

NEPAL

KATHMANDU

and the

LANGTANG TREK

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Report of trip by Don Taylor

with Trish Pringle, Bob Davison & Pat Orpin.

Partial checklist of the birds of Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, Nepal¹

<u>Common name</u>	<u>Scientific name</u>	<u>Residence</u>	<u>Abundance</u>	<u>Habitat(s)</u> ²
1. Little grebe	Podiceps ruficollis	R	Ra	Ma
2. Large cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo	R W?	C	P M
3. Little cormorant	P. niger	R	O	P M
4. Darter	Anhinga rufa	R	FC	P M
5. Gray heron	Ardea cinerea	W	O	P M
6. Purple heron	A. purpurea	R	O	P
7. Little green heron	Butorides striatus	R	O	P
8. Pond heron	Ardeola grayii	R	C	P SG MA
9. Night heron	Nycticorax nycticorax	W	O	P Ma
10. Cattle egret	Bubulcus ibis	R	C	SF LG SG
11. Large egret	Egretta alba	R	O	P M
12. Intermediate egret	E. intermedia	R	O	P M
13. Little egret	E. garzetta	R	O	P
14. Chestnut bittern	Ixobrychus cinnamomeus	R	Ra	Ma
15. Black bittern	Dupetor flavicollis	R	Ra	P Ma
16. Painted stork	Ibis leucocephalus	R? W? S?	O	P Ma M
17. Open-billed stork	Anastomus oscitans	M R W?	O	P Ma
18. White-necked stork	Ciconia episcopus	W? S?	FC	P SG Ma

¹Arrangement and nomenclature follow Fleming et al. (1976).

²Habitats listed in order of number of species present (Table 1); order of listing does not imply habitat preference(s) of birds.

R = year-round resident
W = winter resident (Nov-Mar)
S = summer resident (Apr-Jun)
T = transient; occasional or temporary visitor
M = migrant; passing through Reserve seasonally

MD = mixed deciduous forest
SF = sal forest
Sa = savanna
LG = long grass
P = ponds and small streams

SG = short grass
MA = marsh
M = major stream

A partial checklist of the birds of Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve, Nepal,
with remarks on the relevance of species inventories
by Dietrich Schuff, Clifford G. Rice and Robert L. Fleming, Jr. + others.

19. Black-necked stork	<i>Xenorhynchus asiaticus</i>	R	O	P Ma M
20. Lesser adjutant stork	<i>Leptoptilos javanicus</i>	R	O	Ma M
21. Sarus crane	<i>Grus antigone</i>	R	O	SG Ma
22. Demoiselle crane	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i>	M	Ra	LG M
23. Black ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa</i>	R?	O	SG Ma
24. Ruddy shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	W R?	FC	P M
25. Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	W M	FC	P
26. Spotbill	<i>A. poecilorhyncha</i>	R?	O	P
27. Mallard	<i>A. platyrhynchos</i>	W M	O	P
28. Gadwall	<i>A. strepera</i>	W M	O	P
29. Falcated teal	<i>A. falcata</i>	W M	Ra	P
30. Eurasian wigeon	<i>A. penelope</i>	W M	O	P
31. Red-crested pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	W M	FC	P
32. Common pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	W M	O	P
33. White-eyed pochard	<i>A. nyroca</i>	W M	O	P
34. Comb duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>	R	O	P
35. Cotton teal	<i>Nettapus coromandelianus</i>	R	FC	P
36. Black-shouldered kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	R	O	Sa LG SG
37. Brahminy kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>	R	O	SG Ma
38. Dark kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i>	M R?	FC	SG
39. Shikra?	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	R	O	MD SF Sa
40. White-eyed hawk	<i>Butastur teesa</i>	R	FC	Sa LG SG

41. Crested serpent eagle	<i>Spiloxis cheela</i>	W R?	FC	MD SF Sa
42. Changeable hawk eagle	<i>Spizaetus limnaetus</i>	R	O	MD SF
43. Tawny eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	R	FC	Sa LG
44. Pallas's fishing eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>	R	FC	P M
45. Himalayan gray-headed fishing eagle	<i>Ichthyophaga nana</i>	R	O	P Ma
46. Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	M W?	Ra	P M
47. Eurasian griffon	<i>Gyps fulvus</i>	W? T?	Ra	SF LG
48. White-backed vulture	<i>G. bengalensis</i>	R	C	SF LG
49. Black vulture	<i>Torgos calvus</i>	R? T?	O	SF LG SG
50. Indian griffon	<i>Gyps indicus</i>	T R?	FC	LG SG
51. Egyptian vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus</i>	W R?	O	LG SG
52. Hen harrier	<i>Circus cyaneus</i>	M W?	O	LG SG Ma
53. Pied harrier	<i>C. melanoleucos</i>	W	O	LG SG
54. Marsh harrier	<i>C. aeruginosus</i>	W	O	Ma M
55. Black partridge	<i>Francolinus francolinus</i>	R	C	LG
56. Swamp partridge?	<i>F. gularis</i>	R	Ra	LG Ma
57. Common peafowl	<i>Pavo cristatus</i>	R	C	MD SF Sa LG SG
58. Red jungle fowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>	R	C	MD SF
59. Ruddy crake	<i>Amaurornis fuscus</i>	R? W	Ra	P Ma
60. White-breasted water hen	<i>A. phoenicurus</i>	R	FC	P Ma
61. Indian gallinule	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	R	C	P Ma
62. Purple gallinule	<i>Porphyrio porphyrio</i>	R	FC	P Ma
63. Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	W R?	FC	P Ma

64. Bengal florican	<i>Eupodotis bengalensis</i>	R? S	O	LG
65. Pheasant-tailed jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chirurgus</i>	R	O	P Ma
66. Bronze-winged jacana	<i>Metopidius indicus</i>	R	FC	P Ma
67. Yellow-wattled lapwing	<i>Vanellus malabaricus</i>	R	O	SG
68. Red-wattled lapwing	<i>V. indicus</i>	R	C	SG M
69. Spur-winged lapwing	<i>V. spinosus</i>	R	O	SG M
70. Little ring plover	<i>Charadrius dubius</i>	R W?	O	M
71. Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	W	FC	M
72. Green sandpiper	<i>T. ochropus</i>	W	FC	P M
73. Common sandpiper	<i>T. hypoleucos</i>	R? W	C	P M
74. Temminck's stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	W	FC	M
75. Fantail snipe?	<i>Capella gallinago</i>	W	O	P Ma
76. Eurasian thick knee	<i>Burhinus oedicephalus</i>	R	O	SG
77. Whiskered tern?	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	W? T?	O	P M
78. Black-bellied tern	<i>Sterna acuticauda</i>	R	O	P M
79. Bengal green pigeon?	<i>Treron phoenicoptera</i>	R	O?	MD Sa
80. Blue rock pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	R	FC	SG
81. Indian ring dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	R	C	Sa LG SG
82. Spotted dove	<i>S. chinensis</i>	R	C	MD Sa LG SG
83. Emerald dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>	R	FC	MD
84. Rose-ringed parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	R	C	SF
85. Large parakeet	<i>P. eupatria</i>	R	C	SF

86. Rose-breasted parakeet	<i>P. alexandri</i>	R?	FC?	MD? SF?
87. Blossom-headed parakeet	<i>P. cyanocephala</i>	R	O	MD SF Sa
88. Pied crested cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	M? S?	Ra	MD SF?
89. Common hawk cuckoo	<i>Cuculus varius</i>	S	FC	MD Sa
90. Indian cuckoo	<i>C. micropterus</i>	S	O	MD? Sa?
91. Koel cuckoo	<i>Eudynamys scolopacea</i>	R? S	O	MD? Sa
92. Sirkeer cuckoo	<i>Taccocua leschenaultii</i>	R	O	MD SF Sa
93. Small coucal	<i>Centropus toulou</i>	R	O	LG Ma
94. Large coucal	<i>C. sinensis</i>	R	FC	LG Ma
95. Grass owl	<i>Tyto capensis</i>	R? M	Ra	LG
96. Scops owl	<i>Otus scops</i>	R	FC	MD? SF
97. Collared scops owl	<i>O. bakkamoena</i>	R	O	MD? SF
98. Great horned owl?	<i>Bubo bubo</i>	R	O	MD? SF
99. Brown fish owl	<i>B. zeylonensis</i>	R	O	MD SF? P
100. Jungle owlet	<i>Glaucidium radiatum</i>	R	C	MD SF Sa
101. Spotted owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	R	C	MD SF Sa
102. Brown hawk owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>	R	O	MD? SF
103. Brown wood owl	<i>Strix leptogrammica</i>	T	Ra	SF
104. Long-tailed nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus macrurus</i>	R	FC	MD SF LG
105. Little nightjar	<i>C. asiaticus</i>	R	Ra?	SG
106. Franklin's nightjar	<i>C. affinis</i>	R	O	LG M?
107. Indian roller	<i>Coracias benghalensis</i>	R	C	SF Sa SG

108. Hoopoe	Upupa pops	R	O	SF SG
109. Small pied kingfisher	Ceryle (^{rudis} lugubris)	R	O	P M
110. Eurasian kingfisher	Alcedo atthis	R	FC	P
111. Stork-billed kingfisher	Pelargopsis capensis	R	O	MD P Ma
112. White-breasted kingfisher	Halcyon smirnensis	R	FC	P Ma
113. Blue-tailed bee-eater	Merops philippinus	S	O	Sa SG
114. Green bee-eater	M. orientalis	R? W? S	FC	SF Sa SG
115. Gray hornbill	Tockus birostris	R	FC	MD SF
116. Pied hornbill	Anthracoceros malabaricus	R	O	MD SF
117. Green barbet	Megalaima zelanica	R	FC	MD SF? Sa
118. Crimson-breasted barbet	M. haemacephala	R	O	MD Sa
119. Brown-crowned pigmy woodpecker	Dendrocopus nanus	R	FC	MD SF
120. Small scaly-bellied woodpecker	Picus xanthopygaeus	R	O	MD Sa
121. Black-naped woodpecker	P. canus	R	FC	SF
122. Lesser golden-backed woodpecker	Dinopium benghalense	R	FC	MD SF
123. Three-toed golden-backed woodpecker	D. shorii	R	O	SF
124. Black-backed woodpecker	Chrysocolaptes festivus	R	O	MD? SF Sa
125. Yellow-fronted pied woodpecker	Dendrocopus mahrattensis	R	O	MD Sa
126. Brown woodpecker	Micropternus brachyurus	R	O	MD? SF
127. Great slaty woodpecker	Mulleripicus pulverulentus	R	O	SF

128. Indian pitta	<i>Pitta brachyura</i>	S	Ra	MD SF?
129. Bush lark	<i>Mirafra assamica</i>	R	FC	LG SG
130. Ashy-crowned finch lark	<i>Eremopterix grisea</i>	R	FC	SG
131. Little skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	R? W S	O	LG SG
132. House swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	T	Ra	SF? SG
133. Alpine swift	<i>A. melba</i>	T	O	Sa LG
134. Sand Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	R	FC	LG SG M
135. Barn swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	W M	O	LG SG
136. Striated swallow	<i>H. daurica</i>	W M	FC	LG SG
137. Nepal house martin	<i>Delichon nipalensis</i>	W	O	LG
138. Black-headed (rufous-backed) shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	R	FC	Sa LG
139. Gray-backed shrike	<i>L. tephronotus</i>	W	O	Sa LG
140. Black-headed oriole	<i>Oriolus xanthornus</i>	R	C	MD SF
141. White-bellied drongo	<i>Dicrurus caerulescens</i>	R	C	SF
142. Large racquet-tailed drongo	<i>D. paradiseus</i>	R	C	MD SF
143. Hair-crested drongo	<i>D. hottentottus</i>	R	O	MD Sa
144. Black drongo	<i>D. adsimilis</i>	R	C	Sa LG SG
145. Brahminy myna	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i>	R	O	Sa LG
146. Gray-headed myna	<i>S. malabaricus</i>	W	O	Sa LG
147. Eurasian starling	<i>S. vulgaris</i>	M? T?	O	LG

148. Pied myna	<i>S. contra</i>	R	O	SG
149. Common myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	R	FC	Sa LG SG
150. Bank myna	<i>A. ginginianus</i>	R	FC	LG SG
151. Jungle myna	<i>A. fuscus</i>	R	O	SF Sa SG
152. Indian tree pie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	R	FC	MD SF
153. House crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	R	O	MD Sa SG
154. Jungle crow	<i>C. macrorhynchos</i>	R	C	MD SF Sa SG
155. Lesser wood-shrike?	<i>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</i>	R	O	MD SF
156. Pied wood-shrike	<i>Hemipus picatus</i>	R	FC	MD Sa
157. Large cuckoo shrike	<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	R	O	MD? SF
158. Long-tailed minivet	<i>Pericrocotus ethologus</i>	W	O	MD SF
159. Scarlet minivet	<i>P. flammeus</i>	W	FC	MD SF
160. Small minivet	<i>P. cinnamomeus</i>	W? R?	FC	MD SF
161. Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	W R	O	MD SF
162. Golden-fronted leaf bird	<i>Chloropsis aurifrons</i>	R	O	MD SF
163. Black-headed yellow bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	R	O	MD
164. Red-whiskered bulbul	<i>P. jocosus</i>	R	O	MD SF Sa
165. Red-vented bulbul	<i>P. cafer</i>	R	FC	MD Sa
166. Yellow-eyed babbler	<i>Chrysomma sinensis</i>	R	FC	Sa LG Ma
167. Red-capped babbler?	<i>Timalia pileata</i>	R	O	Sa LG Ma
168. Striated babbler	<i>Turdoides earlei</i>	R	FC?	LG P Ma
169. Jungle babbler	<i>T. striatus</i>	R	FC	MD SF Sa

170. Rufous-tailed flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa ruficauda</i>	W	O	MD Sa
171. Little pied flycatcher	<i>M. westermanni</i>	W	Ra	MD
172. White-browed blue flycatcher?	<i>M. superciliaris</i>	W M?	Ra?	MD
173. Slaty blue flycatcher	<i>M. leucomelanura</i>	W	O	MD
174. Tickell's blue flycatcher	<i>M. tickelliae</i>	R? W	FC	MD SF Sa
175. Black-naped flycatcher	<i>Monarcha azurea</i>	R	O	MD Sa
176. Paradise flycatcher	<i>Tersiphone paradisi</i>	R? S	FC	MD Sa
177. White-throated fantail flycatcher	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	R	FC	MD SF
178. White-breasted fantail flycatcher	<i>R. aureola</i>	R	O	MD SF
179. Gray-headed flycatcher	<i>Culicicapa ceylonensis</i>	R W	FC	MD SF
180. Blanford's bush warbler	<i>Cettia pallidipes</i>	R	O	MD Sa
181. Golden-headed cisticola	<i>Cisticola exilis</i>	R?	FC	LG
182. Zitting cisticola	<i>C. juncidis</i>	W R?	FC	LG SG
183. Hodgson's prinia	<i>Prinia hodgsonii</i>	R?	FC?	Sa LG Ma
184. Jungle prinia	<i>P. sylvatica</i>	R	O	MD Sa
185. Plain prinia?	<i>P. subflava</i>	R?	O?	LG Ma
186. Ashy prinia	<i>P. socialis</i>	R	FC	SF Sa
187. Yellow-bellied prinia	<i>P. flaviventris</i>	R	FC	Sa? P
188. Tailor bird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>	R	FC	MD SF Sa
189. Orphean warbler	<i>Sylvia hortensis</i>	T	Ra	Sa

190. Brown leaf warbler	<i>Phyllaegopsis collybita</i>	W	O	MD Sa
191. Tickell's leaf warbler	<i>P. affinis</i>	W	O	SF Sa
192. Smoky leaf warbler	<i>P. fuligiventer</i>	W	Ra?	P Ma
193. Dusky leaf warbler	<i>P. fuscatus</i>	W	Ra?	Sa P
194. Plain leaf warbler	<i>P. inornatus</i>	W	O	MD SF Sa
195. Yellow-rumped leaf warbler	<i>P. proregulus</i>	W	O	SF Sa
196. Crowned leaf warbler	<i>P. reguloides</i>	W	O	MD SF
197. Yellow-eyed warbler	<i>Seiurus burkii</i>	W	O	MD
198. Gray-headed warbler	<i>S. xanthoschistos</i>	R	FC	MD
199. Eurasian rubythroat	<i>Erithacus calliope</i>	W	Ra	MD Sa
200. Bluethroat	<i>E. svecicus</i>	W S	FC	LG P Ma
201. Shama	<i>Copsychus malabaricus</i>	R	O	MD
202. Robin dayal	<i>C. saularis</i>	R	O	MD SF Sa
203. Collared bush chat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	R	C	Sa LG SG
204. Dark-gray bush chat	<i>S. ferrea</i>	W	Ra	Sa LG
205. Pied bush chat	<i>S. caprata</i>	R	C	Sa LG SG
206. Indian robin	<i>Saxicoloides fulicata</i>	R	O	SF Sa
207. Orange-headed ground thrush	<i>Zoothera citrina</i>	W	O	MD
208. Gray-winged blackbird?	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>	W	Ra	MD
209. Whistling thrush	<i>Myiophoneus caeruleus</i>	W	O	MD SF?
210. Tickell's thrush	<i>Turdus unicolor</i>	W	O	MD? Sa

211.	Black/red-throated thrush	<i>T. ruicollis</i>	W	O	MD SG
212.	Gray tit	<i>Parus major</i>	R	C	MD SF Sa
213.	Chestnut-bellied nuthatch	<i>Sitta castanea</i>	R	FC	MD SF
214.	Hodgson's tree pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	W	FC	SF Sa
215.	Paddyfield pipit	<i>A. novaeseelandiae</i>	R	FC	SG
216.	Yellow wagtail?	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	W	O	LG P
217.	Gray wagtail	<i>M. caspica</i>	W	O	P
218.	Yellow-headed wagtail	<i>M. citreola</i>	W	O	LG P SG
219.	Pied wagtail	<i>M. alba</i>	W	FC	LG P SG M
220.	Large pied wagtail	<i>M. maderaspatensis</i>	R W?	O	M
221.	Thick-billed flower pecker	<i>Dicaeum agile</i>	R? W	O	SF Sa
222.	Tickell's flower pecker	<i>D. erythrorhynchos</i>	R	FC?	SF Sa
223.	Scarlet-breasted sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>	R	O	MD Sa
224.	Purple sunbird	<i>Nectarinia asiatica</i>	R	C	MD Sa
225.	White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosa</i>	R	FC	MD SF
226.	House sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	R	FC	SG
227.	Yellow-throated sparrow	<i>Petronia xanthocollis</i>	R	O	MD SF Sa
228.	Baya weaver	<i>Ploceus philippinus</i>	W R	C	LG Ma
229.	Black-throated weaver	<i>P. benghalensis</i>	R	FC	LG Ma
230.	Red munia	<i>Estrilda amandava</i>	R	FC	LG SG Ma

231. Spotted munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>	R	FC	LG SG Ma
232. Common rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	W	0	Sa LG SG
233. Yellow-breasted bunting	<i>Emberiza aureola</i>	W	0	SF Sa LG
234. Crested bunting	<i>Melophus lathamii</i>	W R?	0	LG Sa

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SYNOPSIS

Between April, 1974 and April, 1977, 234 bird species were recorded in the Royal Sukla Phanta Wildlife Reserve of southwestern Nepal. No previous checklist of the birds of this reserve has been compiled. Records of residence status, relative abundance and habitat(s) frequented are reported for each species. Descriptions of eight habitat types judged to reflect in a broad sense habitat distinctions made by various bird species also are given.

There has been a decline in natural habitats in the border region between India and Nepal where Sukla Phanta Reserve is located. Although several reserves exist in this region, island biogeographic theory predicts that species diversity will decline as natural areas become isolated and smaller in size. Species inventories thus are a source of data permitting us to monitor change in diversity, to assess the structure and functioning of future ecosystems, and perhaps one day to "reconstruct" damaged ecosystems, or create new species assemblages where native forms have disappeared. For this reason, it is proposed that the present checklist be refined as soon as possible, and that it become one of a series of lists representing the biological endowment existing in Sukla Phanta Reserve.