

Birding Singapore – 20th July 2015

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A male Jambu Fruit Dove in a fruiting tree at the Central Catchment Nature Reserve. Photo © Lim Kim Seng

It was dark and gloomy when I walked into the trails of the Central Catchment Nature Reserve with an American couple from Minneapolis, Daniel Green and Amber Sausen. It was sweaty work but we were delighted to see one Sunda Scops Owl well just 15 minutes later. Another half an hour and we saw our second owl, a pair of Brown Hawk Owls. Wow! Two owls in the space of 45 minutes! Soon, we were standing at the edge of MacRitchie Reservoir as the sky brightened. The highlight here was a Grey-headed Fish Eagle that flew in for great looks. We also spent some time looking for canopy species at Jelutong Tower. Our best sighting here was a pair of Jambu Fruit Doves.

We were out of the forest by 10.10 am having logged 39 species. After breakfast, we stopped by Bukit Batok Nature Park to see some parkland species. We did well in seeing Glossy Swiftlet, Asian Red-eyed

Bulbul, White-crested Laughingthrush but missed out on the Straw-headed Bulbuls. It was very warm and they must have been hiding from the heat.

We reached Sungei Buloh Wetland Reserve at 12.30 pm. The tide was high and waterbirds were scarce. Nevertheless, we did see Oriental Dollarbird, Ashy Tailorbird and Copper-throated Sunbird. We also saw a small Estuarine Crocodile.



A male Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker feeding on a cherry at Sungei Buloh. Photo © Lim Kim Seng

We had lunch at Changi Village where we also added Tanimbar Corella and Red-breasted Parakeets. Next, we stopped by Pasir Ris Park for some more birding. It was 4.00 pm and a lot cooler. We saw a pair of Oriental Pied Hornbills, Asian Koel, Crested Goshawk and Golden-bellied Gerygone to make it a good 95 minutes spent in this coastal parkland.

It was a wonderful day of birding and we did well in recording 70 species plus other wildlife such as Long-tailed Macaque and Estuarine Crocodile.

A Checklist of the Birds Recorded in Singapore on 20th July 2015

Sequence, taxonomy and nomenclature follow IOC. Species highlighted in yellow indicate those that were heard only.

#	English Name	Scientific Name
1	Red Junglefowl	<i>Gallus gallus</i>
2	Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>
3	Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
4	Crested Goshawk	<i>Accipiter trivirgatus</i>
5	Brahminy Kite	<i>Haliastur indus</i>
6	White-bellied Sea Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>
7	Grey-headed Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus ichthyaetus</i>
8	White-breasted Waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus</i>
9	Little Tern	<i>Sternula albifrons</i>
10	Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
11	Spotted Dove	<i>Spilopelia chinensis</i>
12	Common Emerald Dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica</i>
13	Zebra Dove	<i>Geopelia striata</i>
14	Pink-necked Green Pigeon	<i>Treron vernans</i>
15	Jambu Fruit Dove	<i>Ptilinopus jambu</i>
16	Asian Koel	<i>Eudynamis scolopaceus</i>
17	Little Bronze Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx minutillus</i>
18	Sunda Scops Owl	<i>Otus lempiji</i>
19	Brown Hawk-Owl	<i>Ninox scutulata</i>
20	Glossy Swiftlet	<i>Collocalia esculenta</i>
21	Asian Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus balasiensis</i>
22	Oriental Dollarbird	<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>
23	Stork-billed Kingfisher	<i>Pelargopsis capensis</i>
24	White-throated Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon smyrnensis</i>
25	Collared Kingfisher	<i>Todiramphus chloris</i>
26	Blue-throated Bee-eater	<i>Merops viridis</i>
27	Oriental Pied Hornbill	<i>Anthracoceros albirostris</i>
28	Lineated Barbet	<i>Megalaima lineata</i>
29	Banded Woodpecker	<i>Chrysophlegma miniaceum</i>
30	Laced Woodpecker	<i>Picus vittatus</i>
31	Common Flameback	<i>Dinopium javanense</i>
32	Tanimbar Corella	<i>Cacatua goffiniana</i>
33	Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot	<i>Loriculus galgulus</i>
34	Coconut Lorikeet	<i>Trichoglossus haematodus</i>
35	Blue-rumped Parrot	<i>Psittinus cyanurus</i>
36	Red-breasted Parakeet	<i>Psittacula alexandri</i>

37	Long-tailed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula longicauda</i>
38	Golden-bellied Gerygone	<i>Gerygone sulphurea</i>
39	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>
40	Black-naped Oriole	<i>Oriolus chinensis</i>
41	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus paradiseus</i>
42	Malaysian Pied Fantail	<i>Rhipidura javanica</i>
43	Yellow-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus goiavier</i>
44	Olive-winged Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus plumosus</i>
45	Cream-vented Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus simplex</i>
46	Asian Red-eyed Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus brunneus</i>
47	Pacific Swallow	<i>Hirundo tahitica</i>
48	Common Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sutorius</i>
49	Dark-necked Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus atrogularis</i>
50	Rufous-tailed Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus sericeus</i>
51	Ashy Tailorbird	<i>Orthotomus ruficeps</i>
52	Pin-striped Tit-Babbler	<i>Macronous gularis</i>
53	Abbott's Babbler	<i>Malcocincla abbotti</i>
54	White-crested Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax leucolopus</i>
55	Oriental White-eye	<i>Zosterops palpebrosus</i>
56	Asian Fairy-bluebird	<i>Irena puella</i>
57	Asian Glossy Starling	<i>Aplonis panayensis</i>
58	Common Hill Myna	<i>Gracula religiosa</i>
59	Javan Myna	<i>Acridotheres javanicus</i>
60	Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>
61	Oriental Magpie-Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>
62	Blue-winged Leafbird	<i>Chloropsis cochinchinensis</i>
63	Orange-bellied Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum trigonostigma</i>
64	Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker	<i>Dicaeum cruentatum</i>
65	Brown-throated Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes malacensis</i>
66	Van Hasselt's Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma brasiliana</i>
67	Copper-throated Sunbird	<i>Leptocoma calcostetha</i>
68	Olive-backed Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris jugularis</i>
69	Crimson Sunbird	<i>Aethopyga siparaja</i>
70	Scaly-breasted Munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata</i>