

3 Feb. 1991 cont.  
J. Schmitt  
William B. Clark



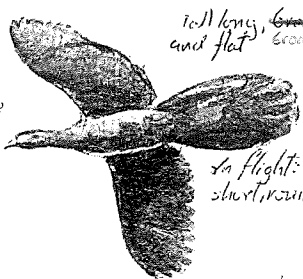
3 Feb. is spent mostly at Gorkarna Safari park - a extensive forested hilly tract surviving near Kathmandu - fair to good birding had here - most notable feature was the hundreds of Black Kites that roosted here. We also explored the country side for riverine bird areas but was greatly disappointed by the extent of human wrought change. Gorkarna's undergrowth unfortunately is kept severely trimmed by the herds of captive deer.

4 & 5 Feb. are spent on Dulchowski. The 4th we birdwatch the road up towards the summit. It is cold, never creeping out of 30's, made colder by cloud build-up in afternoon. Bird watching is generally excellent, with almost nonstop activity, many new species for me.

5th Feb - spend morning birding along a lush stream at foot of Dulchowski - despite considerable degradation of forest (extensive foot paths, wood and felder cutting, etc.) bird watching is very good, with many new species, one of most notable being a Grey Pheasant flushed up in a dark thicket vegetated ravine. According to Birds of Nepal, Luskyp claims it has not been recorded in Nepal!

Details: I quietly followed a large mixed flock of small birds well up into a well wooded-floored dark ravine west of stream. I was stationary for some time until the birds gradually trickled away. My attention is drawn to a sporadic bird scratching in the litter across the ravine from me. I carefully stalked toward it and a pheasant flies up into the tangled branches of a tree where it perches briefly before taking flight again and crossing a short distance (60-80 feet) before plunging into cover. The bird was less than 20 feet away when first flushed. Through my view was brief, it was a good lateral profile seen. The bird was in my binoculars for a useless split second before taking flight again. Though I had it in my binoculars while in flight, the bird appeared dark owing to angle and available light, however, its ventral flight silhouette is well seen, as well as a pale spot/patch in the face/bill area.

Details noted below: without crest bill size smaller than a Kuluji(?)



tail long, broad and flat

in flight: wings short, rounded, broad

some thing pale about face and/or bill

Something pale about face and/or bill



long flat tail

appeared relatively short legged

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Schmitt, J. and Clark, W.  
(1991) Notes on birds recorded in Nepal.

6 through the 8th Nepal, Chitwan Wildlife Sanctuary on the Narayani River

We arrive mid afternoon on the sixth after a long drive on a road that relentlessly alternated between rough dirt and asphalt. We departed Kathmandu at 0730.

Bundhangle Resort is a tented camp, very comfortable, right on the bank of the river, reached by small boats.

We spend the next few days exploring by elephant, guided & solo hikes, and short float trips.

Crested Honey Buzzard - 3 separate sightings. The first and best is of an adult ♂ that is entirely dark grey with a wing pattern very similar to the Crested Serpent Eagle. Through my scope I can see that the eye is dark and the cere appears to be grey and paler than the bill.

The vegetation is a mosaic of open woodland, dense scrub thickets, gallery forest, patches and corridors of grassland with low swampy areas.

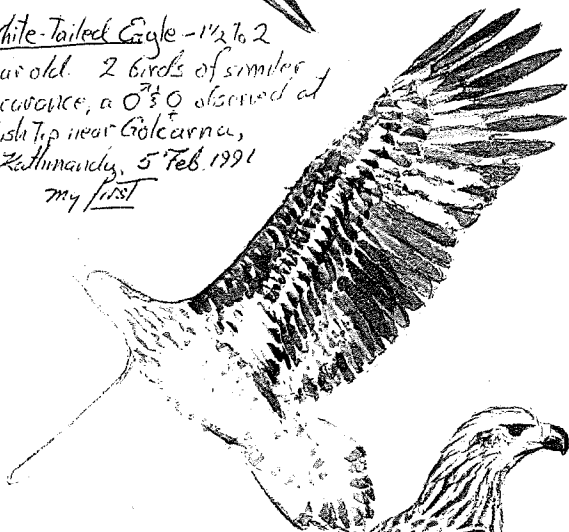
One of more characteristic trees is the Bombax or Silk Cotton. Its huge red flowers attract a variety of birds.

Bird list follows:

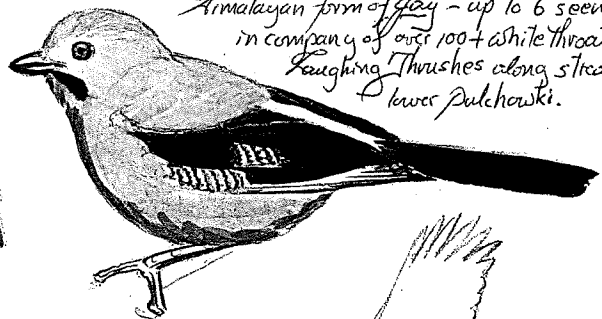
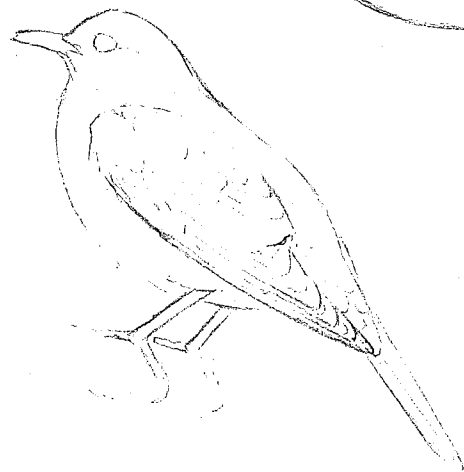
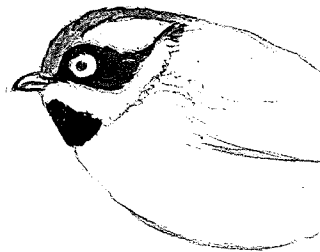
- |                           |                              |                            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Cinereous and Dusker      | Grosbeak                     | Crested Honey Buzzard      |
| Black-crowned Night Heron | Ruddy Shelduck               | Peregrine                  |
| Grey Heron                | Bar-headed Goose             | Red jungle Fowl            |
| Brown Heron               | Pallas Eagle                 | Pheasants                  |
| Little Egret              | White-tailed Eagle           | Collared Pratincole *      |
| Great Egret               | Osprey                       | Little Indian Pratincole * |
| Smaller Egret             | Black Kite                   | Spurred Towhee             |
| Cattle Egret              | Dark Kites *                 | Green Shrike               |
| Black Stork               | Common Vulture               | Marsh Sandpiper            |
| Lesser Adjutant Stork     | Giffon Vulture               | Common Sandpiper           |
| Black Ibis                | Himalayan Giffon Vulture (?) | Blue Rock Dove             |
| White Ibis                | Indian White Backed Vulture  | Collared Dove              |
| Open-billed Stork         | Long-billed Vulture          | Rufous-tufted Dove         |
| Mallard                   | Common Eagle                 | Emerald Dove               |
| Green-wing Teal           | Crested Serpent Eagle        | Spotted Dove               |



White-tailed Eagle - 1 1/2 to 2  
year old. 2 birds of similar  
appearance, a ♂ & ♀ observed at  
rubbish tip near Golcarua,  
Kashmir, 5 Feb. 1991  
my first

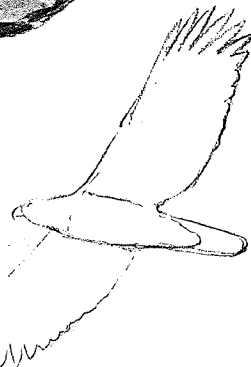
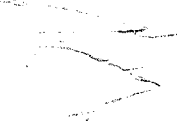


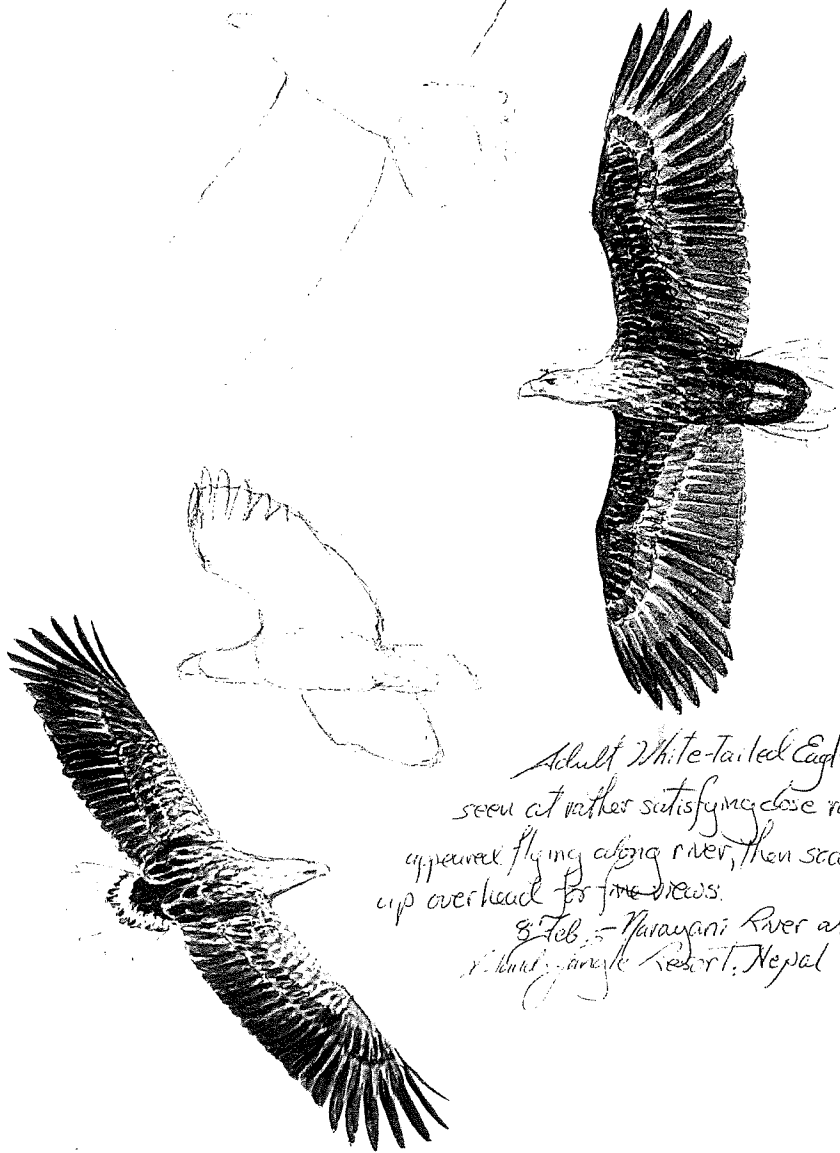
As many as 60 and more Steppes Eagles also frequented this  
same rubbish tip - most are perched about on the tall eucalyptus and on the  
The White-tailed eagles were seen to perch amongst them. Majority of Steppes



A Himalayan form of Gray - up to 6 seen  
in company of over 100+ white throated  
Laughing Thrushes along stream  
lower Pulchowki.

one juveniles.  
1 1/2 to 2 year olds, with  
a very few older birds.  
No full adult seen.





Adult White-Tailed Eagle  
 seen at rather satisfying close range -  
 appeared flying along river, then soared  
 up overhead for fine views.  
 8 Feb. - Narayani River at  
 R. Bandhara resort, Nepal



1991  
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W. E. Clark



9-11 Feb, Nepal, Kosi Barrage - Koshi-Tappa Wildlife Preserve

We arrive at the end of a long day's drive from Chitwan.  
My first view of a ♂ Pied Kestrel (and only view) is had before we  
cross the control dam (studies at left & right)

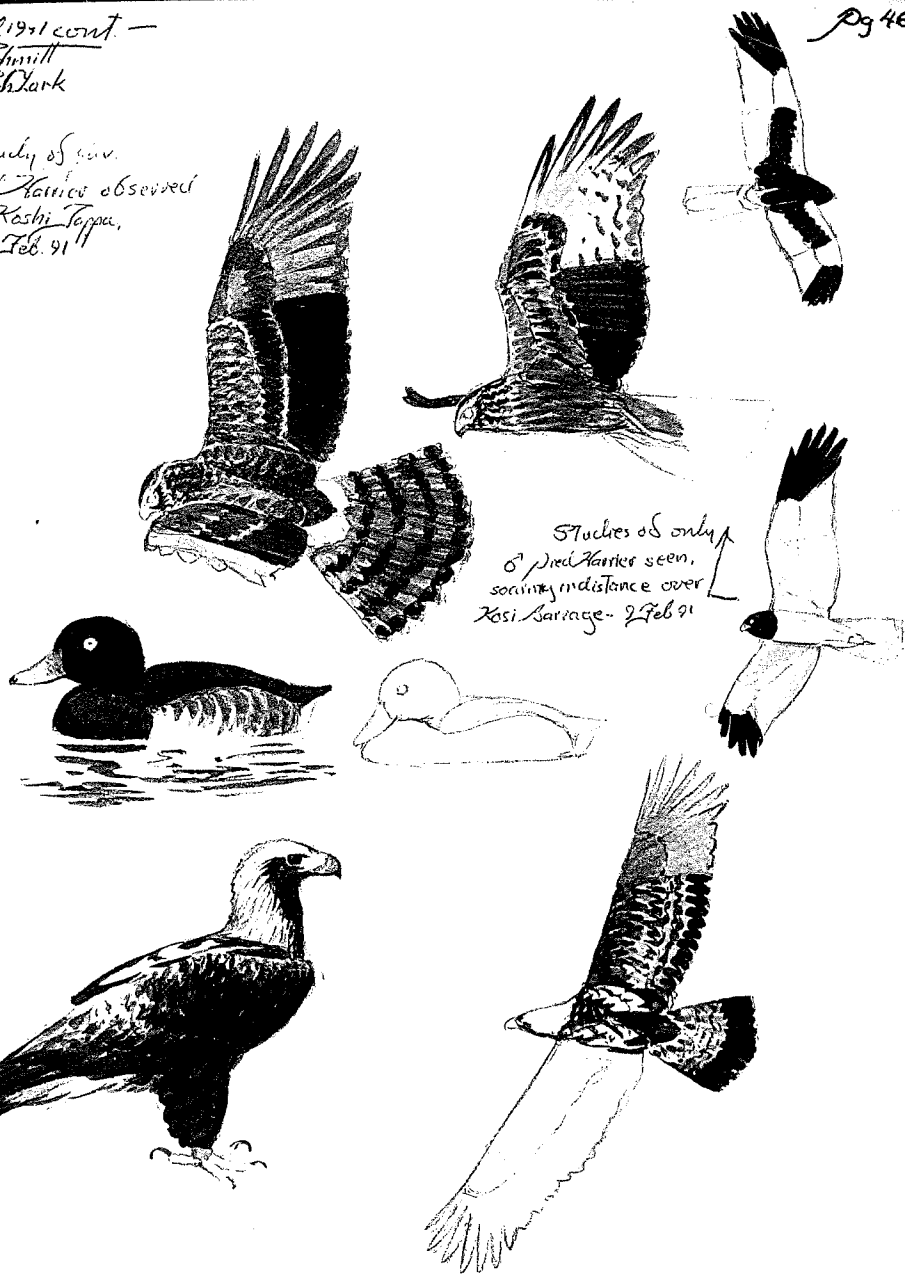
We spend entire day bird watch from one of the dikes that forms water  
to the control gates through the last few hours of daylight before making our  
way to the guest house at the refuge Kelgirs (which are essentially found  
in before dark)

We birdwatch in the barrage wetlands throughout day getting many  
new species.

White-tailed Eagle - observe at least two individuals, <sup>2</sup> one of which is  
like the individual illustrated on page 35 5 Feb 1991 and seen mirroring about  
in the vicinity of the big duck flats. Another of the same description is seen at  
Koshi-Tappa early in the morning of the 10<sup>th</sup> under good conditions - it is also

9-11 Feb 1991 cont. -  
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Study of new  
Pied Kestrels observed  
at Koshi-Tappa,  
10 Feb 91



Studies of only  
♂ Pied Kestrels seen,  
singing in distance over  
Kosi Barrage - 9 Feb 91

observed being chased off by a smaller adult Imperial Eagle (above).  
The White-tail looked massively larger, owing possibly to the W-T being a ♀ and the  
Imperial being a ♂?  
Whether White-tailed Eagle seen may have been a juvenile based on its  
overall darker coloration - but was seen at long distance.

continued on page 50