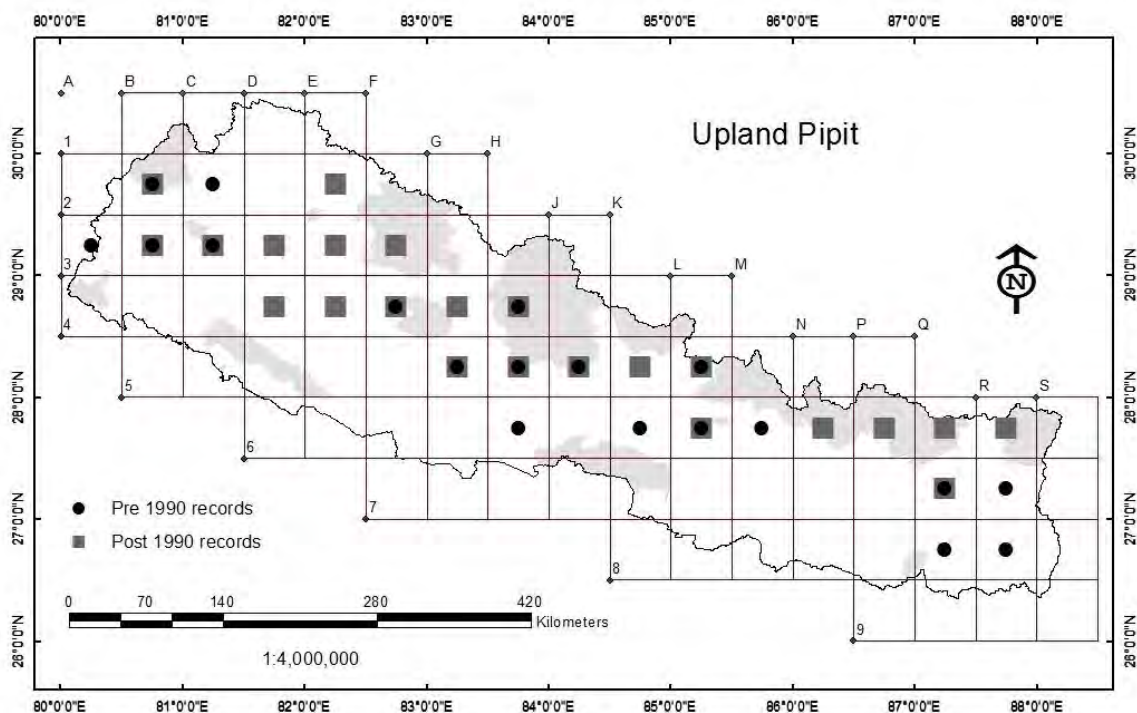
Upland Pipit (English), Pahadi Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Upland Pipit is a locally fairly common resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded fairly widely from the Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal by B. Hodgson (Hodgson 1845, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a locally fairly common resident and mapped its distribution widely from the far west to Mai Pokhari in the far east, the eastern limit of the species' range.

Since 1990 it has been recorded more widely in the west, possibly because of better coverage and also by the spread of its habitat, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: fairly common in Chameliya River valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in December 2011 and March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Rara National Park (White and White 1995 in Giri 2005); uncommon in Shey- Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg (1992,1995); a fairly common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013, Subedi 2003); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu

Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001), SNP and BCN (2007) list it as a rare resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, but no other post-1990 records could be located. It is recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a locally fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and frequent in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Buckton 1996, White and White 1992, 1994, 1997, 1999 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008). It has also been recorded in Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche in April 1992 (Baral 1992) and Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone at Phakding in April 2001 (Malling Olsen 2004).

The species has been quite widely recorded outside the protected areas' system since 1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: several localities in Dadeldhura and Baitadi Districts (B3) in May and June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); between Daurogaon and Beuli and between Kalikot and Takula (D3), Kalikot District, between Kotuwa and Gai banne, Gai banne and Madela and Rawtkot (D4) Dailekh District and between Lihie and Okharpata (E3), Jumla District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Bharagaon and Pina (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); between Jiri Daha and Lagana (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); between Palung, Dhola Khola and Archegaun, Dhola Khola (G4) Myagdi District, between Archegaun and Dimlatti, Myagdi Khola (G4), Myagdi District and between Dimlatti and Bagara, Myagdi Khola (G4), Myagdi District in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b); recorded in Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); between Sarangkot and Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in April 1999 (Cook 1999), and Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in December 2007 (Baral 2008).

In central Nepal records include from: Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, summit in February 2002 (Arlow 2002). Other localities include near Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in April 2001 (Fischer and Fischer 2001); between Pati Bhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in April 1996 (Cocker 1996); Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999); between Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6) Nuwakot District in April 2001 (O'Connell Davidson, Karki and Bista 2001); near Gulbhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and recorded at Chitlang, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992).

In the east records include from: Charikot (N6), Dolakha District in January 1993 (Mackenzie 1994); Surkhe (P6), Solukhumbu District in July 2011 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Basantapur (Q7), Terhathum District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994), and Tinjure forest (Q7), Terhathum District (Rai 2003).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2900 m (summer); 2000 m (winter); lower limit: 1830 m (summer); 1350 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Upland Pipit.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Upland Pipit inhabits steep rocky and grassy slopes and abandoned cultivation with scattered trees (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Usually it is solitary or keeps in pairs. It has a habit of flicking its tail quite sharply instead of wagging it like other pipits. It readily perches on rocks and clods of earth with a fairly upright stance. The male usually sings from a prominent perch such as a rock or low bush, sometimes from quite high in a tree.



Occasionally it performs song flights like other pipits, fluttering into the air, circling while singing and then parachuting down (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding was proved at Pipar, Annapurna Conservation Area (Warwick 1986). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Threats to Upland Pipit have not been identified. It may have benefited from the spread of abandoned cultivation and also by forest loss and degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Upland Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, Dhorpatan Hunting Reserves and marginally in Khaptad, Rara and Chitwan National Parks.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Upland Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a locally fairly common resident recorded quite widely since 1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 its distribution has increased a little in the west possibly because of better coverage and also by the spread of its habitat. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and fairly widely outside the protected areas' system. Threats to the species have not been identified. It may have benefited as a result of the abandonment of terraced cultivation and also by forest loss and degradation. As a result, its population may be increasing.

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***Anthus trivialis*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies: *Anthus trivialis trivialis*

Common name

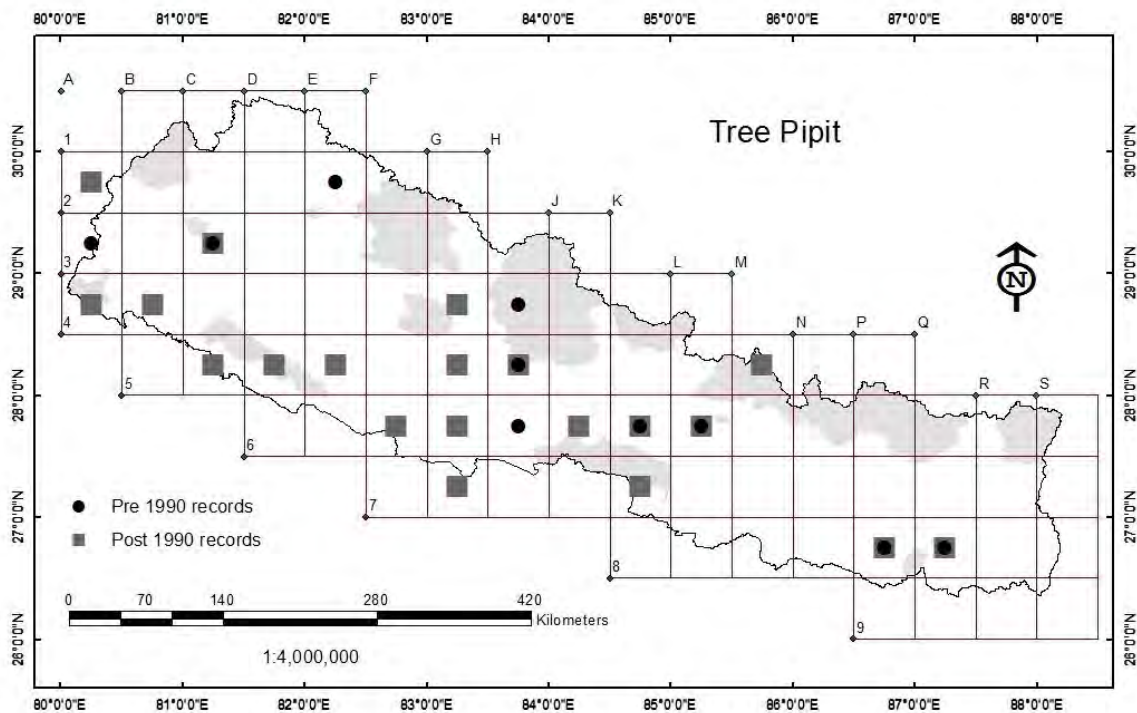
Tre Pipit (English), Bagale Chuiya (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Tree Pipit is generally uncommon and fairly widespread; a winter visitor, mainly to the lowlands, and a passage migrant. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west and the Koshi area e.g. (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was a specimen taken at Thankot, Kathmandu Valley in April 1947 (Biswas 1961).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a scarce winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a winter visitor and passage migrant; mainly recorded since 1979, but possibly overlooked before this. It was uncommon in Chitwan National Park and at Koshi Barrage and there were mainly single reports from elsewhere.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely, especially in the west, probably as a result of better coverage and improved identification, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area in the Mahakali river valley (A2) in March or April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a rare passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C5) (Baral 2008, Tamang

undated in Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013, Subedi 2003); a rare passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); an uncommon winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006, Chaudhary 2010); a winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001); a rare passage migrant in Langtang National Park: recorded in upper Langtang valley (M5) in April 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), and an uncommon winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005).

The species is also fairly widespread outside the protected areas' system, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: Ghodaghodi Tal (B4), Kailali District in January 1992 (Baral 1992); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E5), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Khadara Phanta (F6), Kapilvastu District (Cox, 2008, Cox and Giri 2007); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Butwal (G6), Rupandehi District (Grimoldby 1994); Jagdishpur in December 2011 (Baral 2011); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in January 2006 (Mallalieu 2006, 2007), January 2011 (Acharya 2011) and December 2011 (Baral 2011), and the Pokhara valley and/or adjacent hillsides (Anon 2012).

In central Nepal records include from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in February 2009 (Baral 2009) and by the Manora River in April 1992 (Harrop 1992).

In the east records include from: Koshi Barrage (P8) in February 2002 (Arlow 2002); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); between Koshi Camp and Koshi Barrage (Q8), Sunsari District in February 2003 (Baral 2003), and near Koshi Bird Observatoire (Q8), Sunsari District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China (mainland), Comoros, Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands (to Norway), Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan, Western Sahara, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3050 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Tree Pipit. The unusually large number of 150 was recorded at Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011). In the absence of any identified threats or evidence of a decline, its population is considered possibly stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Tree Pipit frequents groves, fallow fields, stubbles and open country with stubbles. It feeds mainly on the ground and if disturbed usually flies up into trees. It walks rather deliberately with intervening short runs, frequently wagging its tail up and down. The species has a rather upright stance and a buoyant, undulating flight (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects and grass- and weed-seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Threats to Tree Pipit have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out for Tree Pipit. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan and Langtang National Parks; Api Nampa and Annapurna Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve, and marginally in Khaptad National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Tree Pipit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is generally uncommon and fairly widespread; a winter visitor, mainly to the lowlands, and a passage migrant recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990. Its distribution has significantly increased, especially in the west post-1990, compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage and improved identification. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and fairly widely outside the protected areas' system. Threats to the species have not been identified. Its population may be stable.

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***Arachnothera magna*** Hodgson, 1837 LC

Subspecies: *Arachnothera magna magna*

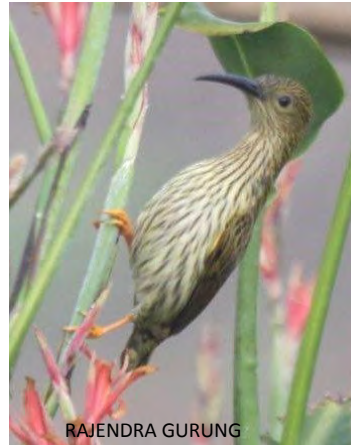
Common name

Streaked Spiderhunter (English),

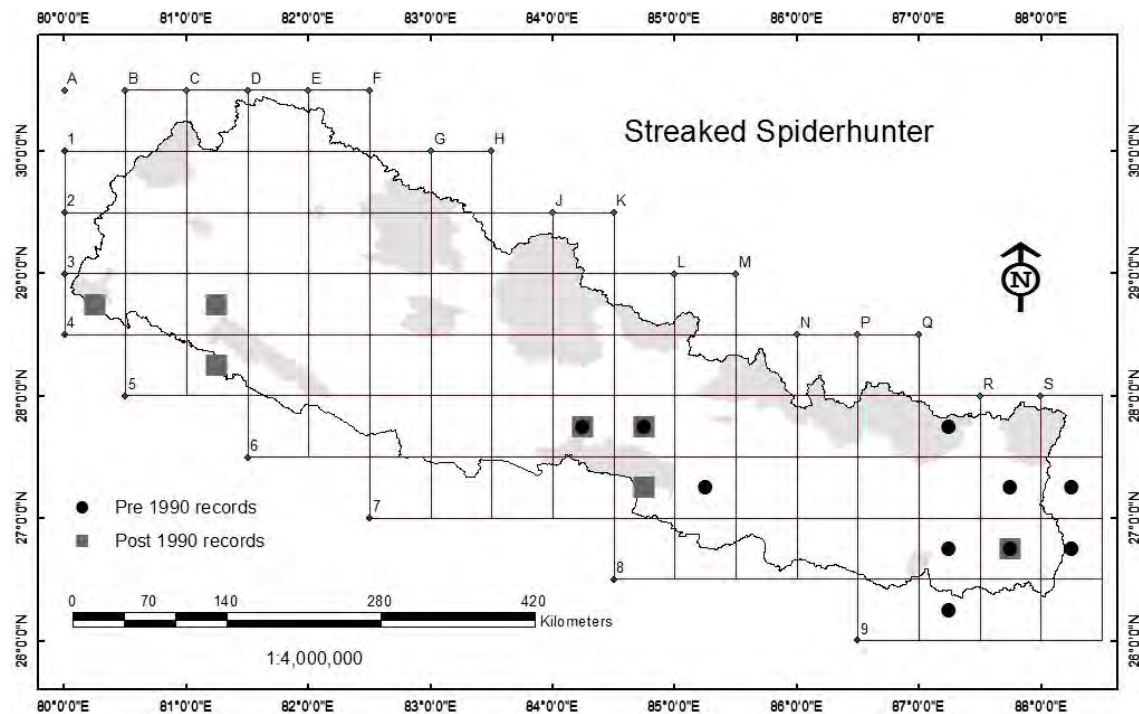
Thula Maakurichari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Nectariniidae



Distribution



Streaked Spiderhunter is a local resident, mainly recorded from protected areas, where it is frequent in central Nepal and rare elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was first described in Nepal by Hodgson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as probably a resident and locally distributed, mainly found in the terai and lower hills up to 450 m and mapped its distribution in patches in the central and the far east.

Since 1990 its distributional range has been extended very locally to the far west, probably because of better coverage, but it has been recorded less widely in the east.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a rare and uncertain resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006,) and a fairly common resident

in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001).

There are very few records outside the protected areas' system post-1990 including from: Sukhani Community Forest (R8), Jhapa District in January 2007 (GC 2007) and the lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 450 m (-2135 m); lower limit: 150 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Streaked Spiderhunter. Post-1990, as many as 16 birds were recorded on Hans Pokhari Danda on 11 March 1991 (Baral 1991), five birds were recorded on 26 February 2010 (Baral 2010) and three on 5 May 2011 (Baral 2011) in Chitwan National Park.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Streaked Spiderhunter inhabits broadleaved evergreen forests with dense undergrowth and abandoned cultivation clearings. It favours wild bananas (Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species occurs singly or in scattered pairs. It is very vocal and restless, flying from one tree top to another with strong, undulating flight and usually feeds in the canopy (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on nectar, insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Streaked Spiderhunter is threatened by loss and degradation of forest.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Streaked Spiderhunter. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta and Parsa Wildlife Reserves.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Streaked Spiderhunter has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a local resident, mainly recorded from protected areas, where it is frequent in central Nepal and rare elsewhere. Since 1990 its distributional range has been extended very locally to the far west, probably because of better coverage, but it has been recorded less widely in the east. It has been recorded in a few protected areas, but very few localities outside the protected areas' system. Streaked Spiderhunter is threatened by forest loss and degradation, especially

outside protected areas. As a result, its population is probably decreasing though not to an extent that warrants a threatened category.

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**Artamus fuscus** Vieillot 1817 LC

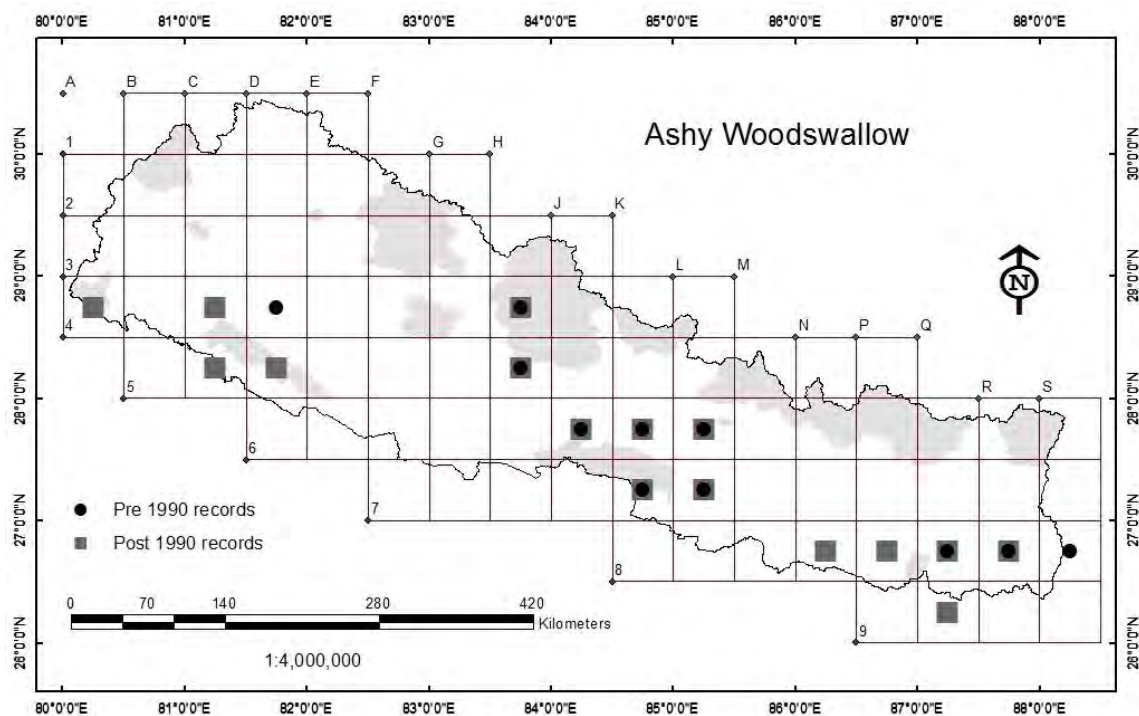
Common name

Ashy Woodswallow (English),  
Mithun (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Artamidae



Distribution



Ashy Woodswallow is a locally common resident of the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a frequent and local resident and summer visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a local resident, found mainly between 75m and 365m. However, the species was noted in the upper Kali Gandaki valley at 2560m on April 1978 (Rice 1978), and on March 1981 (Baker 1981).

Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution, especially in the west and the species' distribution has been extended to the far western lowlands in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, mainly due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a frequent resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a fairly common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and

Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); recorded on Shivapuri (L6) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a fairly common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005). The species was recorded in Barandabhar forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in March 2010 (Giri 2010), buffer zone of Chitwan National Park.

There are a much smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system include: from Tikapur Park (C5), Kailali District in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011); Dumkibas (H6), Nawalparasi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011); Kurintar (J6), Chitwan District in March 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004); Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2001 (Malling Olsen 2004); along Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) District sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); Durga and Katahare community forests (N8), Sindhuli District (Phuyal and Dhaubhadel 2007); Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in October 2010 (Baral 2010), Sunsari District; Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District in June 1993 (Baral 1994), and the lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 365 m (-2560 m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Ashy Woodswallow. Post 1990 as many as 300 birds were recorded on 6 May 1996 at Singhpur, Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral 1996).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum Population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Ashy Woodswallow inhabits open wooded dry- and moist-deciduous country, open fields of the Terai and grassy ridges of the foothills (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is gregarious and sociable, keeping in parties or loose flocks, sometimes of 30 or more. Usually it is seen on a bare branch near a tree-top, leaf-stalks of palms or telephone and power wires, and forest clearings etc (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is chiefly insectivorous and feeds on largely butterflies, dragonflies, winged termites and occasionally nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Ashy Woodswallow is possibly threatened by habitat loss and shortage of food.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Ashy Woodswallow. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Ashy Woodswallow has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally common resident of the lowlands. Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution, especially in the west and the species' distribution has been extended to the far western lowlands; it is now recorded from the far west to the far east. This is probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded in several protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system. Ashy Woodswallow is possibly threatened by habitat loss and shortage of food. Its population is probably declining.

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***Brachypteryx montana*** Horsfield, 1821 LC

Subspecies: *Brachypteryx montana cruralis*

Common name

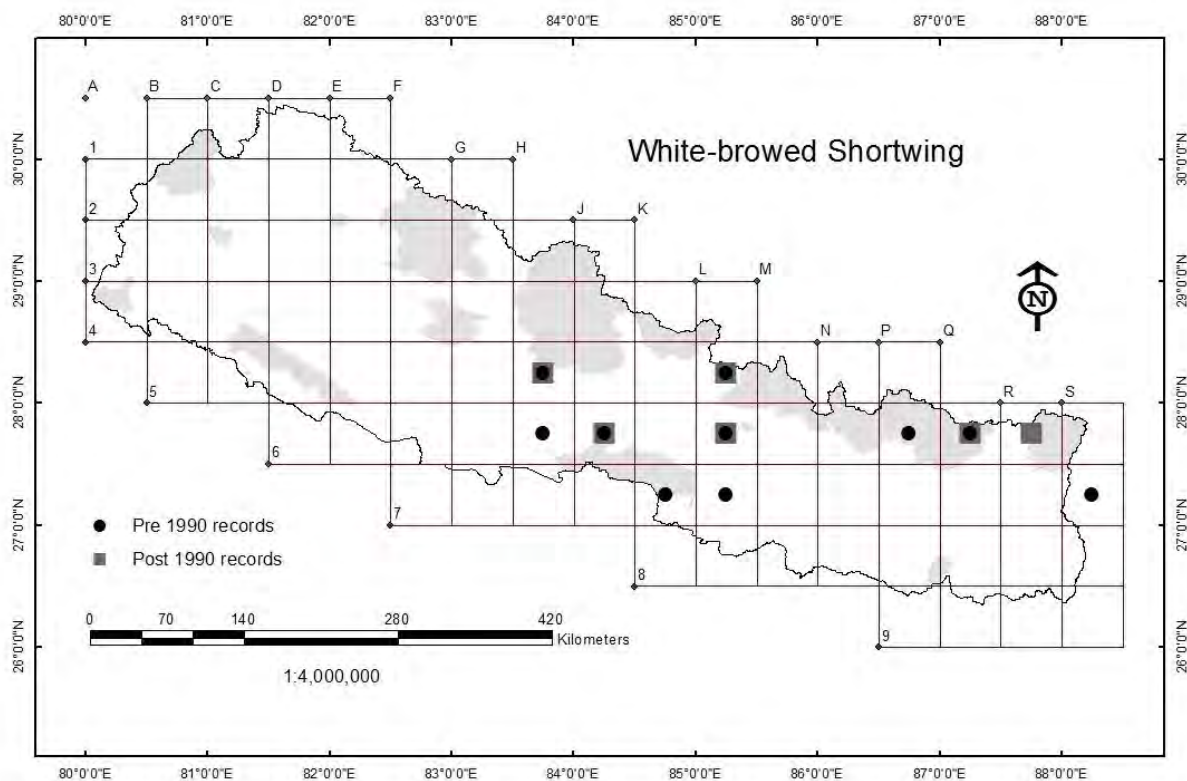
White-browed Shortwing (English), Nilo Laghupankha (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Turdidae



Distribution



White-browed Shortwing is a very uncommon resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from the Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) east to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19th century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a very uncommon resident.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: rare, possibly resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); an uncommon summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a very uncommon resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and several records from Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, e.g. White and White (2000), Halberg (1994), Carpenter *et al.* (1995 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

There are very few known localities for the species outside the protected areas' system post-1990, see records



below and map.

There has been a reduction in distribution post-1990, compared to pre-1990, see map.

In the west there are several records from Phewa Tal, Kaski District in winter, e.g. Mallalieu (2005), Naylor and GC (2005), Naylor *et al.* (2009).

In central Nepal the species is rare on Phulchoki Important Bird Area, Kathmandu Valley, where records include singles in April 1993 (Mackenzie 1994) and April 1994 (Drijvers 1995). It has also been recorded there in winter 2001 (Hathan Chaudhary) and at least one male was seen and heard singing in April 2008 and it was considered that it was breeding there (Hem Sagar Baral in Mallalieu 2008). One was recorded at the Godaveri Botanical Gardens in December 2011 (Vicente *et al.* 2011). It has also been recorded near Naubise along the Naubise Khola in winter 2011 (Hem Sagar Baral).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3170 m (-3660 m) (summer); 2375 m (winter); lower limit: 2650 m (-2560 m) (summer); 245 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-browed Shortwing. The species is probably overlooked because of its skulking behaviour, especially outside the breeding season. Its population may have decreased because of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-browed Shortwing inhabits moist oak and rhododendron forests with dense undergrowth near streams (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); it is partial to bamboos in summer (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Martens and Eck (1995) found the species was very limited in its altitudinal range in the breeding season in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (2400-2700 m) and in forests dominated by *Quercus semecarpifolia* and other broadleaves, and also by *Tsuga dumosa*. However, Cox (2006) found the species breeding between 2650-3170 m in mixed broadleaved forest in May 2000 and June 2002 in Makalu Barun National Park and the park's buffer zone. The species is very secretive, skulking on the ground near dense low cover in forest. It progresses on the ground like a chat: alternatively hopping rapidly in short spurts and then pausing briefly (Grimmett *et al.* 1998) and flicks wings when it calls (Fleming *et al.* 1976). White-browed Shortwing chiefly eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994). The species is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

White-browed Shortwing is threatened by the loss and degradation of forest. However, as it breeds in upper temperate and subalpine forests it is less threatened than species at lower altitudes.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for White-browed Shortwing. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks and in Annapurna and

Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-browed Shortwing has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a very uncommon resident occurring from west-central areas eastwards. The species occurs in several protected areas but there are very few known localities outside the protected areas' system post-1990. There has been a decrease in distribution post-1990, compared to pre-1990. White-browed Shortwing is threatened by forest loss and degradation. However, as it breeds in upper temperate and subalpine forests, it is less threatened than species at lower altitudes. Its population may be declining, but not to an extent which warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Bradypterus thoracicus*** (Blyth, 1846) LC

Subspecies: *Bradypterus thoracicus thoracicus*

Common Name

Spotted Bush Warbler (English),

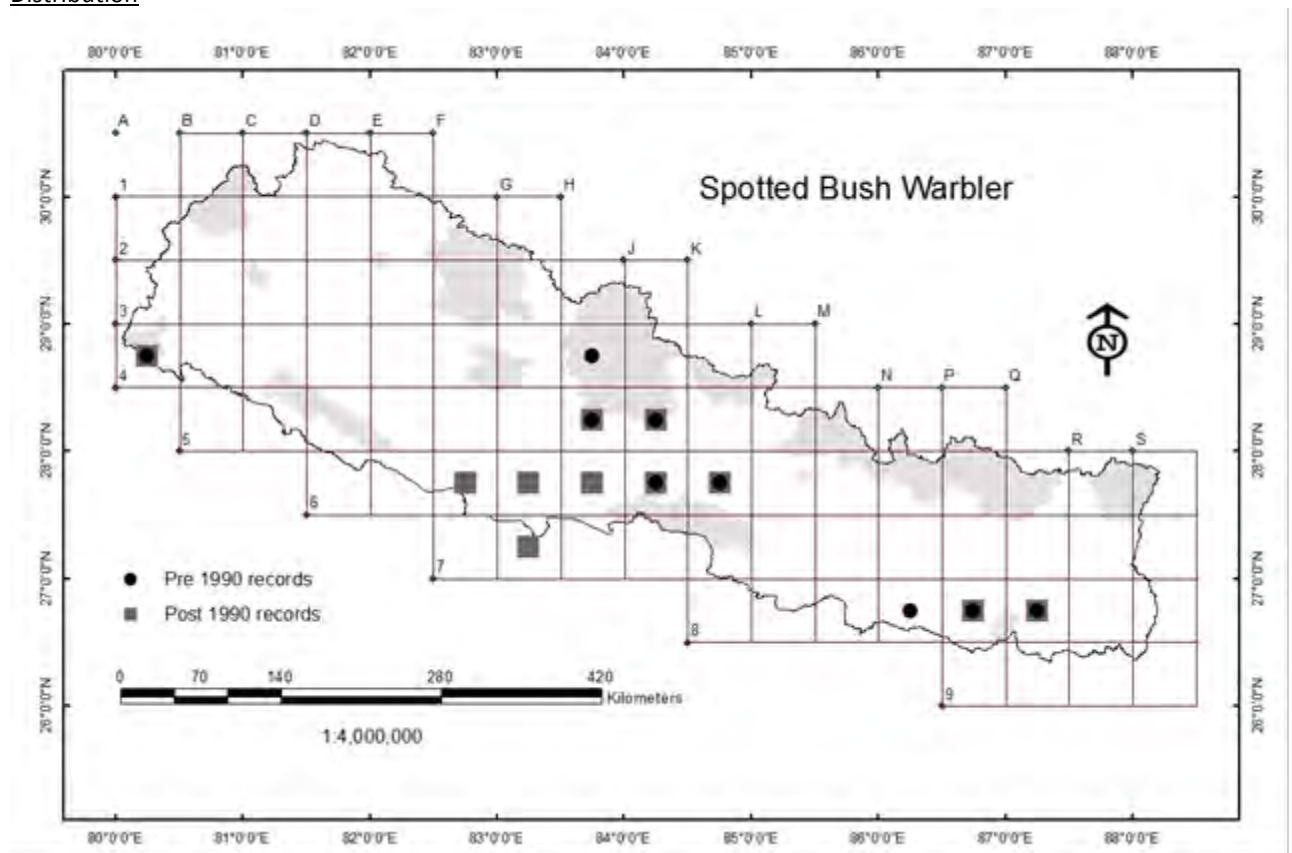
Thople Jhadiphisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



The Spotted Bush Warbler *Bradypterus thoracicus* was split into two species: *B. thoracicus* and West Himalayan Bush Warbler *B. kashmirensis* by Alström *et al.* (2008). The latter has not been recorded in Nepal but it is difficult to distinguish in the field and has been recorded just over the western border in north-east Uttar Pradesh, India. It is possible that it occurs in Sukla Phanta, which is only 15 km to the east and this requires further investigation.

Spotted Bush Warbler is rare on its breeding grounds; in winter it is frequent in Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife reserves and uncommon or rare elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the east.

The species was described from Nepal from a specimen collected by B. H. Hodgson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1845).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a scarce altitudinal migrant recorded from the far west, west central, central and eastern Nepal.

Post-1990 Spotted Bush Warbler has been recorded more widely in the west on its wintering grounds than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage; otherwise its distribution has not significantly changed (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a frequent winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) and a rare summer visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003, Mahato *et al.* 2006). It is described as a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) by (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), but later records indicate that it is a fairly common winter visitor, e.g. singles in February 1997 (Chaudhary 1997), November 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), January 2003 (Giri 2003) and February 2009 (Baral 2009). The species is a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). It was also recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone near Tharu Lodge (H6), Nawalparasi District in November 2007 (Baral 2007).

Outside the protected areas' system the species has been recorded less widely and less frequently (see map and text below). Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include one in Khadara Phanta (F6), Kapilvastu District in November 2006 (Cox 2008, Giri and Chaudhary 2006); two at Jagdishpur Reservoir (G6), Kapilvastu District in December 2007 (Baral 2008) and one in December 2010 (Baral 2011a, Inskipp and Inskipp 2010), and singles at Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in November 2006 (Hanlon and Giri 2007) and in December 2011 (Baral 2011b).

In the east records include two at Koshi Barrage (P8) in April 1992 (Bräunlich and Oehlschlaeger 1992) and singles in April 1993 (Flack 1993) and March 1996 (Daulne and Goblet 1996).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3850 m (summer); 250 m (winter); lower limit: 3350 m (summer); 75 m (winter)

#### Population

No surveys have been carried out for Spotted Bush Warbler. It may be declining because of habitat loss on its wintering grounds and by overgrazing on its breeding grounds.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Spotted Bush Warbler may be restricted to a (very) small altitudinal belt in the upper oak and conifer/rhododendron zone in the breeding season (Martens and Eck 1995). In the Chyul-wang valley a family was found amongst a dense plant layer in meadows with a luxuriant growth of grass and herbs, and a multitude of flowers interspersed; such habitats are rare in Nepal because of overgrazing (Martens and Eck 1995). In winter the species inhabits reedbeds and tall grass (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); also moist grasslands along rivers and pools (H. S. Baral pers. obs). Its habits are very similar to those of other bush warblers. It is probably under-recorded as it is very skulking in the non-breeding season, although less so in summer when it calls frequently and is usually heard more often than seen. Insects and spiders are sought by actively flitting and hopping about in vegetation close to the ground. The species is reluctant to fly and usually covers only short distances at low level before dropping into dense cover again (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved on Lamjung Himal at 3850 m (Thiollay 1980), on the ridge west of Mardi valley, Machapuchare, Annapurna Conservation Area at 3350 m (Fleming *et al.* 1984, Lelliott

1981), and in the Chyul-wang valley by the western tributary of the Buri Gandaki, Ghorka District (K4) at 3400 m (Martens and Eck 1995). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Spotted Bush Warbler may be threatened on its breeding grounds by over-grazing (Martens and Eck 1995) and by loss of reedbeds and tall grass on its wintering grounds.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Spotted Bush Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Chitwan National Park, Annapurna Conservation Area and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern.

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Spotted Bush Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is rare on its breeding grounds; in winter it is frequent in Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife reserves and is uncommon or rare elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been recorded more widely in the west on its wintering grounds than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage; otherwise its distribution has not significantly changed. It has been recorded in several protected areas and, less widely and less frequently, outside the protected areas' system since 1990. Spotted Bush Warbler may be threatened by the loss of reedbeds and tall grass on its wintering grounds, and may be at risk from on its breeding grounds from over-grazing. As a result, its population is possibly declining.

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***Calandrella acutirostris*** Hume, 1873 LC

Subspecies: *Calandrella acutirostris tibetana*

Common Name

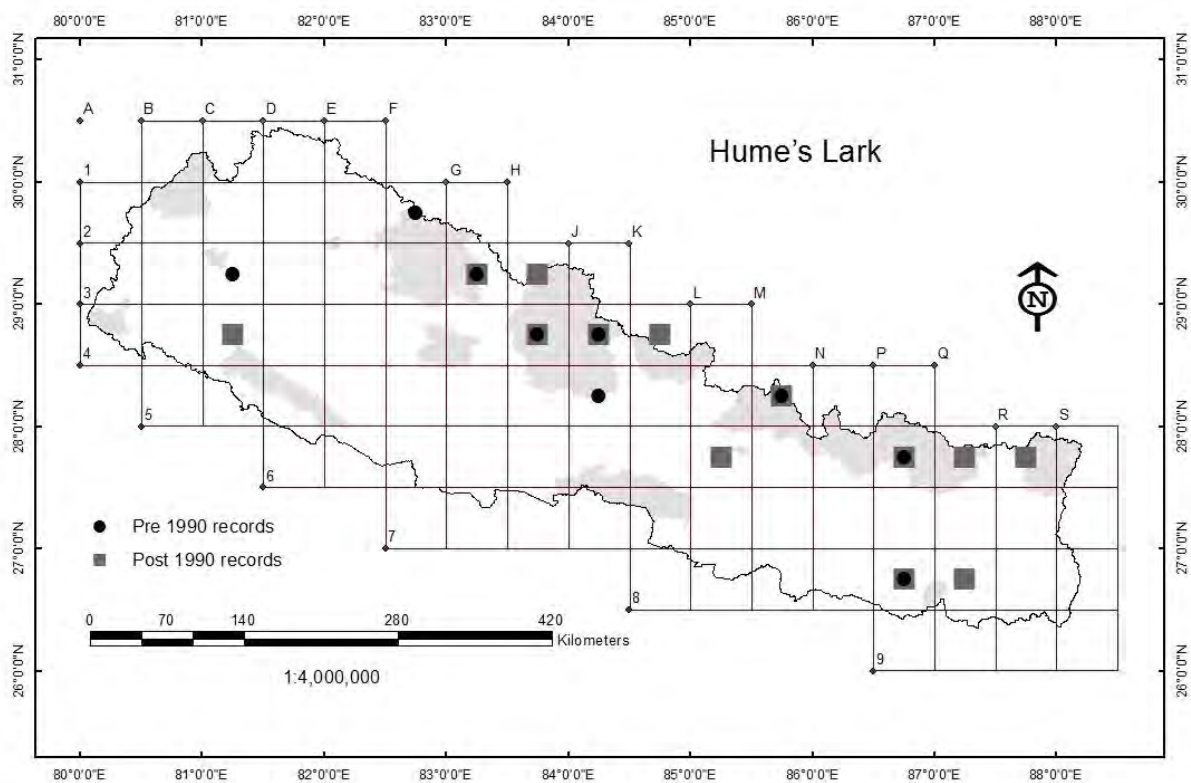
Hume's Lark (English), Pahelothunde Bhardwaaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Hume's Lark is a resident and passage migrant, common in northern Dolpo in summer and rare or uncommon elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Bardia National Park (Stratford 2004) in the west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Halberg 1994) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Phalong Karpo, Solukhumbu District in May 1954 (Biswas 1974).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a resident and passage migrant, common in the semi-desert of northern Dolpo. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as common in summer; uncommon in winter and on passage.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage, see map and text below. Most records have been from protected areas.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Bardia National Park (C4) in December 2003 (Stratford 2004); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park: 100 at Saldang (G3) in September 1999 (Sparks 1999); a frequent summer visitor and passage migrant to Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, J4) (Acharya



2002, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Shah 1998); rare, possibly resident in Langtang National Park (M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001), e.g. singles in upper Langtang valley in April 1992 (Mackenzie 1994), May 1993 (Redman 1993) and May 2003 (Chaudhary 2003); a rare summer visitor, winter visitor and passage migrant to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004), e.g. 15 near Chukkung in November 1996 (Cox 1996); an uncommon winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a); a visitor or passage migrant to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area: three at Lhonak in May 1994 Halberg (1994 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

There are few records from outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below.

In central Nepal records include ten by the Bagmati River (L6) in February 1993 (Fouarge 1993) and one from Kirtipur (L6), Kathmandu Valley in March 1994 (Baral 1994).

In the east records include five at Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Hough 1994) and 52 there in February 2005 (Baral 2005b) and photographed in Taplejung District in April 2008 (Jyotendra Thakuri).

Globally the species has also been recorded at Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Israel, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4575 m (-4800 m) (summer); lower limit: 3660 m (summer); winters down to 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Hume's Lark. Its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Hume's Lark breeds in semi-desert near scattered *Caragana* bushes and other xerophytic plants (Fleming *et al.* 1976) and winters in fallow cultivation and open wasteland (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Usually it keeps in pairs in the breeding season and flocks in winter. In song flight the male spirals upwards high in the air and flies around in wide circles with dipping glides, before parachuting to the ground; also sings from a rock or ridge (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It energetically runs about on the ground searching for food; overturns small stones with a quick sideways flick of the bill and also digs vigorously in hard earth (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The species' diet is weed seeds and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Proved breeding near Charka village in Dolpo in barley fields close to the village edge in June 1973 (Martens and Eck 1995).

#### Threats

Hume's Lark may be at risk from trapping in the terai. No other threats have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Hume's Lark. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

## Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Hume's Lark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a resident and passage migrant, common in northern Dolpo in summer and rare or uncommon elsewhere. Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. The species has been recorded in a number of protected areas and there are very few records outside the protected areas' system. Hume's Lark may be at risk from trapping in the terai. No other threats have been identified. Its population may be stable.

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***Calandrella brachydactyla*** (Leisler, 1814) LC  
Subspecies *Calandrella brachydactyla dukhunensis*

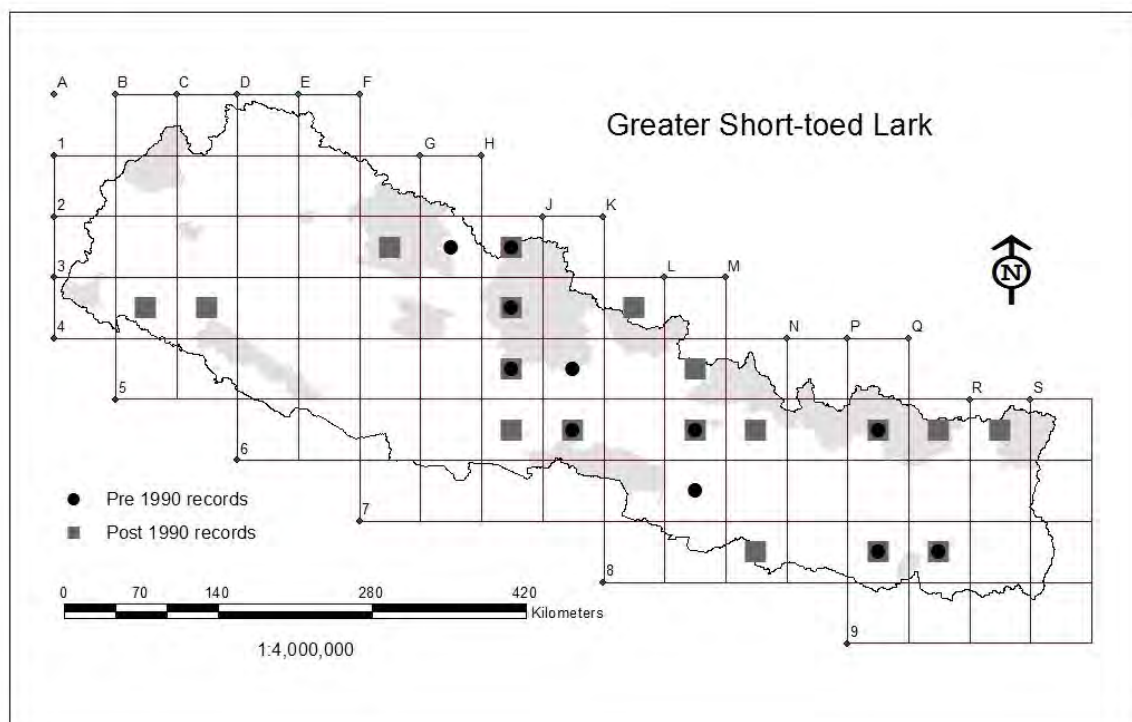
Common name

Greater Short-toed Lark (English), Bartika Bhardwaaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Greater Short-toed Lark is mainly a passage migrant; also a winter visitor; frequent at a few localities, and uncommon or rare elsewhere.

The first Nepal record was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was an occasionally recorded resident and passage migrant; a winter visitor south of the main Himalayan range. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it was occasionally recorded, mainly a passage migrant; also a winter visitor.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage, see map and text below.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Bardia National Park: by the Karnali River (C4) in December 2003 (Stratford 2004) and recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported it was a common passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4), but few post-1990 records were located. It has been recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a rare passage migrant to Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon passage migrant to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a); a

frequent visitor or passage migrant to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) in April/May 1995 (Carpenter *et al.* 1995 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008). It has also been recorded in Bardia National Park buffer zone at Chisapani in March 1997 (Giri 1997) and Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District in April 1996 (Baral 1996) and Tharu Cultural Jungle Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011a).

The species has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside protected areas' system, except for the far east, see map and text below.

In the west records include: a frequent winter visitor to the Ghodaghodi lake area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and recorded by Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in January 2001 (Roberts 2001).

In central Nepal records include from the Kathmandu Valley, where it is a rare passage migrant. Records from the Valley include by the Bagmati River (L6), Kathmandu Valley in February 1993 (Fouarge 1993); by the Manora River, Kathmandu Valley in March 1993 (Baral 1994a) and in November 1994 (Baral 1994b), Kathmandu Valley in February 1999 (Dannenberg 1999), at Basnet Gaun in January 2007 (Giri and Chaudhary 2007), but there were no records between 2004 and 2006 (Mallalieu 2008). The species has also been recorded at Dhulikhel (M6), Kabhrepalanchok District in November 1994 (Baral 1994b).

In the east records include: from by the Kamala River (M8), Sarlahi District in July 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); Kosi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994), March 2001 (Baral 2001) and February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Madhuban (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010a); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in May 2011 (Baral 2011b) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); north of Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in 2010 (Baral 2010b); Bhagalpur (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in November 2001 (Koshi Camp 2001), and near Chimdi Lake (Q8), Sunsari District (Surana *et al.* 2007).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan, Western Sahara, Yemen (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 4575 m (-5000 m); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

A total of 40 was counted in Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjoining areas during a bird survey carried out between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013). No other population surveys have been carried out for Greater Short-toed Lark. The large number of at least 200 was seen at Kosi Barrage, Sunsari District in February 1995 (Wheeldon 1995). Its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Greater Short-toed Lark inhabits open stony and short grass areas; also fallow cultivation (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). It is gregarious on passage and on its wintering grounds. Its behaviour is similar to that of other larks: it runs and flies about restlessly, birds twisting and turning in unison in flight. On the ground it is unobtrusive and will squat and freeze if alarmed. It feeds by picking from the ground or low plants and often digs with the bill (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species' diet is seeds of grass and weeds and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Greater Short-toed Lark may possibly be at risk from trapping in the terai. No other threats have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Greater Short-toed Lark. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Greater Short-toed Lark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is mainly a passage migrant; also a winter visitor, frequent at a few localities, and uncommon or rare elsewhere. Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system, except for the far east. Greater Short-toed Lark may possibly be at risk from trapping in the terai. No other threats have not been identified. Its population may be stable.

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***Calandrella raytal*** (Blyth, 1845) LC

Subspecies *Calandrella raytal raytal*

Common name

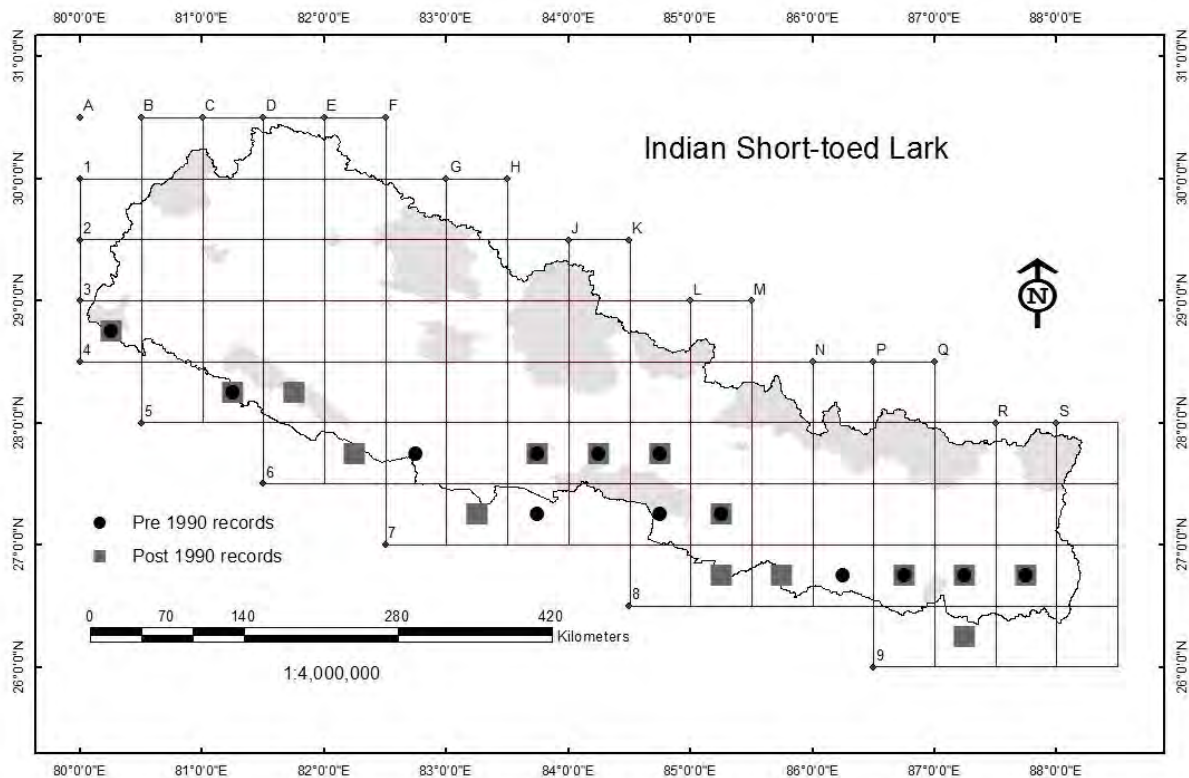
Indian Short-toed Lark (English), Bagar Bhardwaaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Indian Short-toed Lark is a locally common resident, recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Garuwa, Jhapa District (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east since 1990.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the lowlands in December 1877 (Scully 1879).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a locally common resident and mapped it from the far west to the far east.\*

The distribution of the species has not changed significantly post-1990 compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009, Giri and Choudhary 1996) and in Bardia National Park (C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a). It has been recorded in Bardia National Park buffer zone in the Khata corridor forest area (C5), Bardia District (Chaudhari 2007). It has also been

recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone near Tharu Cultural Village Resort (H6), Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011a), Namuna Community Forest (H6), Nawalparasi District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); at Sauraha, Chitwan District e.g. in April 1996 (Baral 1996) and February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012), Janakauli (K6), Chitwan District in March 2010 (Giri 2010), Bees Hazari Tal (Giri 2008), and Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000).

The species post-1990 status is less widely and regularly recorded outside the protected areas' system, except for the far east, see map and text below.

In the west records include from along the lower Karnali Basin (C5), Bardia District (Singh 2007); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District e.g. in March 1992 (Priemé 1992) and December 1998 (Choudhary 1999); recorded in Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E6) (Thakuri 2009a,b); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1993a) and November 2011 (Baral 2011b) and listed by Suwal *et al.* (2002), and near Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b).

In central Nepal records include from: between west of Lal Bakaiya, Rautahat District and Kopuwa gau school, Rautahat District (L8) in April 2003 (Cox 2003), and along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include from: by the Kamala River (M8), Sarlahi District in July 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); Kosi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in September 1992 (Baral 1993b), October 1993 (Choudhary 1994) and November 1996 (Choudhary 1997); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in February 1995 (Baral 1995), February 1999 (Choudhary 1999) and September 2010 (Baral 2010a); near Koshi Bird Observatory in May 2011 (Baral 2011c) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); Udayapur, Sunderpur and Bhagalpur (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); near Patnali (Q8), Sunsari District in December 1996 (Giri 1996); Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District in March 1994 (Baral 1994); north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010b); lower Mai valley (R8), Ilam District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, 2007), and near Garuwa (R8), Jhapa District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Myanmar, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 305 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

A total of 113 birds was counted in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjacent areas between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013). No other population surveys have been carried out for Indian Short-toed Lark. Its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Indian Short-toed Lark inhabits sandy river banks and islands of large rivers in the lowlands (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It runs about in zigzagging spurts on bare sand and mud close to water. During his aerial display, the male swoops repeatedly over his territory before shooting steeply to the ground (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species' diet is weed seeds and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983).

### Threats

Indian Short-toed Lark may be threatened by disturbance on river banks, especially outside protected areas.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Indian Short-toed Lark. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta and Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Red Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Indian Short-toed Lark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a locally common resident, recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990.

Its distribution has not changed significantly post-1990 compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded from several protected areas and less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system, except for the far east. Indian Short-toed Lark may be threatened by disturbance on river banks, especially outside protected areas. Its population may be stable or possibly declining.

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***Callacanthis burtoni* (Gould, 1838) LC**

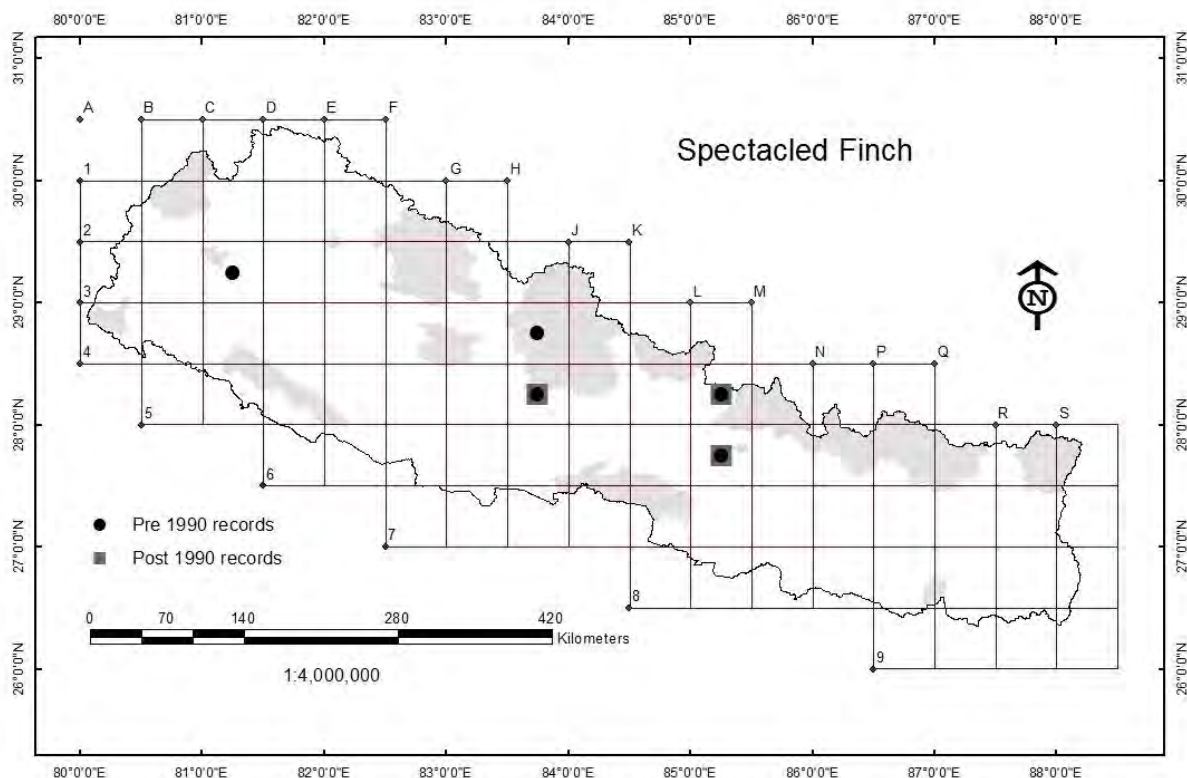
Common name

Spectacled Finch (English),  
Chasmechari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Spectacled Finch is chiefly a very uncommon, erratic and local winter visitor; one summer record. Since 1990 it has been recorded once from the far west, and also from west-central and central Nepal.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Shivapuri (in what is now Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park), Kathmandu Valley in March 1961 (Proud 1961).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as a scarce winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a local and erratic winter visitor, possibly also breeding (because of one summer record in July 1978 from Ghorepani, Annapurna Conservation Area) (Rossetti 1978).

Since 1990 there has been no significant change in distribution or frequency of occurrence, compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

Known post-1990 records follow. These include records from two protected areas: Annapurna Conservation Area and Langtang National Park.

The species is a local and erratic winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (H5): a few were seen below Deurali, near Ghorepani in March 1993 (Alan Lewis in Lama 1993, Lewis 1993a,b); one below Chitre in March

1993 (Puckrin 1993); one male and two females on Poon Hill in March 1996 (Daulne and Goblet 1996); recorded at Ghorepani in March 2000 (Brenkman 2000); six males and five females at Poon Hill, above Ghorepani in February 2001 (Basnet 2002, Giri and Choudhary 2001), two near Ghorepani in March 2001 (Wright and Lawson 2001); two near Deorali in March 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002) and one at Poon Hill in November 2011 (Vicente 2011). There is one known record from Langtang National Park: two at Ghopte (L5) in September 1991 (Baral 1992).

Other known records are from outside the protected areas system. One was seen in Dadeldhura District (A3) in February 1993 (Lama 1994, Mackenzie 1994). All remaining records are from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area (L6): two in January 1997 (Suresh Shakya in Chaudhary 1997), seven in December 2007 (Chaudhary 2007) and one in January 2010 (Baral 2010). Mallalieu (2008) reported there had been less than five records in the Kathmandu Valley in winter up to 2008.

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Pakistan.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3355 m; lower limit: 2135 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Spectacled Finch. The population is probably stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Spectacled Finch inhabits oak and hemlock forests in winter; rhododendron and fir forests in spring (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It is usually found in pairs or small parties. The species is very confiding and feeds unobtrusively, mainly on the ground and also in low bushes. It flies up into nearby bushes and trees if disturbed (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on seeds, e.g. Deodar and Mountain Ash (Ali and Ripley 1987). It was seen pecking deep into flowers and eating bark of *Rhododendron barbatum* on Ganesh Himal at 3355 m (Fleming *et al.* 1976). In Himachal Pradesh, family parties were recorded feeding solely on fruits of crane's-bill *Geranium wallichianum* (Sharma and Singh 2016).

#### Threats

Loss and degradation of forests would threaten Spectacled Finch, but as it chiefly inhabits forests in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, it is not considered at significant risk.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Spectacled Finch. Since 1990 it has mainly been recorded in Annapurna Conservation Area, and there is one known record from Langtang National Park.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Spectacled Finch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a very uncommon, erratic and local winter visitor.

Since 1990 it has been recorded once from the far west, and also from west-central and central Nepal. There has been no significant change in distribution or frequency of occurrence post-1990, compared to pre-1990. Most post-1990 records have come from Annapurna Conservation Area and there have also been a few records from Phulchoki Mountain Area and single records from two other localities. Loss and degradation of forests would threaten Spectacled Finch, but as it chiefly inhabits forests in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, it is not considered at significant risk. Its population is probably stable.

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***Carduelis carduelis*** (Linnaeus 1758) LC

Subspecies: *Carduelis carduelis caniceps*

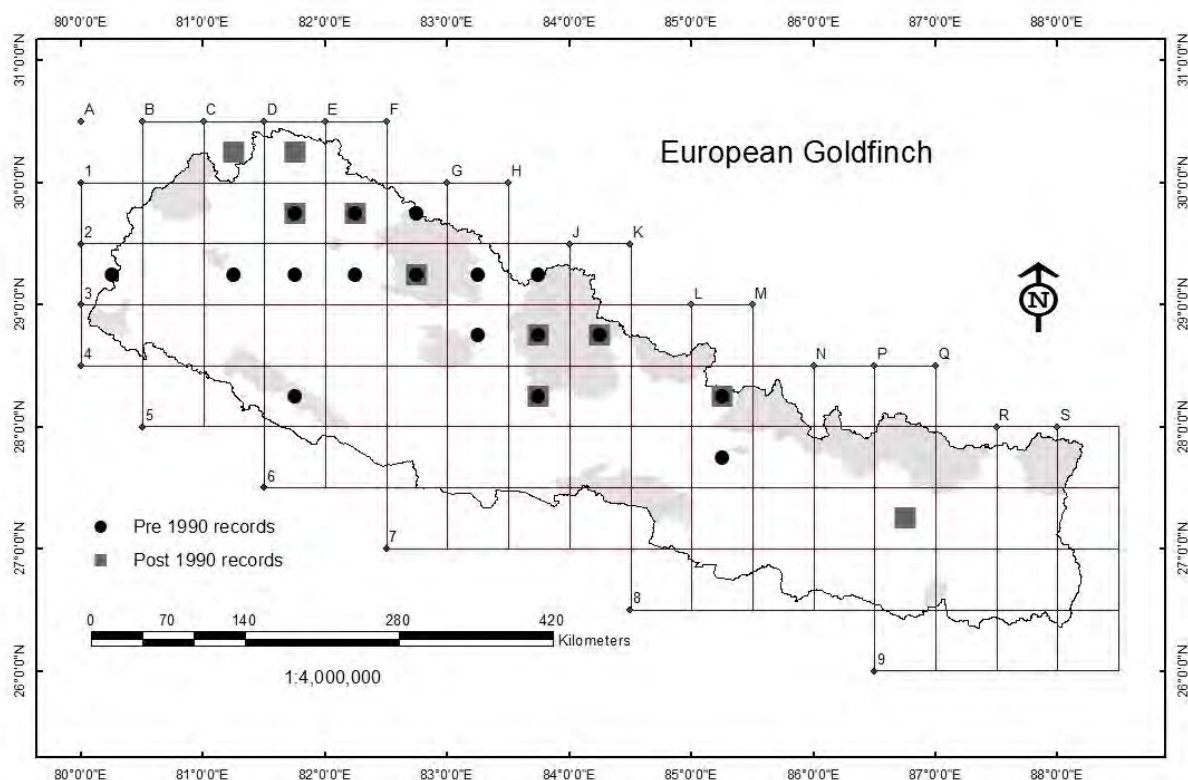
Common name

European Goldfinch (English),  
Raktamuhar Peetchari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



European Goldfinch is a resident, uncommon in the north-west and rare elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Yari, Humla District (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013) in the far north-west to Gurase, Sankhuwasabha District (Carter and James 2011) in the east.

The first Nepal record was at Manangbhot, Annapurna Conservation Area in June 1950 by D. Lowndes (Ali and Ripley 1983).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as a scarce resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an uncommon resident and mapped it quite widely in the north-west and also in central Nepal.

Since 1990, the species' recorded distribution has decreased, see map and text below.

The post-1990 status of European Goldfinch in protected areas is: a rare summer visitor to Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995). Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) describe it as an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4), but only three post-1990 records could be located (Anon. 1992, Mallalieu 2005, Vicente 2011). Karki and Thapa (2001) list the species as an uncommon resident in Langtang National Park (L5), but only two post-1990 records could be located (Prasad 1999, Rasmussen and Strange 1995).

In the west records include from: Yari (C1), Humla District, Yangar (D1) and Simikot (D2), Humla District in September 1994 (Prodon 1994); Humla District (D1) in May/June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013) and June-July 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015).

In the east 15 were recorded at Gurase (P7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bermuda (to UK), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Cape Verde, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Oman, Palestinian Authority Territories, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, USA, Uzbekistan

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3650 m (-4250 m) (summer), 2440 m (winter); lower limit: 2650 m (-2450 m) (summer), 1920 m (-75 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for European Goldfinch. The large number of 30 was seen at Marpha, Annapurna Conservation Area in June 1992 by L. J. Lalchan in Anon. (1992). The population has probably declined.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

European Goldfinch inhabits open mixed forests, often in or near edges and clearings; in the post-breeding season, flocks concentrate on seed-rich harvested fields, often near villages (Martens and Eck 1995). It also feeds on herb seeds and perches acrobatically on seed heads, hanging upside-down on taller plants. Its flight is light and bouncing and accompanied by continual twittering. It is found in small parties or pairs in the breeding season and often in larger flocks in winter (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on flower seeds, especially of thistles *Carduus* spp. (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

It is possible that its distributional range has moved north as a result of climate change. No threats to the species have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for European Goldfinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Rara, Shey-Phoksundo and Langtang National Parks, and Annapurna Conservation Area.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List Assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

European Goldfinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a resident, subject to altitudinal movements, uncommon in the north-west and rare elsewhere. The species' recorded distribution has declined since 1990. It has been recorded from a few protected areas and also outside the protected areas' system. It is possible that its distributional range has moved north as a result of climate change. No threats to the species have been identified. Its population has probably declined, but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Carduelis spinoides* Vigors, 1831 LC**

Subspecies: *Carduelis spinoides spinoides*

Common name

Yellow-breasted Greenfinch (English),

Gaajale Peetchari (Nepali)

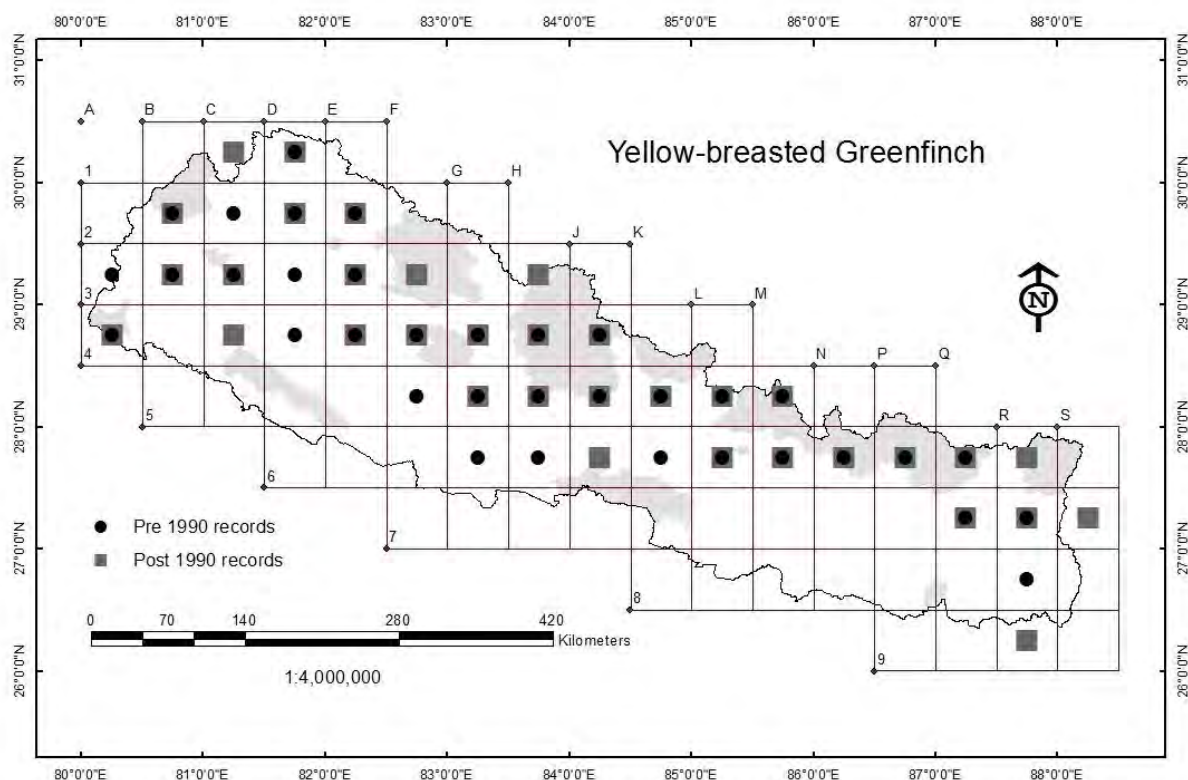


RAJ MAN SINGH/BRIAN HODGSON

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Fringillidae

Distribution



Yellow-breasted Greenfinch is a common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Hange Tham, Ilam District (Baral 2010) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also found it a common resident and mapped its distribution widely from the far west to the far east.

The species' distribution has not changed significantly post-1990 compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

The post-1990 status of Yellow-breasted Greenfinch in protected areas is: a frequent winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in the Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); an uncommon winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013, Subedi 2003) and Annapurna

Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Shah 1998, Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common resident in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a) and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013). The species has also been recorded commonly in the Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Q6) in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species is also widely recorded outside the protected areas' system post-1990, see map and text below.

In the west records include from: Amargadhi, Chulla and Khalanga, Dadeldhura District (B3) in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Yari (C1), Yangar (D1) and Simikot (D2), Humla District (Prodon 1994); in Humla District (D1, D2), between April and August 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015);

Jumla and between Navakuna and Chaurikot (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Sinja (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); between Kalimati and Kauli, Sakala and Nayakwada VDCs (E4), Jajarkot District and between Kauli Bazaar and Jiri Daha (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); several records from the Myagdi Khola valley (G4, G5) in June 1999 (Cox 1999b), and recorded at Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in December 2007 (Baral 2008) and December 2008 (Naylor and Turner 2008).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records include: from Shaktikhori (J6), Chitwan District in February 2004 (Giri and Choudhary 2004); Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992); Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999); a common resident at Chitlang (L6), Chandrigiri Range, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Tarkeghyang and Sermathang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and Panauti (M6), Kabhrepalchok District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005).

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Shivalaya (N6), Ramechhap District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); common in Fera, Taksindu, Muse (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Nunthala and Bupsa (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); above Mude (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); lower Arun valley (Q7) in April 1997 (White and White 1997); between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka and between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Jamuna and Mai Majuwa (R7), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); Ilam District (R8) in April 1997 (White and White 1997), and Dobate and Hange Tham (S7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam.

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3700 m (-4400 m) (summer), 1850 m (winter); lower limit: 2440 m (summer), 915 m (-250 m) (winter)

### Population

No population survey has been carried out specifically for Yellow-breasted Greenfinch. The large number of 200 was seen at Syabru, Langtang National Park in April 1999 (Choudhary 1999). The population is probably stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Yellow-breasted Greenfinch inhabits forest edges with shrubberies, bushy areas near field edges, herbs along field edges or on pebble areas along large rivers, human settlements with single or scattered trees, scattered bush clumps above the tree line; there is no preference for broadleaved or coniferous trees (Martens and Eck 1995). Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it in Kathmandu gardens. The species is gregarious throughout the year and can gather in large flocks in winter. It favours downy seed heads of herbs, and also forages for berries and insects in bushes and trees. If disturbed, the flock flies up into nearby trees. Its flight is undulating and accompanied by soft twittering notes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species feeds on seeds of many kinds including wild hemp, sunflower, *Calliopsis*, millet, buckwheat, rice; also berries and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in Dhorpatan and Tukche, upper Kali Gandaki valley (Martens and Eck 1995).

### Threats

When foraging in fields and field edges it may be susceptible to pesticides. Other threats have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Yellow-breasted Greenfinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Bardia, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Yellow-breasted Greenfinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common and widespread resident, recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990. There is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. The species has been recorded in many protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system. When foraging in fields and field edges it may be susceptible to pesticides. Other threats have not been identified. Its population is probably stable.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009_006.pdf)
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***Carpodacus edwardsii*** J. Verreaux, 1870 LC

Subspecies: *Carpodacus edwardsii rubicunda*

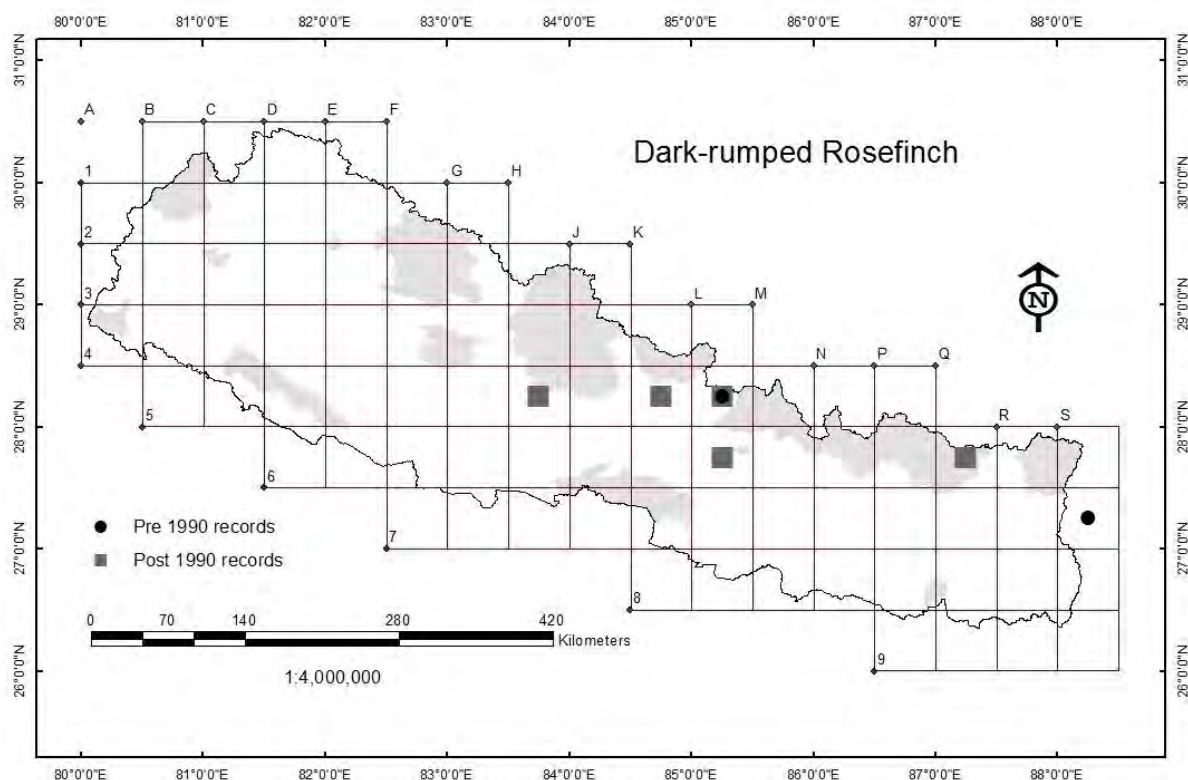
Common name

Dark-rumped Rosefinch (English),  
Kumdharke Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Dark-rumped Rosefinch is rare, possibly resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from the Modi Khola valley Annapurna Conservation Area, the westernmost record of the species, to the Makalu Barun National Park (Halberg 1991, Giri and Choudhary 2006) in the east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from the upper Mai Valley in March 1912 (Stevens 1925).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also reported it was scarce and of uncertain status and only found it recorded in Langtang National Park and the upper Mai Valley in March and May.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely, probably because of better coverage. Its range has been extended west to the Modi Khola valley, Annapurna Conservation Area, but there are no known records from the upper Mai valley, Ilam District since 1989.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: rare, possibly resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003 – Modi Khola valley (Suwal 2000) and Santel (Thapa 2005); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Thakuri 2013); rare in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001) – singles at Thare Pati in May 1997 (Cooper and Cooper 1997) and between Thulo Bharku and Syabru in April 2001 (O’Connell

Davidson *et al.* 2001), and rare in Makalu Barun National Park – one in the Barun valley in May 1991 (Halberg 1991) and two between Manghang Kharka and Chauri Kharka in October 2005 (Giri and Choudhary 2006, Inskipp *et al.* 2005).

The only known records outside the protected areas' system are from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area: three birds in January 1995 (Baral 1995), and singles in February 1999 (Robson 2000), one in December 2002 (Naylor and Metcalf 2002).

Globally, the species has also been recorded from Bhutan; China; India and Myanmar. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3635m; lower limit: 2440m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Dark-rumped Rosefinch. Its population may possibly be declining because of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Dark-rumped Rosefinch summers in rhododendron and juniper shrubberies and rhododendron and fir forest; and winters in open rhododendron or birch forest, and slopes with thickets of bamboo and scrub (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It favours rhododendron (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). Usually it keeps singly, in pairs or in small parties and forages on the ground, under cover or in low bushes. It is often shy (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species mainly eats seeds (of grass, crab-apples, rice etc.) (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism, collection of non-forest products) could threaten birds, especially during the breeding season.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried specifically for Dark-rumped Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna Conservation Area.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Dark-rumped Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is rare, possibly resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded more widely probably because of better coverage. Its range has been extended west to the Modi Khola valley, Annapurna Conservation Area, but there have been no known records from the upper Mai Valley since 1989. Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) could threaten birds, especially during the breeding season. The species may possibly be declining, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category.

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***Carpodacus erythrinus* (Pallas 1770) LC**

Subspecies: *Carpodacus erythrinus erythrinus*,  
*kubanensis*, *roseatus*

Common name

Common Rosefinch (English),

Amonga Titu (Nepali)

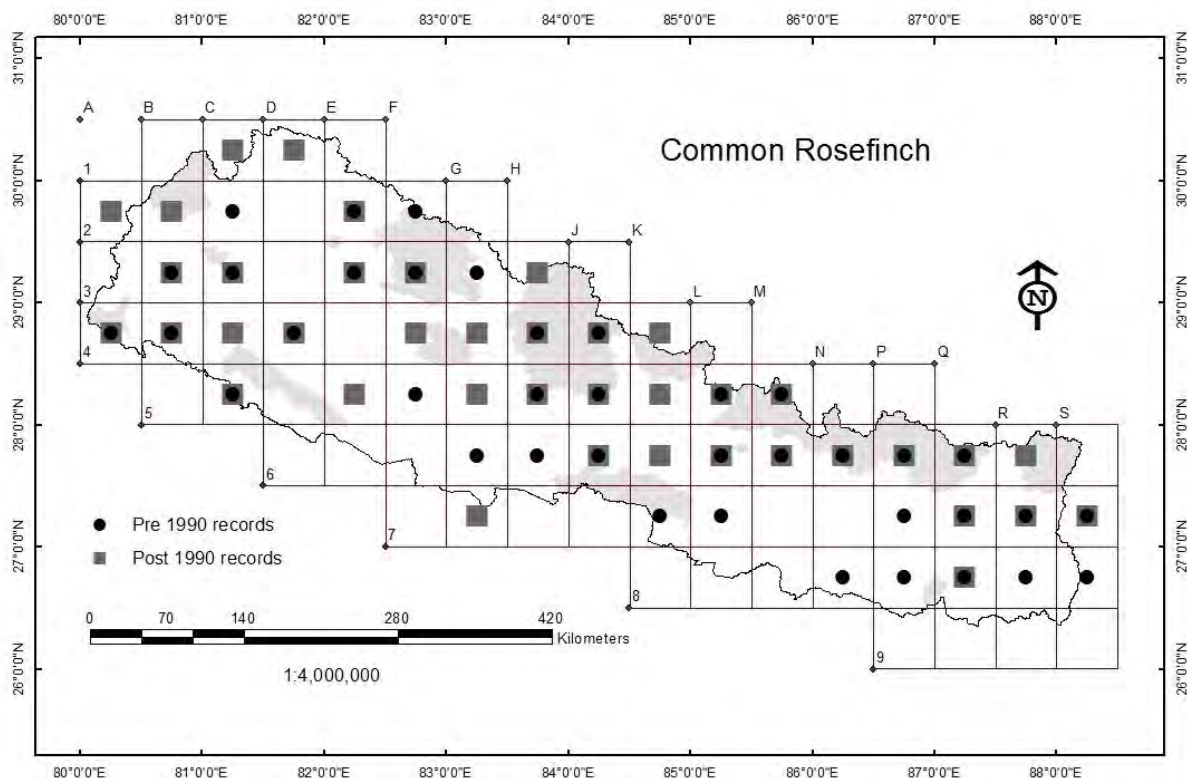
Order: Passeriformes

Family: Fringillidae



HEM BAHADUR KATUWAL

Distribution



Common Rosefinch is a common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844)

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it is a common resident species. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a common and widespread resident as well as a winter visitor.

Since 1990 there has been no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common winter to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in the Api Nampa Conservation Area in the Mahakali valley (A2) in December 2011 and March/April 2012 and recorded in the Chameliya valley (B2) in December 2011 and common there in March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a frequent winter visitor and passage migrant in Bardia National Park (C4, C5), e.g. in December 1996 (Chaudhary 1997), March 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), December

1999 (Chaudhary 1999) and April 2001 (Inskipp 2001); a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005, White and White 1995); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); a common resident and winter visitor to Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013, Subedi 2003); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); an occasionally recorded winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a common summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident and visitor to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999); a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), and a frequent summer visitor to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Halberg 1994, Paudel 2008 and White and White 1999 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

It has also been recorded from Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Janakauli (Giri 2010); Bees Hazari Tal (Baral 1996, Pradhan 2005); also in Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000); Langtang National Park buffer zone in April 1996 (Taylor *et al.* 1996), and Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Q6) in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has also been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below.

In the west records include: a fairly common winter visitor to Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); between Khalkhale and Dhure (B3) and between Tinkadhure and Khalkhale (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Yari (C1), Humla District in September 1994 (Prodon 1994); Badimalika region (C3) (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D1), Humla District in May/June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013), and from June-July 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* (2015)); between Gai banne and Madela, District (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); near the Khali-Lagna Pass (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); Jumla District (E3) in April 1995 (White and White 1995); Dang Deukhuri foothills forests Important Bird Area (E5), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b), Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Lumbini (G7) IBA, Rupandehi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011), and Pokhara valley, Kaski District, e.g. in December 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005) and December 2007 (Naylor and Metcalf 2007).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common passage migrant and uncommon winter visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. It has also been recorded from Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999); between Kutumsang (L6) Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007); Chitlang, Chandrigiri Range, Makwanpur District in winter (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and near Sermathang (M6), Sindhupalchok District, and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in February 1995 (Baral 1995) and December 1998 (Choudhary 1999); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District in October 2011 (Baral 2011), and north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010); Raja Rani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Tinjure forest (Q7), Terhathum District (Rai 2003); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District, between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka and between Lali Kharka and Tapeljung (R7), Tapeljung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Jamuna (R7), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008), and Panchthar District (S7) (White and White 1999).

Globally, the species has also been recorded Afghanistan; Armenia (Armenia); Austria; Azerbaijan; Bahrain; Belarus; Belgium; Bulgaria; China; Czech Republic; Denmark; Egypt; Estonia; Finland; France; Georgia; Germany; Hong Kong; India; Iran, Islamic Republic of; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Japan; Kazakhstan; Korea, Democratic People's Republic of; Kuwait; Kyrgyzstan; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Latvia; Lithuania; Mongolia; Montenegro; Myanmar; Netherlands; Norway; Oman; Pakistan; Poland; Qatar; Romania; Russian Federation; Saudi Arabia; Serbia (Serbia); Slovakia; Slovenia; Sweden; Switzerland; Tajikistan; Thailand; Turkey; Turkmenistan; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States (Georgia); Uzbekistan, and Viet Nam. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4300 m (summer), 2000 m (winter); lower limit: 2650 m (summer), 100 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Common Rosefinch. The population is probably stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

In the breeding season Common Rosefinch inhabits semi-open bush and tree vegetation, usually groups of bushes at the edges of open areas that are cultivated in many cases. Forest margins may be nearby but tall forest is avoided. Groups of bushes were found to include *Berberis*, *Rosa*, scattered *Arundinaria* bamboo with abandoned fields surrounded by tall forest (*Abies*, *Picea*, *Pinus*); also *Berberis* bushes on dry open terraces close to *Cupressus* and *Pinus* forest; scattered and groups of bushes of *Juniperus*, *Caragana* and *Lonicera* and *Salix* at moist sites (Martens and Eck 1995). Grimmett *et al.* (1998) described breeding habitat as shrubberies above the tree-line, on alpine slopes with tall herbs and bush-covered slopes with scattered birches or firs. It winters in cultivation with nearby bushes and open wooded country (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is gregarious in the non-breeding season, often in flocks of up to 30 birds and in pairs when breeding. It forages by hopping on the ground, gleaning seeds and by clambering among foliage of bushes. Sometimes it perches inactively for long periods. It has an undulating flight like other rosefinches (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds mostly on seeds (of weeds, millet, wheat, linseed, vetch, *Polygonum* and bamboo), flower buds, fruits and berries, and also nectar of *Erythrina*, *Salmalia*, *Butea*, *Woodfordia*, and other blossoms (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Clearance of bushes and shrubberies for fuelwood and disturbance during the collection of non-timber forest products at high altitudes could affect the breeding activities of this species. In the non-breeding season at lower altitudes abandoned farmland is colonised by scrub which would benefit this species. Common Rosefinch may also benefit from deforestation and forest thinning in the non-breeding season

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Common Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Common Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990. It has been recorded from many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system post-1990. Clearance of bushes and shrubberies for fuelwood and disturbance during the collection of non-timber forest products at high altitudes could affect the breeding activities of this species. In the non-breeding season at lower altitudes abandoned farmland is colonized by scrub which would benefit this species. Common Rosefinch may also benefit from deforestation and forest thinning in the non-breeding season. In the absence of evidence for any decline and substantial threats, the

population of the bird is probably stable.

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***Carpodacus nipalensis*** (Hodgson, 1836) LC

Subspecies *Carpodacus nipalensis nipalensis*

Common name

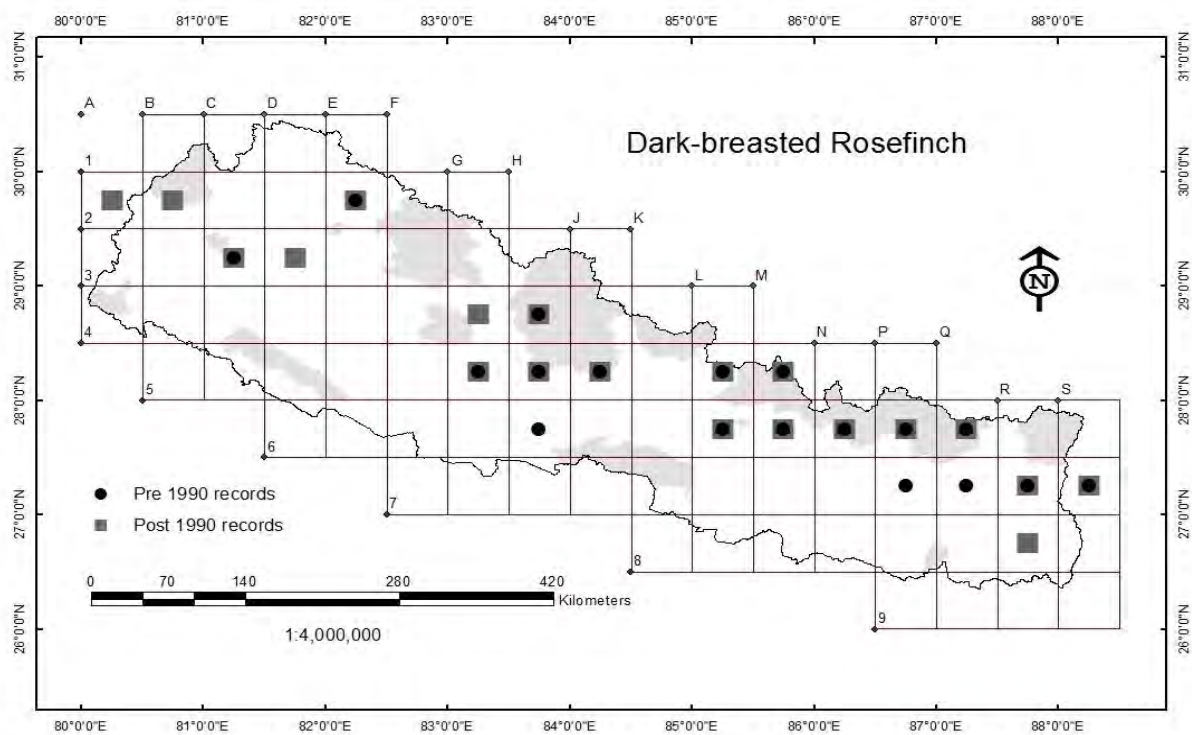
Dark-breasted Rosefinch (English),  
Nepal Titu (Nepali)

Upper level taxonomy

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Dark-breasted Rosefinch is a fairly common resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the upper Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was first described from Nepal (Hodgson 1836, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was fairly common resident and mapped its distribution mainly from west-central Nepal and eastwards.

Since 1990 Dark-breasted Rosefinch has been recorded from more localities in the west, probably because of better coverage, see map and text below.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area in the Mahakali (A2) and Chameliya valleys (B2) in December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon resident, winter visitor and passage migrant to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Rara National

Park (Giri 2005); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a frequent winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a frequent summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004), and a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a). It has also been recorded in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Q6) in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has also been quite widely, although less frequently recorded outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below.

In the west records include from: between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Deorali Thanti and Lachang, Dhola Khola (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999 and in the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); fairly common in Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in November 2010 and February 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013), and on Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a fairly common winter visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. It has also been recorded at Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999) and January 2012 (Dymond 2012); a common winter visitor to Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri Range (L6), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: Nunthala and Bupsa (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Sasarbeni (P6), Solukhumbu District in July 2012 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Sidim (R7) and Pranbung (S7), Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008), and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010).

Globally, the species has also been recorded from Bhutan; China; India; Lao People's Democratic Republic; Myanmar; Pakistan; Thailand, and Viet Nam. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3900 m (-4270 m) (summer), 2745 m (winter); lower limit: 3050 m (summer), 1830 m (-1370 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Dark-breasted Rosefinch. Its population may possibly be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Dark-breasted Rosefinch breeds in open oak-rhododendron and fir-rhododendron forest, shrubberies above the tree-line and steep grassy slopes with scattered bushes or boulders and winters in forest clearings, and cultivation with nearby bushes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It keeps in pairs or small flocks, according to the season. Dark-breasted Rosefinch forages on the ground or in bushes. It is quite shy (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds chiefly on seeds and berries, also nectar of rhododendron (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Forest loss, over-grazing and human activities during non-timber forest collection could threaten this species.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Dark-breasted Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Api Nampa, Annapurna and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Dark-breasted Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many high altitude protected areas and also quite widely, although less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 it has been recorded from more localities in the west, probably because of better coverage. Forest loss, over-grazing and human activities during non-timber forest collection could threaten this species. Its population may possibly be stable in the absence of evidence for any known declines or substantial threats.

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***Carpodacus pulcherrimus*** (F. Moore 1856) LC

Subspecies: *Carpodacus pulcherrimus pulcherrimus*

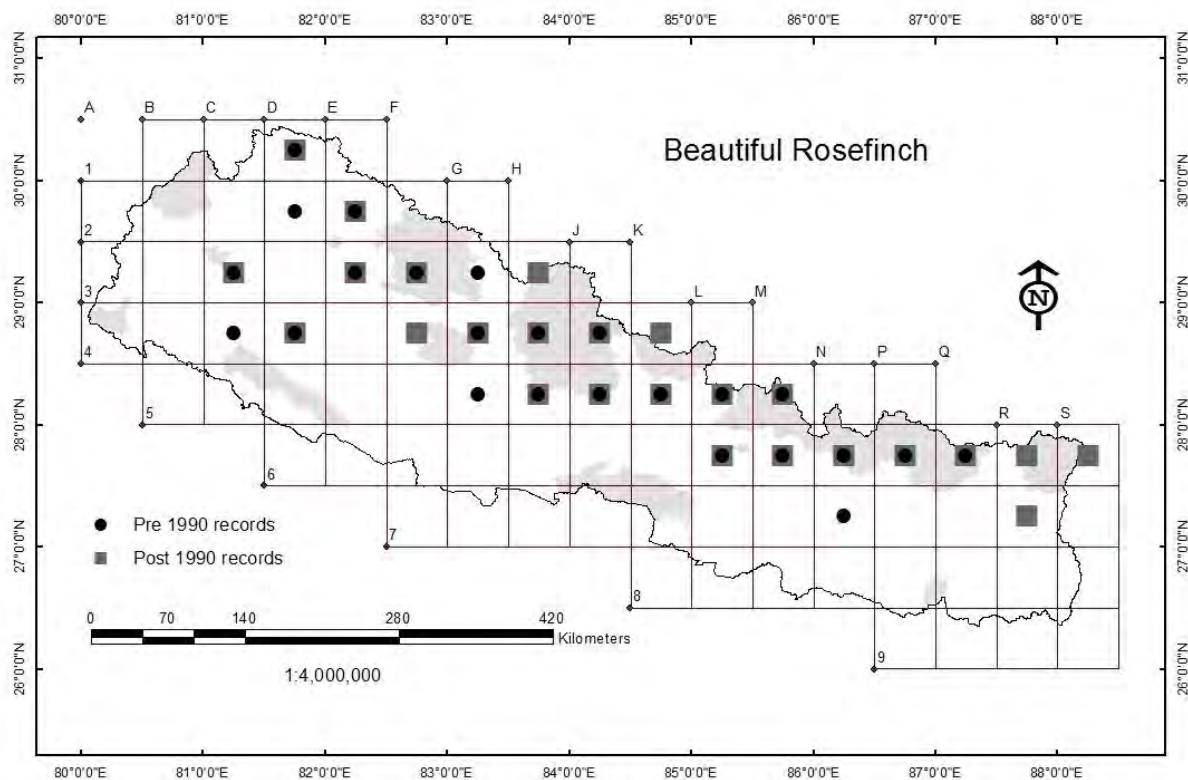
Common name

Beautiful Rosefinch (English),  
Jhibi Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Beautiful Rosefinch is a common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad National Park in the far west (Chaudhary 2006) to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in the far east (e.g. Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

The first Nepal record was from the Bito Khola valley, Humla District in July 1936 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a common and widespread resident.

Since 1990 there has been a small extension of range in the far north-east, probably because of better coverage; otherwise there has been no significant change in the distribution of the species, see map and text below.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a winter visitor and passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006). It is described as a frequent resident in Rara National Park by Giri (2005), but noted as common in March 2000 (Regmi 2000). The species is common in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4)

(Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003, Naylor and GC 2005, Naylor and Metcalf 2007), Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013) and Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a common resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004) and Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6, S6) (Baral 2011, Goble 2000, Halberg 1994, Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013, White and White 1999). It has also been recorded in Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone (Baral 1996, Inskipp and Inskipp 1994) and in Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche in April 1998 (Basnet 1998).

The species has been recorded less frequently and less widely outside protected areas, see map and text below.

In the west records include from: upper Humla (D1), Humla District in June-July 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015); between Kotuwa and Gai banne (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997) and Jumla District (E3) in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009).

In central Nepal records include from: Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, Kathmandu Valley in November 1998 (Choudhary 1998) and November 2000 (Basnet 2000), although not listed for the Kathmandu Valley by Mallalieu (2008). It was recorded near Sermathang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004)

In the east records include: common above Jorsalle (P6), Solukhumbu District from 2011 to 2013 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013) and between Lamjura La and Junbesi (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009) and recorded in Panchthar District (R7) in May 1994 (White and White 1994).

Globally the species has also been recorded from India, Bhutan, Pakistan, Mongolia and China Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4650 m (summer), 3300 m (winter); lower limit: 3600 m (summer), 2100 m (winter)

Population: No population studies have been carried out for Beautiful Rosefinch. The large number of 50+ was seen between Lamjura La and Junbesi in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009). The population is possibly stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

The bird breeds in high altitude shrubberies (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). In winter it also occupies open terrain with hedges and bushes and frequents the vicinity of forest, but is never found in the forest interior, even in small glades (Martens and Eck 1995). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). In some Dolpo villages that are left during winter by the human population Beautiful Rosefinch becomes the ecological equivalent of sparrows. It even comes into the houses in these villages (Martens and Eck 1995). It keeps in pairs or small flocks, depending on the season. The species forages quietly on the ground or low down in bushes. It often perches inactively in bushes and 'freezes' if disturbed (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats seeds and vegetable matter (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats:

Clearance of bushes and shrubberies for fuelwood, and disturbance caused by human activities during the collection of non-timber forest products at high altitudes could affect the breeding of this species. Martens and Eck (1995) note its occurrence in the alpine zone is severely limited by the gradual thinning out of the shrub layer, which is greatly promoted by pastoral activities. In the non-breeding season at lower altitudes

abandoned farmland is colonized by scrub which would benefit this species.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Beautiful Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Beautiful Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been a small extension of range in the far north-east, probably the result of better coverage; otherwise there has been no significant change in its distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded in all high altitude protected areas and less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Clearance of bushes and shrubberies for fuelwood, and disturbance caused by human activities at high altitudes could affect the breeding of this species. In the non-breeding season at lower altitudes abandoned farmland is colonized by scrub which would benefit Beautiful Rosefinch. Its population is possibly stable.

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***Carpodacus puniceus*** (Blyth, 1845) LC

Subspecies: *Carpodacus puniceus puniceus*

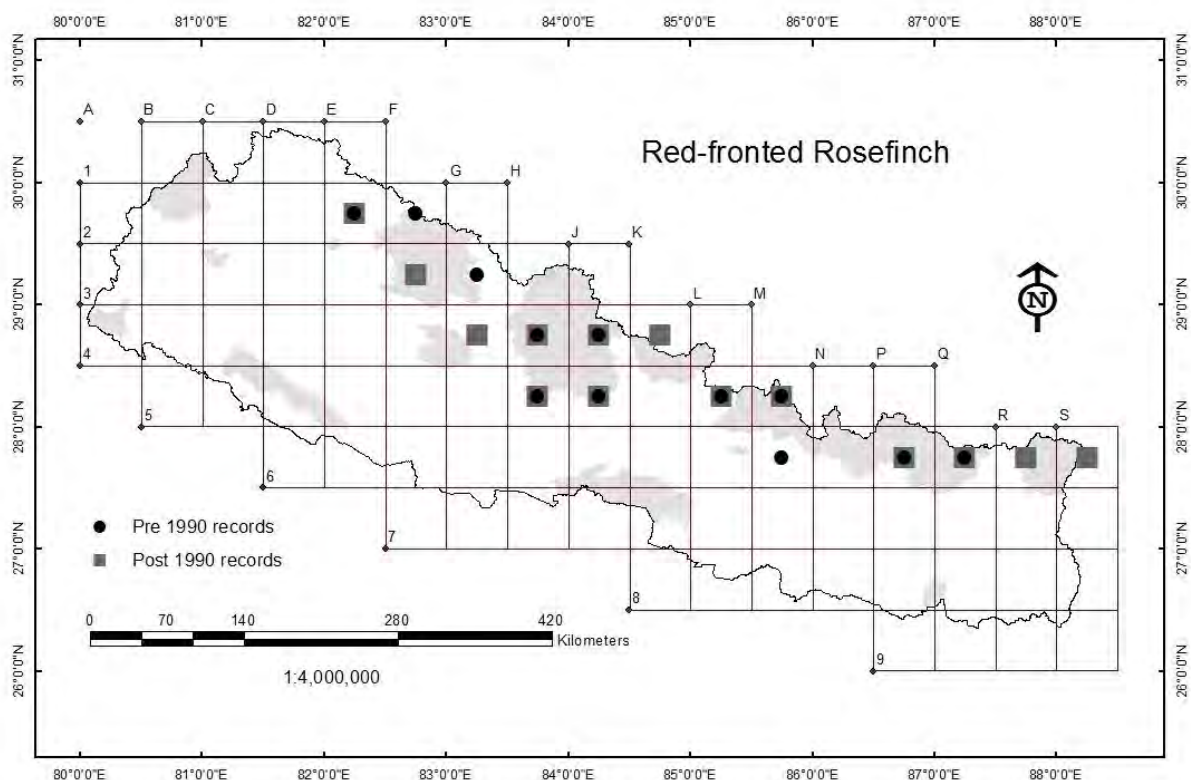
Common name

Red-fronted Rosefinch (English),  
Raktashirsha Raititu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Red-fronted Rosefinch is a frequent resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Rara National Park (Giri 2005) in the north-west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal from a Hodgson specimen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1844, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a high altitude resident and mapped its distribution from the far north-west to the east.

Since 1990 the species' distribution has extended further east, see map and text below, probably because of better coverage; otherwise there is no significant difference in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: a rare resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995) and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); uncommon, a winter visitor and possibly also resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003, Naylor and GC 2005, Naylor and Metcalf 2007); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013); a frequent resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet

2004); a frequent resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and frequent in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6, S6) (Cox 1992; White and White 1999 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Baral 2011, Goble 2000, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

There are few records outside the protected areas' system, probably because these areas have been poorly covered.

In the west records include from between glacial flats tented camp, upper Myagdi Khola - boulder flat tented camp, upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b).

In the east records include from Sasarbeni, Solukhumbu District in July 2012 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

Globally the species has also been recorded from: Bhutan; China; India; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Pakistan; Tajikistan, and Turkmenistan Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 5490m (summer), 4575m (winter); lower limit: 4265m (summer), 2745m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Red-fronted Rosefinch. The population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Red-fronted Rosefinch inhabits grassy, stony slopes above the tree-line. Martens and Eck (1995) reported it foraged in thawed places on large snowfields and, in May, in alpine grassy heath with many rocks. It keeps singly or in pairs in the breeding season, and in parties of up to ten birds in winter. The species feeds on the ground amongst large boulders, often at the edge of melting snow. It spends long periods digging with its powerful bill (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species chiefly eats seeds; in summer also buds and the petals of various flowers (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

No threats are known for Red-fronted Rosefinch.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Red-fronted Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Red-fronted Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a frequent resident, found since 1990 from the far north-west to the far east. It has been recorded from most high altitude protected areas. There are few records outside the protected areas' system, probably because these areas are poorly recorded. Since 1990

the species' distribution has extended further east, see map and text below, probably because of better coverage. Threats to Red-fronted Rosefinch are unknown. The population may be stable in the absence of evidence for any known declines or known threats.

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***Carpodacus rodochroa* (Vigors, 1831) LC**

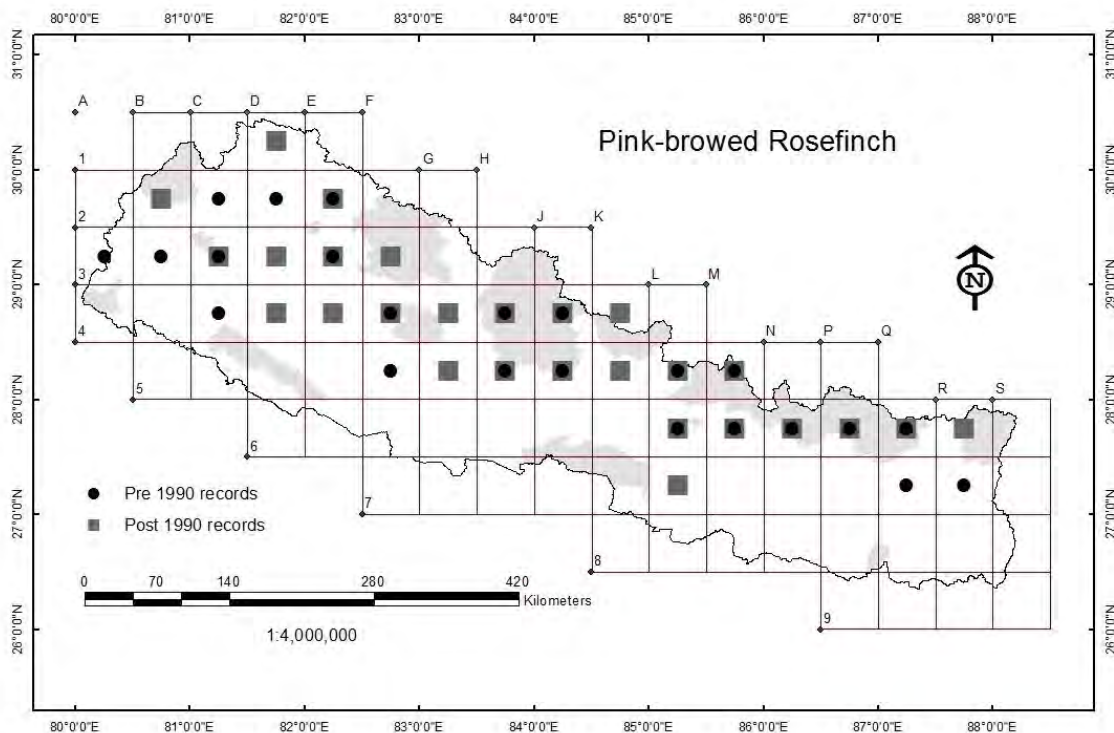
Common name

Pink-browed Rosefinch (English),  
Rato Jhibi Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Pink-browed Rosefinch is a fairly common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from the Chameliya valley, Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was fairly common and mapped its distribution quite widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely compared to pre-1990, see map and text below, probably because of better coverage.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: fairly common in the Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in December 2011 and April and May 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident, winter visitor and passage migrant to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); frequent, possibly resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); a fairly common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013, Subedi 2003) and in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013); an uncommon winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); fairly common in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system, especially in the west.

In the west records include: between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D1), Humla District in May-June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013); between Kotuwa and Gai banne, Gai banne and Madela, (D4), Dailekh District; Dauragaon and Beuli (D3), Beuli and Kalikot (D3) and Kalikot and Takula (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Jumla (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Rimna and Khalanga (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); between Lachang and Palung, Dhola Khola (G4), between Palung, Dhola Khola and Archegaun, Dhola Khola (G4) Myagdi District and between ghot past Bikos and ghot above Patle (G5), Gulmi District in May 1999 and between Bagara and Baihanse Kharka, Myagdi Khola (G4) and between Baihanse Kharka, upper Myagdi Khola and Bagara, upper Myagdi Khola (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b), and between Baglungpani and Ganpokhara (J5), Lamjung District and between Pasgam, Libiyani and Rupatal (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was uncommon or rare and local in winter during the period 2004 to 2006 in the Kathmandu Valley. Other localities include near Sermathang and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: recorded at Benkar (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009) and common at Lawishasha and Sasarbeni, Solukhumbu District from 2011 to 2013. (Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

Globally, the species has also been recorded from Bhutan; China; India and Pakistan. (Birdlife International 2012).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3965m (summer), 3000m (winter); lower limit: 3050m (summer), 915m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Pink-browed Rosefinch. Its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Pink-browed Rosefinch breeds in dense bushes near forest margins that offer good cover (Martens and Eck 1995); rhododendron and juniper shrubberies (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It winters in oak forest and on bush covered slopes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). In the breeding season it is found in pairs and, at other times, in small flocks. It feeds unobtrusively on the ground or in bushes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats seeds and berries (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).



### Threats

Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) and also forest clearance for fuelwood could threaten birds, especially during the breeding season.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Pink-browed Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Pink-browed Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from all high altitude protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system, especially in the west. Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely compared to pre-1990, see map and text below, probably because of better coverage. Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) and also forest clearance for fuelwood could threaten birds, especially during the breeding season. The population is possibly stable in the absence of evidence for any known declines or substantial threats.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009_006.pdf)

***Carpodacus rodopeplus*** (Vigors 1831) LC  
 Subspecies: *Carpodacus rodopeplus rodopeplus*

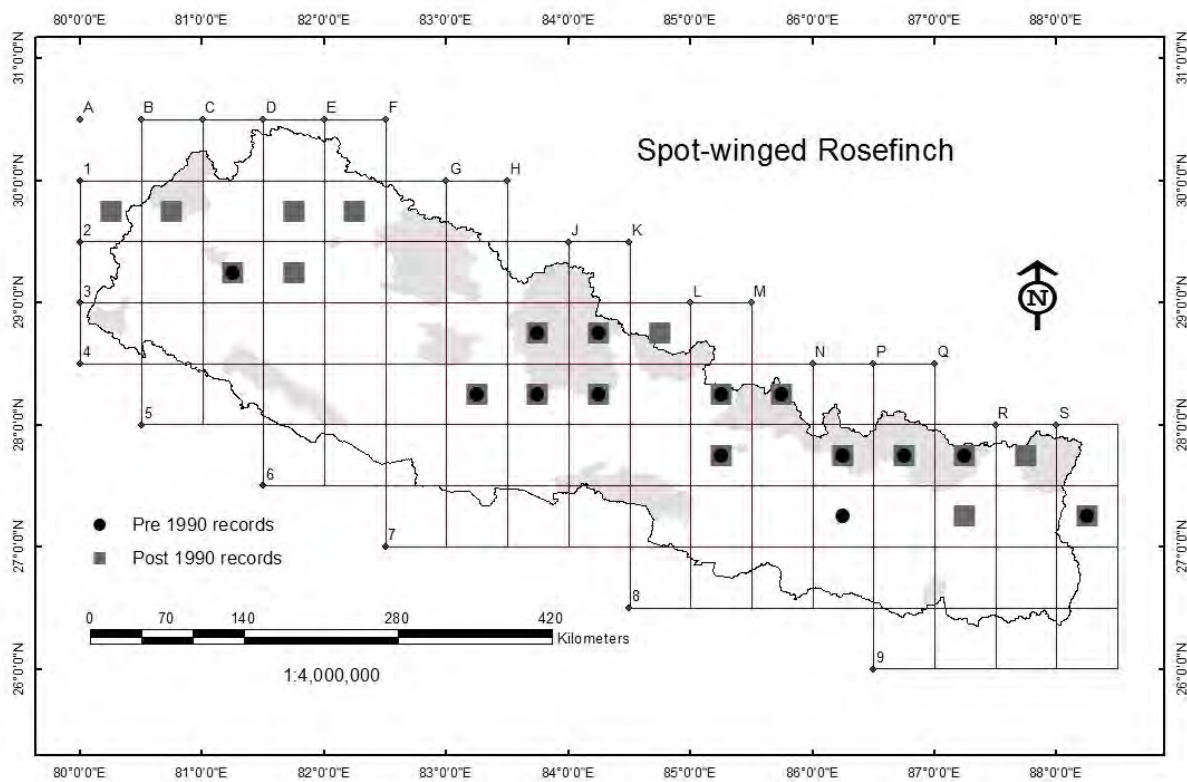
Common name

Spot-winged Rosefinch (English),  
 Pankhthople Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
 Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Spot-winged Rosefinch is a frequent resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Panchthar District (White and White 1999) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a locally distributed resident and mapped its range mainly from west-central Nepal and eastwards.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely than pre-1990, especially in the west, probably because of better coverage, see map and text below.

The species post-1990 distribution in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area in the Mahakali valley (A2) in December 2011 and March/April 2012 and the Chameliya (B2) valley in December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a frequent resident, winter visitor and passage migrant to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); an uncommon resident in

Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004, Katuwal *et al.* 2013); fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013, White and White 1999).

There are a smaller number of recorded localities outside the protected areas' system including a few in the west.

In the west records include from: Chucho Khola valley, near Simikot (D2), Humla District in June 2002 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997), and Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in November 2010 (Thakuri 2011, 2013b).

In central Nepal records include from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, Kathmandu Valley in January 2010 (Baral 2010). Mallalieu (2008) reported no records from the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006.

In the east records include from: Trakshindo La and below Khari La (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); between Mudhe (Mure) (Q6) and Chhichhila (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992), and Panchthar District (S7) in May 1999 (White and White 1999).

Globally the species has also been recorded from China (mainland), India, Myanmar. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 4000 m (summer), 3050 m (winter); lower limit: 3050 m (summer), 2000 m (winter)

### Population

No population studies have been carried out for Spot-winged Rosefinch. The population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Spot-winged Rosefinch summers in rhododendron shrubberies above the treeline and in alpine meadows; it winters in bushes and bamboo thickets in forest and in damp forest ravines (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species prefers coniferous –*Rhododendron* forests, especially the marginal areas with dense bushes of *Berberis*, *Rosa* etc. and bushy glades (Martens and Eck 1995). Usually it keeps singly, in pairs or in small scattered flocks. A quite shy bird, feeds on the ground or in bushes and perches inactively for quite long periods (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) and also forest clearance for fuelwood could threaten birds.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Spot-winged Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

## Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Spot-winged Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a frequent resident found since 1990 from the far west to the far east. Post-1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely, especially in the west than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded from most high altitude protected areas; there are a smaller number of recorded localities outside the protected areas' system. Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) and also forest clearance for fuelwood could threaten birds. The population may be stable in the absence of evidence for a decline or substantial threats.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009_006.pdf)

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***Carpodacus rubescens* (Blanford 1872) LC**

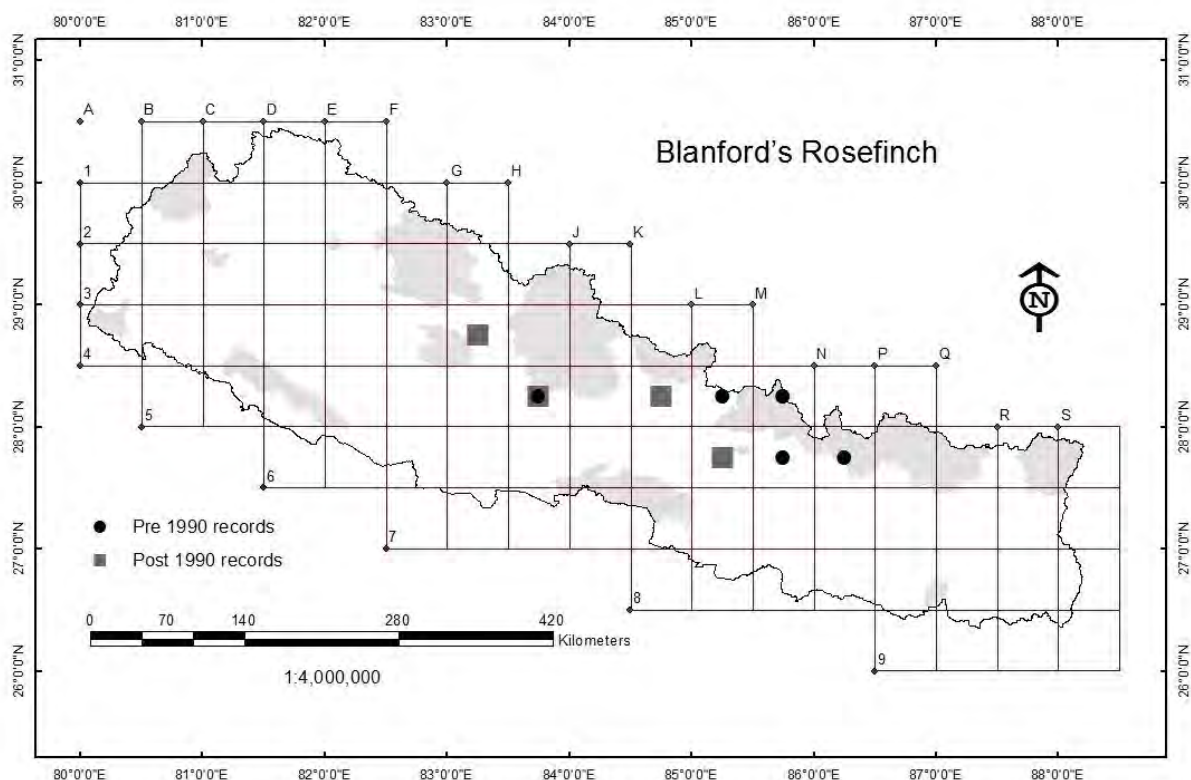
Common name

Blanford's Rosefinch (English),  
Sano Simrik Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Blanford's Rosefinch is rare and local; possibly resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from the upper Myagdi Khola valley (Martens and Eck 1995) in west-central Nepal east to Phulchoki Mountain Conservation Area, Kathmandu Valley (Vicente 2011) in central Nepal.

The first Nepal record of the species was a specimen in Mandelli's collection from Dolakha, Bhota Kosi Valley (N6) in August 1875 (Biswas 1963).

Fleming *et.al.* (1976) described the species as a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was scarce, but it was not clear whether the species was resident and its movements in Nepal were poorly known.

Since 1990 the distribution of Blanford's Rosefinch has extended west to the upper Myagdi Khola valley (Martens and Eck 1995), but there have been no records from Langtang National Park or Sindhupalchok District, where there were a few records between 1935 and 1973 listed in Inskipp and Inskipp (1991).

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded from Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported it was a rare winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (H5), but records since 1990 include a few in March and April: singles on Poon Hill in March 1996 (Daulne and Goblet 1996) and November 2011 (Vicente 2011), one below Ghorepani in December 2002 (Brickle 2003,

Robson 2003) and a pair there in April 2009 (Ryan and Chantler 2009), and two in the Ghandruk/Taadapani/Ghorepani area in February 2009 (Naylor *et al.* 2009). One was seen in Manaslu Conservation Area at Samagaun (K5) in July 2011 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013). Karki and Thapa (2001) list it as a rare migrant in Langtang National Park, but no post-1990 records could be located from there.

The only records found outside the protected areas system were a few seen including two mist-netted and a specimen taken from the upper Myagdi Khola valley north of Dobang (G4) in May 1995 (Martens and Eck 1995) and one seen in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, Kathmandu Valley in December 2011 (Vicente 2011).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3050 m (summer), 3050m (winter); lower limit: 2745 m (summer), 2135m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Blanford's Rosefinch.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

The species inhabits glades in coniferous and mixed conifer-birch forest (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Martens and Eck (1995) found it in a bushy area of *Rhododendron* and *Betula utilis* in the transition zone of *Tsuga dumosa* and *Abies spectabilis*. Habits of the species are poorly known. It has been found in small flocks in the non-breeding season and singly or in pairs when breeding. It forages chiefly on the ground in forest clearings (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Its diet is unrecorded (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998).

#### Threats

Habitat fragmentation due to deforestation and overgrazing may threaten Blanford's Rosefinch.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Blanford's Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Annapurna and Manaslu Conservation Areas and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Blanford's Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is rare and local, possibly resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from west-central to central Nepal. It has been found in three protected areas; only two records outside the protected areas' system have been located. Habitat fragmentation due to deforestation and overgrazing may threaten the species and it may possibly be declining, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened species category.



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***Carpodacus rubicilla*** (Güldenstädt, 1775) LC

Subspecies: *Carpodacus rubicilla severtzovi*

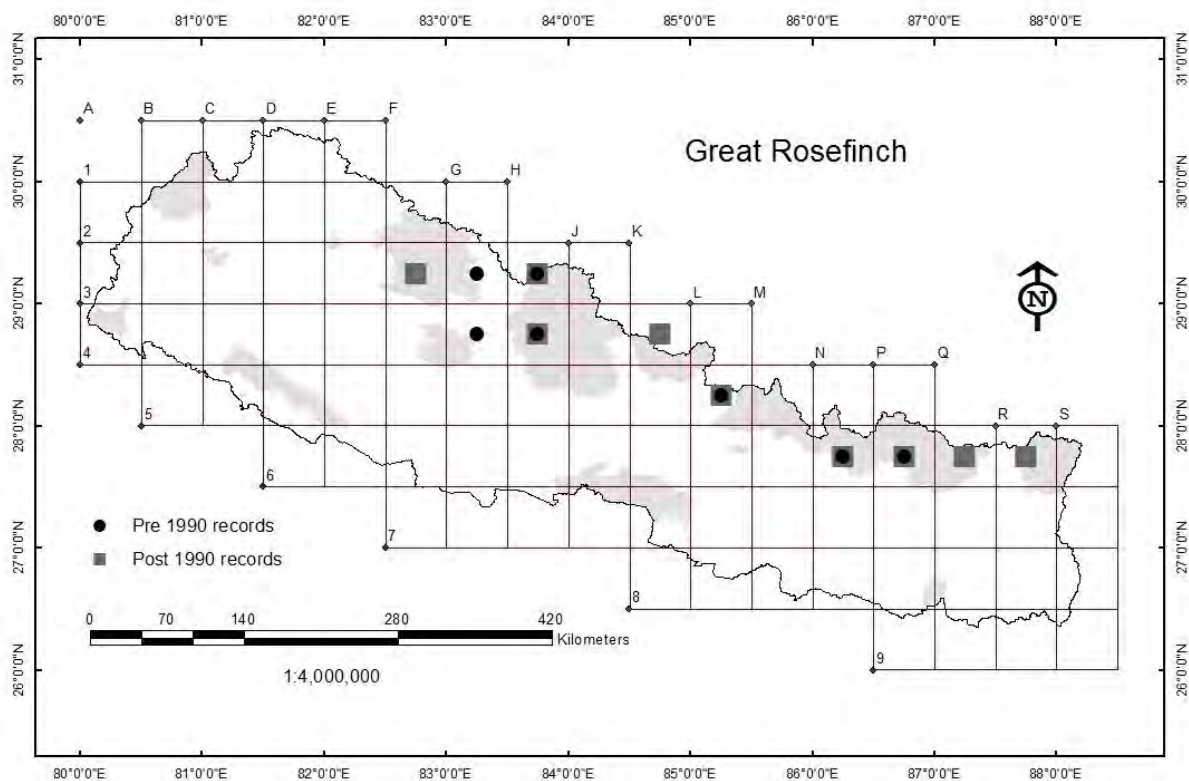
Common name

Great Rosefinch (English),  
Raj Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Great Rosefinch is an uncommon resident in far northern Nepal. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995) in the north-west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Buckton 1996 and White and White 1999 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The first Nepal record of the species was at Gokyo Pokhari, Sagarmatha National Park in August 1962 (Fleming and Traylor 1968).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an occasionally recorded resident.

Since 1990 it has been more widely recorded and its distribution has been extended to the west and east, probably because of better coverage.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003, Naylor and GC 2005, Naylor and Turner 2008); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013); a rare resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a frequent resident in Sagarmatha National Park

(Basnet 2004), and uncommon in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) and in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Buckton 1996 and White and White 1999 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

No records outside the protected areas' system could be located probably because these areas have been poorly covered ornithologically.

Globally, the bird has also been recorded from Afghanistan; Azerbaijan; China; Georgia; India; Kazakhstan; Kyrgyzstan; Mongolia; Pakistan; Russian Federation; Tajikistan and Uzbekistan Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5000 m (-5550 m); lower limit: 3660 m (-2650 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Great Rosefinch. Its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Great Rosefinch frequents the higher part of alpine zone, on sparsely vegetated and rocky ground; also *Caragana* scrub in winter (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). It is found singly, in pairs and in winter in flocks of up to 30 birds. The species mainly forages on the ground, also on bushes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species chiefly eats berries and seeds (*Caragana*, green peas, cereals etc) and some insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Human disturbance in high altitude areas could possibly affect breeding activities.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Great Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Great Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is an uncommon resident in far northern Nepal. Since 1990 it has been more widely recorded and its distribution has been extended to the west and east, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded in several protected areas; no records could be located outside the protected areas' system probably because these areas have been poorly covered ornithologically. Human disturbance in high altitude areas could possibly affect breeding activities. However, the population is suspected to be stable in the absence of substantial threats or evidence for any declines.

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***Carpodacus rubicilloides* Przevalski, 1876 LC**

Subspecies: *Carpodacus rubicilloides lucifer*

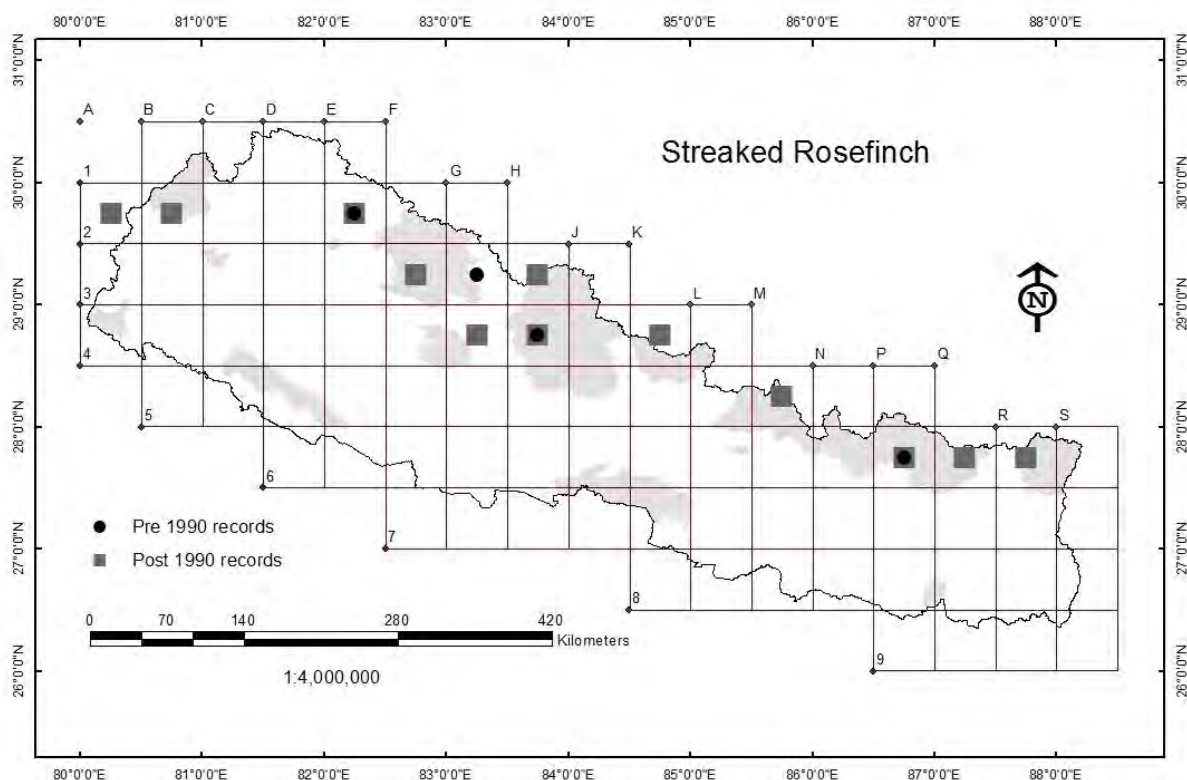
Common name

Streaked Rosefinch (English),  
Dharke Rajtiti (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Streaked Rosefinch is probably resident, common in Dolpo, fairly common in upper Mustang and mainly frequent elsewhere in the far north. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Brown 1995, Carpenter *et al.* 1995 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Thinigaon and Jomosom, upper Kali Gandaki valley, Annapurna Conservation Area in December 1949 (Rand and Fleming 1957).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it as an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as fairly common from mid-November to early April in the upper Kali Gandaki valley north of Jomosom and near Muktinath; found in summer in the Dolpo and single records from Rara and Sagarmatha National Parks.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage, see map and text below.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: recorded in the Api Nampa Conservation Area in the Mahakali valley (A2) in December 2011 and the Chameliya valley (B2) in December 2011 and March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); rare, possibly a winter visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005);

common at Shey (F3) in Shey-Phoksundo National Park in April 1992 (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a fairly common winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area H3, H4 (Acharya 2002; Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013); occasionally recorded in Langtang National Park (M5), e.g. in May 1996 (Cocker 1996), May 2002 (GC 2002), May 2003 (Chaudhary 2003), May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and in May 2007 (Byskov 2007, Chaudhary 2007); uncommon, possibly resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); an occasionally recorded resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in April/May 1995 (Brown 1995, Carpenter *et al.* 1995 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

No records from outside the protected areas' system could be located, probably because these high altitude areas have been poorly covered ornithologically.

Globally, the bird has also been recorded from Bhutan, China, and India. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: summers up to 4700 m, 3660 m (winter); lower limit: 2700 m (-2400 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population studies have been carried out for Streaked Rosefinch. The population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

In the breeding season Streaked Rosefinch inhabits the dry high mountain steppe north of the main Himalayan chain with occasional bushes or groups of bushes, from hip to at least head high. Where the bush vegetation is lower or altogether absent, the species is also absent. It winters in the higher parts of neighbouring valleys, but does not leave the dry vegetation in the region shielded from the monsoon (Martens and Eck 1995). The species keeps singly, in pairs or in small scattered flocks, depending on the season. It is quite shy, feeds on the ground and perches on bushes if alarmed. Its flight is powerful, swift and bounding (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species chiefly eats seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Clearance of bushes for fuelwood and human movement during the collection of non-timber forest products at high altitudes could affect the breeding activities of this species.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Streaked Rosefinch. Since 1990 the species has been recorded in Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Streaked Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is probably resident, common in Dolpo, fairly common in upper Mustang and mainly frequent elsewhere in the far north. Since 1990 the species has been recorded significantly more widely than pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. No records from outside the protected areas' system could be located, probably because these high altitude areas have been poorly covered ornithologically. Clearance of bushes for fuelwood and human movement during the collection of non-timber forest products at high altitudes could affect the breeding activities of this species. The population is suspected to be stable in the absence of evidence for any known declines or substantial threats.

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***Carpodacus thura*** Bonaparte & Schlegel, 1850  
LC

Subspecies: *Carpodacus thura thura*

Common name

White-browed Rosefinch (English),

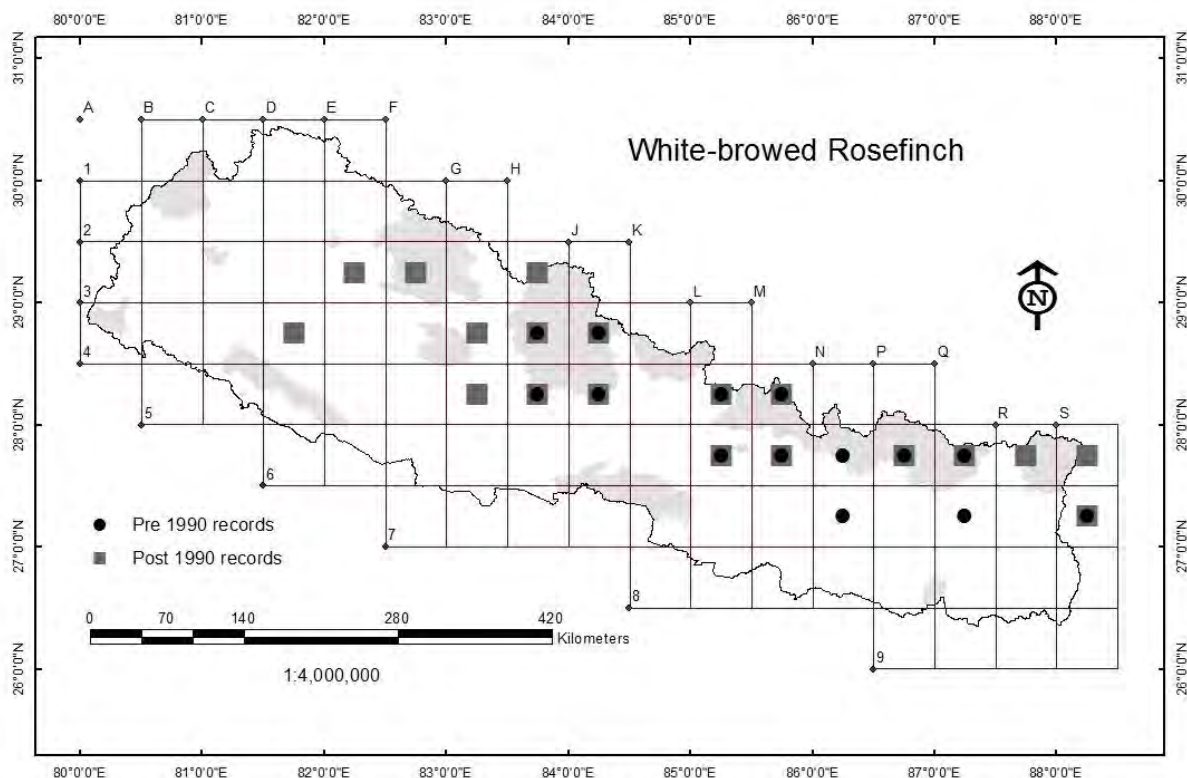
Pankhthople Thulotitu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



White-browed Rosefinch is a resident, uncommon in the west and frequent or fairly common in central and eastern Nepal. Since 1990 it has been recorded from between Kotuwa and Gai banne, Dailekh District (Giri 1997) in the west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013, White and White 1999) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1829, 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a fairly common resident and mapped it from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 the species has been more widely recorded and its distribution has been extended especially in the west, see map and text below, probably as a result of better coverage.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (one at Jagdula Khola in April 1992 Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995) and a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Acharya 2002, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003, Naylor and Metcalf 2007, Naylor and Turner 2008). SNP and BCN (2007) reported that is an uncommon winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, but no other post-1990 records could be located. It is a fairly common

resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a frequent resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6, S6) (Cox 1992, Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013, White and White 1999).

The species has been less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below, probably because these areas have been less well covered ornithologically.

In the west records include from: between Kotuwa and Gai banne (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Jumla District (E3) in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in November 2010 (Thakuri 2011, 2013); between Lachang and Palung, Dhola Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999, between the glacial tributary tented camp and boulder flat tented camp (G4), upper Myagdi Khola valley in June 1999 (Cox 1999b), and Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal records include from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in November 2000 (Basnet 2000); near Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999); near Sermathang and Tarkheghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and above Sermanthang in January 2012 (Dymond 2012).

In the east records include: common at Sarkaripati (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); recorded near Panggom and between Panggom and Paiya (P6), Solukhumbu District and Gurase (P7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011), and in Panchthar District (S7) (White and White 1999).

Globally, the species has also been recorded from Bhutan; China; India; Myanmar, and Pakistan. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4200m (summer), 3660 m (winter); lower limit: 3800 m (summer), 2440 m (-1830 m) (winter)

#### Population:

No population surveys have been carried out White-browed Rosefinch. Its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-browed Rosefinch summers in dwarf rhododendron and juniper shrubberies, on steep slopes with dwarf juniper and willow, on alpine meadows and in open fir, juniper and rhododendron forest near the tree-line. It winters on open hillsides with bushes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Usually it keeps singly, in pairs or small scattered flocks. It is a tame and confiding species (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats berries (*Rubus* etc.), seeds of grass and weeds and vegetable matter (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats:

Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) could threaten this species.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-browed Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks, and Annapurna

and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-browed Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a resident, uncommon in the west and frequent or fairly common in central and eastern Nepal. Since 1990 the species has been more widely recorded and its distribution has been extended especially in the west, and also in the far east, probably as a result of better coverage. It has been recorded from several high altitude protected areas but less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system, probably because these areas have been less well covered. Disturbance and degradation and loss of shrubberies caused by human activities (pastoralism and collection of non-forest products) could threaten this species. In the absence of evidence for any declines and substantial threats to the species, its population may be stable.

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***Carpodacus vinaceus*** J. Verreaux, 1870 LC

Subspecies: *Carpodacus vinaceus vinaceus*

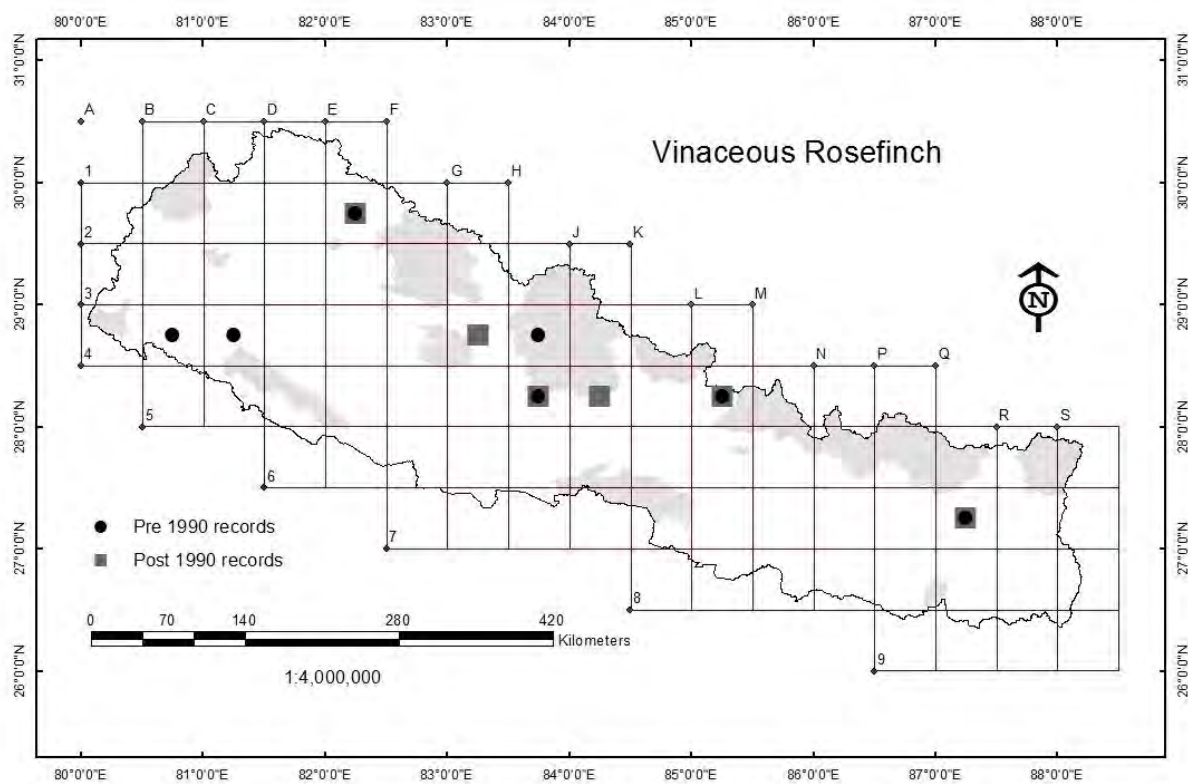
Common name

Vinaceous Rosefinch (English),  
Lalbadan Titu (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Vinaceous Rosefinch is rare, possibly resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi and Thagunna 2013) in the west to the lower Arun valley (White and White 1992) in the east.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Belbahadi, Kailali District in December 1952 (Rand and Fleming 1957).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as scarce, probably resident.

Since 1990 it has been recorded a little less widely in the west; however, it may have been overlooked.

The species' status post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: status uncertain in Rara National Park where it was recorded in October 2014 (Hathan Chaudhary) and up to three were seen in October 2015 (Chaudhary *et al.* 2015); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013). It is rare, possibly resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003): singles near Ghorepani in March 1994 (Drijvers 1995, Lama 1994) and in March 1996 (Daulne and Goblet 1996) and near Banthante in March 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002), and recorded between Thulokobang and Pilicho in May 2011 (Poudyal *et al.* 2011, Thakuri and Poudyal 2011). It is rare, possibly resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001):

singles near Chandanbari in May 1993 (Flack 1993) and near Sing gomba in April 2006 (Baral 2006).

The only record that could be located outside the protected areas' system since 1990 was from the lower Arun valley (Q7) in December 1991 or January 1992 (White and White 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from China; India; Myanmar and Taiwan. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3200 m (summer), 3050 m (winter); lower limit: 3050 m (summer), 1065 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Vinaceous Rosefinch. It may be declining because of forest degradation and loss.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Vinaceous Rosefinch inhabits the undergrowth in overgrown glades at the edge of forest and forest with dense undergrowth of *Juglans*, *Quercus*, *Acer* and *Rhododendron*; also glades with much bamboo (Martens and Eck 1995). It is inconspicuous and has probably been overlooked (Martens and Eck 1995). It keeps singly, in pairs or small flocks, foraging on the ground or low down in bushes, perches quietly and still in bushes for long periods (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Its diet is unrecorded (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats:

Forest loss and especially forest degradation could threaten this species.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Vinaceous Rosefinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Langtang National Park, Annapurna Conservation Area and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Vinaceous Rosefinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is rare, possibly resident and since 1990 it has been recorded from the west to the east. Since 1990 it has been recorded a little less widely in the west; however, it may have been overlooked. It has been recorded in a few protected areas and only one record could be located outside the protected areas' system. Forest loss and especially forest degradation could threaten this species. Its population may be declining but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Cephalopyrus flammiceps*** (E. Burton, 1836) LC

Subspecies: *Cephalopyrus flammiceps flammiceps*,  
*olivaceus*

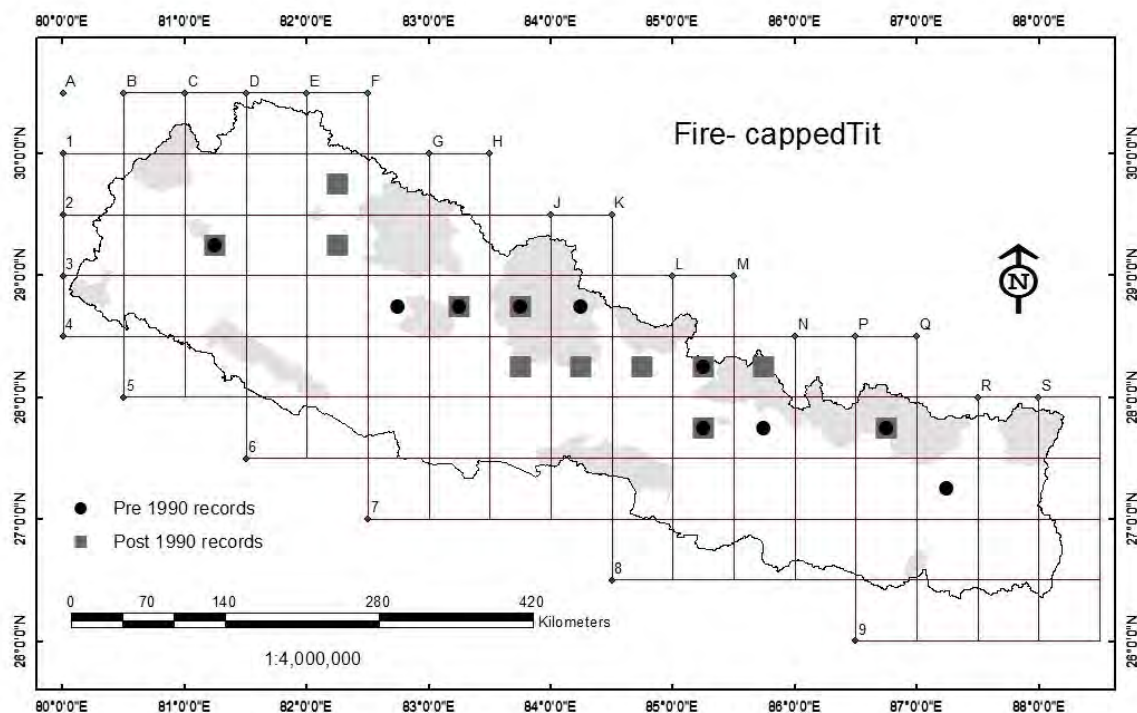
Common name

Fire-capped Tit (English),  
Raktashir Chichilkote (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Remizidae



Distribution



Fire-capped Tit is very uncommon, probably resident and also an erratic visitor. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) in the far west to Muse (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013) in the east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Muri, by the Myagdi Khola (G4) in March 1970 (Martens 1972).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as scarce and reported a sighting near Chedang Kund on the slopes of Ganesh Himal in April. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported its Nepal status was uncertain; probably a scarce resident, but also a very uncommon and erratic visitor. There were several records from the Kali Gandaki valley, Annapurna Conservation Area in March and April and a few from the Kathmandu Valley and surrounding hills between January and March. There was an influx in 1982 in the Kathmandu Valley, Khumbu, Syabru (Langtang National Park), and in the upper Kali Gandaki from February to May (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely, probably because of better coverage, see text below and map.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas follows. It is a rare resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) and also in Rara National Park (Giri 2005) where three were seen in May 1995 (White and White 1995) and recorded in October 2014 (Hathan Chaudhary). It was recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting



Reserve (G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013). Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) described it as uncommon, possibly resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA). The only post-1990 records that could be located from ACA were: from Kalopani (H4) in January 1998 (Prasad 1998), above Ghasa (H4) in December 2002 (H4, J5) (Brickle 2003) and between Thulokhobang and Pilicho (J5) in May 2011 (Poudyal *et al.* 2011). One was recorded at Gap, Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) in March 2011 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013). SNP and BCN (2007) list it as rare resident in Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park. The only post-1990 record located was one in March 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004). Karki and Thapa (2001) described it as rare, possibly resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5). Records located from the park are: one between Thare Pati and Mangengot (L5) in May 1996 (Cocker 1996) and recorded in the upper Langtang valley (M5) in December 2002 (Brickle 2003).

The species has been less widely and less frequently recorded outside the protected areas' system since 1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include: three between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3), Jumla District and one near Jumla (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Chhirna and Narakot (E3), Jumla District in March 1997 (Giri 1997), and one at Sarangkot (H5), Kaski District in April 1995 (White and White 1995).

In central Nepal records include one in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in January 2001 (Roberts 2001).

In the east record the only record located was one at Muse (P6), Solukhumbu District in July 2011 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013)

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m; lower limit: 2135 m (-1280 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Fire-capped Tit. In the absence of any evidence for a decline and no significant threat to its habitat, its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Fire-capped Tit inhabits open broadleaved forest or clearings with scattered trees (Martens and Eck 1995). It favours maples (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); found in deciduous trees in the temperate zone (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species often forages in the tops of tall trees where it is unobtrusive and easily overlooked; it also feeds in bushes. When moving between feeding grounds, it may fly high across hillsides (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species chiefly eats insects, and also leaf-and flower-buds (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988) and in Rara Lake National Park (White and White 1995).

#### Threats

Complete loss of forest cover would threaten Fire-capped Tit. However, it is likely to have benefited from forest degradation which has led to the opening up of forests.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Fire-capped Tit. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Langtang National Parks, and Annapurna and Manaslu Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Fire-capped Tit has been assessed as Least Concern. It is very uncommon, probably resident and also an erratic visitor, with scattered records from the west to the east since 1990. There was a small increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. The species has been recorded from several protected areas and less frequently and less widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990. Complete loss of forest cover would threaten Fire-capped Tit. However, it is likely to have benefited from forest degradation which has led to the opening up of forests. As a result, its population may be stable.

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***Cercomela fusca*** (Blyth, 1851) LC

Common name

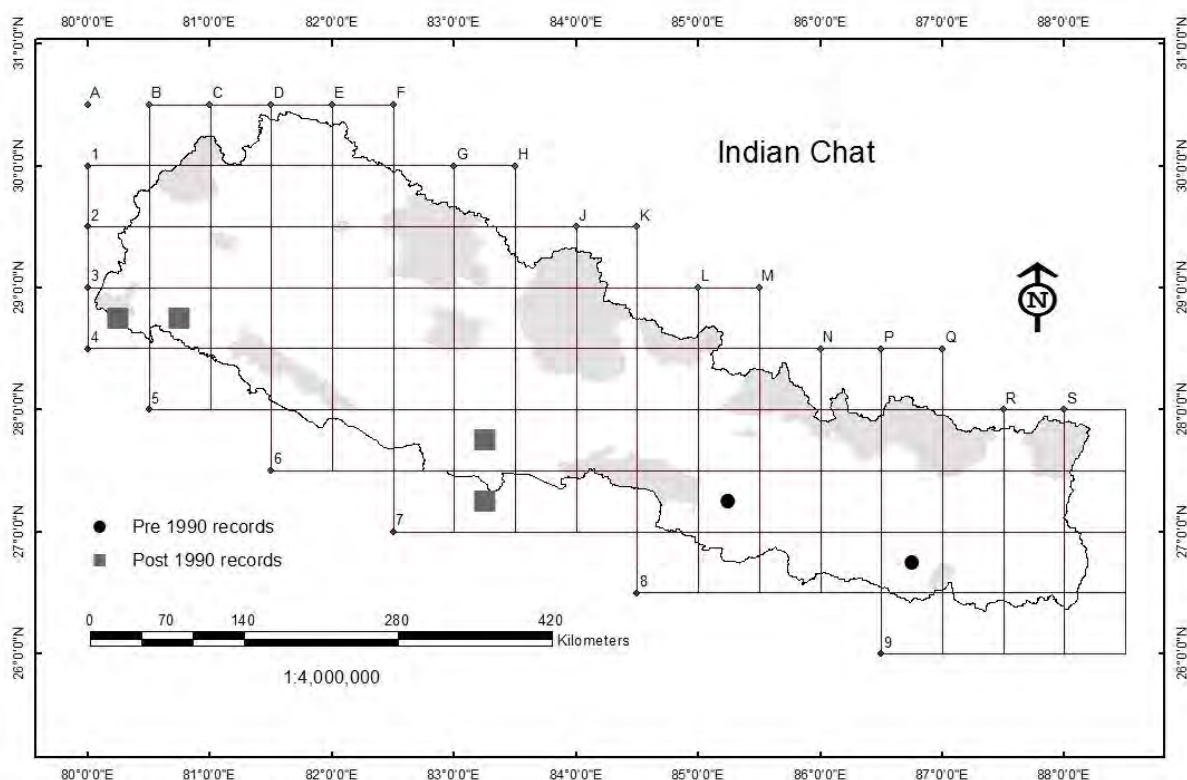
Indian Chat (English), Kailo Rabin (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Indian Chat is a rare and very local resident in the terai. Since 1990 it has been recorded from a few localities in the western terai.

The first Nepal record was a specimen collected at Koshi Barrage in March 1969 (Fleming *et al.* 1976).

Fleming *et al.* (1979) described the species as scarce and included one confirmed record - a specimen collected at Koshi Barrage in March 1969 (Fleming *et al.* 1979). Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported one additional record: a pair breeding at Hariaun, Sarlahi District (L7) where four or five birds were seen afterwards (Steve Le Clerq *in litt.* to C. and T. Inskipp, 22 February 1990).

Known post-1990 records include: two seen at Bhairahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in November 1994 (Lama 1994) and in April 2012 (Arend van Riessen; two by the Korean Temple, Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in December 2006 (Giri and Chaudhary 2007) and two to three there in April 2007 (Dinesh Giri); one in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in February 2011 (Chaudhary 2011); one photographed carrying food at Taulihawa, Kapilvastu District in April 2013 (Manoj Paudel *in litt.* to H. S. Baral, 2 April 2013); a pair with young including an adult photographed feeding one young bird, in Sukhad village near Ghodaghodi, Kailali District in June 2013 (Hem Sagar Baral) and one seen near Nepalgunj airport, Banke District in 2012 (Ashik Gurung).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 150 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population survey of Indian Chat has been carried out. The population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Indian Chat inhabits old buildings in open country (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species is confiding and often perches on roofs and walls. It is territorial and is frequently found in the same locality throughout the year (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Indian Chat mainly captures prey by flying to the ground from a perch or by picking them from a crevice. It eats beetles, ants and other insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Hariaun, Sarlahi District (L7) where parents were feeding young in August 1989 (Steve Le Clerq *in litt.* to C. and T. Inskipp, 22 February 1990); at Taulihawa, Kapilvastu District where an adult was photographed carrying food (Manoj Paudel *in litt.* to H. S. Baral, 2 April 2013), and at Sukhad village, Ghodaghodi, Kailali District where an adult was photographed feeding a young bird in June 2013 (Hem Sagar Baral).

#### Threats

No threats to Indian Chat have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures for Indian Chat have been carried out. Since 1990 there has been only one record from a protected area - Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Indian Chat has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a rare and very local resident in the terai. Since 1990 it has been recorded from several localities in the western terai. Since 1990 there has been only one known record from a protected area - Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve. No threats to Indian Chat have been identified. The population is possibly stable.

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***Certhia discolor*** Blyth, 1845 LC

Subspecies: *Certhia discolor discolor*

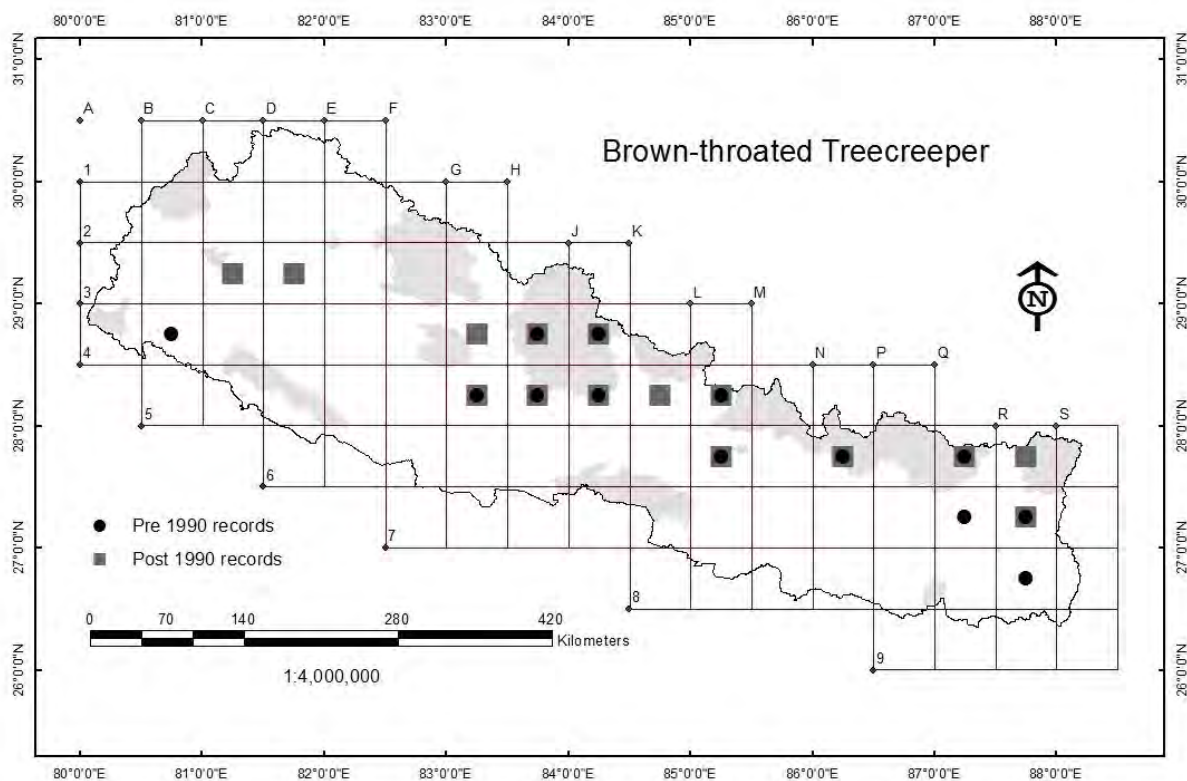
Common name

Brown-throated Treecreeper (English),  
Khairo Chheparechhari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Certhiidae



Distribution



Brown-throated Treecreeper is a resident, fairly common locally and uncommon elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Badimalika region in the far west (Rand and Fleming 1957) to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Thapa and Karki 2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Godaveri, Kathmandu Valley in November 1948 (Ripley 1950).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it fairly common in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area and uncommon elsewhere.

Since 1990 it has been recorded more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage (see text below and map).

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a fairly common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Subedi 2003); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); a frequent resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (L6) (Rimal 2006, SNP and BCN 2007); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) in May

2009 (Baral and Shah 2009); a locally fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Thapa and Karki 2005).

It has been recorded in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone: in the upper Pikhua Khola valley (Q6) in May 2009 and on the Chitre Danda (Q6) in June 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has been recorded less widely and frequently outside the protected areas' system, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: Badimalika region (C3) in February or March 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Boghara and Dobang, Myagdi Khola (G4) in May 1995 (Martens and Eck 1995); between Bagara and Baihanse Kharka, upper Myagdi Khola (G4), Pinde Odar vicinity, upper Myagdi Khola (G4), Dobang vicinity (G4), upper Myagdi Khola and between Bagara (G4) and Kaamla (G5), middle Myagdi Khola Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b), and Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) described it as an uncommon or fairly common in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; recorded from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area up to 2200 m and one singing at Godaveri in January 2006. Other Kathmandu Valley records include in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in December 2001 (Naylor *et al.* 2002), March 2003 (Naylor *et al.* 2003) and October 2010 (Baral 2010).

In the east records include from: between Lalikharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008)

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2750 m (-3050 m); lower limit: 2000 m (summer); 1800 m (-305 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Brown-throated Treecreeper. As there is no evidence of a decline in distribution and its habitat may not be decreasing, its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Brown-throated Treecreeper inhabits broadleaved forests, mainly oaks, chiefly in the temperate zone. It avoids dense and closed forests and prefers light forest edges and forest clearings (Martens and Eck 1995). It forages by creeping up vertical trunks and along the underside of branches, spiraling upwards in a series of jerks, using the bill to probe bark cracks and crevices. The species is very active and frequently flicks its wings when creeping. Its flight is weak and undulating and usually only over short distances (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Brown-throated Treecreeper feeds on insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Like other treecreepers it is an easily overlooked species.

#### Threats

Brown-throated Treecreeper is threatened by deforestation; however, as it benefits from some forest thinning and the creation of forest clearings, its habitat may not be decreasing overall.



### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Brown-throated Treecreeper. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Brown-throated Treecreeper has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a resident, fairly common locally and uncommon elsewhere and recorded since 1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 it has been recorded more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage. The species has been recorded from several protected areas and also quite widely outside the protected areas' system. It is threatened by deforestation; however, as it benefits from some forest thinning and the creation of forest clearings, its habitat may not be decreasing overall. As a result, its population may be stable.

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***Certhia himalayana* Vigors, 1832 LC**  
Subspecies: *Certhia himalayana himalayana*

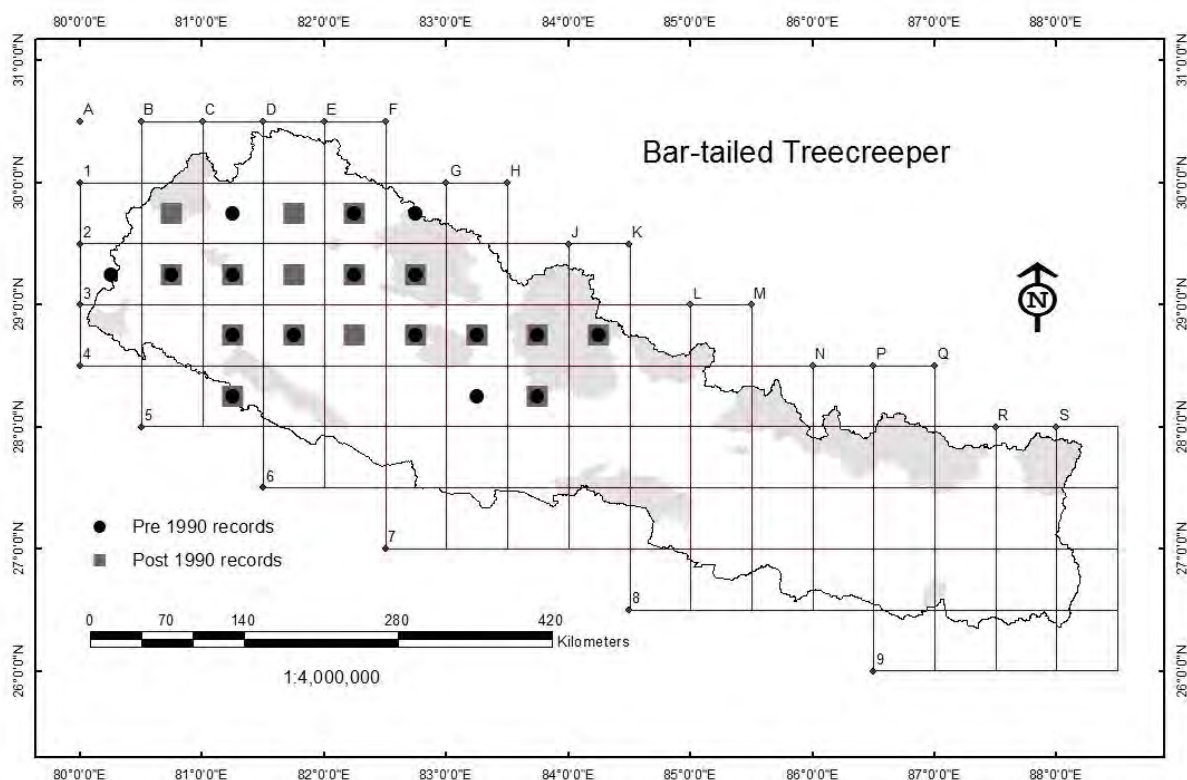
Common name

Bar-throated Treecreeper (English),  
Puchharpate Chheparechari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Certhiidae



Distribution



Bar-tailed Treecreeper is a fairly common and widespread resident from west-central Nepal and westwards. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area in the far west to between Chame and Pisang, Annapurna Conservation Area in west-central Nepal (Martens and Eck 1995).

The first Nepal record of the species was at the exceptionally low altitude of 75 m at Tikapur, Kailali District in December 1948 (Ripley 1950).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it was a fairly common resident and mapped it from west-central Nepal westwards. It was recorded between Chame and Pisang, Annapurna Conservation Area in April 1980, the most easterly record in the Himalayas (Martens and Eck 1995).

Since 1990 there has been no significant change in its distribution, compared to pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: six recorded in the Chameliya valley (B2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006);

uncommon, possibly resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a common resident in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg (1992, 1995); a fairly common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Subedi 2003), and a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003).

It has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system. Records include from: several localities in Dadeldhura District: Kaphali Danda, between Khalkhale and Dhure, between Tinkadhure and Khalkhale, Khalanga and Chulla (B3) in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Simikot, Soli Khola valley (D2), Humla District in June 2002 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); between Daurogoan and Beuli (D3), Kalikot District, Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District, Gai banne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District and Kotuwa and Gai banne (D4), Dailekh District, in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3) and Gothichaur and Navakuna (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Gothichaur valley (E3), Jumla District in June 1997 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); reasonably common from Chautha onwards on the trek to Rara National Park (E3), Jumla District in March 2000 (Regmi 2000); between Sinja and Jaljala Chaur (E3), Jumla District and on the descent to Jumla (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009), and between Jiri Daha and Lagana, Nayakwada VDC (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, China (mainland), India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3660 m; lower limit: 2200 m, 1800 m (-305 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Bar-tailed Treecreeper. As the species faces no significant threats and there has been no significant change in distribution, its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Bar-tailed Treecreeper inhabits coniferous forests of *Pinus wallichiana*, *Cupressus torulosa*, *Picea smithiana* and *Abies spectabilis* mainly in the upper temperate and subalpine zones. It prefers open forests, especially forest edges, where the trees are gradually thinning and also frequents peach and apricot orchards close to villages in Thakkhola, Annapurna Conservation Area (Martens and Eck 1995). Its behaviour is like that of other treecreepers. It works up tree-trunks and along branches, starting from the base and climbing in short spurts, investigating crevices in the bark for food (Ali and Ripley 1987). It feeds on insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in the Pelma Khola valley (Corbett 1974) and in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988). The species is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Like other treecreepers, this is an easily overlooked species.

#### Threats

Complete loss of forest would threaten Bar-tailed Treecreeper, but its habitat which lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, is not considered significantly at risk, especially as the species can adapt to thinned forests.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Bar-tailed Treecreeper. Since 1990 it has been

recorded in Khaptad, Rara and Shey-Phoksundo National Parks; Api Nampa and Annapurna Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Bar-tailed Treecreeper has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident from west-central Nepal and westwards. Since 1990 there has been no significant change in its distribution compared to pre-1990, see text below and map. It has been recorded from most protected areas in the west and quite widely outside the protected areas' system. Complete loss of forest would threaten Bar-tailed Treecreeper, but its habitat, which lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, is not considered significantly at risk, especially as the species can adapt to thinned forests. As a result, its population may be stable.

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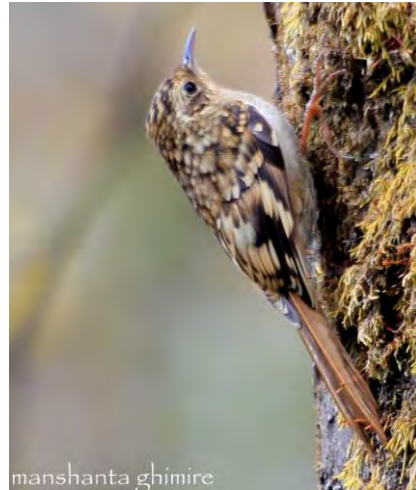
***Certhia hodgsoni* W. E. Brooks, 1871 LC**

Subspecies: *Certhia hodgsoni mandellii*

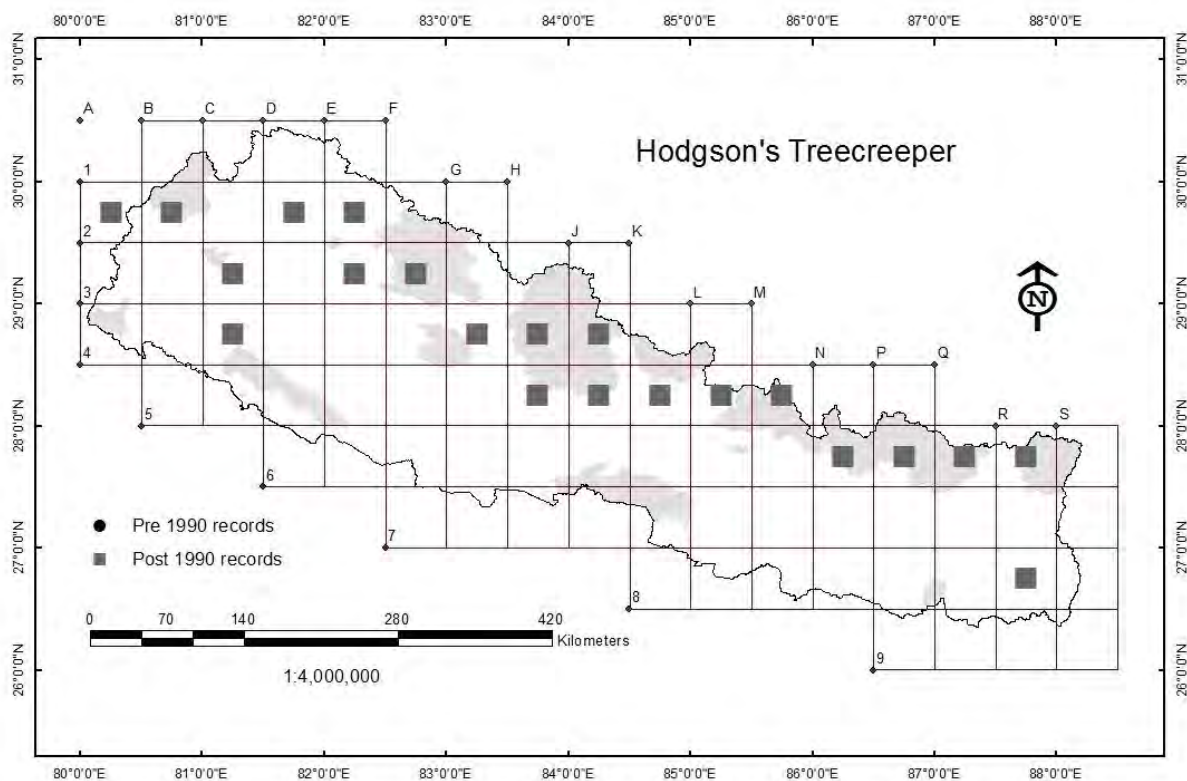
Common name

Hodgson's Treecreeper (English),  
Setopete Chheparechari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Certhiidae



Distribution



Hodgson's Treecreeper is a locally fairly common and fairly widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west and the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Chilung Pati (L5) in September 1935 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it a fairly common resident and mapped it quite widely from the west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species' distribution has increased in the west, probably due to better coverage, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: fairly common in the Mahakali (A2) and Chameliya (B2) valleys in December 2011, also one seen in the Chameliya valley in March/April 2012, Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); an uncommon resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); uncommon, possibly resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995);

a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a frequent summer visitor, possibly resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a) and in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katwual *et al.* 2013).

The species has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas' system, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: the Chucho Khola (D2), Humla District in June 2002 (Grimm and Fischer 2002); Gothichaur valley (E3), Jumla District in June 1997 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); Jumla District (E3) in April 1995 (White and White 1995) and April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); between Jiri Daha and Lagana, Nayakwada VDC (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013), and the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported a record from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, date unknown in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records from the Valley are from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in April 2007 (Baral 2007) and November 2011 (Vicente 2011). Other localities in central Nepal include from Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999).

In the east records include from: Lawishaha and Jorsalle (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Taplejung District (R6) and Sankhuwasabha District (Q6) in December 1992 (Cox 1992), and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4100 m (summer), 3655 m (winter); lower limit: 3000 m (summer), 2000 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Hodgson's Treecreeper. As its habitat is not considered significantly at risk and there is no evidence of a decline in distribution, its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Hodgson's Treecreeper inhabits coniferous forests (including *Abies spectabilis*, *Pinus wallichiana*, *Picea smithiana* and *Cupressus torulosa*), sometimes mixed with rhododendrons or *Betula utilis* in the upper temperate and subalpine zones. It frequents a great variety of differently structured forest types from dense forest with a heavily shaded floor to very open forests (Martens and Eck 1995). The species forages in typical treecreeper fashion, creeping up tree trunks in short, jerky spurts, searching the crevices and bark for food (Ali and Ripley 1987). Usually it is busy on the lower half of the main trunk; when about half way up the tree, it flips off and flutters to the base of another tree (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It feeds on insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988), on Dori Lekh (E3) (Cox 1988) and in Khumbu (Diesselhorst 1968). The species is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Like other treecreepers, it is an easily overlooked species.

#### Threats

Complete loss of forest would threaten Hodgson's Treecreeper, but its habitat which lies in the upper



temperate and subalpine zones, is not considered significantly at risk, especially as the species can adapt to thinned forests.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Hodgson's Treecreeper. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Hodgson's Treecreeper has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a locally fairly common and fairly widespread resident, recorded since from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 the species' distribution has increased in the west, probably due to better coverage. It has been recorded from many protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system. Complete loss of forest would threaten Hodgson's Treecreeper, but its habitat which lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, is not considered significantly at risk, especially as the species can adapt to thinned forests. Its population may be stable.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2008\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2008_006.pdf)
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***Certhia nipalensis* Blyth 1855 LC**

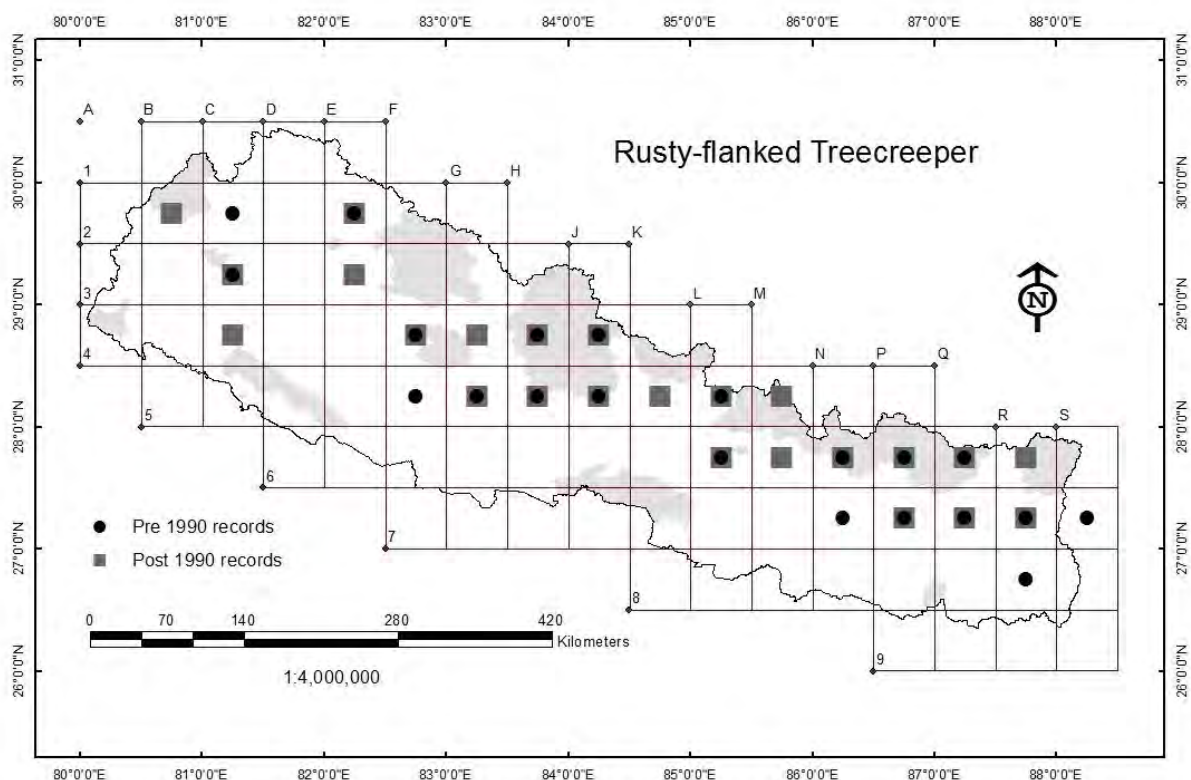
Common name

Rusty-flanked Treecreeper (English),  
Kailokakhe Chheparechari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Certhiidae



Distribution



Rusty-flanked Treecreeper is a locally fairly common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was first described from Nepal from a Hodgson specimen in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1845, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped it quite widely from the west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely in the west and its range has been extended to the far west, probably as a result of better coverage; otherwise its distribution has not changed significantly compared to pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in the Chameliya valley (B2) in December 2011 Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a frequent resident in Khaptad National Park

(Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); a rare resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a fairly common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Subedi 2003); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); an uncommon resident in Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a rare summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) and in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It has been recorded in the Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone, by the Irkhuwa Khola between Guidel and Khandbari (Q6) in May 1995 (Cox 1999).

Outside the protected areas' system since 1990, the species has been recorded less widely and less frequently.

In the west records include from: Badimalika region (C3) in February or early March 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Khali-Lagna pass and the Nyawru Khola and on the descent from Churchi Lagna Pass (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009), and Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2008, 2013b).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported only one record from the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006: one at Godavari in December 2005 (A. Kelly and D. O'Mahoney). Other records from the Valley include from: Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in May 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994), November 2000 (Basnet 2000) and March 2010 (Baral 2010). Other records from central Nepal include from: a common resident in Chitlang forest (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District in 1991/1992 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); between Chisapani and Sundarijal (L6), Nuwakot District in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007); near Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999); Phakel area (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District in October 1999 (Acharya *et al.* 2002); near Melamchi (M5), Sindhupalchok District, and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Deorali (N6), Ramechhap District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); between Junbesi and Nunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); between Najingdingma and Panggom (P6), Solukhumbu District, between Panggom and Paiya (P6), Solukhumbu District and Gurase (P7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Terhathum District (Q7) in May 1992 (White and White 1994), and near Mai Majuwa (R7), Ilam District and near Sidin (R7), Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3660 m (summer), 3505 m (winter); lower limit: 2550 m (summer), 1830 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Rusty-flanked Treecreeper. As its habitat is not considered significantly at risk and there is no evidence of a decline in distribution, its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Depending on altitude, Rusty-flanked Treecreeper inhabits a variety of broadleaved and coniferous forests: open broadleaved forest, coniferous forests of *Abies densa*, *Abies spectabilis*, *Tsuga dumosa*, *Pinus wallichiana* and also *Rhododendron hodgsoni* (Martens and Eck 1995). All habitats have heavy monsoon precipitation and thus most trees are covered by a rich layer of lichens and mosses (Martens and Eck 1995). The species keeps

solitary or in loose pairs on low branches and tree trunks. It forages among epiphytes such as moss and ferns, along with other treecreepers, tits and nuthatches (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988); at Dadar Danda (Martens and Eck 1995) and near Gapte cave, Langtang National Park (Madge and Madge 1982). Like other treecreepers, it is an easily overlooked species.

### Threats

Complete loss of forest would threaten Rusty-flanked Treecreeper, but its habitat which lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, is not considered significantly at risk.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Rusty-flanked Treecreeper. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Bardia, Rara, Langtang, Shivapuri Nagarjung, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red Listing assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rusty-flanked Treecreeper is a locally fairly common and widespread resident, recorded since 1990 from the far west to the far east. Post-1990 the species has been recorded more widely in the west and its range has been extended to the far west, probably as a result of better coverage; otherwise its distribution has not changed significantly compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded from many protected areas and less widely and frequently outside the protected areas' system. As its habitat is not considered significantly at risk and there is no evidence of a decline in distribution, its population may be stable.

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***Cettia brunnifrons*** (Hodgson, 1845) LC

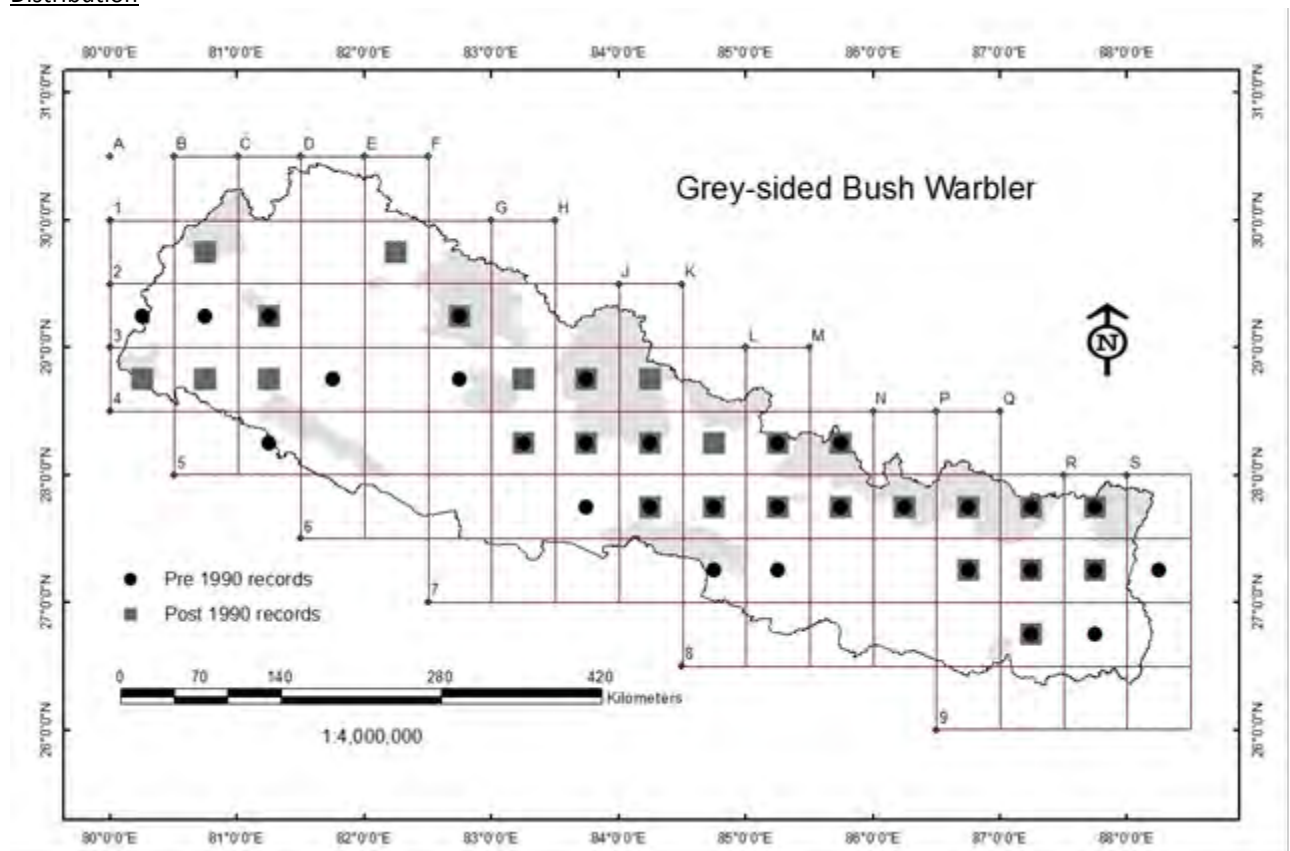
Common Name

Grey-sided Bush Warbler (English),  
Ratotauke Jhadiphisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Grey-sided Bush Warbler is a fairly common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from a specimen collected in Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1845, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a common altitudinal migrant and mapped it widely from the far west to the far east.

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); a fairly common resident and



summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Thakuri 2013a), and a fairly common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). It is described as a frequent summer visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); however, few other records could be found. It is a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a frequent summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a), and frequent in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009) and in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar (Baral 1996).

Post-1990 the species has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range, although less so than within protected areas (see text and map below). Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Geta airport (B4), Kailali District in November 1997 (Baral 1997); the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Gulmi District (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in December 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005), February 2009 (Naylor *et al.* 2009) and February 2010; between Baglungpani and Ghanpokhara (J5), Lamjung District, and between Bhujung and Pasgam (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was uncommon, mainly a winter visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records from central Nepal include from the: Upardangaddhi hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Bharatpur (K6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Chaudhary 1999); a common resident in Chitlang forests (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: between Bhandar (N6), Ramechhap District and Sete (N6), Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); fairly common in Tinjure forest (P7/Q7) in 1997/98 (Rai 2003); between Chepuwa and Hatiya (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992); Phyksinda (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); between Basantpur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District, between Gupha Pokhari (R7), Sankhuwasabha District and Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District, between Mamangkhe and Kande Bhanjyang (R7), Taplejung District and between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); between Gupha Pokhari and Deorali (R7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1994 (Halberg 1994), and Mai Majuwa (R7), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008.)

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4000 m (summer); 2135 m (winter); lower limit: 2745 m (summer); 915 m (-75 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Grey-sided Bush Warbler. Its population is probably stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Grey-sided Bush Warbler summers in dense, high-altitude shrubberies and dense bushes at forest edges and winters in scrub and forest undergrowth (Grimmett *et al.* 2000) as well as wet marshes in lowland Nepal. Its habits are similar to those of other bush warblers, although it less skulking than the others in the breeding season when males will emerge from cover to sing on top of a bush or rock. The species is quite tame. However, like other bush warblers it is probably overlooked. It feeds chiefly in bushes and low vegetation, sometimes also on the ground (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved on hills north of the Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1955) and at Khumjung, Sagarmatha National Park (Diesselhorst 1968). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Threats to Grey-sided Bush Warbler in the breeding season are unknown. On its wintering grounds, complete removal of scrub and secondary growth would threaten the species, but it is more likely to have benefited from forest degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Grey-sided Bush Warbler. It has been recorded in Bardia, Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Grey-sided Bush Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common and widespread resident, recorded from the far west to the far east. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Since 1990, it has been recorded from many protected areas and also quite widely outside the protected areas' system, within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat, although less so than within protected areas. Threats to Grey-sided Bush Warbler are unknown on its breeding grounds. On its wintering grounds, complete removal of scrub and secondary growth would threaten the species, but it is more likely to have benefited from forest degradation. As a result, its population is probably stable.

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***Cettia flavolivacea*** (Blyth 1845) LC  
Subspecies: *Cettia flavolivacea flavolivacea*

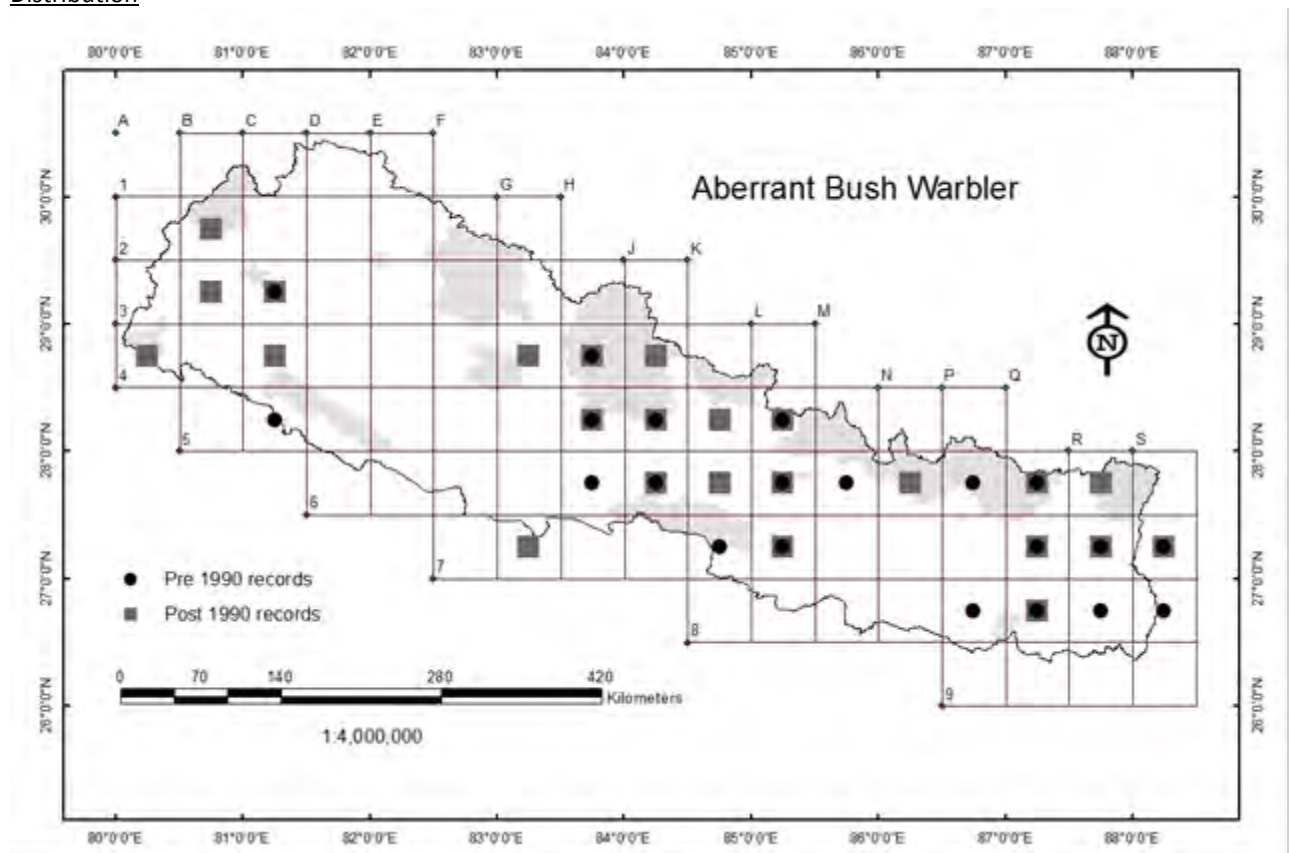
Common Name

Aberrant Bush Warbler (English),  
Peetharit Jhadiphisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Aberrant Bush Warbler is a fairly common resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Dobate, Mabu, Ilam District (Baral 2010) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal by Brian Hodgson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1845, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered it was a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a common resident and mapped its distribution mainly from west-central Nepal eastwards, with a few records from the west.

Since 1990 there have been more records from the west, probably because of better coverage, whereas records in the far east have decreased, probably because of habitat loss and degradation, see map and text below.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati

2012); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Rara National Park in October 2015 (Chaudhary *et al.* 2015); a fairly common resident and summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a fairly common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Thakuri 2013); an uncommon resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a frequent summer visitor to Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Chaudhary 2011); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Buckton 1996 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar, Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Baral 1996).

Post-1990 the species has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat, see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas system follow:

In the west records include from: between Khalkhale and Dhure (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4) in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in January 2006 (Mallalieu 2006); the Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District in November 1992 (Baral 1993); December 2007 (Naylor and Metcalf 2007), and in March 2009 (Baral 2009); between Bhujang and Pasgam (J5), Lamjung District, and between Pasgam, Libiyani and Rupatal (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon resident in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records in central Nepal include from: Upardangaddhi hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2011 (Baral 2011); Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include from: Milke Danda (Q7), Terhathum District (White and White 1997); Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Raja Rani Community Forest (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); between Dorumba (Bhaluchowk) and Sesambu (R7) Taplejung District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and from Dobate, Mabu (S7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3950 m (summer); 1830 m (winter); 2745 m (summer); 2440 m (summer); 915 m (-100 m) (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Aberrant Bush Warbler. It has probably been under-recorded because of its skulking behaviour, especially in the non-breeding season. Its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Aberrant Bush Warbler inhabits shrubberies and also bushes at forest edges and in clearings (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Its habits are those of a typical bush warbler. In the non-breeding season, the species is very skulking and so is probably under-recorded. It seeks insects and spiders by actively flitting and hopping about

in vegetation close to the ground. Like other bush warblers it is reluctant to fly, and usually only covers short distances at low level before dropping into dense cover again. When excited it flicks wings and tail (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is subject to seasonal altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Aberrant Bush Warbler is threatened by the removal of shrubberies and bushes. However, as it breeds in the temperate and subalpine zone, it is less threatened than the many forest species which breed at lower altitudes. In addition, as the species is adapted to secondary habitats in the non-breeding season, it may have benefited from deforestation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Aberrant Bush Warbler. Post-1990 it has been recorded quite widely in protected areas: Bardia, Khaptad, Rara, Chitwan, Shivapuri, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Aberrant Bush Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common resident and recorded from the far west to the far east and quite widely in protected areas. It is probably under-recorded because of its skulking behaviour, especially outside the breeding season. Post-1990 it has been found less widely outside compared to inside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 there have been more records from the west, probably because of better coverage, whereas records in the far east have decreased. As it breeds in the temperate and subalpine zones, it is less threatened than many forest species that breed at lower altitudes. It is adapted to secondary habitats in the non-breeding season and so may have benefited from deforestation. Its population may have declined since 1990, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Cettia fortipes*** (Hodgson, 1845) LC  
Subspecies: *Cettia fortipes fortipes*, *pallida*

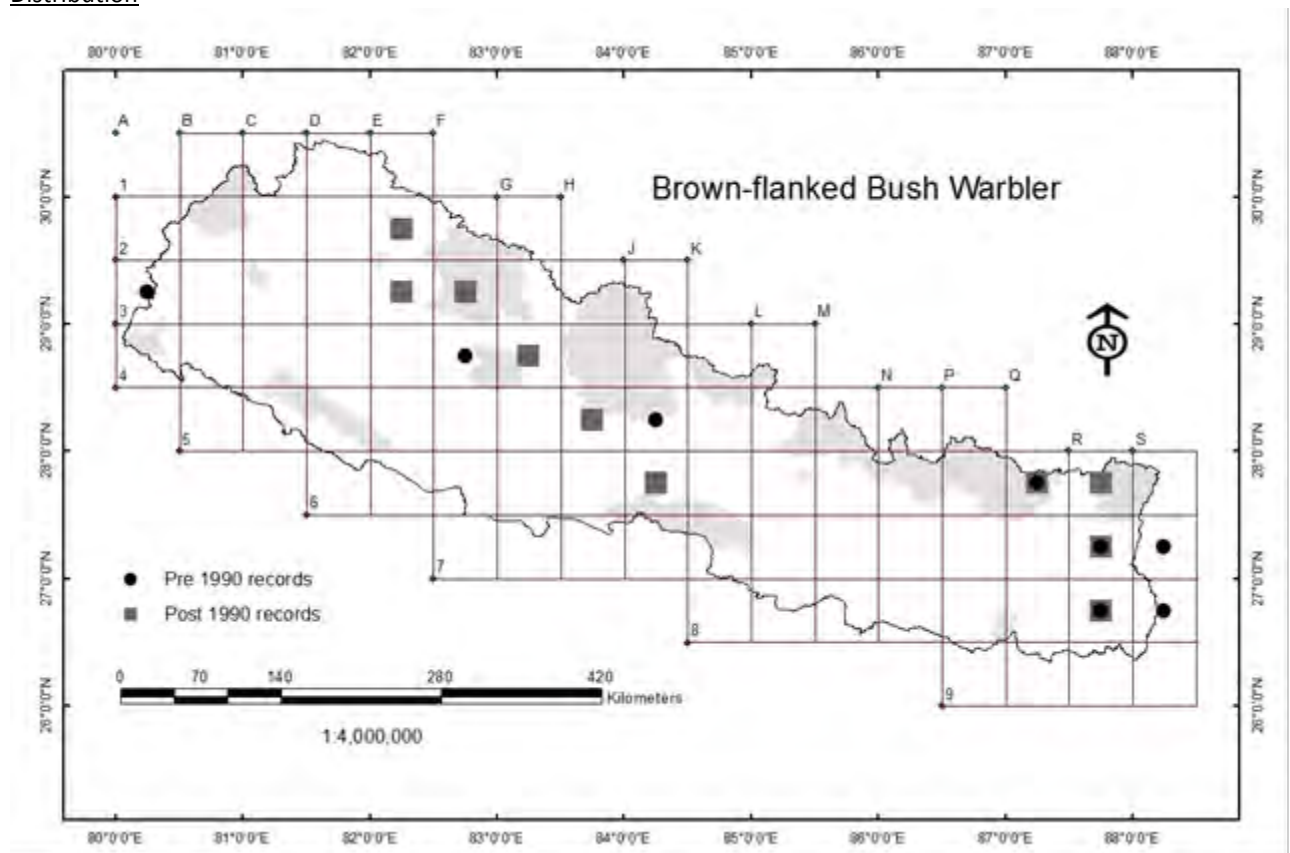
Common Name

Brown-flanked Bush Warbler (English),  
Khairokokhe Jhadiphisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family Sylviidae



Distribution



Brown-flanked Bush Warbler is a resident, locally fairly common in the far east and uncommon to rare in the west. *C. f. pallida* has been recorded from Rara National Park (Giri 2005) to Annapurna Conservation Area in the west, e.g. Seti Khola valley in January 1992 (Wartmann and Schonjahn 1992). In the east *C. f. fortipes* has been recorded from Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) east to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1845), Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered it was an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an altitudinal migrant whose seasonal movements were uncertain; records were mapped from the west, central and far eastern Nepal.

Since 1990 there have been no significant changes in its distribution compared to pre-1990 (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a rare summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005; recorded from Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan

Hunting Reserve (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); uncommon in Annapurna Conservation Area, e.g. one in the Seti Khola valley in January 1992 (Wartmann and Schonjahn J. 1992), two near Chomrong (Lama 1994), singles between Landruk and Chomrong and between Chomrong and Dobang, and two between Chomrong and Bamboo Lodge in April 2003 (O'Connell Davidson *et al.* 2003); a locally fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and uncommon in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded in the Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Cox 2009).

Post-1990 the species' distribution outside the protected areas' system is similar to that within protected areas. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: two between Bharagaon and Pina, one between Pina and Rara National Park and often heard between Gorusingha and Sinja, Jumla District (E3) in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson 2009), and one from near Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in March 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002).

In the east records include: one between Gupha Pokhari (R7), Sankhuwasabha District and Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District; one between Mamangkhe and Kande Bhanjyang (R7), Taplejung District, six between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka (R7), Taplejung District and ten between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); near Mabu (R7), Ilam District and Phidim (R7), Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008), and two at Ilam (R8), Ilam District in June 1997 (Chaudhary 1998).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Taiwan (China), Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3200 m (summer); 2135 m (winter); lower limit: 1800 m (summer); 1400 m (-250 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been made of the species. However, it is likely to be increasing as it takes great advantage of the widespread replacement of forest by agriculture.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Brown-flanked Bush Warbler prefers open landscape with small groups of trees, bushes, forest edges, and small ravines with narrow forest belts; such vegetation structures must be located close to clearings with low vegetation interspersed, most often low bushes and dense layers of herbs. These habitats are usually situated in agricultural land (Martens and Eck 1995), and often close to villages. Its habits are typical of those of a bush warbler. In the non-breeding season it is skulking and so is probably under-recorded. It calls frequently and is usually heard more often than seen. Insects and spiders are sought by actively flitting and hopping about in vegetation close to the ground. When excited it flicks wings and tail (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is an altitudinal migrant whose seasonal movements are uncertain (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species was proved breeding at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994).

#### Threats

Brown-flanked Bush Warbler is threatened by the complete loss of bushes and trees by urbanisation. However, overall its habitat is likely to have increased as a result of the widespread degradation of forests.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures specifically for Brown-flanked Bush Warbler have been carried out. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Rara, Shey-Phoksundo and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve and marginally in Chitwan National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Brown-flanked Bush Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a resident, locally fairly common in the far east and uncommon to rare in the west. Since 1990 there have been no significant changes in its distribution compared to pre-1990. Post-1990 the species has been recorded in several protected areas and has a similar distribution outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Brown-flanked Bush Warbler is threatened by the complete loss of bushes and trees by urbanisation. However, overall its habitat is likely to have increased as a result of the widespread degradation of forests and its population is likely to be increasing as a result.

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***Cettia major*** (F. Moore, 1845) LC

Subspecies: *Cettia major major*

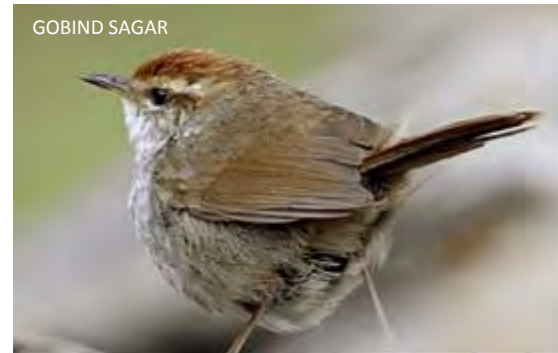
Common Name

Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler (English),

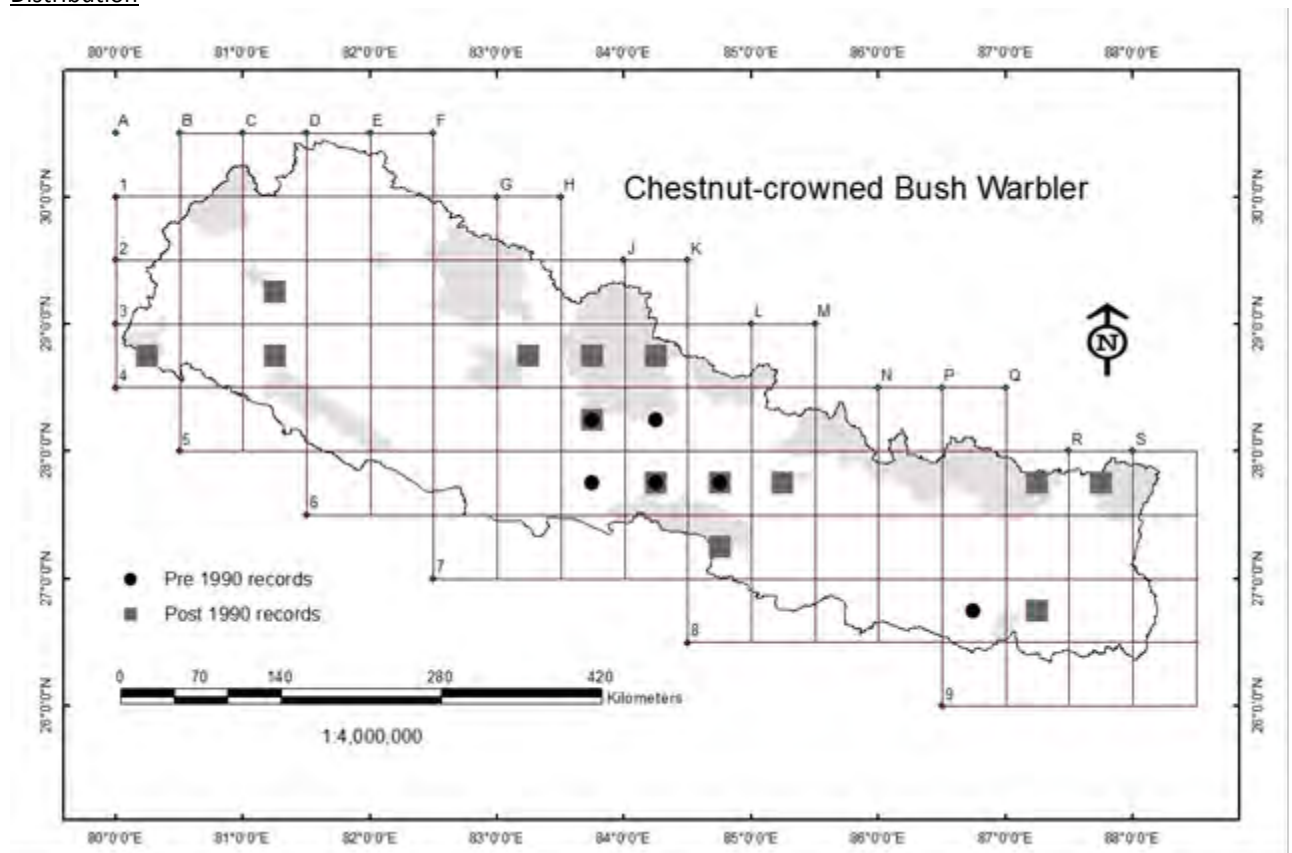
Thulo Ratotauke Jhadiphisto (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sylviidae



Distribution



Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler is an uncommon resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Halberg 1994) in the far east.

The first dated records of the species from Nepal are of several pairs found breeding on Lamjung Himal in June 1977 by J. M. Thiollay (Thiollay 1980).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered it was a scarce resident although no breeding season records had been reported by that time. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) noted it was a scarce altitudinal migrant and mapped its distribution from west-central, central and eastern Nepal.

Since 1990 Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler has been recorded more widely and more frequently in protected areas compared to pre-1990, probably because of better recording, (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a rare winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); an uncommon winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); a rare

summer visitor or passage migrant to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Giri and Choudhary 1996); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi and Thagunna 2013), and a rare summer visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003). The species is listed as a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park by Baral and Upadhyay (2006), but other observations indicate that it is an uncommon or frequent winter visitor, e.g. Scharringa (2000). It is a winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001); recorded in Makalu Barun National Park in May 1995 (Choudhary 1995) and May 2009 (Cox 2009); one recorded in May 1994 in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Halberg 1994 in Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Meghauri (J6), Chitwan District e.g. Lewis (1993) and at Beeshazari Tal, Barandabhar Important Bird Area in February 2010 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012).

There are very few records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Its breeding season habitat occurs at high altitude which is under-recorded outside protected areas. Post 1990 records follow.

In the west known records are: one in the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999) and two near Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 1992 (Baral 1993).

In central Nepal the only known record known record is one in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in April 2007 (Baral 2007, Giri and Chaudhary 2007, Mallalieu 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Thailand (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3680 m (summer); 250 m (winter); lower limit: 3550 m (summer); 75 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler inhabits rhododendron shrubberies and bushes in forest in summer and winters in reedbeds (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). Its habits are those of a typical bush warbler. The species is probably under-recorded: in the non-breeding season it is very skulking and its habitat is under-recorded in the breeding season, especially outside of the protected areas' system. It calls frequently and is usually heard more often than seen. Typically, it seeks insects and spiders by actively flitting and hopping about in vegetation close to the ground (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding has been proved on Lamjung Himal in June 1977 (Thiollay 1980). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler is threatened by loss of its wintering habitat of reedbeds, especially outside of the protected areas' system.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler. It has been recorded in: Bardia, Chitwan and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves; Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve, and marginally in Khaptad National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Chestnut-crowned Bush Warbler has been assessed as Least Concern. It is an uncommon altitudinal migrant. The species has been found in several protected areas within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Since 1990 it has been recorded rather more widely and more frequently in protected areas compared to pre-1990, probably because of better recording. There are very few records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990, possibly because of under-recording. Its breeding habitat lies at high altitude and is poorly recorded outside protected areas. The species may also be under-recorded outside the breeding season because of its skulking behaviour. The population may be declining because of threats to its wintering habitat outside the protected areas' system, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Chaimarrornis leucocephalus* (Vigors, 1831) LC**



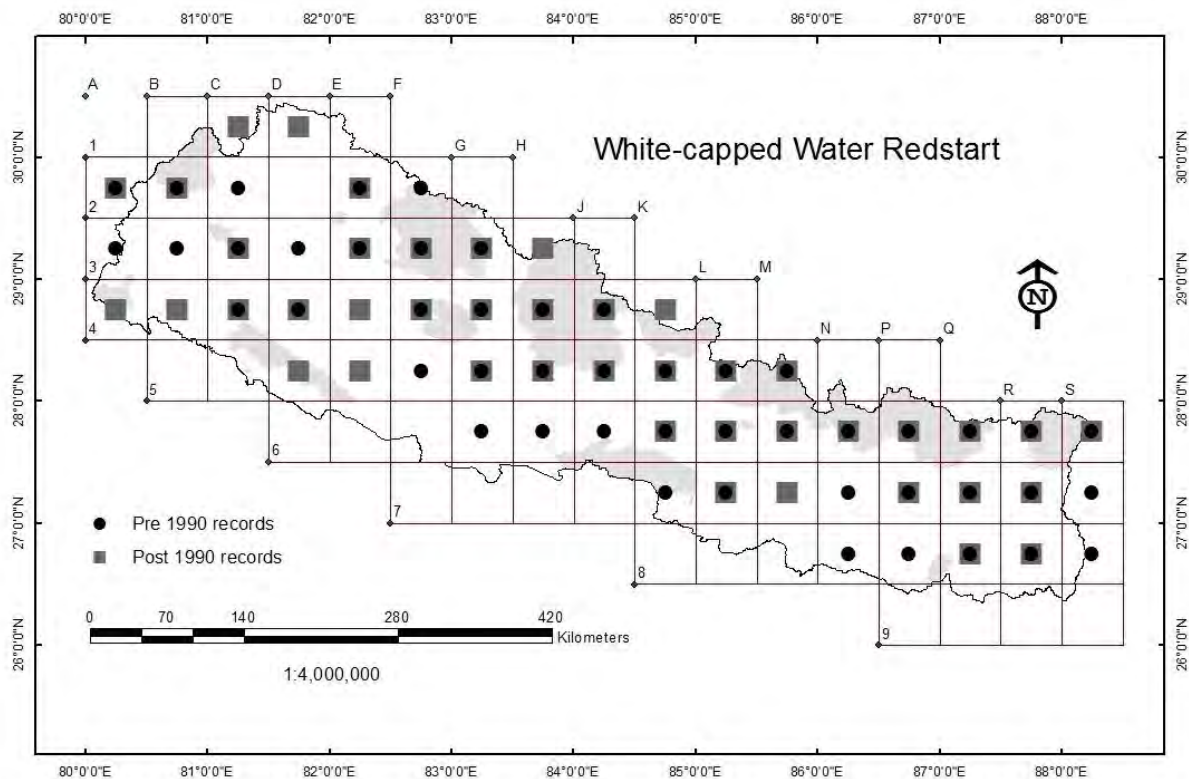
RAJ MAN SINGH / BRIAN HODGSON

Common name

White-capped Water Redstart (English), Setotauke Jalkhanjari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae

Distribution



White-capped Water Redstart is a common and widespread resident. It has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the lower Mai valley, Mai Valley Important Bird Area (Basnet and Sapkot 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19th century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it a common and widespread resident.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: an uncommon winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); common in Api Nampa Conservation Area (B1, B2) (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a frequent winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a fairly common resident, summer visitor and passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Halliday 1993, Khadka 1996); an uncommon resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); common in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3, F4, G3, G4) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg (1995)); a common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi 2013, Subedi 2003) and in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4,

K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, KMTNC 1998, Thakuri 2013a); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001); a fairly common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a common summer visitor in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); an uncommon winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and a common resident in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded from Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone (Baral 1996); Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Baral and Buckton 1994, Cox 2009), and at Barandabhar Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Adhikari *et al.* 2000).

The species is also common and widespread outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within the species' range. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map and records below).

In the west records include: a frequent winter visitor in Ghodaghodi lake area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); recorded Badimalika region, Achham (C3) and Bajura Districts (D3) (Karki *et al.* 2003); from Yari (C1), Yangar (D1) and Simikot (D2), Humla District (Prodon 1994); north-west Humla District (D1) (Grimm and Fischer 2003); upper Humla (D1), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Rawtkot (D4), Dailekh District and a few records from Kalikot District (D3) (Giri 1997); Jumla to Gothichaur and Gothichaur to Navakuna (E3), Jumla District (Priemé 1992); Dang Deukhuri foothill forest and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Malika Dhuri (G5), Myagdi District and the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, Thakuri 2013b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District e.g. Baral (1993), Chaudhary (1998a), Giri (2008); Salyan (H5), Parbat District (Baral 2000); Begnas Tal (H5), Kaski District (Mallalieu 2005); Besisahar, Bhulbhule and Bahundanda Lamjung District (J5) (Chaudhary 1998b); between Bhujang and Pasgam and between Pasgam, Libiyani and Rupatal (J5), Lamjung District (Byrne 2000), and from Simalral, Tanahu District (J6) (Baral 1993a).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) recorded the species as a locally fairly common winter visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; later records confirm this. Other records include from: Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Malekhu (K6), Dhading District (Baral 1993b) Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District, e.g. Cottridge *et al.* (1994), Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District (Chaudhary 2004); Panauti (M7), Kavre District (Baral 1994), and the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: from Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Ramechhap and Dolakha Districts (N6) (Naylor and Metcalf 2012, Thewlis *et al.* 2009); common in Solukhumbu District (P6) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Bung and Najingdingma (P6), Solukhumbu District (Carter and James 2011); between Sanam and Bung (P7), Solukhumbu District (Carter and James 2011); Chewabensi (Q7) and Pikhua (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District (Baral and Buckton 1994); by Sankhuwa Khola (Q7), Bhojpur District (Baral and Buckton 1994); Khandbari (Q7) and Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District (Baral and Buckton 1994); lower Pikhua Khola (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District (Cox 2009); between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District (Carter and James 2011); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); between Mitlung and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area entrance (R6), Taplejung District (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Phidim (R7), Panchthar District (Robson *et al.* 2008); Ilam District (R8) (Baral 2010); Raja Rani Pokhari (R8), Morang District (Basnet 2002, Basnet *et al.* 2005, Basnet *et al.* 2006); lower Mai valley (R8), Ilam District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has been recorded from Afghanistan, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5000 m (-5350 m) (summer); 1525 m (-3500 m) (winter); lower limit: 1830 m (summer); 915 m (-75 m) (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-capped Water Redstart. As no threats have been identified and its distribution has not changed significantly since 1990 its population is probably stable. The large number of 20 was seen near Syabru Bensi, Langtang National Park (L5) on 19 May 2002 (Baral 2002) and between Kobang and Larjung (H4), Annapurna Conservation Area on 25 October 1999 (Baral 2000); 30 in the Gaurishankar Conservation Area on 25 and 26 May and 20 on 22 and 23 May (Baral and Shah 2009).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

White-capped Water Redstart is found on rocks in rushing streams and fast-flowing rivers; in summer it may stray over high altitude meadows some distance from water (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is solitary or keeps in pairs. Typically it flies actively from stone to stone in mountain streams. It has a distinctive habit of pumping and fanning its tail, and sometimes tilting it right over the back, often accompanied by a deep curtsey. The species mainly feeds on insects which are caught in erratic flight, or picked from the surface at the water's edge; it also eats berries (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding has been proved in Khumbu (Diesselhorst 1968) and in Humla District (Grimm and Fisher 2003). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

No threats to White-capped Water Redstart have been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for White-capped Water Redstart. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-capped Water Redstart has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from all protected areas within its altitudinal range and is also widespread outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. No threats to White-capped Water Redstart have been identified. The species' population is therefore considered probably stable.

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***Chloropsis aurifrons*** Temminck, 1829 LC

Subspecies: *Chloropsis aurifrons aurifrons*

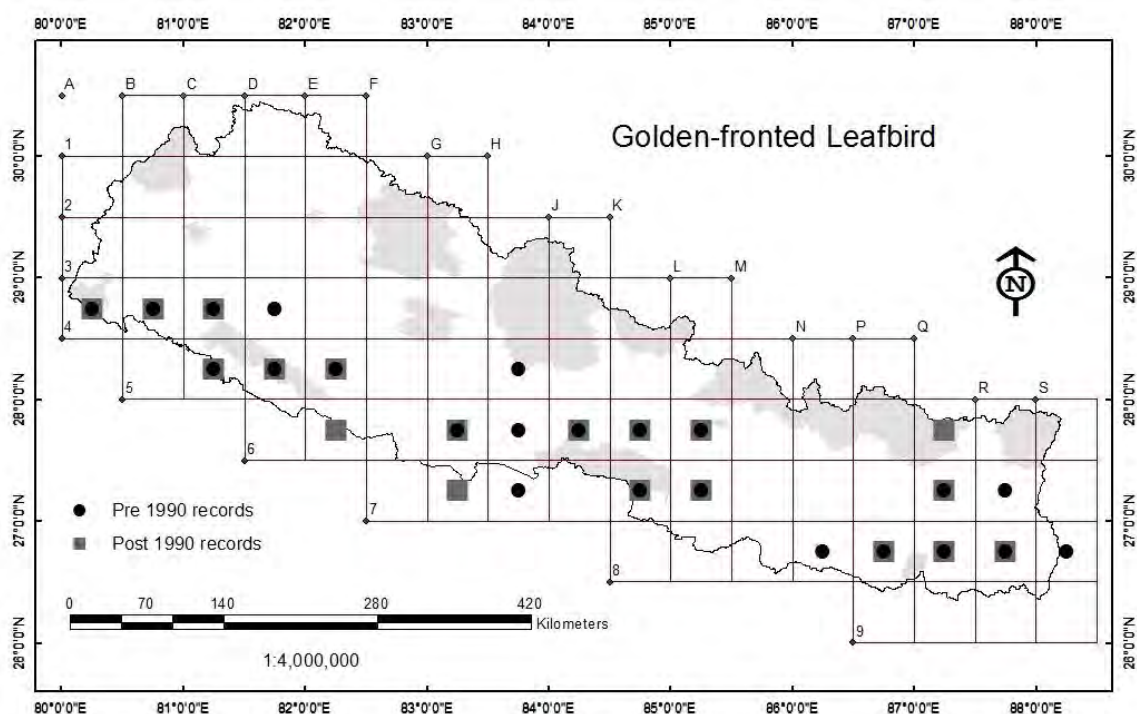
Common name

Golden-fronted Leafbird (English),  
Krishnakanthe Haritchari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Chloropseidae



Distribution



Golden-fronted Leafbird is a fairly common and widespread resident below 365 m and uncommon up to 915 m. The species was first collected in Nepal by Hodgson (Blyth 1843).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as a common resident in Nepal. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described the species as a fairly common resident up to 365 m, uncommon up to 915 m and rare above this altitude. The breeding of the species was confirmed at Chitwan (Gurung 1983).

The species' post 1990 status in protected areas is: a frequent resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve [A4] (Baral and Inskipp 2009); fairly common resident in Bardia National Park [C4] (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park [D5] (Baral *et al.* 2012); fairly common resident in Chitwan National Park [J6, K6] (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); fairly common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve [K7] (Todd 2001); a rare, uncertain resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve [P8, Q8] (Baral 2005a) and recorded in Makalu-Barun National Park [Q6] (Cox 1999).

Outside the protected areas' system, the species has been recorded from Ghodaghodi Lake area, far-west to Mai Valley, east Nepal.

The western records include occasional resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (CSUWN and BCN 2012), occasional resident in Mohana River corridor (Chaudhary 2012), Kailali District [B4]; Chisapani, Bardia District [C5] (Giri



1997); Dang-Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti IBA [E5] (Thakuri 2009) and Lumbini, Rupandehi District [G6] (Acharya 2011).

The central records include Barandhabhar Forest, Chitwan District [J6] (Adhikari *et al.* 2000); Kathmandu Valley [L6] (Baral and GC 2001) and Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys, Rautahat and Bara Districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

The eastern records include recorded in Bhagalpur, Udaypur District [P8] (Choudhary 1994); between Chewabesi and Bungling, Sankhuwasabha District [Q6] (Buckton and Baral 1995); Sankhuwa Khola, Bhojpur District [Q7] (Baral 1995); Ram Dhuni Forest (Choudhary 1999), Patnali Forest (Baral 2010) and Dharan Forest (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Sunsari District [Q8]; three community forests in Dhankuta District [Q8] (Baral 2003); occasional resident in Rajarani Community Forest, Morang District [Q8] (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Sukhani, Jhapa District [R8] (Cox 1992) and Mai Valley, Ilam District [R8] (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam (BirdLife International (2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 915 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Golden-fronted Leafbird.

Post 1990, in Koshi area, five birds were recorded in December 1996 (Chaudhary 1997), 17 in April 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), four in December 2000 (Chaudhary 2001), four in December 2009 (Giri 2009c). Similarly, 15 birds were recorded in April 2001 between Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and Patnali Forest (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001).

In Chitwan National Park, 10 birds were recorded in April 1992 (Baral 1992), 10 in February 1994 (Cottridge *et al.* 1994), 10 in January 1996 (Baral 1995/1996), 14 in February 1997 (Choudhary 1997), six in February 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), four in January 2001 (Chaudhary 2001), four in April 2007 (Baral 2007), two in March 2010 (Giri 2010) and one in May 2011 (Baral 2011a).

In Bardia National Park, seven birds were recorded in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999).

In Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, three birds were recorded in May 1997 (Baral 1997), two in March 1998 (Chaudhary 1998) and three in February 2011 (Chaudhary 2011).

In Kailali, three birds were recorded in March 1992 at Ghodaghodi Lake area (Baral 1992).

In Kathmandu, 10 birds were recorded in February 2001 (Baral and GC 2001).

In Udaypur, two birds were recorded in January 1994 at Bhagalpur (Choudhary 1994).

In Sunsari, 20 birds were recorded in January 1997 (Chaudhary 1997), five in February 1998 (Choudhary 1998) at Dharan Forest, two April 1999 at Ram Dhuni Forest (Choudhary 1999), three in May 2008 (Giri 2008b), four in January 2010 (Baral 2010) and four in May 2011 (Baral 2011) at Patnali Forest.

In Dhankuta, three birds were recorded in September 2003 (Baral 2003).

In Bhojpur, two birds were recorded in November 1994 at Sankhuwa Khola (Baral 1995).

In Jhapa, four birds were recorded in November 1992 at Sukhani (Cox 1992).

In Sankhuwasabha, two birds were recorded in November 1994 between Chewabesi and Bungling (Buckton and Baral 1995).

In Khanipokhari Forest, eight birds were recorded in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Golden-fronted Leafbird shows an upward movement during summer and is a good mimic, showing a good variety of notes, and is often caged by people (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The species inhabits broadleaved forests of the lowlands and foothills (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991) that are evergreen and deciduous, along with secondary scrub (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is arboreal and found in pairs in the breeding season and in small parties at other times (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It hunts systematically among the foliage for insects, clinging upside down and in all manner of acrobatic positions, sometimes swinging itself round a twig like a trapeze performer (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species feeds chiefly on berries, insects including flying ants, spiders, and nectar of many flowers (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Golden-fronted Leafbird may be threatened by deforestation, although it can adapt to secondary forest and scrub.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Golden-fronted Leafbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern, unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Golden-fronted Leafbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far-west to the far-east. It has been recorded at several protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system, within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Golden-fronted Leafbird may be threatened by deforestation, although it can adapt to secondary forest and scrub.

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***Chloropsis hardwickii*** Jardine & Selby, 1830 LC

Subspecies: *Chloropsis hardwickii hardwickii*

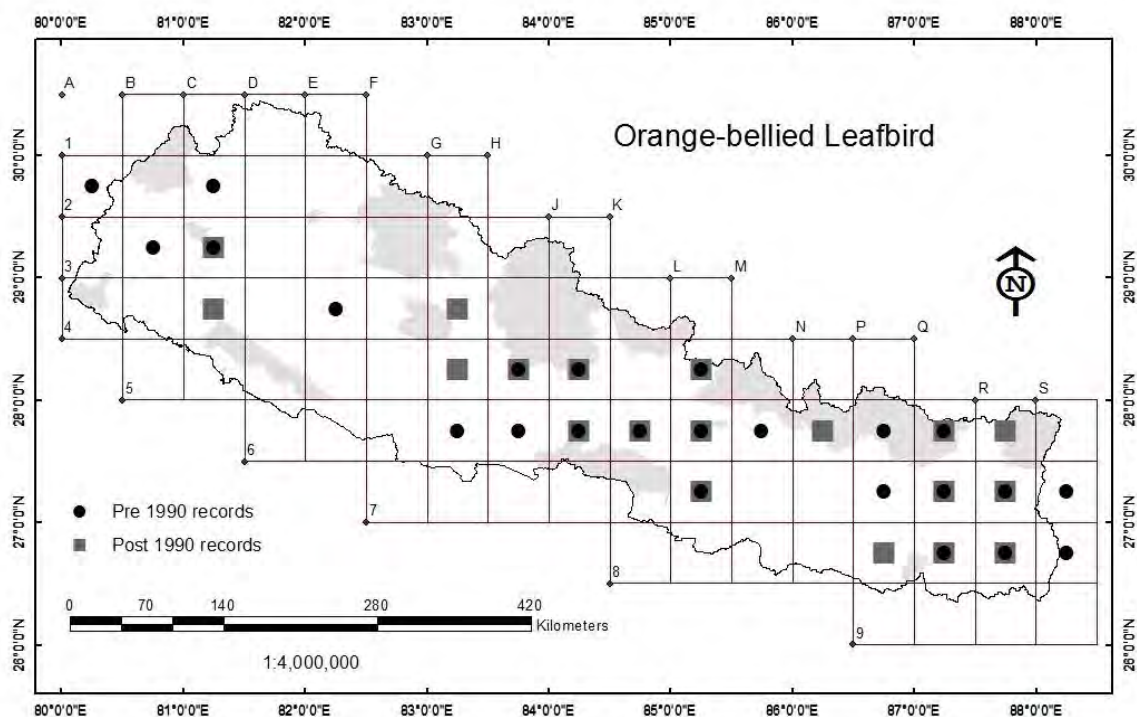
Common name

Orange-bellied Leafbird (English),  
Swarnodar Haritchari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Chloropseidae



Distribution



Orange-bellied Leafbird is a fairly common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was first described from Nepal in 19<sup>th</sup> Century (Jardine and Selby 1830).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species to be a resident, mainly recorded between 1300 m and 2135 m and mapped its distribution mainly in the central and the east.

There has been a reduction in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); Biodiversity Conservation Data Project Team (1994) considered the species was an occasionally recorded resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5), however, Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported the species to be a rare passage migrant in the area; an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); an occasionally recorded resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a fairly common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded at Nagarjun (L6) in February 1994 (Cottridge *et al.* 1994) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a frequently recorded resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and

recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded between Heluwabesi, Keksuwa Khet, Simle gau and Pikhwa Khola in May 2009, buffer Zones of Makalu-Barun National Park (Cox 2009).

Orange-bellied Leafbird has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range, see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: from Chisapani (C4), Bardia District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Archegaun and Dimlatti (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999, and Buachidi (G5), Gulmi District and Gwalichaur (G5), Baglung District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Forest, potential Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013) and Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 2011 (Vicente 2011); Baglungpani (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992).

In central Nepal records include: a common species in feeding flocks in Upardangaddhi Hills (J6), Chitwan District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); a fairly common resident in Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Lalitpur (L6) and Makwanpur (L7) District sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

In the east records include: between Maruwabesi and Bumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); three community forests (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010a), and Jamuna (R7) and Sidin (R8), Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008),.

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Macao (China), Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2135 m (-2750 m); lower limit: 1300 m (-100 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Orange-bellied Leafbird. Post-1990, 13 birds were recorded on 30 December 1998 at Chitwan National Park (Choudhary 1999).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Orange-bellied Leafbird is quite active, sometimes flying above trees after insects like a flycatcher (Fleming *et al.* 1976) and favours broadleaved evergreen (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991) and dry- and moist- deciduous forests and open scrub (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is arboreal and found generally in pairs or in small parties in the foliage canopy of the fruiting trees, and very acrobatic in its movements as it hops about and clings amongst the clumps to probe into flowers for nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species feeds on insects, spiders, berries and nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Orange-bellied Leafbird is threatened by loss of broadleaved forests in the subtropical and lower temperate zones.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Orange-bellied Leafbird. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Orange-bellied Leafbird has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been a reduction in distribution. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system. The species is threatened by loss and broadleaved forests in the subtropical and lower temperate zones. Its population is probably decreasing.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2008\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2008_006.pdf)
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***Cinclidium leucurum*** (Hodgson, 1845) LC

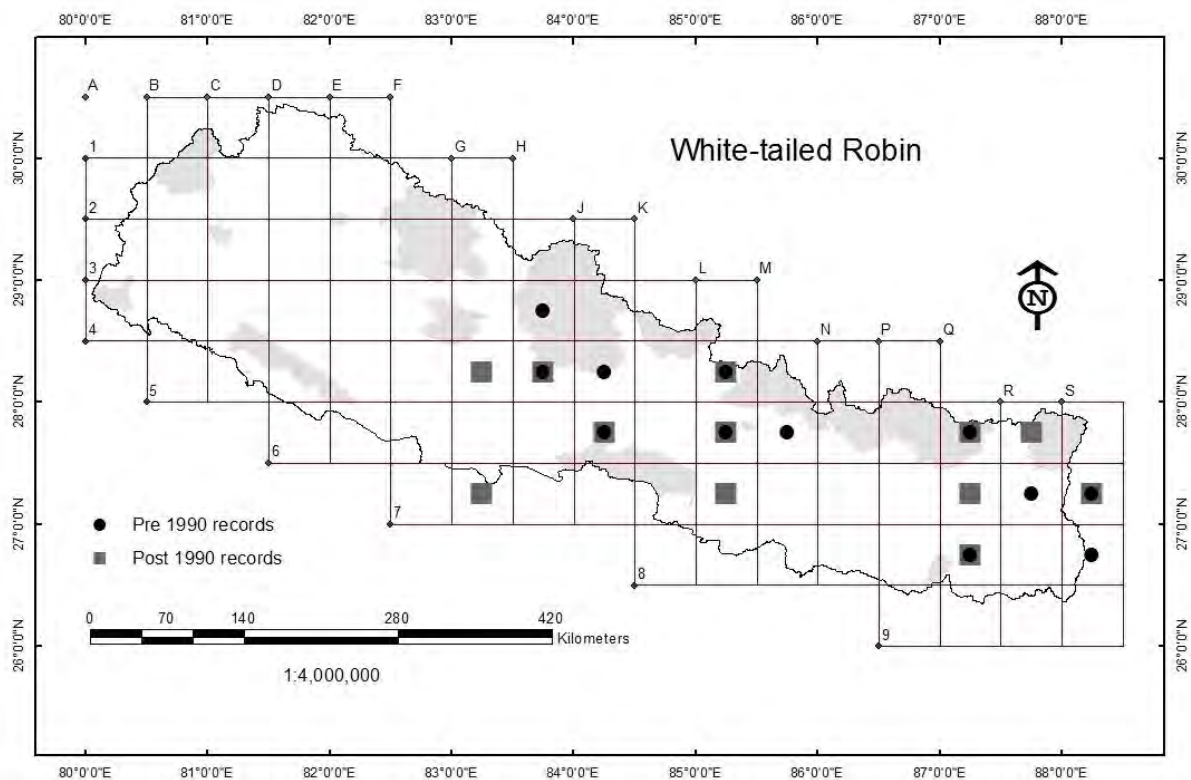
Common name

White-tailed Robin (English), Setopuchhre Rabin (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



White-tailed Robin is a resident, generally uncommon, although locally fairly common. Post-1990 it has been recorded from the Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (Thakuri 2011) in west-central Nepal - the westernmost record of the species - to Dobate, Mabu, Ilam District (Baral 2010b) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19th century (Hodgson 1845).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as an occasionally recorded resident (Fleming *et al.* 1976); Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a local and uncommon resident.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and an uncommon winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). It is described as a frequent resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park by (SNP and BCN 2007), but other recent records indicate that it is uncommon in the park. It is uncommon, possibly resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); resident; uncommon and locally fairly common in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999); a rare winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Chaudhary 1999, Giri 2009), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). Cox (2009)

recorded the species several times in the Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May and June 2009.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system (see map and records below).

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map).

In the west records include from: Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in June 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in January 2013 (Dymond 2012), December 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004) and February 2009 (Naylor *et al.* 2009).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported the species was uncommon and local in summer and rare in winter in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; later records confirm this. Other records include: between Chisapani, Nuwakot District and Sundarimal (L6) in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007), and along the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include from: the Pikhwa Danda (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 (Cox 2009); Patnali in Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010a), and Dobate, Mabu, VDC-8 (R8), Ilam District in 2010 (Baral 2010b).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2745 m (summer), 915 m (winter); lower limit: 1900 m (summer); 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-tailed Robin. Ten were recorded in Patnali in Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010a). Its population is probably declining because of loss and degradation of its habitat.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-tailed Robin inhabits undergrowth in dense, moist forest, often near streams (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); also heavy foliage in watered ravines and is partial to bamboos and moss-encrusted undergrowth (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The species is probably overlooked because of its secretive behaviour (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It usually keeps under cover among dense vegetation close to the ground, where it usually feeds. White-tailed Robin eats insects and berries (Ali and Ripley 1987). If disturbed it flies up into bushes and lower branches of trees (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). When perching it slowly depresses, then spreads its tail (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Breeding has been proved on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Proud 1955) and at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

White-tailed Robin is threatened by habitat loss and degradation, especially in the breeding season.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for White-tailed Robin. Post-1990 it has been

recorded from Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks, and in Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and marginally in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-tailed Robin has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident, generally uncommon, locally fairly common and has been recorded from west-central Nepal to the far east. It has been recorded in a number of protected areas although less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. White-tailed Robin is threatened by forest loss and degradation, especially in the breeding season and as result its population is probably declining. However, the decline is not considered great enough to warrant threatened status for the species.

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***Cinclus cinclus*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies: *Cinclus cinclus cashmeriensis*

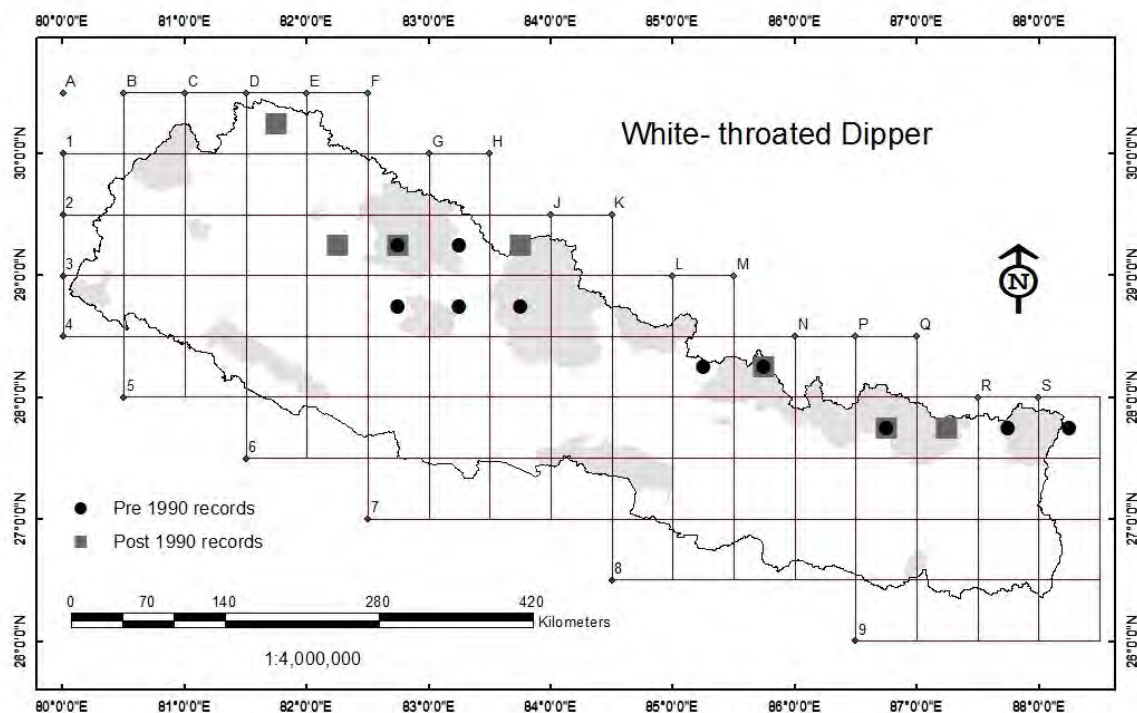
Common name

White-throated Dipper (English),  
Setokanthe Wanjul (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Cinclidae



Distribution



White-throated Dipper is a locally fairly common resident in northern Nepal breeding in arid areas north of the main Himalayan chain. Since 1990 it has been recorded in the north-west, northern east-central Nepal in Langtang National Park and in the north-east in Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks.

The first Nepal record of the species was in upper Langtang valley (M5), Langtang National Park in summer 1949 (Polunin 1955).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as fairly common in the trans-Himalayas (Dolpo and Mustang). Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also reported it from Langtang National Park, Sagarmatha National Park, and the far north-east including in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area.

Since 1990 the species distributional range has been extended west to Humla and Jumla Districts, probably as a result of better coverage. However, no post-1990 records from Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in the far north-east could be located, despite more frequent ornithological visits to the Conservation Area, but the high altitude area where the species has previously been reported may not have been visited. White-throated Dipper is still under-recorded, especially outside the protected areas' system.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: one at Phoksundo Lake, Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) in April 1992 (Priemé and Øksnebjerg (1992, 1995) and two at Tokyo Gaon in September 1999 (Sparks 1999). It

is an occasionally recorded resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), where it breeds in upper Mustang (H3) (Acharya 2002, Shah 2001 and Suwal 2003). It is an uncommon resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001) where records include singles in upper Langtang valley (M5) in November 1995 (Rasmussen and Strange 1995) and on the Kagna Chu, above Kyangjin, upper Langtang valley (M5) in November 1996 (Miallier and Miallier 1996); uncommon, possibly resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004), and a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999).

Outside the protected areas' system the species has been recorded less widely and less frequently. Records include from: between Simikot-Chyakpalung (D1), Humla District in May-June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013); Gyau Khola and Chuwa Khola, upper Humla (D1), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); one between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992)

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5000 m (-5400 m); lower limit: 3500 m (-2590 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for White-throated Dipper. In the absence of any evidence for a decline or significant threats its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-throated Dipper frequents broad and shallow (not cascading) streams and small rivers of upper valleys; these are largely absent above 4500 m due to the steep and rugged landscape. The streams were partly situated in the forest zone (at Thudam in the north-east) but more often beyond the tree limit in alpine steppes (Martens and Eck 1995). It keeps solitary or in scattered family parties in spring. Often it perches on spray-soaked rocks in mid-stream or keeps along the edge of shallow pools, but sometimes bobs around like a cork in deeper water. When standing it continually makes deep knee bends and flicks wings and tail (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Breeding has been proved at Tak Do Trap (Nepali 1982); also in the Dolpo (Fleming *et al.* 1976), and on the Ladza Khola and Dudje La, in the far north-east (Martens and Eck 1995). It chiefly eats aquatic insects and their larvae (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Threats to the species have not been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-throated Dipper. Since 1990 it has been

recorded in Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna Conservation Area.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-throated Dipper has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a locally fairly common resident in northern Nepal, breeding in arid areas north of the main Himalayan chain. Since 1990 the species distributional range has been extended west to Humla and Jumla Districts, probably as a result of better coverage. No post-1990 records from Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in the far north-east could be located, but the high altitude area where the species has previously been reported may not have been visited. Since 1990 it has been recorded from several protected areas and less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system, probably because of lack of coverage. White-throated Dipper is still under-recorded. Threats to the species have not been identified. In the absence of any significant threats or evidence of a decline its population may be stable.

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***Cinclus pallasii*** Temminck, 1820 LC

Subspecies *Cinclus pallasii tenuirostris*

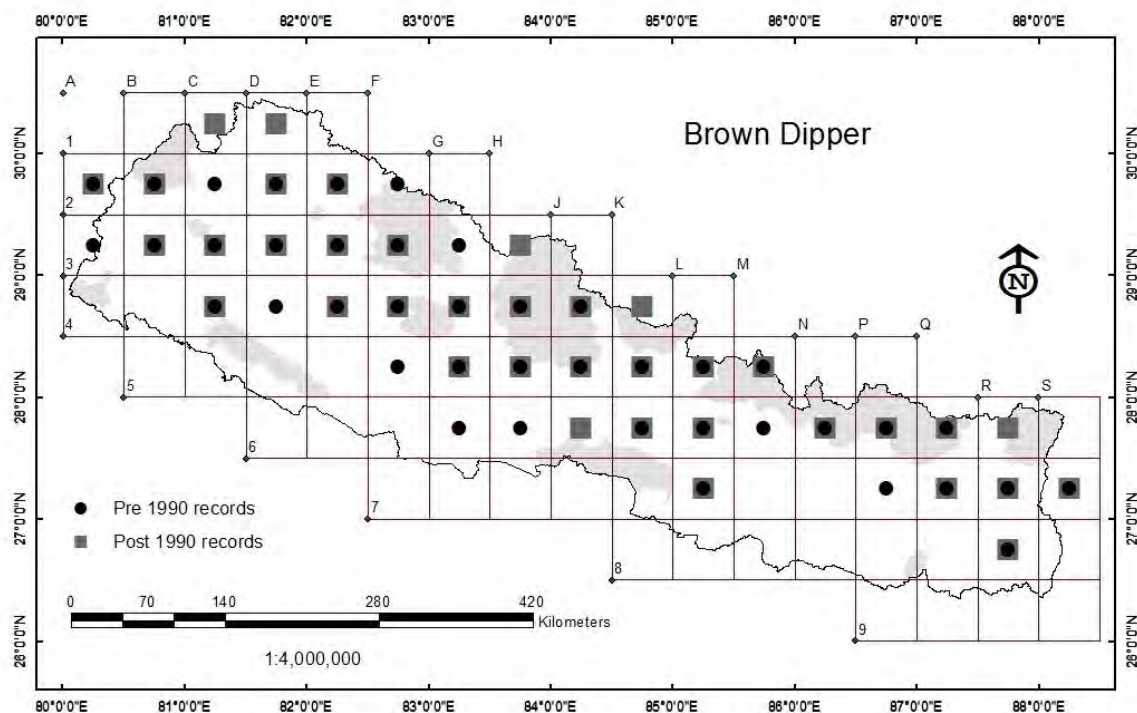
Common name

Brown Dipper (English),  
Khairo Wanjul (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Cinclidae



Distribution



Brown Dipper is a common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the upper Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it a common resident and mapped it widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 there has been a small decrease in the species' distribution since pre-1990, see text below and map.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in the Mahakali valley (A2) and Chameliya valley (B2) in December 2011 and March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor to Bardia National Park (C4) (Tamang undated in Inskipp 2001); a common resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) including in April 1992 (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Acharya 2002, Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013,

Prodon 1992, Thakuri 2013) and winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6), e.g. in February 1998 (Chaudhary 1998a), November 1998 (Choudhary 1999) and February 2010 (Baral 2010). SNP and BCN (2007) list it as an uncommon resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, but no later records could be located. It is a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a fairly common resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a) and in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It has been recorded in Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche in April 1992 (Baral 1992) and April 2006 (Baral 2006) and Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone between Lukla and Phakding in April 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994); Lukla in April 1993 (Baral 1996).

The species has been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: Chulla and Amargadhi (B3), Dadeldhura District in May and June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Yari (C1), Humla District in September 1994 (Prodon 1994); Badimalika region (C3) in February or early March 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D1), Humla District in May/June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013) and in June-August 2014 and July-August 2015 (Naresh Kusi and Geraldine Werhahn) the Soli Khola and Chucho Khola (D1, D2), Humla District in June 2002 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); between Kalikot and Takula (D3) in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3), Gothichaur and Navakuna (E3), Navakuna (E3) and between Navakuna and Chaurikot (E3), Jumla District in May 1992 (Priemé 1992); very common in Jumla District (E3) on trek to Rara National Park (Regmi 2000); between Jumla and Gothichaur (E3), Jumla District in June 1997 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); recorded between north of the Khali-Lagna Pass and Bharagaon (E3), between Bharagaon and Pina (E3) and between Sinja and north Padmara (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); near Khalanga Bazaar (E4); between Kalimati and Kauli, Sakala and Nayakwada VDCs; between and Lagana and Karki Jiula, Nayakwada, Rokayagaon and Ramidanda VDCs (E4), Jajarkot District and between Karki Jiula and Kalimati (E4), Rukum in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); between Dunai and Juphal (F4), Dolpa District (Priemé 1992); between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) Gulmi/Baglung Districts border and between ghot south of Ridhabhot and ghot past Bikos, Gulmi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); recorded at Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in December 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004) and November 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005); the Pokhara valley and adjacent hillsides (Anon. 2012), and Bhulbhule and Bahundanda (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998b).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) found its status was uncertain in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; it was seen in Sundarilal in 2006 including in April. Other records from central Nepal include from: Simalral (J6), Tanahu District in November 1992 (Baral 1993a); Malekhu (K6), Dhading District in January 1991 (Baral 1993b); Mugling (K6) in February 1994 (Cottridge *et al.* 1994); Kheste Khola (K6), Dhading District in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); the Likhu Khola (Baral and Buckton 1997), and along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); between Bhandar and Sete (N6), Ramechhap District and between Junbesi and Nunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Ramechhap (N6) and Solukhumbu (P6) Districts in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); Boldok (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Chewabesi and Bungling (Q7), Bungling and Pikhuwa (Q7), Pikhuwa (Q7) and the Apsuwa Khola (Q6), and Khandbari and Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November and December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in May 2003 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); between Kholabari, Muwa Khola and Yektin (R7), Panchthar District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); between Dobhan and Mitlung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and recorded widely in the Mai valley (R7, R8, S7) in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia (Asian), South Korea, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Thailand, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4960 m (summer), 3100 m (winter); lower limit: 1525 m (summer), 455 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Brown Dipper. Its population may be declining as a result of water pollution and land management changes.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Brown Dipper inhabits a range of freshwater streams and rivers ranging from shallow and slowly flowing streams to cascading large mountain rivers (Martens and Eck 1995). It is often seen perched on a rock in mid-stream, bobbing up and down. Generally, it occurs singly, in separated pairs or in scattered family parties. It regularly submerges to swim underwater or walk on the stream bed in search of invertebrates. After popping to the surface it often floats downstream on half-spread wings before getting out of the water. It flies low over the water surface on rapidly whirring wings (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats aquatic insects and their larvae (Ali and Ripley 1987). In a Nepal study, Tyler and Ormerod (1993) found Brown Dipper preyed almost exclusively on aquatic larval or nymphal stages of insects, e.g. mayfly nymphs, caddis larvae and blackfly larvae *Simulium* (Diptera). Proved breeding records include: in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988); the Soli Khola (Grimm and Fischer 2003); Kawa and Barikot (Polunin 1952); Chankeli (Pritchard 1980); Dhorpatan (Corbett 1974); Langtang National Park (Madge and Madge 1982, Tyler 1988); north-west of Pokhara (van den Berg and Bosman 1976; Blanchon and Dubois 1987; Kovacs 1987; Wolstencroft 1981, 1982); Sundarikal (Proud 1955); Naubise (Heath 1986, Sorensen 1988); Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Halberg 1994, Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Martens and Eck 1995); Ladza Khola and Dudje La (Martens and Eck 1995), and the Mai valley (Halliday 1989, Robson *et al.* 2008, Stevens 1925). The species is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Brown Dipper is threatened by water pollution caused by a high input of sewage, as well as other domestic and industrial pollutants, for example the lower Bagmati in Kathmandu. Here water pollution has caused the absence of large aquatic invertebrates including caddis on which dippers are dependent (Tyler and Ormerod 1991). Removal of bankside and hillside cover, cultivation of hillsides and diversion of the water from streams for irrigation also makes them unsuitable for Brown Dipper which depends on large aquatic benthic invertebrates (Tyler and Ormerod 1991).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried specifically for Brown Dipper. Since 1990 it has been recorded in all Himalayan protected areas and also in Bardia and Chitwan National Parks.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Brown Dipper has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common and widespread resident recorded post-1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been a small decrease in the species' distribution compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded from all Himalayan protected areas and also Bardia and Chitwan National Parks. It has also been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system. Brown Dipper is at risk from water pollution and also land use changes that cause reductions in populations of aquatic invertebrates on which they feed. The species may be declining, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for

the species.

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***Cissa chinensis*** Boddaert, 1783 LC

Subspecies: *Cissa chinensis chinensis*

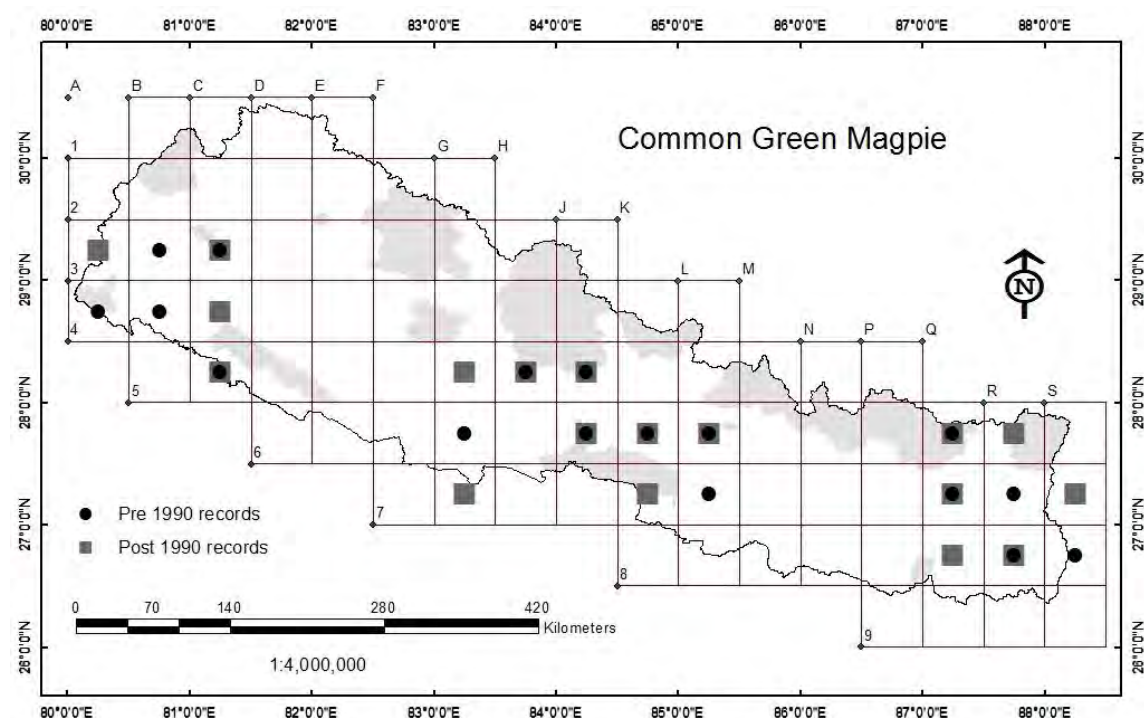
Common name

Common Green Magpie (English),  
Hariyo Laampuchhre (Nepali)



Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Corvidae

Distribution



Common Green Magpie is a locally frequent resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Chulla, Dadelhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was a locally fairly common resident and mapped its distribution in far west, central and far eastern Nepal.

There is no significant difference in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a locally fairly common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999); recorded at Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8) in September 2010 (Baral 2010a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The



species has been recorded from Gundre Khola, Nawalparasi District (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007), buffer zone of Chitwan National Park.

Post-1990 the species has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas, see text below.

In the west records include: from Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013); a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); between Pokhara (H5), Kaski District and Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011); Pokhara (H5) in February 1998 (Chaudhary 1998a), Jayakot Community Forest near Pokhara (H5) (Inskipp 2004), between Pokhara (H5) and Begnas Lake (J5) in November 2008 (Chaudhary 2008), Kaski District; Baglungpani (J5) in December 1991 (Halliday 1992), and Bahundanda (J5) in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998b), Lamjung District.

In central Nepal records include: a very rare visitor Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) and recorded from Phulchoki (L6) in November 1996 (Choudhary 1996) and Godavari Botanical Garden (L6) in December 2011 (Vicente 2011), Lalitpur District.

In the east records include: from Pikhuwa (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District and Sankhuwa Khola (Q7), Bhojpur District in November 1994 (Baral 1995); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010b); in Chisapani (R8) and Hange Tham (S7), upper Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) .

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1830 m; lower limit: 250m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Common Green Magpie. Post 1990 12 birds were recorded on 20 November 1992 at Pokhara, Kaski District (Murphy and Waller 1992).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Common Green Magpie inhabits subtropical broadleaved evergreen and moist deciduous forest as well as bamboo forest, and dense streamside thickets of the foothills (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is noisy and somewhat shy and wary; occurs in pairs or small parties, usually remains among foliage, and often most easily detected by calls. It forages in the understory or on the ground under thick vegetation (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on large insects, such as grasshoppers, beetles, mantises and sometimes feeds on lizards, frogs, snakes and small birds (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Common Green Magpie is threatened by forest loss, degradation and fragmentation.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Common Green Magpie. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Chitwan and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna and Kanchenjunga

Conservation Areas; and Parsa Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Common Green Magpie has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally frequent resident mainly recorded from the far west, central and far eastern Nepal. It has been recorded at several protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas. There is no significant difference in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Common Green Magpie is threatened by the deforestation, forest degradation and fragmentation. Therefore, the species' population is probably decreasing, but not to the extent to warrant a threatened category.

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***Cisticola juncidis*** (Rafinesque, 1810) LC

Subspecies: *Cisticola juncidis cursitans*

Common Name

Zitting Cisticola (English),

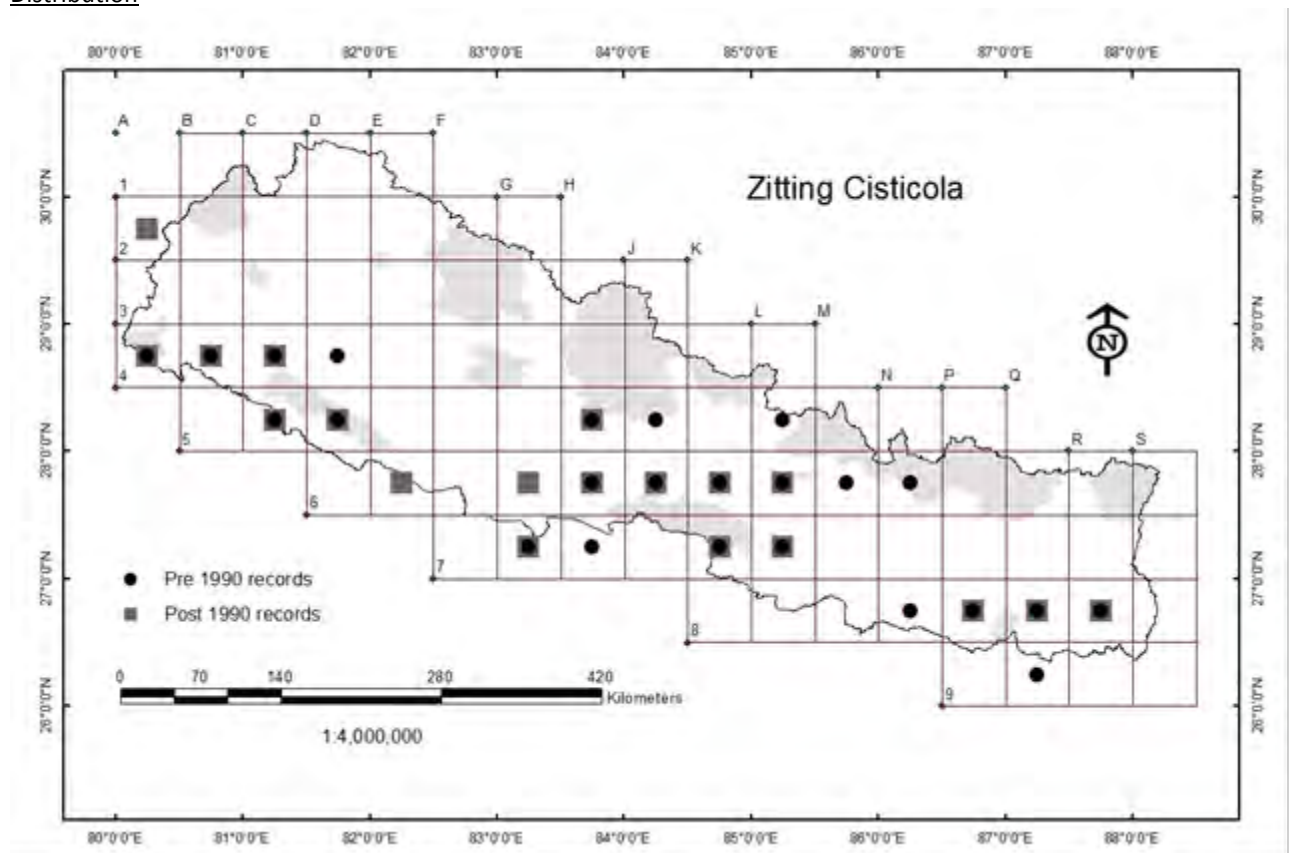
Phirphire (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Cisticolidae



Distribution



Zitting Cisticola is a fairly common and widespread resident. It has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Prajhapate, Jhapa District (Cox 1992) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was a specimen collected in the 19<sup>th</sup> century by B. H. Hodgson (Blyth 1843).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also reported it was a fairly common resident and mapped it quite widely from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 there has been a small change in distribution compared to pre-1990, with fewer records in the east and more in the west (see map and text below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in the Blackbuck Conservation Area (Kunwar 2015); Banke National Park (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001), and a fairly common resident in

Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a). The species has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Nawalparasi District (H6) in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); at Janakauli (K6), Chitwan District in February 2008 (Giri 2008); Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar (Baral 1996, Giri 2010), and Sauraha (K6), Chitwan District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012).

Post-1990 Zitting Cisticola has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range (see map and text below).

In the west records include from: Ghodaghodi Tal area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992); Nepalganj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Baral 1993, Priemé 1992); Dang-Deukhuri Important Bird Area, Dang District (E5, E6) (Thakuri 2009a,b); near Pokhara (H4), Kaski District, e.g. in November 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004) and November 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005); Bhairahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1994); Jagdishpur Reservoir (G6), Kapilvastu District in December 2010 (Baral 2008, 2011a), and Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District, e.g. in April 1993 (Baral 1994) and August 1997 (Chaudhary 1998).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was mainly a summer visitor, uncommon in early winter in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; chiefly found in the Saibu-Taudaha and adjacent Bagmati valley area. However, it has been found in all months in the Valley (Arend van Riessen). Other records from central Nepal include from: Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Trisuli River, Belkhu (K6) in December 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Rautahat District (L7) in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); between west of Lal Bakaiya river and Kopuwa gau school, Rautahat District (L7) and between school west of Belwa and Kat mandir, Bara District (L7) in April 2003 (Cox 2003), along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013), and along Kamala River, Dhanusha and Siraha Districts (N8) (Baral *et al.* 2012).

In the east records include from Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in September 1992 (Baral 1993) and March 2001 (Baral 2001); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in April 1999 (Chaudhary 1999) and December 2000 (Chaudhary 2001); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District in October 2011 (Baral 2011b); Dharan (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), and Prajhapate, Biring Khola (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Benin, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, China (mainland), Congo, Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Ethiopia, France, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malawi, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Philippines, Portugal, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan (China), Tanzania, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1350 (-1900 m in summer); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Zitting Cisticola. A total of 70 birds was counted in a survey of Koshi Tappu and nearby areas (Baral *et al.* 2013). Its population may be stable or increasing as a result of the spread of agriculture in the lowlands.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Zitting Cisticola inhabits paddy-fields and other crops, and dry and marshy grasslands (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). In the Kathmandu Valley it is found in paddy-fields from March to October and in mustard fields in November and December (Arend van Riessen). The species is found singly or in loose parties. It is active and excitable; frequently flicking wings and cocking and spreading its tail. Typically, it skulks in cover and can move rapidly through plant stems and can be overlooked outside the breeding season. It seeks insects close to or on the ground among grass tussocks and other low vegetation; sometimes it perches on bushes. The species has a characteristic display flight and displays frequently during the breeding season. It circles widely over its territory with bouncing flight, beating its wings as it rises, drops a little and then rises again, while singing (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects, also on spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Turton and Speight 1982) and in the Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1949).

### Threats

Zitting Cisticola is threatened by the loss of dry and marshy grasslands, but has benefitted by the replacement of forests by agriculture in the lowlands.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Zitting Cisticola. It has been recorded from Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Zitting Cisticola has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been a small change in distribution compared to pre-1990, with fewer records in the east and more in the west. Post-1990 it has been recorded in a number of protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Zitting Cisticola is threatened by the loss of dry and marshy grasslands, but has benefitted by replacement of forests by agriculture in the lowlands. Its population may be stable or increasing.

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***Copsychus malabaricus*** (Scopoli, 1786) LC

Subspecies: *Copsychus malabaricus indicus*

Common Name

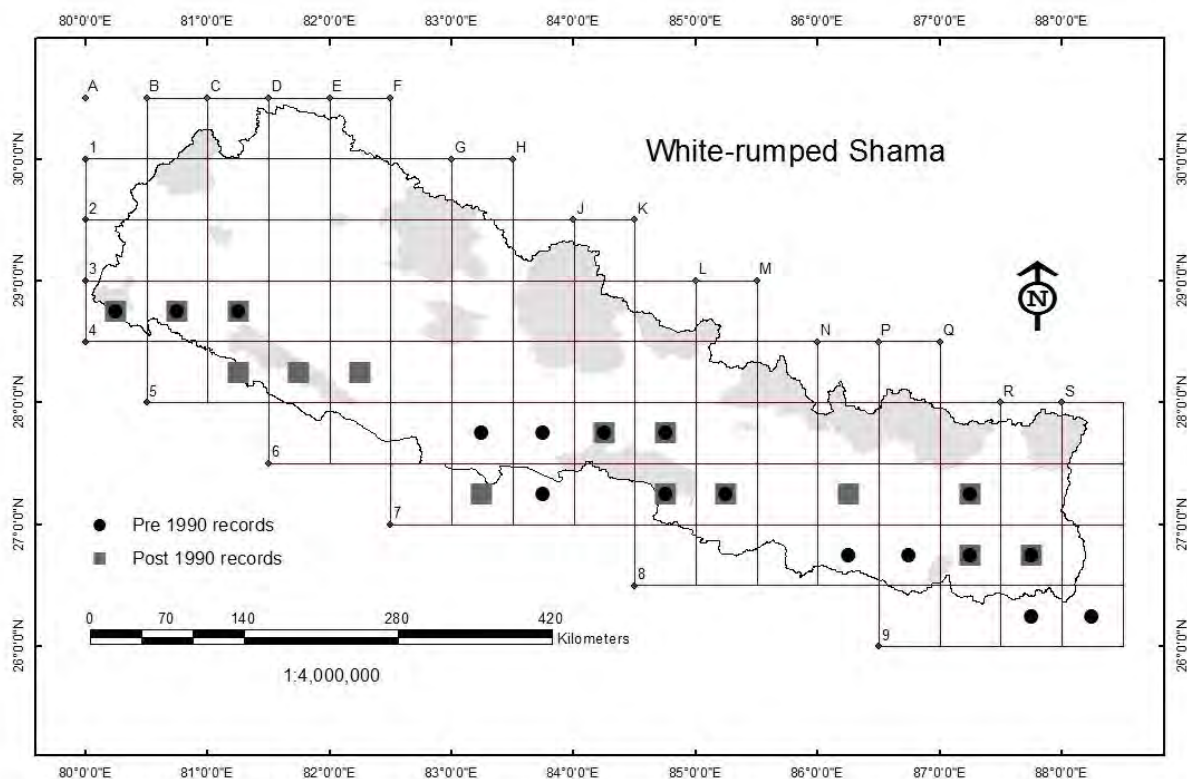
White-rumped Shama (English), Shyama (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



White-rumped Shama is a resident, locally fairly common mainly within the protected areas' system and generally uncommon or rare elsewhere. It has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Raja Rani Community Forest, Jhapa District (Basnet *et al.* 2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19th century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a resident, mainly recorded occasionally.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: a fairly common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001), and a frequent resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has also been recorded at Janakauli (K6), Chitwan District, Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Giri 2010) and from Barandbahar (J6), Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Baral 1996).

The species is also widely recorded outside the protected areas' system within suitable habitat and the species' altitudinal range. However, since 1990 it has become uncommon or rare in most localities and its distribution has probably reduced compared to pre-1990.

In the west records include: a frequent resident in Ghodaghodi lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1998, CSUWN and BCN 2012); recorded in Dang Deukhuri foothill forest and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E6) (Thakuri 2009a, b), and up to four in Lumbini Important Bird Area (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011).

In central Nepal records include: one from near Kat Mandir, Bara District (L7) in April 2003 (Cox 2003), and along the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: community forest in Sindhuli District (M7) (Phuyal and Dhoubhadel 2007); one from Archale gaun (Q7), lower Arun valley, Bhojpur District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); Patnali, Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. six in January 2010 (Baral 2010) and 12 in May 2011 (Baral 2011); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); one at Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); recorded in the lower Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) and in Raja Rani Community Forest (R8), Jhapa District (Basnet *et al.* 2005).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, USA, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 365 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-rumped Shama. However, the population has probably declined because of loss and degradation of its tropical forest habitat outside the protected areas' system.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-rumped Shama inhabits undergrowth in tropical broadleaved forests (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species keeps close to the ground in forest undergrowth and in low trees. Typically, it is heard more often than seen (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Usually it is solitary or keeps in pairs, working in low trees or flitting to the ground for insects (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It eats insects and their larvae (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983).

#### Threats

White-rumped Shama is threatened by the loss and degradation of its tropical forest habitat. This forest type is especially threatened (Inskipp 1989).

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for White-rumped Shama. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks, and in Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-rumped Shama has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident, locally fairly common mainly within the protected areas' system and generally uncommon or rare elsewhere. It has been recorded from the far west to the far east both inside and outside protected areas. It is threatened by the loss and degradation of its tropical forest habitat. This forest type is especially threatened. Outside the protected areas' system its distribution has probably reduced post-1990 compared to pre-1990 and here its population is probably declining, but not to a degree that warrants threatened status for the species.

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***Copsychus saularis*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies: *Copsychus saularis saularis*

Common name

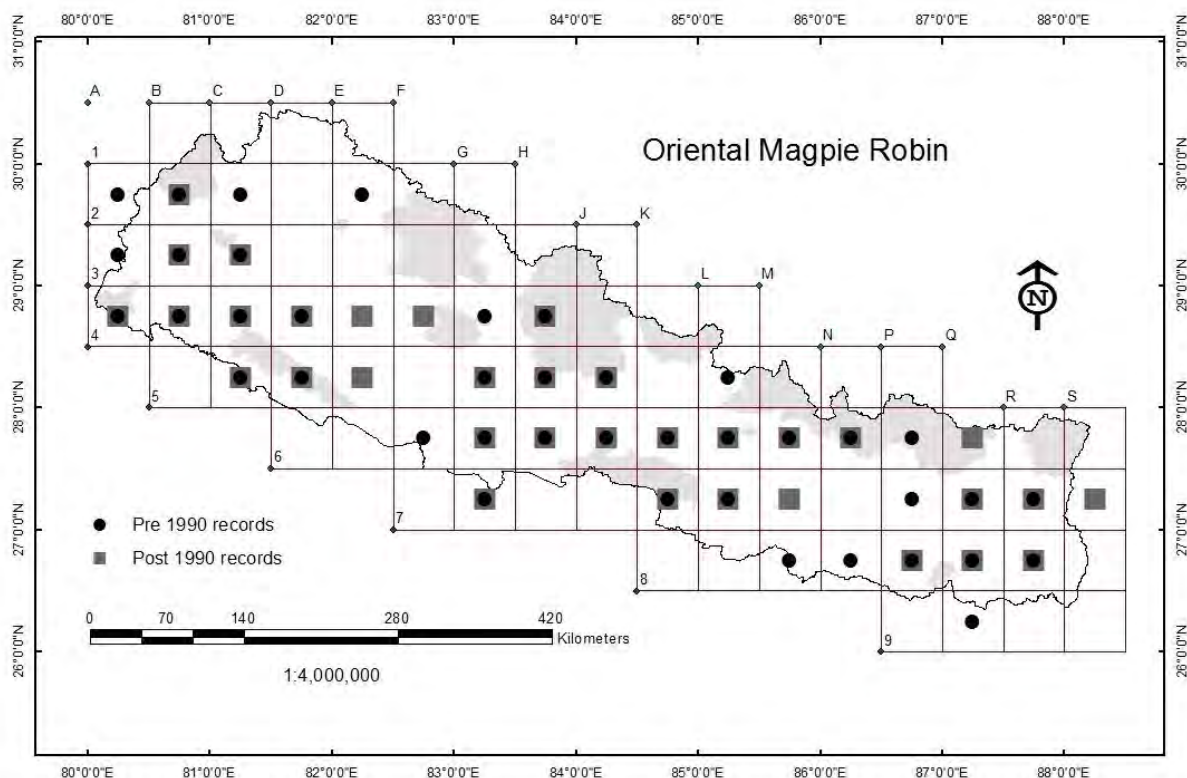
Oriental Magpie Robin (English), Dhobini Charo (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Oriental Magpie Robin is a widespread resident, common below 1525m, frequent up to 2000 m. It has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Panchthar District (S7) (White and White 1997) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19th century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a widespread resident, common up to 1525 m and occasionally recorded up to 2000 m.

The species' status in protected areas is: a common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area in April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a frequent resident in Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a common resident in (J6, K6) Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001) on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), and in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a). The species has also been recorded in

the Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Janakauli Community Forest (J6), Chitwan District (Giri 2008) at Barandbahar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000) and at Bees Hazari Tal, Barandbahar (Baral 1996).

Since 1990 the species has also been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range (see map and records below).

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map).

In the west localities include: Amargadhi (A3), Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010, Chaudhary 2012); Dhanghadi (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992a); a common resident in Ghodaghodi lake area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN 2012); Rawtkot (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District (Grimm and Fischer 2003); Dang Deukhuri Foothill Forests and West Rapti Wetlands Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); between Sidure and Rupakot, Bar Gad (G6), Gulmi District and between Buachidi, Gulmi District and Gwalichaur, Baglung District (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Bhairawa (G6), Rupandehi District (Baral 1994a); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Jagdishpur (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2011a); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District, e.g. Baral (1994); common in the Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District, e.g. Baral (2009); Begnas Tal (H5) (Mallalieu 2005); Salyan (H5), Parbat District (Baral 2000); Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000); Simalral (J5), Tanahun District (Baral 1993), and Bhulbule, Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) recorded the species as a common resident around human habitation in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; later records confirm this. Other localities include: Chitlang, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) west of Chitwan National Park (H6), Nawalparasi District (Baral 2010a); Dhading District (K6) (Baral 2011b); Malekhu, Dhading District (K6) (Baral 1992b); Belakhu (K6), Dhading District in December 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between west of Lal Bakaiya Nadi and Kopuwa gau school, (L7), Rautahat District and between west of Belwa and Kat mandir (L7) Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); Dhulikhel (M6), Kavre District (Mallalieu 2005); Panauti (M7), Kavre District (Baral 1994b), and along the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013)

In the east records include: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); several localities in the lower Arun valley (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in April, May and June 2009 (Cox 2009); Bhojpur (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between Tumlingtar and Bhotebesi (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District (Chaudhary 1998); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. Baral (2010b, Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Kosi Bird Observatory (Q8) Sunsari District, e.g. Baral (2010c); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District (Baral 2003); Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District, e.g. Chaudhary (1997); Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. Baral (1993); between Dorumba (Bhaluchowk) and Sesambu (R7), Taplejung District (Cox 1992); Phidim (R7), Panchthar District (Robson *et al.* 2008); between Gupha Pokhari and Dobhan, Taplejung District (R7) and between Dobhan and Mitlung (R7), Taplejung District (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); lower Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006); Chisapani (R8), Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008); Ilam (R8), Ilam District (Baral 2010c), and Panchthar District (S7) (White and White 1997).

This species has been also recorded in Bara, Parsa, Rautahat, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Dhanusha, Siraha and Saptari Districts (Hem Sagar Baral).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2000 m (-3050 m) (summer); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys for Oriental Magpie Robin have been carried out. As the species faces few threats and

its distribution has not changed significantly since 1990, its population is considered probably stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Oriental Magpie Robin chiefly inhabits gardens and groves in villages, towns and cities; also open dry broadleaved forests and secondary growth (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species is confiding and conspicuous. It is partly crepuscular. It forages mainly on the ground in the open, often hopping about on lawns and around habitation in sheltered areas and under trees. Frequently it perches on buildings and quite high in trees. The tail is usually held cocked and is frequently lowered and fanned, then closed and jerked up, while wings are often drooped and flicked. It has an undulating flight, showing the white outer tail feathers (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It eats a wide variety of insects: ants, moths, grasshoppers, caterpillars etc; also snails, earthworms, centipedes and small lizards and some vegetable matter (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Kathmandu Valley (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991) and at Hetauda, Makwanpur District (Biswas 1961). The species is subject to some local movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Complete loss of gardens and green areas in urban areas would threaten the species. Other threats have not been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Oriental Magpie Robin. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke, Khaptad, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun and in Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa and Annapurna Conservation Areas; in Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Oriental Magpie Robin has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident occurring from the far west to the far east. It occurs in many protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Complete loss of gardens and green areas in urban areas would threaten the species. Other threats have not been identified. As the species faces few threats and its distribution has not changed significantly since 1990, its population is considered probably stable.

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***Coracina macei* Lesson, 1831 LC**

Subspecies: *Coracina macei nipalensis*

Common Name

Large Cuckooshrike (English),

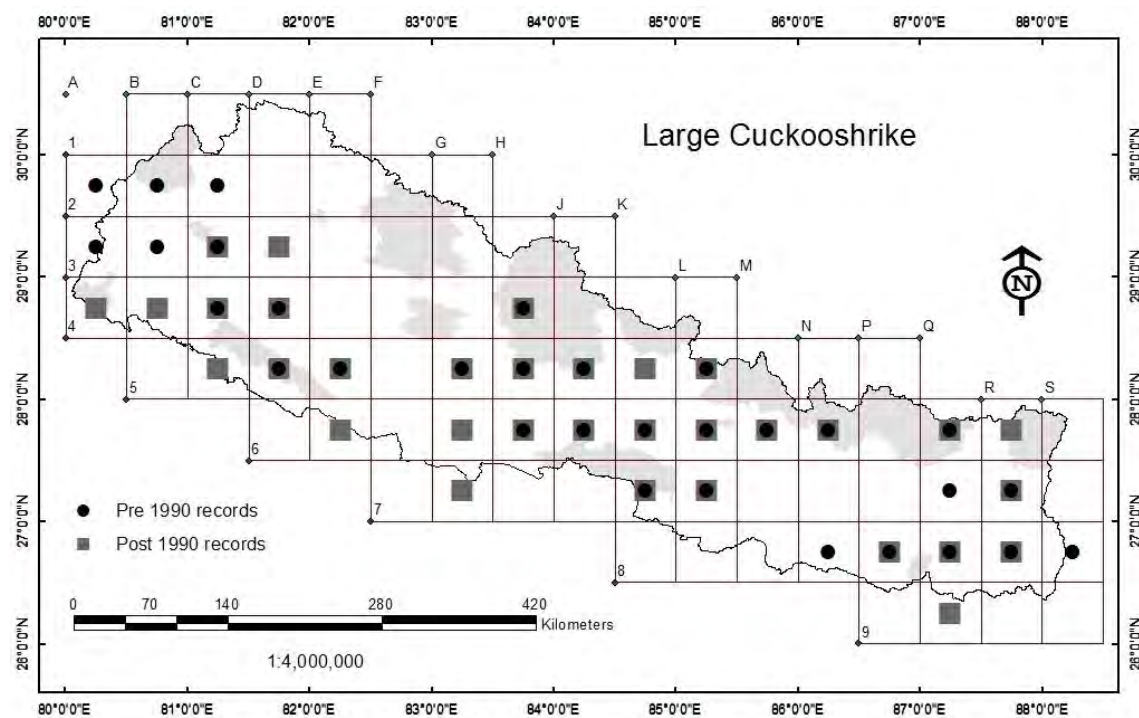
Latushak Birahichari

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Campephagidae



Distribution



Large Cuckooshrike is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a common resident and mapped its distribution in the lowlands from the far west to the far east.

There is a small but insignificant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably mainly due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001) and recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); Biodiversity Conservation Data Project Team (1994) considered the species a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5), however, Inskipp and Inskipp

(2003) reported the species as a fairly common resident. It is a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); a common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a rare summer visitor in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a fairly common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded in Nagarjun (L6) in May 2011 (Baral 2011a) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a summer visitor in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a common resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded at Majhgaun in December 2004 in the buffer zone of Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Mallalieu 2005); Sauraha in October 2000 (Stair and Stair 2000), Barandhabhar forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008a), Chitwan District, Gundre Khola, Nawalparasi District (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007) in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park; Kusaha in November 1993, Madhuban and Prakashpur in December 1993 in the buffer zone of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Choudhary 1994), and between Keksuwa khets and fallow khets camp below/SE Simle Gau in the buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

Large Cuckooshrike has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: a common resident in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), a fairly common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and Tikapur (C5) in July 2014 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Chisapani (C4) in March 1997 (Giri 1997), Khata Corridor (C5) (Chaudhari 2007), Bardia District; between Daurogaon and Beuli (D3), Kalikot District and Kotuwa Village (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between Argali (H6), Palpa District and Sidure (G5), Gulmi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Forest, potential Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013b); a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); a resident in Jagadishpur Reservoir (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Gaidahawa Lake area (G6) in April 1993 (Baral 1994) and Lumbini IBA (G7) in January 2011 (Acharya 2011), Rupandehi District; Banpale Danda (H5) (Karki *et al.* 1997), Sarangkot (H5) in December 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002), Pokhara (H5) in November 2007 (Baral 2007), between Bhachok, Libiyani and Rupa Tal (J5) in April 2000 (Byrne 2000), Kaski District; Rampur Valley (H6), Palpa District (Gautam 2003); Bhulbhule (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998a); Bandipur (J6), Tanahun District in February 2013 (Musgrove 2013) and in the Budhigandaki valley (K5), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008a).

In central Nepal records include from: Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); between Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in April 2001 (O'Connell-Davidson *et al.* 2001); an uncommon resident to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) and recorded along Bagmati River corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Lalitpur (L6), Kathmandu (L6), Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common resident to Chitlang forest (L7), Makawanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Judibela Community Forest and Adarsha Community Forest and National Forest (L7), Rautahat District and Bakaiya Community Forest and Dhudhaura Khola Forest area (L7), Bara District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Dhulikhel (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in June 2002 (Halberg 2002), and between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: the Trijuga River area and Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Mude and Churiabesi (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998b); Ram Dhuni Forest (Q8) in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994), Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2008 (Giri 2008b) and Jabdi (Q8) in October 2011 (Baral 2011b), Sunsari District; an occasionally recorded resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), Biratnagar (Q9) in February 1998 (Choudhary 1998), Morang District; Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District (Baral 2003); Kabeli Khola (R7) in May 1994, Panchthar District (Halberg 1994); between Taplejung and Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in June 1997 (Chaudhary 1998a); lower Mai Valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008), and near Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Taiwan (China), Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2135 m (-2440 m) (summer); at least 1525 m (winter); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Large Cuckooshrike. As many as 20 birds were recorded on 11 February 2009 at Chitwan National Park (Baral 2009) and also between 8-10 December 2010 in the Amaltari section of Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Baral 2011c).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Large Cuckooshrike inhabits openly wooded country, scrub jungle, groves, trees in cultivation edges and in gardens, and edges of forest clearings (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is a noisy bird. It usually perches in treetops singly or in scattered pairs or in loose flocks and sometimes descends to bushes or the ground to feed (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It eats mantids and other large insects and their larvae and also figs (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Large Cuckoo-shrike is threatened by the total loss of woods and trees, but must have benefited from forest thinning and some forest degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Large Cuckooshrike. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Large Cuckooshrike has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a small, but insignificant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably partly due to better coverage. Large Cuckooshrike is threatened by the total loss of woods and trees, but must have benefited from forest thinning and forest degradation. Its population is considered possibly stable or increasing.

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***Coracina melanoptera* Rüppell, 1839 LC**

Subspecies: *Coracina melanoptera sykesi*

Common Name

Black-headed Cuckooshrike (English)

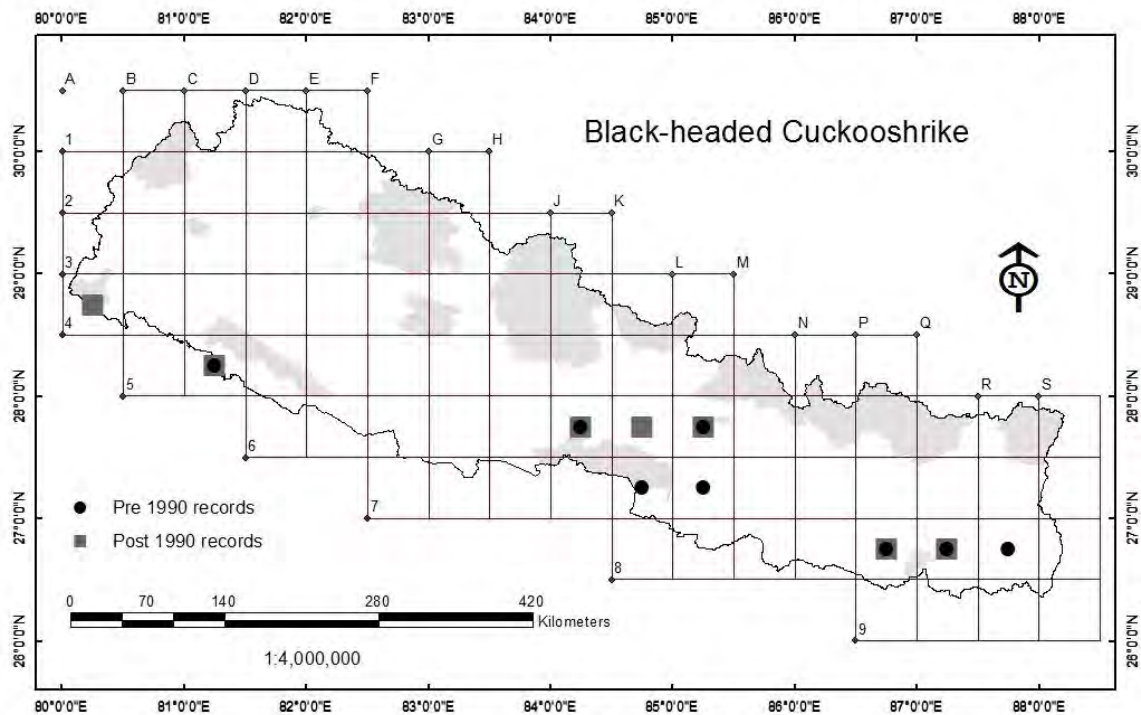
Kaalo-Taauke Birahichari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Campephagidae



Distribution



Black-headed Cuckooshrike is very rare and primarily a summer visitor to the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi area (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Hetauda in May 1947 (Biswas 1961).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a scarce resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was scarce with altitudinal movements; mainly seen in spring and summer in the lowlands and mapped its distribution from a few localities in central and eastern Nepal. The species showed some migratory movements at the beginning and end of rains (Fleming *et al.* 1976).

There has been a distribution extension west to the western border (probably due to better coverage), otherwise there is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon summer visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); rare and possibly a summer visitor in Bardia National Park (C5)

(Inskipp 2001); an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a rare summer visitor in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005), and recorded in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) in May-June 1995 (Choudhary 1995). The species has been recorded at Bees Hazari Lake in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park (Baral 1996).

There are a much smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Post-1990 records include from Kurintar (J6), Chitwan District in March 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004); the Kathmandu Valley (L6) in May-June 1992 (Murphy 1992), and Raktamala Community Forest (P8) Saptari District in September 2003 (Giri and Choudhary 2003).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 275 m (-1430 m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Black-headed Cuckooshrike. Records since 1990 in the Koshi area, include two birds in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999), two in December 2000 (Chaudhary 2001), one in December 2007 (Giri 2007), two in May 2008 (Giri 2008) and two in May 2011 (Baral 2011). In Chitwan National Park, one bird was recorded in August 1992 (Baral 1993) and one in February 2010 (Baral 2010). In Bardia National Park, two birds were recorded in April 2007 (Baral 2007).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Black-headed Cuckooshrike inhabits open deciduous forests, scrub jungle, and mango groves (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is found singly, in pairs or small parties, often in association with other insectivorous birds. When foraging it flies from bush to bush or trees, searching in leaves and twigs as it proceeds. The species prefers tall trees and only occasionally descends to the ground (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on mostly insects, sometimes berries (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Black-headed Cuckooshrike is possibly threatened by the total loss of forest but may have benefited from forest thinning and some forest degradation.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-headed Cuckooshrike. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Chitwan and Makalu-Barun National Parks and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-headed Cuckooshrike has been assessed as Least Concern. It is very rare and primarily a summer visitor to the lowlands, recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 it has been recorded in several protected areas and there are few records outside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 its distribution has extended west to the border, probably due to better coverage. Black-headed Cuckooshrike is possibly threatened by the total loss of forest, but may have benefited from forest thinning and some forest degradation. Its population may be stable.

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***Coracina melaschistos*** Hodgson, 1836

Subspecies: *Coracina melaschistos melaschistos*

Common name

Black-winged Cuckooshrike (English)

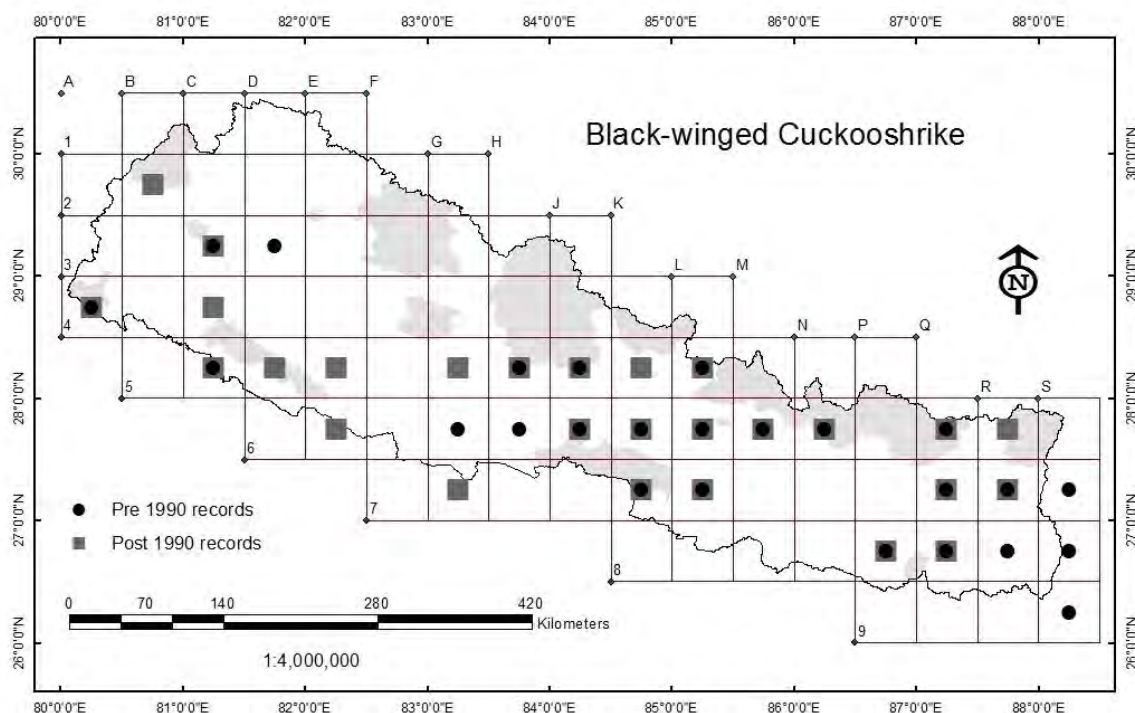
Kaalo Birahichari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Campephagidae



Distribution



Black-winged Cuckooshrike is a fairly common and widespread resident of the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Buckton and Morris 1990) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was a resident and subject to altitudinal movements.

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably because of better recording.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a frequent breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a frequent summer visitor in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001) and recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012). Biodiversity Conservation Data Project Team (1994) considered the species a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) and Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported the species to be a frequent summer visitor to the area. It is a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and

Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a rare summer visitor in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a frequent resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in March 2001 (Baral 2001) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a fairly common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005); a frequent resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded in Barandabhar Forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District; Gundre Khola in November 2007 (Baral 2007), and Tharu Cultural Village Resort (H6) in December 2011 (Baral 2011), Nawalparasi District in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park. It has been recorded at Pikhua Khola and Chitre Danda in May 2009 in the buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park (Cox 2009) and at Prakashpur in June 1993 (Baral 1994), Madhuban and Haripur in January 2010 (Baral 2010) in the buffer zone of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

Black-winged Cuckooshrike has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: from Dang Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between Sidure and Rupakot (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013), Gulmi District; a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Pokhara (H5), in November 2007 (Baral 2007) between Bhachok, Libiyani and Rupa Tal (J5) in April 2000 (Byrne 2000), Kaski District; and in the Budhigandaki valley (K5), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

In central Nepal records include: from Lothar River (K6), Chitwan District in December 1998 (Smith 1999); an uncommon summer visitor to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) and recorded from different localities such as: Tokha (L6), Kathmandu District in September 1993 (Baral 1994), Phulchoki (L6) in March 1994 (Baral 1994) and February 2009 (Baral 2009), Lalitpur District, along Bagmati River corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Lalitpur (L6), Kathmandu (L6), Makwanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common summer visitor in Chitlang forest (L7), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Aadarsha Community Forest and National Forest (L7), Rautahat District and Bakaiya Community Forest (L7), Bara District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013), and between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include: from Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); between Giddhe gau, Chewabesi gau and Heluwabesi (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 (Cox 2009); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Tehrathum District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in March 2001 (Baral 2001), an occasionally recorded migrant in Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Sunsari District; an uncommon resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); Kabeli Khola (R7) in May 1994, Panchthar District (Halberg 1994), and between Mamangkhe, Kande Bhanjyang, Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Japan, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Taiwan (China), Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2200 m (-2400 m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Black-winged Cuckooshrike. Post 1990 eight birds were recorded at Chitwan National Park on 18 April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown ; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Black-winged Cuckooshrike inhabits open forest, wooded areas, riverine forest, and groves; it prefers deciduous forest rather than coniferous (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is arboreal, although sometimes it descends to the undergrowth when feeding. It is found singly, in pairs or small parties, and often in association with other insectivorous birds. When perched it has an upright stance. Sometimes it flutters or hovers in front of leaf-sprigs when searching for insects (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is insectivorous (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in the Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1955, Ripley 1950).

### Threats

Although Black-winged Cuckooshrike is threatened by the complete loss of forest, it has probably benefited from forest thinning.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-winged Cuckooshrike. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-winged Cuckooshrike has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common and widespread resident, recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably partly due to better coverage. Although Black-winged Cuckooshrike is threatened by the complete loss of forest, it has probably benefited from forest thinning. Its population may be stable or possibly increasing.

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***Corvus corax* Linnaeus, 1758 LC**

Subspecies: *Corvus corax tibetanus*

Common name

Common Raven (English),

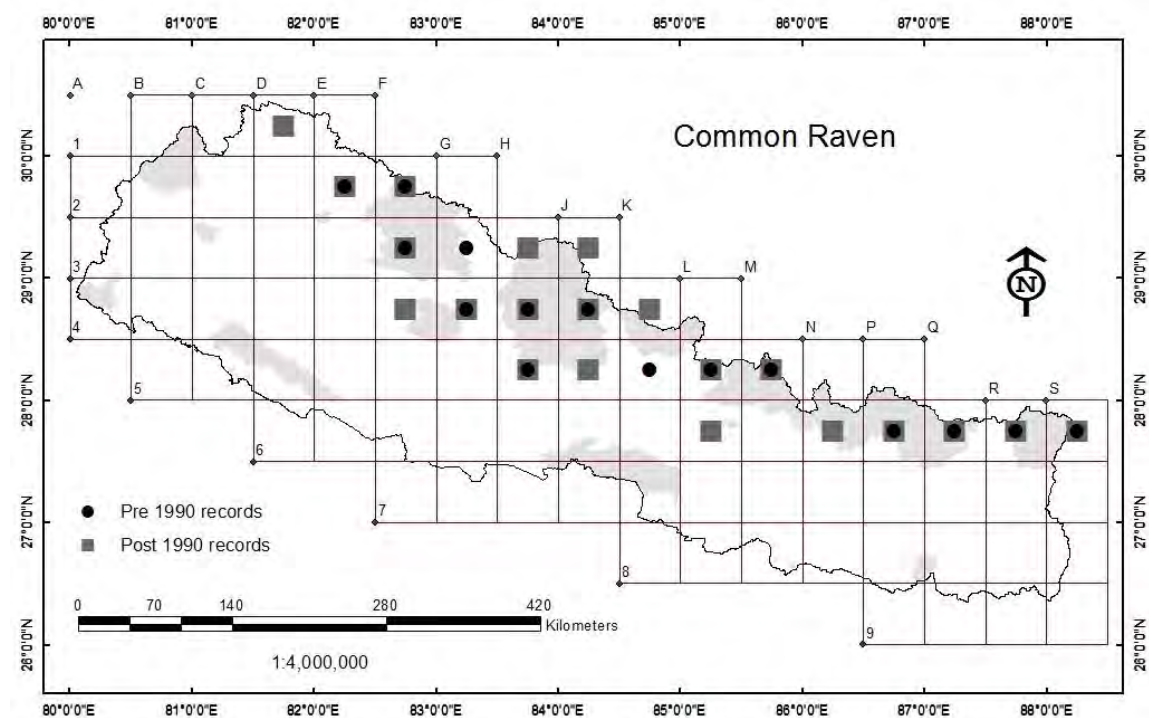
Raajaa Kaag (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Corvidae



Distribution



Common Raven is a fairly common resident occurring in the Trans-Himalayan region and valleys north of the main Himalayan range. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Humla (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013) in the far north-west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal definite record of the species was in July and August 1950 at Manangbhot (J4) between 4265m and 4570m (Lowndes 1955).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a fairly common resident, occurred in Trans-Himalayan Nepal, mainly above 3500m, and up to at least 5000m. The species is subject to some altitudinal movements, and may move south and to lower altitudes in winter, occasionally as low as 2500m, particularly after severe weather. Its pre-1990 distribution was mapped at higher altitudes from mid-west to the far east. The species was seen as high as 8235m on Sagarmatha in 1971 (Fleming *et al.* 1984).

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990; this is mainly due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); a resident in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F2, F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4J4,) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), a breeding resident in Upper Mustang (J3) (Acharya 2002, Suwal 2003) of the area; recorded at Tshyo, Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) in March 2011 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); a frequent resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001), and a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009). According to Basnet (2004), the species had less than five records in Sagarmatha National Park (P6) and subsequent records include in April 2006 (Oldfield 2006), December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009) and February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012). It is a fairly common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a); and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6, S6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Tashigaon, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998).

There is significantly smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990, probably because of poor coverage. These records include from between Simikot and Chyakpalung, Humla District (D1) in May- June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013), and occasionally seen in upper Humla (D1) in June-July 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015); and between Glacial Flats Tented Camp and Dhaulagiri Base Camp (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Greenland (to Denmark), Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Malta, Mexico, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Palestinian Authority Territories, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, St Pierre and Miquelon (to France), Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands (to Norway), Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA and Uzbekistan (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5000 m (-8235m); lower limit: 3500 m (-2500m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Common Raven.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Common Raven inhabits high altitude Trans-Himalayan country and dry valleys north of the main range: dry rocky desert areas above the tree-line, in the Tibetan facies (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998, Martens and Eck 1995). The species is often wary and suspicious. It is found singly, in pairs or in family parties in the breeding season, forms a pair-bond for life and keeps the same breeding territory each year. In winter it wanders in small flocks. The species waddles on the ground and hops occasionally (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It sometimes lives close to villages where it visits rubbish dumps and even enters tents of shepherds (and scientists) (Martens and Eck 1995). The species feeds on all animal matter as well as vegetables that can be procured, dead or live (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Common Raven is possibly threatened by poisoning of its food.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Common Raven. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Common Raven has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally common resident in the Trans-Himalayan region and dry valleys north of the main range from the far north-west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas, but much less frequently and widely outside the protected areas' system, probably because of poor coverage. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage. Common Raven is possibly threatened by poisoning of its food. Its population may be declining.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009_006.pdf)

***Corvus macrorhynchos* Wagler, 1827 LC**

Subspecies: *Corvus macrorhynchos intermedius*,  
*tibetosinensis*, *culminatus*, *levaillantii*

Common name

Large-billed Crow (English),  
Kaalo Kaag (Nepali)

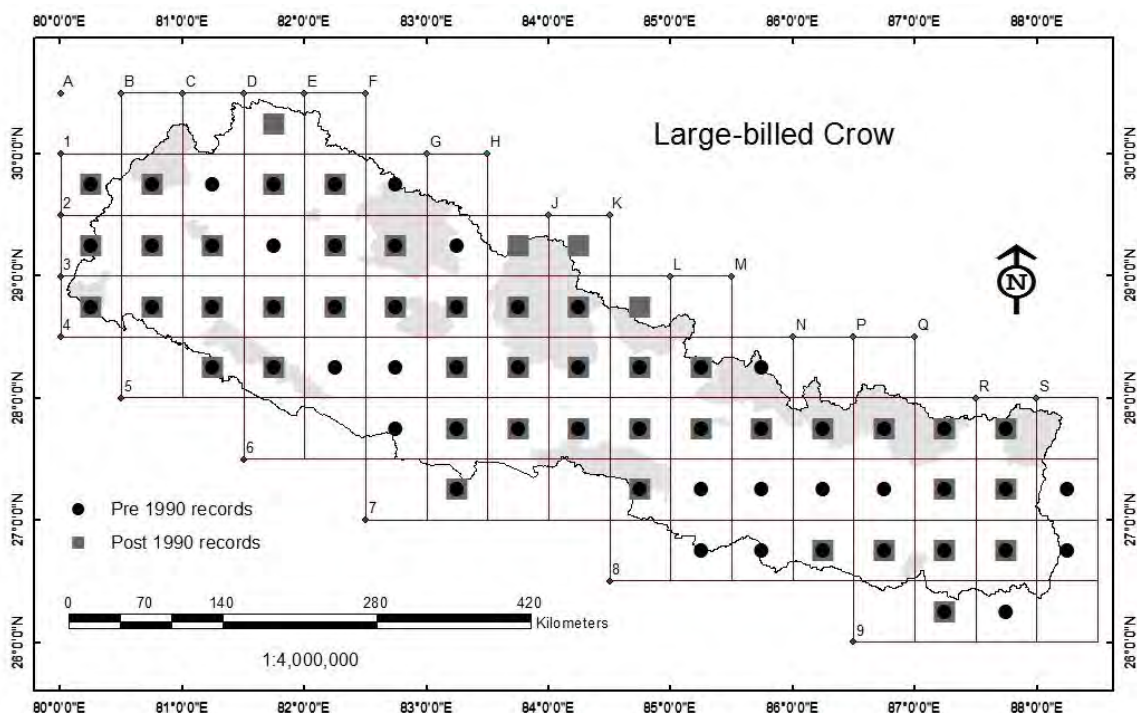
Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Corvidae



General Information

BirdLife International (2014) treat the lowland forms of this species as a separate species, Jungle Crow *Corvus levaillantii*, largely separated altitudinally from the upland forms, and with different vocalisations (Martens and Eck 1995). *C. macrorhynchos intermedius* has been recorded in the breeding season in upland areas down to 1950 m, and *C. levaillantii* occurs from the lowlands up to about 2200 m, and exceptionally up to 2660 m (on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area). The two forms are treated as conspecific here for practical reasons: hardly any of the many references that list this species complex for Nepal distinguish between the two or provide sufficient information to allow a distinction to be made on the basis of altitude.

Distribution



Large-billed Crow is a very common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Dadelhdhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident to Nepal. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as an abundant resident and mapped its distribution widely from the far west to the far east.

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see text and map below).

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); common in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006) and in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); common below 4000m in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5] (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), a breeding resident in Upper Mustang (J3) (Acharya 2002, Suwal 2003) and a common resident in Modi River Watershed area (Suwal 2000) of Annapurna Conservation Area; a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001) and in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001). It is a common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) (Hofland 2001) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a common breeding resident in Sagarmatha National Park (P6) (Basnet 2004) and in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded between Melamchigaon, Tarkeghyang and Sermathang in May 2007 (Byskov 2007), buffer zone of Langtang National Park. It has been recorded at Sauraha in October 2000 (Stair and Stair 2000), Barandabhar Forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District and Gundre Khola in November 2007 (Baral 2007) and Tharu Culture Village Resort in December 2011 (Baral 2011a), Nawalparasi District, buffer zone of Chitwan National Park. It has also been recorded between Lukla and Phakding in April 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994), buffer zone of Sagarmatha National Park; between Seduwa and Tashigaon in November 1994 (Buckton and Baral 1994), buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park, and between Madhuban and Haripur in January 2010 (Baral 2010a), buffer zone of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

Large-billed Crow has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990 (see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Amargadhi, Kaphali Danda and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Dasarath Chand Municipality (B3), Baitadi District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a common breeding resident in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012,) a common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); Chisapani (C5), Bardia District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D2), Humla District in May-June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013) and June-July 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015); between Daurogaon, Beuli, Kalikot, Takula, Chhirna (D2) Kalikot District and Narakot (E3), Jumla District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Rawtkot (D4) and between Gaibanne, Madela, Lihie and Okharpata (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Jumla, Gothichaur, Navakuna, Chaurikot (E3), Jumla District and Hurikot (F3), Dolpa District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Khalanga, Rimna, Chisapani, Kalimati, Kauli Sakala, Jiri Daha, Lagana and Karki Jiula (E4) Jajarkot District and Salli Bazaar (E5), Salyan District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between Dunai and Juphaal (F4) in May 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Malika Dhuri, Lumsum, Deorali Thanti, Lachang and Palung (G5), Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Rupakot and Buachidi (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013b); between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and a resident in Balewa (H5) (Basnet 2009), Baglung District; a resident in Jagdishpur Reservoir area (G6) (Baral 2008), Khadaraphanta (F6) in January 2011 (Acharya 2011), Kapilvastu District ; Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Banpale Danda (H5) (Karki *et al.* 1997), Begnas Tal (J5) in March 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004), Pokhara (H5) in November 2007 (Baral 2007), Kaski District; between Chandi Bhanjyang, Kavri Dharmasala, Argali (G6) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b), Rampur Valley (H6), (Gautam 2003) Palpa District; Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000, and; Budi Gandaki River (K5), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

In the central region records include from: Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in December 1995 (Rasmussen and Strange 1995); Gajuri (K6) in March 1995 (Zerning and Braasch 1995), Dhading (K6) in April 2011 (Baral 2011b),

Dhading District; Trisuli Bazaar (L6), Nuwakot District in April 1996 (Taylor *et al.* 1996); a common resident in Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), recorded at Nagarkot (M6), Bhaktapur District in February 2013 (Musgrove 2013), along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Lalitpur (L6), Kathmandu (L6), Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) Districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common resident in Chitlang forest (L7) (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) and Hetauda (L7) in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), Makwanpur District; Judibela Community Forest, Adarsha Community Forest and Rangapur Collaborative Forest (L7), Rautahat District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013c), between Gaur (L7), Rautahat District [L7] and Sedhawa (N8), Siraha District and between Belwa and Kat Mandir (L7), Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Namo Buddha (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005); between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004);

In the east records include from: between Mude, Bhotebas, Khadbari and Tumlimgtar (Q7) in December 1994 (Buckton and Baral 1994) and between Maruwabesi gau and Archale gaun (Q7) in June 2009 (Cox 2009), Sankhuwasabha District; Tinjure Forest (Q7), Tehrathum District (Rai 2003); a common resident in Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2011 (Baral 2011b), Sunsari District; a frequent resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), a fairly common resident in Biratnagar (Q9) (Jha and Subba 2012), Morang District ; Hile (Q7) in April 1995 (Zerning and Braasch 1995), Belhara (Q8), in September 2003 (Baral 2003a) Dhankuta District; between Tungwa and Themba (R7), Taplejung District in December 1992 (Cox 1992); Dobate (R8), Ilam District in Spetember 2010 (Baral 2010b), and the Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Russia (Asian), Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4900m; lower limit: 75m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Large-billed Crow. Post 1990, as many as 650 birds were recorded between Koshi area and Chitwan National Park on 6 November 2011 (Baral 2011c); 400 were recorded on 15 February 2003 between Koshi area and Chitwan National Park (Baral 2003b). A total of 100 birds were recorded in Mahakali Valley of Api Nampa Conservation Area between 15- 24 December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum Population Unknown

Maximum Population Unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Large-billed Crow frequents forests, cultivation and open country all the way above the tree-line, usually associated with villages and towns (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species is less gregarious and sociable than House Crow, usually keeps singly, in pairs and in small groups but roosts communally in large numbers; inquisitive, bold and omnivorous (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds animals as well as vegetable matter including carrion, garbage and offal, birds' eggs, young and sickly birds, small rodents, lizards, frogs, land and sand crabs, insects, fruits, cereal grains, flower-nectar and petals (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Khaptad [C3] (Inskipp 1988), Nepalgunj (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982), Lumbini, Rupandehi District (Hem Sagar Baral), the Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1949, Scully 1879), Chitwan (Gurung 1983), near Dhankuta [Q7] (Isherwood 1978) and in the upper Mai valley (Stevens 1923).

## Threats

Large-billed Crow has probably benefitted from the increase in organic waste.

## Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Large-billed Crow. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Banke, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

## Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Large-billed Crow has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a very common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in almost all protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in its distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. However, it was very widely recorded pre-1990. Large-billed Crow has probably benefitted from the increase in organic waste which may have lead to an increase in its population.

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***Corvus splendens*** Vieillot, 1817 LC

Subspecies: *C. s. splendens*

Common Name

House Crow (English),

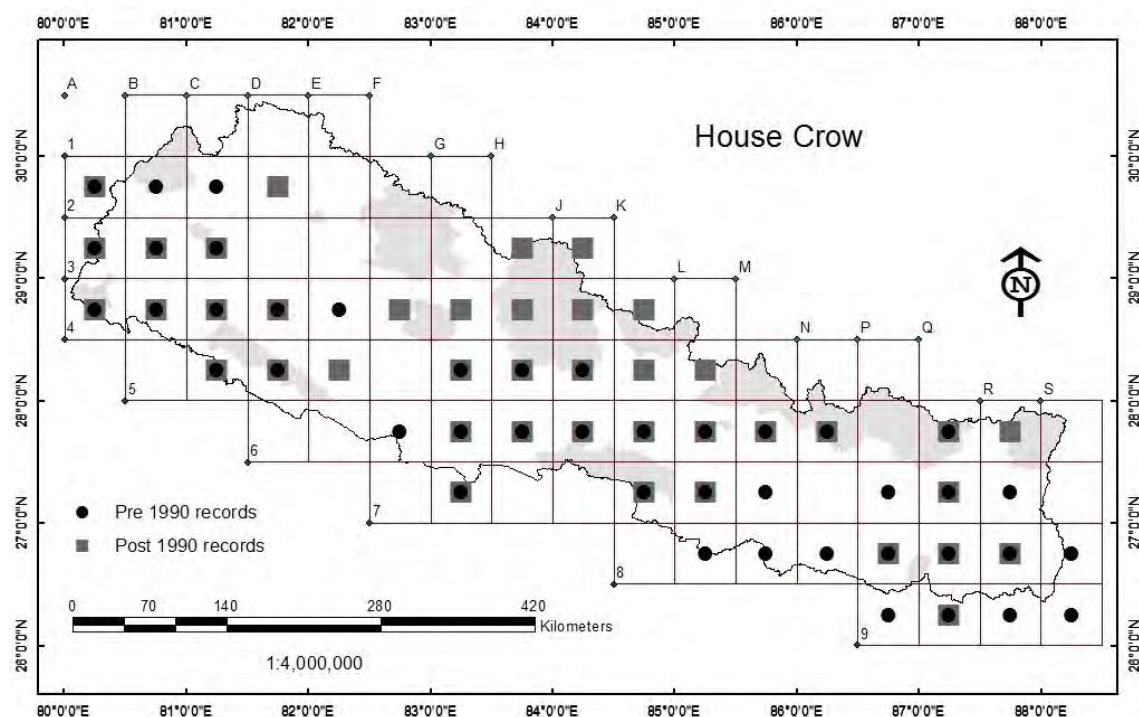
Ghar Kaag (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Corvidae



Distribution



House Crow is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century by Hodgson (Gray and Gray 1846).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was an abundant resident to Nepal. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was an abundant and sedentary resident from the terai up to 1525m and rare at higher altitudes. Before 1990, the maximum altitude report of the species was 2100m at Nagarkot [M6] on February 1983 (Nickel and Trost 1983).

There is a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably partly due to better coverage and possibly also a response to climate change (Acharya and Ghimirey 2013)..

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: a fairly common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (B2) (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National

Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); rare resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), a breeding resident in Upper Mustang (J3) (Acharya 2002); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013a); an occasionally recorded resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); recorded at Dhunche, Langtang National Park (L5) in June 1999 (Choudhary 1999); a common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in May 2011 (Baral 2011a) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a common breeding resident in Koshi area (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest, buffer zone of Chitwan National Park, e.g. in March 2010 (Giri 2010).

Post-1990 the species has also been recorded from many locations outside the protected areas' system.

In the west records include from: Amargadhi, Dadeldhura District [A3] in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); between Majhagaun and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, Kanchanpur District [A4] in May 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); Dasarath Chand Municipality, Baitadi District [B3] in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (CSUWN and BCN 2012), common breeding resident in Mohana River corridor (Chaudhary 2012) and Tikapur in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013), Kailali District [B4]; between Khairapur and Bhurigaon, Bardia District [C5] in February 2003 (Baral 2003); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti IBA [E5] (Thakuri 2009); Reshunga Forest, potential IBA, Gulmi District [G5] (Thakuri 2013b); resident in Belawa, Baglung District [G5] (Basnet 2009); resident in Jagdishpur Reservoir area, Kapilvastu District [G6] (Baral 2008); Bhairahawa in April 1993 (Baral 1994a); Lumbini in January 2011 (Acharya 2011) and Gaidahawa Lake area in February 2011 (Baral 2011b), Rupandehi District [G6]; Pokhara, Kaski District [H5] in November 2007 (Baral 2007); school at Salyan, Parbat District [H5] in October 1999 (Baral 2000), and Besisahar and Bahundanda, Lamjung District [J5] in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998).

In central Nepal records include from: Bharatpur, Chitwan District [J6] in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Dhading, Dhading District [K6] in April 2011 (Baral 2011a); common resident to Kathmandu Valley [L6] (Mallalieu 2008); common resident to Chitlang forest, Makwanpur District [L7] (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); between Lal Bakaiya Nadi and Kopuwa Gau, Rautahat District [L7], between Gaur, Rautahat District [L5] to Sedhawa, Siraha District [L5] and between Mewa Gau and Belwa, Bara District [L7] in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Panauti and Dhulikhel, Kavrepalanchok District [M6] in November 1994 (Baral 1994b), and the Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

In the east records include from: Bhagalpur, Udaypur District [P8] in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Tumlingtar, Sankhuwasabha District [Q6] in December 1994 (Baral 1995); common resident in Chimdi Lake (Surana *et al.* 2007), Ram Dhuni Forest in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999), Itahari (Pandey 2003), Dharan Forest (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest in May 2011 (Baral 2011a) and Jabdi in October 2011 (Baral 2011c), Sunsari District [Q8]; Biratnagar [Q9], Morang District [Q8] in March 1994 (Baral 1994a); Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006), and Ilam in January 2008 (Baral 2010), Ilam District [R8].

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Bhutan, Cambodia, Chile, China (mainland), Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Gibraltar (to UK), Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritius, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Tanzania, Tajikistan, Thailand, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA and Yemen (BirdLife International (2014) Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 1/04/2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2100 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for House Crow.

### Total Population Size

Minimum Population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

House Crow is closely associated with human activity and inhabits both cities and open country, gardens and nearby cultivation (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is gregarious, intelligent, inquisitive and impudently familiar yet excessively wary and alert. It is monogamous, omnivorous and an opportunistic feeder and scavenger. House Crow gathers in enormous roosts throughout the year and flocks make regular morning and evening flights from and to roost (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on practically everything that can be eaten ranging from grain, groundnuts, fruits, flower-nectar, eggs and young or sickly birds, lizards, small rodents, fish, insects, land crabs, kitchen scraps, garbage, offal and carrion (Ali and Ripley 1987). Bbreeding was confirmed at Chitwan (Gurung 1983) and in the Kathmandu Valley (Madge and Madge 1982, Proud 1949, Scully 1879).

### Threats

House Crow may have been benefitted by climate change since its distribution and altitudinal ranges were found to have increased in Annapurna Conservation Area (Acharya and Ghimirey 2013). It may well have also benefitted from the increase in waste generation. No threats to House Crow have been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for House Crow. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

House Crow has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and very widely outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. This is probably partly due to better coverage but may also be attributed to a response to climate change and also the increase in waste generation. No threats to House Crow have been identified. Its population is probably increasing.

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## *Culicicapa ceylonensis* (Swainson, 1820) LC

Subspecies: *Culicicapa ceylonensis pallidior*

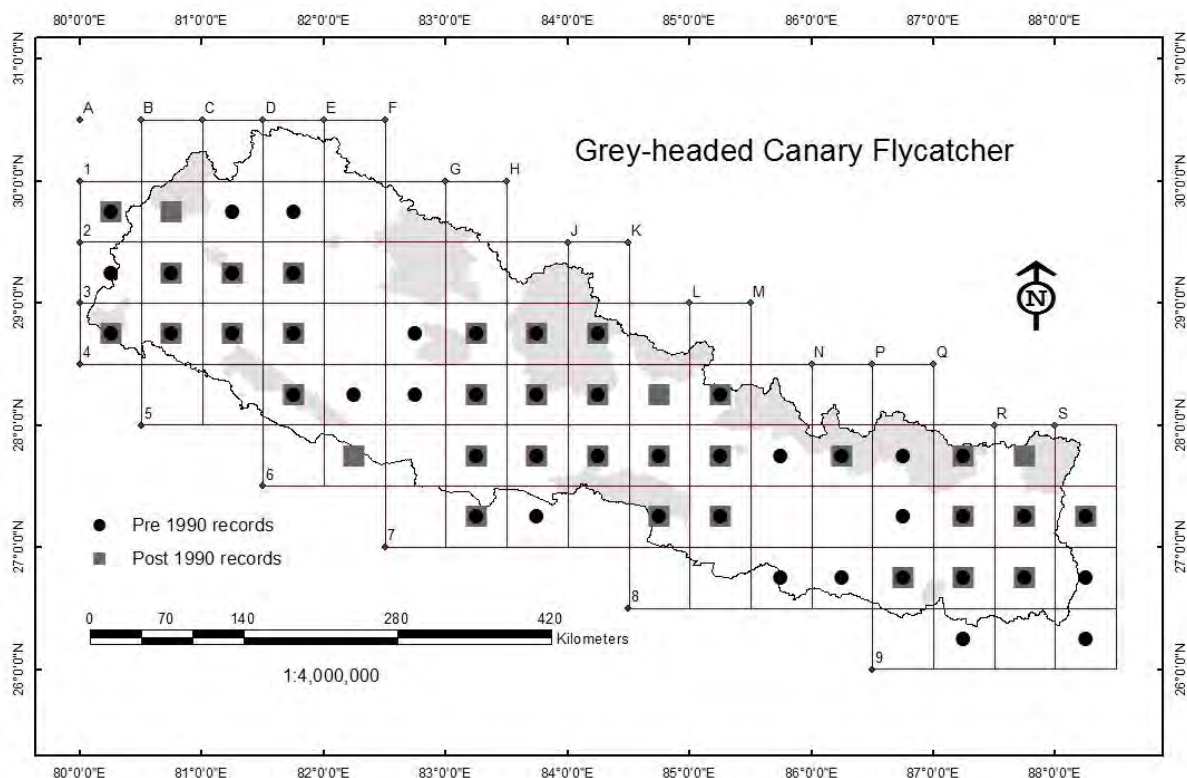
### Common name

Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher (English),  
Chanchale Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



### Distribution



Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher is a common partial migrant, some birds remaining to winter. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Hange Tham, Ilam District in the far east (Baral 2010c).

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a very common partial migrant and mapped it from the far west to the far east.

The species' status in protected areas post-1990 is: a fairly common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); common in Api Nampa Conservation Area (A2, B2) (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (Acharya 2011, Baral *et al.* 2012); a common summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Khadka 1996); a common summer visitor and uncommon in winter in the Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a fairly common winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001); a common resident in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common summer visitor to Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar

Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009, Cox 1996); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a frequent winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), and common in summer, possibly resident in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013). The species has been recorded from Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Janakauli (K6), Chitwan District, e.g. in February 2008 (Giri 2008); from Tharu Cultural Village Resort, Nawalparasi District (H6) in December 2011 (Baral 2011a) and at Bees Hazari Tal (Baral 1996). It has also been recorded from Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May and June 2009 (Cox 2009).

The distribution of Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher has significantly decreased post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map). However, post-1990 it is still widely recorded outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat (see map and text below).

In the west records include: several records from Dadeldhura District (B3) in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a fairly common winter visitor to Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4); Badimalika region, Bajura District (D3) in 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); several records from Kalikot District (D3) in March 1997 (Giri 1997) and from Rawatkot (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Dang Deukhuri Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); recorded at Lumbini (G7) IBA, Rupandehi District, e.g. in January 2006 (Mallalieu 2006) and in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); between Kavri Dharmasala and Argali, Palpa District (G6) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Argali, Palpa District and Sidure, Gulmi District (G6) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Gwalichaur, Baglung District and Simalchaur, Gulmi/Baglung Districts border (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); several records from the upper Myagdi Khola valley (G4) in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b); recorded in Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in November 2010 and February 2011 and common there in March and June 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in November 1992 (Baral 1993a), February 2008 (Giri 2008) and November 2011 (Baral 2011); Bhulbhule (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998); between Bhujung and Pasgam (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), and at Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records include: between Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992); between Kutumsang, Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani, Nuwakot District (L6) in May 1999 (Chaudhary 1999); a common resident in Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District in 1991/92 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); recorded at Malkehu (K6), Dhading District in 1991 (Baral 1992), and along the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: from Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Koshi Barage (P8) in October 1993 (Choudhary 1994) and February 1997 (Chaudhary 1997a); Tumlingtar and between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Tumlingtar, Khandbari, Bhotebas, and Pikhua Khola valley (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November and December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Pikhua Khola valley (Q7) in May 2009 (Cox 2009); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District in November 2011 (Baral 2011b); Patnali, Dharan forest Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in January 2010 (Baral 2010a) and October 2010 (Baral 2010b); Dharan forest Important Bird Area (Q8) in November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997b) and in 2008 (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Raja Rani Community forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Ilam (R8), Ilam District, e.g. in June 1997 (Chaudhary 1998) and January 2008 (Baral 2010a); between Gupha Pokhari and Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); between Garuwa and Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); lower Mai valley (R7) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006); Dobate and Hange Tham (S7), Mai Valley Important Bird Area, Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010c), and recorded daily in the lower and upper Mai valley, Mai valley (R7, R8, S7) (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2400 m (-3100 m) (summer), 1800 m (winter); lower limit: 1500 m (-1200 m) (summer), 75 m (winter)

### Population

No population survey has been specifically carried out for Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher. The large number of 90 was recorded on a Churia Hills hike, Chitwan National Park on 15 February 1991 (Baral 1993b). As its distribution has significantly reduced its 1990 and it is suffering from forest losses, its population is probably declining.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum Population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher inhabits forests and wooded areas (Grimmett *et al.* 2009); also groves and open wooded country (Grimmett *et al.* 2008). It is found singly in winter, often with mixed foraging flocks of other insectivorous species and in pairs or family parties in the breeding season. It is conspicuous, confiding and noisy throughout the year and always on the move. It sallies forth to pursue flying insects acrobatically like a typical flycatcher and frequently turns its head and jerks its tail. The species inhabits the lower and middle storeys of forest. Breeding has been proved in the central region (L6) (Biswas 1962, Ripley 1950), in the Hongu valley (P6) (Biswas 1974) and north of Dhankuta (Q7) (Isherwood 1978). It feeds on tiny winged insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher is threatened by forest losses.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher. Post-1990 it has been recorded in: Bardia, Banke, Khaptad, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and in Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common partial migrant, some birds remaining to winter and it has been recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Grey-headed Canary Flycatcher is threatened by forest losses and its distribution has significantly decreased post-1990 compared to pre-1990. As a result, its population is probably declining, but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Cyornis poliogenys*** W. E. Brooks, 1880 LC

Subspecies: *Cyornis poliogenys poliogenys*

Common name

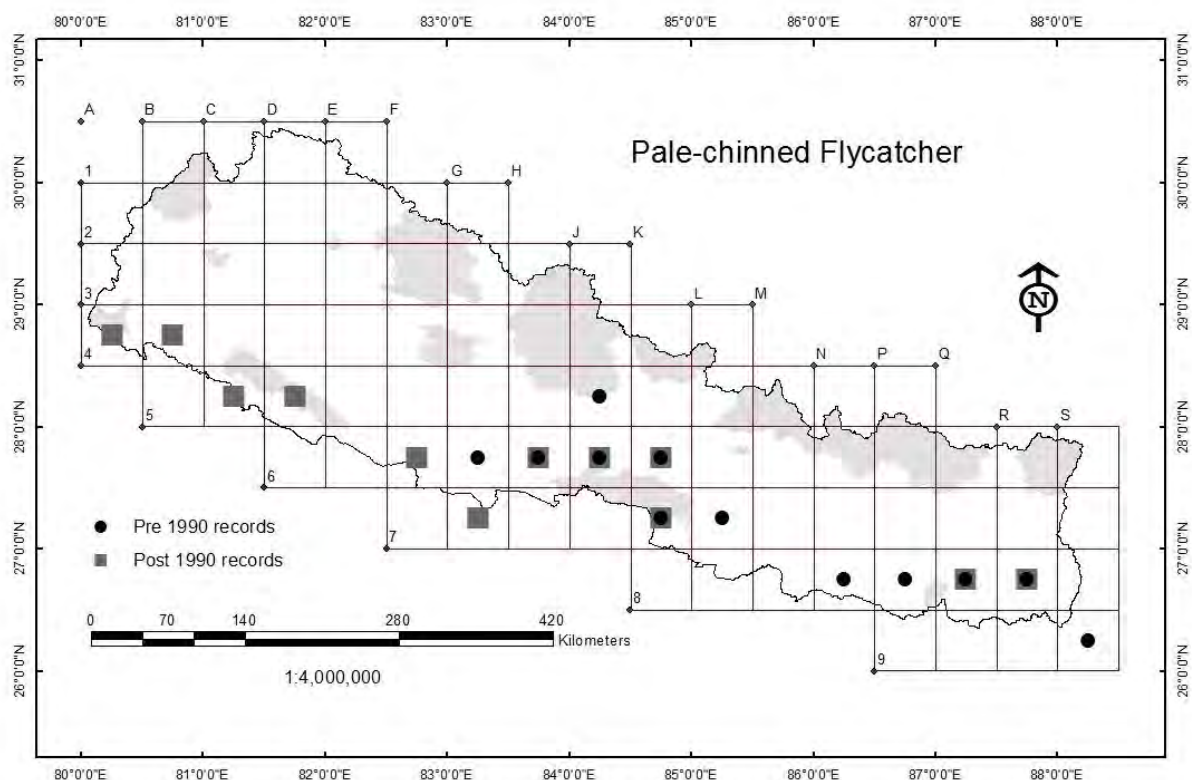
Pale-chinned Flycatcher (English),  
Naunikanthe Arjunak (Nepali)

Upper level taxonomy

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Pale-chinned Flycatcher is a locally common resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Garuwa, Jhapa District (Cox 1992, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was specimens collected by B. Hodgson in the 19<sup>th</sup> century; these were confused with Blue-throated Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis rubeculoides*, but have now been correctly identified in The Natural History Museum, Tring, U.K.

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as fairly common; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a locally common resident mapped from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Post-1990 the species status in the protected areas' system is: uncommon resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009, Giri and Choudhary 1996, 2003) and in Bardia National Park (Anon 1992, Inskipp 2001); recorded in February in Banke National Park (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001), and an uncommon resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005). The species has also been recorded in



Chitwan National Park buffer zone near Tharu Cultural Jungle Resort, Nawalparasi District (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007) and in December 2011 (Baral 2011a); also in Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000).

The species has also been recorded outside the protected areas' system at a few localities in the west and a few in the east in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. The species' range has been extended to the far west in protected areas, probably because of better coverage. However, its overall distribution has reduced outside the protected areas' system post-1990 compared to before 1990.

In the west it has been recorded in the Ghodaghodi Tal area (B4), Kailalai District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); it was common in the upper Chirai Khola valley (F6), Kapilvastu District in April 2007 (Cox 2008), and recorded at Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011).

In the east records include: from Patnali, Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in January 2010 (Baral 2010) and May 2011 (Baral 2011b), in 2008 (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Raja Rani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2006); between Garuwa and Sukhani, Jhapa District (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and near Garuwa in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008), and in the lower Mai valley (R8) in 2006 (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, 2007).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 455 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Pale-chinned Flycatcher. A total of 15+ was recorded on 9 April 1997 near Gaida camp, Chitwan National Park (Baral 1997) and 14 at Patnali, Dharan forests Important Bird Area on 9 May 2011 (Baral 2011b). The population has probably declined outside the protected areas' system as a result of forest losses and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Pale-chinned Flycatcher inhabits bushes and undergrowth in broadleaved forests in the tropical zone (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It forages in trees, but also sometimes on the ground, where it resembles a chat (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding has been proved at Sunishare, Jhapa District (Heath 1986) and in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983).

#### Threats

Pale-chinned Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of its tropical forest habitat. This habitat type is especially at risk (Inskipp 1989).

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Pale-chinned Flycatcher. It has been recorded in Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Pale-chinned Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally common resident, which has been recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from all low altitude protected areas. The species has also been recorded outside the protected areas' system at a few localities in the west and a few in the east in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Its distribution has reduced outside the protected areas' system post-1990 compared to before 1990; however, its range has been extended to the far west, probably because of better coverage. Pale-chinned Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of its tropical forest habitat outside the protected areas' system; this habitat type is especially at risk. As a result, its population has probably declined, although not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Cyornis rubeculoides*** (Vigors, 1831) LC  
Subspecies: *Cyornis rubeculoides rubeculoides*

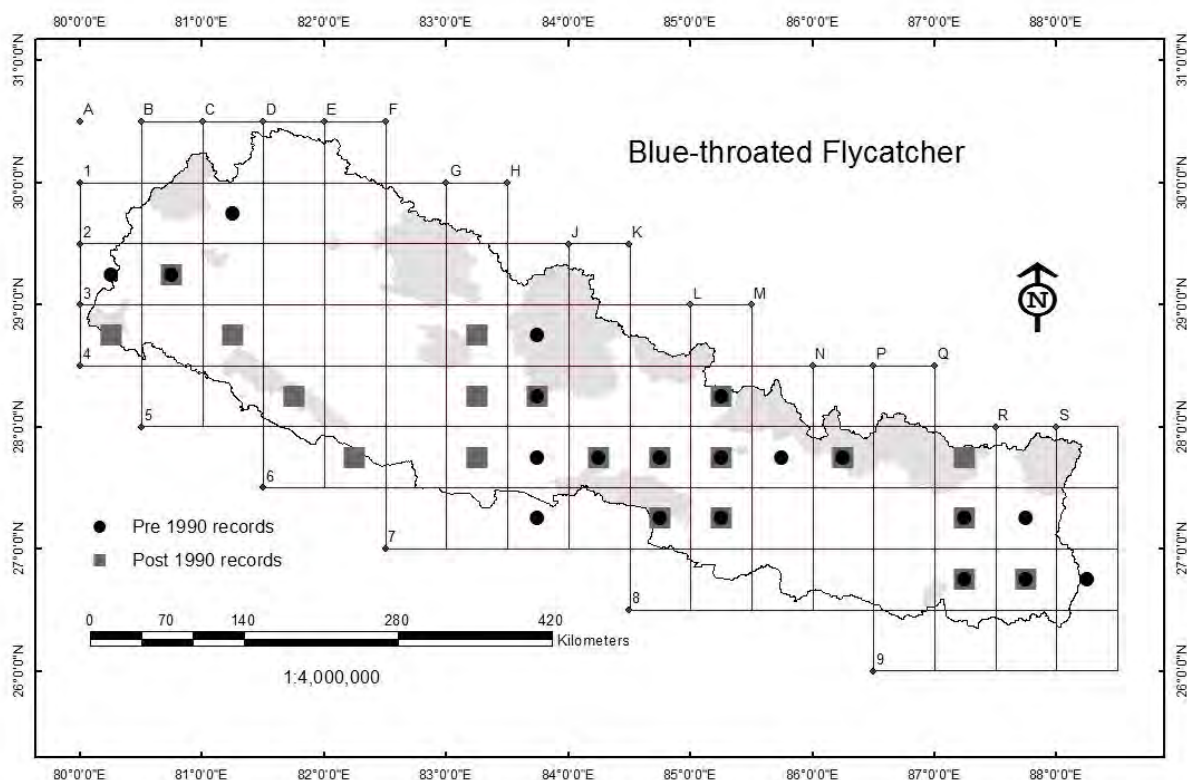
Common name

Blue-throated Flycatcher (English),  
Nilkanthe Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Blue-throated Flycatcher is a partial migrant; mainly an uncommon summer visitor and rare in winter. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Ilam, Ilam District (Chaudhary 1998) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported the species was a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it a partial migrant, mainly a summer visitor and rare and winter.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system follows. Baral and Inskipp (2009) reported it was uncommon, possibly a winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, but it is probably also a passage migrant – records of probable passage migrants include three seen in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001) and one in May 1996 (Giri and Choudhary 1996). It is an uncommon summer visitor to Bardia National Park (Tamang undated and Kumal 2001 in Inskipp 2001) and a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). It has been recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Pradhan 1992) and is probably a passage migrant there; probable records of migrants include one in September 1992 (Baral 1993) and five records of single birds in April and May 2003 (Cox 2003). SNP and BCN (2007) reported it was a fairly common

resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); however, Mallalieu (2008) described it as an uncommon summer visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006 and reported two singing on Nagarjun and one on Shivapuri in May 2006. The species is a frequent resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in May (Baral and Shah 2009), and a frequent visitor, possibly resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a). Baral (2005) described it as a rare winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, but there are also several records of probable passage migrants, e.g. single birds in March 2010 (Baral 2010a); April 1997 (Baral 1997), April 1999 (Chaudhary 1999), April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), and April 2008 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2008); also 12 in September 1996 (Giri 1997). The species has also been recorded at Bees Hazari Tal in Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Baral 1996).

Post-1990 the species has been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat, see map and text below. Since 1990 there has been an increase in the number of localities in the west, probably due to better coverage and a decrease in distribution in the east. Post-1990 records follow.

In the west records include: single birds from Amargadhi (B3), Dadeldhura District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); recorded in the Dang Deukhuri forests Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b) and in the Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District in March and June 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013); between Chandi Bhanjyang and Kavri Dharmasala (G6), Palpa District; between Argali, Palpa District and Sidure, Gulmi District (G6); between Rupakot, Bari Gad, Gulmi District and Buachidi, Gulmi District (G6); between Buachidi, Gulmi District and Gwalichaur, Baglung District (G5); between Simalchaur, Gulmi/Baglung Districts border and Ghot south of Ridhabhot, Gulmi District (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Darbang, middle Myagdi Khola valley and Tatopani, middle Myagdi Khola, Myagdi District (G4) in June 1999 (Cox 1999b), and in the Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District in April 1996 (Mauro 1996) and in March 2009 (Baral 2009).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon summer visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records include: five singing at Pashupatinath (L6), Kathmandu Valley in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), and one from Bajrabarahi (L7), Lalitpur District in September 1993 (Baral 1994).

In the east records include: one by the Sabhaya Khola (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in April 1991 (Halberg 1991); ten records of single birds in the lower Arun valley (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in April, May and June 2009 (Cox 2009); two north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010a); one from Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); two from Patnali (Q8), Dharan forests Important Bird Area, Sunsari District in October 2010 (Baral 2010b), and one from Ilam (R8), Ilam District in June 1997 (Chaudhary 1998).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 1500 m (-2135 m) (summer), 300 m (winter); lower limit: 365 m (summer), 75 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Blue-throated Flycatcher. Its population has probably decreased, at least in the east.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Blue-throated Flycatcher inhabits open forests and groves (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); also foothill forests (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It frequents bushes and low branches and feeds by sallying after flying prey, but does not use a regular perch (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects and grubs (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species was proved breeding at Hetauda and Bhimpedi, Makwanpur District (Biswas 1962).

### Threats

Blue-throated Flycatcher is threatened by deforestation; its subtropical forest habitat is especially at risk (Inskipp 1989).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Blue-throated Flycatcher. It has been recorded from Bardia, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; Gaurishankar Conservation Area and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Blue-throated Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a partial migrant; mainly an uncommon summer visitor and rare in winter. Post-1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east and in several protected areas. Its distribution in the east has reduced since 1990. Blue-throated Flycatcher is threatened by deforestation; its subtropical forest habitat is especially at risk. As a result, its population has probably declined, at least in the east. However, the decline is not considered great enough to warrant a threatened category for the species.

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***Cyornis tickelliae*** Blyth, 1843 LC  
Subspecies: *Cyornis tickelliae tickelliae*

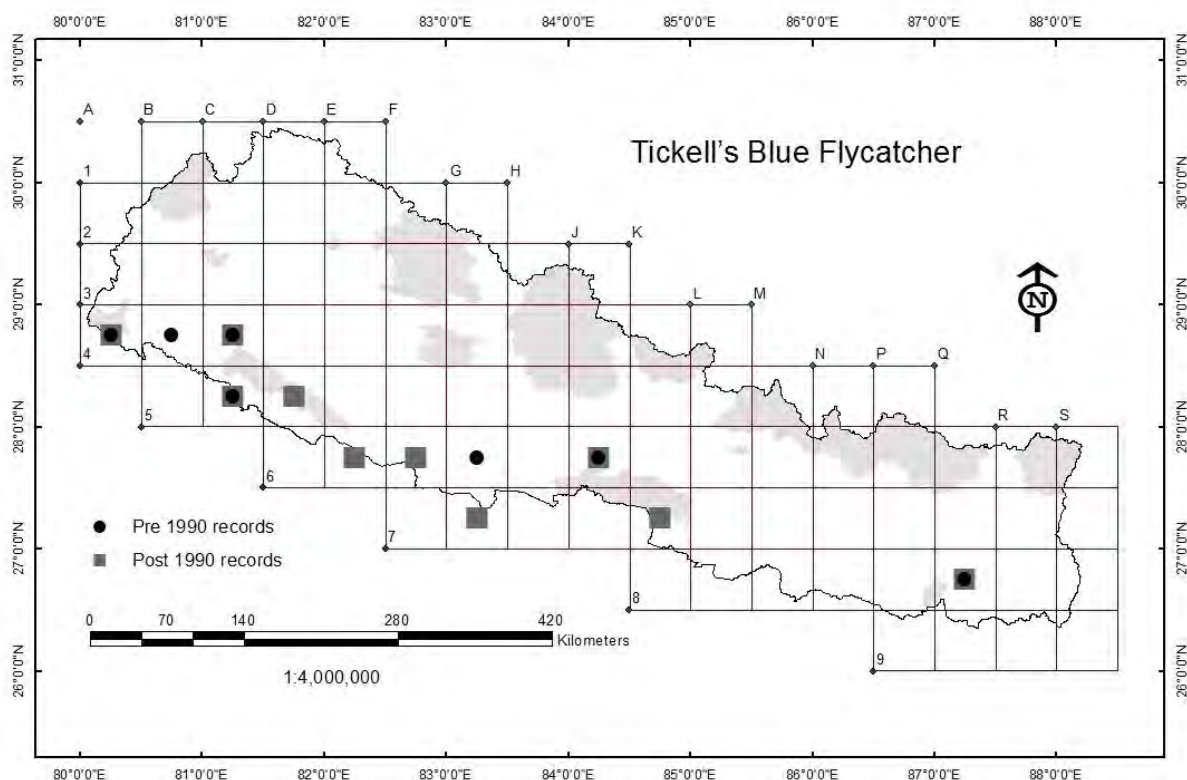
Common name

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher (English),  
Nilo Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Tickell's Blue Flycatcher is a locally distributed resident, frequent in two protected areas and rare elsewhere. Post-1990 there are records from the west, west-central, central and east Nepal ranging from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Giri and Choudhary 1999, Basnet and Sapkota 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Butwal in February 1950 (Rand and Fleming 1957).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was an occasionally recorded resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as scarce with status and movements uncertain.

The species post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: frequent in the breeding season in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in March 2011 (Acharya 2011) and February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare resident in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001).

There are a few more records from the west post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably as a result of better coverage; otherwise there has been no significant change in distribution.

Few records outside the protected areas' system are known pre-1990 and also post-1990, see below.

In the west known records are: from Dang Deukhuri Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); two from south of the Rapti River in Dang/Kapilvastu Districts (F6) in May 2007 (Cox 2008); one from Lumbini (G7) IBA, Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011)

In the east known records are one from Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District in March 1999 (Giri and Choudhary 1999) and also recorded there in 2008 (Baral and Sapkota 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 315 m; lower limit: 150 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Tickell's Blue Flycatcher. It may be declining as a result of habitat loss outside the protected areas' system.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher inhabits open, dry broadleaved forests in the tropical zone (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); in ravines bordering dry, open sal forests (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It flits actively around bushes, undergrowth and low branches hawking insects in mid-air (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects, chiefly Diptera (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher is threatened by the loss of tropical dry broadleaved forests outside the protected areas' system.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Tickell's Blue Flycatcher. It has been recorded in Bardia National Park and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, and marginally in Chitwan National Park and Parsa Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Tickell's Blue Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally distributed resident, frequent in two protected areas and rare elsewhere. There are a few more records from the west post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably as a result of better coverage; otherwise there has been no significant change in distribution. Few records outside the protected areas' system are known pre-1990 and also post-1990. The

species is threatened by the loss of tropical dry broadleaved forests outside the protected areas' system and may be declining as a result, however not to an extent to warrant a threatened category.

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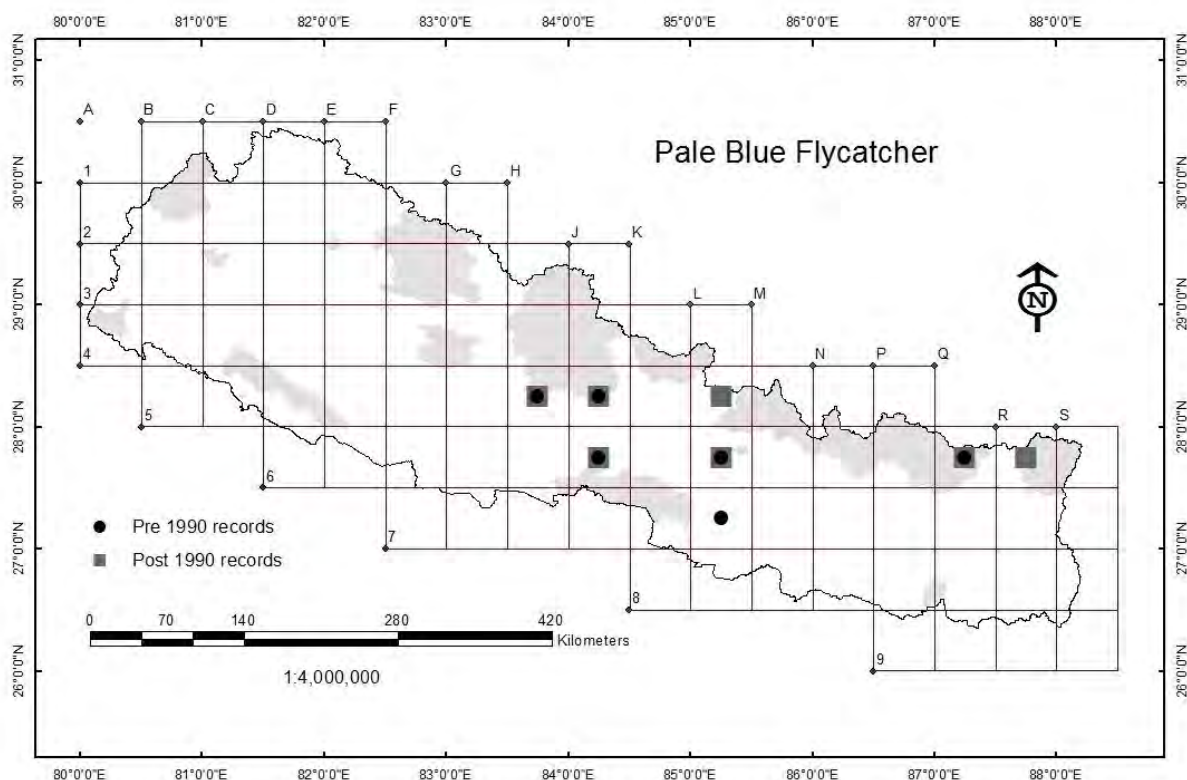
***Cyornis unicolor*** Blyth, 1843 LC  
 Subspecies: *Cyornis unicolor unicolor*

Common name  
 Pale Blue Flycatcher (English),  
 Nilgagan Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
 Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Pale Blue Flycatcher is a resident and summer visitor; fairly common in the Kathmandu Valley in spring and summer and uncommon elsewhere. It has been recorded from Pokhara valley, Kaski District in west-central Nepal (Fletcher 1994, Naylor *et al.* 2002, Naylor and Giri 2004, Naylor and GC 2005) east to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Halberg 1994) in the east. However, most records are from west-central Nepal and the Kathmandu Valley in central Nepal.

The first Nepal records were from Hetauda and Bhimpedi, Makwanpur District between in May 1947 (Biswas 1962).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a scarce resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also described it as scarce and presumably resident, and mapped it mainly from west-central and central Nepal, with one record in the east (see map).

There has been a significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map and text below). Post-1990 records follow.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system follows. It is a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). One was recorded at Syabru, Langtang National Park (L5) in May

1992 (Baral 1992), although the species is not included in Karki and Thapa (2001). The species is listed for Santel forests (H5) for May 2005 (Mahato 2007, Thapa 2005) in the Annapurna Conservation Area, although it is not included in Inskipp and Inskipp (2003). One was recorded on Nagarjun, Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park in March 2001 (Baral 2001) and eight singing males there in May 2006 (Mallalieu 2008); however, the species is not listed in SNP and BCN (2007). Arend van Riessen found it fairly common and singing on Nagarjun in recent years. The species was recorded in the Makalu Barun National Park in May or June 1995 (Choudhary 1995), although it is not included in Cox (1999). One was recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in May 2004 (Halberg 1994).

In the west records include: one from the Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District in December 1994 (Fletcher 1994), two there in March 2002 (Naylor *et al.* 2002) and singles in November 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004) and November 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005), and three from Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000);

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was uncommon and local, mainly in summer, presumably an altitudinal migrant in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. However, records of the species have increased significantly there in recent years and it is now locally common in spring and summer. Singles were seen on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in November 2005 and December 2005, one singing there in April 2006 and a female at Godaveri in April 2006 (Mallalieu 2008). One was also recorded on Phulchoki in February 2007 (Baral 2007) and two in April 2009 (Ryan and Chantler 2009); also recorded there recently in spring (Arend van Riessen).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1525 m; lower limit: 275 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Pale Blue Flycatcher.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Pale Blue Flycatcher inhabits dense, moist tropical and subtropical forests (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). When resting it cocks its tail like an Oriental Magpie Robin (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It usually frequents the middle and upper storeys in forest; sometimes also close to the ground. It pursues insects like a typical flycatcher; usually moves from one to perch to another, instead of returning to the same one (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). This species has possibly been overlooked (Hem Sagar Baral).

#### Threats

Pale Blue Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of its tropical and subtropical forest habitats. These forest types are especially at risk (Inskipp 1989). However, it may well have benefited from climate change which may have allowed it to colonise forests at higher altitudes than it previously occurred.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Pale Blue Flycatcher. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks and in Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Pale Blue Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident or summer visitor, fairly common in the Kathmandu Valley in spring and summer and uncommon elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been mainly recorded from west-central Nepal and the Kathmandu Valley in central Nepal, although there is one record from the far east. It has been recorded from several protected areas. There has been a significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990: the species was previously very rare in the Kathmandu Valley and not listed for Shivapuri Nagarjun but is now fairly common there. There are also records from Langtang National Park, Makalu Barun National Park and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area from where there are no pre-1990 records. Pale Blue Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of its tropical and subtropical forest habitats; these forest types are especially at risk. However, it may well have benefited from climate change, allowing it to colonise forests at higher altitudes than previously.

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***Delichon dasypus*** (Bonaparte, 1850) LC

Subspecies: *Delichon dasypus cashmeriensis*

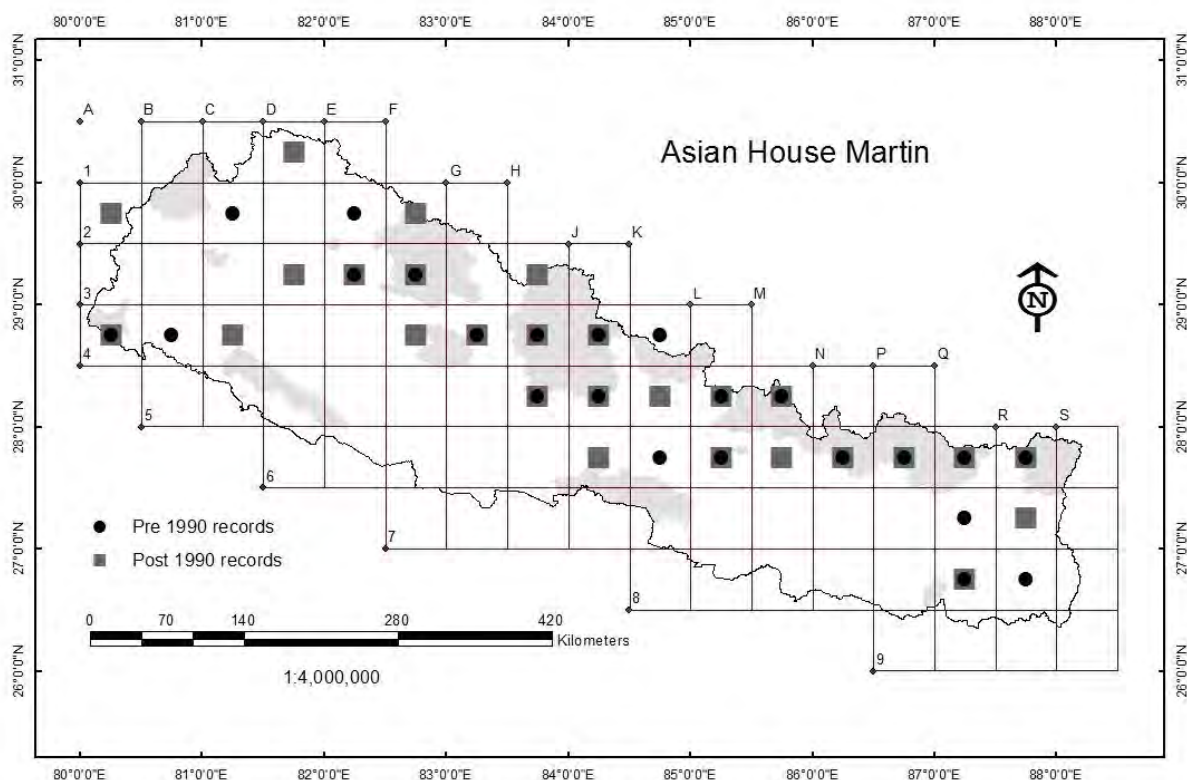
Common name

Asian House Martin (English),  
Asiyali Bhirgaunthali (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Hirundinidae



Distribution



Asian House Martin is a fairly common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Pheriche at 4250 m in August 1962 (Diesselhorst 1968).

Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) stated that the status and distribution of Asian House Martin and Northern House Martin *D. urbicum* was uncertain as they were often considered conspecific (e.g. Ali and Ripley 1972, Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ripley 1982). It is therefore not possible to assess any change in status post-1990 compared to pre-1990. The species has probably been under-recorded since 1990 because of identification confusion.

The species' post-1990 distribution in protected areas follows: recorded in the Mahakali valley (A2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in March/April 2012 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a rare winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009, Giri 1998); an uncommon winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); common in most areas in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1992, 1995); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), breeds in upper Mustang (Acharya 2002, Shah 2001, Suwal 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013);



a vagrant to Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in May and June 2009 (Baral and Shah 2009); a frequent summer visitor and passage migrant to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); fairly common, possibly resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a rare winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) including four in January 2002 (Giri and Choudhary 2002b) and one in February 2005 (Giri and Choudhary 2005), and frequent in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

It has been recorded in the Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in the Apsuwa Khola watershed (Tymstra 1993) and the Pikhua Khola valley (Q6) (Cox 2009).

The species has been less widely recorded outside the protected areas' system, see text below and map, but is probably overlooked.

In the west records include from: between Simikot-Chyakpalung (D1), Humla District in May-June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013); between Daurogaon and Beuli (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Sinja and Jaljala Chaur (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); between Navakuna and Charikot (E3), Jumla District and between Dunai and Juphaal (F4), Dolpa District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Archegaun and Dimlatti, Myagdi Khola (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b), and Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in March 1999 (Chartier and Chartier 1999).

In central Nepal records include from: Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999) and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: Ringmo (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Taplejung District (R7) in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Mai Majuwa (R7), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Palau, Philippines, Russia (Asian), Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan (China), Thailand, United Arab Emirates, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4575 m (summer); lower limit: 3100 m (-2400 m) (summer), 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Asian House Martin. A total of 220 birds was seen in the Kali Gandaki valley, Annapurna Conservation Area on February 1999 (Basnet 1999). Any population changes since 1990, compared to pre-1990 are uncertain.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Asian House Martin inhabits grassy hill slopes with cliffs and over forest (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Its habits are very like those of Northern House Martin *D. urbicum*. It often forms loose flocks with other hirundines and swifts. Typically, it flies high above valleys, gorges and forests and low over alpine ridges (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Thunderstorms may drive parts of breeding colonies considerably down far below the breeding belt (Martens and Eck 1995). Breeding has been proved at Gapte, Langtang National Park at 3500 m (Inskipp and Inskipp 1980) and in the Cheng Khola valley, Myagdi District at 4000 m (Martens and Eck 1995). The species' seasonal altitudinal movements are poorly understood, especially its range in the non-breeding season. The species has been recorded in Mustang in March between 2800 and 3150 m (Martens and Eck 1995). It eats insects, chiefly Diptera, taken on the wing (Ali and Ripley 1987). Asian House Martin is subject to altitudinal

movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Threats to Asian House Martin have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Asian House Martin. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and marginally in Chitwan National Park.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Asian House Martin has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident. It has not been possible to assess any population change post-1990 compared to pre-1990 as pre-1990 the species was often considered conspecific with Northern House Martin *D. urbicum*. Asian House Martin has probably been under-recorded since 1990 because of identification confusion. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and less widely and frequently outside the protected areas' system, probably because it has been overlooked. Threats to the species have not been identified.

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***Delichon nipalense*** F. Moore 1854 LC

Subspecies: *Delichon nipalense nipalense*

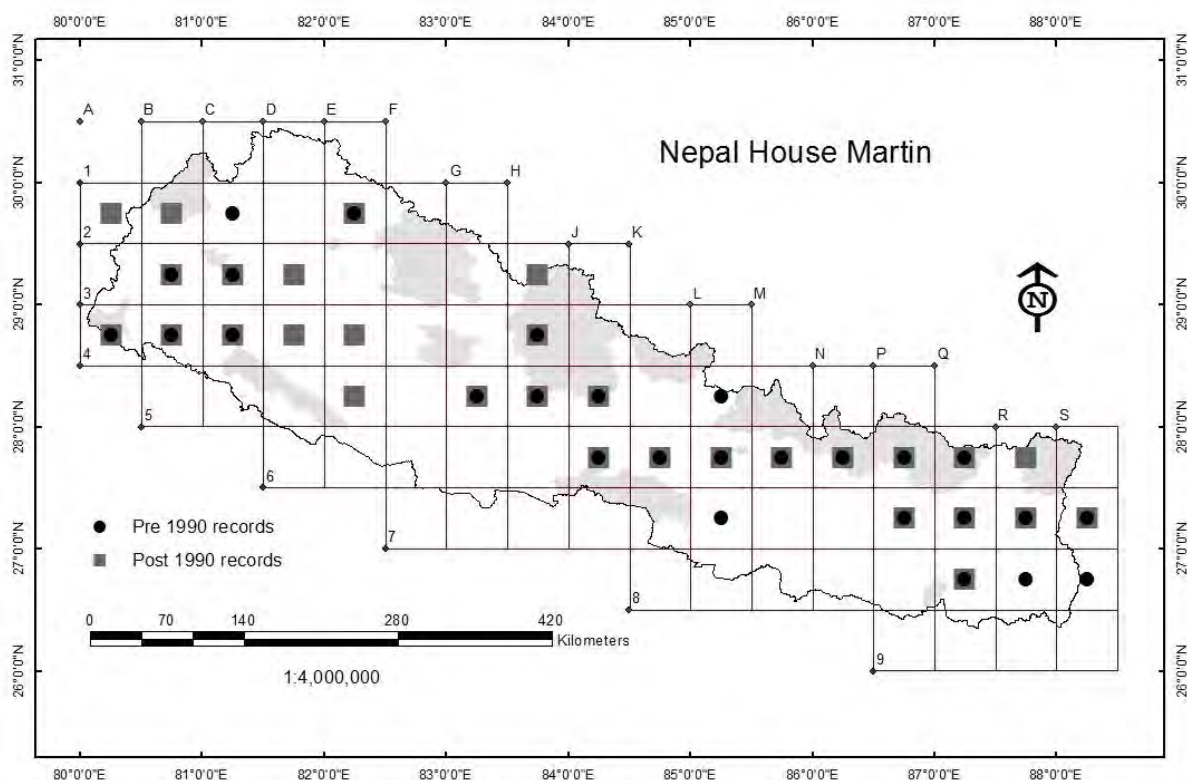
Common name

Nepal House Martin (English),  
Nepal Bhirgaunthali (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Hirundinidae



Distribution



Nepal House Martin is a fairly common and widespread resident. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the upper Mai valley (Baral 2010) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from the upper Mai valley in April 1912 (Stevens 1925).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped it from the far west and widely from west-central Nepal eastwards.

Since 1990 Nepal House Martin has been recorded significantly more widely in the west compared to pre-1990, see text below and map, probably because of better coverage.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area in the Mahakali valley (A2) in March/April 2012 and in the Chameliya valley (B2) in December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent passage migrant in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); an uncommon passage migrant in Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and recorded in Mustang (H3,

H4) (Acharya 2002, Shah 2001, Suwal 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) in October 2012 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); an uncommon winter visitor to Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Rimal 2006, SNP and BCN 2007); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in October 1996 (Cox 1996) and May 2009 (Baral and Shah 2009); a rare summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2005); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and fairly common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008, Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It has been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000) and Bees Hazari Tal, Barandabhar (Baral 1996, Pradhan 2005); Langtang National Park buffer zone at Dhunche, e.g. in May 1992 (Baral 1992a), April 1998 (Chaudhary 1998) and May 2002 (Baral 2002), and in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in the Apsuwa Khola valley in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994) and on the Pikhua Danda (Q6) and Apsuwa Khola valley and Sankhuwa Khola valley (Q7) in May and June 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system, post-1990, see text below and map.

In the west records include from: Amargahdi (B3), Sandnegalli Khola (B3) and Chulla, Ana Khola West (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a frequent winter visitor to Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992b, CSUWN and BCN 2012); Badimalika region (C3) in February or early March 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2008); between Daurogoan and Beuli (D3) and between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District, and Rawtkot (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jiri Daha and Lagana, Nayakwada VDC (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); recorded in Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Raptil wetlands Important Bird Area (E5) (Thakuri 2009a,b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); recorded at Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005), December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009) and January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992), and Phedi Maghimtar (J6), Chitwan District in November 1992 (Baral 1993).

In central Nepal records include from: Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, e.g. in November 1998 and April 1999 (Choudhary 1999) and January 2011 (Baral 2011), and near Sermathang (M6) and Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Choudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); between Junbesi and Nhunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); between Phedi and Gurase (P7) Sankhuwasabha District and between Sanam (P7) and Bung (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); near Basantapur (Q7), Terhathum District in May 1994 (Halberg 1994); between Gothe Bazaar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District and Phedi (P7), Bhojpur District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Tinjure forest (Q7), Terhathum District (Rai 2003); Sankhuwa Khola (Q7), Bhojpur District, and Pikhua (Q7) and Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November and December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); between Rajabas and Titrigaachhi, Koshi River (Q8), Sunsari District in February 2007 (Baral 2007); Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District (Jha and Subba 2012); between Sesambu and Taplejung (R7) and Tungwa (R7), Taplejung District in November and December 1992 (Cox 1992); near Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District in May 1994 (Halberg 1994); near Mai Majuwa (R7), Ilam District and near Sidim (R7), Panchthar District, Mai Valley Important Bird Area in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); between Dobhan and Gupha Pokhari (R7), Sankhuwasabha District, between Mamangkhe and Kande Bhanjyang (R7), Taplejung District and between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and Dobate, Mabu VDC (S7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m (-3865 m) (summer), 2135 m (winter); lower limit: 950 m (summer), 915 m (- 75 m) (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Nepal House Martin. The large number of 250 was estimated at a nesting colony between Sekathum and Amjilessa, Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). In the absence of any significant threats or evidence of a decline, its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Nepal House Martin is found over forest, river valleys, mountain ridges with cliffs and around villages (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is a typical hirundine, gregarious throughout the year, hunting in scattered parties, often with other hirundines and swifts. Its flight is less swift and with much less swooping and twisting than that of Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*. Like other hirundines, it catches its food on the wing in the open (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species eats tiny winged insects, mostly Diptera (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved near Syabru, Langtang National Park (Petersen 1983); at Nundhaki (Q7) (Wahlstrom 1979); 2 km upstream from the confluence of the Gunsu Khola and the Tamur, Taplejung District (Martens and Eck 1995), and between Sekathum and Amjilessa, Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species is subject to local altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Threats to Nepal House Martin have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Nepal House Martin. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Bardia, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Nepal House Martin has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident, recorded post-1990 from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 it has been recorded significantly more widely in the west compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. It has been recorded in a number of protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas system. Threats to the species have not been identified. In the absence of any significant threats or evidence of a decline, its population may be stable.

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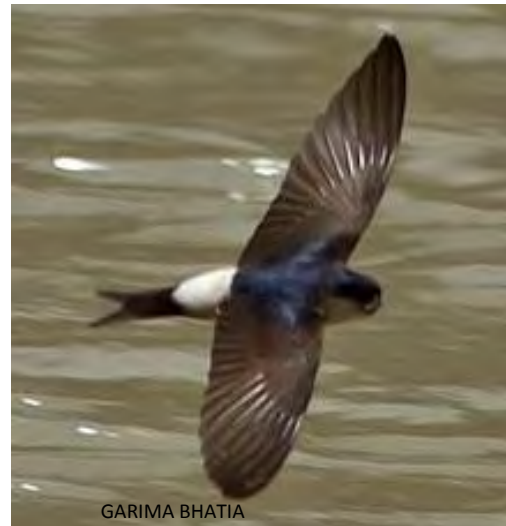
***Delichon urbicum*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies: *Delichon urbicum urbicum*

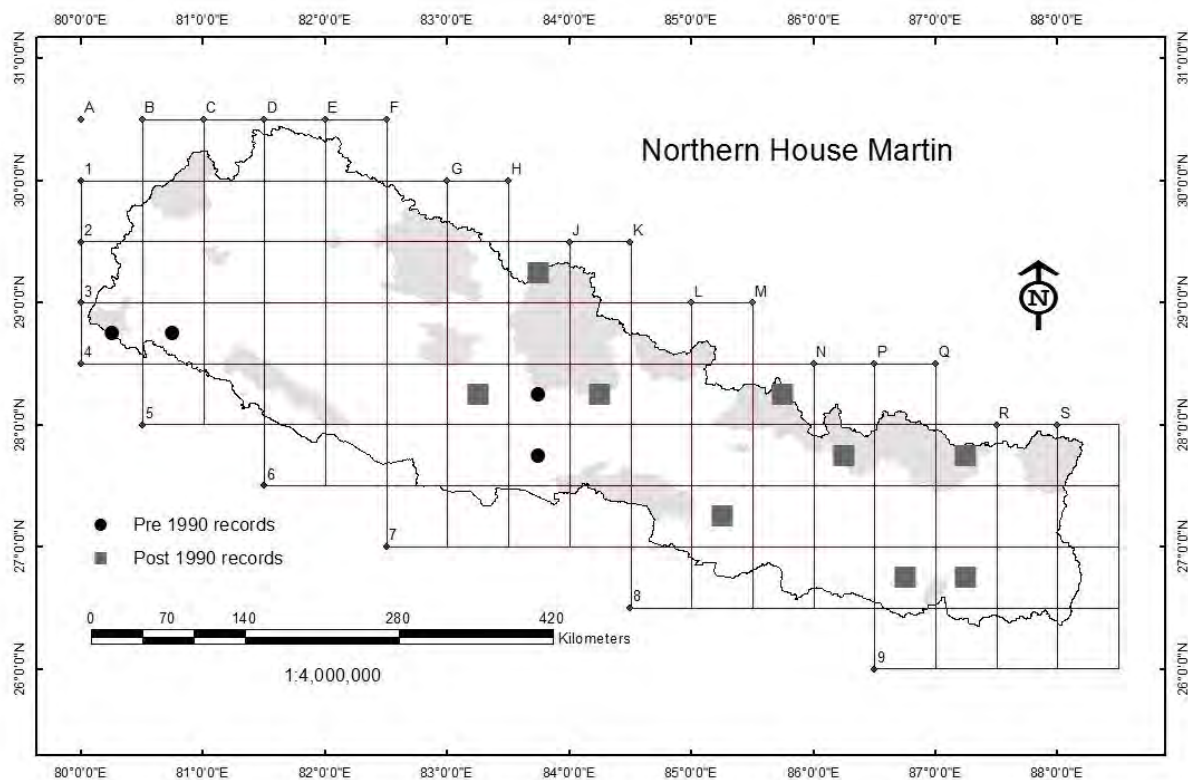
Common name

Northern House Martin (English),  
Bhirgaunthali (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Hirundinidae



Distribution



Northern House Martin is a very rare passage migrant. Since 1990 there are scattered records from Balewa, Baglung District (Basnet 2009) in the west to Titrigaachhi, Koshi River (Baral 2007) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was a specimen collected at Dhanghadi, Kailali District in April 1965 (Fleming 1968, Fleming and Traylor 1968).

There were only three other pre-1990 records. Ten birds were seen at Majhagaon, Kailali District in May 1982 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982); three over the Arung Khola (H6) in mid-February 1986 (Heath 1986) and two between Khare and Suikhet (H5) in February 1989 (Linderstrom 1989). Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as probably a passage migrant.

Since 1990 there have been more records of the species and over a wider area, probably because of better coverage and improved identification.

Post-1990 records in protected areas follow. Baral and Upadhyay (2006) list it as a vagrant to Chitwan National Park, but no post-1990 records could be located. It is a very rare passage migrant in Annapurna Conservation

Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) where it was recorded in upper Mustang (H3) in summer 2002 (Acharya 2002, Suwal 2003) and two at Dhije (J5) in May 2001 Santel survey (Baral *et al.* 2001). SNP and BCN (2007) list it as a frequent winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but no post-1990 records could be located. It is a vagrant to Langtang National Park where four were seen between Langtang and Lama (M5) in May 2002 (Wallace and Wallace 2002) and recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in May 2009 (Baral and Shah 2009). It is listed as a passage migrant in Makalu Barun National Park by Cox (1999), but the only post-1990 record located was by Carpenter (1994).

Outside the protected areas' system:

In the west records include one from Balewa (G5), Baglung District in spring (Basnet 2009)

In central Nepal records include: a flock of 11 birds along the North South Fast Track Road (L7) in March 2008 (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013)

In the east records include singles near Koshi Barrage (P8) and between Rajabas and Titrigaachhi, Koshi River (Q8), Sunsari District in February 2007 (Baral 2007).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bermuda (to UK), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Central African Republic, Chad, China (mainland), Comoros, Congo, Congo, The Democratic Republic of the, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Greenland (to Denmark), Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (European), Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Korea, South Sudan, Spain, St Helena (to UK), St Pierre and Miquelon (to France), Sudan, Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands (to Norway), Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Thailand, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan, Vietnam, Western Sahara, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m; lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Northern House Martin. Reports received indicate that the total number recorded must be very small; however, it could be overlooked as another house martin species. Any population change since 1990 is uncertain.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Northern House Martin has been recorded in mountain valleys and over water. Its behaviour is typical of a hirundine. Its flight is less swift with much less swooping and twisting than that of Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* and it usually feeds higher than that species (Grimmett *et al.* 1998) and eats insects, chiefly Diptera, taken on the wing (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Threats to the species have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Northern House Martin. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Northern House Martin has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a very rare passage migrant with scattered post-1990 records from the west to the far east, mainly in spring and two in February. Since 1990 there have been more records of the species and over a wider area, probably because of better coverage and improved identification. It has been recorded from four protected areas and there are a few records outside the protected areas' system, post-1990. Threats to the species have not been identified. Reports received indicate that the total number recorded must be very small; however, it could be overlooked as another house martin species. Any population change since 1990 is uncertain

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***Dendrocitta formosae* Swinhoe, 1863 LC**

Subspecies: *Dendrocitta formosae occidentalis*, *himalayensis*

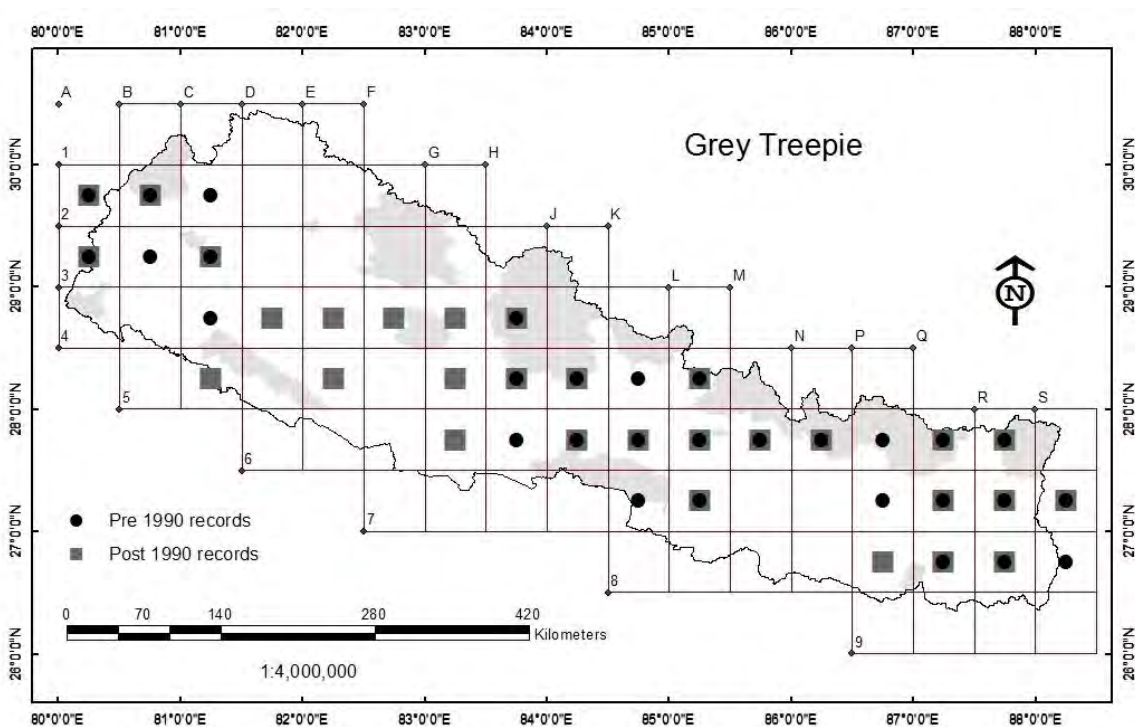
Common Name

Grey Treepie (English),  
Paahaadi Kokale (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Corvidae



Distribution



Grey Treepie is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Amargadhi and Chulla, Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species a common resident with altitudinal movements and mapped its distribution in the far west, central and eastern Nepal.

There has been a significant increase in distribution in the west post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: common in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident and summer visitor in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a fairly common resident in Annapurna

Conservation Area (ACA) (H4, H5 J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and scarce in the Modi River Watershed area (Suwal 2000), ACA; an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a rare summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in May 2011 (Baral 2011a) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a rare winter visitor in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded between Melamchigaon and Tarkeghyang in May 2007 (Byskov 2007), buffer zone of Langtang National Park, between Heluwabesi, Keksuwa khets campsite, Fallow khets camp below/SE Simle gau, Pikhuwa Khola, Jophal Danda, Sikidim village, Chitre Danda, Chirkhuwa Khola, Besku Khola and tiered Khets and waterfall CP W of Kangduwa in May-June 2009, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park (Cox 2009), and at Kusaha and Prakashpur in May 2000, buffer zone of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Giri 2000).

Grey Treepie has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Amargadhi and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); Chisapani (C5), Bardia District in May 1997 (Giri 1997); Rawtkot (D4) and between Gaibanne and Madela (D4), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jiri Daha, Lagana, Karki Jiula, Rimna and Khalanga (E4), Jajarkot District and Chisapani (F4), Rukum District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5), Dang District (BirdLife International 2014); between Archegaun, Dimlatti, Bagara, Bajhansi Kharka, Kaamla, Shivratri Khola and Darbang (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Argali (G6), Palpa District and Sidure (G6), Gulmi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and Reshunga Forest, Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013), Gulmi District; a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Sarangkot (H5) in November 1992 (Baral 1993), Pokhara (H5) in November 2007 (Baral 2007), Kaski District; Baglungpani (J5) in January 1992 (Halliday 1992), and Besisahar and Telbrung (J5) in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), Lamjung District .

In central Nepal records include from: Dhebuwa Lekh forest (K6) (Chaudhary 2007), Dhading (K6), in April 2011 (Baral 2011a) Dhading District; a common resident in Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), recorded at Sipadol (L6), Bhaktapur District in May 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994), Lele (L6) in November 1994 (Baral 1994) and Phulchoki (L6) in February 2010 (Baral 2010a), Lalitpur District, along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Lalitpur (L6), Kathmandu (L6) and Makawanpur (L7) districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common resident in Chitlang forest (L7), Makawanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Panauti and Dhulikhel (M6), Kavrepalanchok District November 1994 (Baral 1994); between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and Jiri (N6), Dolakha District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012).

In the west records include from: Nhunthala (P6), Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); between Phyksinda and Mude (Q6) in December 1992 (Cox 1992) and between Kangduwa, Bumlingtar, Maruwabesi, Archale and Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); Tinjure Forest (Q7), Tehrathum District (Rai 2003); Jabdi (Q8), Sunsari District in October 2011 (Baral 2011b); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); Kosi Bird Observatory, Jabdi, Sunsari District ( ) (Hem Sagar Baral pers. obs. 2014), between Likyang, Tungwa and Themba (R7) in November-December 1992 (Cox 1992), and between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka (R7) in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), Taplejung District ; Ilam (R8) in January 2008 (Baral 2010a) and Dobate (R8) in September 2010 (Baral 2010b), Ilam District and Jamuna (R7), Sidim (R8), Mai Majuwa (S7), Pranbung (S7) and Phidim (S7) in the Mai valley in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Taiwan (China), Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2150 m (-2590 m), 1525m (winter); lower limit: 1050 m (summer); 915 m (-80 m) (winter)



### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Grey Treepie. As many as 37 birds were recorded on 1 December 1994 at Aada, Sankhuwasabha District (Baral 1995) and 31 birds between 15-24 December 2011 in Mahakali Valley, Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012).

### Total Population Size

Minimum Population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Habitat and Ecology

Grey Treepie inhabits broadleaved forest and secondary growth in the tropical, subtropical and lower temperate zones, well-wooded country and edges of terraced cultivation on forested hillsides (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is chiefly arboreal and spends much time in tops of trees, but sometimes descends to feed in low bushes or to the ground; feeds in scattered noisy parties, and heard from quite a distance (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on mainly fruits, seeds, flower-nectar, insects and small animals: lizards, young rodents etc., also eggs, nestlings of small birds (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Phewa Tal (Heathcote and Heathcote 1988).

### Threats

Grey Treepie is threatened by total loss of forest, but as it is adapted to secondary growth it can withstand forest thinning and degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Grey Treepie. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Grey Treepie has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution in the west post-1990 compared to pre-1990 probably due to better coverage. Grey Treepie is threatened by total loss of forest, but as it is adapted to secondary growth it can withstand forest thinning and degradation. Its population is probably stable or possibly increasing.

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***Dendrocitta vagabunda*** Latham, 1790 **LC**

Subspecies: *Dendrocitta vagabunda vagabunda*

Common name

Rufous Treepie (English),

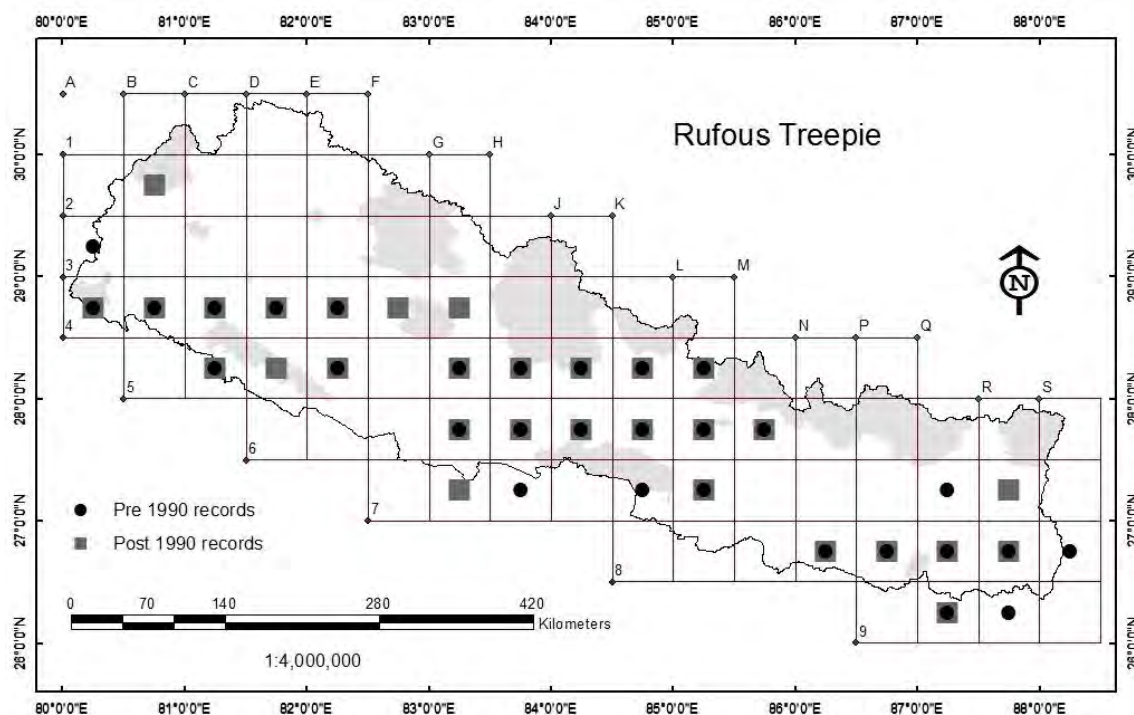
Kokale (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Corvidae



Distribution



Rufous Treepie is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) considered the species a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped its distribution in the lowlands from the far west to the far east.

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably partly due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a rare resident in Annapurna Conservation Area ( H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a common resident in

Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); an occasionally recorded resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in May 2011 (Baral 2011a) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park, and a common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a). The species has been recorded between Sermathang and Melamchi Bazaar in May 2007 (Byskov 2007), buffer zone of Langtang National Park, at Sauraha in October 2000 (Stair and Stair 2000), Barandabhar Forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District and Gundre Khola in November 2007 (Baral 2007) and Tharu Cultural Village Resort in December 2011 (Baral 2011b), Nawalparasi District, buffer zone of Chitwan National Park, Prakashpur, Koshi Camp in May (Giri 2000), Madhuban and Kushaha in November 2011 (Baral 2011c), buffer zone of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

Rufous Treepie has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Mahendranagar(A4), Kanchanpur District in May 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); a common resident in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), a common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012), Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), and Dhangadhi (B4) in May 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), Kailali District; Chisapani (C5), Bardia District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Rawkot (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between Rimna (E4), Jajarkot District and Chisapani (F4), Rukum District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Galeshwor (G5), Myagdi District in December 1994 (Fletcher 1994); between Simalchaur and Ridhabhot (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999) and Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013), Gulmi District; a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); a resident in Jagdishpur Reservoir area (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Lumbini (G7) in April 2009 (Hewatt 2009) and Gaidahawa Lake area (G6) in February 2011 (Baral 2011d), Rupandehi District; Banpale Danda (H5) (Karki *et al.* 1997), Pokhara (H5) in November 2007 (Baral 2007), Begnas Tal (J5) in September 1992 (Salzman and Salzman 1992), Kaski District; school of Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000); Rampur Valley (H6), Palpa District (Gautam 2003) between Argali (H6), Palpa District and Sidure (G5), Gulmi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999); Bahundanda (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998); between Dumre (J6), Tanahun District and Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in November 1994 (Fletcher 1994); and the Budhigandaki valley (K5), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

In central Nepal records include from: Kurintar (J6) in February 2002 (Malling Olsen 2004), Bharatpur (J6) in February 2005 (Baral 2005b), Chitwan District; Belkhu (K6) in February 2002 (Arlo 2002), Dhading (K6) in April 2011 (Baral 2011a), Dhading District; a fairly common resident to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Lalitpur (L6), Kathmandu (L6), Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); Hetauda (L7), Makawanpur District in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001) and in February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004); between Lal Bakaiya Nadi, Kopuwa Gau and Mewa Gau (L7), Rautahat District, between Belwa, Kat Mandir and Forest Camp N of E-W Highway (L7), Bara District and between Gaur (L7), Rautahat District and Sedhawa (N8), Siraha District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: Trijuga River area and Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); fairly common resident to Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Ram Dhuni Forest (Q8) in December 1993 (Choudhary 1994), Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2011 (Baral 2011a) and Jabdi (Q8) in October 2011 (Baral 2011e), Sunsari District; a fairly common resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005) and a common resident in Biratnagar (Q9) (Jha and Subba 2012), Morang District; between Gorjagaon and Dobhan (R7), Taplejung District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994), and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010); lower Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1050 m (-1800 m); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Rufous Treepie. Post 1990 as many as 180 birds were recorded on 6 November 2011 between Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and Chitwan National Park (Baral 2011c) and 70 birds on 15 February 1991 at Chitwan National Park (Baral 1993).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Rufous Treepie inhabits lightly wooded country in the dry- and moist-deciduous biotope, thin tree- and scrub-jungle, mango groves, and village groves (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is social, arboreal and rather shy. Typically it sits among thicker foliage near the treetop. It also forages on low branches, in bushes and on the ground in scattered pairs or in small noisy parties (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is omnivorous and its food includes fruits, nectar, invertebrates, small animals, birds' egg and young, carrion and even faeces (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding has been confirmed at Chitwan (Gurung 1983).

### Threats

Total loss of forest and trees would threaten Rufous Treepie, but it has probably benefited from forest thinning and degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Rufous Treepie. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Api Nampa and Annapurna Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rufous Treepie has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably partly due to better coverage. It has probably benefitted from forest thinning and degradation, although total loss of forest and trees would threaten the species. Its population is probably stable or has possibly increased.

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***Dendronanthus indicus*** (J. F. Gmelin, 1789) LC

Common name

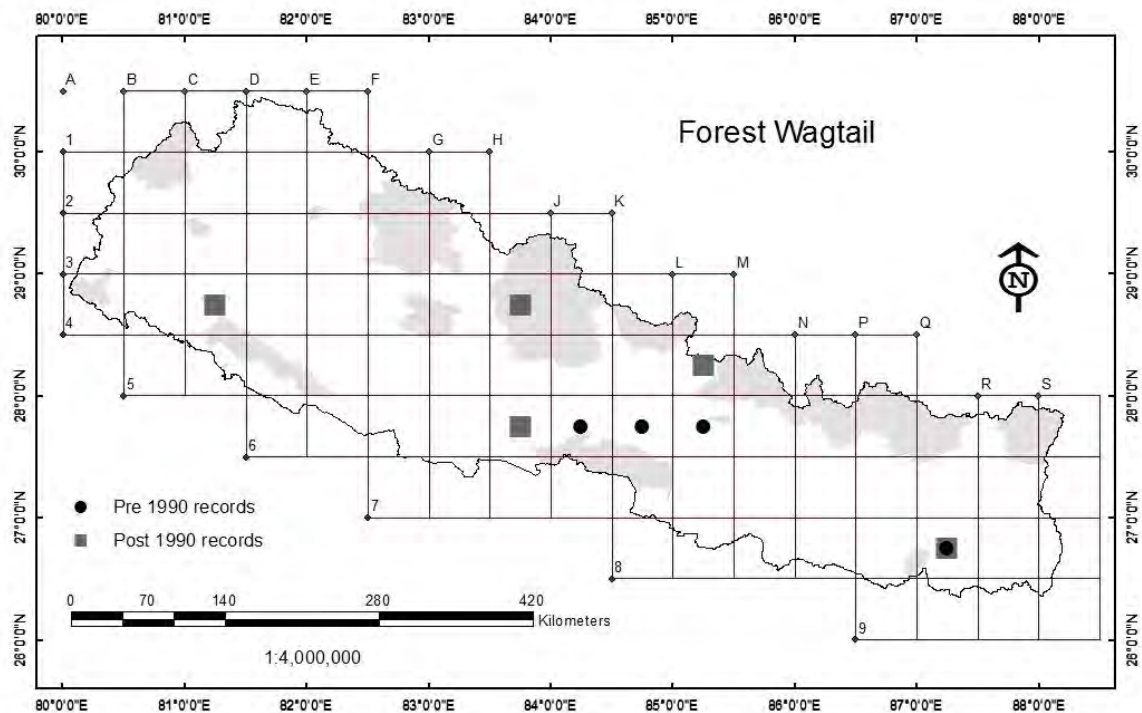
Forest Wagtail (English), Ban Tiktike (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Motacillidae



Distribution



Forest Wagtail is a very rare passage migrant.

It was first recorded from Nepal by the Rapti River, Chitwan National Park in November 1979 (Curry-Lindahl 1980).

The species was previously considered a vagrant, e.g. Grimmett *et al.* (2000) and Inskipp (2006). It was also considered a vagrant by Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) with only four known records up to 1990: singles in Chitwan National Park in April 1984 (Powell and Pierce 1984, Robson 1985); by the Bagmati River, Kathmandu Valley in April 1986 (Holt *et al.* 1986, Mallalieu 2008), and at Chatra, Sunsari District in October 1987 (Vyasa 1988).

Its recorded frequency of occurrence has increased since 1990, probably because of better coverage.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: a vagrant in Bardia National Park (C4) (Kumal 2001 and Tamang undated in Inskipp 2001); vagrant in Annapurna Conservation Area, one at Ghumaune, Kali Gandaki valley (H4) in September 2004 (Acharya 2004); vagrant Langtang National Park, a singing male at 1750 m

between Bharku and Syabru (L5) in May 1996 (Mauro 1996), and vagrant in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve where singles were seen near Titri Gachhi in April 1996 (Choudhary 1996) and near Madhuban Army Guard Post in March 2000 (Giri and Choudhary 2000).

One was recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone, 2 km west of Tiger Tops Jungle Lodge, Namuna Community Forest(H6) in September 2000 (Chaudhary 2007, Giri and Choudhary 2001).

Outside the protected areas system post-1990 records include: singles north of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve in Udayapur Lal Bhatti Sal forest (Q8), Sunsari District in September 1994 (Crosby 1995, Lama 1994) and at Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District in August 1997 (Giri 1997) and in April 1999 (Choudhary 1999).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Maldives, Myanmar, North Korea, Oman, Russia (Asian), Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1750 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Forest Wagtail. Its population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Forest Wagtail frequents glades and paths, chiefly in broadleaved forest (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It has a characteristic habit of swaying its tail and the hind part of its body from side to side with a rather deliberate motion, instead of wagging the tail up and down like other wagtails. It forages mainly on the ground with a sedate walk and also captures insects by running along horizontal branches. When disturbed it flies up on to the lower branches of trees, often calling (Grimmett *et al.* (1998).

#### Threats

No threats to Forest Wagtail have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Forest Wagtail. Since 1990 it has been recorded marginally in Bardia and Langtang National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area and in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Forest Wagtail has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a very rare passage migrant. Since 1990 it has been recorded marginally in four protected areas and outside the protected areas' system it has chiefly been

recorded in the Koshi area in the far east. No threats to the species have been identified. Its frequency of occurrence has increased since 1990 but this may be because of better coverage.

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***Dicaeum agile*** Tickell, 1833 LC

Subspecies: *Dicaeum agile agile*

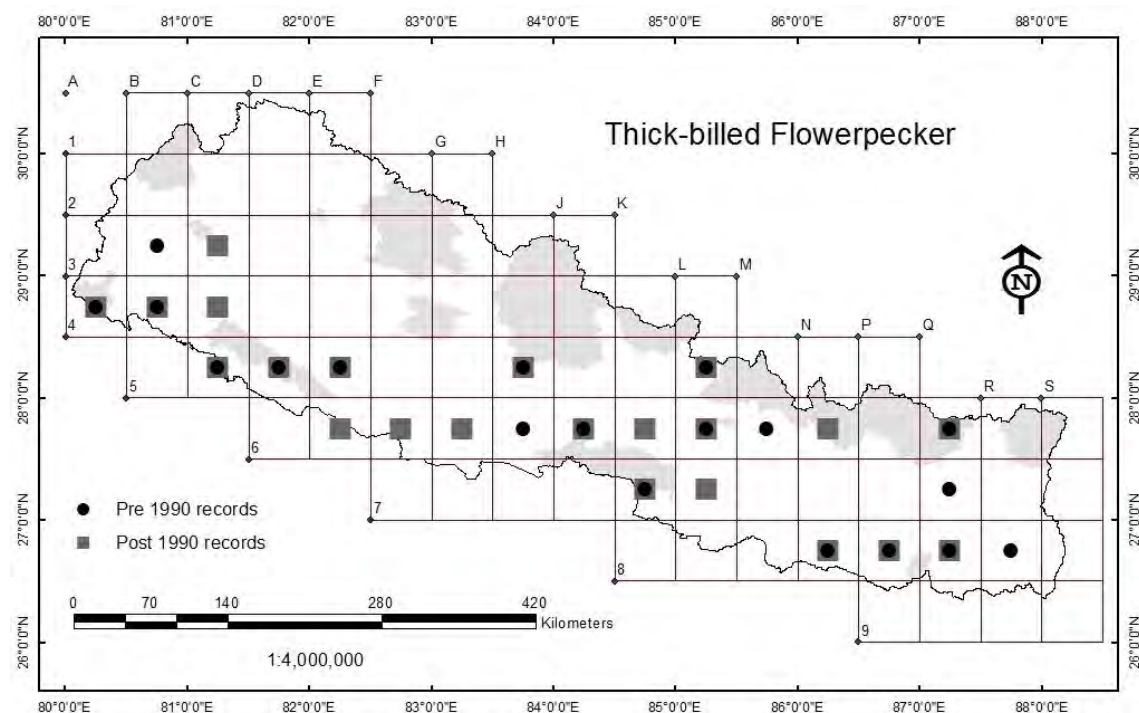
Common name

Thick-billed Flowerpecker (English),  
Motothunde Pushpakokil (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Dicaeidae



Distribution



Thick-billed Flowerpecker is a widespread resident, most frequent in the west and uncommon or rare in central and eastern Nepal. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in July or August 1876 or 1877 in the Kathmandu Valley (Scully 1879).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident and summer visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a resident below 800 m, mainly a summer visitor at higher elevations, and mapped its distribution from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 there has been an increase in distribution in the west compared to pre-1990, probably as a result of greater coverage, but a small decrease in distribution in the east.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); recorded in Sano Kobang (H5) in Annapurna Conservation Area in January 1992 (Wartmann and Schönjahn 1992); an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001). The

species is a vagrant in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon summer visitor in Shivapuri (L6) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); an uncertain summer visitor to Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009), and a rare resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005).

Thick-billed Flowerpecker has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: a fairly common resident at Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012) and a frequent resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) Kailali District; Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); Chisapani (C4), Bardia District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Dang-Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6) (Thakuri 2009); Khadara Phanta (F6), Kapilvastu District in November 2006 (Hanlon and Giri 2007); Lumbini (G7) IBA, (Rupandehi District) all year round 2014/2015 (Hem Sagar Baral); between Kavri Dharmasala and Argali (G6), Palpa District in May 1999 (Cox 1999), and Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in February 2010 (Baral 2010).

In central Nepal records include from: the Kathmandu Valley (L6) in November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997), Phulchoki (L6) in February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004); Judibela Community Forest (L7) Rautahat District and Bakaiya Community Forest (L7), Bara District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013), and Katahare and Durga community forests (N8), Sindhuli District (Phuyal and Dhoubhadel 2007).

In the east records include from: between Seduwa and Num (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1991 (Halberg 1991).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 800 m (-2135 m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Thick-billed Flowerpecker.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Thick-billed Flowerpecker inhabits large flowering or fruiting trees and shrubs ranging from dry to moist-deciduous or semi-evergreen forest and cultivated areas such as orchards and village groves (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species occurs singly or in pairs and sometimes moves in loose parties. It has distinctive habit of jerking its tail as it feeds or hops, and may hang upside down when eating wild fruit with much chattering, and flies quickly from one tree to the next (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds mainly on figs of peepal, banyan and gular and is fond of mistletoe berries, and also feeds on nectar, spiders and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding has been confirmed at Sukla Phanta (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982).

#### Threats

Thick-billed Flowerpecker is threatened by intensification of cultivation leading to complete deforestation and loss of scrub; however, it is also benefiting from forest degradation to scrub and by the replacement of forests by cultivation with some trees and bushes at field edges and corners.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Thick-billed Flowerpecker. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Annapurna and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Thick-billed Flowerpecker has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a widespread resident most frequent in the west and uncommon or rare in central and eastern Nepal. Since 1990 there has been an increase in distribution in the west compared to pre-1990, probably as a result of greater coverage, but a small decrease in distribution in the east. The species has been recorded from many protected areas and less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Thick-billed Flowerpecker is threatened by the intensification of cultivation leading to complete deforestation and loss of scrub; however, it is also benefiting from forest degradation to scrub and also by the replacement of forests by cultivation with some trees and bushes at field corners and edges. Its population may be stable.

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***Dicaeum concolor*** Jerdon, 1840 LC

Subspecies: *Dicaeum concolor olivaceum*

Common name

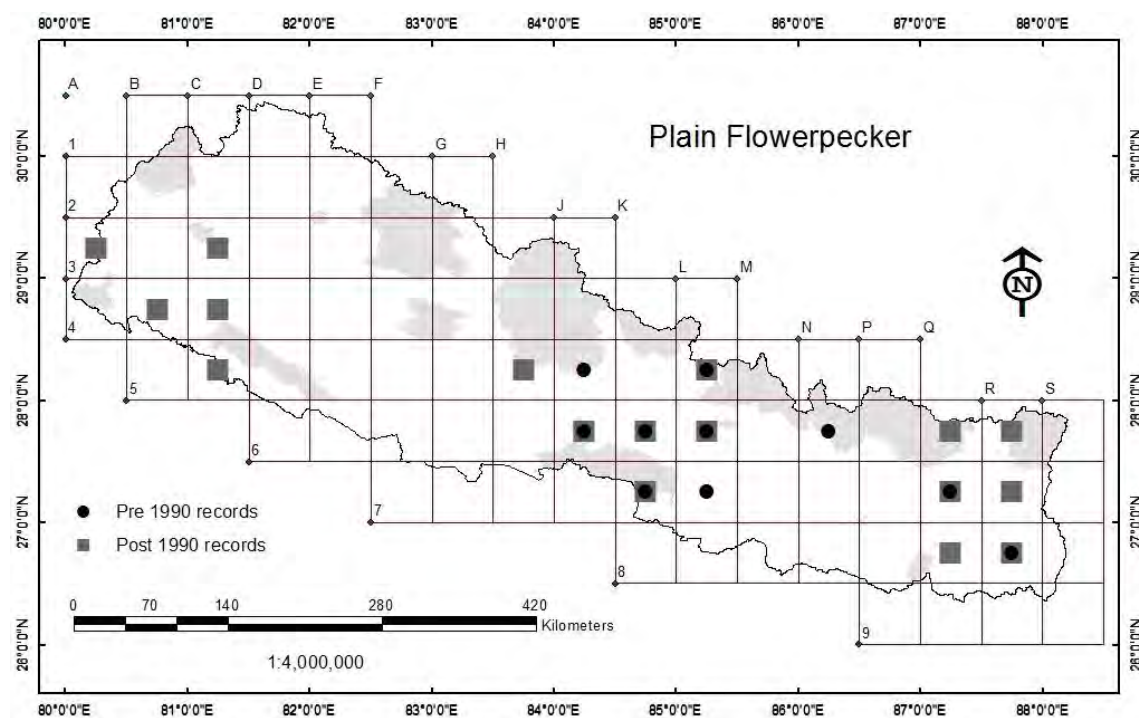
Plain Flowerpecker (English),  
Samarup Pushpakokil (Nepali)



Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicaeidae

Distribution



Plain Flowerpecker is a frequent resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Dhura, Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to Ilam, Ilam District (Baral 2010) in the far east.

The species' record at Dhura (A3), Dadeldhura District on 27 May 2010 is the western known limit of the species' range (Baral *et al.* 2010).

The first Nepal record of the species was at Nagarjung (L6) in April 1947 (Ripley 1950).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was locally distributed, presumably resident and mapped its distribution mainly in central Nepal.

Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution including a western extension of range to the far west, probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common summer visitor in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); recorded at Dhunche and Syabru (L5) of Langtang National Park in May 1995 (Toohig 1995); a local fairly common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga

Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

There is a much smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Post-1990 records include from: Dhura (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a frequent resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012), a fairly common resident in the Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), Kailali District; Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005); uncommon in summer in Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008); recorded at Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral 1995); Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003) and Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Sunsari District; Mitlung (R7), Taplejung District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994), and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Taiwan (China), Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1525 m (-2500 m); lower limit: 305 m (-150 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Plain Flowerpecker. Post 1990 as many as 10 birds were recorded in the Kathmandu Valley (Gokarna, Tokha) on 9 May 1993 (Redman 1993).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Plain Flowerpecker inhabits groves of trees in open country, orange orchards, outskirts of forest, wide glades and sides of streams through forest (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is one of Nepal's tiniest birds, very active and constantly on the move, eating insects and sipping nectar. Usually it remains in pairs or small parties, often in the tops of rather tall trees (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds chiefly on berries, especially mistletoe berries, nectar, insects and spiders (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding was proved at Tumlingtar [Q7] (Mayer 1986).

#### Threats

Plain Flowerpecker has probably benefited from the thinning of forests and creation of groves, orchards and tea-coffee plantations, but is at risk from complete deforestation.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Plain Flowerpecker. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Chitwan, Langtang and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Kanchenjunga Conservation Area and Parsa Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC).

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Plain Flowerpecker has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a frequent resident, recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution including a western extension of range to the far west, which was probably due to better coverage.

Post-1990 the species has been recorded in a number of protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system. Plain Flowerpecker has probably benefited from the thinning of forests and creation of groves, and orchards, but is at risk from complete deforestation. Its population may be stable.

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***Dicaeum erythrorhynchos*** Latham, 1790 LC  
Subspecies: *Dicaeum erythrorhynchos erythrorhynchos*

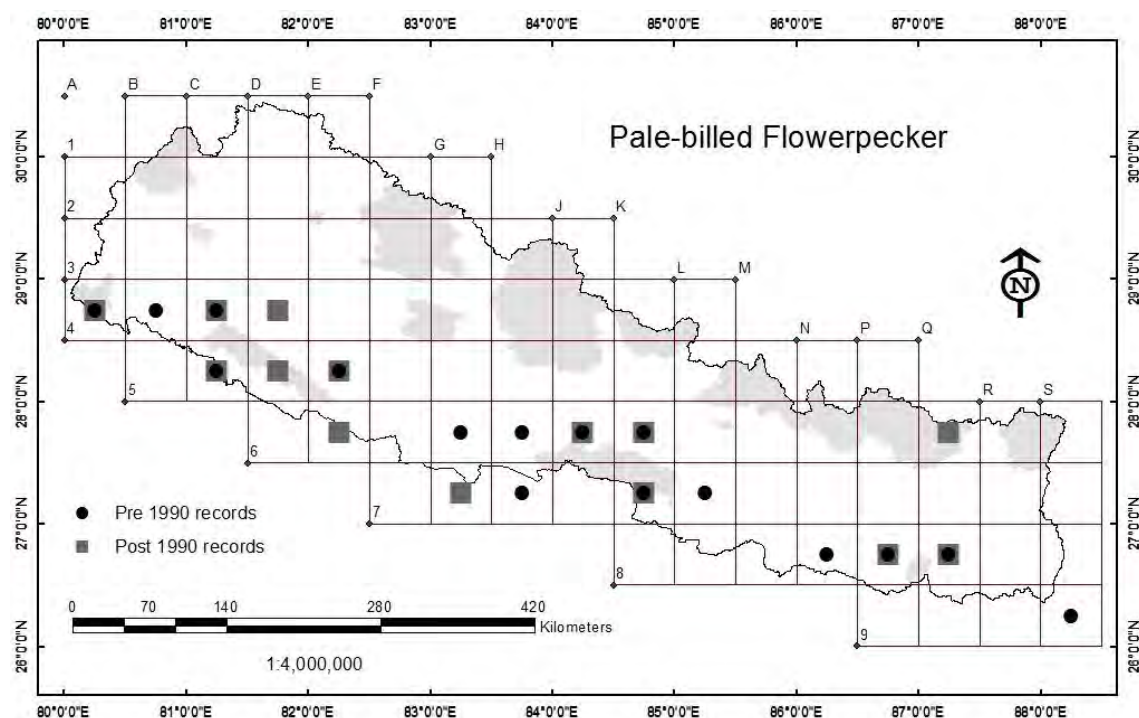
Common name

Pale-billed Flowerpecker (English),  
Ratothunde Pushpakokil (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Dicaeidae



Distribution



Pale-billed Flowerpecker is a widespread resident, fairly common in protected areas in central Nepal, and frequent or rare elsewhere. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Belhara, Dhankuta District (Baral 2003) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species was a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was a resident, occasionally found throughout the terai and lower foothills up to 305 m and mapped its distribution mainly in the lowlands.

Since 1990 it has been recorded more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage, but less widely in central Nepal.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a frequent resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in

Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a fairly common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001), and a rare or former resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005); no records from Koshi for nearly 10 years (Hem Sagar Baral); recorded in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) in May-June 1995 (Choudhary 1995). The species has been recorded at Barandabhar Forest, buffer zone of Chitwan National Park (Adhikari *et al.* 2000).

There is a much smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, post-1990. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system include: from the Chepang Hills (D4), Surkhet District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Dang-Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994), and Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar and Sri Lanka (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 305m (-1000m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Pale-billed Flowerpecker. Post 1990 as many as 12 birds were recorded on 11 September 1992 at Bhata, Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Baral 1993).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Pale-billed Flowerpecker inhabits deciduous forests, and orchards, fig trees at edges of cultivation or in open country, and its distribution is dependent on the presence of mistletoe (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is active and noisy; usually sits high in trees and therefore is difficult to see. The species remains in pairs during summer and small flocks of up to 10 birds during winter (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987). It feeds chiefly on berries of mistletoe (Grimmett *et al.* 1998).

#### Threats

Pale-billed Flowerpecker is threatened by forest loss and degradation throughout its range in Nepal.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Pale-billed Flowerpecker. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves (though no records from the last reserve for 10 years), and marginally from Makalu Barun National Park.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Pale-billed Flowerpecker has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a widespread resident, fairly common in protected areas in central Nepal, and frequent or rare elsewhere. Since 1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been found more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage, but less widely in central Nepal, compared to pre-1990. The species has been recorded in several protected areas, but there are few known localities outside the protected areas' system. Pale-billed Flowerpecker is threatened by habitat loss and degradation throughout its range in Nepal. It is dependent on mistletoe on which it feeds. As a result, its population is probably declining.

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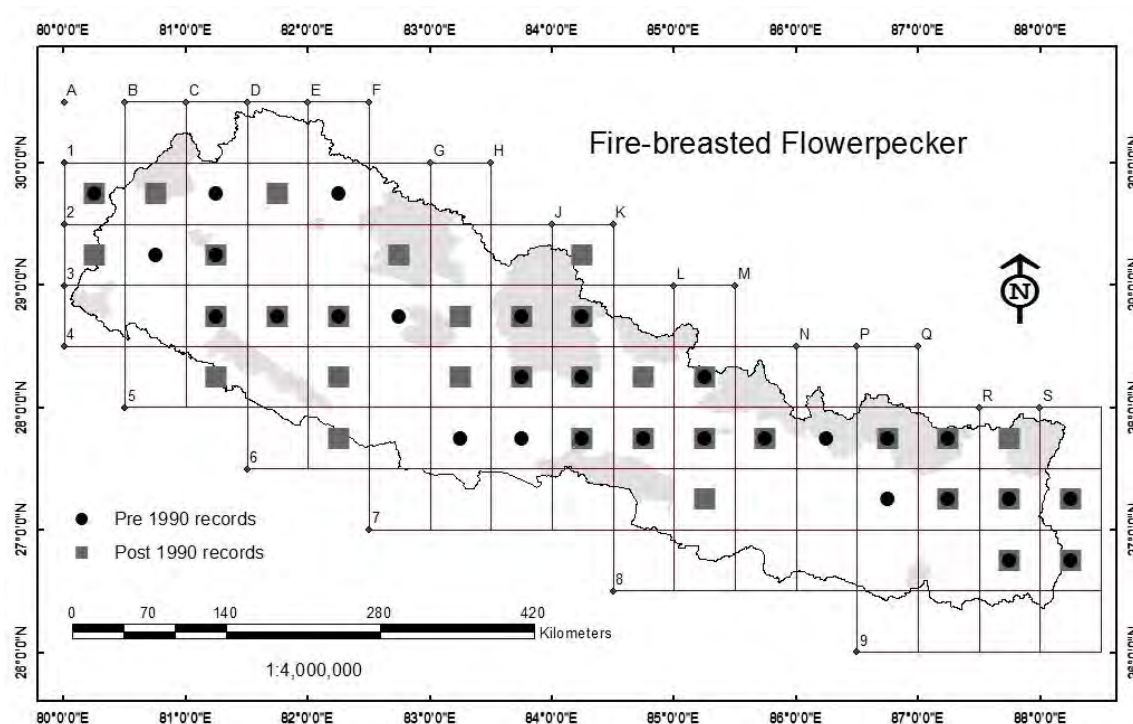


***Dicaeum ignipectus*** Blyth 1843 LC  
 Subspecies: *Dicaeum ignipectus ignipectus*

Common name

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker (English),  
 Agnibakchhya Pushpakokil (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
 Family: Dicaeidae



Fire-breasted Flowerpecker is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from a Hodgson specimen collected in Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1843, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident in subtropical and oak forests of midland Nepal. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a common resident with altitudinal movements and mapped its distribution mainly in the east.

The species was recorded as high as 3565 m at Ghopte (L5), Langtang National Park in May 1999 (Choudhary 1999).

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west (see text and map below,) probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Choudhary 2006); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a common resident in



Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), a summer visitor in Upper Mustang (J3) (Acharya 2002) and a resident in Modi River watershed area (H5) (Suwal 2000) in Annapurna Conservation Area; an uncommon winter visitor in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a fairly common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded in Nagarjun (L6) in January 1994 (Baral 1994a) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); recorded at Monjo (P6) of Sagarmatha National Park in April 2006 (Oldfield 2006); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has been recorded at Tarkeghyang (M6), buffer zone of Langtang National Park in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004); Phakding, buffer zone of Sagarmatha National Park in April 2006 (Oldfield 2006); between Tashigaon and Seduwa, buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park in December 1994 (Buckton and Baral 1995)

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: between Khalkhale, Dhure Camp and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Kotuwa, Gaibanne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Kalimati, Kauli, Jiri Daha, Lagana and Karki Jiula (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013); Dang-Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); different locations of Myagdi District (G4) in May-June 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Ghot past Bikos and Ghot above Patle (G5), in May 1999 (Cox 1999b), Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013b); a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in December 2007 (Baral 2008); school at Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000), and between Baglungpani and Ghanpokhara (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In the central region records include: a common resident in the Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), recorded along the Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Kathmandu (L6), Lalitpur (L6) and Makwanpur (L7) district sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common resident in Chitlang Forest (L7), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Panauti (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in November 1994 (Baral 1994b), and between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from: between below Ringmo and Jorsale (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); Bhotebas (Q7) and Khandbari (Q7) in December 1994 (Baral 1995) and between Gupha Pokhari and Gurja Gaun (R7) in October 1996 (Buckton 1996), Sankhuwasabha District ; between Taplejung, Dobhan, Tungwa and Themba (R7), Taplejung District in November-December 1992 (Cox 1992); Sidin and Memeng (R7) in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008) and Hange Tham (S7) in September 2010 (Baral 2010) of Mai Valley ; between Targaun and Romiyang (S8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and Dobate (R8) in September 2010 (Baral 2010), Ilam District .

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan (China), Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2700m (-3565 m) (summer); 2285 m (winter); lower limit: 1830 m (summer); 915 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Fire-breasted Flowerpecker. As many as 40 birds were recorded in 9 May 2002 at Lama Guest House, Langtang National Park (Baral 2002).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population

### Habitat and Ecology

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker inhabits broadleaved forest, secondary growth, orchards and trees in cultivation (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species occurs singly or in pairs in summer and small parties in winter. It actively buzzes from one place to another and when disturbed, scolds loudly from a vantage point and shifts its body in different ways without changing foot position (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on insects, spiders, nectar and berries, especially favouring mistletoe berries (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved in the Chitlang Valley and the Kathmandu Valley (Biswas 1963).

### Threats

As Fire-breasted Flowerpecker is adapted to secondary forests, as well as mature forests, it is not threatened by forest thinning and degradation, but it is at risk from complete deforestation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Fire-breasted Flowerpecker. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### IUCN regional status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage. As Fire-breasted Flowerpecker is adapted to secondary forests, as well as mature forests, it is not threatened by forest thinning and degradation, but it is at risk from complete deforestation. The population may be increasing or possibly stable.

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***Dicaeum melanoxanthum* Blyth, 1843 LC**

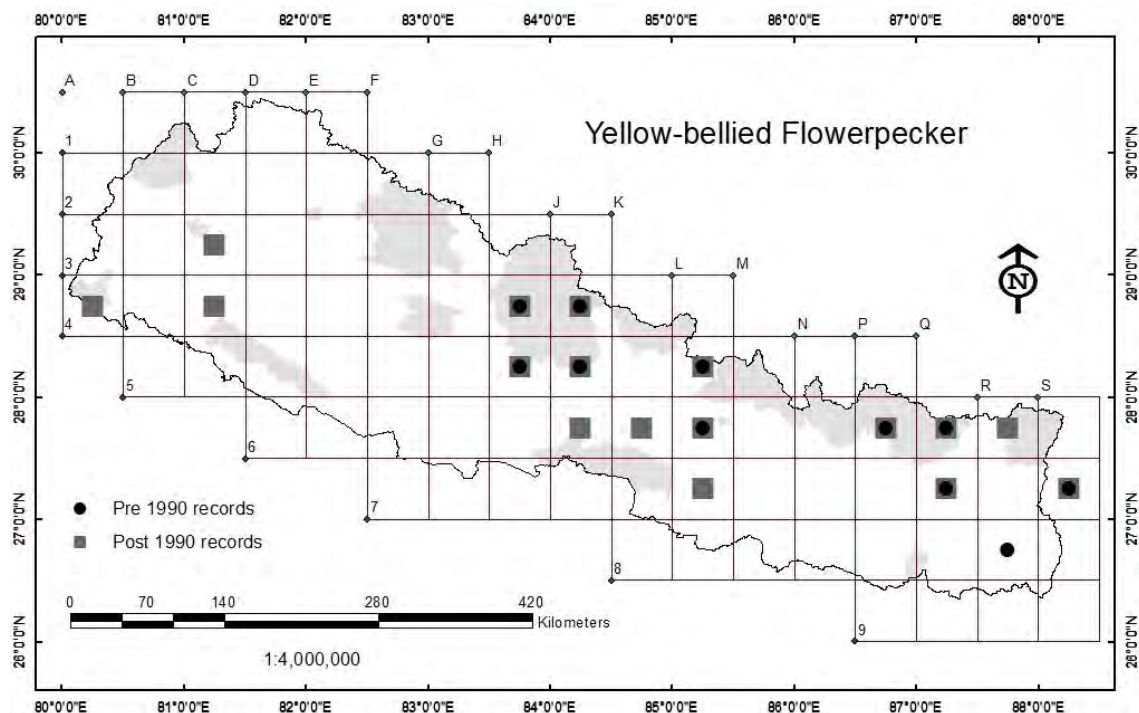
Common name

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker (English),  
Peetnirgam Pushpakokil (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Dicaeidae



Distribution



Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker is an uncommon resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) in the far west to the Mai valley (Baral 2010) in the far east.

The species was first described from a Hodgson specimen collected in Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1843, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a frequent resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was frequently seen in the Kathmandu Valley and surrounding hills in winter, uncommon elsewhere, probably a resident, found between 2400 m and 3000 m in summer, and from 1050 m to at least 1550 m in winter and mapped its distribution in central and eastern Nepal.

Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution compared to pre-1990 including a significant extension to the far west, probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a frequent resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); rare and possibly resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon resident in Shivapuri (L6) in

Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a local and frequent resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow: from Chisapani (C4), Bardia District in September 1991 (Baral 1992); very rare in winter at Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) where it has apparently declined compared to pre-1990; Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992); a breeding bird in Phakel (L7) (Acharya 2002); an uncommon resident in Chitlang forest (L7), (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), Makwanpur District; between Surkey and Muse (P6), Solukhumbu District (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Tehrathum District in October 1996 (Buckton 1996), and Hange Tham (S7), upper Mai valley in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m (summer), up to at least 1550 m (winter); lower limit: 2350 m (summer); 1050 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker inhabits flowering and fruiting trees in open broadleaved forest and forest clearings and edges of dense forest (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is lively, but apparently elusive, usually solitary and silent (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Seasonal movements of the species are poorly understood and breeding behavior is unknown (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species feeds on nectar, berries, spiders and small insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker is threatened by forest loss and degradation.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is an uncommon resident recorded from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution compared to pre-1990, including a range extension to the far west, probably due to better coverage. The species has been recorded from many protected areas post-1990, though it has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system. Yellow-bellied Flowerpecker is threatened by forest loss and degradation. It has become less common on hills surrounding the Kathmandu Valley and its population may be decreasing elsewhere, but not to an extent that warrants a threat category.

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***Dicrurus aeneus* Vieillot, 1817 LC**

Subspecies: *Dicrurus aeneus aeneus*

Common Name

Bronzed Drongo (English)

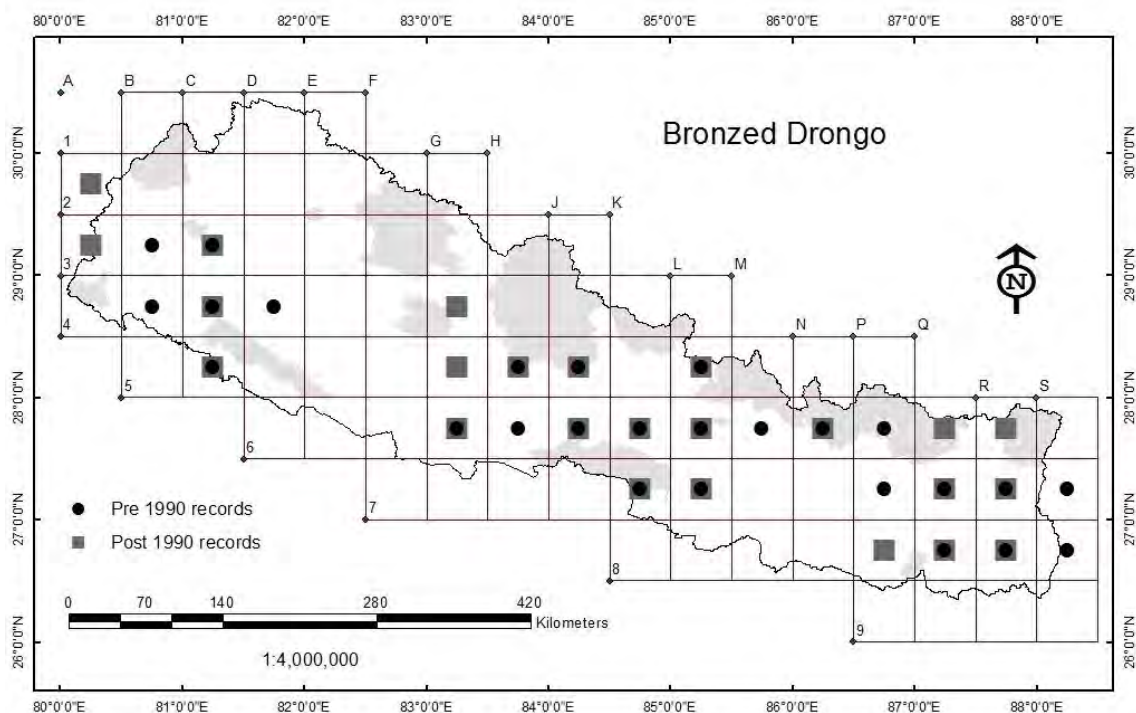
Saano Chibe (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae



Distribution



Bronzed Drongo is a fairly common resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a fairly common resident with some altitudinal movements and mapped its distribution from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely in the west, probably due to better coverage, but less widely in central Nepal and the east.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded during March-April in Mahakali Valley

(A2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a frequent resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent summer visitor in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and scarce in Modi River watershed area (H5) of Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a rare summer visitor in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a frequent resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in December 2003 and January 2004 (Stratford 2004) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a rare winter visitor in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005); a fairly common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded at Sauraha in February 1993 (Fouarge 1993), Barandhabhar forest, Chitwan District (Adhikari *et al.* 2000) and Gundre Khola, Nawalparasi District (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007) in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park. In Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone it was recorded at Heluwabesi, Keksuwa khets, Simle gau, Pikhua Khola, Chitre Danda and Chirkhuwa Khola in May-June 2009 (Cox 2009).

Bronzed Drongo has been recorded fairly widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: between Tinkadhure, Khalkhale and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); between Deorali Thanti, Lachang, Dimlatti, Bagara, Bajhansi Kharka, Tatopani and Beni (G4), Myagdi District in May-June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Gwalichaur (G5), Baglung District and Simalchaur (G5), Gulmi/Baglung border in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Chandi Bhanjyang and Kavri Dharmasala (G6), Palpa District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 2007 (Baral 2007), and Midim Khola Valley (J5), Lamjung District in January 1992 (Halliday 1992) .

In central Nepal records include: a common resident and summer visitor to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008); recorded in Makawanpur District (L7) in sections of the Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013), and between Kat Mandir and Forest Camp north of East West Highway (L7), Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003).

In the east records include from: Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); between Bungling and Pikhua (Q7) in November 1994 (Buckton and Baral 1995), between Chauki (Q7) and Gupha Pokhari (R7) in April 1994 (Halberg 1994), Sankhuwasabha District; Tinjure Forest (Q7), Tehrathum District (Rai 2003); Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in January (Baral 2010a), Sunsari District; an uncommon resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Dobate (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010b), and the lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Taiwan (China), Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1600 m (-2000 m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Bronzed Drongo. Post 1990 as many as 26 birds were recorded on 4 January 2009 at Chitwan National Park (Baral 2009).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown ; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Bronzed Drongo inhabits broadleaved evergreen and moist deciduous forest, edges of forest paths, and firelines and clearings (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is chiefly arboreal. It occurs singly or in pairs in shady areas, often with dense undergrowth. It is very parochial and territorial, seen generally in the same spot even after long periods. The species forages with other birds, hawking insect, often at dusk. It is bold and pugnacious (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on winged insects and also flower-nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been confirmed in the central hills (Hume and Oates 1890), at Dhunche [L5] (Tyler 1988) and in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983).

### Threats

Bronzed Drongo is threatened by forest loss, alteration and fragmentation in the tropical and subtropical zones.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Bronzed Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red list status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Bronzed Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and fairly widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Since 1990 the species has been recorded more widely in the west, probably due to better coverage, but less widely in central Nepal and the east, Bronzed Drongo is threatened by forest loss, alteration and fragmentation in the tropical and subtropical zones. Its population may be declining, but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Dicrurus annectans*** Hodgson, 1836 LC

Common name

Crow-billed Drongo (English)

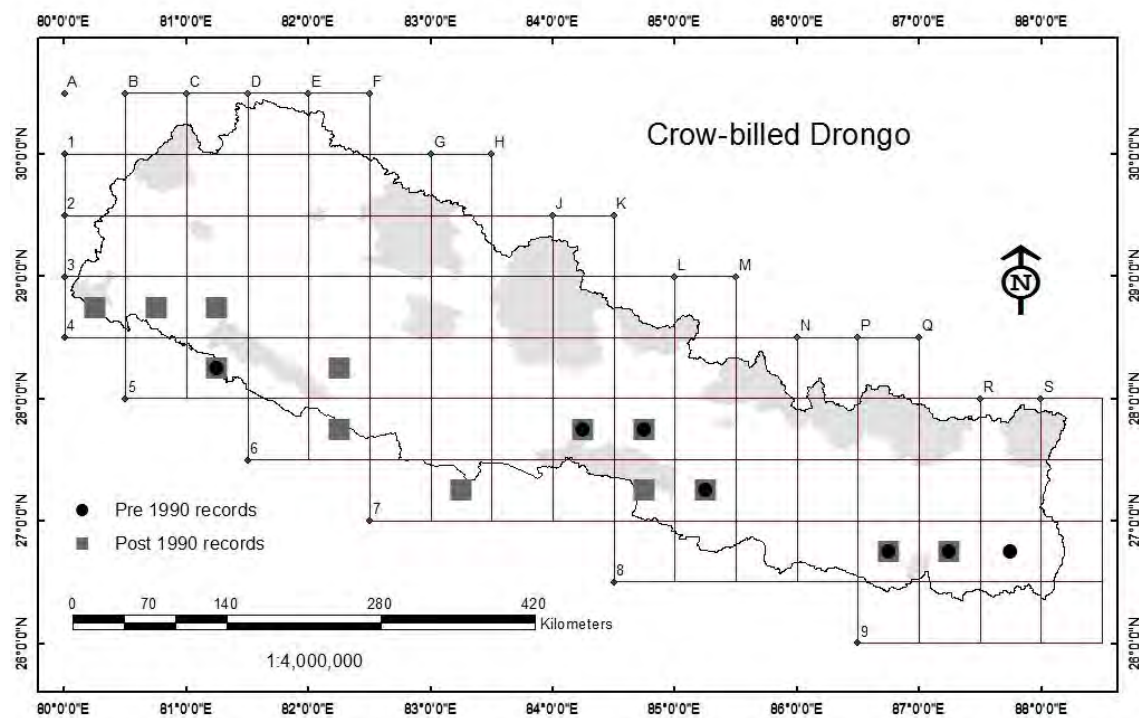
Kaagthunde Chibe (Nepali)



Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae

Distribution



Crow-billed Drongo is a local and uncommon mainly a summer visitor and also a resident in the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Morang District (Basnet 2002) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a scarce and uncertain summer visitor and resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species probably an uncommon summer visitor and mapped its distribution in a few lowland localities

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon summer visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); uncommon, possibly a summer visitor in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); an uncommon summer visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), however there are also some winter reports from there (Hem Sagar Baral.); a summer visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a rare summer visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005). The species has been recorded at Barandabhar Forest in October 2007, buffer zone of Chitwan National Park (Ghimire 2009).

There are a much smaller number of records outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. These include: a common summer visitor in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and recorded at Tikapur park (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; between Bardia (C5), Bardia District and Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in April 2007 (Baral 2007); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6) (Thakuri 2009), Masot Khola Forest (E5) (Cox 2008), Dang District; Dudhaura Khola forest area (L7) in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b), Nijgarh (L7) section of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013), Bara District; Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2008 (Giri 2008) and Jabdi (Q8) in October 2011 (Baral 2011a), Sunsari District, and Raja Rani Pokhari (Q8), Morang District (Basnet 2002).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 250 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Crow-billed Drongo.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Crow-billed Drongo inhabits broadleaved and evergreen forests, nearly always near water (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species usually hunts in lower parts of the canopy (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on crickets, grasshoppers, bugs, flying termites and other insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Crow-billed Drongo is threatened by forest loss, thinning and fragmentation outside the protected areas' system.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Crow-billed Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Crow-billed Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. It is local and uncommon, mainly a summer visitor and also resident in the lowlands recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in several protected areas and much less widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage. Crow-billed Drongo is threatened by forest loss, thinning and fragmentation,

outside the protected areas' system. Its population is probably declining, though not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Dicrurus caerulescens*** Linnaeus, 1758 **LC**

Subspecies: *Dicrurus caerulescens caerulescens*

Common name

White-bellied Drongo (English)

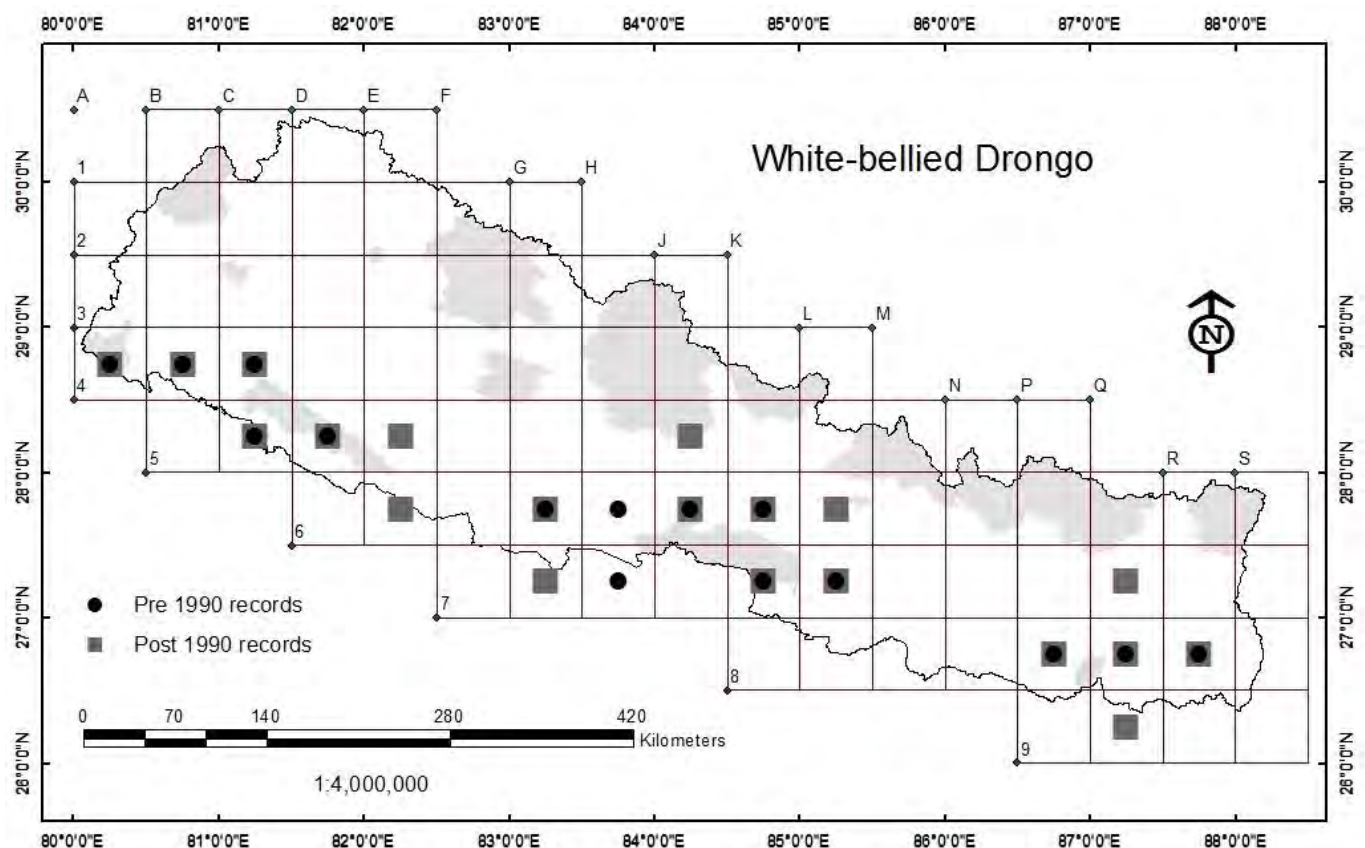
Setopete Chibe (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae



Distribution



White-bellied Drongo is a locally common and widespread resident in the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Hetauda, Makwanpur District in winter 1876 or 1877 (Scully 1879).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a frequent resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a resident in the lowlands up to 305 m.

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably partly because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a fairly common resident in Chitwan National

Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001), and a frequent resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005). The species has been recorded at Sauraha in February 1993 (Fouarge 1993), Barandhabhar forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and in Janakauli Community Forest in February (Giri 2008) in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park.

White-bellied Drongo has also been recorded fairly widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records follow.

In the west records include: a common resident in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), recorded in Dhangadhi (B4) in May 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), a fairly common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Chisapani (C4), Bardia District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992) and December 1998 (Choudhary 1999); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); Jagdishpur Reservoir area (G6), Kapilvastu District in December 2011 (Baral 2011a); Lumbini (G7) IBA, Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011) and Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998).

In central Nepal records include: Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) district sections of the Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); also in Aadarsha Community Forest and National Forest (L7), Rautahat District and Dhudhaura Khola Forest area (L7), Bara District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b).

In the east records include: from Trijuga River area and Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Chewabesi (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral 1995); Ram Dhuni (Q8) Forest in December 1993 (Choudhary 1994), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in May 2011 (Baral 2011b), Sunsari District; Khani Pokhari Forest (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and an occasionally recorded resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005) and recorded at Biratnagar (Q9) in February 1998 (Choudhary 1998), and lower Mai Valley (R8) Morang District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from India and Sri Lanka (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 305 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for White-bellied Drongo.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-bellied Drongo favours shady paths and also inhabits edges of clearings in thin forest, and open wooded areas, often near cultivation (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is found singly or in pairs in low or middle parts of trees. It is less active and noisy than other drongos. The species is crepuscular, often hunting well after dusk when almost dark (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on crickets, grasshoppers, moths, winged termites and other insects, and occasionally small birds (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was confirmed at Mahendranagar (A4) (Wolstencroft 1981) and Dhanghadi (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982).

### Threats

White-bellied Drongo is threatened by total clearance of forest and trees. However, it must have been benefited from forest thinning.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for White-bellied Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-bellied Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the west, probably partly due to better coverage. White-bellied Drongo is threatened by total clearance of forest and trees. However, it must have been benefited from forest thinning. Its population may be stable or increasing.

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***Dicrurus hottentottus*** Linnaeus, 1766 LC  
Subspecies: *Dicrurus hottentottus hottentottus*

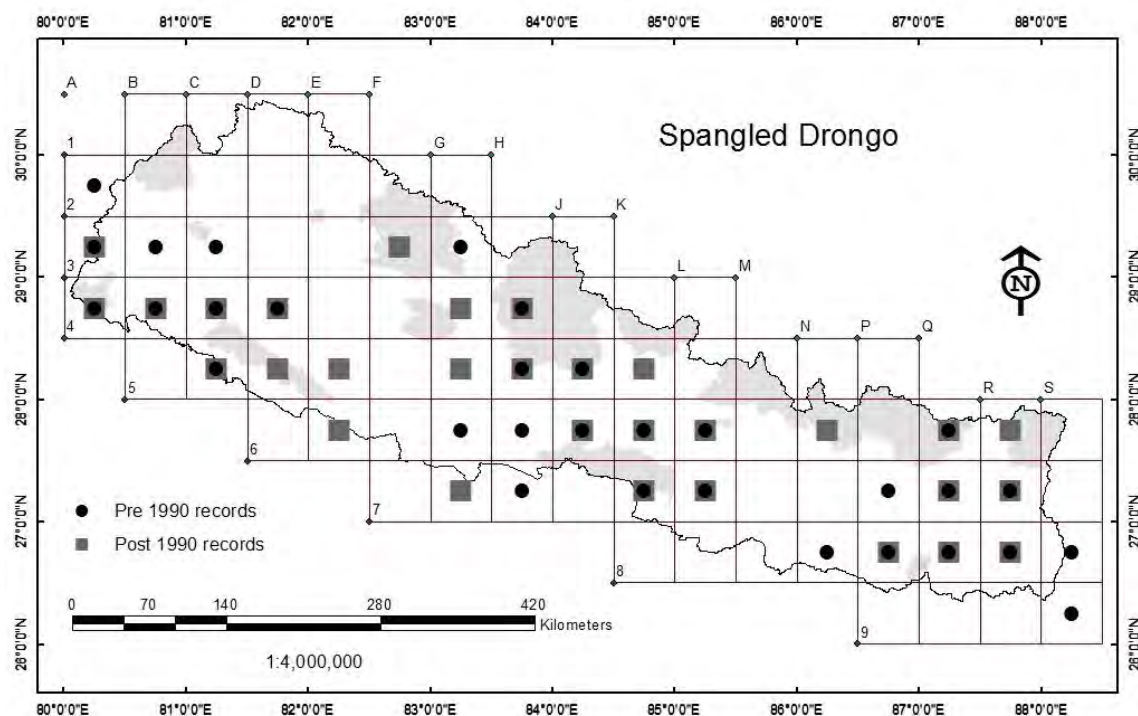
Common name

Spangled Drongo (English)  
Keshraaj Chibe (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Dicuridae



Distribution



Spangled Drongo is a widespread resident, fairly common in the lowlands and foothills. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Chulla and Amargadhi, Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Gould 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a fairly common resident and with altitudinal movements depending on the supply of nectar, and mapped its distribution from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage, but otherwise there is no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare visitor in Shey-Phoksundo

National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a fairly common resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a); a fairly common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded in Barandhabhar forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in March 2010 (Giri 2010), Chitwan District and Tharu Cultural Village Resort, Nawalparasi District in December 2011 (Baral 2011) in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park.

Spangled Drongo has been recorded fairly widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Chulla and Amargadhi (A3), Dadeldhura District in May-June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a fairly common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013), Kailali District; Chisapani (C4), Bardia District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Rawtkot (D4) and between Gaibanne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997; Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between Kaamla, Shivratri Khola and Darbang (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and a resident in Balewa (H5) (Basnet 2009), Baglung District; Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Pokhara (H5) in February 2010 (Baral 2010a), Begnas Tal (J5) in March 2009 (Baral 2009), Kaski District ; Bahundanda (J5), Lamjung District in November 2010 (Adcock and Naylor 2011), and the Budhigandaki valley (K5), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008) .

In central Nepal records include from: Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); very rare to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008) and recorded at Phulchoki in November 2000 (Basnet 2000) and February 2001 (Baral and GC 2001); Hetauda (L7), Makawanpur District in February 2002 (Arlow 2002); Kathmandu (L6), Lalitpur (L6) and in sections of the Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (L7), Makawanpur District (Basnet and Thakuri 2013), and between Belwa and Kat mandir (L7), Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003).

In the east records include from: Giddhe gau, Chewabesi gau, Bumlingtar, Maruwabesi gau and Archale gaun (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in May-June 2009 (Cox 2009); Sankhuwa Khola (Q7), Bhojpur District in November 1994 (Baral 1995); Ram Dhuni Forest (Q8) in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in January 2010 (Baral 2010b), Sunsari District; Khani Pokhari Forest (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and an occasionally recorded resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), Morang District; between Dorumba (Bhaluchowk), Sesambu and Tamur River (R7), Taplejung District in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and near Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992), and the lower Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, South Korea, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 1525 m (-4115 m); lower limit: 75 m

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Spangled Drongo. Post 1990 as many as 111 birds were recorded on February 1998 in Chitwan National Park (Chaudhary 1998).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Spangled Drongo inhabits moist deciduous and evergreen forest and associates with flowering trees, especially silk cotton (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is found singly or in loose parties, foraging at the edge of the forest. In winter up to 40 birds may congregate and fly from one tree top to another (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is predominantly a nectar feeder, though sometimes it feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Hetauda, Makwanpur District (Biswas 1963).

### Threats

Spangled Drongo is threatened by forest loss and fragmentation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Spangled Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Spangled Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage, but otherwise there is no significant increase in distribution compared to pre-1990. Spangled Drongo is threatened by forest loss and fragmentation. Its population is probably decreasing but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category.

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***Dicrurus leucophaeus* Vieillot, 1817 LC**

Subspecies: *Dicrurus leucophaeus longicaudatus*

Common name

Ashy Drongo (English)

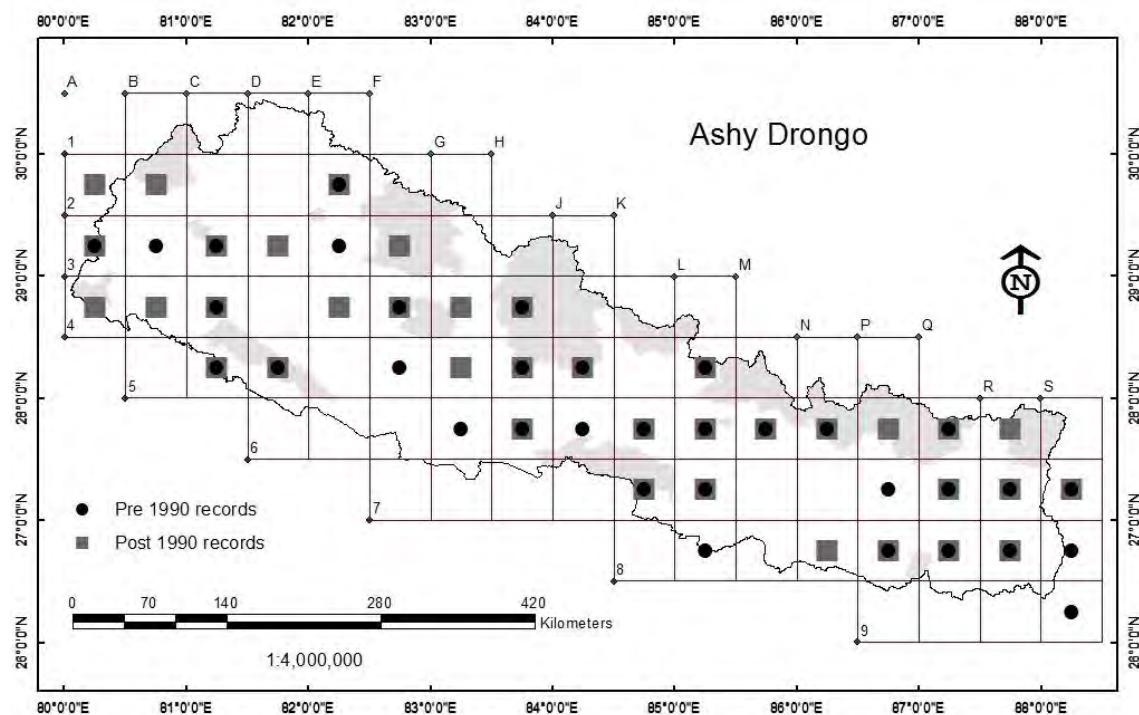
Dhwaanse Chibe (Nepali)



Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae

Distribution



Ashy Drongo is a common and widespread resident and partial visitor. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident and summer visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as common, mainly resident, subject to altitudinal movements with some birds moving south to winter in India and mapped its distribution from the far west to the far east.

There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a fairly common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded during summer season (March-April) in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) of Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); fairly common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare summer visitor to Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a common resident in

Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), a summer visitor to Upper Mustang (J3) (Acharya 2002) and frequent in the Modi Watershed area (H5) (Suwal 2000) in Annapurna Conservation Area; a fairly common summer visitor in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common summer visitor in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); a fairly common summer visitor in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a frequent resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in May 2011 (Baral 2011) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a vagrant to Sagarmatha National Park (P6) (Basnet 2004); a fairly common breeding resident and summer visitor for Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded at Timbu, Tarkeghyang (M6) in May 2004 in Langtang National Park buffer zone (Chaudhary 2004); Barandhabhar forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District, and Gundre Khola, Nawalparasi District (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007) in Chitwan National Park buffer zone. In Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone it has been recorded between Tashigaon and Norbugaon in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998a Heluwabesi (Q6), and at Keksuwa Khet (Q6), Simle Gaun (Q7), Pikhua Khola (Q7), Gonthana (Q7), and Dabotak Thanti (Q7) in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

Ashy Drongo has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Amargadhi, Kaphali Danda, Khalkhale, Dhure and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010). The species had uncertain status in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Beuli, Kalikot (D3) Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Humla (D2), Humla District in May 2011 (Ghimirey and Thapa 2011); between Khalanga, Rimna, Jiri Daha and Lagana (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a); Juphal (F4), Dolpa District in May 1992 (Priemé 1992); Lachang and Palung (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013); a summer visitor in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5) in November 2007 (Baral 2007), between Pokhara (H5) and Begnas Lake (J5) in November 2008 (Chaudhary 2008), Kaski District; Rampur Valley (H6), Palpa District (Gautam 2003), and Bahundanda (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998b).

In the central region records include from: Narayanghat (J6) in April 2001 (Malling Olsen 2004), Bharatpur (J6) in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2011 (Baral 2011); a common resident in Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), along Bagmati River corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009), along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common summer visitor in Chitlang forest (L7), Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); between Belwa, Kat Mandir and Forest Camp N of E-W Highway (L7), Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Judibela Community Forest and Aadarsha Community Forest and National Forest (L7), Rautahat District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Panauti (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in November 1994 (Baral 1994); between Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6) in May 1992 (Baral 1992), between Melamchi Bazaar (M6) and Sermathang (M6) in May 2007 (Byskov 2007), Sindhupalchok District, and Durga and Katahare community forests (N8), Sindhuli District (Phuyal and Dhaubhadel 2007).

In the east records include from: Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Bhotebas (Q7), Mude (Q6), and Tumlingtar (Q7) in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998a), between Bumlingtar, Maruwabesi, Archalegaon (Q7) in June 2009 (Cox 2009), Sankhuwasabha District; Tinjure Forest (Q7), Tehrathum District (Rai 2003); a common resident in Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in January 2010 (Baral 2010), Sunsari District [Q8]; an occasionally recorded resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Hile (Q7) in April 1994 (Zerning and Braasch 1995), Belhara (Q8) in September 2003 (Baral 2003), Dhankuta District; between Mamangkhe and Lali Kharka (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Ilam (R8) in June 1997, Ilam District (Chaudhary 1998b); lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006), and Jamuna (R7), Sidim (R8), Mai Majuwa (S7) and Pranbung (S7), Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea, Sri Lanka, Taiwan (China), Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2750 m (summer), 1525 m (winter); lower limit: 1220 m (summer), 1065 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Ashy Drongo. As many as 45 birds were recorded on 29 December 1992 at Nagarjun Forest, Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park (Fouarge 1993). A total of 42 birds was recorded on 15 April 2011 at Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001) and 40 on 1 May 2011 at Chitwan National Park (Baral 2011).

### Total Population Size

Minimum population : unknown ; maximum population : unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Ashy Drongo inhabits broadleaved and coniferous forests in the breeding season. In winter it frequents open rather than dense forest, and well-wooded areas, such as groves, plantations, secondary growth and wooded gardens (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is crepuscular, occurs singly, in pairs or in small noisy parties. Typically, it perches on bare branches at tops of forest trees. It is quite active in early twilight (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds mainly on insects such as locusts, grasshoppers, crickets, moths, termites and occasionally butterflies, lizards, small birds, and flower-nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved at Chitwan (Gurung 1983, Inskipp and Inskipp 1982), on the surrounding hills of the Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1949, Scully 1879, Millin and Woolner 1988), and at Bhimpedi (Biswas 1963).

### Threats

Ashy Drongo may be threatened by complete deforestation, but may have benefited from forest thinning.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Ashy Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Banke, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Sagarmatha and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Ashy Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage. Ashy Drongo may be threatened by complete deforestation, but may have benefited from forest thinning. The population is considered probably stable.

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***Dicrurus macrocercus*** Vieillot, 1817 LC

Subspecies: *Dicrurus macrocercus albirictus*

Common name

Black Drongo (English)

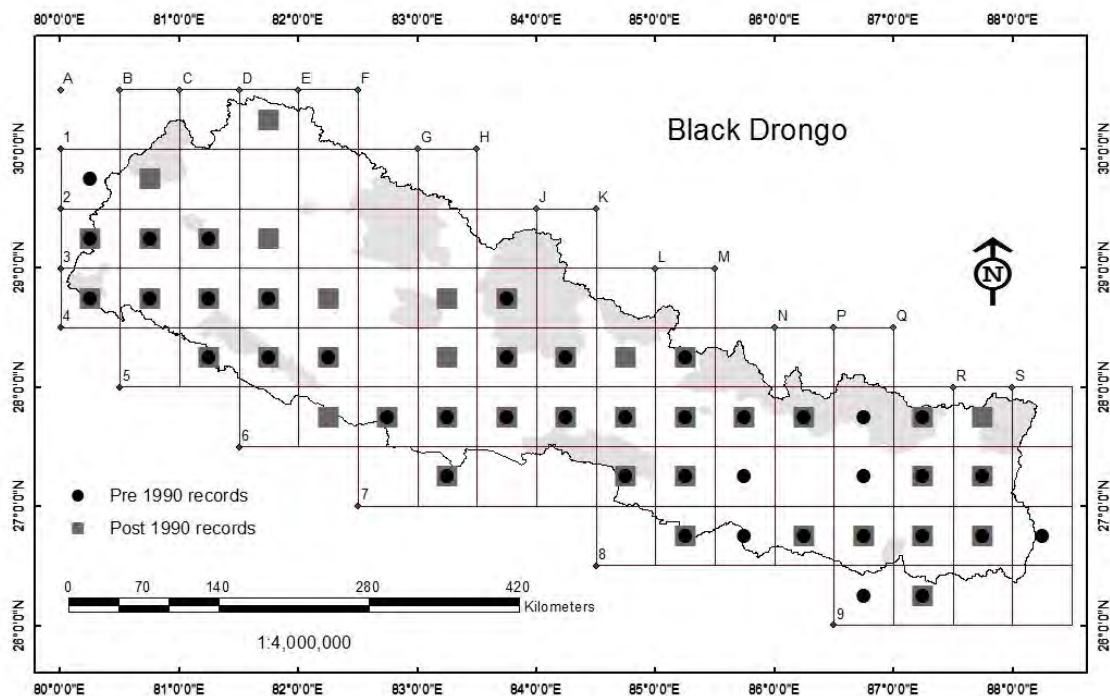
Kaalo Chibe (Nepali)



Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae

Distribution



Black Drongo is a common and widespread resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Amargadhi, Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1833).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an abundant resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as an abundant resident subject to altitudinal movements and mapped its distribution mostly in the lowlands from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded a little more widely in the west, which is possibly due to better coverage, otherwise there is no significant increase in distribution compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded during March-April in Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common resident in Annapurna

Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013a); a common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); an frequent summer visitor in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a common resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in March 1997 (Giri 1997) of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park; a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a common breeding resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005a); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999a) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded at Jhingrana (B3) (Halliday 1993) in the buffer zone of Khaptad National Park. In addition it has been recorded from Barandhabhar forest (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Ghimire 2009), Sauraha at October 2000 (Stair and Stair 2000), Bees Hazari Lake area and Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District Gundre Khola (H6) in November 2007 (Baral 2007) and Tharu Cultural Village Resort in November 2011 (Baral 2011a), Nawalparasi District in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park.

Black Drongo has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the western records include from: Amargadhi (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Dasarath Chand Municipality (B3), Baitadi District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a common resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), recorded in Dhangadhi (B4) in May 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); Humla (D2), in May 2011 (Ghimirey and Thapa 2011) and between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D2) in May- June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013), Humla District; between Daurogaon and Beuli (D3), Kalikot District and Rawtkot and Kotuwa Village (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Salli Bazaar (E5), Salyan District, and between Rimna (E4), Jajarkot District and Chisapani (F4), Rukum District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013b); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); north of Banseri (G4), Myagdi District October 1999 (Baral 2000); between Ridhabhot and Buachidi (G5), in May 1999 (Cox 1999b) and Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5) (Thakuri 2013b), Gulmi District; a resident in Balewa (H5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Khadara Phanta (F6) in January 2011 (Acharya 2011) and a resident in Jagdishpur Reservoir area (G6), Kapilvastu District (Baral 2008); Gaidahawa and Bhairahawa (G6) in April 1993 (Baral 1994a) and Lumbini (G7) in April 2009 (Hewatt 2009), Rupandehi District; Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 2007 (Baral 2007); Rampur Valley (H6), Palpa District (Gautam 2003); Besisahar (J5) in March 2000 (Byrne 2000) and Bhulbhule and Bahundanda (J5) in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1998), Lamjung District; Simaltar (J6), Tanahun District in November 1992 (Baral 1993), and the Budhgandaki valley (K5, K6), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

In the central region records include from: Bharatpur (J6), Chitwan District in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Dhading (K6), Dhading District in April 2011 (Baral 2011b); a common resident in Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), recorded at Nagarkot (M6) in February 2013 (Musgrove 2013), along Bagmati River Corridor (L6) (Thakuri and Thapa 2009) and along Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys of Lalitpur (L6), Kathmandu (L6), Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) districts (Basnet and Thakuri 2013); a common resident to Chitlang forest (L7) (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) and Hetauda (L7) in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001), Makawanpur District; between camp of Lal Bakaiya Nadi and Kopuwa Gau (L7), Rautahat District, between school of Belwa and Kat Mandir (L7), Bara District and between Gaur (L8), Rautahat District and Sedhawa (L8), Siraha District in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Panauti (M6) in November 1994 (Baral 1994b) and Dhulikhel (M6) in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005), Kavrepalanchok District; between Melamchipul and Dubachaur (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and Katahare and Durga community forests (N8), Sindhuli District (Phuyal and Dhaubadel 2007).

In the east records include from: Trijuga River area and Bhagalpur (P8), Udaypur District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); between Bhotebas, Khandbari and Tumlingtar (Q7) in December 1994 (Buckton and Baral 1995), between Giddhe gau and Chewabesi (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 (Cox 2009); Tinjure Forest (Q7), Tehrathum District (Rai 2003); a common resident to Chimdi Lake (Q8) (Surana *et al.* 2007), Ram Dhuni Forest (Q8) in December 1998 (Choudhary 1999), Itahari (R8) (Pandey 2003), Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008), Patnali Forest (Q8) in January 2010 (Baral 2010a) and Jabdi (Q8) in October 2011 (Baral 2011c), Sunsari District; a common resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), a fairly

common resident in Biratnagar (Q9) (Jha and Subba 2012), Morang District; Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District in September 2003 (Baral 2003); between Kholabari (Kholaghari) (Phedi), Muwa Khola and Yektin (R7), Panchthar District in November 2007 (Cox 1992); between Tungwa and Themba (R7) in December 1992 (Cox 1992), between Gorja Gaon and Dobhan (R7) in October 1996 (Buckton 1996), Taplejung District; Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010b); lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006), and Khudunabari, Saktim, Chisapani, Memen, Sidin (R8) and Phidim (R7), Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Guam (to USA), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, North Korea, Northern Mariana Islands (to USA), Oman, Pakistan, Singapore, South Korea, Taiwan (China), Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2000 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Black Drongo. Post 1990, as many as 500 birds were recorded on 10 December 2001 between Chitwan National Park and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Parr 2001) and on 6 November 2011 between Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and Chitwan National Park (Baral 2011d).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Black Drongo inhabits open wooded country, edges of cultivation and habitation in villages and suburbs of towns or cities (Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is typically seen perched on leafless treetops, telephone wires, fence posts or earthen bonds separating fields. It sometimes settles on the ground while searching for ants. The species is bold and noisy in the nesting season. Usually it is found singly or in pairs, but may gather in loose flocks in winter. It is crepuscular, and also often hunts after dusk and makes frequent sallies on the air for insects (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is completely carnivorous and feeds on predominantly insects, and on occasion eats lizards, small birds and small bats (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been confirmed at Nepalganj, Banke District (Inskipp and Inskipp 1982), Pokhara (Heathcote and Heathcote 1988), in the Kathmandu Valley (Proud 1949, Scully 1879), Trisuli valley [L5] (Madge and Madge 1982) and at Hetaura, Makwanpur District (Biswas 1963).

#### Threats

Black Drongo may be threatened by changes in agriculture practices in Nepal including excessive use of agro-chemicals (Inskipp and Baral 2011). However, it has probably benefited from the conversion of forests to agriculture.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Langtang, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 there has been a small increase in distribution in the west, possibly a result of better coverage, but otherwise there has been no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990. Black Drongo may be threatened by changes in agriculture practices in Nepal including excessive use of agro-chemicals. However, it has probably benefited from the conversion of forests to agriculture. Its population is may be declining or is possibly stable.

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***Dicrurus paradiseus* Linnaeus 1766 LC**

Subspecies: *Dicrurus paradiseus grandis*

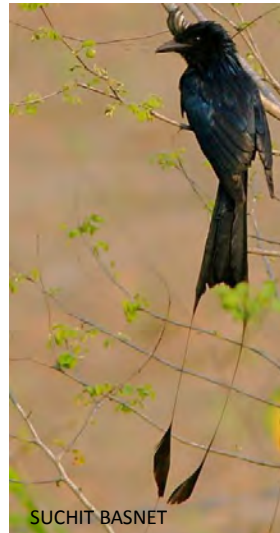
Common Name

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo (English)

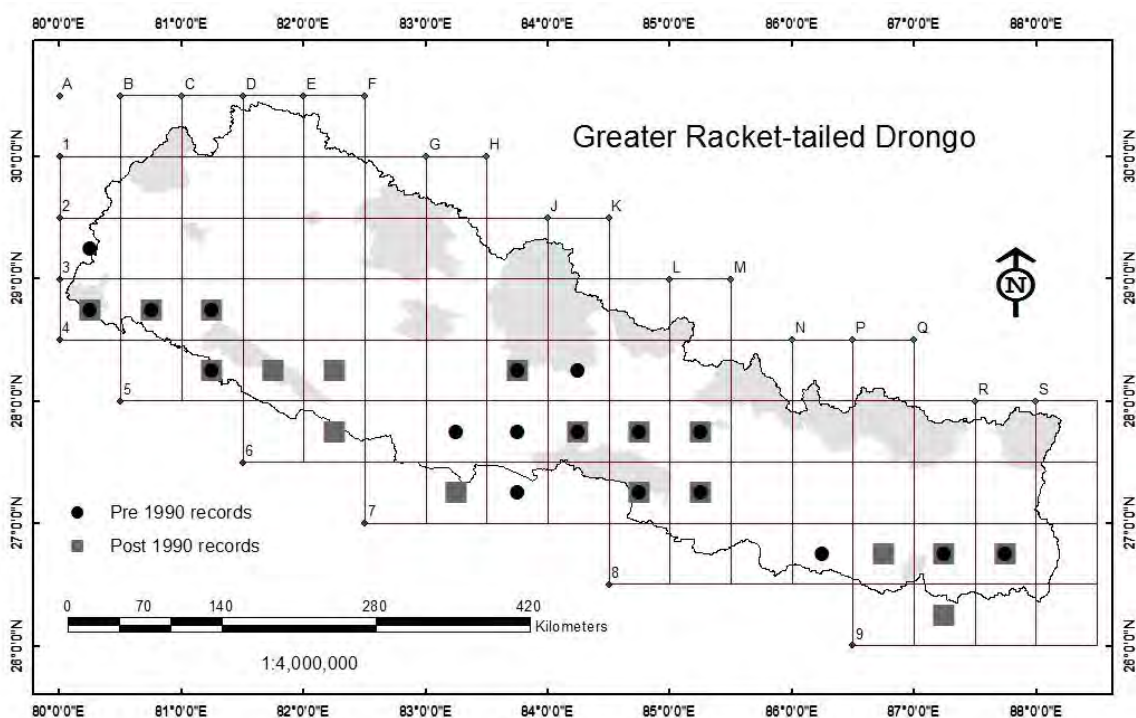
Bhimraaj Chibe (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae



Distribution



Greater Racket-tailed Drongo is a locally fairly common resident in the lowlands. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Gould 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a locally common resident, liable to some seasonal wanderings; found mainly below 150m, uncommon up to 365m, and rare at higher altitudes.

Since 1990 there has been a small increase in distribution in the west, probably due to better coverage but the species has been less widely recorded in central Nepal, compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a common breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a common resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001); and a

rare resident in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005). It has been recorded in the Khata Corridor (C5) (Chaudhari 2007), Bardia District in Bardia National Park buffer zone.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo has been less widely recorded outside the protected areas' system since 1990. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include: a fairly common resident in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), recorded in Geta (B4) in March 1992 (Baral 1992) and an occasional resident in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and Tikapur (C5) in July 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013a), Kailali District; Chisapani (C4), in March 1997 (Giri 1997), Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Baral 1992); Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); Lumbini (G7) IBA, Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in February 1999 (Dannenberg 1999), and in the Budhigandaki valley (K5, K6), Gorkha District in February 2008 (Giri 2008).

In central Nepal records include from: between Narayanghat and Mugling (J6), Chitwan District in April 2001 (Malling Olsen 2004); a vagrant to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008); Makawanpur (L7) and Bara (L7) district sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013), and between Kat Mandir and Forest camp N of E-W Highway (L7), Bara District in April 2003 (Cox 2003).

In the east records include from: Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in March 2001 (Baral 2001), Sunsari District; a fairly common resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8) (Basnet *et al.* 2005), and between Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) in March 2010 (Baral 2010a); along Sukhani and Garuwa track (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010b), and in the lower Mai valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 365 m (-1300m); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Greater Racket-tailed Drongo. As many as 24 were recorded on 5 March 2011 at Khairi, Banke National Park (Acharya 2011).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo inhabits broadleaved forest (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species usually remains solitary or in pairs, sometimes in small gatherings of five or six birds or with other insectivorous birds. The species is somewhat shy, and crepuscular. When feeding it may spring up vertically from treetops to snatch an insect and diving back to a perch. It forages in the lower and middle stories of the forest. The species is bold, bullying and aggressive, especially when nesting. It calls loudly at the sight of danger and does not hesitate to recklessly attack large raptors and to dive repeatedly on people (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on termites, moths, beetles, dragonflies, locusts, mantises and other large-sized insects; also small lizards and small birds; flower-nectar is an important dietary supplement (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983).

### Threats

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo is threatened by forest loss and fragmentation outside the protected areas' system.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Greater Racket-tailed Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally fairly common resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in several protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Since 1990 there has been a small increase in distribution in the west, probably due to better coverage, but it has been less widely recorded in central Nepal, compared to pre-1990. Greater Racket-tailed Drongo is threatened by forest loss and fragmentation, chiefly outside the protected areas' system. Its population may be declining.

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***Dicrurus remifer*** Temminck, 1823 LC

Subspecies: *Dicrurus remifer tectirostris*

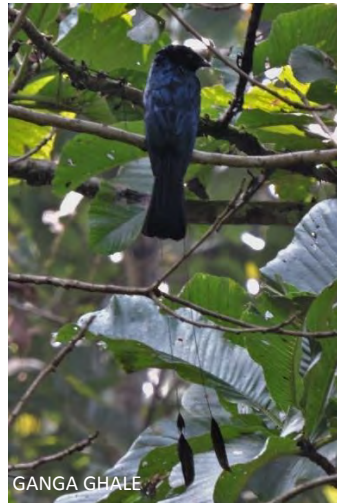
Common Name

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo (English),

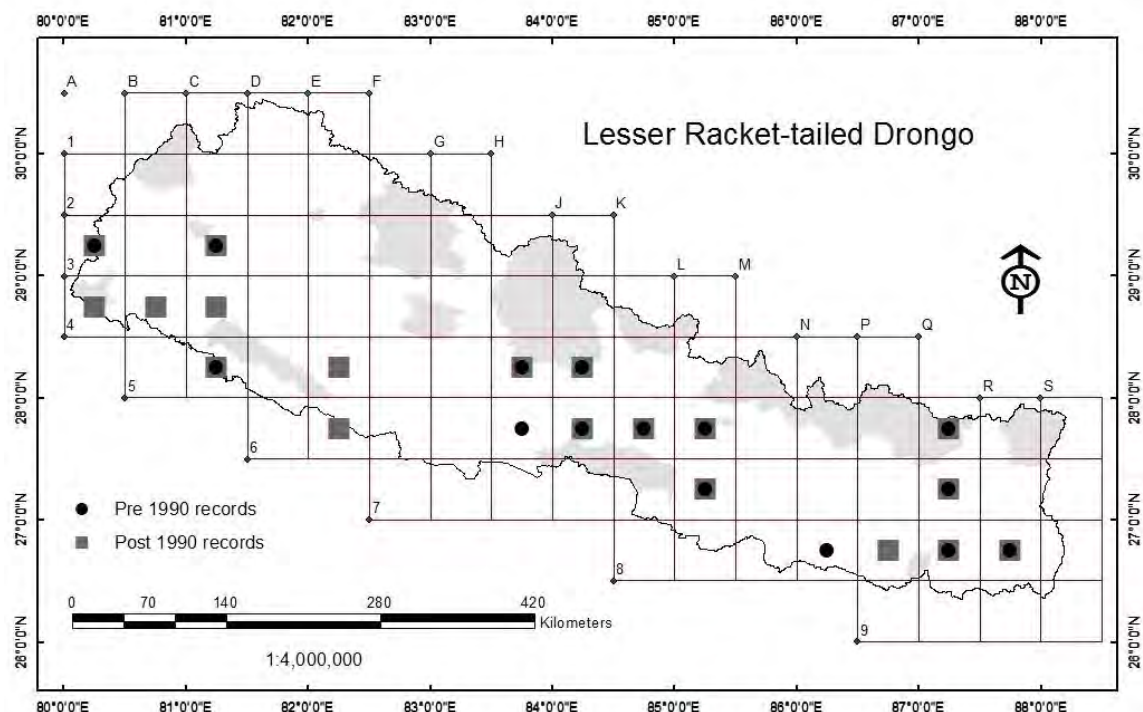
Bhringaraaj Chibe (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Dicruridae



Distribution



Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo is a local and uncommon resident of the foothills and mid-hills. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sadhegalli (A3), Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the lower Mai valley in the far east (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an occasional resident to Nepal. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a locally distributed resident, found mainly between 915m and 1800m and mapped its distribution mainly in the central region and the east.

Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution, especially in the west compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); an occasionally recorded resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and scarce in Modi River watershed area (H5), Annapurna Conservation Area (Suwal 2000); an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6)

(Baral and Upadhyay 2006); an occasionally recorded resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in February 2002 (Arlow 2002) of Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park; a locally frequent resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999). The species has been recorded at Barandhabhar forest, in the buffer zone of Chitwan National Park (Adhikari *et al.* 2000) and Chitre Danda in June 2009 in the buffer zone of Makalu-Barun National Park (Cox 2009).

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Sadhegalli (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a frequent summer visitor in Ghodaghodi Lake Area (B4) (CSUWN and BCN 2012) and a common resident in Mohana River corridor (B4) (Chaudhary 2012), Kailali District; Dang- Deukhuri foothill forest and west Rapti Important Bird Area (E5, E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in November 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005), and Baglungpani (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992).

In the central region records include from: Dhebuwa Lekh forest (K6), Dhading District (Chaudhary 2007); a rare or uncommon summer visitor to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), however the species is frequently recorded at Phulchoki IBA e.g. in May 1996 (Cocker 1996), April 1999 (Francis *et al.* 1999), September 2000 (Fuller 2000), April 2006 (Baral 2006), April 2007 (Byskov 2007), April 2008 (Baral 2008), March 2011 (Birdfinders 2011) indicating its resident status, and also Makawanpur District (L7) section of the Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

In the east records include from: between Chewabesi and Bungling (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Buckton and Baral 1995); Sankhuwa Khola (Q7), Bhojpur District in November 1994 (Baral 1995); Dharan Forest (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); an occasionally recorded resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); Belhara (Q8), Dhankuta District (Baral 2003); between Sukhani and Goruwa (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992), and the lower Mai valley (R8), (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1800 m (-3100 m); lower limit: 915 m (-150 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo. Post 1990 as many as 12 were recorded on 30 April 2006 at Phulchoki (Baral 2006).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo inhabits dense, moist broadleaved deciduous and evergreen forests (Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). The species is one of the best mimics amongst Nepal birds (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It is found singly or in pairs in the treetops or high up within dense foliage canopy. The species is active and somewhat shy (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds mainly on insects and sometimes flower-nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Bhimphedi (Biswas 1963) and in the Kathmandu Valley (Fleming *et al.* 1979).

#### Threats

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo is threatened by forest loss, degradation and fragmentation in the subtropical

zone.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Banke, Chitwan, Shivapuri-Nagarjun and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a local and uncommon resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution, especially in the west, probably due to better coverage. Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo is threatened by forest loss, degradation and fragmentation in the subtropical zone. Its population is probably decreasing, but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category.

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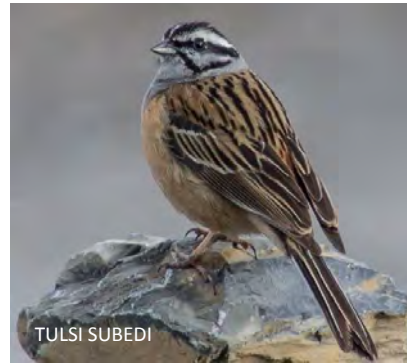
***Emberiza cia*** Linnaeus, 1766 **LC**

Subspecies: *Emberiza cia stracheyi*, *flemingorum*

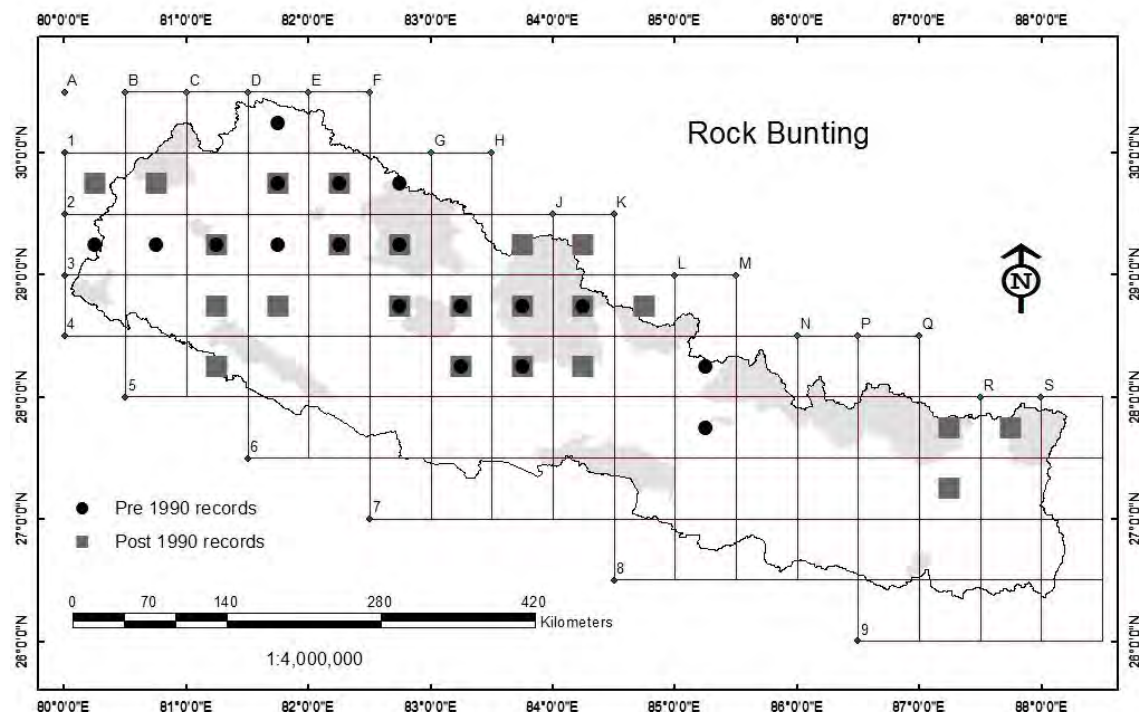
Common name

Rock Bunting (English),  
Shila Bagedi (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Emberizidae



Distribution



Rock Bunting is a common and widespread resident mainly found in the west and also in the far east. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was from Puma (E2) in June 1936 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a resident, common in the north-west, and east to Manang and mapped its distribution from the far west and east to central Nepal.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded from some additional localities including in the far east, compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: common in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare winter visitor in Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent resident in Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); common in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F2, F3, G3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013); a

common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), and a breeding resident in Upper Mustang in Annapurna Conservation Area (J3) (Acharya 2002, Suwal 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Thakuri 2013a); a common resident in Makalu-Barun National Park (Q6) (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Rock Bunting has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas' system, probably because of poorer coverage. Post-1990 records follow.

In the west records include from: Humla (D2), in May 2011 (Ghimirey and Thapa 2011) and between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D1, D2), Humla District between May- June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013), also April-August 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015); between Beuli, Kalikot, Takula, Chhirna (D3) Kalikot District and Narakot (E3), Jumla District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Lihie and Okharpata (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Jumla, Gothichaur, Navakuna, Chaurikot (E3), Jumla District and Hurikot (F3), Dolpa District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992), and in Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013b).

In the east records include from: Hile (Q7), Dhankuta District in April 1994 (Zerning and Braasch 1995).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Uzbekistan (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4600 m (summer); lower limit: 2440 m (summer); 1800 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Rock Bunting. Post 1990 80 birds were recorded between 22-23 February 2002 at Jharkot, Annapurna Conservation Area (Chaudhary 2002), 65 between 26 March and 6 April 2012 and 52 between 15 and 24 December 2011 in Chameliya Valley, Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Rock Bunting summers on dry, open grassy and rocky hillsides, edges of open coniferous forest and margins of terraced cultivation and valleys at higher altitudes. It winters on stubbles and fallow fields in the lowlands (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is rather unobtrusive, but not shy, occurs singly, pairs or in small flocks depending on the season; hops and creeps on the ground when foraging and flies up into trees or to rocky outcrops if disturbed (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species shows little altitudinal movement (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It feeds on seeds, grains and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Threats to Rock Bunting are unknown. The species may have benefitted by conversion of forests into agricultural lands.

### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Rock Bunting. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo and Makalu-Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rock Bunting has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common resident recorded mainly from the west and also in the far east. Since 1990 the species has been recorded from some additional localities both within and outside protected areas compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. Threats to Rock Bunting are unknown. The species may have benefitted by conversion of forests into agricultural lands. Its population is probably stable.

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***Emberiza fucata*** Pallas, 1766 LC

Subspecies: *Emberiza fucata fucata*, *arcuata*

Common name

Chestnut-eared Bunting (English),

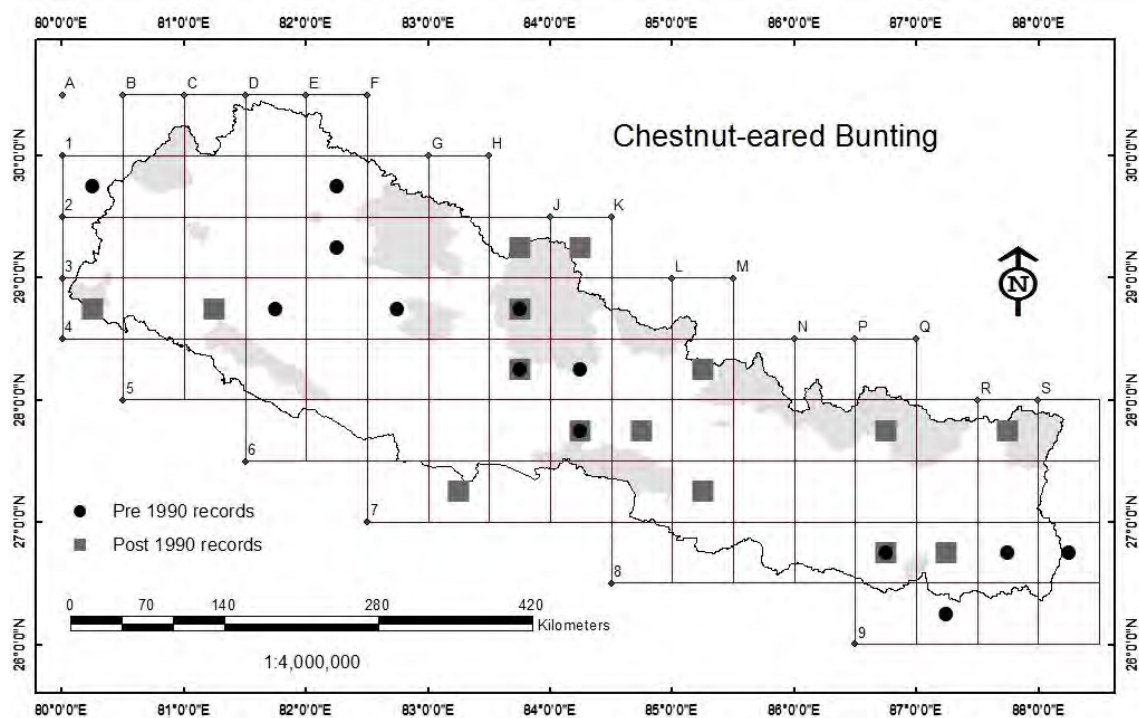
Kankaile Bagedi (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Emberizidae



Distribution



Chestnut-eared Bunting is an uncommon resident, mainly found in the west. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in (Katuwal *et al.* 2013) in the far east.

The first definite Nepal record of the species was at Nekala (E2) in June 1936 (Bailey 1938).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an occasional resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species was uncommon, probably resident and mapped its distribution in the western midhills and eastern lowlands.

The species was recorded as high as 5000m on 29 May 1992 at Gokyo, Sagarmatha National Park (Murphy 1993).

Since 1990 the species has been recorded from a number of additional localities compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a frequent winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare winter visitor in Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001).

Biodiversity Conservation Data Project Team 1994 considered the species as rare in Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA) (H3, H4, H5) and Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported it as a vagrant in the area, described as a breeding resident in Upper Mustang (J3) (ACA) (Acharya 2002); an uncommon winter visitor in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a possible rare resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); a vagrant in Sagarmatha National Park (P6) (Basnet 2004); a rare winter visitor in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005), and recorded at Amjilassa (R6), Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in March 2012 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013).

It has been recorded from very few localities outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Post-1990 records include: from the Telar River, north of Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District in December 2007 (Dinesh Giri); an uncommon passage migrant to Chitlang Forest (L7), Makawanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and along the Godam Danda (L7), Makawanpur District section of the Bagmati and Bakaiya river valleys (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, China (mainland), India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, North Korea, Pakistan, Russia (Asian), South Korea, Thailand, United Kingdom and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2300 m (-5000 m) summer); 915 m (winter); lower limit: 2135 m (summer); 75 m (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Chestnut-eared Bunting. Post 1990 eight birds were recorded in March 1992 at Syabru, Langtang National Park (Lama 1995) and in March 1998 at Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Chaudhary 1998).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Chestnut-eared Bunting summers on bushy hillsides and dry rocky and grassy slopes and winters by reedy streams, lakes and wet fields and grasslands with bushes (Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species occurs in small flocks in winter and singly or in pairs in summer. It keeps close to the ground amongst low herbage and feeds on the ground (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The male sings from the top of bushes or lower branches of trees and in winter the species often roosts communally in marshy reed-beds (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Its altitudinal movements in Nepal are not clearly understood (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding has been confirmed near Dhaulagiri in 1973 (Fleming *et al.* 1979). The species feeds on grass seeds and small insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Chestnut-eared Bunting may be threatened due to habitat loss, and possibly by trapping and hunting.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Chestnut-eared Bunting. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Chitwan, Langtang and National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area; Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves and a vagrant to Sagarmatha National Park and Kanchenjunga Conservation Area.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Chestnut-eared Bunting has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is an uncommon resident recorded at scattered localities from the far west to the far east. Since 1990 the species has been recorded from a number of additional localities compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. Post-1990 the species has been recorded in several protected areas. There are very few known localities outside the protected areas' system both pre- and post-1990. Chestnut-eared Bunting may be threatened due to habitat loss and possibly by trapping and hunting. Its population is probably stable.

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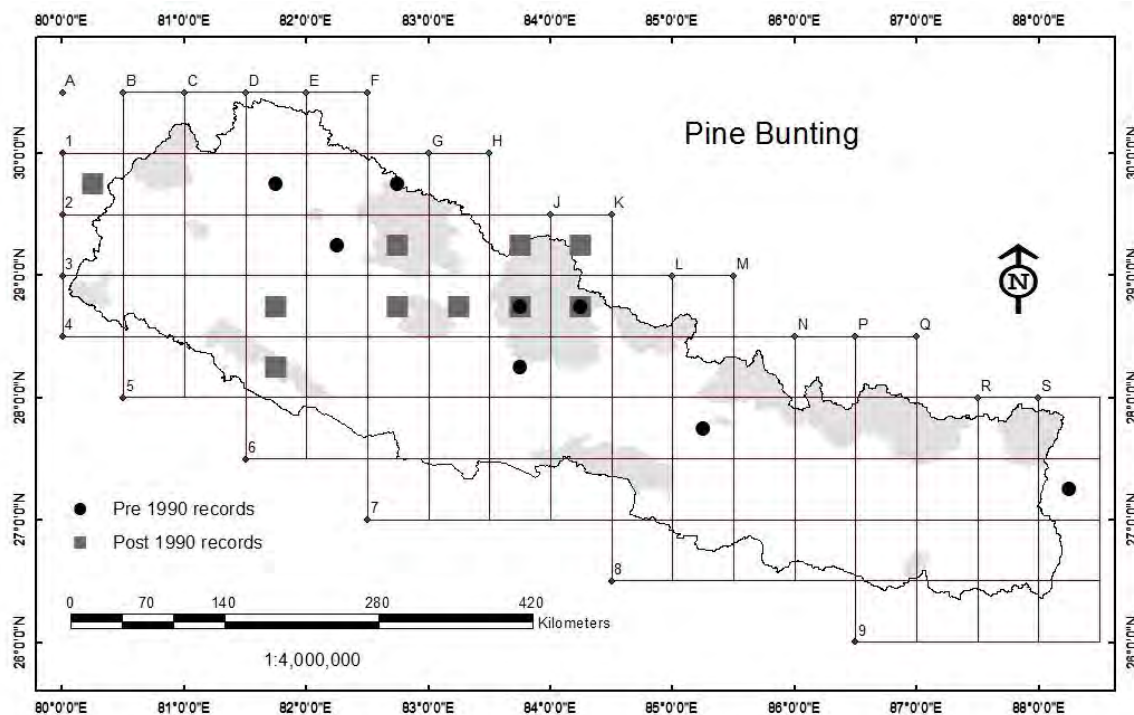
***Emberiza leucocephalos*** Gmelin, 1771 **LC**  
Subspecies: *Emberiza leucocephalos leucocephalos*

Common name  
Pine Bunting (English),  
Salle Bagedi (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Emberizidae



### Distribution



Pine Bunting is an irregular winter visitor, mainly recorded in the west. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) in the east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in by the Seti River, north of Pokhara in November 1953 (Proud 1949-1954, 1961).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common winter visitor. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a winter visitor, found mainly above 2440m, but occasionally down to 915m, fairly common in most winters in the upper Kali Gandaki valley, and in the north-west and a rare visitor to the Kathmandu Valley, and mapped its distribution in a few localities mainly in central and western Nepal.

Since 1990 the species has been recorded from a few additional localities compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: a winter visitor in Mahakali Valley (A2), Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.*

2012); an uncommon winter visitor in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi and Thagunna 2013). Biodiversity Conservation Data Project Team (1994) considered the species a fairly common winter visitor in in Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA) (H3, H4, J4), however, Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported the species was a frequent winter visitor in the area, also reported as a summer visitor in Upper Mustang (J3), (ACA) (J3) (Acharya 2002).

It has been recorded from very few localities outside the protected areas' system post-1990 including between Gaibanne and Madela (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Korea, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and USA (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3050 m; lower limit: 250 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Pine Bunting. Post 1990, at Annapurna Conservation Area, as many as 50 birds were recorded at Landrung on 1 February 1993 (Fouarge 1993), and at Marpha between 8-21 March 2001 (Wright and Lawson 2001). Similarly, 30 birds were recorded on 12 December 2006 between Ghorepani and Jomson, Annapurna Conservation Area (Naylor *et al.* 2006).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population : unknown ; maximum population unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Pine Bunting inhabits bush-covered grassy slopes and cultivation, especially fallow and stubble fields (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is quite shy and flies a considerable distance when disturbed. It occurs in loose flocks of 20 or more and perches on bare trees in the morning in very upright stance, but becomes horizontal while foraging on the ground (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on grass seeds, grain (mostly rice) and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Pine Bunting may be threatened by habitat loss and excessive use of agrochemicals (Inskipp and Baral 2011), but has possibly benefitted by the replacement of the forests and shrubberies by agricultural land.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Pine Bunting. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Banke and Shey-Phoksundo National Parks; Api Nampa and Annapurna Conservation Areas, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Pine Bunting has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is an irregular winter visitor mainly recorded from the west, especially the Annapurna Conservation Area. Since 1990, it has been recorded in several protected areas and very few localities outside the protected areas' system. There has been a small increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage. Pine Bunting may be threatened by habitat loss and excessive use of agrochemicals, but has possibly benefitted by the replacement of the forests and shrublands by agricultural lands. Its population is probably stable.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2001\\_005.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2001_005.pdf)

***Enicurus immaculatus* (Hodgson, 1836) LC**

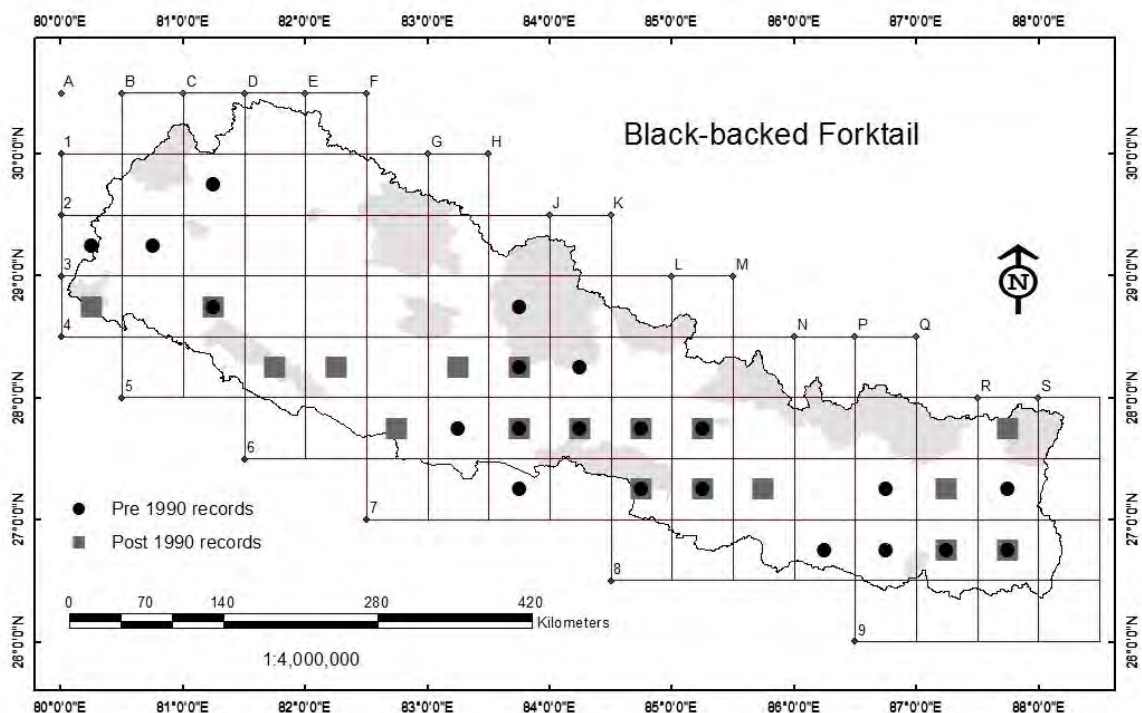
Common name

Black-backed Forktail (English), Kalodhade Kholedhobini (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Black-backed Forktail is a resident; frequent from west-central areas eastwards and uncommon in the west. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Sukhani, Jhapa District (Cox 1992, GC 2007) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19th century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident on streams of the foothills; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a resident occasionally recorded from west-central areas eastwards; few records from the west, and fairly common in Chitwan National Park.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: a frequent resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); an uncommon resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (D5) (Baral *et al.* 2012); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a fairly common resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006) and in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001). The species was reported to be a rare summer visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but no other confirmed post-1990 records could be located. It was recorded from north-west Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve on the Trijuga River and from Bhagalpur in January 1994 (Chaudhary 1994). There is one known record from Kanchenjunga Conservation

Area in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000).

Outside the protected areas system there has been a small reduction in range post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map). Post-1990 records follow.

In the west records include: recorded in Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); one between Argali, Palpa District and Sidure, Gulmi District (H5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999); one near Tiger Mountain Pokhara Lodge, Pokhara, Kaski District (H5) in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005), one at Phewa Tal, (H5) Kaski District in December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); recorded on the upper Chirai Khola, north-west Kapilvastu District (F6) (Cox 2008), and three west of Chitwan National Park, Nawalparasi District (H6) in February 2010 (Baral 2010).

In central Nepal records include: recorded by the Likhu Khola, Nuwakot District (L6) in November and December 1991 (Tyler and Ormerod 1993); one at Malkehu, Dhading District (K6) in January 1991 (Baral 1992); two near Hetauda, Makwanpur District (L7) in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001); recorded along the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013); recorded on the Bagmati River corridor (Thakuri and Thapa 2009a,b); one at Panauti, Kabhre District (M7) in February 2005 (Mallalieu 2005); also one reported on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area, Kathmandu Valley in February or March 2005 (van der Dol 2005) but is considered unlikely (Hem Sagar Baral in Mallalieu 2008).

In the east records include singles from: between Heluwabesi and Keksuwa khets, Sankhuwasabha (Arun River) (Q7) and on the lower Pikhua Khola, Sankhuwasabha District, (Arun River) (Q7) in May 2009 (Cox 2009); one at Khandbari (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1991 (Halberg 1991); recorded in the lower Arun valley (Q7, Q8) in December 1991/January 1992 (White and White 1992); recorded in Raja Rani Community Forest, Bhogteny (R8), Morang District in 2005 (Basnet *et al.* 2005, Basnet *et al.* 2006); three near Sukhani and between Garuwa and Sukhani, Jhapa District (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992); one in Sukhani Community Forest in January 2007 (GC 2007), and recorded in the lower Mai valley (R8) in January and May 2006 (Basnet and Sapkota 2006)

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Thailand (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1370 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Black-backed Forktail. However, the species is probably declining because of habitat loss and deterioration and because of disturbance.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Black-backed Forktail occurs on fast-flowing streams in moist broadleaved tropical and subtropical forests (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Fleming *et al.* (1976) described its habitat as on comparatively open streams and lakes. An ecological survey of the species found it mainly on marginal rocks or shoals or wading at the river's edge and often in riparian vegetation (Tyler and Ormerod 1993). Most of their observations of the species were of them picking prey from rocks and from shoals, muddy river margins and riparian ground (Tyler and Ormerod 1993). Black-backed Forktail eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Its habits are similar to those of Spotted Forktail. Breeding has been proved in Chitwan National Park (Gurung 1983).

### Threats

Black-backed Forktail is threatened by loss and deterioration of tropical and subtropical broadleaved forests and by disturbance. Loss of these forest types is especially serious (Inskipp 1989).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Black-backed Forktail. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia, Banke, Chitwan and Shivapuri Nagarjun National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area, and in Sukla Phanta and Parsa Wildlife Reserves, and marginally in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-backed Forktail has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident; frequent from west-central areas eastwards and uncommon in the west. Post-1990 it has been recorded in all protected areas within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. It has also been quite widely recorded from outside the protected areas' system although there has been a small reduction in range post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Black-backed Forktail is threatened by loss and deterioration of tropical and subtropical broadleaved forests; loss of these forest types is especially serious. It is also threatened by disturbance. As a result, its population is likely to have declined although this is not considered to be great enough to warrant threatened status for the species.

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***Enicurus maculatus* Vigors, 1831 LC**

Subspecies *Enicurus maculatus maculatus*,  
*guttatus*

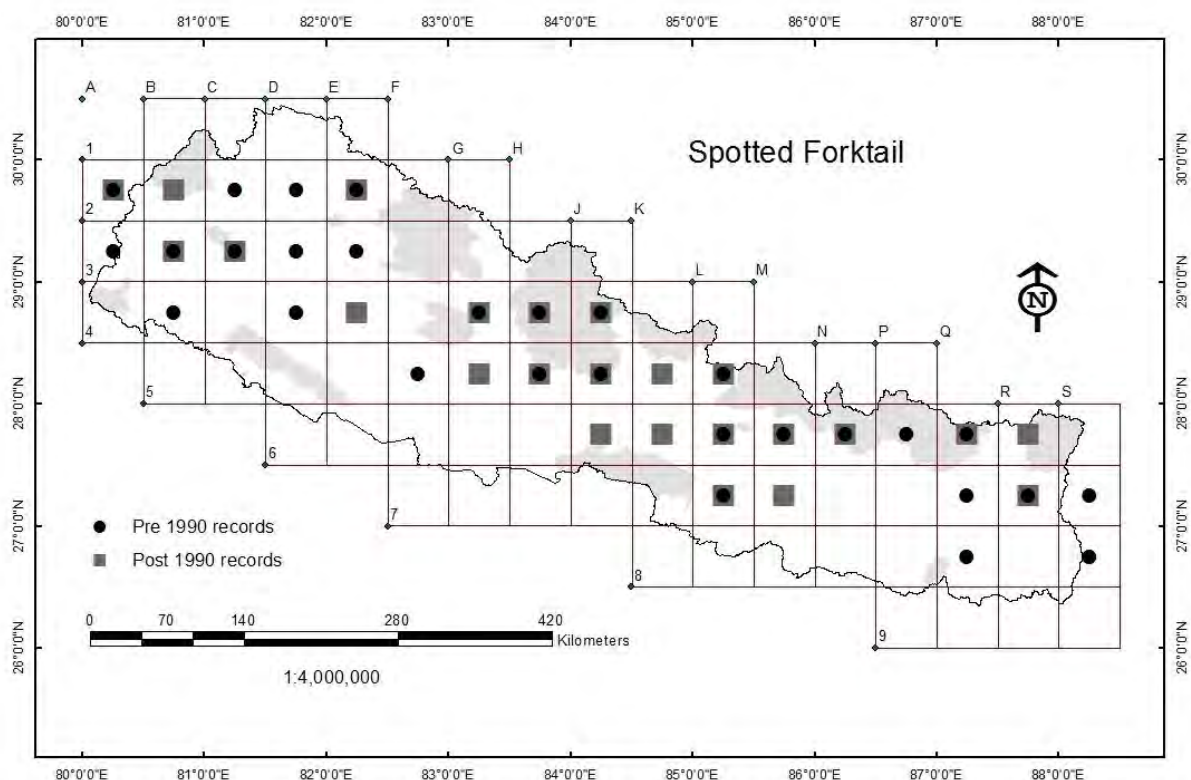
Common name

Spotted Forktail (English), Thople Kholedhobini (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Spotted Forktail is a widespread resident, recorded from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to below Mabu, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east. It is frequent in west and central Nepal, and very uncommon in the east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19th century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was fairly common and widespread resident.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Khadka 1996); frequent, possibly a summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a fairly common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (G4) (Subedi 2003), and an occasionally recorded resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (KMTNC 1998, Thakuri 2013a); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). The species was reported as a frequent resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but known records located indicate it is uncommon there. It is a frequent resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa

2001). The species was described as a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), but few post-1990 records could be located. It was recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area without details by Thapa and Karki (2005) and in 2008 by Paudel (2008). Spotted Forktail has also been recorded in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Baral and Buckton 1994).

The species has been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system, but its distribution has reduced to some extent post-1990 compared to pre-1990, especially in the east where they are also fewer known records compared to pre-1990 (see map and records below).

In the west records include: from Amarghadi, between Tinkadhure and Khalkhale and at Chulla, Dadeldhura District (B3) in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Badimalika region, Bajura District (D3) in 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Gothichaur and Navakuna (E3), Jumla District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); between Bikos and above Patle, Gulmi District (G5) and between Palung, Dhola Khola and Archegaun, Dhola Khola, Myagdi District (G5); near Dobhang (G4), Gulmi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District e.g. Mallalieu (2005), Naylor and Giri (2004), and between Bhujang and Pasgam (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon resident in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; later records confirm this. Other known records include: from Dhading District (K6) in April 2011 (Baral 2011); Chitlang forest (L6), Chandrigiri range, Makwanpur District in 1991/1992 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); Likhu Khola, Nuwakot District (L6) (Tyler and Ormerod 1993); near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004); Dhulikhel (M6), Kavre District in November 1994 (Baral 1994) and June 2002 (Halberg 2002), and by the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include from: Sindhuli District (M7) (Phuyal and Dhoubhadel (2007); between Jiri, Dolakha District and Shivalaya, Ramechhap District (N6) in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Kusaha (Q8), Sunsari District in December 1991 (Baral 1992), and below Mabu (R7), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3100 m (summer), 2745 m (winter); lower limit: 1370 m (summer), 290 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Spotted Forktail. Its population has probably declined, because of the loss and deterioration of its habitat and also because of disturbance.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Spotted Forktail inhabits rocky streams in forest (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); also shaded wooded ravines (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Fleming *et al.* (1976) describes its habitat as on forest streams of the mid-Himalayas. It occurs singly or in separated pairs, always keeping close to the water. Like all forktails, it has a characteristic habit of constantly swaying its tail slowly up and down, and usually holds it above the horizontal. It walks daintily over stones at the water's edge or hops from stone to stone in mid-stream, often wading in the water. Its flight is graceful and undulating low over the water. The species is shy and if disturbed, it flies off calling, and following the line of the watercourse (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Spotted Forktail feeds on aquatic invertebrates. It often picks food items from shallow water whilst wading and also from rocks, shingle or mud in the marginal zone or by turning over leaves. The species has been seen to frequently turn over stones and to foot paddle to disturb and find prey. Larger prey items such as caddis fly larvae are often picked up and beaten

to kill or extract the larvae (Tyler and Ormerod 1993). Breeding has been confirmed at Hetauda, Makwanpur District (Biswas 1961). Some birds descend from higher elevations in winter, but others remain up to at least 2745 m (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Spotted Forktail is threatened by disturbance, and also by loss and degradation of forests, especially subtropical and lower temperate forests. Loss of the latter forest types is especially serious (Inskipp 1989).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Spotted Forktail. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Rara, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; in Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Spotted Forktail has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is frequent in west and central Nepal, and very uncommon in the east. It is a widespread resident, recorded from the far west to the far east. Spotted Forktail has been recorded from a number of protected areas. It has been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system, but its distribution has reduced to some extent post-1990, compared to pre-1990 especially in the east where there are also fewer known records compared to pre-1990. Its population has probably declined, because of loss and deterioration of its subtropical and lower temperate forest habitat, and also because of disturbance. However, its decline is not considered serious enough to warrant a threatened category for the species.

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7 pp. [http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009\\_005.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009_005.pdf)

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Tyler, S. J. and Ormerod, S. J. (1993) The ecology of river birds in Nepal. *Forktail* 9: 59-82.

***Enicurus schistaceus* (Hodgson, 1836) LC**

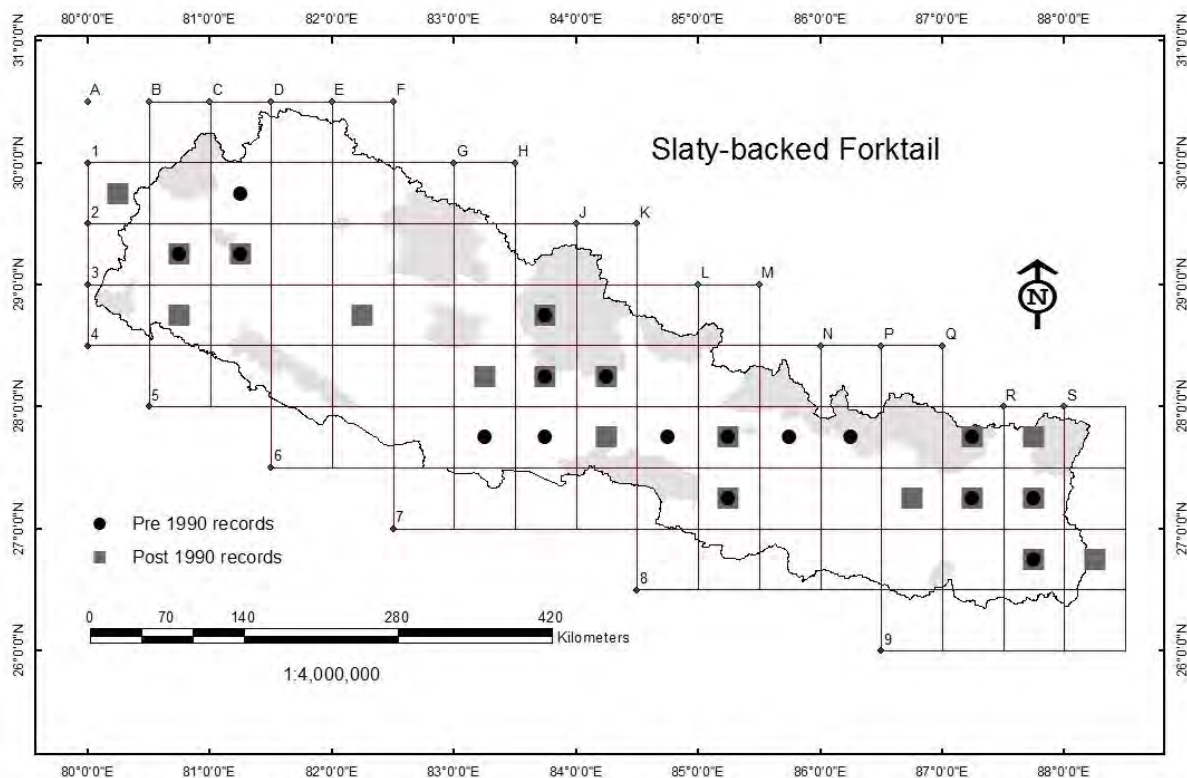
Common name

Slaty-backed Forktail (English),  
Phusrodhade Kholedhobini (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Slaty-backed Forktail is a resident, generally uncommon, but fairly common locally. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Hans Pokhara Danda, Ilam District (Cox 1992) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19th century (Hodgson 1836, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was chiefly an uncommon resident, although locally fairly common in the Annapurna Conservation Area on the Modi Khola and Bhurungdi Khola near Birethante.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); an uncommon resident in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006) and a frequent resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003). It was described as a frequent resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but very few recent records could be located and it is probably rare in the park; mainly an

uncommon resident, but locally fairly common in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and one known record from Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in November 1996 (Baral 1996 in Inskipp *et al.* 1998). The species has also been recorded in Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Barandbahar (J6) (Adhikari *et al.* 2000).

There has been no significant change in distribution post- 1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map).

Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: Dadeldhura and Baitadi Districts (B3) in May and June 2010 (Baral *et al.* (2010); Badimalika region, Bajura District (D3) in 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Gwalichaur, Baglung District and Simalchaur, Gulmi/Baglung Districts border (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in February 2010 (Baral 2010); Phewa Tal (H5), Kaski District, e.g. December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009);

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported only one record from the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006 (van der Dol 2005) and concluded the species' status was uncertain. It has been recorded from Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in February 1997 (Chaudhary 1997) and in November 2000 (Basnet 2000) and two on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park in January 1994 (Mackenzie 1994); on the Likhu Khola (L6), Nuwakot District (Tyler and Ormerod 1993), and in the Bagmati River corridor (Thakuri and Thapa 2009).

In the east records include from: Tumlingtar, Bhojpur and Khandbari (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November and December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); three records from the Pikhua Khola (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 and one from the lower Arun (Q7) in December 1991/January 1992 (White and White 1992) and June 2009 (Cox 2009); Bhojpur District (Q7) in November 2004 (Mallalieu 2005); between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar (Q7), between Gothe Bazaar and Phedi (P7) Bhojpur District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Panchthar District (R7) in April/May 1994 (White and White 1994); Ilam District (R8) in April 1997 (White and White 1997), and between Harkatte and Targaun along N/NE slope of Hans Pokhari Danda (S8), Ilam District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1675 m; lower limit: 900 m (-450 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Slaty-backed Forktail. It has probably declined as a result of habitat loss and deterioration and possibly because of disturbance.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Slaty-backed Forktail inhabits wooded lake margins and large fast-flowing rocky streams in tropical and subtropical forest (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). Fleming *et al.* (1976) described its habitat as large streams and lakes, staying under overhanging vegetation. Tyler and Ormerod (1993) found it even on very narrow wooded streams (1 m wide). Generally, it prefers marginal habitats, creeping amongst boulders, or wading at the water's edge on mud and shoals. If disturbed typically flies into thick riparian vegetation. It mainly feeds by picking items from shallow water, rocks, shingle and mud, or by turning over leaves to find prey, and also by fly-catching (Tyler and Ormerod 1993). Slaty-backed Forktail eats insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Its habits are similar to those of Spotted Forktail (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Typically, the species skims from stone to stone in undulating flight like a wagtail and is found singly or in pairs (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It is subject to altitudinal movements. Breeding was proved between Hedagna and Num, Sankhuwasabha District in May 1980 (Martens



and Eck 1995).

### Threats

Slaty-backed Forktail is mainly threatened by the loss and deterioration of tropical and subtropical forests. Loss of these forest types is especially serious (Inskipp 1989). It is also threatened by disturbance.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Slaty-backed Forktail. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Khaptad, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Makalu Barun National Parks, and Api Nampa and Annapurna and marginally in Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Slaty-backed Forktail has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident, generally uncommon, but fairly common locally and recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from several protected areas and quite widely, although less frequently outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Slaty-backed Forktail is threatened by disturbance and mainly by the loss and deterioration of tropical and subtropical forests; loss of these forest types is especially serious. Its population has probably declined as a result of habitat loss and deterioration and possibly because of disturbance, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2008\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2008_006.pdf)

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***Enicurus scouleri*** Vigors, 1832 LC

Common name

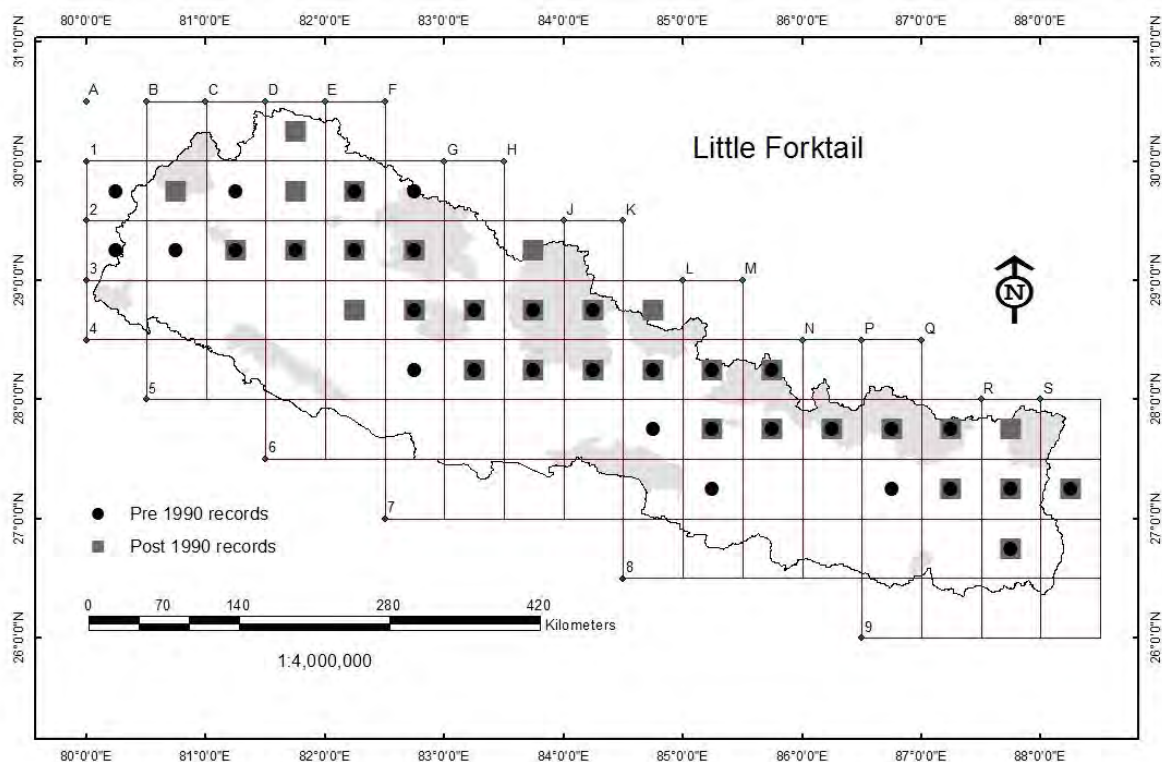
Little Forktail (English), Ganga Kholedhobini (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Little Forktail is a fairly common and widespread resident. It has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Panchthar District (S7) in the far east (White and White 1999).

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19th century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasionally recorded resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was a fairly common and widespread resident.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); recorded in Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); an uncommon resident in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Prodon 1992, Thakuri 2013); a frequent resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a frequent summer visitor (L5, M5) to Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); an

uncommon summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and frequent in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded in the Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has been quite widely recorded outside the protected areas' system, see records below. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map).

In the west records include from: upper Humla (D1)a, Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Simikot (D2), Humla District in September 1994 (Prodon 1994); between Navakuna and Chaurikot (E3), Jumla District (Priemé 1992); near the Churchi Lagna Pass (E3), Jumla District in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); between south of Ridhabhot and Bikos (G5), Myagdi District in May 1999 and between above Pinde Odar, Myagdi Khola and Oraal north of Dobang (G4), Myagdi Khola Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in February 2010 (Baral 2010); Simalral, Tanahun District (J5) in November 1992 (Baral 1993), and Bhulbhule and Bahundanda, (J5), Lamjung District in October 1997 (Chaudhary 1997).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported the species' status in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006 was uncertain and it was perhaps a rare winter visitor. Other localities include: near Tarkegyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004); various localities along Trishuli River, e.g. Naubise, Kheste Khola, confluence of Budhi Gandaki and Trishuli River in Dhading District, as well as Jogimara, Mugling (Hem Sagar Baral), and on the Likhu Khola (L6), Nuwakot District (Baral and Buckton 1997, Tyler and Ormerod 1993)

In the east records include from: Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Deorali ridge to Sete, Solukhumbu District via Bhandar, Ramechhap District (N6) and between Bupsa and Nunthals (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009) and February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); Boldok (P6), Solukhumbu District in July 2012 (Katuwal 2013); Pikhuwa (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 and Phyaaksinda (Q6) and Khandbari (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar (Q7) and between Sanam and Bung (P7) Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); lower Arun valley (Q7) in December 1991/January 1992 (White and White 1992) and December 1992 (Cox 1992); one was found dead at Koshi Camp, Madhuban, Sunsari District (Badri Chaudhary pers. comm. to Hem Sagar Baral, 2012); Lali Kharka (R7), Taplejung District in May 2003 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); near Jamuna on the Mai Khola (R7), Ilam District and between Pranbung and Memen (R7), Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); Ilam, Ilam District (R8) in June 1997 (Chaudhary 1998), and Panchthar District (R7, S7) (White and White 1999).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Pakistan, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 4000 m (-4240 m) (summer), 30 m (winter); lower limit: 1830 m (-1150 m) (summer), 900 m (-400

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Little Forktail. As threats to the species have not been identified and its distribution has not changed significantly since 1990, its population is probably stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Little Forktail inhabits rushing, rocky mountain streams, often near waterfalls, and, unlike other forktails, it is

not dependent on tree cover; in winter it also frequents larger slower-moving rivers. The species always keeps close to water (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). An ecological survey of Nepal's river birds found that Little Forktail was frequently on mid-river or marginal rocks, often those drenched with spray or close to the water's edge (Tyler and Ormerod 1993). It continually fans and closes its tail while simultaneously moving it slowly up and down. It feeds by standing on or running over partly submerged rocks and picking up aquatic invertebrates from the water as it flows past. Often it dashes under the spray of falling water. Its flight is low over the water. This species is less active and restless than other forketails and often keeps almost still for short periods (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Little Forktail is usually solitary and actively catches insects among rocks in flowing water (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Its diet comprised almost exclusively aquatic larval or nymphal stages of insects e.g. mayfly nymphs and caddis larvae (Tyler and Ormerod 1993). Breeding has been proved in the upper Kali Gandaki valley (Wolstencroft 1981) and in Jumla District (Polunin 1952). The species is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Threats to Little Forktail have not been identified.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Little Forktail. Post-1990 it has been recorded in Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and in Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Little Forktail has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common and widespread resident recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from most protected areas within its altitudinal range and is also widespread outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 and no threats to Little Forktail have been identified. The species' population is therefore considered probably stable.

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***Eremophila alpestris*** (Linnaeus, 1758) LC

Subspecies: *Eremophila alpestris elwesi*

Common name

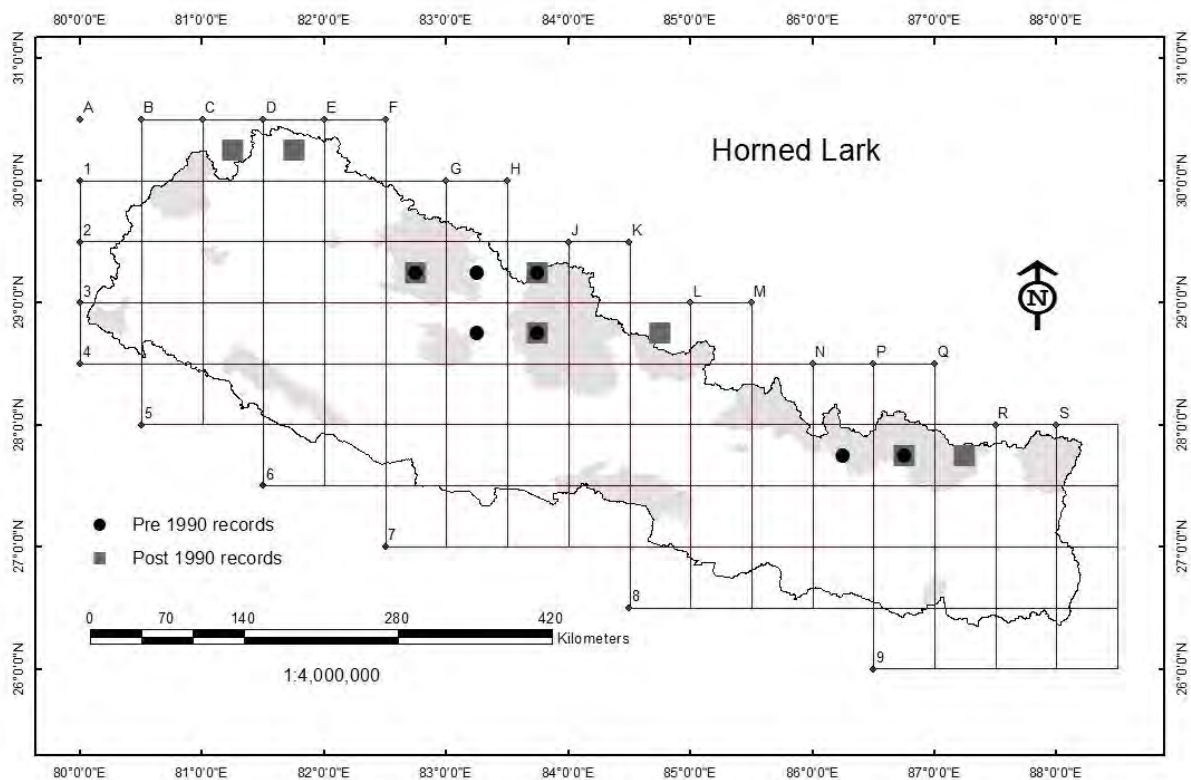
Horned Lark (English), Junge Bhardwaaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Horned Lark is a locally fairly common resident in northern Nepal.

The first Nepal record of the species was at Khangsar, Annapurna Conservation Area in August 1950 (Lowndes 1955).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was resident, fairly common in Dolpo and in Khumbu (Sagarmatha National Park).

Since 1990 the distribution has extended to the far north-west, probably because of better coverage, see map and text below.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park where common at Shey (F3) in April 1995 (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995). It is described as a rare winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4) by Inskipp and Inskipp (2003), but is considered a breeding resident in upper Mustang by (Acharya 2002). It was recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Shah 1998); is a frequent



resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004), e.g. at Gorak Shep in February/March 1995 (Heilbrower 2000), Dingboche and Dughla in April 2007 (Oldfield 2007) and at Lobuche and Gorak Shep in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012), and a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999).

The only records outside the protected areas' system are from Humla in the far north--west: recorded from Yari (C1) in September 1994 (Prodon 1994) and between Simikot and Chyakpalung (D1) in May/June 2013 (Ghimirey and Acharya 2013) and in June-July 2014 and July-August 2015 (Kusi *et al.* 2015).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bermuda (to UK), Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China (mainland), Colombia, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Greenland (to Denmark), Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Pakistan, Poland, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, St Pierre and Miquelon (to France), Svalbard and Jan Mayen Islands (to Norway), Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5490 m (-5900 m); lower limit: 3965 m (-2600 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Horned Lark. Its population may be stable as no threats have been identified and there is no evidence of a decline.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Horned Lark inhabits high altitude steppe in the monsoon-shielded region north of the Himalayan main chain. The species was found in nearly vegetation-less desert-like steppes with no closed cover of low perennial herbs or grasses being present, but locally scattered dwarf *Rhododendron* and *Caragana* bushes (Martens and Eck 1995). It is found in pairs or small flocks according to the season. The species is tame and confiding and is constantly on the move when foraging, walking or running in short spurts. It perches readily on raised ground and rocks. Males occasionally perform a song flight, but usually sing from rocks. The species' diet is weed seeds and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Proved breeding in Dolpo in June 1973 (Martens and Eck 1995), at Gokyo, Sagarmatha National Park (Diesselhorst 1968) and at Khangsar, Annapurna Conservation Area (Lowndes 1955). It is a partial altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Threats to Horned Lark have not been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Horned Lark. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Shey-Phoksundo, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks and Annapurna and Manaslu Conservation Areas.

## Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Horned Lark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a locally fairly common resident in northern Nepal. Since 1990 the distribution has extended to the far north-west, probably because of better coverage. The species has been recorded from several protected areas. Outside the protected areas' system it has only been recorded in Humla District in the far north-west. No threats to Horned Lark have been identified. As a result its population may be stable.

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***Eremopterix griseus* (Scopoli, 1786) LC**

Common Name

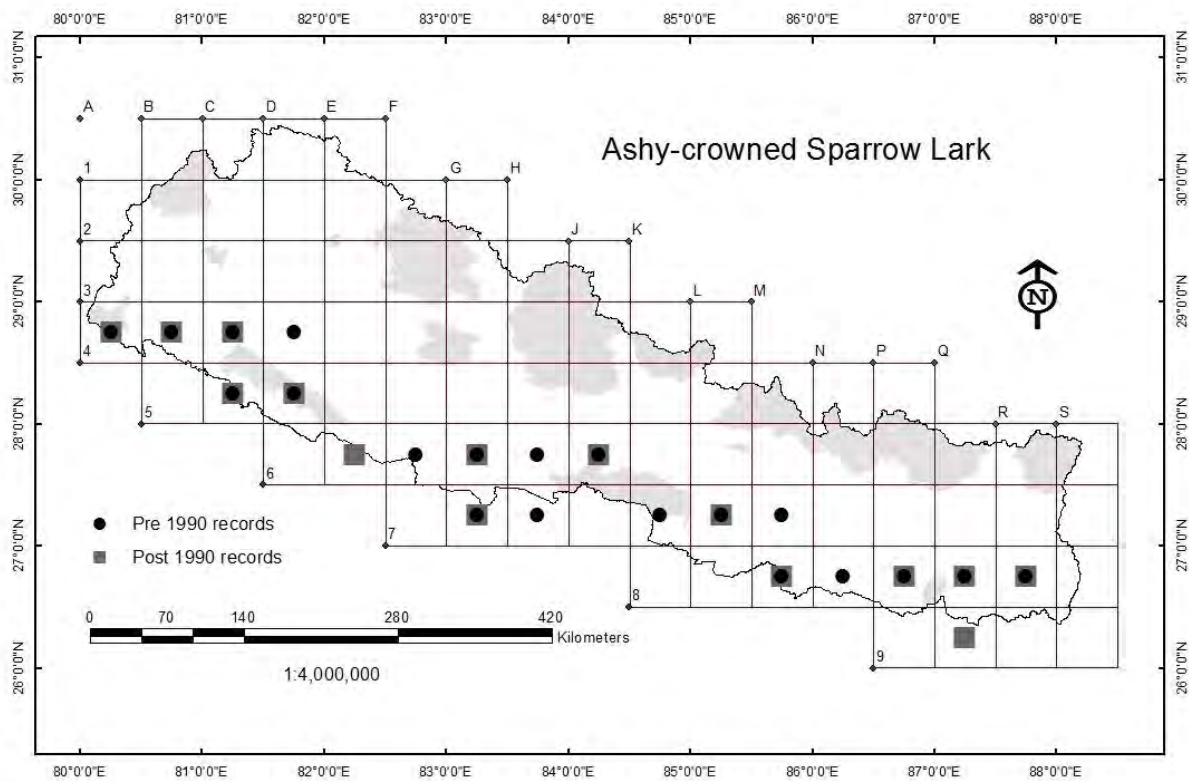
Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark (English), Chasme Bhardwaj (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Alaudidae



Distribution



Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark is a fairly common and widespread resident in the lowlands, recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990.

The first Nepal record was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also reported it was a fairly common resident; and mapped its distribution from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 the species' distribution has reduced in central and eastern Nepal, compared to pre-1990, see map and text below.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: a fairly common resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) and in Bardia National Park (C4, C5) (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (Baral *et al.* 2012); a frequent resident in Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), and a fairly common resident in Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a).

Records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west records include from: near Mahendranagar (A4), Kanchanpur District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); a fairly common resident at Ghodaghodi Lake area (B4), Kailali District (Baral 1992, CSUWN and BCN 2012); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Baral 1992, Priemé 1992); Dang Deukhuri foothill forests and West Rapti wetlands Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Bhairahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in November 2011 (Baral 2011a); Jagdishpur (G6), Kapilvastu District in December 2011 (Baral 2008, Baral 2011b); Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Baral 2011c), Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in April 1993 (Baral 1994), and January and February 2011 (Acharya 2011).

In central Nepal records include from: Adarsha Community Forest and national forest, Chandi Khola (L7), Rautahat District in September 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013) and along the North-South Fast Track Road (L7) (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: by the Kamala River (M8), Sarlahi District in July 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); Kosi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in September 1992 (Baral 1993), November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997) and February 2005 (Baral 2005b); Koshi Camp (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in February and March 1999 (Choudhary 1999), May 2008 (Giri 2008) and September 2010 (Baral 2010a); Trijuga River, Sunderpur (Q8), Sunsari District in January 1994 (Choudhary 1994); Madhuban (Q8), Sunsari District in January 2010 (Baral 2010b); Koshi Bird Observatory (Q8), Sunsari District in May 2011 (Baral 2011d), October 2011 (Baral 2011e) and October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); near Patnali (Q8), Sunsari District e.g. in March 2001 (Baral 2001), May 2008 (Giri 2008) and in October 2010 (Baral 2010c); north of Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Q8), Sunsari District in March 2010 (Baral 2010d); Dharan Forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Chimdi Lake (Q8), Sunsari District (Surana *et al.* 2007); Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District in March 1994 (Baral 1994), and Morang District (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 305 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

A total of 40 was counted in Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserve and adjacent areas between 21 and 26 April 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2013). No other population surveys have been carried out for the species. The large number of 110 was seen in Bardia National Park on 25 March 1998 (Chaudhary 1998). Its population is probably declining as a result of changes in farming practices and habitat loss.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark inhabits open dry areas including cultivation, stony scrub and ploughed fields (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It walks and runs quickly and erratically, and crouches close to the ground to feed. The male displays by flying upwards with fast wingbeats, his flight becoming undulating at the peak of his ascent, and then makes a stepped descent with wings slightly raised. It feeds on the ground or taken directly from vegetation, usually by reaching up from the ground, also by fluttering up to seed heads (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species' diet is seeds of grass and weeds, ants, weevils and other insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark may be at risk from agricultural changes, such as the cultivation of field edges and

corners which were previously uncultivated and possibly also by pesticides (Inskipp and Baral 2011). It may also be threatened by the loss of uncultivated areas and by trapping.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Bardia, Banke and Chitwan National Parks, and Sukla Phanta and Kosi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a fairly common and widespread resident in the lowlands, recorded from the far west to the far east since 1990. Since 1990 the species' distribution has reduced a little in central and eastern Nepal, compared to pre-1990. It has been recorded from several protected areas and less widely outside the protected areas' system. Ashy-crowned Sparrow Lark may be at risk from agricultural changes, such as the cultivation of field edges and corners which were previously uncultivated and possibly also by pesticides. It may also be threatened by the loss of uncultivated areas and by trapping. As a result its population is probably declining, but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Erpornis zantholeuca* Blyth, 1844 LC**

Subspecies: *Erpornis zantholeuca zantholeuca*

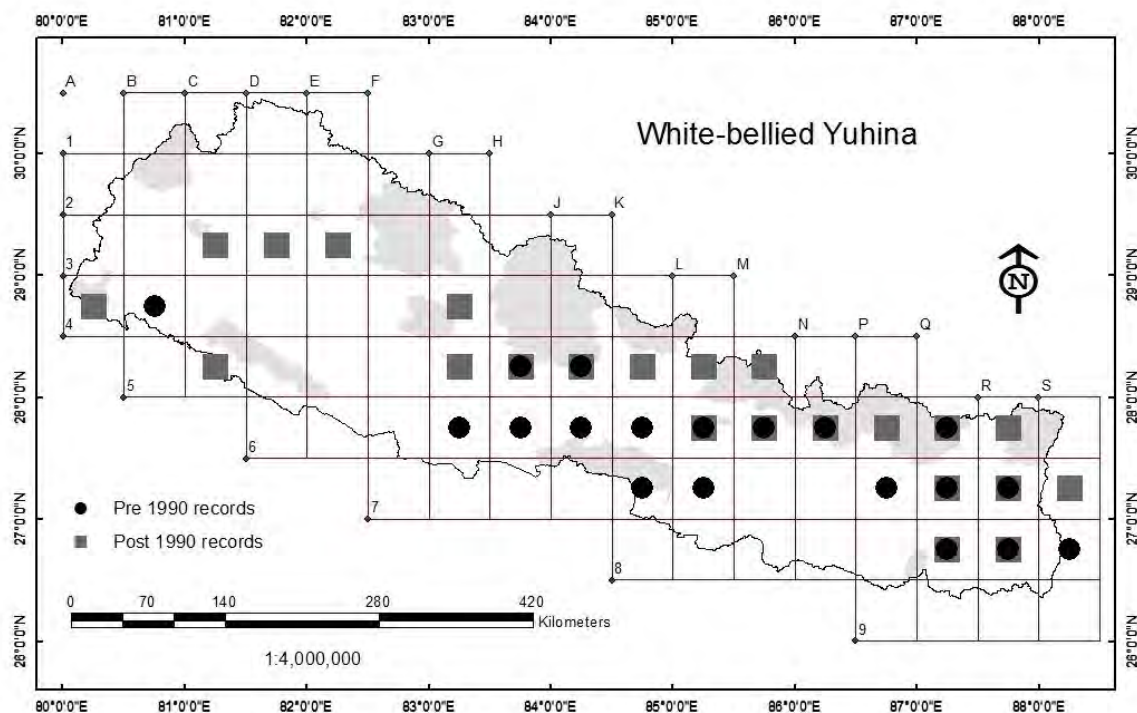
Common name

White-bellied Yuhina (English),  
Setopete Jurechara (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



White-bellied Yuhina is a local resident, frequent west to Pokhara, Kaski District, with post-1990 records west to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009), which is the westernmost record of the species.

It was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Blyth 1844, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* 1976 described the species as 'occasional'; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it a local resident; common in the Kathmandu Valley, fairly common in Chitwan National Park and occasionally seen west to Pokhara, Kaski District, with records west to Dadeldhura District.

There is no significant difference in distribution pre- and post-1990, except for a few more records from the west (see map) as a result of better coverage.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: a rare visitor, possibly only in winter to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (Kumal 2001 and Tamang undated in Inskipp 2001); a frequent summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); a frequent resident in the Annapurna Conservation Area (H5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a rare resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); fairly common in Chitwan National Park (e.g. Baral 2009, 2010, 2011; Naylor and Metcalf 2012), and resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001). The species was reported as a frequent resident on Shivapuri in the Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but Mallalieu



(2008) described it as an uncommon resident on Shivapuri and Nagarjun; recent observations indicate the latter is a better assessment. It is a rare resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001), and a locally fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999). It has been recorded in the Chitwan National Park buffer zone, e.g. in Barandabhar in 2000 (Adhikari *et al.* 2000), and at Bees Hazari Tal in 1996 (Baral 1996), and also in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone (Q6) in June 2009 (Cox 2009).

White-bellied Yuhina may be less frequent outside the protected areas' system, compared to within protected areas, but it is still quite widespread (see map and text below).

Post-1990 records from outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the west these include from Reshunga Forest (G5), Gulmi District in 2011 (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Pokhara, Kaski District, e.g. in February 2009 (Naylor *et al.* 2009) and in February 2010 (Baral 2010); Baglungpani, Lamjung District in February 1002 (Halliday 1992), and Telbrung Danda, Lamjung District (J5) in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal these include from: Dhading District (K6) in October 2012 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2012); between Sundarijal and Chisapani (L6) in January 2012 (Dymond 2012). Between 2004 and 2006 the species was recorded as an uncommon resident in the Kathmandu Valley, most often seen at Gokarna, also one at Saibu in July 2006, and very rare in the Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area (Mallalieu 2008), and on the route of the North South fast track road in 2008 (Basnet and Thakuri 2008).

In the east these include from: Ladabhir VDC, Sindhuli District (N8) (Phuyal and Dhoubhadel 2007); at Belhara, Dhankuta District (Q8) in September 2003 (Baral 2003); between Phyksinda and Mude (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); near Bumlingtar, Sankhuwasabha District (Q7) in June 2009 (Cox 2009); between Garuwa and Sukhani, Jhapa District (R8) in November 1992 (Cox 1992), and Garuwa Community Forest, Jhapa District (R8) in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species is also recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2285 m; lower limit: 150 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for White-bellied Yuhina. It has probably have declined, at least locally as result of habitat loss and degradation; for example, post-1990 it has been less common in the Kathmandu Valley than previously.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-bellied Yuhina inhabits broadleaved forests mainly in the tropical and subtropical zone, especially forest edges and clearings (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is often found singly, occasionally in small parties and sometimes with other small birds. Although lively it is quiet and unobtrusive, foraging chiefly in the middle levels of forest, and also in the undergrowth and canopy (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds mostly on insects and their larvae, particularly small caterpillars; also berries and flower-nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is subject to seasonal altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

White-bellied Yuhina is threatened by forest loss and degradation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-bellied Yuhina. It has been recorded in Khaptad, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna Conservation Area and Parsa Wildlife Reserve; also marginally in Bardia and Langtang National Parks, and in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-bellied Yuhina has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a local resident frequent west to Pokhara, Kaski District, with post-1990 records west to the far west (Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve). There is no significant difference in distribution pre- and post-1990, except that there are a few more records from the west as a result of better coverage. It occurs in several protected areas. Compared to within protected areas, the species may be less frequent outside the protected areas' system, but it is still quite widespread. White-bellied Yuhina is threatened by the loss and degradation of broadleaved forest in the tropical and subtropical zones and its population has probably declined as a result. However, this is not considered to have taken place to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Eumyias thalassinus*** (Swainson, 1838) LC

Subspecies: *Eumyias thalassinus thalassinus*

Common name

Verditer Flycatcher (English),

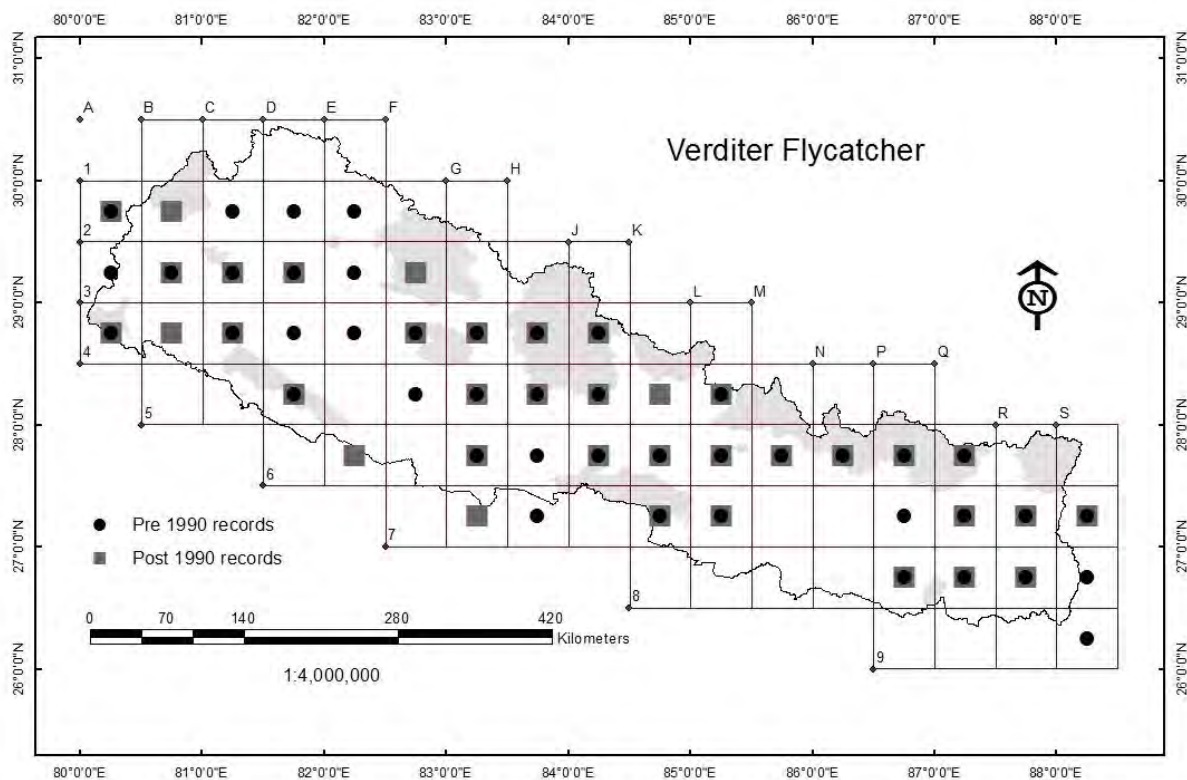
Niltutho Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Verditer Flycatcher is a partial migrant, common in summer and frequent in winter. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Hange Tham (S7), Ilam District (Baral 2010a) in the far east.

The first Nepal record was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it to be a partial migrant, common in summer and occasionally recorded in winter, and mapped it from the far west to the far east.

The species post-1990 status in protected areas is: an occasionally recorded winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); common in Api Nampa Conservation Area (A2, B2) (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); uncommon, possibly resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (Acharya 2011, Baral *et al.* 2012); a common summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Halliday 1993); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); common in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Subedi 2003); a common summer visitor to the Annapurna

Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); a frequent winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), and a winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001). The species is described as a fairly common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a summer visitor to the Valley and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a summer visitor above 1200 m; a common summer visitor to Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area in May (Baral and Shah 2009); an uncommon summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident and visitor to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a fairly common winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a), and fairly common in April and May in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species was recorded widely in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May and June 2009 (Cox 2009), and from Chitwan National Park buffer zone in Janakauli in February 2008 (Giri 2008) and Barandabhar (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Giri 2008).

There has been no significant change in distribution between pre-1990 and post-1990 (see map). The species has been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range (see map and records below). Post-1990 records follow.

In the west localities include: several records from Dadeldhura District (B3) in May 2010 and also recorded from Dashrath Municipality in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); a fairly common winter visitor to the Ghodaghodi Tal area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); Badimalika region, Achham District (C3) in 1998 (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Gai banne and Madela (D3), Daurogoan and Beuli (D3), and between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); Nepalgunj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Dang District (E6) in November 2011 (Baral 2011a); Lumbini (G7), Rupandehi District, e.g. in January 2006 (Mallalieu 2006) and December 2011 (Baral 2011b); between Chandi Bhanjyang and Kavri Dharmasala, Palpa District (G6) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Argali, Palpa District and Sidure, Gulmi District (G6) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); between Simalchaur, Gulmi/Baglung border and ghot south of Ridhabhot, Gulmi District (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); several records from upper Myagdi District (G4) in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b), and one in Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in December 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a common summer visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; this status has been confirmed by later records. Other records include: from Malekhu (K6), Dhading District (Hem Sagar Baral pers. obs); from between Kutumsang, Sindhupalchok District and Chisapani, Nawakot District (L6) in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007); between Patibhanjyang and Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992); Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District in 1991/92 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); near Sermathang (M6) and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004), and by the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include: between Bagaar and Dolangse (N6), Dolakha District in October 1996 (Cox 1996); Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in March 2001 (Baral 2001) and in February 2005 (Baral 2005b); between Tumlingtar and Bhotebesi (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998); Pikhua Khola valley (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 (Cox 2009); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Tinjure forest (Q7), Terhathum District (Rai 2003); Patnali, Dharan forest Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in March 2001 (Baral 2001) and in January 2010 (Baral 2010b); Dharan forest Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Belhara (Q8), Dharan (Q8), Sunsari District (Subba 1995); Dhankuta in September 2003 (Baral 2003 ); above Likyang (R7), Panchthar District in November 1992 and between Tungwa and Themba (R7), Taplejung District in December 1992 (Cox 1992); between Mamangkhe and Kande Bhanjyang (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Mai Pokhari forest (R7), upper Mai valley, Mai Valley Important Bird Area, Ilam District (Basnet 2005); Taplejung, Taplejung District in May 2003 (Grimm and Fischer 2003); lower Mai valley (R8), (Basnet and Sapkota 2006); Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010a); Dobate (S7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010a), and also Hange Tham (S7), Mai valley Important Bird Area, Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010a).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2625 m (-3200 m) (summer), 350 m (-915 m) (winter); lower limit: 1200 m (-1000 m) (summer), 75 m (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Verditer Flycatcher. Although the species has suffered from complete loss of forests and tree cover, it has also benefited from forest degradation. As a result, its population may be stable.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Verditer Flycatcher inhabits tree tops of open forest glades (Fleming *et al.* 1976), open forests, especially of broadleaves (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991), and also forest edges, tall trees in open areas, groves and gardens (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is conspicuous and confiding. It hunts mainly by sallying forth from an exposed perch in tree tops or from telegraph wires; sometimes it gleans insects from branches or leaves. It chiefly feeds on tiny, winged insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1988), Langtang National Park (Robson 1982), in the Kathmandu Valley (Inskipp and Inskipp 1980, 1982; Proud 1949; Ripley 1950); Bhimpedi, Makwanpur District (Biswas 1962); Dhankuta (Isherwood 1978) and at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994).

### Threats

Verditer Flycatcher is threatened by complete loss of forest and wooded areas.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Verditer Flycatcher. It has been recorded from all protected areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Verditer Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a partial migrant, common in summer and frequent in winter and, post-1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from all protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been no significant change in distribution between pre-1990 and post-1990. Although the species has suffered from complete loss of forests and tree cover, it has also benefited from forest degradation and as a result its population may be stable.

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***Ficedula albicilla* (Pallas, 1811) LC**

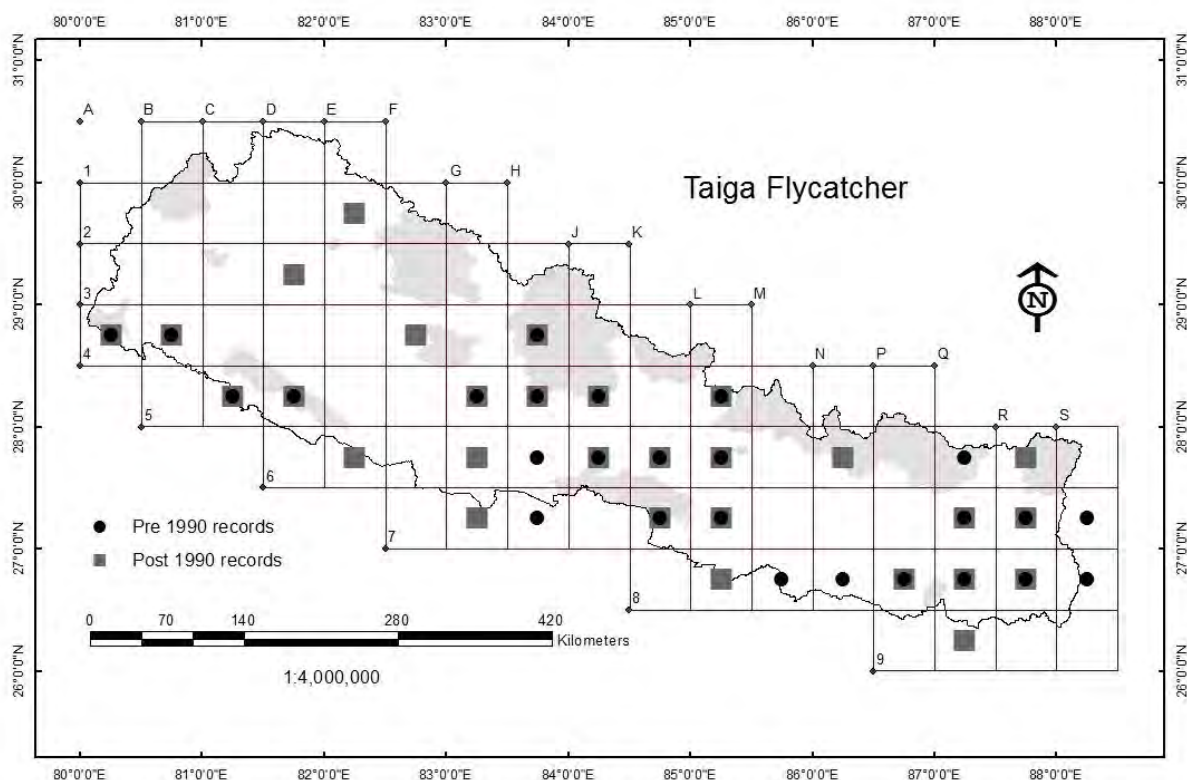
Common name

Taiga Flycatcher (English),  
Lalkanthe Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Taiga Flycatcher has been split from Red-breasted Flycatcher *F. parva* (Svensson *et al.* 2005). Please note that some of the mapped records may refer to *F. parva*.

Taiga Flycatcher is a common to fairly common winter visitor and also a passage migrant. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Jhapa District (R8) (Cox 1992, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a fairly common winter visitor; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it a common winter visitor and mapped it from the far west to the far east.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: a fairly common winter visitor in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a frequent passage migrant in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park (Acharya 2011, Baral *et al.* 2012); a rare passage migrant in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013); a fairly common winter visitor and passage migrant in the Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a common winter visitor to Chitwan National (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife

Reserve (Todd 2001); a frequent winter visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007) and in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a common winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area by Thapa and Karki (2005) without details. The species has also been recorded from Chitwan District in Chitwan National Park buffer zone at Janakauli (Giri 2008) and at Bees Hazari Tal (Adhikari *et al.* 2000, Giri 2010).

The species is also widespread outside the protected areas' system (see map and text below) within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Its distribution has not changed significantly post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map). Post-1990 records follow.

In the west the species is a fairly common winter visitor to Ghodaghodi Tal area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); recorded at Kotuwa and between Gai banne and Madela (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); at Nepalganj (D5), Banke District in March 1992 (Priemé 1992); Dang Deukhuri Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009a,b); Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); at Jagdisphur (G6), Kapilvastu District in December 2010 (Baral 2008, 2011a); at Gaidahawa (G6), Rupandehi District in 2011 (Baral 2011a); Lumbini (G7) IBA, Rupandehi District, e.g. in January 2003 (Giri 2003) and many records in January and February 2011 (Acharya 2011); many records from Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in March 2009 (Baral 2009), November 2011 (Baral 2011b) and January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Salyan (H5), Parbat District in October 1999 (Baral 2000), and at Besisahar (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was an uncommon winter visitor and passage migrant in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records include from Malekhu (K6), Dhading District in January 1991 (Baral 1993), and along the North South Fast Track Road (Basnet and Thakuri 2008, 2013).

In the east records include from between Gaur, Rautahat District and Sedhawa, Siraha District (L8); between Lal Bakaiya Nadi and Kopuwa Gau school, Rautahat District (L8) and between Mewa Gau school and Belwa school, Bara District (L8) in April 2003 (Cox 2003); Koshi Barrage (P8), Sunsari District, e.g. in February 1997 (Chaudhary 1997a), February 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), February (Baral 2005b); Pikhua (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Dharan (Q8), Sunsari District (Subba 1995); Patnali, Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in March 2001 (Baral 2001) and in October 2010 (Baral 2010); Dharan forests Important Bird Area, e.g. in November 1996 (Chaudhary 1997b) and in 2008 (Basnet and Sapkota 2008); Biratnagar (Q9), Morang District (Subba 1994); Garuwa (R8), Jhapa District and Chisapani (R8), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); between Prajhapate and Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992) and in the lower Mai valley (R8), Ilam District (Basnet and Sapkota 2006).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Malaysia, Mongolia, Myanmar, Philippines, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Tajikistan, Thailand, Uzbekistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1830 m (-2590 m on passage); lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys specifically for Taiga Flycatcher have been carried out. Its population may be stable; the species is likely to have benefited from forest degradation, although it is threatened by complete loss of wooded areas and scrub.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Taiga Flycatcher inhabits bushes, groves, scrub at cultivation edges (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991); also open forest and wooded areas (Grimmett *et al.* 2009). The species is unobtrusive and so can be overlooked. However, it is active and has an alert posture. It frequently droops wings and flicks tail while calling simultaneously; sometimes it cocks its tail right over the back. Taiga Flycatcher forages in the understorey or in bushes, often dropping to the ground to pick up prey. It also catches in typical flycatcher fashion in aerial forays and when flitting from one perch to another among foliage; sometimes hovering in front of leaves (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on insects, chiefly midges and mosquitos (Ali and Ripley 1987).

### Threats

Complete loss of wooded areas and scrub threatened Taiga Flycatcher.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Taiga Flycatcher. It has been recorded in Bardia, Banke, Rara, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang National Parks; Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Taiga Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common to fairly common winter visitor and also a passage migrant, recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and is also widespread outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. Taiga Flycatcher is likely to have benefited from forest degradation, although it is threatened by complete loss of wooded areas and scrub and as a result its population may be stable.

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***Ficedula hyperythra* (Blyth, 1843) LC**

Subspecies: *Ficedula hyperythra hyperythra*

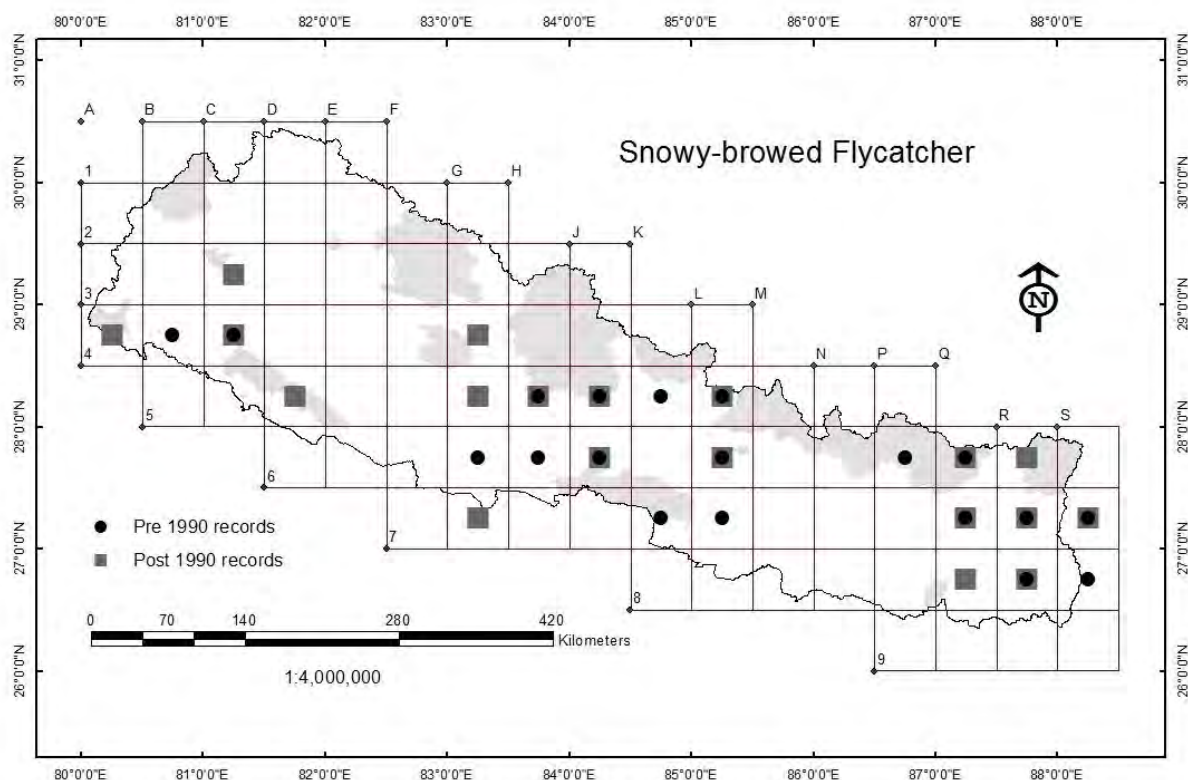
Common name

Snowy-browed Flycatcher (English),  
Setoaankhibhaun Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Snowy-browed Flycatcher is a resident, generally uncommon. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Hange Tham, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an occasionally recorded resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) mapped it from the far west and also from west-central Nepal to the far east.

The species post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: a rare winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); frequent, possibly a winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in February in Banke National Park (Baral *et al.* 2012); recorded and possibly a summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Halliday 1993, Khadka 1996); an uncommon summer visitor to the Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), and a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). SNP and BCN (2007) reported it was a frequent summer visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, but few other records could be located and it may be rare. It is a frequent summer visitor to Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001) and to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox

(1999a) and is probably a rare winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve, e.g. recorded in December 2009 (Giri 2009) and in November 2011 (Baral 2011a). It has been recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in April 2011 (Baral 2011b) and April 2012 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013), and also in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998) and in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, although the species has been recorded a little more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage. However, post-1990 the species has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas, see records below.

In the west records include: from Pinde Odar, Myagdi Khola valley (G4), Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Belawa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Lumbini IBA (G7), Rupandehi District in February 2011 (Acharya 2011); regularly recorded in the Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in December 2002 (Brickle 2003); January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005); in December 2007 (Naylor and Metcalf 2007) and December 2008 (Naylor and Turner 2008).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported the species was rare in summer and winter in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006; it has also been recorded in October 1993 from Godaveri Botanical Gardens (Baral 1994) and in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area in May 2005 and May 2006 (Arend van Riessen).

In the east records include: from Lali Kharka (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Sukhani (R8), Jhapa District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Dobate, Mabu VDC (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010); lower Mai valley (R8), (Basnet and Sapkota 2006), and Hange Tham (S7), Ilam District in March (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2285 m (-3000 m) (summer), 1525 m (winter); lower limit: 1500 m (summer), 275 m (-75 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Snowy-browed Flycatcher. However, it appears to be less common than before 1990 and its population is probably declining as a result of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Snowy-browed Flycatcher occurs in bamboos and below dense forest crown; it is most common in damp ravines of oak-chestnut forests in the east (Fleming *et al.* 1976). The species inhabits the lower storey of humid broadleaved forests with dense undergrowth (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Martens and Eck (1995) found it in deep-cut ravines in the bushy understory of dense broadleaved forests, mainly of *Quercus* and *Lithocarpus* (Martens and Eck 1995). It is often solitary and rather quiet and unobtrusive (Fleming *et al.* 1976); a secretive bird (Martens and Eck 1995). Typically, it flits among undergrowth and bushes close to the forest floor, and occasionally sallies after insects (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds chiefly on dipterous insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved at Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).



### Threats

Snowy-browed Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of its dense subtropical and lower temperate broadleaved forest habitat.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Snowy-browed Flycatcher. It has been recorded in: Bardia, Banke, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and marginally in Khaptad, Chitwan and Shivapuri Nagarjun National Parks and in Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Snowy-browed Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident, generally uncommon and recorded from the far west to the far east. The species has been recorded from several protected areas. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, although the species has been recorded a little more widely in the west, probably because of better coverage. However, post-1990 the species has been recorded less widely and less frequently outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas. Although there have been no population surveys specifically for this species, it appears to be less common than before 1990. Its population has probably decreased as a result of habitat loss and degradation, although not enough to warrant a threatened category.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2008\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2008_006.pdf)
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***Ficedula strophciata*** (Hodgson, 1837) LC

Subspecies: *Ficedula strophciata strophciata*

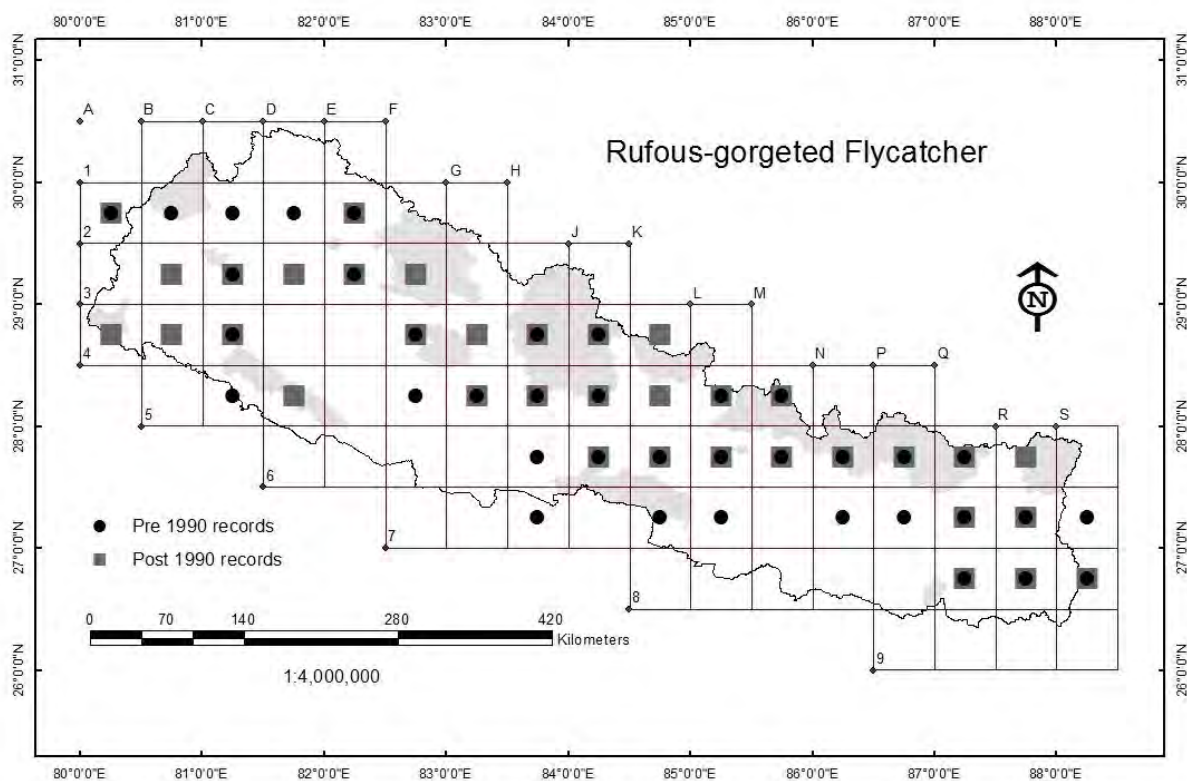
Common name

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher (English),  
Setotike Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher is a common and widespread resident, recorded post-1990 from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Hans Pokhari Danda (S8), Ilam District (Cox 1992) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1837).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it a common resident and mapped it from the far west to the far east.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: an uncommon winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); common in the Chameliya valley (A2), Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon winter visitor to Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Banke National Park in February 2012 (Baral *et al.* 2012); a common summer visitor and passage migrant to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Khadka 1996); an uncommon summer visitor to Rara National Park

(Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); common in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4, K5) (Katuwal *et al.* 2013, Thakuri 2013a); a frequent winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a fairly common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009; Cox 1996); a fairly common summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and common in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in April and May at least (Inskipp *et al.* 2008; Katuwal *et al.* 2013). The species has also been recorded in Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone at Phakding (P6) in May 1993 (Baral 1996) and in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May and June 2009 (Cox 2009).

There is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map). Post-1990 the species has been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system (see map and text below). Post-1990 records follow.

In the west it is an occasionally recorded winter visitor in the Ghodaghodi Tal area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012); recorded near Khalanga and Chulla, Ana Khola west (B3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); between Daurogoan to Beuli and Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); very common in Jumla District (E3) in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); recorded from Reshunga forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011, 2013b); Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); several records from Myagdi District (G4, G5) in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b); recorded at Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in February 1998 (Chaudhary 1998); December 2007 (Naylor and Metcalf 2007), December 2008 (Naylor and Turner 2008) and February 2009 (Naylor *et al.* 2009); between Baglungpani and Ganpokhara (J5), Lamjung District and on Telbrung Danda (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), and at Baglungpani (J5), Lamjung District in December 1991 (Halliday 1992).

In central Nepal Mallalieu (2008) reported it was common in winter and fairly common in summer in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records include from: Malekhu and Fakfuk Danda (K6), Dhading District in winter (Hem Sagar Baral pers. obs.); near Kutumsang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); between Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992); between Kutumsang and Chisapani (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007); Chitlang forest, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District in 1991/1992 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); near Sermathang (M6), Sindhupalchok District (Chaudhary 2004), and near Tarkeghyang (M6), Sindhupalchok District in May 2004 (Chaudhary 2004).

In the east records include from Dolakha District (N6) (Poulsen 1993); Samba Danda (N6), Ramechhap District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); the species was common at Taksindu and from Ringmo, Solukhumbu District (P6) in April 2013 (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); recorded between Hedangna and Indua Khola overhang (Q6), Taplejung District in December 1992 (Cox 1992); at Pikhuwa, Bhotebas and Khandbari (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District in April 1994 (Halberg 1994); between Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District and Gupha Pokhari (R7), Sankhuwasabha District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); from Patnali, Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District; Mabu (R7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010a); common at Mabu and Maimajuwa (R7), Ilam District and above Pranbung, Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008); several records from Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010b); Hange Tham (S7), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010a), and above Targaun - Romiyang on Hans Pokhari Danda (S8), Ilam District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Laos, Myanmar, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3965 m (summer), 1830 m (-2135 m) (winter); lower limit: 2440 m (summer), 915 m (-150 m) (winter)

### Population

No population surveys have been specifically carried out for Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher. The species' population is possibly stable. Although it may have suffered from deforestation, this will be less so than species that breed at lower altitudes. In addition, its population may have benefited to some degree through forest thinning.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher inhabits broadleaved and coniferous forests (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991) in both dense and open forests and forest clearings (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is inconspicuous and keeps to the middle storey and undergrowth of forest, sometimes dropping to the ground. It frequently jerks and spreads its tail, showing the black-and-white pattern. It makes frequent aerial sallies in search of prey (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is less active than most flycatchers (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Breeding has been proved at Chankheli, Mugu District (Pritchard 1980), Chitre, Makalu Barun National Park (Bland 1994) and in the upper Mai valley (Stevens 1925).

### Threats

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher is threatened by deforestation, but less so than species that breed at lower altitudes and less than species dependent on dense forests.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher. Post 1990 it has been recorded in: Bardia, Banke, Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas; Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread resident, recorded post-1990 from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system, post-1990. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher is threatened by deforestation, but less so than species that breed at lower altitudes and less than species dependent on dense forests. The species' population is possibly stable. Although it may have suffered from deforestation, this will be less so than species that breed at lower altitudes. In addition, its population may have benefited to some degree through forest thinning.

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***Ficedula superciliaris*** (Jerdon, 1840) LC

Subspecies: *Ficedula superciliaris superciliaris*,  
*aestigma*

Common name

Ultramarine Flycatcher (English),

Nilshwet Arjunak (Nepali)

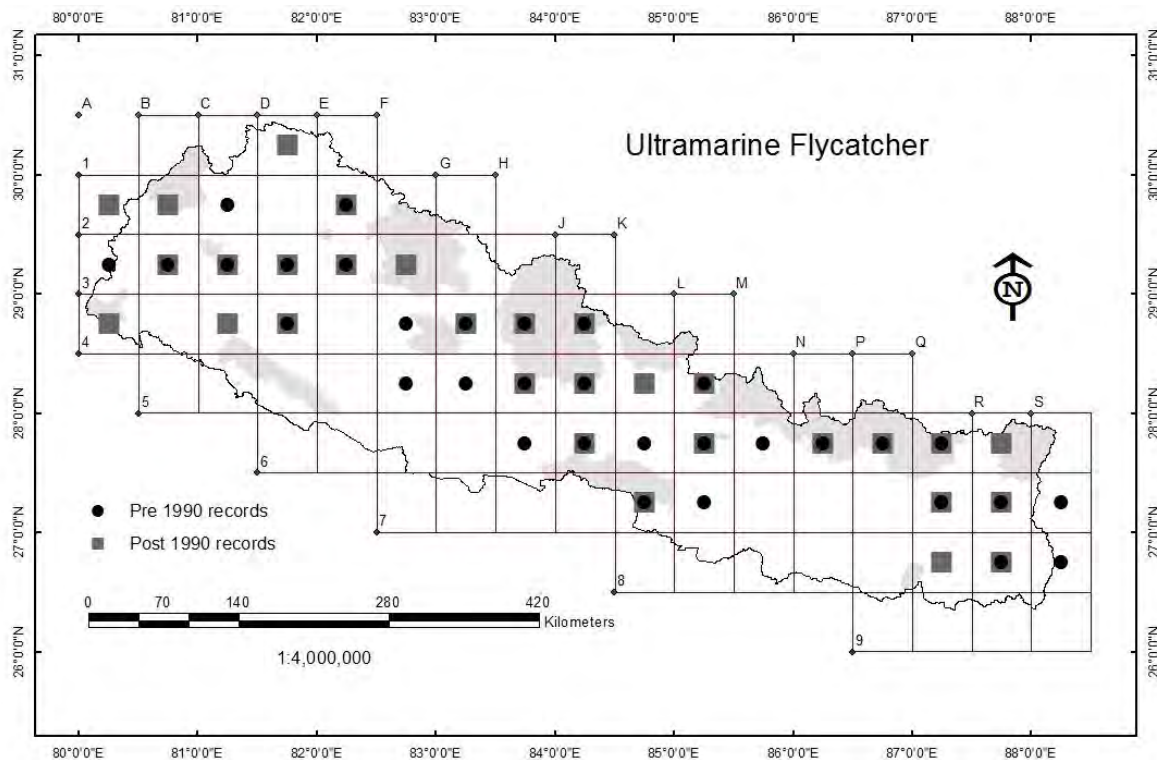
Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution

Ultramar



ine Flycatcher is common between late February and late October and rare in other months. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Ilam, Ilam District (Baral 2010) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported it was a common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) also found it was common, but mainly a visitor between late February to late October, with only a few winter records and mapped it from the far west to the far east.

The species post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: a rare winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); common in Api Nampa Conservation Area (A2, B2) (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); one bird in Banke National Park in March 2011 (Acharya 2011); a common summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006, Khadka 1996) and to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a fairly common summer visitor to the Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013); a rare winter visitor to Chitwan National Park

(J6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), and a winter visitor to Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Todd 2001). SNP and BCN (2007) reported it was a fairly common resident to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, but Mallalieu (2008) found it a summer visitor to the Valley between 2004 and 2006. It is a fairly common summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in May in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); an uncommon summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common visitor or resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a); a rare passage migrant in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005), and frequent in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded in Barandabhar, Chitwan National Park buffer zone (Adhikari *et al.* 2000) and in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map).

The species has been less widely recorded outside the protected areas' system (see map and text below).

In the west records include: several localities in Dadeldhura District (B3) in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); upper Humla (D2), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Kotuwa (D4), Dailekh District and Beuli to Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); common in Jumla District (E3) in April 2009 (O'Connell Davidson and Karki 2009); Lumsum, Pinde Odar, Dobhang, Oraal and Archegaun (G4), Myagdi District in May and June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Pokhara valley (H5), Kaski District in March 2009 (Baral 2009), and between Bhujung and Pasgam (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000)

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a fairly common summer visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records include: between Kutumsang and Patibhanjyang (L6), Sindhupalchok District in May 1992 (Baral 1992), and between Kutumsang and Chisapani (L6) in May 2007 (Chaudhary 2007).

In the east records include: between Basantapur and Chauki (Q7), Terhathum District and between Lali Kharka and Taplejung (R7), Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); below Pranbung (R7), Panchthar District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008), and from Ilam (R8), Ilam District in January 2008 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded in Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Pakistan, Thailand (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3200 m (summer), 1500 m (winter); lower limit: 1800 m (summer), 250 m (winter) (-75 m on passage)

#### Population

No population surveys have been specifically carried out for Ultramarine Flycatcher. High numbers were recorded in Dadeldhura District: 38 near Khalanga on 28 May 2010 and 22 on 30 May at Chulla and 22 at Illrd camp on 27 May (Baral *et al.* 2010). The population has probably decreased to some extent as a result of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Ultramarine Flycatcher inhabits mainly broadleaved forests, especially of oaks (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It winters in open woodland, wooded areas and groves (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is arboreal and found in the upper and middle forest storeys. It sallies after flying prey and also searches among foliage and branches (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Sometimes it hovers and clings to boles of trees and only rarely descends to the ground to feed (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been proved on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1980, Robson 1982).

### Threats

Ultramarine Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of forest though less so than species inhabiting lower altitudes.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Ultramarine Flycatcher. Post-1990 it has been recorded from: Bardia, Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Ultramarine Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is common between late February and late October and rare in other months. Post-1990 it has been recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas although less widely outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Ultramarine Flycatcher is threatened by loss and degradation of forest though less so than species inhabiting lower altitudes. As a result, its population is probably declining but not to a degree that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Ficedula tricolor*** (Hodgson, 1845)

Subspecies: *Ficedula tricolor tricolor*

Common name

Slaty-blue Flycatcher (English),

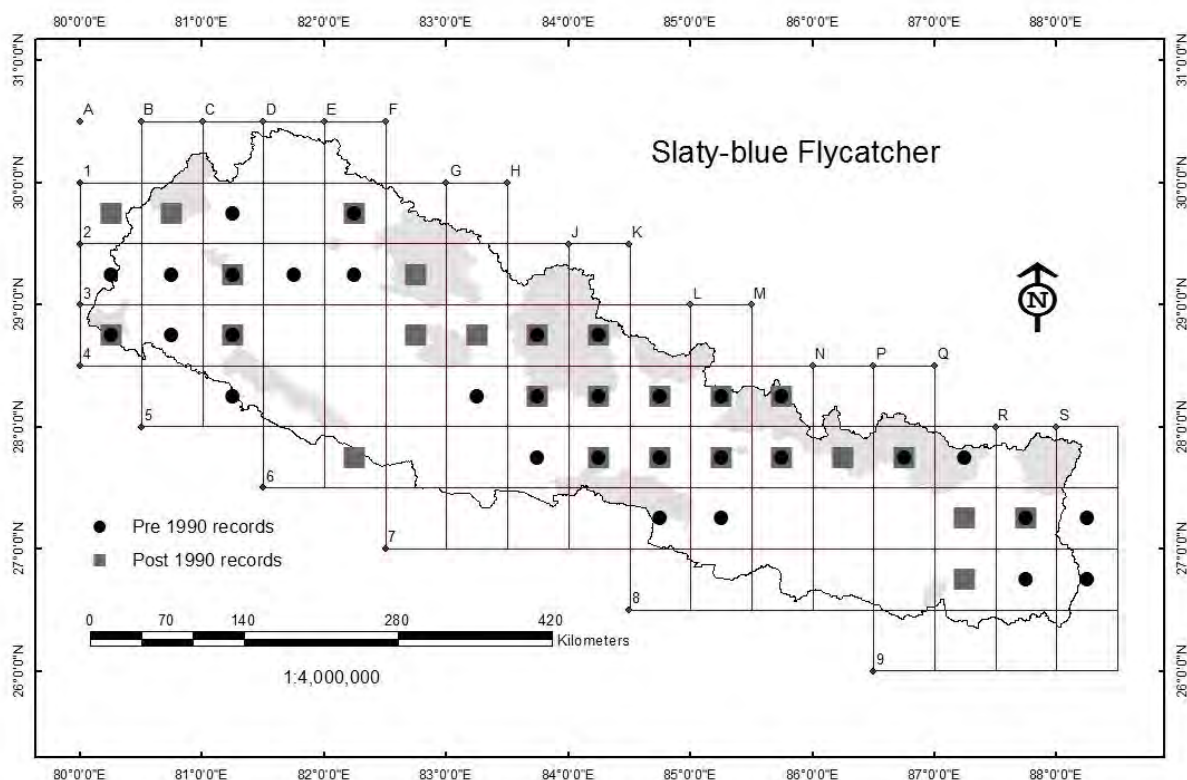
Tiktike Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Slaty-blue Flycatcher is a resident, generally frequent but locally fairly common or common. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) in the far west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1845, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) reported the species was an occasionally recorded resident; Inskipp and Inskipp found it was a common resident and mapped its occurrence from the far west to the far east.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: a fairly common winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (A2, B2) (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); occasionally recorded, possibly a winter visitor and/or passage migrant in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); a common summer visitor to Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996). It is listed as a frequent summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005), but found to be common there (Chaudhary *et al.* 2015). It is recorded in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995); a common resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Subedi 2003); a fairly common resident in the Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Katuwal *et al.* 2013), a frequent

winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006). The species is reported to be an occasionally recorded resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), but Mallalieu (2008) found it was mainly recorded in winter in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. It is a fairly common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a frequent summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). The species has also been recorded in Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone at Phakding (P6), Solukhumbu District in May 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994).

The species' distribution has reduced a little post-1990, compared to pre-1990 (see map). Post-1990 there are fewer records outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas (see map and text below).

In the west localities include: Dang Deukhuri forests Important Bird Area (E6), Dang District (Thakuri 2009); between north face Malika Dhuri tented camp and Lumsum (G4), Myagdi District and between Lumsum and Deorali Thanti (G4), Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999b); near Dobhang (G4) Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); from Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in December 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004), November 2005 (Naylor and GC 2005) and February 2008 (Giri 2008), and between Baglungpani and Ganpokhara (J5), Lamjung District and between Pasgam-Libiyani-Rupatal (J5), Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was locally common, mainly recorded in winter in the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other localities include: Chitlang (L6), Chandragiri range, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992), and Tundikhel, Dhulikhel (M6), Kavrepalchok District in November 1994 (Baral 1994).

In the east localities include: by Sankhuwa Khola, Bhojpur District (Q7) in November 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); Dharan (Q8), Sunsari District (Subba 1995), and between Dorumba (Bhaluchowk), and Sesambu (R7), Taplejung District in November 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3400 m (-4000 m) (summer), 1525 m (-2135 m) (winter); lower limit: 3050 m (summer), 245 m (-160 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Slaty-blue Flycatcher. As the species is secretive it may be under-recorded. It may have declined to some extent as a result of habitat loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Slaty-blue Flycatcher inhabits shrubberies above the tree-line in summer, also thick bushes and forest edges; bushes, tall grass and forest undergrowth in winter (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Fleming *et al.* (1976) found it in dense vegetation close to the ground; in rose and spiraea bushes in summer and in reed beds, sugar cane fields and tall lowland grassland in winter. It feeds on insects (Ali and Ripley 1987). The species is secretive and so may be overlooked. It is rather chat-like, often drooping its wings and jerking its tail over the back. It has a less upright stance than most other flycatchers. Slaty-blue Flycatcher forages actively, mainly by dropping to the ground to pick up insects, also by short aerial sallies (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Slaty-blue Flycatcher is threatened by loss of high altitude shrubberies and forest degradation in the breeding season, but less so than species recorded at lower altitudes.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out for Slaty-blue Flycatcher. Post-1990 it has been recorded in: Bardia, Khaptad, Rara, Shey-Phoksundo, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Slaty-blue Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident, generally frequent but locally fairly common or common and recorded from the far west to the far east, post-1990. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas. The species' distribution has reduced a little post-1990, compared to pre-1990. Post-1990 there are fewer records outside the protected areas' system compared to within protected areas. It may have declined to some extent as a result of habitat loss and degradation in the breeding season although less so than species at lower altitudes. However, as the species is secretive it may be under-recorded and the apparent decline is not considered sufficient to warrant a threatened category for the species.

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***Ficedula westermanni* (Sharpe, 1888) LC**

Subspecies: *Ficedula westermanni collini*

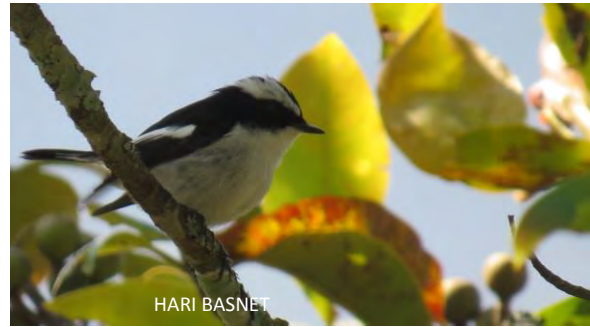
Common name

Little Pied Flycatcher (English),

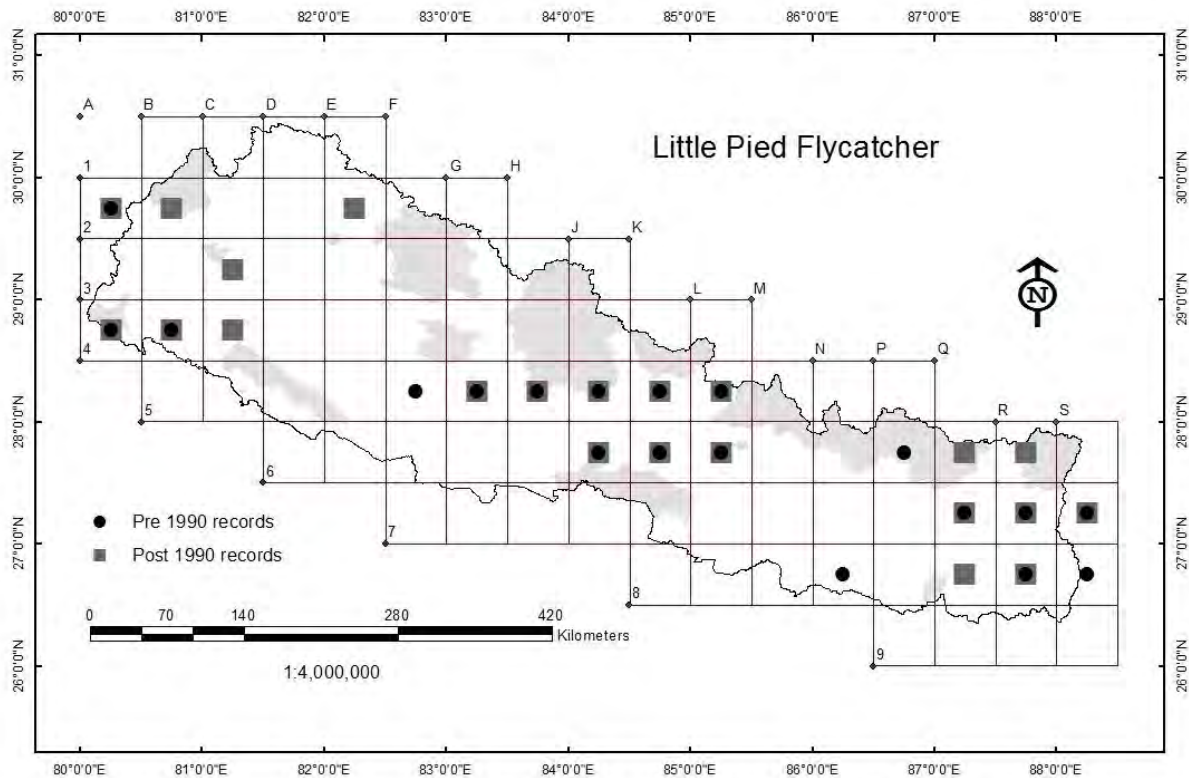
Shyamshwet Arjunak (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Little Pied Flycatcher is an uncommon resident. Post-1990 the species has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve in the far west (Baral and Inskipp 2009) to Hange Tham, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008).

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as an occasionally recorded resident; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it was an uncommon altitudinal migrant.

The species' post-1990 status in the protected areas' system is: a rare winter visitor to Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009); recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an uncommon resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001); recorded in Khaptad National Park (Chaudhary 2006); a rare resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005, White and White 1995); an uncommon summer visitor to the Annapurna Conservation Area (H5, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Shah 1998); an uncommon winter visitor to Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006, Lama 1995a,b). SNP and BCN (2007) reported it was a frequent summer visitor to Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park, but other records, e.g. Mallalieu (2008) indicate it is a rare summer visitor. It is an

uncommon summer visitor to Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001). It was reported as an uncommon resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999); a rare winter visitor to Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Baral 2005, Giri *et al.* 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, in April and May (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Outside the protected areas' system post-1990, Little Pied Flycatcher has been recorded quite widely in the east, but there are quite a few records from central Nepal and the west. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map). Post-1990 records follow.

In the west it was reported to be a fairly common winter visitor to the Ghodaghodi Tal area (B4), Kailali District (CSUWN and BCN 2012), but it is rare there now. Other records include: from Balewa (G5), Baglung District (Basnet 2009); Pokhara (H5), Kaski District, e.g. in November 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004) and in January 2005 (Mallalieu 2005).

In central Nepal, Mallalieu (2008) reported it was a very rare summer visitor to the Kathmandu Valley between 2004 and 2006. Other records indicate it is a very uncommon visitor to the Valley, mainly in spring and summer. Other records include: an uncommon summer visitor to Chitlang, Chandrigiri range (L6), Makwanpur District in 1992 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992).

In the east records include: from Tumlingtar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (Baral and Buckton 1994); between Tumlingtar and Gothe Bazaar (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011); between Chichila and Kutrapani (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in April 1991 (Halberg 1991); between Bhotebas (Q7) and Mude (Q6), Sankhuwasabha District in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998); Pikhwa Khola valley (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in May 2009 (Cox 2009); three records from Chitre Danda (Q6), Sankhuwa Khola, Sankhuwasabha District in June 2009 (Cox 2009); Dharan (Q8), Sunsari District (Subba 1995); Dharan forests Important Bird Area (Q8), Sunsari District, e.g. in December 1998 (Chaudhary 1999) and in January 2010 (Baral 2010a); between Dorumba (Bhaluchowk) and Sesambu (R7), Taplejung District in November 1992 (Cox 1992); Ilam District (R8) in June 1997 (Chaudhary 1998) and September 2010 (Baral 2010b), and Mabu (R7), Ilam District, Chisapani (R8), Ilam District and Hange Tham (S7), Ilam District in March 2008 (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013). Nepal is the western limit of the species' range.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3000 m (summer), 915 m (winter); lower limit: 1200 m (summer), 275 m (-75 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Little Pied Flycatcher. Its population has probably declined as a result of forest loss and degradation.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Little Pied Flycatcher breeds in broadleaved forests and winters in open wooded country (Grimmett *et al.* 1998), also in tall grassland (C. Inskipp pers. obs.). The species keeps in pairs in the breeding season, otherwise singly or in pairs, and often within flocks of other insectivorous species. It flits actively about the canopy, moving from one tree to another. Insects are hunted mainly while fluttering from branch to branch; also by gleaning from leaves and bark. Breeding has been proved in the Dhorpatan valley (Lelliott 1981) and at Thulokobang (Warwick 1986) and Sano Kobhang (Basnet 1994), Annapurna Conservation Area. The species is

an altitudinal migrant (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

### Threats

Little Pied Flycatcher is threatened by forest loss and degradation in the breeding season especially at lower altitudes and by complete loss of trees in winter.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Little Pied Flycatcher. It has been recorded in Bardia, Khaptad, Rara, Chitwan, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and Sukla Phanta and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Little Pied Flycatcher has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is an uncommon altitudinal migrant which occurs from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and, outside the protected areas' system it has been recorded quite widely in the east, but there are quite a few records from central Nepal and the west. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Little Pied Flycatcher is threatened by forest loss and degradation in the breeding season and by total loss of trees in winter. Its population has probably declined, but not to an extent that warrants a threatened category for the species.

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***Fringilla coelebs*** Linnaeus, 1758 LC

Subspecies: *Fringilla coelebs coelebs*

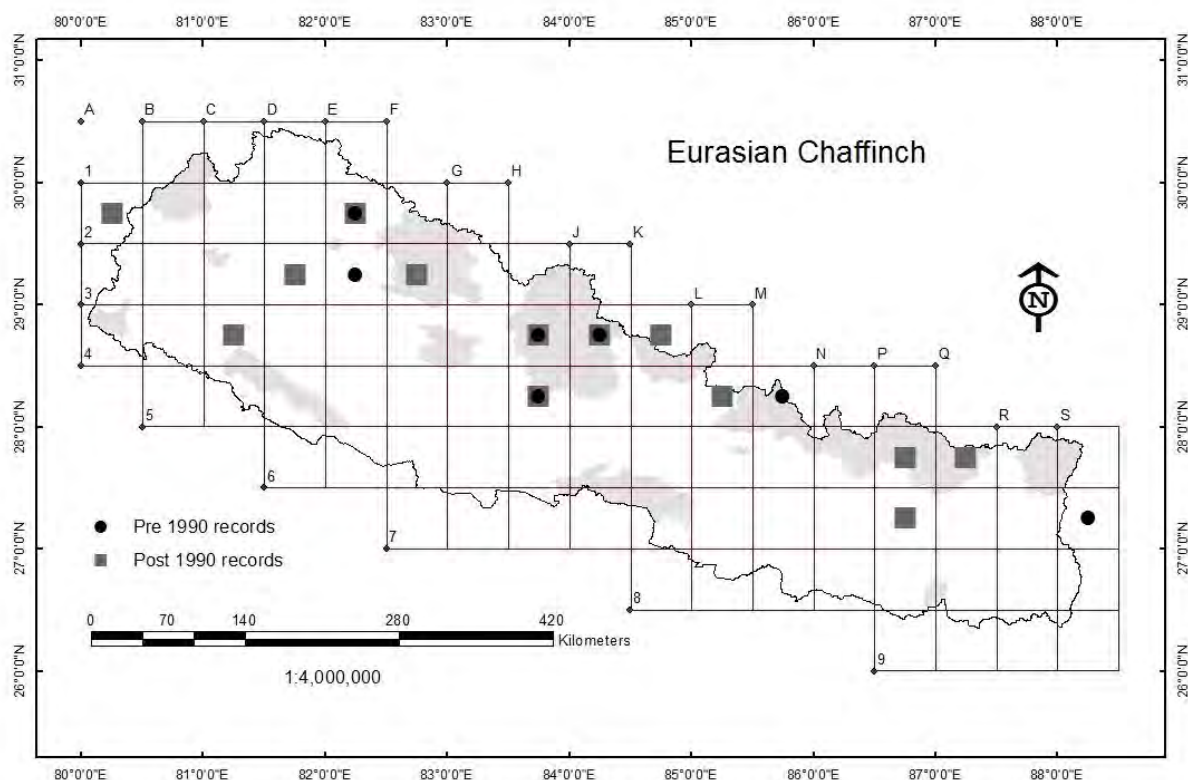
Common name

Eurasian Chaffinch (English),  
Chitrakchari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Eurasian Chaffinch is a winter visitor, locally frequent in the west. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) east to Manaslu Conservation Area (KMTNC 1998, Thakuri 2013) and as a vagrant east to Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 2009).

The first Nepal record of the species was from Rara National Park in February 1971 by R. L. Fleming Jr. (Anon. 1983).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered it was an occasionally recorded winter visitor; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it was an uncommon winter visitor.

Eurasian Chaffinch has been more widely recorded since 1990, possibly because of better coverage.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: three in the Mahakhali watershed (A2), Api Nampa Conservation Area in December 2011 (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a vagrant to Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); a frequent winter visitor to Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); an uncommon winter visitor to Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg1995); a frequent winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area (H4, H5, J4) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Shah 1998, Thakuri 2013); vagrant to Langtang National Park (L5) (one between Syabru and Sing Gompa in May 1996, Cocker

1996) and a vagrant to Makalu Barun National Park (Q6) (three at Saisima Gompa in May 2009, Cox 2009).

There are few known records outside the protected areas' system, see map and text below.

In the west records one was recorded between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997)

In the east records include two seen between Sanam (P7) and Bung (P6), Solukhumbu District in November 2011 (Carter and James 2011)

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Palestinian Authority Territories, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Russia, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2750 m (-3050 m); lower limit: 2000 m (-1555 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Eurasian Chaffinch. Although the species has been more widely recorded since 1990, this may be because of better coverage and the population may be stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Eurasian Chaffinch inhabits upland fields with nearby bushes and coniferous forest (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). It is found singly or in small flocks, often with other finches and buntings. The species seeks seeds on the ground, often from freshly turned soil, feeding with a rapid pecking action. It hops and walks with distinctive short, quick steps accompanied by slightly nodding head movements. Its flight is bounding and undulating (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). In winter it chiefly eats seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

No threats to the species have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been specifically carried out for Eurasian Chaffinch. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Rara and Shey-Phoksundo National Parks, Api Nampa, Annapurna and Manaslu Conservation Areas, and marginally in Bardia, Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern



### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Eurasian Chaffinch has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a winter visitor, locally frequent in the west and a vagrant in central and eastern areas. The species has been recorded from several protected areas, from where almost all records are known. Eurasian Chaffinch has been more widely recorded since 1990, possibly because of better coverage and its population is possibly stable. No threats to the species have been identified.

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***Fringilla montifringilla*** Linnaeus, 1758 LC

Common name

Brambling (English),

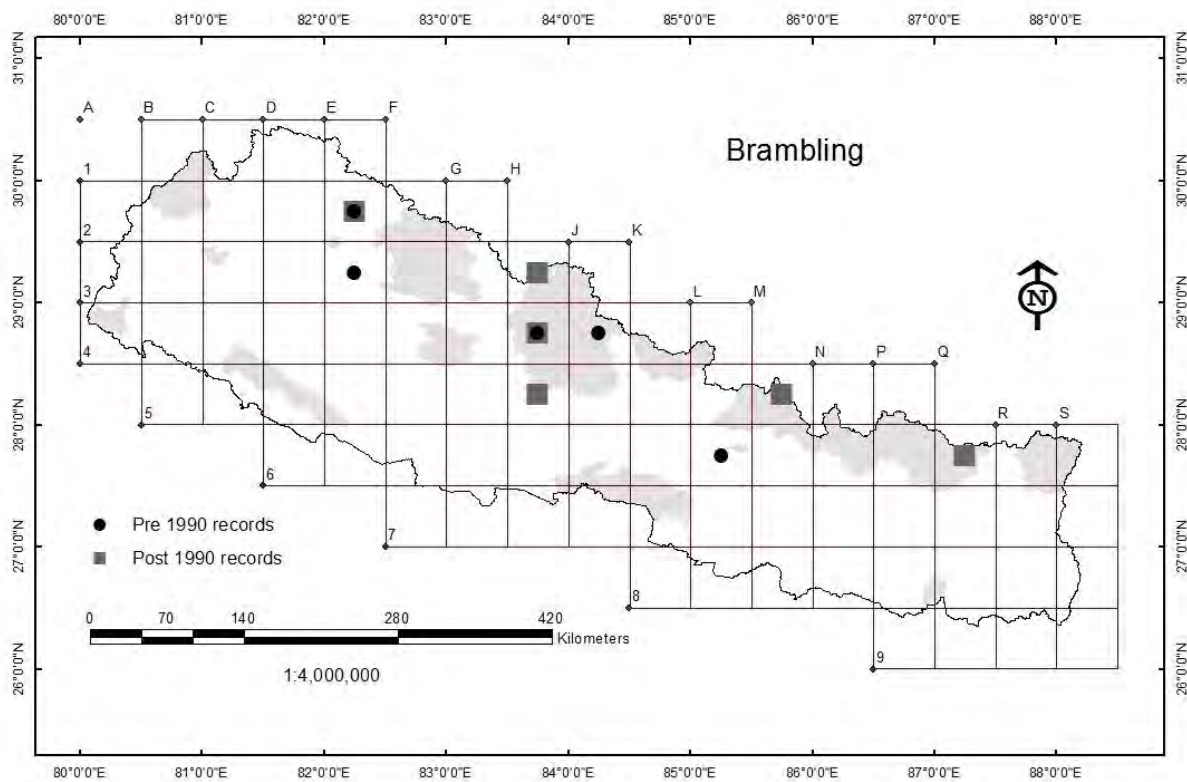
Kalotauke Chitrakchari (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Fringillidae



Distribution



Brambling is a rare and erratic winter visitor. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Annapurna Conservation Area, e.g. Lalchan (2004) and Nelson and Ellis (2003), east to Makalu Barun National Park in the east (Giri and Choudhary 2006b, Inskipp *et al.* 2005).

The first Nepal record of the species was from Rara and Jumla in winter 1971 by R. L. Fleming Jr (Fleming *et al.* 1976).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as an occasional winter visitor; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it an erratic winter visitor, seen mainly in the north and north-west.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas follows. Giri (2005) described it as a frequent winter visitor to Rara National Park, but no post-1990 records could be located. Inskipp and Inskipp (2003) reported it was an uncommon winter visitor to Annapurna Conservation Area; known records are - one south of Marpha in December 1993 (Hough 1994), two near Landrung in March 1996 (Mauro 1996), one between Lete and Ghasa in December 2003 (Nelson and Ellis 2003), and recorded at Samar, upper Mustang in April 2004 (Lalchan 2004). One was seen on the way to Langshisha Kharka (M5), Langtang National Park in April 2006 (Giri and Choudhary 2006a) and two at Saisima, Makalu Barun National Park in November 2005 (Giri and Choudhary 2006b, Inskipp *et al.* 2005).

No records are known outside the protected areas' system since 1990, probably because of poor coverage.

Globally the species has been recorded from Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Faroe Islands (to Denmark), Finland, France, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, North Korea, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan (China), Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, USA, Uzbekistan.

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3050 m (-4100 m); lower limit: 2135 m (-1500 m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Brambling. Its population may not have changed significantly since 1990.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Brambling inhabits upland fields bordering bushes and coniferous forest (Grimmett *et al.* 2000). It gleans seeds on the ground at the edge of bushes or forest. The species often associates with Eurasian Chaffinch *Fringilla coelebs*. Its flight has more pronounced undulations than Eurasian Chaffinch (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). In winter it mostly eats seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

No threats to Brambling have been identified.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been taken specifically for Brambling. Since 1990 it has been recorded from Annapurna Conservation Area and as a vagrant in Langtang and Makalu Barun National Parks.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

#### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Brambling has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a rare and erratic winter visitor. Since 1990 all known records have been from three protected areas. No threats to the species have been identified. Its population may not have changed significantly since 1990.

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***Garrulax affinis*** Blyth, 1843 LC

Subspecies: *Garrulax affinis affinis*, *bethelae*

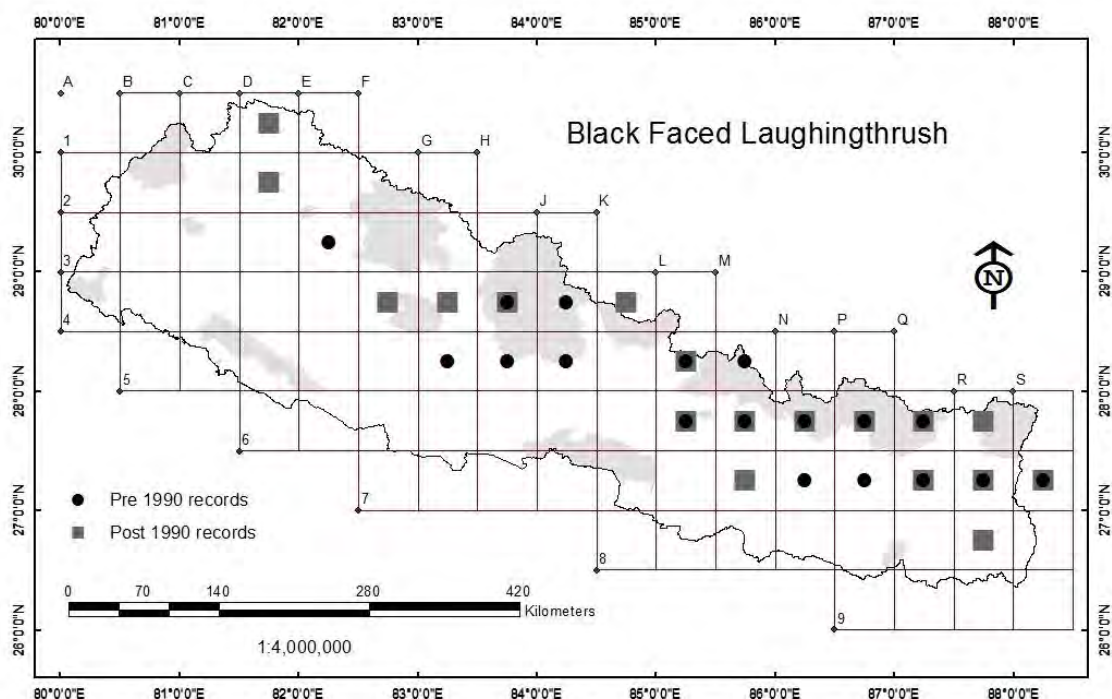
Common name

Black-faced Laughingthrush (English),  
Kantate Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Black-faced Laughingthrush is a resident, common within the protected areas' system and fairly common outside. It occurs from north-west Nepal eastwards; Yalbang, upper Humla (D2), Humla District is the western limit of the species' range (Kusi *et al.* 2015).

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century from a Hodgson specimen (Blyth 1843, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described Black-faced Laughingthrush as common; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported it as a common resident subject to altitudinal movements.

The species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (BirdLife International 2013, Panthi 2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (Shah 1998); a common resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); common resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). It was recorded in Sagarmatha National Park buffer zone at Lukla and between Lukla and Phakding, Solukhumbu District, e.g. in April 1994 (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994), and several times in Makalu Barun National Park buffer zone in May 2009 (Cox 2009).

The species has been recorded less widely outside the protected areas system post-1990 compared to pre-1990. It also appears to be less widely distributed outside the protected areas system compared to within protected areas since 1990 (see map).

Post-1990 records from outside the protected areas system include: from Yalbang, upper Humla (D2), Humla District in April 2014 (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Myagdi Khola, Myagdi District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b); Kutumsang, Sindhupalchok District in May 1999 (Chaudhary 1999); Sermathang, Sindhupalchok District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); between Utisey and Dongan, Dolakha/Sindhuli District in October 1996 (Cox 1996); from Chitlang Forest, Makwanpur District in 1991/92 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); from Panggom, Solukhumbu District in December 2011 (Carter and James 2011); Topke Gola area, Taplejung District (Cox 1992); Tinjure Forest, Terhathum District in 1997-1998 (Rai 2003); recorded between Basantapur and Dobhan, Terhathum District on several dates in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); recorded in R7 and S7 Panchtar and Taplejung District (White and White 1999), and three in the Mai valley in March 1991 (Baral 1991).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013). Nepal is the western limit of the species' range (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 4600m; lower limit: 2750m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Black-faced Laughingthrush. Even though it remains common to fairly common, its population is likely to have declined because of habitat loss and degradation, and possibly also by hunting.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: 10,000; maximum population: 15,000

#### Habitat and Ecology

Black-faced Laughingthrush inhabits bushes in broadleaved, coniferous and mixed forests in the upper temperate and subalpine zones, and shrubberies above the tree-line (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is a fairly bold species (Fleming *et al.* 1976) and more conspicuous than most species (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is commonly found in pairs in breeding season, at other times in smaller flocks often associated with White-browed Fulvetta (Ali and Ripley 1987). This is the highest altitude forest-dwelling laughingthrush species in Nepal. It chiefly feeds on berries, crab-apples, seeds and insects (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Black-faced Laughingthrush is threatened by loss and degradation of broadleaved forest; however, because its habitat lies in the upper temperate and subalpine zone, it is less threatened than forest species occurring at lower altitudes. It may also be significantly threatened by hunting. Youths were observed hunting and killing Black-faced Laughingthrushes at Gyabla in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-faced Laughingthrush. It has been recorded in almost all protected areas within its altitudinal and distributional range in Nepal: Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks, and Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and also Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-faced Laughingthrush is a resident, common within the protected areas' system and fairly common outside protected areas. It occurs from the north-west eastwards. It has been recorded in many high altitude protected areas where it is still common. However, the species was recorded more widely outside the protected areas' system pre-1990 than subsequently. This species is threatened by loss and degradation of its habitat, but as it occurs in the upper temperate and subalpine forests and shrubberies, it is less threatened than forest species lower down. It may also be threatened by hunting in some areas. Although its population may have decreased as a result of these threats, the decline is not considered to have occurred to a degree that warrants any threat category for the species.

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***Garrulax albogularis*** (Gould, 1836) LC  
Subspecies: *Garrulax albogularis albogularis*

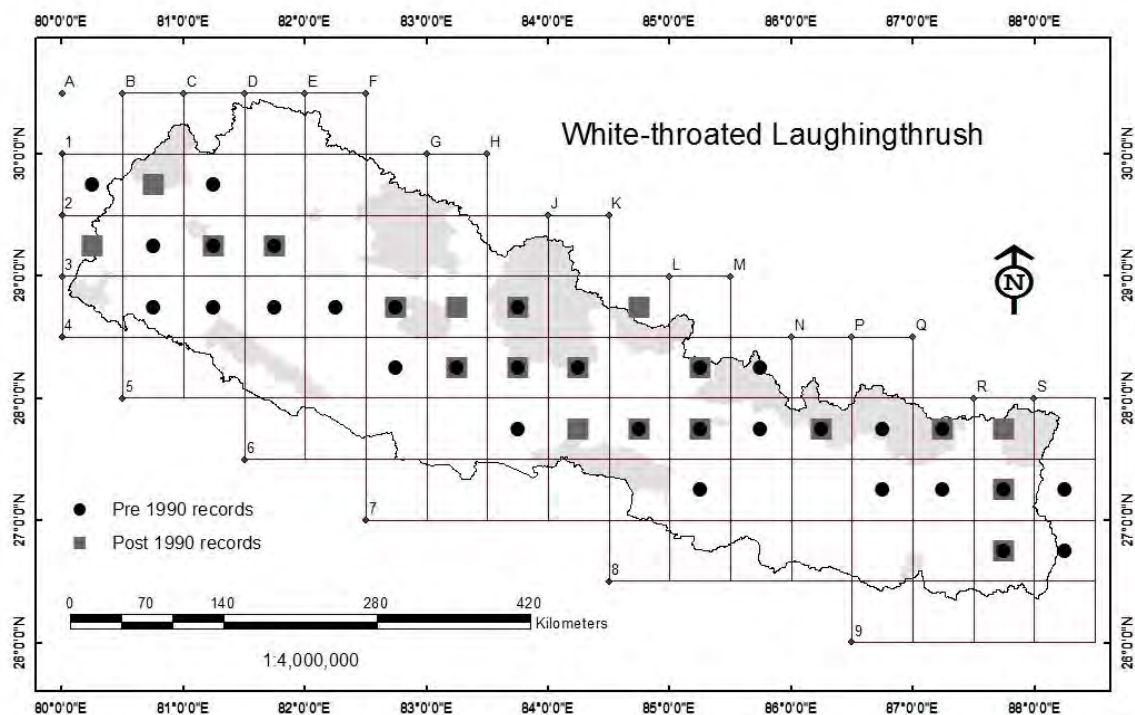
Common name

White-throated Laughingthrush (English),  
Soirane Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



White-throated Laughingthrush is a common resident in the midhills at suitable altitude from the far west to the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836).

Its status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012), a common resident in Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996), recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (BirdLife International 2013, Panthi 2013), a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), a common resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001), a common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Mallalieu 2008, SNP and BCN 2007) and recorded in Nagarjun Hills in February 1994 (Cottridge *et al.* 1994), recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009), a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999a), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has been recorded widely outside the protected areas system, both pre- and post-1990. The available information indicates no significant changes in distribution of the species pre-1990 and post-1990.

Post-1990 records from outside the protected areas' system include: several localities in Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010); in different localities of Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997), upper Humla (D2), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area, Gulmi District (Thakuri 2011); Dobhan, Myagdi

District in June 1999 (Cox 1999b), Kande, Kaski District in May 1974 (Corbett 1974), common resident on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area between 2004 and 2006 (Mallalieu 2008); a common resident in Chitlang Forest, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); recorded in Chisapanitar, Upardanggadhi, Chitwan District in May 2011 (Anil Gurung/Ramgir Chaudhary); recorded at Daman, Makwanpur District in June 2009 (Hem Subedi/Tika Giri); in forests between Khandbari and Num, Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992a) and in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998), Telbrung Danda and Bhujung in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), (between Basantapur and Gupha Pokhari, Terhathum District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and in the Mai valley, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Pakistan, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3500m; lower limit: 300m

#### Population

This is one of the most common midhill laughingthrush species.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-throated Laughingthrush inhabits broadleaved and mixed coniferous-broadleaved forest, open secondary growth, and scrub (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is found in larger flocks than most other laughingthrushes of Nepal, up to 50 birds in a flock is common (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). On many occasions 100 or more have been observed in Phulchoki mountain forests (Alström and Olsson 1983, Baral 1992, 1994, 1996, 2003, 2007, 2010, Giri 2010) and twice a flock of 300 was observed: on 1 January 2003 (Giri 2003). The mean winter flock size in Bhutan is 60. It is the most gregarious of all our laughingthrushes in Nepal. It is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

It feeds chiefly on insects; also seeds and berries outside the breeding season (Ali and Ripley 1987, del Hoyo *et al.* 2007).

The breeding season is between March and July (Ali and Ripley 1987) and up to four eggs, but usually three, are laid (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007). It is found in small flocks even during the breeding season. Breeding has been confirmed in the hills surrounding the Kathmandu Valley (Scully 1879).

#### Threats

Forest loss and degradation threaten the species; however, it is less threatened than some species as it can adapt to secondary growth. It may possibly be threatened by hunting, as with other Laughingthrushes.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-throated Laughingthrush. It occurs in several mountain protected areas including Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, Khaptad, Langtang, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Makalu Barun National Parks and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve. It marginally occurs in Chitwan National Park.

## Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-throated Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common resident throughout the mid hills from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in distribution since 1990. Forest loss and degradation threaten the species; however, it can adapt to secondary growth. It may also be threatened by disturbance and illegal hunting.

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***Garrulax erythrocephalus*** (Vigors, 1832) LC

Subspecies: *Garrulax erythrocephalus kali*,  
*nigrimentum*

Common name

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush (English),

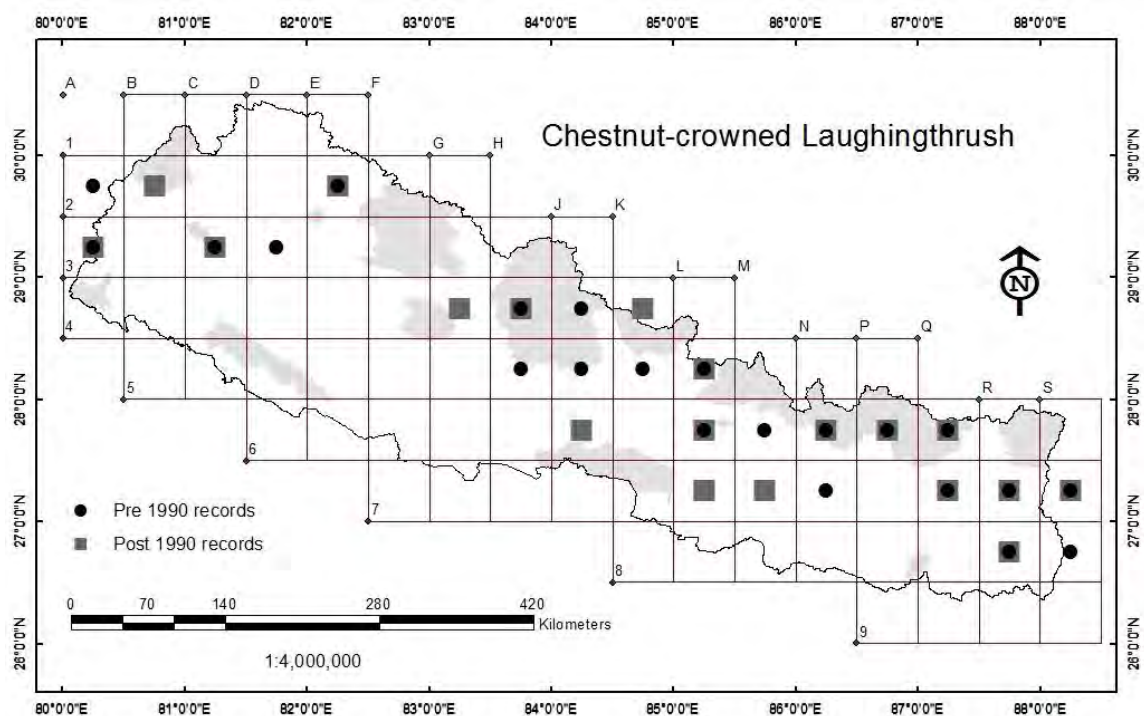
Katustauke Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush is a common and widespread resident in the midhills along the entire length of Nepal, from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to Hange Tham, Ilam District in the far east (Baral 1991).

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Its post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); common in summer in Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); an uncommon summer visitor to Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001), and on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); a scarce resident and summer visitor to Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008). It is recorded in several buffer zones of mountain protected areas including Rara National Park (Giri 1997), Sagarmatha National Park (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994) and Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 2009).

The species has also been recorded from many places outside the protected areas' system pre-and post-1990, see map and text below.

Post-1990 records include: from: Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010); Myagdi District in May 1999 (Cox 1999); Uppardangaddhi hills, Chitwan District (Dymond 2012); recorded in Siraichuli area, Chitwan District in May 2006 (Hem Subedi/Tika Giri/Bird Education Society); a common resident in Phulchoki Mountain Forest IBA (Baral 2003); common resident in Chitlang Forest, Makwanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); up to 60 seen in Daman, Makwanpur District in June 2009 (Bird Education Society); Ting Sang La, Sindhupalchok District, between Utisey and Dongan, Dolakha District in October 1996 (Cox 1996); Shivalaya and Bhandar, Ramechhap District (Thewlis *et al.* 2009); Panggom, Solukhumbu District (Carter and James 2011); Phyksinda, 900 m below Arun river, Sankhuwasabha District in December 1994 (H. S. Baral/Seb Buckton); , recorded between Basantapur and Chauki, Terhathum District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Taplejung District (White and White 1999); Mewa Khola, Topke Ghola, Hatiya and Hedanga, Taplejung District in December 1992 (Cox 1992), recorded in Pranbung, Panchthar district (Robson *et al.* 2008), and common above Hange Tham, Ilam District (Baral 1991).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 3200 m (summer), 2750 m (winter); lower limit: 1800 m (summer), 900 m (winter)

### Population

There is no estimate of its population as this is one of the most common midhill laughingthrush species. Even though it remains common it is likely to have declined because it inhabits dense undergrowth in broadleaved forests and so is likely to have suffered from forest losses and degradation.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush frequents dense undergrowth in broadleaved forests over a wide altitudinal range in the subtropical, temperate and subalpine zones (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is found in pairs or small parties working through leaf litter (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It is shy but quite vocal when disturbed. It is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It feeds on insects, snails, seeds, berries and vegetable matter. Food seems to be animals in spring and summer and vegetable in autumn and winter (Ali and Ripley 1987). It is found in pairs during breeding season; outside this period it has been recorded in small flocks, but sometimes up to 30 individuals (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding has been confirmed in the Kathmandu Valley (Biswas 1962, Diesselhorst 1968).

### Threats

Forest loss and degradation are the most likely threats to this species. Illegal hunting using local traps was observed in the Chepang Hills, Chitwan District (Hem Subedi).

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush. Since 1990 it has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha National Parks and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Chestnut-crowned Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common resident throughout the mid hills of Nepal from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in almost all mountain protected areas and also widely outside the protected areas' system both pre- and post-1990 within its altitudinal range. The species is threatened by loss and degradation of its broadleaved forest habitat and in some areas it is also threatened by hunting. As a result, its population has probably declined, but this is not considered to have occurred to a degree that warrants any threat category for the species.

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***Garrulax leucolophus*** (Hardwicke, 1815) LC

Subspecies: *Garrulax leucolophus leucolophus*

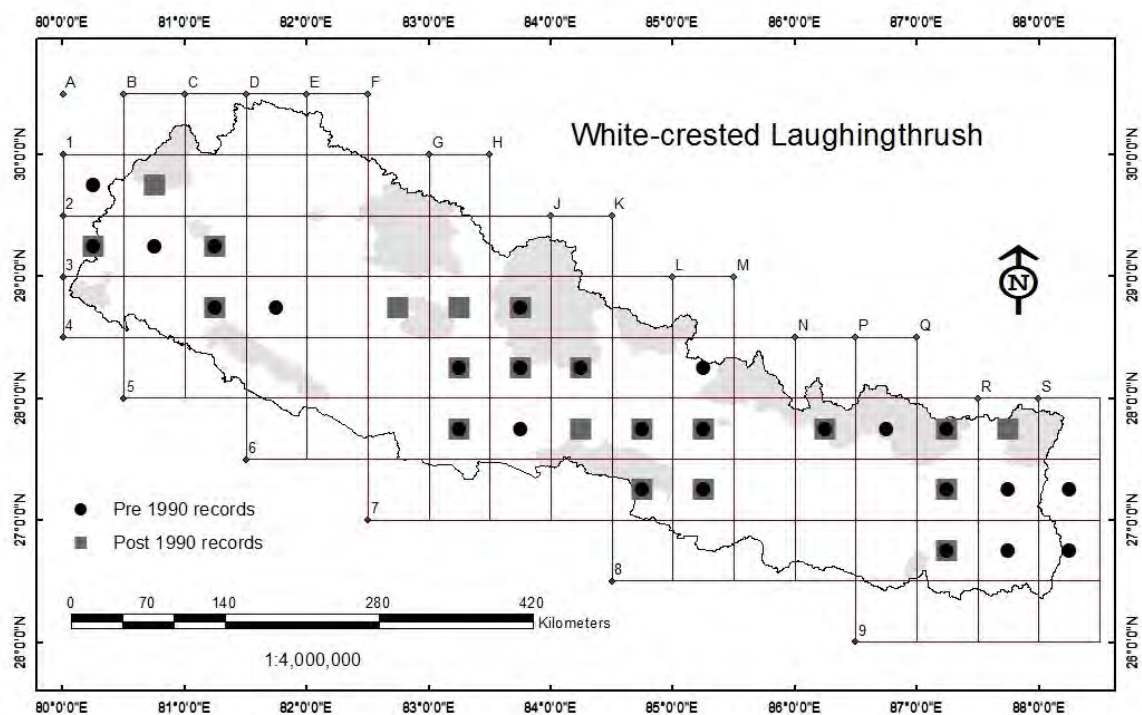
Common name

White-crested Laughingthrush (English),  
Hiunjure Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



White-crested Laughingthrush is a common resident in the midhills and lower foothills along the length of Nepal from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the upper Mai valley, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

It is perhaps the most well-known laughingthrush species to most Nepalis.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) and Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) described it as a common resident.

The species' post-1990 status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012), recorded in Khaptad National Park (Halliday 1993), a rare resident in Bardia National Park (Inskipp 2001), recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013), a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (Baral and Upadhyay 2006), and recorded in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Cox 2003). It was described as a common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007) and as a fairly common resident in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park between 2004 and 2006 (Mallalieu 2008). The species was also recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009), as a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and it was recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The species has also been recorded widely outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990. Available records indicate that there have not been any significant changes in its distribution during this period.

Post-1990 records from outside the protected areas' system include: Amargadhi and Chulla in Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area in 2011 (Thakuri 2011); Arghakhanchi District (NTNC workshop, October 2012), Palpa District (Cox 1999); in Parbat and Myagdi District (NTNC workshop, October 2012), resident in Balewa, Baglung District (Basnet 2009), a common resident in forests on the surrounding hills of the Pokhara valley (Baral 1993b, 1997, 2007, 2009, Chaudhary 1998, Naylor and Giri 2004, Naylor and GC 2005, Naylor and Metcalf 2007, Naylor and Turner 2008, Naylor *et al.* 2009, Mallalieu 2005b); between Baglungpani-Ghanapokhara, Bhujung-Pasgam, Lamjung District (Byrne 2000), Makwanpur District (NTNC workshop, October 2012) and Dhading District (Baral 1993a, 2011). Mallalieu (2008) described it as a fairly common resident in Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area ravines between 2004 and 2006. The species was also recorded from Siraichuli (Chitwan District) in Mar 2010 (Hem Subedi); Phyksinda and Bhotebas, Sankhuwasabha District (Baral 1995), Tumlingtar to Bhotebesi (Chaudhary 1998b), and several other localities of Sankhuwasabha District (Cox 2009; community forests in Dhankuta District (Baral 2003); between Kande Bhanjyang and Lali Kharka, Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008); Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008), and several other places in Ilam District (Chaudhary 1998a, Baral 2010),

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China (mainland), India, Laos, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand, Vietnam (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2135m; lower limit: 305m

#### Population

There is no estimate of its population as this is one of the common midhills and foothill laughingthrush species. Up to 30 birds were counted on the lower slopes of Nagarjun along the motorable road on 5 March 2001 (Baral 2001).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

White-crested Laughingthrush frequents broadleaved and forests secondary growth (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is found in small flocks of eight to 10 or more birds (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It forages chiefly on the ground, also in low bushes, and sometimes up to medium height of forest trees (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Particularly noisy and very wary (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds chiefly on insects, berries and seeds; also small reptiles and flower nectar (Ali and Ripley 1987). The breeding season is between March and September (Ali and Ripley 1987) and up to six eggs are laid (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007), although the usual number is four (Ali and Ripley 1987). Cooperative breeding behaviour is noted for this species (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007).

#### Threats

Forest loss and degradation are threats to this species; however, it is able to adapt to secondary growth. It may also be threatened by disturbance and illegal hunting.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for White-crested Laughingthrush. It occurs in

several protected areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged since the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

White-crested Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common resident throughout the mid hills and foothills. It is recorded from many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. A comparison of records between pre-1990 and post-1990 indicates that there have been no significant changes in its distribution. Forest loss and degradation are threats to this species; however, it is able to adapt to secondary growth. It may also be threatened by disturbance and illegal hunting.

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***Garrulax lineatus*** (Vigors, 1831) LC

Subspecies: *Garrulax lineatus lineatus*

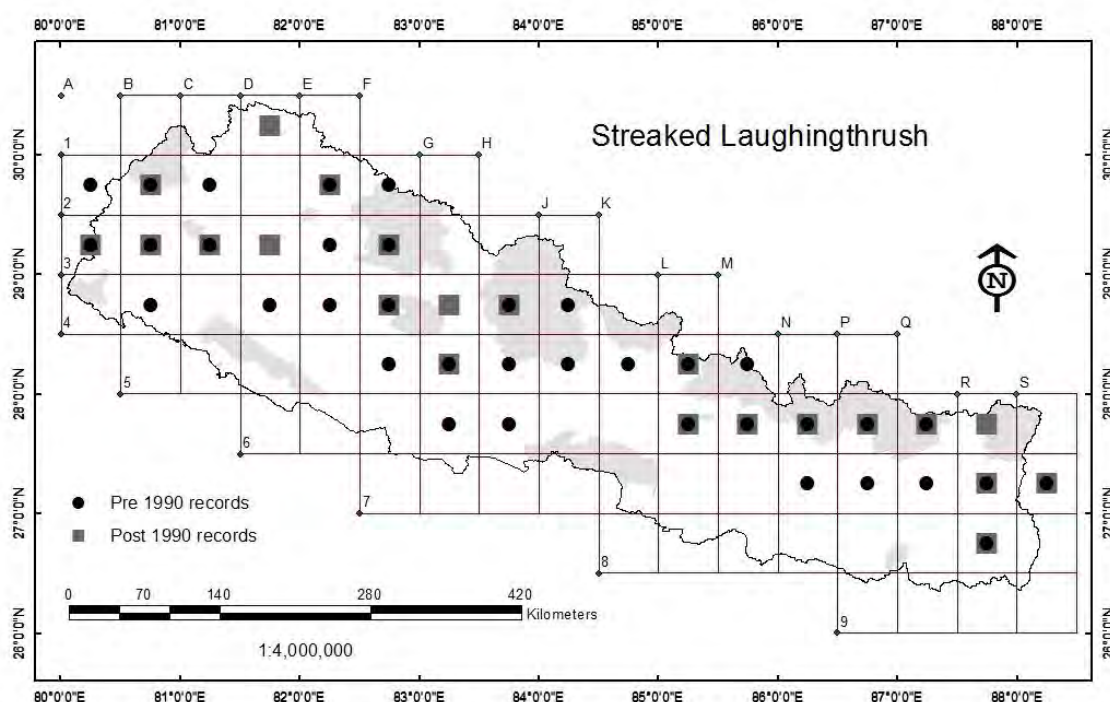
Common name

Streaked Laughingthrush (English),  
Chhirke Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Streaked Laughingthrush is a fairly common and widespread resident in the midhills at suitable altitude along the entire length from east to west Nepal. It is widespread with post-1990 records from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area, Taplejung District in the far east (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836, Warren and Harrison 1971).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it occasionally recorded in the Kathmandu Valley and further east and fairly common further west.

The species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012), described as fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (Inskipp 1989) but not recorded there on subsequent visits (Halliday 1993, Khadka 1996), a frequent resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005), recorded in Shey Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995), recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Panthi 2013), a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001), a fairly common resident on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (SNP and BCN 2007), recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009), a fairly common

resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004), a common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Streaked Laughingthrush has also been widely recorded outside the protected areas' system, both pre- and post-1990, although it has been recorded less frequently than inside protected areas.

Post-1990 records from outside the protected areas system include various locations in Dadeldhura and Baitadi Districts in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); various localities of Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997), upper Humla (D2), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015) Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area, Gulmi District in 2011 (Thakuri 2011); resident in Balewa, Baglung District (Basnet 2009), Palung and Archalegaun of Dhola Khola and Bajhanse Kharka and Bagara of upper Myagdi Khola in Myagdi District (Cox 1999b), between Sarangkot and Naudanda, Kaski District (Baral 1993), and from Nagarkot, Bhaktapur District (M6, Nepal Trust for Nature Conservation, NTNC, workshop, October 2012). Mallalieu (2008) reported that in the Kathmandu Valley it was mainly recorded on Phulchoki, where it was uncommon. The species was also recorded from Chitlang Forest (Manandhar *et al.* 1992) and Daman (L6, NTNC workshop, October 2012), Makwanpur District; several records from Solukhumbu District (Inskipp and Inskipp 1994, Baral 1996a), in Sankhuwasabha District in May 1998 (Chaudhary 1998) and May 2009 (Cox 2009), and in between Mamangkhe and Kande Bhanjyang, Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and above Prانبung, Panchthar district (Robson *et al.* 2008), Ilam in June 1997 (Choudhary 1997), also in Jan 2008 (Baral 2008)..

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, China (mainland), India, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3905m; lower limit: 1065m

#### Population

There is no estimate of its population in Nepal. However, considering the species' preferred habitat of secondary scrub and bushes at cultivation edges, its population is considered possibly stable.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Streaked Laughingthrush inhabits secondary scrub, forest edges, bushes at roadsides, and edges of cultivation (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is found in pairs or small parties of three to six birds (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is rather bold, usually the only laughingthrush near houses (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Usually found close to the ground and in or near thick cover; shuffles on the ground like a rodent, flying only a short distance (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to some altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

It feeds on insects, seeds and berries (Ali and Ripley 1987).

The breeding season is between March to September (Ali and Ripley 1987) and up to four eggs are laid, but normally only three (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007). Multi-brooded and normally two broods are reared (Ali and Ripley 1987, del Hoyo *et al.* 2007).

#### Threats

Total clearance of scrub to make way for agriculture would threaten the species; however, it must have benefited from forest clearance and forest degradation which has led to the development of scrub in many areas. It may also be at risk from illegal hunting.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Streaked Laughingthrush. It has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey Phoksundo, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks, and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Streaked Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common and widespread resident in the midhills recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. There has been no significant change in distribution since 1990. Total clearance of scrub to make way for agriculture and urbanization would threaten the species; however, it must have benefited from forest clearance and forest degradation which has led to the development of scrub in many areas. It may also be at risk from illegal hunting outside protected areas.

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***Garrulax ocellatus*** (Vigors, 1831) LC

Subspecies: *Garrulax ocellatus ocellatus*,  
*griseicauda*

Common name

Spotted Laughingthrush (English),

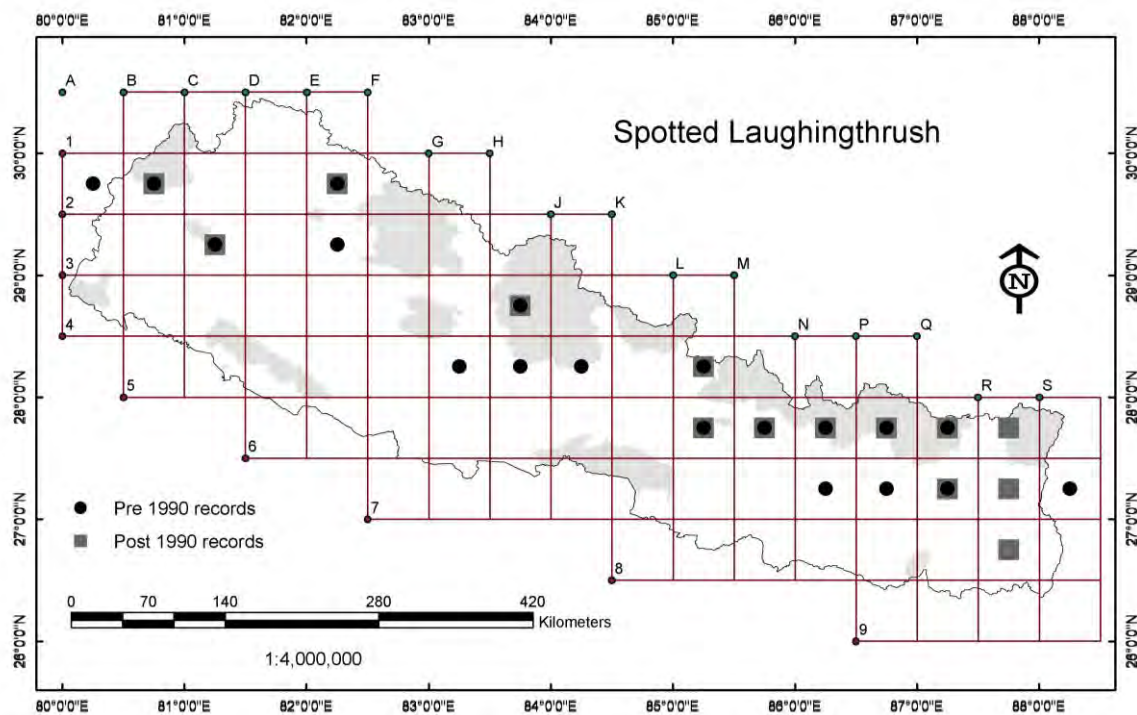
Mudale Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Spotted Laughingthrush is a locally fairly common sedentary resident in the midhills at suitable altitude along the entire length of Nepal from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west, to the Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east. It is the largest laughingthrush in Nepal.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described the species as fairly common; Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) found it locally fairly common. A comparison of distribution information between pre-1990 and post – 1990 shows it may now be less widespread in the west.

The species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a frequent resident in Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); rare resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); a fairly common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Chaudhary 1999); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Chaudhary 2011); a rare resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Spotted Laughingthrush has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system in the east pre- and post-1990, although less frequently than in protected areas.

The species was described as a frequent resident in Mai valley forests, Ilam District (Inskipp 1989), but there are only two known post-1990 records of the species from the Mai valley: in March and June 1997 (Hathan Chaudhary) and in September 2010 (Baral 2010). Other post-1990 records include: recorded from Ghangyul and Sermathang, Sindhupalchok District in January 2012 (Dymond 2012); Sete and Phurteng, east of Junbesi, Solukhumbu District in February 2012 (Naylor and Metcalf 2012); eight birds from Panggom, Solukhumbu District in December 2011 (Carter and James 2011; on Milke Danda, Terhathum District in 1997 and 1999 (White and White 1999); between Chauki and Gupha Pokhari, Terhathum/Taplejung Districts in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and from Ghot, Taplejung District (within KCA?) in December 1992 (Cox 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 3660m; lower limit: 2135m

#### Population

There is no estimate of its population in Nepal.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Spotted Laughingthrush inhabits mixed forests of conifers, maples, rhododendrons and bamboo (Fleming *et al.* 1976) in the temperate and subalpine zones.

It is found in pairs or small flocks, often associated with Black-faced Laughingthrush (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is not a conspicuous bird in spite of its size, but inquisitive and easily observed (Ali and Ripley 1987). It feeds chiefly on insects; also seeds and berries outside the breeding season (Ali and Ripley 1987, del Hoyo *et al.* 2007). The breeding season is May and June and usually two eggs are laid (Ali and Ripley 1987, del Hoyo *et al.* 2007). It is found in small flocks even during the breeding season. Breeding has been confirmed at Thodung and it was collected in breeding condition from Jiri, Dolakha District in May and June 1962 (Diesselhorst 1968). Little is known of its breeding behaviour (Ali and Ripley 1987, Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Forest loss and degradation is the most likely threat to this species. However, as it occurs in the upper temperate and subalpine zones it is less threatened than species at lower altitudes. It may also be threatened by illegal hunting in some areas, the same as Black-faced Laughingthrush *G. affinis*.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Spotted Laughingthrush. It has been recorded in Api Nampa, Khaptad, Rara, Shivapuri Nagarjun, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks, and Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

## Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Spotted Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. It is a common resident throughout the mid hills. Since 1990 it has been recorded in many protected areas, though less widely and frequently outside the protected areas' system. It is threatened by the loss and degradation of broadleaved forests in temperate and sub-alpine zones. As a result, Spotted Laughingthrush is probably declining, but the decline is not great enough to warrant a threat category for the species.

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***Garrulax striatus*** (Vigors, 1831) LC

Subspecies: *Garrulax striatus sikkimensis*, *vibex*

Common name

Striated Laughingthrush (English),

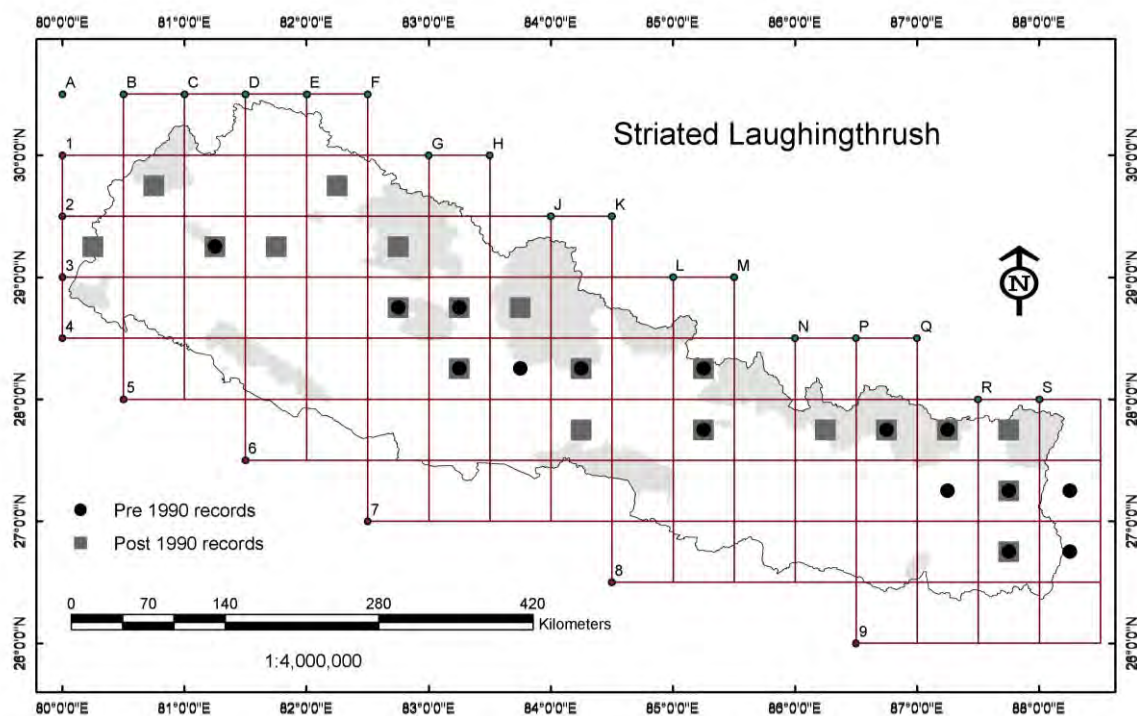
Kalki Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Striated Laughingthrush is a common and widespread resident in the midhills at suitable altitude along the entire length of Nepal from Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010) in the far west to the Mai valley, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

The species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a common resident in Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); a rare resident in Rara National Park (Giri 2005); recorded in Shey Phoksundo National Park (Narayan Rupakheti pers. obs.); recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve in 1997 and 1998 (Poorneshwor Subedi), and listed for the Reserve (Panthi 2013); a common resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001) and on Shivapuri in Shivapuri Nagarjun National Park (Mallalieu 2008, SNP and BCN 2007). It is also recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009); is a locally common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) including its buffer zone (Cox 2009), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

A comparison of pre-1990 and post-1990 maps shows that the species' distribution has not changed significantly (see map).

Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system include: Dadeldhura District (Baral *et al.* 2010); in Kalikot District in March 1997 (Giri 1997), Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area Gulmi District in 2011 (Thakuri 2011); resident in Balewa, Baglung District (Basnet 2009), various localities of Myagdi District (Cox 1999c), between Baglungpani and Ghanapokhari and between Bhujang and Pasgam, Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), and recorded in Siraichuli, Chitwan District area in March 2006 (Hem Subedi) and in March 2012 in Siraichuli area (Gokarna Khanal). , Mallalieu (2008) found it a common resident on Phulchoki Mountain Important Bird Area between 2004 and 2006. It was a common resident in Chitlang Forest, Makwanpur District in 1991 and 1992 (Manandhar *et al.* 1992); recorded in Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009), between Khandbari and Num, Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992a), recorded in several areas in Taplejung District in April 2008 (Inskipp *et al.* 2008), and in Mai valley, Ilam District (Robson *et al.* 2008).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 2850m; lower limit: 1200m

### Population

There is no estimate of its population as this is one of the common midhill laughingthrush species.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Striated Laughingthrush inhabits dense broadleaved forest (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). It is more arboreal than most laughingthrushes, feeding in the canopy of tall trees as well as in undergrowth and lower branches (Ali and Ripley 1987). It occurs in pairs in the breeding season but in smaller flocks outside the breeding season (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Often it is found in fruiting trees in company with bulbuls, barbets and fruit pigeons (Ali and Ripley 1987). It feeds chiefly on insects, berries and seeds (Ali and Ripley 1987). The breeding season is April to July and usually two eggs are laid (Ali and Ripley 1987) but up to three have been also reported (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007).

### Threats

Forest loss and degradation threaten the species. It may also be threatened by disturbance and illegal hunting.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Striated Laughingthrush. It has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey Phoksundo, Langtang, Shivapuri Nagarjun and Makalu Barun National Parks, Api Nampa, Annapurna, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas, and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Striated Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a common and widespread

resident throughout the mid hills from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded from many protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system. Since 1990 there has been no significant change in distribution compared to pre-1990. It is threatened by forest loss and degradation and possibly also by disturbance and illegal hunting.

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Thewlis, R., Naylor, M. and Turner, G. (2009) Everest trek, November 17<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup> 2009. Unpublished. 7 pp. [http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009\\_005.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009_005.pdf)  
[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2009_006.pdf)



***Garrulax variegatus* (Vigors, 1831) LC**

Subspecies: *Garrulax variegatus variegatus*

Common name

Variegated Laughingthrush (English),

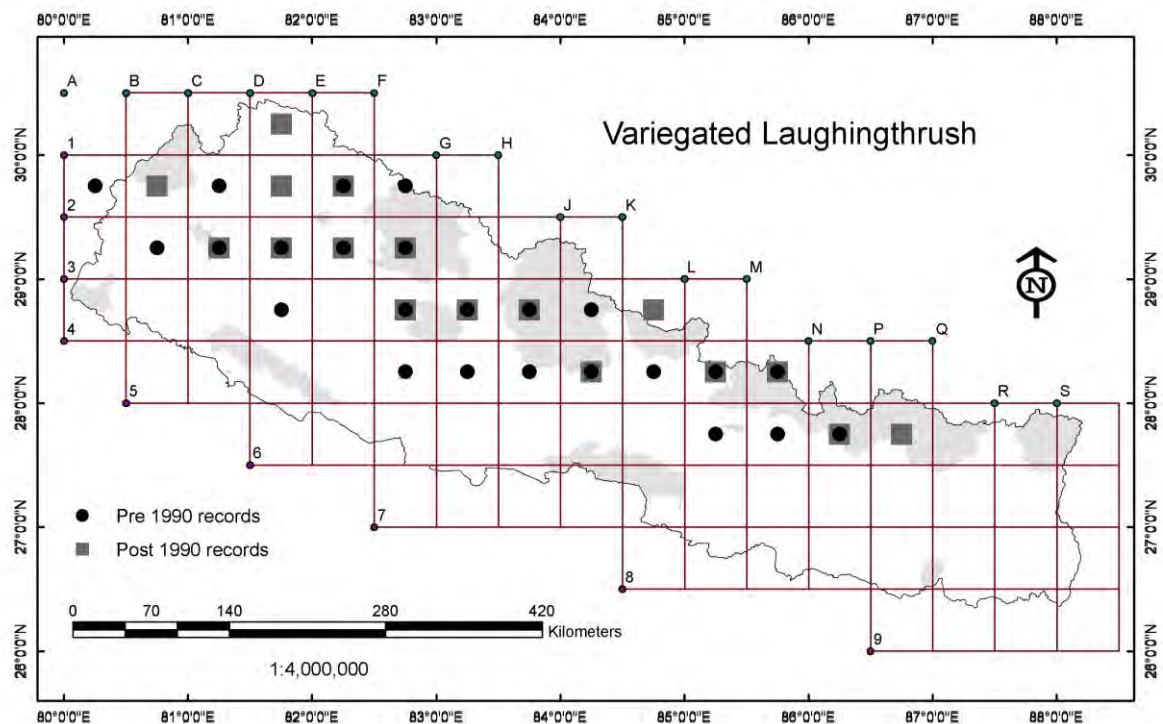
Tikiyoori Toriganda (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Timaliidae



Distribution



Variegated Laughingthrush is a fairly common resident from central Nepal westwards at suitable altitude. It is the one of the highest altitude dwelling laughingthrushes of Nepal. It is fairly common with post-1990 records from Api Nampa Conservation Area, Darchula District in the far west (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) to between Sete and Junbesi, Solukhumbu District (Thewlis *et al.* 2009), the easternmost record of the species. It is rare east of Langtang (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991), and Ting Sang La was the easternmost locality for the species pre-1990 (Diesselhorst 1968).

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

A comparison of pre-1990 and post-1990 records (see map) does not show significant changes in distribution, although the species has now been recorded further east.

The species' status in protected areas is: recorded in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); an occasionally recorded winter visitor to Khaptad National Park (Khadka 1996); a common resident in Rara National Park (Chaudhary *et al.* 2015), recorded in Shey Phoksundo National Park (Priemé and Øksnebjerg 1995), resident in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Poorneshwor Subedi in 1998, Panthi 2013), a common resident

in the Annapurna Conservation Area (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), and recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (KMTNC 1998); a common resident in Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001), and recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009).

The species has also been recorded widely in the west from outside the protected areas' system. Post-1990 records include: from Yalbang, Humla district in April 2008 (Yadav Ghimirey and Janak Khatiwada); Yangar area (D1), Humla District (Prodon 1994); upper Humla (D1), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Jumla District (O'Connell-Davidson 2009); Kalikot District (Giri 1997); between Navakuna and Chaurikot, Jumla District (Priemé 1992); from Larkya Pass-Samar-Namru Area, Gorkha District (K4) (Prodon 1992); between Baglungpani and Ghanapokhara, Lamjung District in March 2000 (Byrne 2000), and at Goyom between Sete and Junbesi, Solukhumbu District in November 2009 (Thewlis *et al.* 2009).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, China (mainland), India, Pakistan (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

### Elevation

Upper limit: 4100m; lower limit: 2100m

### Population

There is no estimate of its population in Nepal.

### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown ; maximum population: unknown

### Habitat and Ecology

Variegated Laughingthrush frequents thick undergrowth in open coniferous, broadleaved and mixed broadleaved-coniferous forest, bushes at edges of forest, rhododendron shrubberies and bushes around cultivation (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is found in pairs or small parties up to 20 birds depending on the season (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It is subject to some altitudinal movements (Ali and Ripley 1987). It feeds on insects, berries and fruits (Ali and Ripley 1987). The breeding season is between April and August (Ali and Ripley 1987) and up to five eggs are laid (del Hoyo *et al.* 2007) but normally only three eggs are laid (Ali and Ripley 1987). Breeding of this species has been proved in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (Lelliott 1981) and Langtang National Park (Karki and Thapa 2001).

### Threats

Forest loss and degradation are threats to this species. However, as it occurs in the temperate and subalpine zones and in areas where the human population density is normally low, it is less threatened than species at lower altitudes. It may also be at risk from disturbance and illegal hunting.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Variegated Laughingthrush. It has been recorded in Khaptad, Rara, Shey Phoksundo and Langtang National Parks, and Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas, and in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged since the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Variegated Laughingthrush has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident from central Nepal westwards. It has been recorded from a number of protected areas and widely outside the protected areas' system in the west. Since 1990 the species distribution has been extended a little to the east; otherwise there is no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Forest loss and degradation are threats to this species. However, as it occurs in the temperate and subalpine zones and in areas where the human population density is normally low, it is less threatened than species at lower altitudes. It may also be at risk from disturbance and illegal hunting.

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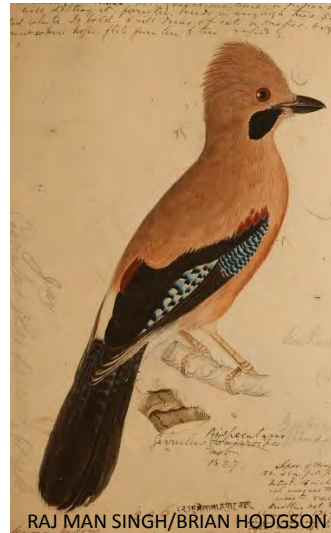
Thewlis, R., Naylor, M. and Turner, G. (2009) Everest trek, November 17<sup>th</sup> – December 21<sup>st</sup> 2009. Unpublished. 7 pp. [http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009\\_005.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009_005.pdf) (1st page only)

[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009\\_006.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskip/2009_006.pdf)

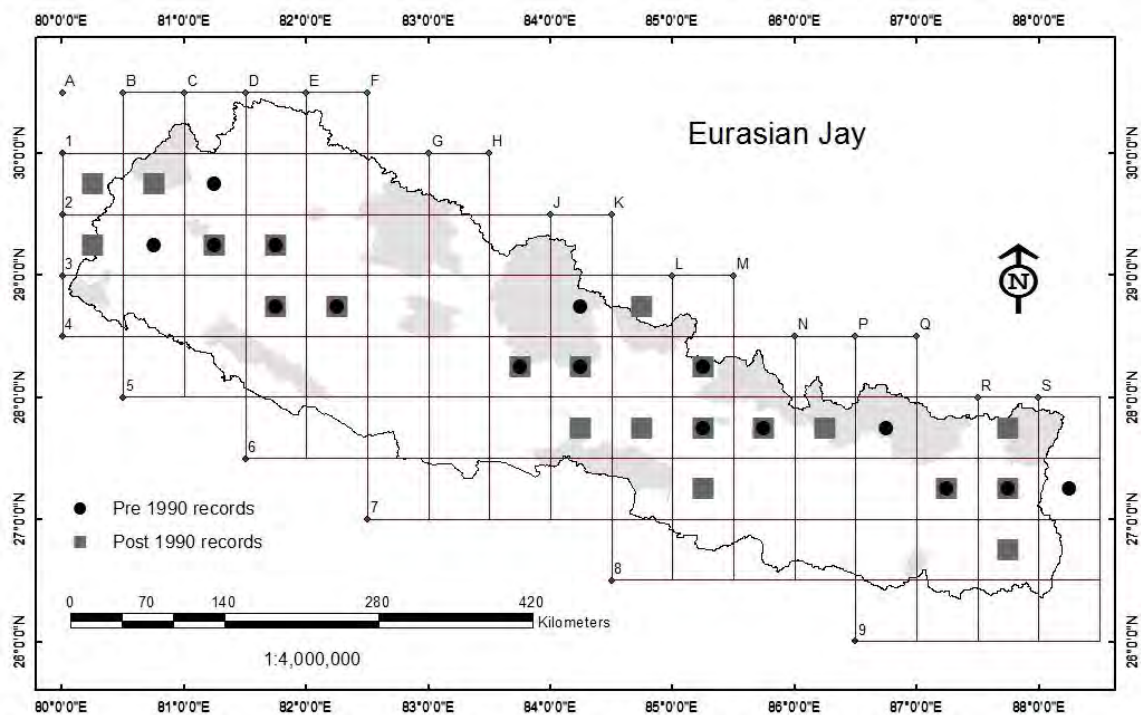
***Garrulus glandarius*** Linnaeus, 1758 **LC**  
 Subspecies: *Garrulus glandarius bispeularis*, *interstinctus*

Common Name  
 Eurasian Jay (English),  
 Kaile Bankaag (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes  
 Family: Corvidae



Distribution



Eurasian Jay is a widespread and frequent resident. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in the 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a locally distributed resident with some altitudinal movements and mapped its distribution scattered from the far west to the far east.

Since 1990 there has been a significant increase in distribution compared to pre-1990, probably because of better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: common in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident

in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (ACA) (H5, J4, J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003) and scarce in Modi River watershed area (H5) (ACA) (Suwal 2000); recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K5) (Thakuri 2013); recorded in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) in February 2004 (Malling Olsen 2004); a frequent resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001) and in Shivapuri of Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park [L6] (SNP and BCN 2007); a breeding resident in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (M6, N6) (Cox 1996, Baral and Shah 2009), and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (R6) (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

Post-1990 the species has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system.

In the west records include: from Amargadhi, Kaphali Danda, Khalkhale, Dhure, Tinkadhure, Doli and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); Badimalika region (C3) of Achham, Bajura and Kalikot Districts (Karki *et al.* 2003); between Beuli and Kalikot (D3), Kalikot District and Kotuwa and Gai Banne (D4), Dailekh District in March 1997 (Giri 1997); between Kauli Bazaar, Jiri Daha, Lagana and Karki Jiula (E4), Jajarkot District in October 2013 (Baral *et al.* 2013), and between Pokhara (H5) and Begnas Lake (J5), Kaski District in November 2008 (Chaudhary 2008).

In the central regions records include from: between Patibhanjyang (L6), Nuwakot District and Shivapuri of Shivapuri National Park (L6) in April-May 1991 (Mills 1991); a common resident to Kathmandu Valley (L6) (Mallalieu 2008), and a common resident in Chitlang forest (L7), Makawanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992).

In the east records include from: between Chichila (Q7) and Khandbari (Q7), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992); between ridge spur and Suketar (R7), Taplejung District in November 1996 (Buckton 1996); Goruwale (R8) of the Mai valley (Robson *et al.* 2008), and Dobate (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China (mainland), Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Gibraltar (to UK), Greece, Hong Kong (China), Hungary, India, Iran, Islamic Republic of, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Macedonia, the former Yugoslav Republic of, Malta, Moldova, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Netherlands, North Korea, Norway, Pakistan, Palestinian Authority Territories, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia (Asian), Russia (Central Asian), Russia (European), Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syria, Taiwan (China), Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2440 m (-2750m); lower limit: 1800 m (-900m)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Eurasian Jay. Post 1990, as many as 60 birds were recorded at Phulchoki on 16 January 1992 (Wartman and Schonjahn 1992).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Eurasian Jay inhabits dense, moist temperate forest, mainly of broadleaves and usually in oaks, rhododendron and conifer forest during summer, extending into the semi-tropical zone during winter (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is somewhat shy, found singly, in pairs or in family parties during summer, in scattered parties up to ten birds during autumn and winter. It feeds on ground and in bushes and trees, often sits parallel to the branch keeping mostly middle of leafy trees, and also forages by digging the bill in the soft soil, among dead leaves and in crevices (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on fruits and nuts, insects, lizards, small mammals, eggs and chicks of small birds, kitchen scraps (Ali and

Ripley 1987). Breeding was proved at Shivapuri (L6) (Hume and Oates 1890) and in the Markhu valley (L6) (Biswas 1963).

### Threats

Eurasian Jay is threatened by forest loss, degradation and fragmentation.

### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Eurasian Jay. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Chitwan, Langtang and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas.

### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern (LC) unchanged from Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Eurasian Jay has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a widespread and frequent resident found from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in a number of protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been a significant increase in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, probably due to better coverage. Forest loss, degradation and fragmentation threaten Eurasian Jay and as a result its population is probably declining.

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***Garrulus lanceolatus* Vigors, 1831 LC**

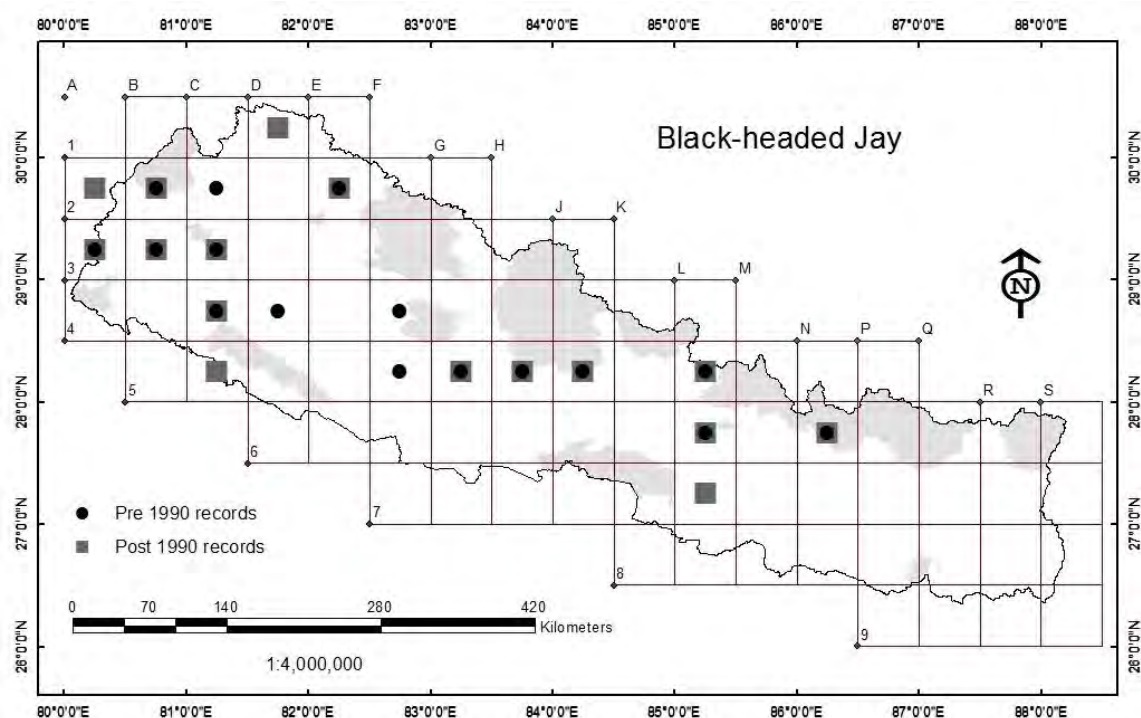
Common name

Black-headed Jay (English),  
Kaalotaauke Bankaag (Nepali)



Order: Passeriformes  
Family: Corvidae

Distribution



Black-headed Jay is a resident, common in the west and uncommon in central Nepal. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012) in the far west to Gaurishankar Conservation Area (Baral and Shah 2009) in east-central Nepal.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1844, Hume and Oates 1890).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species an occasional resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) reported the species as a resident, with some altitudinal movements and mapped its distribution mostly in the western mid-hills.

There is no significant difference in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: recorded in Mahakali Valley (A2) and Chameliya Valley (B2) in Api Nampa Conservation Area (Thakuri and Prajapati 2012); a fairly common resident in Khaptad National Park (C3) (Chaudhary 2006); a rare and uncertain resident in Bardia National Park (C4) (Inskipp 2001); frequent visitor to Rara National Park (E2) (Giri 2005); an uncommon resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H5J5) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003); a rare resident in Langtang National Park (L5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); an uncommon resident in Shivapuri (L6) (SNP and BCN 2007) and Nagarjun (L6) in May 1998

(Rogers 1998) in Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Park, and recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009).

Black-headed Jay has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range.

Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow: Amargadhi and Chulla (A3), Dadeldhura District in May 2010 and Khalanga (B3), Baitadi District in June 2010 (Baral *et al.* 2010); upper Humla (D1), Humla District (Kusi *et al.* 2015); Reshunga Forest Important Bird Area (G5), Gulmi District (Thakuri 2013); between Gwalichaur and Simalchaur (G5) in May 1999 (Cox 1999) and a resident in Balewa (H5) (Basnet 2009), Baglung District; Pokhara (H5), Kaski District in December 2002 (Brickle 2003); Chisapani (L6), Nuwakot District in May 1999 (Francis *et al.* 1999). recorded in Phulchoki (L6), in March 1997 (Giri 1997) and January 2001 (Hofland 2001), Kathmandu Valley; Dhulikhel (M6), Kavrepalanchok District in 2008 (Hem Sagar Baral); a breeding bird of Phakhel (L7), Makawanpur District (Acharya 2002), and an uncommon resident in Chitlang forest (L7), Makawanpur District (Manandhar *et al.* 1992).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, India and Pakistan (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 2500 m; lower limit: 915m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out specifically for Black-headed Jay. Post 1990, at Phulchoki more than 20 birds were recorded in 18 January 2001 (Hofland 2001) and 20 there on 4 March 1997 (Giri 1997).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population : unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Black-headed Jay inhabits mixed temperate forest, mainly of oaks and open mixed oak and conifer forest (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is noisy and excitable; moves in loose parties in autumn and winter. Usually it forages in trees but frequently descends to ground for fruit and insect (Fleming *et al.* 1976, Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). It feeds on fruits and nuts, insects, lizards, small animals, eggs and chicks of small birds and kitchen scraps (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Black-headed Jay is threatened by forest loss and fragmentation.

#### Conservation Measures

No conservation measures have been carried out specifically for Black-headed Jay. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Khaptad, Bardia, Rara, Langtang and Shivapuri-Nagarjun National Parks; Api Nampa, Annapurna and Gaurishankar Conservation Areas.

#### Regional IUCN status

Least Concern unchanged from the Global Red List status: Least Concern (LC)

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Black-headed Jay has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a resident fairly common in the far west and uncommon in central Nepal. It has been recorded in a number of protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. Black-headed Jay is threatened by forest loss and fragmentation and as a result its population may be declining, but not to the extent to warrant a threat category.

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***Gracula religiosa*** Linnaeus, 1758 LC

Subspecies: *Gracula religiosa intermedia*

Common name

Hill Myna (English),

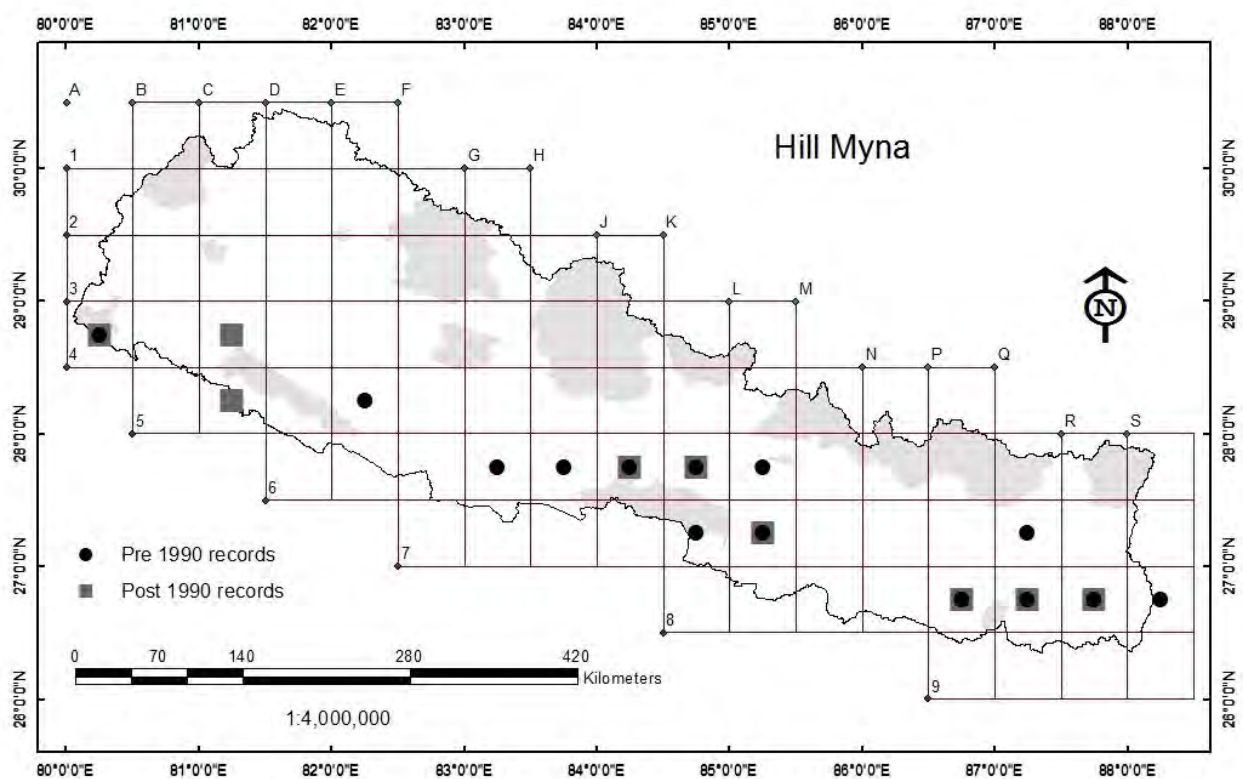
Madansarika Myna (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Sturnidae



Distribution



Hill Myna is a fairly common resident of the lowlands in the central region and the east. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (Baral and Inskipp 2009) to the Mai valley (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The first Nepal record of the species was in 19<sup>th</sup> century (Hodgson 1836).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) considered the species a fairly common resident. Inskipp and Inskipp (1991) recorded the species as a resident, occasionally found in the central and eastern lowlands, mainly up to 455 m and mapped its distribution mainly in the central and the east.

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, despite better coverage.

The species' status in the protected areas' system post-1990 is: an uncommon breeding resident in Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve (A4) (Baral and Inskipp 2009); a rare resident in Bardia National Park (C4,C5) (Inskipp 2001); an uncommon resident in Chitwan National Park (J6, K6) (Baral and Upadhyay 2006); a resident in Parsa Wildlife Reserve (K7) (Todd 2001) where breeding has been proved with young birds in September 2014 (Hem Sagar Baral) and a frequent winter visitor in Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (P8, Q8) (Baral 2005), where recent

observations indicate the species is becoming more frequent in the area. The species has been recorded at Barandabhar Forest and wetlands (Adhikari *et al.* 2000), Janakauli Community Forest in February 2008 (Giri 2008), Chitwan District, Namuna Community Forest (Chaudhary 2007), Nawalparasi District buffer zone of Chitwan National Park and near Amlekhganj, buffer zone of Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Hem Sagar Baral).

Hill Myna has also been recorded quite widely outside the protected areas' system since 1990, in suitable habitat and within its altitudinal range, see map and text below. Post-1990 records outside the protected areas' system follow.

In the central region records include: Hetauda (L7), Makwanpur District in April 2001 (Inskipp and Inskipp 2001) and in Makwanpur District (L7) sections of Bagmati and Bakaiya river valley (Basnet and Thakuri 2013).

In the east records include: from Dharan Forest (Q8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2008) and Patnali Forest (Q8) in January 2010 (Baral 2010a), Sunsari District; a fairly common resident in Rajarani Community Forest (Q8), Morang District (Basnet *et al.* 2005); lower Mai Valley (R8) (Basnet and Sapkota 2006, Robson *et al.* 2008) and Ilam (R8), Ilam District in September 2010 (Baral 2010b).

Globally the species has also been recorded from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Brunei, Cambodia, China (mainland), Hong Kong (China), India, Indonesia, Laos, Macao (China), Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Puerto Rico (to USA), Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Vietnam (BirdLife International 2014).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 1280 m; lower limit: 75 m

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Hill Myna. As many as 40 birds have been noted feeding on a single Sami (*Ficus benjamina*) tree at Koshi Camp, buffer zone of Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Hem Sagar Baral), and 30 on 21 December 2007 near Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserve (Giri 2007).

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Hill Myna inhabits tall trees of the terai and dun forests (Fleming *et al.* 1976), which are broadleaved deciduous and evergreen, along with cardamom and coffee plantations (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species is one of the bird world's best imitators of the human voice (Fleming *et al.* 1976). It is sociable, active and noisy; strictly arboreal, occasionally descending to fruiting bushes but hardly ever to the ground (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species occurs in parties of 5 to 6 birds during the non-breeding season and can also gather in large flocks at fruiting trees (Ali and Ripley 1987, Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The species shows poorly understood local seasonal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991). Breeding has been confirmed at Chitwan (Gurung 1983), Hetauda (Biswas 1963) and Parsa Wildlife Reserve (Hem Sagar Baral). The species feeds on mainly fruits and berries, especially figs, also flower buds, nectar and insects, and occasionally lizards and small animals (Ali and Ripley 1987).

#### Threats

Hill Myna is threatened by hunting and trapping as well as deforestation.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Hill Myna. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Bardia and Chitwan, National Parks, and Sukla Phanta, Parsa and Koshi Tappu Wildlife Reserves.

### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Hill Myna has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a fairly common resident of the lowlands recorded from the far west to the far east. It has been recorded in several protected areas and quite widely outside the protected areas' system within its altitudinal range and in suitable habitat. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990, despite better coverage. Hill Myna is threatened by hunting and trapping as well as deforestation. Its population may be stable or declining.

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[http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2007\\_007.pdf](http://himalaya.socanth.cam.ac.uk/collections/inskipp/2007_007.pdf)



***Grandala coelicolor*** Hodgson, 1843 LC

Common name

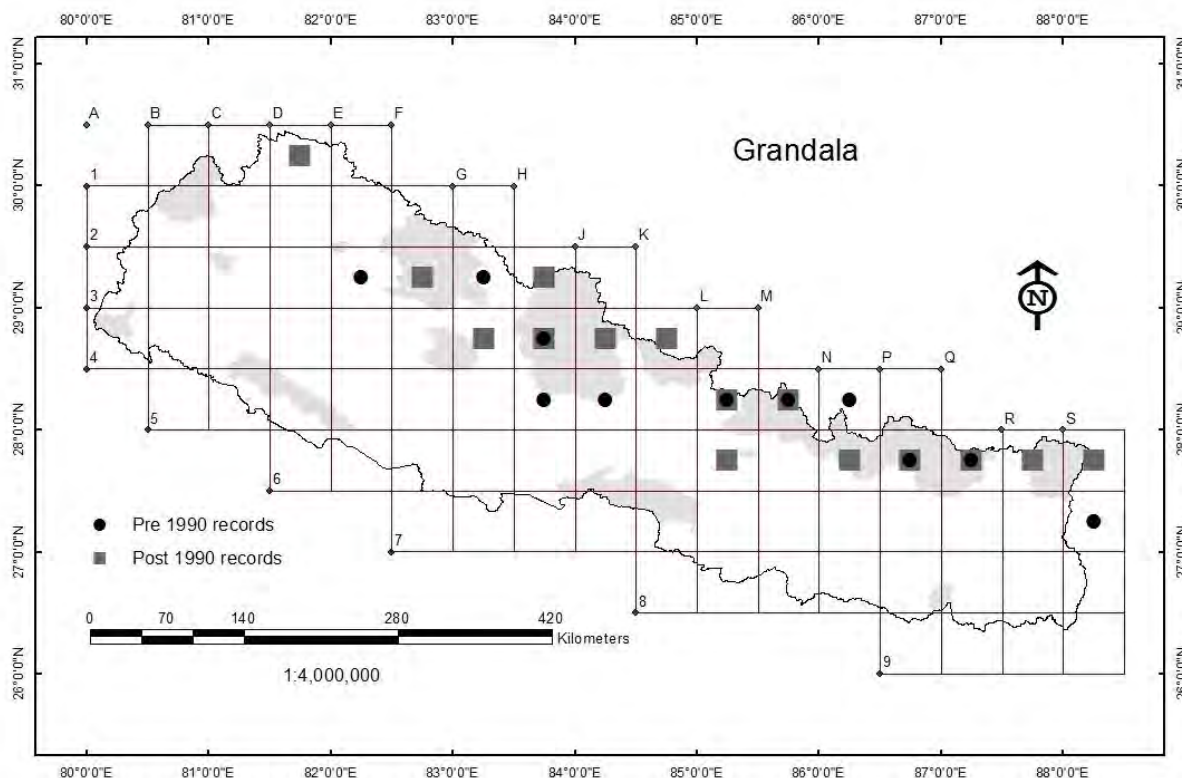
Grandala (English), Himali Grandala (Nepali)

Order: Passeriformes

Family: Muscicapidae



Distribution



Grandala is a locally common resident. It has been recorded from Humla District (Ghimirey 2011) in the west to Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008) in the far east.

The species was described from Nepal in the 19th century (Hodgson 1843).

Fleming *et al.* (1976) described it as a fairly common resident; Inskipp and Inskipp reported it a locally fairly common resident.

Post-1990 the species' status in protected areas is: resident in Shey-Phoksundo National Park (F3) (Priemé and Øksnebjerg, 1995) and recorded in Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (F4, G4) (Panthi 2013). The species is described as fairly common in winter, possibly resident in Annapurna Conservation Area (H3, H4, J4) (Inskipp and Inskipp 2003), but later records from the Annapurna circuit trek indicate that it is locally common, e.g. Naylor and Giri 2004, Naylor *et al.* 2009). The species has also been recorded in Manaslu Conservation Area (K4) (Prodon 1992, Thakuri 2013); a common resident in Langtang National Park (L5, M5) (Karki and Thapa 2001); recorded in Gaurishankar Conservation Area (N6) (Baral and Shah 2009); a fairly common resident in Sagarmatha National Park (Basnet 2004); a locally fairly common resident in Makalu Barun National Park (Cox 1999) and recorded in Kanchenjunga Conservation Area (Inskipp *et al.* 2008).

There are few known records outside the protected areas' system, see below.

Records include from: recorded in Humla District (D1) (Ghimirey 2011), Kusi *et al.* 2015); Dudhkunda (P6), Solukhumbu District in July 2012 (Katuwal 2013), and between Ghot and Kimbochhe (R6), Sankhuwasabha District in December 1992 (Cox 1992).

There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990 (see map); the additional grid squares may be because of better coverage.

Globally the species has also been recorded from Bhutan, China (mainland), India, Myanmar (BirdLife International (2013) IUCN Red List for birds. Downloaded from <http://www.birdlife.org> on 22/08/2013).

#### Elevation

Upper limit: 5500 m (summer), 3960 m (winter); lower limit: 3900 m (summer), 3000 m (-1950 m) (winter)

#### Population

No population surveys have been carried out for Grandala. However, the species may be declining as a result of climate change.

#### Total Population Size

Minimum population: unknown; maximum population: unknown

#### Habitat and Ecology

Grandala summers on rocky slopes and ridges and stony meadows in the alpine zone. It winters in similar habitat at lower altitude and in severe weather may descend to below the treeline. The species is found chiefly in flocks, sometimes consisting of several hundred birds in the non-breeding season; even in summer 50 or more may congregate to feed (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). The large number of 650 was recorded on the Annapurna circuit trek in December 2004 (Naylor and Giri 2004). Flocks circle buoyantly for long periods high over valleys and ridges, catching insects on the wing. It also seeks insects on the ground, hopping about on alpine meadows and stony slopes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). In winter it will dig with the bill in soft, shallow snow, sometimes burying its entire head (Fleming *et al.* 1976). Often it perches on rocks with an upright posture, recalling a rock thrush; in winter it may also perch in trees and bushes (Grimmett *et al.* 1998). Breeding has been proved in Khumbu (Diesselhorst 1968). The species is subject to altitudinal movements (Inskipp and Inskipp 1991).

#### Threats

Grandala may be susceptible to climate change.

#### Conservation Measures

No specific conservation measures have been carried out for Grandala. Post-1990 it has been recorded from Shey-Phoksundo, Langtang, Sagarmatha and Makalu Barun National Parks; Annapurna, Manaslu, Gaurishankar and Kanchenjunga Conservation Areas and Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve.

#### Regional IUCN Status

Least Concern (LC), unchanged from the Global Red List assessment: Least Concern

### Rationale for the Red List Assessment

Grandala has been assessed as Least Concern. The species is a locally common high altitude resident recorded from the west to the far east. It has been recorded from all protected areas within its altitudinal range. There has been no significant change in distribution post-1990 compared to pre-1990. However, climate change may be a threat to the species and its population may be declining as a result.

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