

# Wild Japan in Winter

## Including Kyushu Extension

Naturetrek Tour Report

5 - 20 February 2020



Blakiston's Fish Owl



Dusky Thrush



Steller's Sea Eagle and White-tailed Eagle



Whooper swans and Red-crowned Cranes

Report & Images by Barry Cooper



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Tour participants:       Barrie Cooper (leader) with eight Naturetrek clients.

## Summary

Japan is a marvellous country where the people are polite and respectful and everything seems to work. In winter, Japan offers marvellous wildlife and landscape possibilities and this tour is designed to provide an excellent insight to the opportunities. From the Snow Monkeys bathing in their onsen, to the bugling and displaying Red-crowned Cranes on Hokkaido, to the thousands of cranes at Arasaki on Kyushu, there are wonderful memories to be experienced on this tour. This year we managed to see six species of crane, stunning views of Steller's Sea Eagles, White-tailed Eagles and a Blakiston's Fish Owl. A Japanese Serow at the monkey site was a notable find as were the two species of waxwings seen during the tour. Several group members put the snow-covered, frozen landscape of Hokkaido as one of the highlights and it's easy to understand why as it really is beautiful. The food, culture and efficient infrastructure of Japan always make it a rewarding country for a holiday and this tour certainly delivered on all fronts.

### Day 1

**Wednesday 5th February**

Seven members of the group took the BA flight from Heathrow on a flight with plenty of spare seats.

### Day 2

**Thursday 6th February**

The flight arrived a few minutes late but eventually the group met Barrie at Haneda Airport. The coach trip provided an insight into city life in Tokyo including newly constructed apartment blocks for some of the Olympic athletes that will later become prime residential homes. After a brief freshen up, seven of the group went on the scheduled trip to Kasai Rinkai Park to have their first experience of the efficient Tokyo public transport system. Clear sunny skies were a bonus, however the strong winds suppressed some of the bird activity. Our first destination in the park was a small island on the edge of Tokyo Bay where plenty of Greater Scaup were the most numerous species. A few Eastern Spot-billed Ducks and Eurasian Wigeon were in the channel between the island and the mainland with a few Red-breasted Mergansers in another sheltered area a few hundred metres away. Great-crested and Black-necked Grebes were also in decent numbers but the winds reduced the number of Ospreys numbers perched on poles in the sea, however we did get some reasonable flight views. A Peregrine also put in a good fly around over Disneyland and its hotels. The strong winds and high tide moved many of the usual gulls elsewhere, but Glaucous, Vega and Black-headed Gulls introduced two new species for most of the group.

The wind in such an exposed place made it rather unpleasant at times so we eventually succumbed and walked to the nature reserve area of the park, which was more sheltered. Brown-eared Bulbul, White-cheeked Starling, Tree Sparrow and Large-billed Crow were the most obvious species as we walked around, but eventually some of the park's goodies were spotted including a Pale Thrush feeding on the edge of a path and a rather more elusive Brown-headed Thrush while the common Dusky Thrushes fed out in the open on the lawns. Everyone was impressed by the subtle beauty of the Masked Buntings that allowed reasonably close views. One of the highlights of the day was the immature Goshawk near the birdwatching centre. Initially we had a brief fly past before relocating it perched up in a pine tree overlooking a pond full of potential meals in the shape of Gadwall, Eurasian Teal, Shoveler, Pochard and Tufted Duck. The bird that gained the most positive comments in terms

of beauty was a male Daurian Redstart that showed well from one of the hides. Despite the wind, we did manage to see a reasonable number of birds including several new species for the group members. To everyone's credit, the group had stuck it out despite being seriously deprived of sleep because of the overnight flight. It was late afternoon when we arrived back at the hotel after a satisfying first day in this magnificent country. After a short break we had an early dinner at a restaurant across the road before an early night to catch up on some well-needed sleep, having met Ann who had arrived from New Zealand.

## Day 3

## Friday 7th February

After checking out of our very conveniently located central Tokyo hotel, we made our way through the station to the Imperial Palace grounds. Oriental Turtle Doves and Brown-eared Bulbuls weren't bothered with the hordes of people who pass through and provided the first photographic opportunities for the day. We then made our way to a part of the moat system where there is a good variety of wildfowl. The target species here is Falcated Duck and there were over twenty around with the spectacular males being very much in evidence. The iridescent heads of the males appear different colours depending on the angle of the light and, once more, provided rich photographic opportunities. Other species on the moat included Pintail, Wigeon, Pochard, Tufted Duck, Shoveler, Little Grebe and Moorhen. A pair of Eastern Buzzards gave good flight views before perching on the palace walls.

As the East Gardens are closed to the public on Fridays, we had time to spare so a visit to Meija Shrine was our next stop. Meija was the emperor who modernised Japan after the end of the Samurai and moved the capital from Kyoto to Tokyo. Because of the reverence for Meiji, the shrine was built in his memory in 1920. An interesting feature on the walk up to the shrine was a series of decorated sake barrels. There were also some information boards about the history of the modernisation of Japan. We mingled with the tourists while looking out for any wildlife and picked up some new species for the trip. Varied Tit, Japanese Tit and Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker were all seen on a quiet road in the forest away from the main tourist area. An Eastern Buzzard flew over and a Dusky Thrush was in a tree above the shrine.

After an interesting morning of combined cultural and wildlife experiences, it was time to take the Metro train back to Tokyo station, grab some lunch and return to the hotel for our luggage. It was then a five-minute walk back to the station to take the Shinkansen (bullet train) to Nagano. The designer of the Shinkansen was a birdwatcher and it was the beak of the Common Kingfisher that inspired his aerodynamic design. It was no surprise that the train departed and arrived on time in this efficiently run country. It was a short walk across the road from the train station to our hotel. Everyone appreciated a fine dinner at a local restaurant.

## Day 4

## Saturday 8th February

Today was Snow Monkey Day! We met Hitumi (our local guide) and coach for the drive to the hot spring reserve called Jigokudani, which translates to Hell Valley. Snow had just started falling as we left the hotel and it was to stay with us for much of the morning. We passed the speed skating venue for the 1998 Winter Olympics and picked up Eastern Buzzard, Dusky Thrush, Great White Egret and White-cheeked Starling on the way. Being a Saturday in February there were quite a few people off to the ski slopes that resulted in congestion on the motorway. However, it did enable everyone the opportunity to see four Greater White-fronted Geese while we were stationary.

We eventually arrived at the parking area for the coach and we began our walk to the “Monkey Park”. Everybody attached their snow grips to their boots before we set off for the walk to the park. You can’t beat the smell of sulphur on a Saturday morning and the geothermal activity in the valley with its steam vents and thermal springs helped build the atmosphere and sense of anticipation. As always, the Japanese Macaques entertained everyone with their antics and many, many photos were taken. Nineteen macaques was the maximum count in the pool at the same time. The youngsters are usually the subjects of the majority of photos and there’s always plenty mingling among the tourists. A lot of mutual preening was going on and provides more photographic opportunities. There were a few other creatures around in addition to the macaques and a flock of over two hundred Siskins eventually came closer to provide some of the group with reasonable views. Five Wild Boars were seen very well with four of them almost coming all the way down the slope to the river before possibly deciding that the mass of monkeys was best avoided and promptly moved back up the hill. The prize sighting though was a Japanese Serow on the same slope as the boars but was only seen by a few members of the group before melting away into the forest. This endemic ungulate is never easy to see and its unfortunate that this individual was only found after some of the group had started heading back down the trail. In the mid-Twentieth Century, Serow were hunted to near-extinction but fortunately numbers have now significantly increased due to conservation action.

Following the return walk from the monkey onsen, a welcome lunch was taken at the restaurant near the start of the trail. We then made our way back to the bus for the return trip to Nagano and managed to see two Black-eared Kites during the journey including a very obliging one close to the road. Our next destination was Tatsumi Park which has a relatively small pond but is full of waterbirds. Fortunately, we had two prize birds on this occasion – Baikal Teal and American Wigeon. The splendid male Baikal Teal very obligingly stuck to the same area of water in full view after initially being hidden behind an island, a couple of females were also on the lake. Everyone had good views and the scope enabled group members to appreciate the beauty of the very smart male bird. The American Wigeon was on the grassy bank with over twenty Eurasian Wigeon all patiently waiting for the next local person to come and offer some food. Other birds here included Eastern Spot-billed Duck, Pintail, Eurasian Teal, Gadwall and Great White Egret. After a very productive half hour, it was time to move onto Zenkoji Temple. Oriental Greenfinch was the bird of note near the temple and as we returned to the coach a few Bramblings were in trees near the car park. After a brief break back at the hotel, we returned to the same restaurant as the previous evening for another fine dinner.

## Day 5

## Sunday 9th February

There was light snow falling as we left our hotel in Nagano for the ninety-minute journey to Karuizawa. Fortunately, the weather soon improved and it was blue skies when we arrived. Mount Asama was partly covered in cloud so we couldn’t see it in its glory, however we had good views in the afternoon. Asama is a volcano that was active as recently as August 2019 but was quiet today. We stopped at a 7-11 to pick up supplies for lunch where the only bird of note behind the store was an Eastern Buzzard. We went to view the feeders at Shiotsube Onsen and to have a coffee while watching and photographing the wildlife outside the windows. A Japanese Green Woodpecker was showing well on the drive down to the hotel but flew off before some people managed to see it. Willow Tit, the local subspecies of Coal Tit, Varied Tit, Japanese Tit, Grey-capped (Oriental) Greenfinch, Brambling, Nuthatch and Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker were all seen very well. Possibly the most popular subject was a hyperactive Japanese Squirrel that eventually slowed down enough to provide the cutest

photo of the day as it posed on a bird table. Eventually we had to drag ourselves away but before boarding the coach we went for a short walk and managed to see a Solitary Snipe.

We drove the short distance to the Wild Bird Park and alighted the bus close to a bridge where we immediately saw two Brown Dippers that unfortunately flew up the river before one or two members of the group saw them. The park was quiet with very little bird activity until eventually a mixed flock appeared with Long-tailed Tit being the most numerous species. An active male Red-flanked Bluetail initially provided very good views for a lucky few before giving brief views to more lucky observers. The Bluetail was the highlight of the walk as, frustratingly, there was no sign of the Japanese Waxwings that had been in the area during recent days. A Japanese photographer had also failed to see them here, however he did show us a photo he'd taken at Nagakura Shrine so, after lunch at the Picchio Visitor Centre, that's where we went. Things weren't looking good initially but, after a few minutes, Barrie found one Japanese Waxwing in a tree near the river. The Naturetrek group was gathered together to show them this often-elusive species that only occurs in good numbers in Japan every few years. Four Japanese Waxwings were seen in total and seen quite well, feeding on mistletoe or just perched up on branches. Good scope views were gained so that people could fully appreciate their subtle beauty. Some of us could have spent all afternoon with these charismatic little birds but unfortunately it was soon time to board the bus and return to Tokyo. The traffic on the way back was relatively heavy as the weekenders were returning to Tokyo. An Osprey and Grey Heron flying in formation was the most notable sighting during the journey. After around three hours, we arrived at our Tokyo hotel at the end of the first leg of our Japan tour. We said our goodbyes to Hitomi who had brought us some good luck during the last two days.

## Day 6

## Monday 10th February

It was a very early start this morning and after breakfast at the hotel we crossed the road to Shinagawa Station to take the train to Haneda for our 8am flight to Kushiro in Hokkaido. Everything went smoothly, we arrived on time and our local guide Sonoko was waiting for us after we had collected our luggage. The view from the plane had shown the winter wonderland of snow below and we changed into warmer clothes before boarding the bus for the start of our Hokkaido adventure.

We drove north from the airport and after fifteen minutes spotted our first Steller's Sea Eagle. Our first destination was Tsururumidai for our first Red-crowned Crane experience with approximately one hundred and ten when we arrived and at least one hundred and seventy when we left. Approximately ten per cent were juveniles and their high-pitched calls were audible along with the bugling of the adults. There was quite a bit of dancing going on which added to the satisfying experience. Red-crowned Cranes were once considered extinct in Japan until twenty birds were discovered on Hokkaido in 1924. Fortunately after a lot of conservation work including the banning of hunting, protecting nesting sites and winter-feeding, the population has built up. In December 2019 a record number of one thousand two hundred and fifteen were counted on Hokkaido, which was an increase of one hundred and ninety-nine for the same period the previous year. Tsurui village is famous for its wintering cranes and there's clearly a lot of pride among the local community. A big surprise was the arrival of twenty-six Whooper Swans that flew in to feed on the maize that had been provided for the cranes. There was a bit of crane commotion when the swans first arrived, but things settled down after a few minutes. A Brambling flew into a tree near the observation area and a few Marsh and Japanese Tits flitted around. A Great-spotted Woodpecker appeared while a juvenile Steller's Sea Eagle was in the distance.

Satisfied, we moved to Tsurui village where we enjoyed an excellent bento meal at a hotel owned by a famous photographer. Some of the group took the opportunity to buy some souvenirs before we drove the short distance to Tsurui Ito reserve where the cranes are fed at two o'clock. The cranes must have a good sense of time because they all started to assemble towards the area where the man comes out with his supply of maize. The man appeared with his maize and the cranes fed in an orderly fashion as if they knew there would be enough food for each bird.

Our final wildlife destination was Lake Kussharo with a few Sika Deer and two Red Foxes seen on the way. Kussharo is the second largest lake on Hokkaido and was formerly the crater of a volcano. Hot springs feed into the lake enabling a few parts of it to remain unfrozen. The first site we visited had a few Mallards and Spot-billed ducks among the Whooper Swans but the prize bird here was a solitary Falcated Duck, which was rather unexpected. The Hokkaido sub-species of Eurasian Nuthatch put in a close appearance in a tree right in front of us. After enjoying close views and feeding of the swans and ducks, we moved a few kilometres along the shore to another site on the lake which is unfrozen and holding Whooper Swans. Five Goosanders flying over the lake were new for the trip. The cold wind began to make viewing conditions rather unpleasant so it was time to board the bus and complete our journey to an onsen hotel where we enjoyed an excellent Japanese dinner with a variety of wonderful dishes.

## Day 7

Tuesday 11th February

It was a five thirty start for our drive to the famous Otowa Bridge with a stop at a convenience store for coffee and supplementary breakfast items before arriving around 7am. There were already plenty of photographers stationed on the bridge that crosses the geothermal Setsuri-gawa River and is a winter roost site for some of the local Red-crowned Crane population. A juvenile White-tailed Eagle flew over the bridge just as we were approaching which was a good start. Twenty-seven Red-crowned Cranes were still roosting in the river as seen from the bridge but more could be heard elsewhere but out of sight. The cranes were generally quiet which allowed us the time to appreciate the beauty of the male Goldeneye that was near the bridge, along with a Little Grebe and some Mallard, while a few Goosander flew up the river. Two Whooper Swans swam up the river to provide a contrast to the cranes. Several Steller's Sea Eagles were also in the vicinity including one perched in a tree close to the cranes. Seven Sika Deer waded across the river in front of the cranes to provide some extra photographic opportunities.

A few cranes flew from the river while we were there but the group decided that some warmth was required so returned to the bus before we made the short journey to the site for Ural Owl. After a three hundred metre walk through the snow the pair of owls were sitting at their hole, bathed in the morning sunshine, posing for the inevitable gaggle of photographers. We saw some interesting behaviour including mutual preening and what appeared to be kissing – a perfect pose in advance of Valentine's Day. Many photographs later, we reluctantly had to return to the coach to make another visit to the Tsurui Ito reserve, passing around thirty Sika Deer in a roadside field. There were fewer cranes this morning but we were still treated to plenty of dancing, displaying and bugling. Some group members dragged themselves away from the cranes to look for smaller birds and were rewarded with views of Long-tailed Tit, Japanese Tit, Marsh Tit, Goldcrest and Great-spotted Woodpecker. There were also at least five Steller's Sea Eagles viewable from the crane viewing area. Lunch was taken at an excellent local restaurant where everyone thoroughly enjoyed their meals. The restaurant also has several bird feeders and attracted plenty of birds while we were there including a very close party of Long-tailed Tits.

The afternoon session began with a one-hour drive to the volcanic crater lake of Mashu. The weather was crystal clear enabling us to fully appreciate the beauty of the lake and the landscape. It was yet another excellent photographic opportunity but unfortunately, apart from the Large-billed Crows, was bird-free on this occasion. Everybody resisted the temptation to buy any of the souvenirs in the gift shop so we made the drive to our final destination of the spectacular fumaroles of Mount Iozan that were spouting sulphur-tinged steam into the cold air. The strong smell of sulphur, the bubbling springs and the sulphur-covered rocks provided an interesting experience and were a reminder that we were touring around a very active part of the earth's crust. Suitably impressed we made our way back to the bus with two Sika Deer grazing in a field in the distance. Another fine Japanese dinner completed an excellent day.

## Day 8

## Wednesday 12th February

It was a more leisurely start to the day with a buffet breakfast at the restaurant before leaving with Shari for our first destination. After twenty-minutes of driving the bus driver responded to Barrie's urgent pleas to stop because there were two adult White-tailed Eagles feeding on a dead fox in the middle of the road. Superb views of the pair were had from just twenty metres in front of us as the photographers in the group clicked away at the view through the front window of the bus. The size difference between the larger female and the male were easy to study and clearly the female was top in the pecking order. We managed to watch the eagles gorging themselves on large pieces of fox flesh with Large-billed and Carrion Crows eagerly feeding on scraps. We'd been fortunate that the road had been quiet to allow us to enjoy this special sighting before some lorries approached which disturbed the birds but enabled us to have close flight views of the eagles.

We eventually reached Shari, a port on the north side of the Shiretoku peninsular and immediately saw 50 Common Redpolls as we got off the bus, feeding on seeds of the coastal plants. Once again we were treated to close views enabling everyone to appreciate the beauty of these small finches, with the males looking particularly splendid. The pack ice was also evident and was probably only two or three hundred metres offshore but with some open water between the ice and the shore. This unfrozen patch of sea had a lot of waterbirds including Common Goldeneye, Greater Scaup, Goosander and a few Harlequin. Star birds on the water were a group of eleven White-winged (Siberian) Scoter which obligingly remained on the surface long enough for everyone to pick them up. A few Whooper Swans were on the river that fed into the sea here. Unfortunately the schedule didn't allow us much time here and we had to leave and some of the group were already on the bus when Barrie found a Bohemian Waxwing that flew before most had seen it. Two species of waxwing on the same trip is quite remarkable so it was unfortunate only a few of the group saw this second species. Before leaving Shari we stopped at a convenience store to pick up provisions for lunch and the evening session.

On reaching the East coast, we headed north towards Rausu and stopped at a harbour on the way. The harbour provided a good opportunity for a brief gull identification session with some obliging adult Glaucous, Glaucous-winged and Slaty-backed all easily seen to learn the basics. A group of Harlequin Ducks and a few Red-breasted Mergansers were also in the harbour. We continued our journey to Rausu where the harbour had more Harlequin, Scaup and Mergansers plus quite a few Steller's Sea Eagles and White-tailed Eagles sitting on the harbour wall and flying around in anticipation of lunch. We boarded the ship that was going to take us out on a one-hour cruise that would enable us to gain spectacular views of the eagles. Once the ship's crew started throwing fish out we were treated to the amazing sight of dozens of Steller's Sea Eagles and White-tailed Eagles swooping down near the boat. They repeated the exercise once we returned to the harbour by throwing fish onto

the sea wall for the eagles to continue their feast. After disembarking the ship we enjoyed close views of Harlequins and a Long-tailed Duck in the harbour. Most of the group opted to go for a coffee break while Jane and Steve joined Barrie for a walk to a nearby bridge to watch a Brown Dipper and some of the ducks we'd seen previously. After an early dinner we made the short journey to the Blakiston's fish Owl hide and we didn't wait long for the male owl to appear. He sat in a tree for a few minutes before swooping down to the stream and take a fish. Just 15 minutes later he returned and immediately took a fish before flying into a different tree where he sat for an hour until we left to return to the hotel. It was a wonderful end to a fantastic day.

## Day 9

## Thursday 13th February

It was another early start for our two-hour boat trip and eagles were already around as we assembled at the dock. There were many Pelagic Cormorants along the seawall, almost all of which flew off as our boat approached. Soon after leaving, the harbour the crew started throwing fish onto the sea as there was no pack-ice this year. It didn't take long for a good number of gulls and eagles to be swooping down for an easy breakfast while also presenting good photographic opportunities. It's amazing to see the agility of the huge Steller's Sea Eagles and White-tailed Eagles and photographers had to be extremely alert to capture good action images. Our cruise was timed to see the sunrise and despite some low cloud obscuring the horizon we did see a reasonably impressive rising sun in the land of the rising sun. After a thoroughly entertaining and impressive boat trip, we returned to the harbour where numerous eagles were lined up in anticipation of free food and they were not disappointed. Once again fish were thrown from the boat, this time onto the harbour wall, to provide even closer opportunities to photograph the eagles. It was difficult to know which way to look at times as there was so much happening. The usual Harlequin, Scaup and Merganser were in the harbour plus a few Pintail this morning. After boarding the coach, we made the short journey back to the hotel for a very welcome breakfast. Prior to leaving the hotel we checked the river where a pair of Brown Dippers gave good views.

We boarded the bus for our morning drive before making a very good emergency stop when a group of Steller's Sealions were spotted. The large males were the ones that first grabbed our attention as they paced through the water like porpoises. A group of females and juveniles were in the second group heading in the same direction. There must have been at least thirty of these marine mammals. First official stop was Shibetsu harbour where adult and juvenile Glaucous Gulls were the first noticeable birds. Black Scoter in the harbour gave us our first close views of this species, but a sunbathing Steller's Sea Eagle possibly generated more interest. A local convenience store provided us with our supplies for lunch before we made our way to the Notsuke Peninsular. Black Scoter was the most numerous species here, but a few Siberian Scoters tested the sharp-eyed. Long-tailed Ducks were also in good numbers while several Spectacled Guillemots were close enough for everyone to see the characteristic eye-ring. The sunny weather with no wind made it feel much warmer than it probably was and it almost felt like Spring despite the frozen snow-covered landscape. Notsuke is noted for its Sika Deer and many were seen including several males with large racks of antlers. A few Red Foxes were around including one doing the rounds of the fishermen fishing through the ice on the frozen inland lake.

After visiting the information centre, we went to the observation tower that serves as a tsunami shelter and were rewarded by the sight of Harbour and Spotted Seals plus more of the seaducks we'd seen earlier. We drove down the peninsular as far as we could and then went for a very pleasant walk to explore some of it. A flock of Asian Rosy Finches were feeding on seeds of the various plants close to the shoreline. Several male finches showed very well to reveal their subtle beauty. A few Snow Buntings were mixed in with them, which added an

interesting contrast. We slowly made our way back down the peninsular and then followed the coast road back to the hotel for a short break. We visited the Blakiston's Fish Owl site at the same time as the previous evening but unfortunately there were no sightings while we were there, so returned to the hotel for dinner and reflect on another fine day.

## Day 10

## Friday 14th February

We had a brief look at the Brown Dippers before leaving our hotel and while stopped at traffic lights on the coastal road, we saw three Whooper Swans and a silhouetted wagtail that was frustratingly too far away to identify. While driving through Shibetsu a couple of Black-eared Kites were seen flying around the buildings. Our first stop was a parking place on the Notsuke Peninsular with plenty of Black Scoters, Long-tailed Ducks, Goldeneye, Wigeon, Spectacled Guillemot and a couple of Common Guillemots. A few Siberian Scoter and three Snow Buntings were also here as we enjoyed the hazy sunshine and relatively warm temperatures. A few Red Foxes and many Sika Deer were seen along the road before and after the Visitor Centre. The observation platform had plenty of Spectacled Guillemots and a few Harbour Seals but visibility was restricted due to a mist over the sea. Prize bird here was a Red-throated Diver that was very obliging and stayed above water long enough for everyone to see it through the scope. We continued up the peninsular, parked up for a brief walk. While returning to the coach and just sixty metres from it, the flock of Asian Rosy Finches dropped in right in front of us to provide us with excellent views. Because they were feeding on almost bare ground with no thick vegetation obscuring them we were able to count them today and made it a total of fifty. We were incredibly lucky to have such fine views of this East Asian speciality.

Very happy, we slowly started to drive back down the peninsular and it was good timing because the mist had drifted in from the sea. After a fine tempura lunch at a local restaurant, we drove the short distance to Shibetsu Harbour but it was now quite foggy here so we didn't even bother getting off the coach. It was a forty-five minute drive to our hotel in Yoroushi where we gathered in the dining room which overlooks several feeders. While waiting for our welcome drink we had the pleasure of close views of various tits, Nuthatch, Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker and Great-spotted Woodpecker. One of the prize species here was a party of the Northern subspecies of Long-tailed Tit with its white head. Another one was the local *Brandtii* subspecies of Eurasian Jay with the russet brown heads contrasting with their greyer bodies. Before we were taken to our rooms a Japanese Sable appeared from under the decking and considered the possibility of visiting the feeding area before returning under the decking and allowing us to finally leave. A few of the group delayed their onsen for a walk up the road where it was relatively quiet apart from a couple of Siskin and a brief view of a Crested Kingfisher. Before and after dinner we had a forlorn vigil in the hope of seeing a Blakiston's fish owl, but unfortunately it failed to appear. However, three Sables helped to maintain concentration levels and later in the evening a Mink put in appearance and promptly took two fish from the pond made for the owl.

## Day 11

## Saturday 15th February

Breakfast at Dai Ichi is always rewarding in various ways, but the birds on the feeders provide a frequent distraction. This morning we also had mammals claiming our attention with one of the Sables and also a Red Squirrel on the slope on the other side of the river. This subspecies on Hokkaido is much greyer than the one in Britain and this individual was making the most of the ground being free from snow and was successfully foraging for food. It's never easy to leave this excellent hotel but we were away by 08.30 on our way to Akkeshi

Prefectural Natural Park which is on a headland on the South coast of Hokkaido. Some familiar birds were seen on the journey including Whooper Swans and Red-crowned Cranes feeding in roadside fields. A pair of cranes feeding on a large pile of manure was particularly interesting. A stop at a convenience store for lunch was made before we reached the coast with Black-eared Kites becoming more numerous the further south we went.

On reaching the town of Akkeshi, White-tailed Eagles and Steller's Sea Eagles were cruising over the harbour and adjacent sea with one of the former appearing to escort us as we passed along a long bridge to the headland. On arrival at the park, the plan was to take a forest trail to the headland but the snow was too deep so we walked along the road which worked well for seeing birds. A mixed flock was very productive with Varied, Marsh, Japanese and Long-tailed Tits, Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker, Goldcrest and our first Eurasian Treecreeper. A few Siskins were around the treetops but unfortunately they were the only finches we saw. A stretch of forest had over thirty Sika Deer, some of which were very confiding. We eventually reached the headland and were rewarded by fine views of the Pacific Ocean, dramatic cliffs and an immature Steller's Sea Eagle. It had been an interesting visit with some attractive scenery, great views and good wildlife. However, time was of the essence so we had to make the ninety-minute journey to Kushiro airport for our flight to Tokyo, with a few Eastern Buzzards seen on the way. We arrived back in good time for our flight and, after checking in, expressed our sincere thanks to Sonoko who had been a marvellous companion and assistant during our wonderful time on Hokkaido. We had dinner at the hotel restaurant before saying our goodbyes to John and Jill who had been enthusiastic members of the group but were returning to the UK the following morning.

## Day 12/Day 1 of Extension

## Sunday 16th February

It was a relaxed start to the day as we caught the shuttle bus to Haneda Airport for the flight to Kumamoto on the island of Kyushu. It was raining when we left Tokyo and on arrival in Kumamoto. After collecting lunch from a local convenience store, we made our way to the estuary at Yatsushiro. There were many Black-eared Kites around and as soon as we got off the bus we had the welcome sight of Ospreys fishing close to us, with four in the air at the same time while others perched up eating fish. The reedbed along the river had plenty of birds moving around and our patience was rewarded with the sight of several Chinese Penduline Tits showing well, plus Chestnut-eared, Reed and Meadow Buntings, which was an excellent start in the brief time we had available here. The rain eased up for awhile before turning to drizzle but it didn't dampen our enthusiasm at this excellent site. After some brisk walking we reached the mouth of the estuary where the falling tide was revealing small areas of mud to help concentrate the waders together to make it easier for us to check them all out. Grey and Kentish Plovers, Dunlin and Greenshank were all busily feeding and our first Common Shelducks of the trip were amongst the big number of ducks. There were a few gulls around including our first Black-tailed, plus Slaty-backed, Vega and Black-headed. An Eastern Buzzard made a couple attempts to snatch one of the Russet Sparrows that were attempting to feed or rest in bushes next to the road.

Reluctantly we had to leave and were driving back down the road next to the seawall before Barrie shouted "Stop!" A group of fourteen Black-faced Spoonbills had flown in and were now actively feeding in shallow water on the receding tide. To see this Globally Endangered species so well at the end of our first day on Kyushu was a wonderful way to finish our visit to Yatsushiro. In just ninety minutes we had seen some excellent birds very well despite the continuous precipitation. It was now time to complete our journey to Izumi and our hotel close to the rail station with its roof designed to look like flying cranes.

## Day 2 of Extension

Monday 17th February

It was an early breakfast at the hotel before our twenty-minute drive to the Arasaki Crane Centre. A Common Sandpiper was seen along one of the river edges as we drove along in the early morning light. Many Hooded Cranes and a few White-naped Cranes were seen in the fields as we approached the centre, which was a good start. We had special permission to visit the roof of the centre for an hour to observe the seven o'clock feeding session. Flocks of cranes were arriving all the time in anticipation of the free food and, sure enough, bang on time a pickup truck appeared and started distributing grain along the narrow roads adjacent to the centre. Large blocks of frozen fish were also placed along the causeways so that there was a continuous source of food for the birds to peck at throughout the day. Hooded Cranes are the most numerous at Arasaki and on 23/11/19 they counted 14,967 here and 546 White-naped Cranes. While on 21/12/19 there were 13,501 Hooded and 1,642 White-naped Cranes. Both species are endangered and it was good to see the numbers of juveniles with plenty three and four bird Hooded Crane families.

There are other cranes here and it didn't take too long to find a Common Crane and, soon after, a Sandhill Crane. However, there was also a fifth species here this winter in the shape of a Demoiselle Crane – the first for fifteen years. The challenge was to find it amongst the hordes and it was Jane who responded with a cry of "I've found it!" Both scopes were soon focussed on this very welcome vagrant that made it six species of crane for the trip. Prior to the crane discovery, Barrie found two Daurian Jackdaws amongst the few thousand Rooks, another species that gained appreciative comments from group members. It was 07.35 and we had seen five species of crane and Daurian Jackdaw, it had definitely been worth getting out of bed early. After our privileged hour, we explored the area around the centre where a few Dusky and Pale Thrushes were in evidence, plus a small flock of Eurasian Starlings, while a Peregrine put in a brief appearance.

We then made a short drive to an observation area overlooking Arasaki where Daurian Redstart and Bull-headed Shrikes were two very smart additions to the list for the day. We were able to look down on a small estuary that had two Eurasian Spoonbills standing on a muddy area, one of which started feeding before flying off. The wind was getting stronger and had a cold edge to it so we returned to the observation centre for a coffee and to watch the cranes again. Buff-bellied Pipits and Eurasian Skylarks were seen in the fields when we weren't admiring the cranes. It had been an excellent morning and as we drove towards Izumi to find a convenience store we were halted a few times, first by five Sandhill Cranes feeding close to the road. Common Snipe, Northern Lapwing and Dunlin were close by and good numbers of Grey-capped Greenfinches were easy to see. A stop for a bunting resulted in Meadow and Masked Buntings, plus our first Grey Wagtail. We did finally pick up some lunch and ate it at the Crane Museum which had various birds in its grounds including Green Sandpiper and Common Kingfisher. Further exploration of the area after lunch had the highlight of four Black-faced Spoonbills, eleven Eurasian Spoonbills, Great Egret and Grey Heron all standing together to provide quite a group photo opportunity. Unfortunately a feature of the afternoon was frequent heavy showers. We managed to avoid most of them but one caught us to leave us with a bit of a soaking but it didn't deter the group from discovering more Chinese Penduline Tits in a reedbed near a river. Cold and wet, we returned to the observation centre for the final time for a drink or to watch the birds (and rain) in the warm and dry. The Demoiselle couldn't be found so we decided to return to the hotel for some relaxation time before dinner.

## Day 3 of Extension

Tuesday 18th February

It was another early start as we aimed to be at a crane roost before they took off for the day. It was a spectacular sight as the cranes flew over with their evocative calls, including the distinctive high notes of the juveniles. Many cranes descended onto two small private roads where food was dropped from a truck. After soaking in the atmosphere and with the light improving we slowly explored some of the polders by bus including a stop at the feeding roads and it was noticeable that White-naped Cranes represented a much larger percentage of the total here than at the feeding area near the observation centre. Excellent close views were gained of this particularly attractive crane. One area had Lapwings and Dunlins probing the soft mud for invertebrates with plenty of Buff-bellied Pipits and Skylarks seeming to be in every field. A narrow channel next to the road had Eurasian Spoonbill, Great Egret and Grey Heron close together to provide an interesting photographic opportunity. A quick visit to the observation centre to use the toilets brought the bonus of a male Daurian Redstart.

We then drove to Izumi for a walk along a stretch of the river and we soon found our target birds – Long-billed Plover and Japanese Wagtail. Asian House Martin, Barn Swallow, Falcated Duck and Meadow Bunting were some other species that added interest to the pleasant walk. After picking up lunch supplies at a nearby convenience store we made our way to Kogawa Dam. Soon after getting off the bus we had eleven Japanese Grosbeaks that very obligingly perched in a bare tree to enable good scope views. Unfortunately a Japanese Hawk Eagle only gave brief flight views before disappearing over a forested hillside. In contrast to yesterday, the weather was dry but the cold temperature didn't spoil the walk. There was plenty of bird activity including a male Red-flanked Bluetail, Japanese Bush Warbler and Masked Bunting. A few Mandarin Ducks were seen well in the sunshine but a Crested Kingfisher only allowed us views of it making two crossings of the reservoir. As the afternoon was progressing we returned to Izumi and a walk along the wall adjacent to the mouth of the Komenetsu river. A couple of Common Sandpipers appeared to be having a territorial dispute but two Ospreys seemed to be doing fine with one of them eating a fish and the other hunting. There were a few Black-tailed, Slaty-backed and Vega Gulls resting up at various places. While scanning out to sea, Barrie picked up a Brown Booby that most members of the group managed to find thanks to the array of coloured marker flags that presumably were linked to fishery activities. The afternoon walk finished at the end of the harbour wall and made for a pleasing end to another fine day.

## Day 4 of Extension

Wednesday 19th February

It was another early breakfast for our final day on the island of Kyushu. We had a clear, frosty start to the day with snow in places in the mountains and, apparently, some roads had been closed the previous day. Our first destination was Kannondaki Koen but access to the trail was closed due to maintenance work so we quickly moved on to make our daily visit to a convenience store for lunch supplies. It was then another hour before we reached the mountain where the caldera lake of Miike is situated. We made a couple of stops at viewpoints to take photos, the first of which was to look at the smoking volcano of Sakahoko with its peak at 1,570 metres.

The steam from hot springs was evident as we drove around the mountain before we reached the shore of Lake Miike. Unfortunately construction work was taking place at the campground and the disturbance and lack of access to the path along the shore restricted viewing of some of the birdlife. However, we did manage to find three Yellow-throated Buntings before they quickly disappeared. There were plenty of Grey-capped Greenfinches and Daurian Redstarts around but noticeably less Olive-backed Pipits than usual. We managed to

get a man with a noisy leaf-blower to take a twenty-minute break so we could listen for birds and, as a result, heard a White-backed Woodpecker but unfortunately it wouldn't reveal itself to us. Pale Thrushes, Japanese, Varied and Long-tailed Tits were seen before we started heading back up the road to the coach. A very obliging Japanese Bush Warbler repeatedly showed itself to enable everyone to get decent views of this resident. We had sufficient time to call in to see the Kirishima Jingo Shrine in its attractive setting in the forest and with the sunshine now adding warmth to the day. A leisurely drive to Kagoshima Airport gave us plenty of time to check in prior to our flight to Tokyo for our final night of the trip. After dinner at our airport hotel we said our goodbyes to Ann who was returning home to New Zealand.

## Day 5 of Extension

Thursday 20th February

Pat, Chris, Jane, Steve and Peter were the final members of the original group to be heading back to the UK today for our flight to Heathrow. After arrival, we said our final goodbyes and went our separate ways full of memories from a great trip.

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Masked Bunting



Japanese Waxwing

## Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted)

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced		February													
	Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
1	Greater White-fronted Goose	<i>Anser albifrons</i>			4											
2	Mute Swan - I	<i>Cygnus olor</i>		3												
3	Whooper Swan	<i>Cygnus cygnus</i>					✓	2	✓	✓	✓	✓				
4	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>											✓		✓	
5	Mandarin Duck	<i>Aix galericulata</i>													8	
6	Baikal Teal	<i>Sibirionetta formosa</i>			3											
7	Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>	✓	✓										✓	✓	
8	Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>	✓	✓	✓								✓		✓	
9	Falcated Duck	<i>Mareca falcata</i>		✓			1								✓	
10	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Mareca penelope</i>	✓	✓	✓						✓		✓	✓	✓	✓
11	American Wigeon	<i>Mareca americana</i>			1											
12	Eastern Spot-billed Duck	<i>Anas zonorhyncha</i>	✓	✓	✓		3						✓	✓	✓	✓
13	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓				✓	✓	✓	✓
14	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>		✓	✓				✓	✓			✓	✓		
15	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>	✓	✓	✓									✓	✓	
16	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	✓	✓										✓	✓	
17	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	✓	✓												✓
18	Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓				
19	Harlequin Duck	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>							✓	✓		✓				
20	White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi stejnegeri</i>							✓	✓	✓					
21	Black Scoter	<i>Melanitta americana</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓					
22	Long-tailed Duck	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>							2	✓	✓					
23	Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>						3	✓	✓	✓	✓				
24	Goosander	<i>Mergus merganser</i>					5	4	✓	✓	✓					
25	Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓					
26	Red-throated Diver	<i>Gavia stellata</i>									1					
27	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	✓	✓	✓			1					✓	✓	✓	✓
28	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	✓										✓			
29	Slavonian Grebe	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>	✓													

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced		February													
	Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
30	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	✓													
31	Eurasian Spoonbill	<i>Platalea leucorodia</i>												13	1	
32	Black-faced Spoonbill	<i>Platalea minor</i>											14	4	3	
33	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	✓	✓		✓							✓	✓	✓	✓
34	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>			2									✓	✓	✓
35	Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>												✓	✓	
36	Brown Booby	<i>Sula leucogaster</i>														
37	Pelagic Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax pelagicus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓				1
38	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓	✓	✓
39	Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	4										✓		2	
40	Mountain Hawk-Eagle	<i>Nisaetus nipalensis</i>													1	
41	Northern Goshawk	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	1													
42	Black Kite	<i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>			2	✓					2	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
43	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>						1	✓	✓	✓	✓				
44	Steller's Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus pelagicus</i>					4	10	✓	✓	✓	✓				
45	Eastern Buzzard	<i>Buteo japonicus</i>	1	3	3	✓						✓	1			1
46	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>		1												
47	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	✓	✓											✓	✓
48	Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>												6		
49	White-naped Crane	<i>Antigone vipio</i>												✓	✓	
50	Red-crowned Crane	<i>Grus japonensis</i>						✓	✓			✓				
51	Common Crane	<i>Grus grus</i>													3	
52	Hooded Crane	<i>Grus monacha</i>													✓	✓
53	Demoiselle Crane	<i>Grus virgo</i>													✓	
54	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>													✓	✓
55	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>											✓			
56	Long-billed Plover	<i>Charadrius placidus</i>														4
57	Kentish Plover	<i>Charadrius alexandrinus</i>											✓			
58	Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>	40										✓	✓	✓	
59	Solitary Snipe	<i>Gallinago solitaria</i>				1										
60	Common Snipe	<i>Gallinago gallinago</i>													✓	
61	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>													✓	✓

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced		February													
	Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
62	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>												1		
63	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>											✓			
64	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓	✓					1	1			✓			
65	Black-tailed Gull	<i>Larus crassirostris</i>							✓				✓		✓	
66	Common (Kamchatka) Gull	<i>Larus canus kamtschatschensis</i>							✓	✓						
67	Glaucous-winged Gull	<i>Larus glaucescens</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓				
68	Glaucous Gull	<i>Larus hyperboreus</i>	✓						✓	✓	✓	✓				
69	Vega Gull	<i>Larus vegae mongolicus</i>	✓										✓	✓	✓	
70	Slaty-backed Gull	<i>Larus schistisagus</i>							✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	
71	Common Guillemot	<i>Uria aalge</i>									2					
72	Pigeon Guillemot	<i>Cepphus columba</i>														
73	Spectacled Guillemot	<i>Cepphus carbo</i>							3	✓	✓					
74	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
75	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	✓	✓	✓								✓	✓		✓
76	White-bellied Green Pigeon	<i>Treron sieboldii</i>													1	
77	Blakiston's Fish Owl	<i>Bubo blakistoni</i>							1							
78	Ural Owl	<i>Strix uralensis</i>						2								
79	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>	1					1						5	✓	
80	Crested Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle lugubris</i>									1				1	
81	Japanese Pygmy Woodpecker	<i>Yungipicus kizuki</i>		2		4	1				1	✓			✓	✓
82	Great Spotted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos major</i>				2	1	3			2	✓				
83	White-backed Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucotos</i>														H
84	Japanese Green Woodpecker - E	<i>Picus awokera</i>				1										
85	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>													1	
86	Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1											1	1	
87	Bull-headed Shrike	<i>Lanius bucephalus</i>												1		
88	Eurasian Jay	<i>Garrulus glandarius</i>									✓	✓			✓	
89	Daurian Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus dauuricus</i>												2		
90	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus pastinator</i>											✓	✓	✓	
91	Carrion Crow	<i>Corvus corone</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	
92	Large-billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
93	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>						✓		✓	✓					

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced		February														
	Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
94	Japanese Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla japonica</i>				4											
95	Bohemian Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla garrulus</i>							1								
96	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater</i>				✓	✓	✓									
97	Varied Tit	<i>Sittiparus varius varius</i>		✓		✓						✓			✓	✓	
98	Marsh Tit	<i>Poecile palustris</i>					✓	✓			✓	✓					
99	Willow Tit	<i>Poecile montanus</i>				✓		✓									
100	Japanese Tit	<i>Parus minor</i>		✓	2	✓		✓			✓	✓				✓	
101	Chinese Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz consobrinus</i>											✓	✓			
102	Eurasian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis</i>												✓	✓		
103	Brown-eared Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes amaurotis</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
104	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>												6	✓		
105	Asian House Martin	<i>Delichon dasypus</i>													✓		
106	Japanese Bush Warbler	<i>Horornis diphone</i>													1	2	
107	Long-tailed Tit	<i>Aegithalos caudatus</i>				✓		✓			✓	✓				✓	
108	Warbling White-eye	<i>Zosterops japonicus</i>	✓											✓		✓	
109	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>						2				✓					
110	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>										✓					
111	Eurasian Nuthatch	<i>Sitta europaea</i>				✓	1	✓	1		✓	✓				✓	
112	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>										✓					
113	White-cheeked Starling	<i>Spodiopsar cineraceus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	
114	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>												✓	✓		
115	Pale Thrush	<i>Turdus pallidus</i>	2											✓	✓	✓	
116	Brown-headed Thrush	<i>Turdus chrysolaus</i>	1			2									✓		
117	Dusky Thrush	<i>Turdus eunomus</i>	7	1	✓	✓		1					✓	✓	✓	✓	
118	Red-flanked Bluetail	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>				1									2		
119	Daurian Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus aureus</i>	2												3	✓	✓
120	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius philippensis</i>												1			
121	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>				2			3	5	5	✓			1		
122	Russet Sparrow	<i>Passer cinnamomeus rutilans</i>										✓					
123	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		✓	✓	✓	
124	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>												✓	✓	✓	
125	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba lugens</i>	✓	✓	✓	✓							✓	✓	✓	✓	

	E=Endemic, N=Near-endemic I=Introduced		February													
	Common name	Scientific name	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
126	Japanese Wagtail - N	<i>Motacilla grandis</i>												2	✓	
127	Olive-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>														✓
128	Buff-bellied Pipit	<i>Anthus rubescens</i>												✓	✓	
129	Brambling	<i>Fringilla montifringilla</i>			8	2	1									
130	Common Redpoll	<i>Acanthis flammea</i>							50							
131	Japanese Grosbeak	<i>Eophona personata</i>													11	
132	Asian Rosy Finch	<i>Leucosticte arctoa</i>								50	50					
133	Grey-capped Greenfinch	<i>Chloris sinica</i>			2	12								✓	✓	✓
134	Eurasian Siskin	<i>Spinus spinus</i>			✓						2	✓				
135	Snow Bunting	<i>Plectrophenax nivalis</i>								5	3					
136	Meadow Bunting	<i>Emberiza cioides</i>			2							✓	✓	✓		
137	Chestnut-eared Bunting	<i>Emberiza fucata</i>										✓				
138	Yellow-throated Bunting	<i>Emberiza elegans</i>													2	3
139	Masked Bunting	<i>Emberiza personata</i>	5											✓	✓	
140	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus</i>	4												✓	

## Mammals

1	Long-clawed Shrew	<i>Sorex unguiculatus</i>										1				
2	Japanese Macaque - E	<i>Macaca fuscata</i>			✓											
3	Japanese Squirrel	<i>Sciurus lis</i>				1										
4	Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>										1				
5	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					2	1	1	3	✓					
6	Sable	<i>Martes zibellina</i>									3	1				
7	American Mink	<i>Neovison vison</i>									1					
8	Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>								1	3					
9	Spotted Seal	<i>Phoca larga</i>								5						
10	Steller's Sealion	<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>								30						
11	Sika Deer	<i>Cervus nippon</i>					3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓				
12	Japanese Serow - E	<i>Capricornis crispus</i>			1											
13	Wild Boar	<i>Sus scrofa</i>			5											