

Kazakhstan

Naturetrek Tour Report

6 - 15 May 2016

Report by Red Thorpe



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Tour participants: Reg Thorpe (leader) together with 12 Naturetrek clients

Summary

We visited some fantastic places, enjoyed the fine scenery that Kazakhstan offers and saw over 200 species of birds. Although we had a day of bad weather, even the rain didn't really stop us finding the key species. It is always difficult to identify highlights as we all have our own and there are usually so many, however the excellent views of White-tailed Eagles on the first day, the copulating Saxaul Sparrows near Topar, the singing Bluethroat at Topar with the range of species we found at this excellent wetland site, the Mongolian and Crimson-winged Finches coming to drink at the Artesian Well on the Sugaty Plain, the amazingly tame nest building White-crowned Penduline Tits, the wonderful array of flowers on the hillsides above the Charyn Gorge and the superb male Pine Bunting, and the wonderful mountain scenery and birds in the Tien Shan above Almaty all spring readily to mind.

Day 1

Friday 6th May

Today was spent travelling to Kazakhstan. Group members departed from a variety of locations before meeting at Istanbul airport and then on towards Almaty.

Day 2

Saturday 7th May

Almaty to Kolshengol

We arrived in Almaty on time and were through customs and heading out of the city by 6am. Our first stop was at a supermarket to purchase a few items that had been forgotten and a selection of snacks. We then continued, heading north-west and stopped for breakfast overlooking one of the small Sorbulak Lakes where we found several smart male Garganey, a flock of over 60 Temminck's Stints and groups of Great White and Dalmatian Pelicans.

After this we moved further east and investigated other lakes in this extensive wetland complex. The highlight was a White-tailed Eagle nest with two young in an isolated copse of trees. The adults gave good views; one very close low overhead and the other perched near the nest. After this we went to a reed-fringed lake where two singing large reed warblers caused some confusion. Although they looked like Great Reed Warblers they didn't sound typical. Clamorous Reed Warbler was considered, but later it was decided they were actually Great Reed Warblers. Also present were two male Siberian Stonechats and a male Turkestan Shrike.

We then retraced our steps and headed west to the large Sorbulak Reservoir for lunch. Scanning from the lake shore we saw more pelicans and Garganey as well as Black-tailed Godwit and some close Black Kites. In the belt of trees close by there were Greenish and Hume's Leaf Warblers and Siberian Chiffchaff as well as two Common Redstarts and 15 Oriental Turtle Doves. Our final stop in the Sorbulak Lakes area was at a small lake which held a good range of ducks including three male and two female White-headed Ducks and several Ferruginous Ducks.

After this it was time to head towards our desert campsite and settle in. We enjoyed seeing a few birds before we had our evening meal, the log and an early night.

Day 3

Sunday 8th May

Kolshengol

After breakfast at 6.30am we drove westwards across the semi desert steppe. The recent rains had resulted in vigorous vegetation growth which made seeing birds on the ground more difficult than usual. We spent some time looking at larks, sorting out Bimaculated from Calandra, and Greater Short-toed from Lesser Short-toed. The group seemed relatively unimpressed by Brown-necked Raven as none showed any brown, but were more impressive with the good views of Black-bellied Sandgrouse. The highlights were two Pallas's Sandgrouse that flew past calling and several Greater Sand Plovers. We took a break from scanning the steppe to look at a small group of trees which produced views of Ortolan Bunting, Greenish Warbler, several Common Rosefinch including a nice male, and the usual Hume's Leaf Warblers. Noteworthy here was a superb male shrike that showed features of both Red-backed and Turkestan. We then returned to looking at the steppe before heading to the main road and returning to Kolshengol. In the village, at our beer purchasing stop, a sub adult Eastern Imperial Eagle flew low overhead.

After lunch we travelled south through rolling steppe to Tamgaly. On the way we stopped for a male Desert Wheatear and a single White-winged Lark, which was seen by most of the group as it flew off the road and landed before flying off again almost immediately. At Tamgaly there was a flock of Lesser Kestrels hunting the ridges and two Eastern Rock Nuthatches which were actively finding food and returning to their nest. The group also enjoyed the wonderful Petroglyphs in this superb little valley.

We then returned to the camp later than planned, but our food was on the table within 10 mins of arrival.

Day 4

Monday 9th May

Kolshengol

Although today was wet, it proved to be an excellent day for birds. The day started with heavy rain after a night of thunder and lightning. We headed off to cross the Taukum desert hoping it would stop – it didn't. We stopped a couple of times but didn't find any of the specialities, so we arrived at Topar Lakes in good time.

There was less rain here so we got out and walked along the road, finding Little Bittern, Paddyfield Warbler, two Azure Tits, Citrine Wagtail, a fine male 'large-billed' Common Reed Bunting and a single Collared Pratincole. We moved along the road, stopping for a single White-winged Tern amongst a flock of Eurasian Black Terns, and then for a male White-headed Duck. After this we drove a little further and found a fantastic pair of Saxaul Sparrows that performed really well.

Next was a drive through further heavy rain to the remnant Turagna Forest at Zhelturanga. After eating lunch in the coach we quickly walked around finding several White-winged Woodpeckers and a solitary Yellow-eyed Pigeon. With the rain not easing, we headed back towards Topar and walked from the road to the back of a lake and had really close views of a singing Bluethroat, two Bearded Reedlings (Tits), two Sykes's Warblers, a Savi's Warbler and six Paddyfield Warblers.

We then returned through the desert and this time we were successful in finding two Steppe Grey Shrikes by the roadside. The final stop was a quick look in the Kolshengol village trees which held a few migrant warblers.

Day 5

Tuesday 10th May

Kolshengol to Charyn (Charyn Guesthouse)

We woke to overcast skies and low mist, but ventured out to the artesian well and had brief views of a group of Mongolian Finches as well the usual larks and Temminck's Stints. After packing the bus we started our long journey toward the Charyn Gorge. We stopped in Kolshengol village to look at another well. Again, probably due to the rain, it was not proving attractive to small birds for drinking. We then moved on to the 'magic' tree at Aldarly. After checking the other two trees in the area which held small numbers of warbler included a fine Barred Warbler, we got to the old Turkish Fig that is now on its last legs. Although there was only a small amount of live foliage, it still held a fine Daurian Shrike, Turkestan Shrike, Thrush Nightingale, two Barred Warblers, and several Spotted Flycatchers and Lesser Whitethroats. Nearby, male and female Pied Wheatears showed well.

Our next stop was the Sorbulak dam and soon after arriving, a super summer plumage Lesser Sand Plover was located. There were the usual waders and ducks, but Eurasian Oystercatcher and Eurasian Teal were new for the trip. At the far end of the dam it was wagtails that held centre stage with a good number of White Wagtails, six Masked Wagtails and three Sykes's Yellow Wagtails.

After leaving Sorbulak we drove towards Almaty and then eastwards, stopping for lunch by the roadside and then on through the Kokpek Pass and across the Sugaty Plain to Shunja.

Day 6

Wednesday 11th May

Charyn

A pre-breakfast walk around the village produced good views of an Eastern Nightingale and a pair of Long-tailed Shrikes as well as several Turkestan Shrikes, a single singing Barred Warbler and a Sykes's Warbler.

After breakfast we headed onto the Sugaty Plain and stopped several times to try and locate McQueen's Bustard, but unfortunately we were not successful. After crossing the first part of the plain we stopped at Temilik Bridge and enjoyed very close views of White-crowned Penduline Tits at their nest and singing Hume's Whitethroat. The next stop was at Aksay Cemetery where Lesser Kestrels and Rock Sparrows showed well, and then on to the hills above the Charyn Gorge. On the way we had a single Cinereous Vulture and Himalayan Vulture low over the bus and a Rock Bunting in roadside vegetation.

We had lunch and then walked out across the hills towards the gorge. The strong breeze made birding difficult but the array of plants more than made up for it. After a while the group split with some heading down to the edge of the gorge to see breeding vultures at very close range, and others searched for the *albigula* subspecies of Horned Lark (Shorelark) and Pine Bunting and were successful with both. It was now late afternoon and our final visit was to appreciate the Charyn Gorge in superb light, before returning to Shunja.

Day 7

Thursday 12th May

Charyn to Tien Shan (Alpine Rose Guesthouse)

We left the Guest House in Shunja just before 7am and headed west across the Sugaty Plain. Our first walk for Asian Desert Warbler was unsuccessful, but we did find a pair of Desert Wheatear and a fine male Red-backed Shrike. Our second attempt for the warbler was more successful with three being found within 100 metres of the road. It was then on to an artesian well where we sat, sheltered from the wind, for about an hour enjoying Mongolian Finches and Grey-necked Buntings that were regularly coming to drink or bathe, but the star birds were two Crimson-winged Finches that dropped in to drink.

After this we headed back towards the road and then walked across the steppe and found two Shorelarks of the *brandti* subspecies and a distant Steppe Eagle. Moving along the road, we stopped and scanned across to the hills and located an active Steppe Eagle nest with both adults in attendance. One of these flew towards us and dropped to the ground, later flying back to the nest area with a Giant Gerbil.

The morning was almost gone so we travelled further west and had our picnic in the Kokpek Pass with singing White-capped Bunting and a displaying Golden Eagle for company. A short walk up a small side valley was botanically interesting and there were some nice butterflies. It was now time to head towards Almaty, but a short detour to Malabai was rewarded with close view of Pale Martin at a colony.

We arrived at Almaty at rush hour so it took us a while to get through the traffic, and then we nearly had to change our coach for 4-wheel drive vehicles as a large rock had come down on the road to our accommodation, but we managed to get by and finally arrived at the Alpine Rose Hotel just after seven.

Day 8

Friday 13th May

Tien Shan

It was a fantastic bright, clear, sunny day in the mountains with fantastic scenery and some quality birds. Our pre-breakfast frosty walk produced a pair of nest-building White-tailed Rubythroats, a fine Eurasian Treecreeper, a smart Blue-capped Redstart and a White-winged Grosbeak.

After breakfast we were heading up to the Kosmostation but failed due to ice and snow. We changed course and headed to a sunny bank of juniper where another rubythroat showed well, as well as Red-mantled Rosefinch, Sulphur-bellied Warbler and the star birds; two showy Himalayan Snowcocks.

By this time our ground agents had sorted out 4x4 vehicles and they ran a shuttle service up to the Kosmostation. Those on the second departure had a circling Bearded Vulture to pass the time whilst waiting. There was a good covering of snow, but we found two pairs of Guldenstadt's Redstart, a pair of Brown Accentors and two Altai Accentors. We descended to just below the Observatory and then a scramble by some or a longer (safer) walk for others resulted in some of the group having views of White-browed Tit-warbler. It was then down to Big Almaty Lake where Ibisbill showed quite well through telescopes. The walk also produced more Sulphur-bellied Warblers, Eversmann's and Blue-capped Redstarts, Red-fronted Serin and two fine Azure Tits.

Day 9

Saturday 14th May

Tie Shan to Almaty (Kazzhol Hotel, Almaty)

Both pre and post breakfast, the group looked around the vicinity of the hotel. A group of three Northern Nutcrackers were seen well and our target species, Songar Tit, also put on a good show. After this we headed up the road above the Big Almaty Lake and searched the juniper scrub. Highlights were further White-tailed Rubythroats, White-winged Grosbeaks and Red-mantled Rosefinch.

Next we drove further on, looking for Blue Whistling Thrush. We failed at our first site but saw a White-throated Dipper. We were lucky at the second with two birds showing. At this site we had our final picnic of the trip before descending further to the Almaty Wall where an adult and recently fledged Brown Dipper entertained us.

We had one final species to try and see – usually fairly easy, but somehow they had eluded most of the group: Grey-crowned Goldfinch. After a couple of stops where we saw two more Bearded Vultures, we eventually tracked down at least four Grey-crowned Goldfinches. This was the last birding of the trip before we left the mountains for our Almaty Hotel, a nice evening meal and early to bed.

Day 10

Sunday 15th May

Almaty to London

Today we had an early start to get to the airport in time for our flights back to the UK. Reg said his farewells at the airport as he was staying in Kazakhstan to lead another tour. Once back in the UK another Naturetrek adventure came to an end.

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Species Lists

Birds (✓=recorded but not counted; h = heard only)

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
1	Himalayan Snowcock	<i>Tetraogallus himalayensis</i>								6	1h
2	Chukar Partridge	<i>Alectoris chukar</i>		3				6	5	1?	
3	Common Pheasant	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	1h					2			
4	Common Quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix</i>		1h	1h			2h			
5	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	40	1	5	10		2		2	1
6	Common Shelduck	<i>Tadorna tadorna</i>	6			2					
7	Gadwall	<i>Anas strepera</i>	20		4	12					
8	Eurasian Wigeon	<i>Anas penelope</i>	4								
9	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	15		6	2					
10	Northern Shoveler	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	50			12					
11	Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>	2								
12	Garganey	<i>Anas querquedula</i>	100		2	25					
13	Eurasian Teal	<i>Anas crecca</i>				1					
14	Red-crested Pochard	<i>Netta rufina</i>	40		35	12					
15	Common Pochard	<i>Aythya ferina</i>	7			2					
16	Ferruginous Duck	<i>Aythya nyroca</i>	5		12	2					
17	Tufted Duck	<i>Aythya fuligula</i>	4								
18	White-headed Duck	<i>Oxyura leucocephala</i>	4		1	2					
19	Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	3								
20	Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	50		6	25					
21	Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	6								
22	Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>						1			
23	Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	9		5						
24	Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus minutus</i>			3						
25	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	50		15						
26	Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	2		12						
27	Great White Pelican	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus</i>	300			12					
28	Dalmatian Pelican	<i>Pelecanus crispus</i>	50								

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
29	Pelican sp	<i>Pelecanus onocrotalus/crispus</i>				150				
30	Great Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo</i>	✓		1	6		3		
31	Black-eared Kite	<i>Milvus migrans lineatus</i>	100	35	80	120	12	6	3	6
32	White-tailed Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus albicilla</i>	3			1				
33	Bearded Vulture	<i>Gypaetus barbatus</i>							2	2
34	Himalayan Vulture	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>					20		3	
35	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>					3			
36	Short-toed Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus gallicus</i>	1	2						
37	Western Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus aeruginosus</i>	1	1	3	1				
38	Montagu's Harrier	<i>Circus pygargus</i>	3	1		1				
39	Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	3							
40	Eurasian Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter nisus</i>	1	1	2	2	3		1	
41	Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>		1						2
42	Long-legged Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufinus</i>	2	10	10	6	6	2		
43	Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>						3		
44	Eastern Imperial Eagle	<i>Aquila heliaca</i>		1						
45	Golden Eagle	<i>Aquila chrysaetos</i>		1			1	1	1	2
46	Booted Eagle	<i>Hieraetus pennatus</i>	1				3			
47	Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>		10		8	15			
48	Common Kestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	12	2	4	2	6	2	6	2
49	Kestrel sp	<i>Falco tinnunculus/naumanni</i>				8		6		2
50	Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	3		2		1			4
51	Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	12		1	1h				
52	Eurasian Coot	<i>Fulica atra</i>	80		30	5				
53	Demoiselle Crane	<i>Grus virgo</i>	55	140	3	2				
54	Ibisbill	<i>Ibidorhyncha struthersii</i>							1	
55	Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	12		12	10				
56	Eurasian Oystercatcher	<i>Haematopus ostralegus</i>				12				
57	Northern Lapwing	<i>Vanellus vanellus</i>	5		6	2				
58	Little Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius dubius curonicus</i>	2			15				
59	Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii crassirostris</i>		8			2			
60	Lesser Sandplover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>				1				

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
61	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	6		1	1			1	
62	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	10		1	1				
63	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	8	1	1	1				
64	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	5		1	2	3		1	1
65	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1							
66	Temminck's Stint	<i>Calidris temminckii</i>	60	3	32	70				
67	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>			2					
68	Black-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus ridibundus</i>	✓		12	30				
69	Caspian Gull	<i>Larus cachinnans</i>	✓		10	35		1		
70	Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	✓		30	6				
71	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	16		1					
72	Eurasian Black Tern	<i>Chlidonias niger niger</i>			16					
73	Pallas's Sandgrouse	<i>Syrrhaptes paradoxus</i>		2						
74	Black-bellied Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis</i>	12	100	2	4	2	6		
75	Feral Pigeon	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>	✓	✓		✓	50	✓		✓
76	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia 'feral'</i>					1			
77	Yellow-eyed Pigeon	<i>Columba eversmanni</i>			1					
78	Cinnamon-necked Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus casiotis</i>	3			1				
79	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis meena</i>	20	5	12	6	5		1	2
80	Eurasian Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decaocto</i>	1			10		10		
81	Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	2h		5		6	2	4	3h
82	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>			1					
83	Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>					6			
84	Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	2		1					
85	European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	10	6	10	30	10	30		
86	Common Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo atthis</i>			1					
87	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	40	40	30	20	1h	20		
88	Eurasian Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	6	6	6	4	5	3		
89	White-winged Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos leucopterus</i>			5					
90	Eurasian Three-toed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>								1h
91	Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1?	1?						
92	Daurian Shrike	<i>Lanius isabellinus isabellinus</i>				1		1		

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
93	Turkestan Shrike	<i>Lanius phoenicuroides</i>	2		6	1	20	4		
94	Long-tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach erythronotus</i>					2	1		
95	Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	1	1		1	1	1		
96	Steppe Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius pallidirostris</i>			3					
97	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	1		3	1h	1			
98	Eurasian Magpie	<i>Pica pica</i>	✓	1	6	✓	5	6	3	6
99	Northern Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes rothschildi</i>						2	5h	8
100	Red-billed Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax pyrrhocorax centralis</i>					2		2	
101	Alpine Chough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>							6	
102	Russian Jackdaw	<i>Coloeus monedula soemmerringii</i>	✓	6	12	✓	✓	✓		
103	Rook	<i>Corvus frugilegus</i>	✓	✓	20	✓	✓	✓		
104	Oriental Crow	<i>Corvus corone orientalis</i>	10	1	6	1	6	3	15	6
105	Brown-necked Raven	<i>Corvus ruficollis</i>		15	1	6				
106	Eurasian Raven	<i>Corvus corax tibetanus</i>	1				1	3	2	2
107	Bearded Reedling	<i>Panurus biarmicus</i>	3		2					
108	Songar Tit	<i>Poecile montanus songarus</i>								3
109	Coal Tit	<i>Periparus ater rufipectus</i>						1	3	12
110	Great Tit	<i>Parus major</i>	4			10	3	4	1	6
111	Turkestan Tit	<i>Parus major turkestanicus</i>			6					
112	Azure Tit	<i>Cyanistes cyanus tianschanicus</i>			3				2	
113	White-crowned Penduline Tit	<i>Remiz coronatus coronatus</i>					4			
114	Calandra Lark	<i>Melanocorypha calandra psammochroa</i>	10	✓	2	✓				
115	Bimaculated Lark	<i>Melanocorypha bimaculata torquata</i>	6	✓		1				
116	White-winged Lark	<i>Melanocorypha leucoptera</i>		1						
117	Greater Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis</i>		6	2	4		6		
118	Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella rufescens heinei</i>	6	8		2				
119	Short/Lesser Short-toed Lark	<i>Calandrella brachydactyla/rufescens</i>		✓	✓	✓	✓			
120	Crested Lark	<i>Galerida cristata magna</i>	6	1	6	10	1			
121	Asian Skylark	<i>Alauda arvensis dulcivox</i>	2	1			12			
122	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris brandti</i>						3		
123	Horned Lark	<i>Eremophila alpestris albigula</i>					3			
124	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>			75	1	2			

	Common name	Scientific name	May								
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
125	Pale Martin	<i>Riparia diluta</i>							70		
126	European Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica rustica</i>	✓	✓	140	✓	✓	✓			1
127	Eurasian Crag Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne rupestris</i>					15				
128	Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>				6	50	30			
129	Cetti's Warbler	<i>Cettia cetti albiventris</i>	1h		5						
130	White-browed Tit-warbler	<i>Leptopoecile sophiae sophiae</i>								2	
131	Siberian Chiffchaff	<i>Phylloscopus collybita tristis</i>	10		3	3	1				
132	Sulphur-bellied Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus griseolus</i>								4	
133	Hume's Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei humei</i>	40	12	10	1	6	1	25	200	
134	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides viridanus</i>	2	1	1						
135	Great Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus zarudnyi</i>	2								
136	Paddyfield Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus agricola agricola</i>	1		12						
137	Blyth's Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus dumetorum</i>					1				
138	Sykes's Warbler	<i>Iduna rama</i>		2	5		1				
139	Eastern Grasshopper Warbler	<i>Locustella naevia straminea</i>									3
140	Savi's Warbler	<i>Locustella luscinioides</i>			2						
141	Barred Warbler	<i>Sylvia nisoria merzbacheri</i>			1h	3	1				
142	Lesser Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia curruca halimodendri</i>	6	2	20	12					
143	Hume's Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia althaea</i>					1				
144	Asian Desert Warbler	<i>Sylvia nana</i>						4			
145	Common Whitethroat	<i>Sylvia communis rubicola</i>		1		1	1	1			
146	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus tristis</i>								4	6
147	Eurasian Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes tianschanicus</i>								6h	5
148	Eastern Rock Nuthatch	<i>Sitta tephronota</i>		2							
149	Eurasian Treecreeper	<i>Certhia familiaris</i>								1	
150	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis tristis</i>	10		1	✓	12	✓			✓
151	Rosy Starling	<i>Pastor roseus</i>	2500	1200	50	3000		50			
152	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris porphyronotus</i>	6		4	6	20	✓			
153	Blue Whistling Thrush	<i>Myophonus caeruleus</i>									2
154	Chinese Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula intermedius</i>					2	2	2	2	6
155	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus bonapartei</i>						2	6	4	
156	Red-spotted Bluethroat	<i>Luscinia svecica pallidogularis</i>			1						

	Common name	Scientific name	May							13	14
			7	8	9	10	11	12			
157	White-tailed Rubythroat	<i>Luscinia pectoralis ballioni</i>							4	3	
158	Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>				1					
159	Eastern Nightingale	<i>Luscinia megarhynchos golzi</i>					7	1h			
160	Eversmann's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus erythronotus</i>							5	2	
161	Blue-capped Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus coeruleocephala</i>							2	1	
162	Common Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	2		1		2		1		
163	Güldenstädt's Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus erythrogastrus grandis</i>							4		
164	Siberian Stonechat	<i>Saxicola maurus</i>	4		2		6		2		
165	Isabelline Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe isabellina</i>	10	30	6	15	100	40			
166	Northern Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe oenanthe libanotica</i>	1				2				
167	Pied Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe pleschanka</i>		1		3	10	6			
168	Eastern Desert Wheatear	<i>Oenanthe deserti deserti</i>		1			1	2			
169	Common Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola saxatilis</i>		1			2		1		
170	Blue Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola solitarius</i>						1			
171	Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1	2	5	10	1				
172	White-throated Dipper	<i>Cinclus cinclus leucogaster</i>								1	
173	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>								3	
174	Saxaul Sparrow	<i>Passer ammodendri ammodendri</i>			2						
175	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>			2	4	6	12		4	
	House Sparrow [bactrianus]	<i>Passer domesticus bactrianus</i>		7		2		5			
176	Spanish Sparrow	<i>Passer hispaniolensis transcaspicus</i>		30							
177	Eurasian Tree Sparrow	<i>Passer montanus dilutus</i>				1	7				
178	Rock Sparrow	<i>Petronia petronia</i>					12	2			
179	Altai Accentor	<i>Prunella himalayana</i>							2		
180	Brown Accentor	<i>Prunella fulvescens</i>							2		
181	Black-throated Accentor	<i>Prunella atrogularis huttoni</i>							10	5	
182	Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	3	2	12						
	Black-headed Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava feldegg</i>			15						
	Syke's Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava beema</i>				3					
183	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>			5						
184	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea melanope</i>	5	6	21	4	2		1	6	
185	White Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba</i>		1		20					

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
186	Masked Wagtail	<i>Motacilla alba personata</i>	6			6	1	1		
187	Tawny Pipit	<i>Anthus campestris</i>		2	1		5	6		
188	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>							4	8
189	Water Pipit	<i>Anthus spinoletta blakistoni</i>							12	
190	Red-fronted Serin	<i>Serinus pusillus</i>							25	6
191	European Greenfinch	<i>Chloris chloris turkestanica</i>	2				2	2	1	
192	Grey-crowned Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis carduelis parapanisi</i>						1	4	4
193	Common Linnet	<i>Linaria cannabina bella</i>					8	6		
194	Plain Mountain Finch	<i>Leucosticte nemoricola altaica</i>							4	
195	Mongolian Finch	<i>Eremopsaltria mongolica</i>				7		30		
196	Crimson-winged Finch	<i>Rhodopechys sanguinea</i>						2		
197	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus ferghanensis</i>		6	3	11	1			6
198	Red-mantled Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rhodochlamys</i>							2	3
199	Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra tianschanica</i>								1
200	White-winged Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>							6	4
201	Corn Bunting	<i>Emberiza calandra buturlini</i>					2			
202	Pine Bunting	<i>Emberiza leucocephala</i>					1			
203	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia par</i>					3	4		1
204	White-capped Bunting	<i>Emberiza stewarti</i>						3		
205	Grey-necked Bunting	<i>Emberiza buchanani neobscura</i>						6		
206	Ortolan Bunting	<i>Emberiza hortulana</i>	1	1		3				
207	Red-headed Bunting	<i>Emberiza bruniceps</i>	10	✓	✓	6		1		
208	Common Reed Bunting	<i>Emberiza schoeniclus pyrrhuloides</i>			1					

Mammals

1	Goitered Gazelle	<i>Gazella subgutterosa</i>	1			1	6			
2	Grey Marmot	<i>Marmotta baibacina</i>					1		5	
3	Desert Hare	<i>Lepus Tolai</i>			4		1			
4	Red Fox	<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>					1			
5	Giant Gerbil	<i>Rhombomys opimus</i>					✓	✓		
6	Eurasian Red Squirrel	<i>Sciurus vulgaris</i>							1	2
7	Stoat	<i>Mustella erminea</i>							1	

	Common name	Scientific name	May							
			7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14

Reptiles & Amphibians

1	Horsefeild Tortoise	<i>Testudo horsfieldi</i>		3						
2	Agama Lizard	<i>Agama agama</i>	1	✓						
3	Marsh Frog	<i>Rana ridibunda</i>	h		h					✓
4	Toad-headed Lizard	<i>Phrynocephalus przewalskii</i>		2			6	✓		

Butterflies

1	Black-veined Wite	<i>Aporia crataegi</i>						✓		
2	Hungarian Glider	<i>Neptis rivularis</i>						✓		
3	Comma	<i>Polygonia c-album</i>						✓		
4	Small Heath	<i>Coenonympha pamphilus</i>						✓		
5	Common BLue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>						✓		
6	Lesser Firey Copper	<i>Lycaena thersamon</i>						✓		
7	Brimstone	<i>Gonepteryx rhamni</i>							✓	✓
8	Small Tortoiseshell	<i>Aglais urticae</i>							✓	✓
9	Camberwell Beauty	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>								1
10	Queen of Spain Fritillary	<i>Issoria lathonia</i>							✓	✓
11	Small Blue	<i>Cupido minimus</i>								✓
12	Peacock	<i>Aglais io</i>								✓
13	Green-veined White	<i>Pieris napi</i>								✓
14	Orange Tip	<i>Anthocharis cardamines</i>								✓
15	Painted Lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	✓	✓			✓			
16	Common Blue	<i>Polyommatus icarus</i>	✓							

Other sightings

1	A Stick Insect							1		
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