



ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

Indonesia

West Papua

6th to 25th August 2018 (20 days)

Wilson's Bird-of-paradise Extension

25th to 31st August 2018 (7 days)

Trip Report



Red Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: Stephan Lorenz

Tour Summary

West Papua offers an unparalleled birding adventure, and during this exciting tour we experienced little-visited wilderness areas, witnessed rarely seen displays of birds-of-paradise, and scooped up a fine selection of New Guinea endemics, including several rarely seen species. The tour commenced on Biak Island; during two and a half days of dedicated birding, we saw all of the endemics and distinctive subspecies, several of which will likely be split as full species in the future. We had especially good views of the rare Biak Scrubfowl and sometimes tricky Geelvink Pygmy Parrot. After our island sojourn, we travelled to the mainland where we visited the northern lowlands around the settlement of Nimbokrang. Our many hours in the field were rewarded with truly remarkable sightings, including Northern Cassowary for some, Collared Brushturkey for others, and lengthy scope studies of Victoria Crowned Pigeons for all.



Geelvink Pygmy Parrot by Stephan Lorenz

Other highlights included a wide variety of fruit doves and imperial pigeons, close Papuan Nightjars, localised Brown Lory, scoped Shovel-billed Kookaburra, displaying Twelve-wired, King, and Lesser Birds-of-paradise, plus a close pair of Pale-billed Sicklebills. The understory reluctantly gave up its avian treasures, and we saw Papuan Pitta, Papuan Babbler, Tan-capped Catbird, and Sooty and White-bellied Thicket Fantails. The tour continued to the central highlands, where we set up camp near the shores of Lake Habbema, amidst a rugged landscape of high mountains and alpine grasslands. Here, we found Salvadori’s Teal, Snow Mountain Quail, Spotless Crake, MacGregor’s Honeyeater, Sooty Melidectes, and Western Alpine Mannikin. On the famous Ibele Trail, we saw Greater Ground Robin, Papuan Logrunner, and Chestnut Forest Rail; while forays after dark held New Guinea Woodcock and Archbold’s Nightjar. We spent a morning along the main road which proved very productive, with some highlights being Brown Sicklebill, Mountain Robin, and Mountain Firetail. We returned to Wamena, from where we flew to Jayapura and then Manokwari, the gateway to the fabled Arfak Mountains. The Arfak Mountains offer the best chances to see birds-of-paradise at their finest displays, and we were not



Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

disappointed, watching Western Parotias ballet dance, a Magnificent Bird-of-paradise fluff its feathers, and Black Sicklebill in full horizontal posture. Of course, the Arfak Mountains are also home to many of the Vogelkop endemics, and we managed to see all available ones, including great views of Arfak Astrapia, Arfak Catbird, Arfak Honeyeater, Vogelkop Melidectes, and the rare Grey-banded Mannikin near the remote Angii Lake.

The tour finished with an extension to the Sorong Lowlands and the beautiful Raja Ampat Islands, where we spent three days on

Waigeo Island. The signature bird of the extension was seen during our first morning, when up to eight Wilson’s Birds-of-paradise came into the display court at the same time. Other highlights during our stay on the island included Red Bird-of-paradise, Hook-billed and Common Paradise Kingfishers, Brown-headed Crow, Violet-necked Lory, Great-billed Parrot, Spice Imperial Pigeon, and Papuan Pitta. We finished the extension and an unforgettable birding adventure with a day trip into the productive Sorong lowlands, where the top finds included Blue-black and Red-breasted Paradise Kingfishers and the localised Black Lory.

The Tour in Detail

After everyone had arrived on the early morning flight and eaten breakfast at the hotel, we ventured out to our first birding destination on Biak Island. Our goal was to track down all of the Biak endemics and endemic subspecies during the next three days. We started birding along a side road leading through scrub and secondary forest, and it only took a few minutes before we



Emperor Fairywrens by Stephan Lorenz

bumped into our first West Papuan birds in the form of responsive Emperor Fairywrens, vocal Hooded Butcherbirds sitting up, striking Golden Monarchs, and surprisingly shy Shining Flycatchers. The first Biak endemic we saw well was the small, tail-shivering Biak Flycatcher, followed by flight views of tiny Geelvink Pygmy Parrots; while the endemic Black-winged Lory showed a bit better in flight. A pair of distant birds turned out to be the distinctive Geelvink subspecies of Spice Imperial Pigeon – *with its white eye ring and lack of bill knob, it’s a good candidate for a future split* – and these were the only ones seen during our stay on Biak. The final endemic of the morning came in the form of a vocal group of Long-tailed Starlings mixing with the more numerous Metallic Starlings. A short detour before heading back to the hotel for lunch got us excellent studies of three Biak White-eyes at a stakeout – *this scrub specialist is oddly uncommon*. A bit refreshed, we set out again to one of the most productive birding spots on Biak,



Spice Imperial Pigeon by Stephan Lorenz

which lies a bit further out of town. Here, we added the striking Biak Paradise Kingfisher, had brief views of a Dusky Myzomela – here a distinctive subspecies that is entirely reddish-brown – and saw several Black-browed Trillers of the Biak subspecies showing extensive white on the wing. Other endemic subspecies we saw well included Common Cicadabird and Northern Fantail, which is very pale underneath here. We stayed out after sunset, but had no luck with the scarce Biak Scops Owl, at least not the first night.

With a lengthy list of endemics left, we wasted no time and set out to the same area of the previous afternoon. We systematically worked the trail and found the rare Biak Monarch, a particularly attractive monarch species, had great views of the diminutive Biak Gerygone, and tracked down a pair of singing Island Leaf Warblers, with their fast-

paced song, large legs, and pale bill surely a good species. With some effort, we also managed brief views of a Biak Coucal, a vocal but secretive species that often goes down as heard only. The fruit doves also showed well, with Claret-breasted, Superb, and Yellow-bibbed all adding colour to the canopy. A Geelvink Pygmy Parrot that perched for a change was very welcome; while the Moustached Treeswifts, although not endemic, were admired. One of the highlights of the morning was a Hooded Pitta foraging on the trail – a stunningly beautiful bird that left everyone breathless for a moment, the excellent views even revealed its purplish flanks, unique to the Biak subspecies. After another filling lunch back at the resort, we birded along the main road following the coastline and finally nailed down the final Biak endemic, Biak Lorikeet – although the pair raced past in flight, we could see its larger yellow collar and darker underparts. We celebrated with high fives after having found all of the currently recognised Biak endemics, although we knew we had some more work to do, since we had only heard the scops owl and scrubfowl so far. A pair of Geelvink Pygmy Parrots foraging in the scope was also welcome. In an open wetland area, we added the expected Torresian Imperial Pigeons and a flock of unexpected Spotted Whistling Ducks.



Moustached Treeswift by Stephan Lorenz

Our final full day on Biak Island was devoted to getting to grips with the final two endemics that we had only heard so far. During our morning outing, we successfully tracked down a pair of the uncommon Biak Scrubfowl, with one bird coming onto the trail for point-blank views. Amboyna Cuckoo-Dove and Asian Emerald Dove were also new additions to the list. The coastal road delivered again in the afternoon,



Crimson Finch by Stephan Lorenz

with the highlight being excellent flight views of the endemic Black-winged Lory, plus repeated views of several other species. The scops owl had eluded us in the morning, but we were determined to finally see it and the evening outing struck gold with good flight views and brief perched views. We celebrated in the field and with a late dinner after finally laying eyes on all endemics.

After three full days on Biak Island, it was time to continue the tour on the mainland of New Guinea, where an entirely new set of species was waiting for us. The flight from Biak to Sentani was delayed somewhat, but

we still continued to the lake and grasslands outside of Sentani for a two-hour birding session. We were only partially successful as the heat of the day set in early, but we would come back later and find what we missed. We quickly added several species more typical of open habitats, including Pheasant Coucal, Rainbow Bee-eater, Golden-headed Cisticola, the beautiful Crimson Finch, and one of the main targets for the morning, a flock of Hooded Mannikins. We then transferred to the small settlement of

Nimbokrang in the heart of the vast northern lowland rainforest, where we would spend the next four and a half days. During the first afternoon, we made a productive visit to the observation tower that is located right on the lodge’s property. The tower overlooks a mixture of secondary and primary forest and we stayed until dusk, adding a wide variety of lowland species to our list. Highlights from the afternoon included Great Cuckoo-Dove, an uncommon Pink-spotted Fruit Dove among the more common Orange-bellied Fruit Doves, Double-eyed Fig Parrots in flight, plus the localised Brown Lory. We also managed to check off some of our first birds-of-paradise of the tour, with Lesser and Twelve-wired Birds-of-paradise seen briefly, and a single Pale-billed Sicklebill flew in – the latter being a speciality of Nimbokrang. Most excitingly for some, though, was a Papuan Eagle that landed briefly and could be seen through a small window. Along the trail, we added an extroverted White-bellied Thicket Fantail, and after dusk heard the call of Papuan and Marbled Frogmouths.

A predawn start netted us excellent views of a calling Marbled Frogmouth; while we found three Papuan Frogmouths on a day roost just before lunch. The remainder of the morning was dedicated to searching for some of the birds-of-paradise on their display perches and lekking areas. We had stunning views of a Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise calling from his dead tree right in front of us, especially when the rising sun illuminated the soft yellows and purples, outlining the twelve “wires” perfectly – *everyone just looked on in awe*. Without further delay, we hiked uphill and soon stood right beneath calling and fluttering Lesser Birds-of-paradise, with the males flapping and fluffing their tail feathers. *What a spectacle*. We marched on and soon had a King Bird-of-paradise in the scope, although a small species, the deep red colour, odd head shape, and greenish tail discs leave an impression of something that is not even bird-like. Other excellent finds for the morning included a Coronated Fruit Dove on a nest and scoped Golden Cuckooshrikes. In the afternoon, we went to a lookout point a few kilometres outside of town and we staked out the area until dusk. The views across the open canopy were tremendous, and the distant hills



Papuan Frogmouths by Stephan Lorenz

and ridges were covered solidly with primary rainforest. Our patient wait netted us good studies of Pinon’s and Zoe’s Imperial Pigeons, a vocal Dwarf Koel, distant Brown Lorries, a close pair of Lowland Peltops, flying Grey Crows, and perched Yellow-faced Mynas. At dusk, we hiked up back to the ridge where we had spent the morning, and despite our best efforts only heard a Papuan Hawk-Owl calling distantly.



King Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

This morning, we set out in the dark to a section of low, swampy forest in hopes of finding the bizarre Shovel-billed Kookaburra. This unique kingfisher feeds

mainly on muddy ground, where it uses its oversized bill to pluck prey items from the earth, and it almost always calls right at dawn before becoming quiet for the remainder of the day. We set up in a promising area and soon heard a growling response from a bird. Right at first light it flew in, but actually way too close, landing on a palm frond right in front of us. This massive kingfisher was way too large and as the frond gave way it flew off, not to be seen again. With such brief views, we decided we would try again. We hiked further into a clearing where we successfully called in a Black-sided Robin, obtained prolonged scope views of Yellow-billed Kingfisher, had a close group of Papuan Babblers, and, best of all, found a pair of Pale-billed Sicklebills that gave great views as they called and foraged. A Tanned Catbird also flew over, but only offered brief glimpses. We trekked further into the forest, following a faint trail and pushing through dense tangles in hopes for Victoria Crowned Pigeon, but were only rewarded with great perched views of a Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon. A small feeding flock before we returned for lunch held Black Berrypecker, Rufous-backed Fantail, and Ochre-collared Monarch. In the afternoon, we returned to the tower area, obtaining our first scope views of Rufous-bellied Kookaburra along the way, and after some patience saw a calling Papuan Pitta. A female Grey-headed Cuckooshrike was new from the tower.



Rufous-bellied Kookaburra by Stephan Lorenz



Victoria Crowned Pigeon by Stephan Lorenz

We set off well before dawn to drive to an area known as Jalan Korea, where an old logging road traverses secondary forest flanked by patches of primary forest. At dawn, the open views and scattered trees held many Glossy-mantled Manucodes, Amboyna Cuckoo-Doves, Palm Cockatoo, Black-browed Trillers, and Red-capped Flowerpeckers. By mid-morning, we followed a faint trail into taller forest with our local guide on the lookout for large ground birds. The first surprise was the sound of something large stomping off and running noisily through the underbrush. Only two people were in the right position, but they

glimpsed a juvenile Northern Cassowary running off, pretty exciting! Only ten minutes further along the trail and the call for “mambruk” went up – mambruk is the local name of Victoria Crowned Pigeon. We rushed forward, and our local guide pointed excitedly at a large branch high in the canopy. The bird was in the scope in seconds, but burst into flight, its large wings flapping noisily. We waited at the spot as the local guides fanned out to refind the bird. After some minutes, we moved forward and spotted the bird again, with the scope set up quickly we first saw one, then two, and then an incredible three. Eventually, we worked our way carefully to get very close, enjoying thirty minutes of unparalleled views right above us. This was beyond doubt the bird of the morning, although we did track down a singing

Sooty Thicket Fantail nearby. Before returning to lunch, we explored some open fields and scrubby edges where we found our first White-shouldered Fairywren, a brief Great-billed Mannikin, and a pair of cooperative Large-billed Gerygones. In the afternoon, we made three strategic outings, first we stopped by the roadside to scope a roosting Marbled Frogmouth, and then started a long hike uphill to the nesting area of the endemic Salvadori’s Fig Parrot. We set up the scopes and waited patiently, eventually getting fantastic views of a pair of these rare parrots perching outside their nesting cavity. We quickly hiked back down, and with just enough time rushed to the open fields on the edge of town where we located four Papuan Nightjars that showed superbly in the spotlight. One bird even alighted on a fence post, offering great photographic opportunities.

We decided to give the Shovel-billed Kookaburra another try, and were in place right at dawn. The bird was calling nearby and we waited patiently until the light was just right. A brief call and in it flew. At first it moved, but then we had it in the scope and everyone had excellent studies before it flew off – what an odd bird, especially after seeing it so well. We then hiked back uphill to get better views of the Lesser Birds-of-paradise in the display tree, and quickly succeeded. Other good finds for the morning included a Red-legged Brushturkey seen by some as it stood at the edge of the trail, calling Black Cicadabird, flighty Papuan Dwarf Kingfisher, Buff-faced Pygmy Parrots, and very good views of Tan-capped Catbird. After lunch, we packed up and drove back to Jayapura, where we checked into the hotel and enjoyed a delicious dinner.



Papuan Nightjar by Stephan Lorenz



Black-breasted Mannikin by Stephan Lorenz

The following morning, we started early to return to the Sentani grasslands in order to look for some species we had missed during the first visit. We were very successful, and found several Great-billed Mannikins among the flocks of Hooded Mannikins. A King Quail flushed briefly, and after tromping about in the pastures two more flushed for excellent flight views. A Fawn-breasted Bowerbird moved through distant shrubbery; while we also enjoyed better views of Pheasant Coucal, Pale-vented Bush-hen, White-bellied Cuckooshrike, White-shouldered Fairywren, and the only Tree Martins of the trip. We then retraced our

route to the Sentani airport, where we waited for our flight to Wamena in the remote Baliem Valley of the central highlands. The flight left right on time, and we had spectacular views of untouched forest for an entire hour as the plane flew towards the Snow Mountains. We touched down and transferred to the hotel. We could immediately tell that we had arrived in a more traditional part of West Papua, and there was a palpable sense of adventure as we planned an expedition into the Snow Mountains. In the

afternoon, we drove out of town along a road leading through fields and secondary forest. We quickly found a large flock of Black-breasted Mannikins that showed well by the edge of the road; while a wooded area a bit further along held the endemic Baliem Whistler and vociferous Ornate Melidectes. Bar-tailed Cuckoo-Dove, Mountain Swiftlet, Papuan Harrier, Brown Falcon, Red-collared Myzomela, Brown-breasted Gerygone, Capped White-eye, and Pied Bushchat were all new additions to the list. The best find was a calling male Superb Bird-of-paradise studied in the scope at length. It even flared its bluish breast shield a few times. *What a finish to a long but exciting day.*

We could feel we were going to a remote and exciting birding area as the fleet of four-wheel drive vehicles was readied outside, loaded with food, water, and camping equipment for the next three nights. Driving out of Wamena, we soon left the small town and followed the road through grasslands and pastures. The new asphalt road was excellent, and we soon found ourselves in some mid-elevation second growth. Here we started adding some species typical of the central highlands, including Smoky Honeyeater, more Baliem Whistlers, a flighty Friendly Fantail, good views of Island Leaf Warblers, and another flock of the endemic Black-

breasted Mannikin. Another excellent bird we picked up a bit higher along the road was a cooperative male Garnet Robin that gave great views just at eye-level. We reached the camp right around lunch time and settled into the comfortable shelters the local guides and cooks had set up the day before. After putting up tents, storing our gear, and enjoying a tasty lunch, we headed out along the road to the lake. The first specialities and endemics came quickly, with Orange-cheeked Honeyeaters and Short-bearded and Belford’s Melidectes right around camp. Further along the road, we found a soaring Pygmy Eagle, the first Island Thrush and Alpine Pipit, and a vociferous flock of New Guinea Thornbills. A trail took



Pygmy Eagle by Stephan Lorenz



New Guinea Thornbill by Stephan Lorenz

us down closer to the lake edge, and we scoped the open water that held Pacific Black Ducks and Eurasian Coots, with a pair of Grey Teal on a smaller pond. The main target of the hike, though, was Salvadori’s Teal, and we soon had a pair in the scope as they loafed on a log along the lake edge. Black-throated Honeyeater was vocal along the trail, and Grey-streaked Honeyeater common. At dusk, we relocated to a promising, grassy clearing and soon spotlighted a roding New Guinea Woodcock for a great finish to the first day in the Snow Mountains.

The following morning, we started very early and hiked down the tricky Ibele Trail that was especially muddy, but we took our time and eventually reached excellent forest of moss-covered trees. In the open area at the top, we started to pick up several new species, with close views of feeding Painted Tiger Parrots, confiding Crested Berrypeckers, a

responsive Lorentz’s Whistler, and a brief Splendid *Astrapia*. The dense forest along the lower section of the trail held many of the hoped-for specialities, although some proved elusive, but we did record a Greater Ground Robin that flew up to eye-level to call right in front of us, a well-seen Black-throated Robin, Papuan Logrunner proved a bit trickier; while Chestnut Forest Rail was only glimpsed by some, and Lesser *Melampitta* heard only. After some patient waiting in excellent habitat, we finally had good looks at one of West Papua’s most unique birds, the massive MacGregor’s Honeyeater, of which a pair foraged close to us for a few minutes. The golden flashes in the wing really lit up as the birds flew through the deep green forest. Our crew brought a delicious and welcome picnic lunch down the trail, and we re-energised before hiking back up the steep path. We took a short break back at camp and then set out to check the grassland along the lake. We systematically fanned out and soon found a group of Snow Mountain Quails. These partridge-sized quails offered excellent views as they scurried through open patches right below us, and we happily added this range-restricted endemic to our list. At dusk, we returned to the same spot as the night before and had better views of New Guinea Woodcock, and an Archbold’s Nightjar flew right over our heads, showing well in the spotlight.



Painted Tiger Parrot by Stephan Lorenz

During the early morning hours, we set out further along the road that swings along the ridge circling the lake. After some time, we found more MacGregor’s Honeyeaters and had good views of the locally rare Sooty *Melidectes*. Back at the lake, we scoured the grasslands and finally found the endemic Western Alpine Mannikin that showed well perched on cycads and low bushes. After some searching we heard a Spotless Crake, and after setting up everyone had excellent views of the bird coming out into the open. The afternoon at the top of the Ibele Trail proved fairly quiet, with a Fan-tailed Cuckoo added and more views of the endemic subspecies of Nankeen Kestrel while Plum-faced and Papuan Lorikeets flew past.



Greater Ground Robin by Stephan Lorenz

During our final morning in the Lake Habbema area, we birded along the main road leading back to Wamena. The remnant forest patches and open woodland proved surprisingly productive. In the early hours, Island Thrushes and Alpine Pipits were active along the road verge. As the morning warmed up a bit, we first heard and then had excellent views of Mountain Robins, finding a total of three pairs along a relatively short stretch of road. Along a particularly healthy stretch of forest the bird activity was almost nonstop for two hours, and we found a pair of approachable Mountain Firetails, Black-breasted Boatbill, surprise Black Sittella, Hooded Cuckooshrikes, a stunning male Splendid *Astrapia* that perched in the open, and, no less exciting, a male Brown Sickbill perched on a mossy branch with its long tail waving in the breeze. As if the morning could not get any better, we

also found Modest Tiger Parrot, Fan-tailed Berrypecker, scoped Great Woodswallows, and Canary Flyrobin. Returning to camp to pack up, we chanced upon another Snow Mountain Quail and added Buff-banded Rail. We stopped several times at lower elevations during our drive back down, adding Goldie’s Lorikeet and Slaty-chinned Longbill. The shower and comfortable beds back in Wamena were more than welcome.

Our flight from Wamena to Jayapura left very early, and we had a late breakfast at the airport in Sentani. We flew to Manokwari before lunch and then transferred via four jeeps into the remote Arfak Mountains. We arrived by mid-afternoon, and before heading to our lodge we staked out blinds for Magnificent Bird-of-paradise. Unfortunately, the birds were not cooperative during that particular vigil, so we would have to return the next day.



Lake Habbema scenery by Stephan Lorenz

We returned to the Magnificent Bird-of-paradise blinds before sunrise and waited patiently for the males to come visit their display courts. This time we had much better luck, and both blinds held active males, including visiting females inducing males to display mere metres from us. Bonus birds that passed by the blinds during the vigil included the shy Arfak Catbird and Pale-billed Scrubwren. After we all had satisfactory views of the Magnificent Bird-of-paradise, we moved on to the blinds overlooking the dance courts of the improbable Western Parotia. It took only fifteen minutes until a male dropped into its dancing court – as always the size of the bird is surprising at first. We watched breathlessly as the bird performed a few of its ballerina dance moves. *What an incredible spectacle.* Afterwards, we birded along the trails in this productive section of primary forest, seeing numerous excellent birds, including locally uncommon Metallic Pigeon, a perched Blue-collared Parrot – this high flying species is rarely observed sitting – good studies of Papuan Treecreeper, and a responsive Spotted Jewel-Babbler that crossed the trail several times.



Mountain Robin by Stephan Lorenz

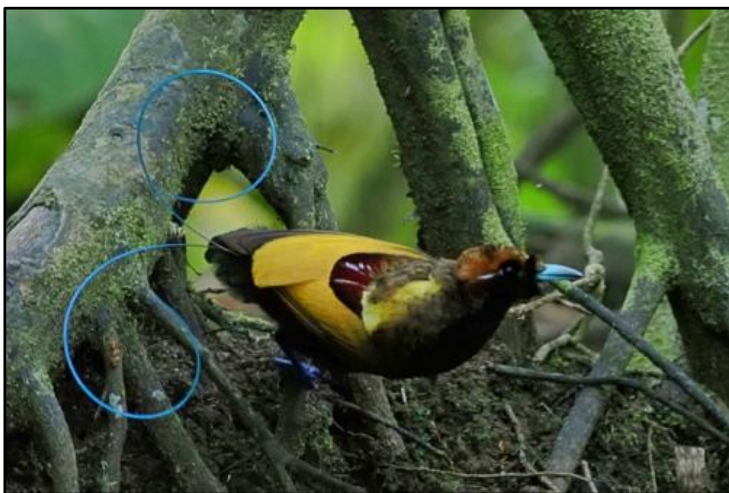
After lunch, we staked out a set of fruiting trees right next to our lodge, which proved to be an excellent decision. First, we noted Ornate and the endemic Vogelkop Melidectes, plus the distinctive Arfak Honeyeater. A pair of Slaty Robins showed very well, but the best find was a rather drab and inconspicuous bird that snuck into the fruiting tree. Once we all focused our binoculars on the right location, a female Mottled Berryhunter emerged. This was a great find and the bird proceeded to feed on small fruits right in front of us for fifteen minutes – *this monotypic family is highly sought-after.* The afternoon got even better as

we checked a Mountain Owlet-Nightjar on a day roost. We trekked back down the mountain a bit, and a short trail led into good forest where we had a pair of White-striped Forest Rails come out of a thicket several times for great views. A small feeding flock here held Hooded Pitohui, Drongo Fantail, and Black Monarch. We then proceeded further down the mountain to look for some species that are more common at slightly lower elevations, finding a splendid male Masked Bowerbird sitting in the canopy, a vocal Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo, another Pygmy Eagle, Black-bellied Cuckooshrike, Black-winged Monarch, and a cooperative Goldenface right at eye-level. We waited until dusk to try some owling, and were rewarded with three massive Pesquet’s Parrots that flew in and settled in the tree right in front of us, allowing us to study these otherworldly parrots in the scope. After dark, we only heard a distant Papuan Boobook.



Mountain Firetail by Stephan Lorenz

This morning, we hiked down into the valley below Mingre before sunrise in hopes of finding a displaying Superb Bird-of-paradise. This population in the Vogelkop peninsula is now considered to be a distinct species called Vogelkop Lophorina by some taxonomies, although the IOC still has to accept this split. We waited patiently in the blinds, and although we heard the bird call distantly, it never made an appearance. During the hike back up, we heard a distant Trumpet Manucode to add to our bird-of-paradise list and tracked down a Vogelkop Whistler singing high in the canopy. Exploring another nearby trail, we all ended up with fantastic views of the diminutive White-faced Robin. For the afternoon, we planned to visit the remote Angii Lake area to look for the recently rediscovered Grey-banded Mannikin, endemic to the Arfak Mountains. We left just after lunch, and it took the better part of two hours along the steep and muddy road to reach the village near the lake. It took only two minutes to find the birds after we spotted a small flock in a grassy field near a public building. We spent the next thirty minutes enjoying great, close views of this rarity, and taking many photographs. With the target bird in the bag we drove back to Mingre, arriving back at the lodge at dusk.



Magnificent Bird-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

We planned to hike to higher elevations in the Arfak Mountains today, and then spend two nights at the so-called German Camp. But, first we had to keep an appointment with another bird-of-paradise, the rare Black-billed Sicklebill. Another pre-dawn start saw us walking a steep but fortunately short trail. We all sat down in a display area and waited quietly as the bird in question started to call distantly. The Black-billed Sicklebill called for thirty minutes without approaching. We eventually decided to lure it in, which worked well, and after we manoeuvred to a different spot we all had fantastic views of a male Black-billed Sicklebill. As a bonus, a

Crinkle-collared Manucode hopped into the same tree. As we hiked back up, we also had excellent views

of a Superb Bird-of-paradise that came in several times, making up for missing the species the previous day. We returned to the lodge and readied ourselves for the hike up the mountain, packing our bags with the essentials. We drove to the village and the start of the trail, slowly making our way up the mountain. The birding was excellent, and we found a very active fruiting tree that held Mid-mountain and Spotted Berrypeckers. Western Parotias also came in to eat fruits, but the best find was a pair of the endemic Long-tailed Paradigallas that came in and showed very well. A Green-backed Robin appeared on the trail before we continued our walk uphill. We paused in a productive clearing to eat lunch and then headed further as it threatened to rain. We made it to the main camp before the weather turned, and spent a few minutes getting situated before heading out on the trail to locate some extra species. First, we managed to lure a Lesser Ground Robin onto the trail, before sitting in a blind where we got excellent views of Vogelkop Bowerbird at an active bower. The bird was busy sorting its treasures of berries, charcoal, and bits of plastic tarp. Other additions to the list included White-breasted Fruit Dove, Cinnamon-browed Melidectes, Mountain Mouse Warbler, and Ashy Robin. At night, a pair of Greater Sooty Owls flew right above camp, with one bird perching in view.



Grey-banded Mannikin by Stephan Lorenz

This morning, we set out well before first light to be in position to see one of the most magnificent birds-of-paradise, the Black Sicklebill, reaching up to a metre with its long tail, it is an impressive bird to see. We walked through the dark forest and reached the blind in perfect time. Within five minutes a bird started calling, its loud rattle reverberating through the mossy forest. The bird flew in a few moments later and stayed long enough to perform several full displays with its fan-like plumes fluffed out, stretching out its entire body horizontally, leaving everyone speechless. We walked back to camp, picking up Dimorphic Fantail along the way and seeing Bronze Ground Dove on a nest. After a short break, we hiked to slightly higher elevations, to an area known as Japanese Camp, in the hopes of finding the rare and endemic Arfak Atsrapia. During the moderate hike up, we picked up several new species,



Vogelkop Bowerbird by Stephan Lorenz

including a flock of Tit Berrypeckers, a vocal pair of Black Pitohuis, the colourful Regent Whistler, and Smoky Robin. We waited patiently in a promising area and were rewarded with excellent scope views of an immature male Arfak Astrapia that sat still for more than twenty minutes. We hiked back down for lunch and took most of the afternoon off as rain and heavy fog hampered birding.

Some of us elected to see the Black Sicklebill again; while the rest remained back at camp for the morning to bird the immediate surroundings. After breakfast, we started the

walk down and elected to take a different and less steep path back. We continued to see new birds and bumped into a few feeding flocks, getting better views of Garnet Robin, Modest Tiger Parrot, Grey-green Scrubwren, Black-breasted Boatbill, a Long-tailed Paradigalla on a nest, and Black-throated Robin. We returned to Mingre for lunch and then packed up all our gear in order to return to Manokwari. We birded along the main road back towards town, although intermittent rain made the birding difficult. We still managed to add to our list with views of Northern Variable Pitohui, Mountain Honeyeater, Papuan White-eye, and Olive-crowned Flowerpecker. We reached the hotel in Manokwari just at dusk, and everyone welcomed the comfortable rooms and hot showers.

The Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise extension to Waigeo in the Raja Ampat Island group began with a short flight from Manokwari to Sorong, where we had lunch at a local hotel. We then transferred to the harbour to take the afternoon ferry to Waigeo Island. The ferry crossing takes about two hours and we were up on deck most of the time, adding Great Crested Tern, Lesser Frigatebird, and Brown Booby to the list. Once we reached Waigeo, we transferred into vehicles and drove along the main island road towards our resort on the beach, stopping along the way to take advantage of the late afternoon bird activity. Even along the main road and in the secondary forest we saw a good number of new species, and could immediately tell that the birding on Waigeo would be easier compared to the mainland’s lowland rainforest. Birds were sitting up in bare trees, and we quickly scoped Sultan’s Cuckoo-Dove, Pink-spotted, Claret-breasted, and Dwarf FruitnDoves, Spotted Honeyeater, White-breasted Woodswallow, the uncommon Black-shouldered Cicadabird, and even our first Red Bird-of-paradise, which is endemic to the Raja Ampat islands. A brief stop near the airstrip revealed a small flock of shorebirds resting on a breakwall, and we added unexpected Pied Stilt, Greater Sand Plover, Whimbrel, Ruddy Turnstone, and Terek and Common Sandpipers to our list.



Black Sicklebill by Stephan Lorenz



Black-breasted Boatbill by Stephan Lorenz

We decided to start with the star bird of the extension, and before dawn found ourselves along an old logging road ready to hike into the forest to a blind overlooking the display court of Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise, one of the most improbable birds on the planet. While it was still dark, we had excellent views of a Papuan Boobook and then walked into the forest. It didn’t take long before a male Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise made an appearance, inspecting his court and calling, but it was hard to tell who’s court it was, since up to eight birds were present later in the morning. Several were female plumaged birds, but some of them may have been

immature males. Needless to say, we had fantastic views of one of the most spectacular birds in New

Guinea. A Papuan Pitta that hopped through the open display court added colour, and a Dusky Megapode snuck by. For the remainder of the morning, we birded along the logging road, getting excellent views of Papuan Dwarf and Common Paradise Kingfishers, Dwarf Longbill, Ruby-throated Myzomela, Tawny-breasted Honeyeater, Yellow-breasted Boatbill, Brown Oriole, and Golden Monarch. We followed a narrow path into the forest and then worked our way off trail, flushing a pair of Western Crowned Pigeons, one bird remained perched in the canopy for great scope views.

The second morning on the island was dedicated to the other bird-of-paradise endemic to the Raja Ampat island group, the Red Bird-of-paradise. We drove up the same logging road, but then picked a different trail that climbed steeply to the top of a ridge. We waited as night turned to dawn and then day, with several Red Birds-of-paradise calling nearby. The next half-hour was a perfect spectacle that had to be seen to be believed,



Wilson’s Birds-of-paradise by Stephan Lorenz

with up to half a dozen male Red Birds-of-paradise bouncing onto a display perch and fluttering their tails and wings while croaking loudly. The light was just perfect, and offered excellent photographic opportunities. We hiked back down and searched along the logging road for species we had not seen or needed better views of, finding a reluctant pair of Hook-billed Kingfishers, Rusty Mouse Warblers that showed themselves, Barred Cuckooshrikes, a very accommodating Spot-winged Monarch, a pair of Frilled Monarchs, and Black-sided Robin. In the afternoon, we searched further afield for the rare and localised Brown-headed Crow that had proven elusive so far. We birded in a stretch of secondary forest and had excellent views of a perched Beautiful Fruit Dove, flighty Pygmy Longbills, the best views of Rusty Pitohui yet, Spotted Whistling Ducks in a small wetland, and Beach Kingfisher near the coast. Yet, the crow proved elusive once again.



Papuan Pitta by Stephan Lorenz

For the final full day, some elected to return to the blind to get more views of the Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise; while others elected to bird the road. Along the road, we had excellent scope views of Hook-billed Kingfisher that finally revealed itself. Then we decided to head further into the forest to look for the Brown-headed Crow. We followed the logging road until it was no longer driveable, and then continued on foot. The area was busy with birds, and we had many better views of species we had already seen. Finally, a crow called in the distance, and moments later flew right overhead. The bird showed itself several more times and perched

briefly in view. We were all relieved to finally have found this localised endemic. Right before turning back, we found a bronze cuckoo that, to our surprise, turned out to be a White-eared Bronze Cuckoo – a species that supposedly does not occur on the island.

In the afternoon, we took a long boat ride to visit small islets where Great-billed Parrots and Spice Imperial Pigeons roost. We crossed the bay to land on a beautiful island first, and a ten-minute walk here revealed Torresian Imperial Pigeons and Varied Honeyeaters, both localised in New Guinea. Before we boarded the boat again, we watched a pair of White-bellied Sea Eagles fly out from the small island to hunt fish that were driven to the surface by a pod of dolphins. The eagles swooped down towards the water’s surface, and we could see fish jumping out of the water in long arcs as they tried to escape the hunting dolphins. After a few attempts, each eagle was successful and carried its catch back to the island. We counted ourselves lucky to have witnessed such unique behaviour – *the first time I had ever observed anything like it*. We then crossed the bay, and the calm conditions held until we reached an area of dramatic karst islands rising from the azure waters. Here we found many Spice Imperial Pigeons, offering great views as they perched in trees overhanging the water, and Great Cuckoo-Doves made a slow flyby. After a refreshing swim, we motored towards the islets and our destination for dusk, stopping at a small Black-naped Tern colony along the way. Once we reached the island, we flushed a dark morph Pacific Reef Heron and got good flight views. Spice Imperial Pigeons had already settled on the island, and before too long the first Great-billed Parrots flew in. The numbers increased as it grew darker, and at sunset we had counted at least 400 Great-billed Parrots. *A fantastic sight to finish the day.*



Western Crowned Pigeon by Stephan Lorenz



Brown Sicklebill by Stephan Lorenz

Before leaving Waigeo, we used the final morning hours on the island to do a bit more birding near the airstrip. The most significant find was three Violet-necked Lorries, mixed in with many other parrots, that showed well in the scope, and a heard only Red-necked Crake was added to the list. Along the road, Glossy-mantled Manucodes proved to be common while Yellow-faced Mynas were a new addition. The ferry back to the mainland left on time, and we arrived in Sorong in time for lunch. For the afternoon, we headed out to an area of mangroves near Sorong. Some rain made birding a bit more difficult, but we still added Orange-fronted Fruit Dove, Collared Imperial Pigeon, Little Bronze Cuckoo, and Brown-backed Honeyeater; while Blue-black Kingfisher, Barred Rail, and Black Thicket Fantail were heard only. As we were walking back at dusk, the only Nankeen Night Herons of the trip flew over.

For the final full day in the Sorong area, we left the city early to drive to an area of very productive lowland forest. We arrived at the spot right when the dawn chorus was starting. We birded the area for several hours and were able to add many sought-after species to our final tally. A short walk down a muddy trail got us into excellent forest, and while Red-billed Brushturkey

remained heard only (despite a lot of effort), we did manage to pull in a Blue-black Kingfisher that perched for twenty minutes in the scope. Back along the road, we found a family group of Emperor Fairywren that was much appreciated, and stumbled upon a small flock of Streak-headed Mannikins, a species that can be difficult to pin down. Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrots were at first flighty, but then settled down to forage, offering great views. A vocal Scrub Honeyeater was happily added to the list; while a pair of Magnificent Riflebirds was even more exciting. We then started the search in earnest for one of the targets of the morning, the localised and beautiful Red-breasted Paradise Kingfisher. After hearing the bird, we carefully tracked it in the tall forest and eventually spotted it perched on an open branch. We all soaked up the excellent views in the scope. Back out on the main road, we finally had Black Lories fly over, rounding out the other endemic we had hoped to see for the morning. It then began to rain and didn’t let up for the remainder of the day. We tried our best, and while we found some additional lowland birds that we had not seen on the extension before, it was difficult going, and by late afternoon we drove back to Sorong. We finished the tour with a celebratory dinner, and then said goodbye the following morning before heading to the airport and our respective flights.



Red-breasted Paradise Kingfisher by Stephan Lorenz

Annotated List of species recorded

Note: Number in brackets () indicate number of days on the tour the species was recorded.
List powered through the report generator of our partner iGoTerra.

Visited locations Biak Island, Nimbokrang, Lake Habbema, Arfak Mountains, Wamena area (Balim Valley), Waigeo Island, Sorong.

Birds (356 in total: 342 seen, 14 heard)

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows Gill, F and D Donsker (Eds). 2018. IOC World Bird List (v 8.1).

Status codes: **E** = Endemic, **NE** = Near-endemic, **I** = Introduced

IUCN codes: **CR** = Critically endangered, **EN** = Endangered, **VU** = Vulnerable, **EW** = Extinct in the Wild, **NT** = Near Threatened, **DD** = Data Deficient

Cassowaries, Emu *Casuariidae*

Northern Cassowary (VU)

Casuarus unappendiculatus

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 12.8.

A juvenile bird ran off from a thicket and was glimpsed by two lucky observers while all of us heard the bird stomping off.

Ducks, Geese & Swans *Anatidae***Spotted Whistling Duck***Dendrocygna guttata*

(3) 10 Biak Island 7.8, 8 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 9 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Best seen on Waigeo, but also a flock in flight on Biak Island.

Salvadori's Teal (VU)*Salvadorina waigiensis*

(1) 6 Lake Habbema 15.8.

After hiking down to the lake edge we eventually had fantastic scope views of a pair roosting on a shoreside log, more scoped distantly.

Pacific Black Duck*Anas superciliosa pelewensis*

(2) 10 Lake Habbema 15.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 17.8.

Scoped on Lake Habbema where many were present.

Grey Teal*Anas gracilis gracilis*

(1) 2 Lake Habbema 15.8.

Scoped in a small wetland near Lake Habbema.

Megapodes *Megapodiidae***Red-billed Brushturkey***Talegalla cuvieri*

(1) 2 heard Sorong 30.8.

Despite a lot of effort this species remained heard only, although one was calling very close to us.

Collared Brushturkey*Talegalla jobiensis jobiensis*

(3) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 10-12.8.

Heard well by all with one very close and some saw a bird standing on the edge of the trail for a second before it ran off.

Dusky Megapode*Megapodius freycinet freycinet*

(3) Up to 4 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Good views on Waigeo Island where seen well on the edge of the track.

Biak Scrubfowl (VU)*Megapodius geelvinkianus*

(1) 2 Biak Island 8.8.

Eventually, we all had great views when one crossed the wide path right in front of us, a difficult species.

Pheasants, Grouse, and Allies *Phasianidae***Brown Quail***Coturnix ypsilophora saturator*

(1) 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8.

Heard at dusk in the field where we looked for nightjars.

King Quail*Excalfactoria chinensis lepida*

(1) 4 Sentani 14.8.

Tromping around in the wet grassland in Sentani proved successful when a male and female flushed for great flight views.

Snow Mountain Quail (NT)*Anurophasis monorhonyx*

(2) 3 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Incredibly good studies when Rich herded a covey into view right below us, outstanding for this secretive species.

Hérons, Egrets, and Bitterns *Ardeidae***Black Bittern***Dupetor flavicollis australis*

(2) 1 Biak Island 6.8, 3 Sorong 29.8.

Seen briefly on Biak Island and better views in the Sorong mangroves.

Nankeen Night Heron

Nycticorax caledonicus australasiae

(1) 5 Sorong 29.8.

As we were walking back to the vehicles at the Sorong mangroves at dusk several flew right over us.

Striated Heron

Butorides striata papuensis

(3) 1 Biak Island 7.8, 1 Sorong 25.8 and 2 Sorong 29.8.

Fairly common in coastal wetlands.

Great Egret

Ardea alba modesta

(5) 2 Biak Island 7.8, 1 Biak Island 8.8, 1 Sorong 9.8, 1 Sorong 14.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Widespread.

Intermediate Egret

Ardea intermedia plumifera

(2) 6 Biak Island 7.8 and 1 Sorong 14.8.

Seen in wetlands and especially common in Biak Island mangroves.

Little Egret

Egretta garzetta nigripes

(4) 1 Biak Island 7.8, 1 Sorong 9.8, 6 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Widespread.

Pacific Reef Heron

Egretta sacra sacra

(2) 1 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

A light morph and a dark morph seen on Waigeo Island.

Frigatebirds *Fregatidae*

Lesser Frigatebird

Fregata ariel ariel

(5) 100 Waigeo Island 25.8 and up to 50 Waigeo Island 27-30.8.

Abundant around Waigeo Island.

Cormorants and Shags *Phalacrocoracidae*

Little Pied Cormorant

Microcarbo melanoleucos melanoleucos

(1) 4 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Seen well during the boat tour Waigeo Island.

Little Black Cormorant

Phalacrocorax sulcirostris

(2) 10 Sentani 10.8 and 1 Sentani 14.8.

Seen in good numbers Lake Sentani.

Anhingas *Anhingidae*

Australasian Darter

Anhinga novaehollandiae papua

(1) 1 Sentani 14.8.

Seen briefly in flight at Lake Sentani.

Osprey *Pandionidae*

Eastern Osprey

Pandion cristatus

(4) Up to 4 Biak Island 7-9.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Very common on Biak Island and seen again on Waigeo Island.

Kites, Hawks & Eagles *Accipitridae*

Pacific Baza

Aviceda subcristata

(3) Up to 3 Biak Island 7-9.8.

stenozone:

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Fairly regular in lowlands.

Long-tailed Honey Buzzard*Henicopernis longicauda*

(7) 1 Waigeo Island 7.8, 1 Waigeo Island 8.8, 1 Nimbokrang 11.8, 1 Lake Habbema 15.8, 1 Lake Habbema 18.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 21.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

Widespread and the most common raptor of the trip.

Papuan Eagle (VU)*Harpyopsis novaeguineae*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8.

Seen by a lucky few from the tower on Alex's property in Nimbokrang.

Variable Goshawk*Accipiter hiogaster leucosomus*

(4) 1 en route 9.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 21.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 25.8.

Seen several times in the Arfak Mountains.

Black-mantled Goshawk*Accipiter melanochlamys*

(1) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Heard only as we were hiking down from the German Camp in the Arfak Mountains.

Grey-headed Goshawk*Accipiter poliocephalus*

(3) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8, 1 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Seen very well on Waigeo Island.

Papuan Harrier*Circus spilothorax*

(2) 1 Lake Habbema 14.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 17.8.

Seen well in the Snow Mountains.

Brahminy Kite*Haliastur indus girrenera*

(11) Up to 1 Biak Island 6-9.8, 1 en route 12.8, 1 en route 14.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-27.8, 1 Waigeo Island 29.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 30.8.

Common in coastal areas.

White-bellied Sea Eagle*Haliaeetus leucogaster*

(2) 1 en route 25.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Watching a pair hunt fish that were driven up by foraging dolphins during our boat trip on Waigeo Island was a natural history highlight of the tour.

Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae**Chestnut Forest Rail***Rallicula rubra klossi*

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8.

Seen by some on the Ibele Trail.

White-striped Forest Rail (NT)*Rallicula leucospila*

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 4 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8.

A pair came out onto the trail several times near the blinds in the Arfak Mountains.

Red-necked Crake*Rallina tricolor*

(1) 1 heard Waigeo Island 29.8.

Heard only in a small marsh on Waigeo Island.

Barred Rail*Gallirallus torquatus limarius*

(1) 1 heard Sorong 29.8.

Heard in the Sorong mangroves.

Buff-banded Rail*Gallirallus philippensis lacustris*

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

One seen crossing the road near Lake Habbema and then seen by all scurrying through the grass.

Pale-vented Bush-hen*Amaurornis moluccana moluccana*

(3) 1 heard Sentani 12.8, 1 Sentani 14.8 and 1 heard Waigeo Island 29.8.

Flushed in Sentani grasslands and heard in several other locations.

Spotless Crake*Porzana tabuensis*

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 17.8.

Fantastic views as we lured this secretive crake across an opening twice.

Eurasian Coot*Fulica atra novaeguineae*

(1) 20 Lake Habbema 15.8.

Good scope views on Lake Habbema.

Stilts and Avocets *Recurvirostridae***Pied Stilt***Himantopus leucocephalus*

(2) 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Seen well on Waigeo Island where it was a bit of a surprise.

Plovers and Lapwings *Charadriidae***Pacific Golden Plover***Pluvialis fulva*

(2) 5 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 4 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Seen near the airport on Waigeo Island.

Greater Sand Plover*Charadrius leschenaultii leschenaultii*

(3) 5 Waigeo Island 25.8, 3 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Also seen with the shorebird assemblage on Waigeo Island near the airstrip.

Sandpipers and Allies *Scolopacidae***Whimbrel***Numenius phaeopus variegatus*

(3) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8, 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Near airstrip Waigeo Island.

Ruddy Turnstone*Arenaria interpres interpres*

(1) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8.

Near airstrip Waigeo Island.

New Guinea Woodcock*Scolopax rosenbergii*

(2) 1 Lake Habbema 15.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 16.8.

We had super views during two evenings at the start of the Ibele Trail where up to two birds were present, great flight views and sitting on the ground.

Common Sandpiper*Actitis hypoleucos*

(3) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8, 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Near airstrip Waigeo.

Terek Sandpiper*Xenus cinereus*

(3) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8, 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Near airstrip Waigeo.

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers *Laridae***Brown Noddy***Anous stolidus pileatus*

(1) 1 Biak Island 8.8.

Flying past resort area on Biak Island.

Greater Crested Tern*Thalasseus bergii cristatus*

(2) 5 Biak Island 8.8 and 5 en route 25.8.

Seen from the resort on Biak Island and during ferry crossing to Waigeo Island.

Black-naped Tern *Sterna sumatrana sumatrana*

(3) 4 Biak Island 8.8, 1 en route 25.8 and 15 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Best seen at small breeding colony during a boat tour on Waigeo Island.

Pigeons and Doves *Columbidae*

Rock Dove *Columba livia var. domestica*

(2) 5 en route 6.8 and 3 en route 14.8.

In towns and cities, but uncommon.

Metallic Pigeon *Columba vitiensis halmaheira*

(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Seen well high in the canopy along the Mingre trail.

Spotted Dove *Spilopelia chinensis tigrina*

(4) 1 Biak Island 6.8, 1 Biak Island 8.8 and 2 Sorong 29.8.

An introduced species seen in coastal areas.

Amboyna Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia amboinensis*

(2) 1 Biak Island 8.8 and 2 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Commonly heard but only occasionally seen.

Sultan's Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia doreya doreya*

(6) Up to 3 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Very numerous on Waigeo Island where seen well.

Bar-tailed Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia nigrirostris*

(5) 1 en route 14.8 and up to 2 Arfak Mountains 21-24.8.

Seen in flight near Wamena and great views in the Arfak Mountains.

Great Cuckoo-Dove *Reinwardtoena reinwardti griseotincta*

(5) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 12.8, 2 Waigeo Island 26.8, 2 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 29.8.

The best views were during our boat trip on Waigeo where two performed display flights.

Common Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps indica minima*

(2) 1 heard Biak Island 7.8 and 1 Biak Island 8.8.

Seen by the roadside briefly on Biak Island.

Stephan's Emerald Dove *Chalcophaps stephani stephani*

(3) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 20.8, 1 heard Waigeo Island 26.8 and 1 heard Waigeo Island 27.8.

Heard in a variety of locations.

Cinnamon Ground Dove *Gallicolumba rufigula rufigula*

(1) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Heard distantly in the Arfak Mountains.

Bronze Ground Dove *Alopecoenas beccarii beccarii*

(3) Up to 2 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.

Heard far off the trail in the Arfak Mountains, but great views of one on a nest.

Western Crowned Pigeon (VU) *Goura cristata*

(2) 2 Waigeo Island 26.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

Great views of a pair as we tracked off the trail and found one bird perched high in the canopy for scope views.

Victoria Crowned Pigeon (VU) *Goura victoria beccarii*

(1) 3 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Fantastic views for thirty minutes at a minimal distance as birds rested in the canopy, we had to go off trail, but what an incredible experience with this rare species.

Wompoo Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus magnificus*

(5) Up to 1 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

poliurus:

(4) Up to 1 Nimbokrang 9-12.8.

Seen well in Sorong as they flew across the road and regularly heard.

Pink-spotted Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus perlatus*

(1) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8.

plumbeicollis:

(3) Up to 4 Nimbokrang 9-11.8.

Excellent scope views in Nimbokrang and Waigeo.

Orange-fronted Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus aurantiifrons*

(1) 8 Sorong 29.8.

Common in the Sorong mangroves where several were scoped.

Superb Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus superbus superbus*

(3) 2 Biak Island 7.8, 1 heard Biak Island 8.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Seen briefly but well on Biak and in the Arfak Mountains.

Coroneted Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus coronulatus geminus*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 10.8.

Excellent scope views on a nest at Nimbokrang near the King Bird-of-paradise display tree.

Beautiful Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus pulchellus*

(1) 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

Lengthy scope studies of one resting in the canopy on Waigeo Island.

White-bibbed Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus rivoli bellus*

(5) Up to 2 Arfak Mountains 20-24.8.

This is often referred to as “Mountain” Fruit Dove as we had multiple good views in the Arfak Mountains.

Yellow-bibbed Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus solomonensis speciosus*

(3) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Eventually, we had extended scope studies along the coastal road on Biak.

Claret-breasted Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus viridis*

(4) Up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-28.8.

geelvinkianus:

(3) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Very common on Waigeo and common on Biak.

Orange-bellied Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus iozonus*

(1) 6 Sorong 30.8.

iobensis:

(4) Up to 10 Nimbokrang 9-12.8.

The common fruit dove of lowland areas.

Dwarf Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus nainus*

(2) 1 heard Nimbokrang 11.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 25.8.

Excellent views of a pair right along the main road on Waigeo Island.

Spice Imperial Pigeon *Ducula myristicivora*

(1) 30 Waigeo Island 28.8.

geelvinkiana:

(1) 2 Biak Island 6.8.

We saw many during our boat tour on Waigeo Island and saw the distinct Biak subspecies well in the scope along the secondary road near town.

Purple-tailed Imperial Pigeon*Ducula rufigaster rufigaster*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8.

We flushed one while hiking off trail in the Nimbokrang lowlands, luckily the bird perched in view long enough for all to get a look.

Pinon's Imperial Pigeon*Ducula pinon pinon*

(9) Up to 15 Nimbokrang 10-12.8, up to 4 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 4 Sorong 30.8.

The common imperial pigeon of the lowlands.

Collared Imperial Pigeon*Ducula mullerii*

(1) 5 Sorong 29.8.

Good views in the Sorong mangroves, where according to the range maps the species does not occur.

Zoe's Imperial Pigeon*Ducula zoeae*

(3) 3 Nimbokrang 10.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Flight views from the lookout at Nimbokrang.

Pied Imperial Pigeon*Ducula bicolor*

(1) 5 Waigeo Island 28.8.

We saw several on the small island during our boat tour on Waigeo.

Torresian Imperial Pigeon*Ducula spilorrhoea*

(2) 10 Biak Island 7.8 and 1 Biak Island 8.8.

Common in the Biak Island mangroves.

Papuan Mountain Pigeon*Gymnophaps albertisii albertisii*

(3) 30 Arfak Mountains 20.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Noted in the Arfak Mountains, mainly in fast flight.

Cuckoos Cuculidae**Ivory-billed Coucal***Centropus menbeki menbeki*

(5) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 9-12.8 and 1 heard Sorong 29.8.

Heard often in the lowlands and glimpsed by some as one scrambled through a tangle along the trail in Nimbokrang.

Biak Coucal (NT)*Centropus chalybeus*

(3) Up to 1 Biak Island 6-8.8.

A very difficult species to see although we heard several, with some patience most in the group saw one briefly as it came very close and popped its head from a tangle.

Pheasant Coucal*Centropus phasianinus propinquus*

Observed 2 day(s) in total.

Seen well in the Sentani grasslands.

Dwarf Koel*Microdynamis parva grisescens*

(3) Up to 1 Nimbokrang 9-11.8.

Excellent scope views from the lookout in Nimbokrang.

Pacific Koel*Eudynamis orientalis rufiventer*

(3) Up to 1 Arfak Mountains 20-22.8.

Heard several and some seen in flight in the Arfak Mountains.

Channel-billed Cuckoo*Scythrops novaehollandiae novaehollandiae*

(7) 1 Biak Island 7.8, 3 Biak Island 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 11.8, 1 Nimbokrang 14.8, 1 Waigeo Island 26.8, 1 heard Waigeo Island 28.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Seen commonly in flight, a noisy species.

White-eared Bronze Cuckoo

Chrysococcyx meyerii

(3) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 23.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Seen by some in the Arfak Mountains and surprisingly again on Waigeo Island.

Little Bronze Cuckoo

Chrysococcyx minutillus poecilurus

(1) 2 Sorong 29.8.

Seen in flight in the Sorong mangroves.

Chestnut-breasted Cuckoo

Cacomantis castaneiventris

(3) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8, 1 heard Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 1 heard Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Excellent scope views along the main road in the Arfak mountains.

Fan-tailed Cuckoo

Cacomantis flabelliformis excitus

(2) 1 Lake Habbema 17.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

The highland version of the previous species with good views along the Lake Habbema main road.

Brush Cuckoo

Cacomantis variolosus infaustus

(10) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8, 1 Nimbokrang 12.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 14.8, up to 1 Waigeo Island 25-27.8, 1 heard Waigeo Island 29.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Common and vocal in all lowland sites.

Barn Owls *Tytonidae*

Greater Sooty Owl

Tyto tenebricosa arfaki

(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 22.8.

A screeching pair flew right over German Camp in the Arfak Mountains and one perched in view.

Owls *Strigidae*

Biak Scops Owl (EN)

Otus beccarii

(2) 1 heard Biak Island 7.8 and 1 Biak Island 8.8.

It took some effort but eventually, we saw one well in flight right across the road and then found it perched.

Papuan Boobook

Ninox theomacha theomacha

(3) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 20.8, 1 heard Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 26.8.

Heard only in the Arfak Mountains and then we enjoyed lengthy views on Waigeo.

Papuan Hawk-Owl (DD)

Uroglauis dimorpha

(1) 1 heard Nimbokrang 10.8.

Despite a lot of effort heard only.

Frogmouths *Podargidae*

Marbled Frogmouth

Podargus ocellatus ocellatus

(6) 2 heard Nimbokrang 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 10.8, 1 Nimbokrang 12.8 and up to 2 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

First seen at dawn in Nimbokrang and then seen well on a day roost by the main road, also frequently heard on Waigeo.

Papuan Frogmouth

Podargus papuensis

(6) Up to 3 Biak Island 6-9.8, 3 Nimbokrang 10.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 26.8.

Seen well on day roosts in Nimbokrang and on Waigeo.

Nightjars and Allies *Caprimulgidae***Papuan Nightjar***Eurostopodus papuensis*

(1) 4 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Wow, first we saw up to four in flight in an open field on the edge of Nimbokrang and then one perched within touching distance on a fence post for endless photographic opportunities.

Archbold's Nightjar*Eurostopodus archboldi*

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8.

Seen well in the spotlight as a flushed bird flew right over us at dusk.

Large-tailed Nightjar*Caprimulgus macrurus schlegelii*

(3) 1 Biak Island 8.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8 and 1 Sorong 29.8.

Seen in flight Biak Island and in the Sorong mangroves.

Owlet-Nightjars *Aegothelidae***Feline Owlet-Nightjar***Aegotheles insignis*

(2) 2 heard Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 1 heard Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Heard around German Camp in the Arfak Mountains and despite several attempts, none came close.

Mountain Owlet-Nightjar*Aegotheles albertisi*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Seen well on a day roost in the Arfak Mountains.

Treeswifts *Hemiprocnidae***Moustached Treeswift***Hemiprocne mystacea mystacea*

(8) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8, 1 en route 10.8, 2 Waigeo Island 25.8, 6 Waigeo Island 27.8, 4 Waigeo Island 29.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Common in lowlands on the offshore islands.

Swifts *Apodidae***Glossy Swiftlet***Collocalia esculenta*

Observed 4 day(s) in total.

nitens:

(19) Up to 20 Biak Island 6-8.8, 5 en route 10.8 and 4 en route 11.8.

Widespread and common in lowlands.

Mountain Swiftlet*Aerodramus hirundinaceus hirundinaceus*

(8) 20 Lake Habbema 14.8.

The common swiftlet of highlands.

Uniform Swiftlet*Aerodramus vanikorensis waigeuensis*

(9) Up to 10 Biak Island 6-9.8 and 4 en route 10.8.

Common and widespread.

Papuan Spine-tailed Swift*Mearnsia novaeguineae buergersi*

(4) Up to 4 Nimbokrang 9-11.8.

Seen only occasionally in the Nimbokrang lowlands.

Rollers *Coraciidae***Oriental Dollarbird***Eurystomus orientalis waigiouensis*

(14) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-9.8, up to 2 en route 10-12.8, 1 en route 14.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Common and often perching in the open.

Kingfishers Alcedinidae**Hook-billed Kingfisher***Melidora macrorrhina*

(3) Up to 2 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

jobiensis:

(2) 1 heard Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8.

Heard frequently at dawn and dusk in the lowlands and on Waigeo Island we finally got one in the scope for fantastic views.

Common Paradise Kingfisher*Tanysiptera galatea galatea*

(3) Up to 3 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Seen well on Waigeo Island.

Biak Paradise Kingfisher (NT)*Tanysiptera riedelii*

(3) Up to 3 Biak Island 6-8.8.

A beautiful endemic that offered repeated views.

Red-breasted Paradise Kingfisher*Tanysiptera nympha*

(1) 1 Sorong 30.8.

One of the top birds of the trip and we had lengthy scope studies of this range-restricted kingfisher in the Sorong lowlands.

Shovel-billed Kookaburra*Clytoceyx rex*

(2) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 Nimbokrang 13.8.

On the first try the bird flew so close at dawn that it surprised us and I think itself, but on the second try we all walked away with great scope views.

Rufous-bellied Kookaburra*Dacelo gaudichaud*

(10) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 9-12.8, 1 Sorong 25.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

One of the more visible and common kingfisher species.

Blue-black Kingfisher (DD)*Todiramphus nigrocyaneus nigrocyaneus*

(2) 2 heard Sorong 29.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

This stunner was seen well in the Sorong lowlands where we enjoyed walkaway scope studies.

Beach Kingfisher*Todiramphus saurophagus anachoreta*

(4) 1 Biak Island 7.8, 3 Biak Island 8.8, 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Common in the Biak mangroves and seen again on Waigeo.

Sacred Kingfisher*Todiramphus sanctus sanctus*

(6) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8, 1 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 6 Sorong 29.8.

The common kingfisher of coastal areas.

Yellow-billed Kingfisher*Syma torotoro torotoro*

(7) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-28.8 and 1 heard Sorong 29.8.

We obtained great views in Nimbokrang and even better on Waigeo of this often vocal kingfisher.

Mountain Kingfisher*Syma megarhyncha megarhyncha*

(2) 1 heard Lake Habbema 15.8 and 1 heard Lake Habbema 18.8.

Heard distantly along the road to Lake Habbema.

Papuan Dwarf Kingfisher*Ceyx solitarius*

(4) 1 Nimbokrang 12.8, 1 Waigeo Island 26.8, 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

We had brief flight views in Nimbokrang and then excellent perched views on Waigeo.

Azure Kingfisher*Ceyx azureus ochrogaster*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Scoped well along the river along Jalan Korea in Nimbokrang.

Little Kingfisher*Ceyx pusillus pusillus*

(1) 1 Sorong 29.8.

Seen in flight by some Sorong Mangroves.

Bee-eaters Meropidae**Rainbow Bee-eater***Merops ornatus*

(9) Up to 4 Biak Island 6-9.8, 4 en route 25.8 and up to 8 Waigeo Island 27-29.8.

Common in open areas.

Hornbills Bucerotidae**Blyth's Hornbill***Rhyticeros plicatus*

(11) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 10-12.8, 2 Arfak Mountains 21.8, 6 Arfak Mountains 24.8, 4 Arfak Mountains 25.8, up to 6 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 5 Sorong 30.8.

This species is very common even in disturbed forest.

Falcons and Caracaras Falconidae**Nankeen Kestrel***Falco cenchroides baru*

(4) Up to 1 Lake Habbema 15-18.8.

This species occurs as a unique resident population in the central highlands where we saw it very well.

Oriental Hobby*Falco severus*

Observed 1 day(s) in total.

Brief flyover in the Sentani Grasslands.

Brown Falcon*Falco berigora novaeguineae*

(3) 1 en route 14.8, 1 en route 15.8 and 1 en route 18.8.

Seen in the Baliem Valley.

Peregrine Falcon*Falco peregrinus ernesti*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

One flying high over the road in the Arfak Mountains.

Cockatoos Cacatuidae**Palm Cockatoo***Probosciger aterrimus goliath*

(7) 1 en route 12.8, up to 3 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Seen well in several lowland sites, an impressive species.

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo*Cacatua galerita triton*

(17) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-9.8, up to 4 en route 10-12.8, 2 en route 20.8, 3 Arfak Mountains 23.8, 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8, up to 4 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 4 Sorong 30.8.

Common and noisy.

Old World Parrots Psittaculidae**Pesquet's Parrot (VU)***Psittrichas fulgidus*

(2) 3 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 3 Arfak Mountains 22.8.

While waiting for dusk to go owling, three flew in right in front of us and despite the low light conditions we still had great views, seen again in flight two days later.

Yellow-capped Pygmy Parrot*Micropsitta keiensis chloroxantha*

(1) 3 Sorong 30.8.

Perched views in the Sorong lowlands.

Geelvink Pygmy Parrot (NT)*Micropsitta geelvinkiana misoriensis*

(3) Up to 3 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Excellent studies as birds kept returning to the same tree to forage along the coast road on Biak Island.

Buff-faced Pygmy Parrot*Micropsitta pusio beccarii*

(4) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 9-12.8.

Always flighty, but we did see birds foraging high up in a tree.

Red-breasted Pygmy Parrot*Micropsitta bruijnii bruijnii*

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Excellent scope views of a female bird on the edge of German Camp.

Moluccan King Parrot*Alisterus amboinensis dorsalis*

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Good scope views along the road in the Arfak Mountains.

Eclectus Parrot*Eclectus roratus polychloros*

(8) 1 Biak Island 8.8, 2 Nimbokrang 12.8 and up to 30 Waigeo Island 25-30.8.

Common in lowlands especially on the offshore islands.

Red-cheeked Parrot*Geoffroyus geoffroyi*

(6) Up to 4 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 12 Sorong 30.8.

minor:

(4) Up to 6 Nimbokrang 9-12.8.

mysorensis:

(1) 2 Biak Island 6.8.

One of the most common parrots of the trip.

Blue-collared Parrot*Geoffroyus simplex simplex*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

A female bird was seen well perched in the high canopy while walking on the Mingre trail.

Great-billed Parrot*Tanygnathus megalorhynchus megalorhynchus*

(1) 400 Waigeo Island 28.8.

What a fantastic sight of hundreds of them coming in to roost on a small islet during our boat tour on Waigeo.

Brehm's Tiger Parrot*Psittacella brehmii intermixta*

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8.

Great views along the Ibele trail of a foraging bird.

Painted Tiger Parrot*Psittacella picta lorentzi*

(2) 6 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 8 Lake Habbema 17.8.

Very close views at the start of the Ibele Trail, sometimes this species is considered distinct as Snow Mountain Tiger Parrot.

Modest Tiger Parrot*Psittacella modesta*

(2) 1 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

collaris:

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Good views along the main road near Lake Habbema and seen again very well in the Arfak Mountains.

Plum-faced Lorikeet*Oreopsittacus arfaki*

(1) 10 Arfak Mountains 22.8.

major:

(3) Up to 10 Lake Habbema 16-18.8.

Common in the mountains.

Papuan Lorikeet

Charmosyna papou goliathina

(3) Up to 6 Lake Habbema 16-18.8.

Seen well around Lake Habbema and again in the Arfak Mountains.

Yellow-billed Lorikeet

Neopsittacus musschenbroekii

(4) 1 en route 15.8 and up to 5 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.

Good views of one on the way to Lake Habbema and seen well again in the Arfak Mountains.

Orange-billed Lorikeet

Neopsittacus pullicauda

(2) 6 Lake Habbema 17.8 and 10 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Common in the highlands around Lake Habbema.

Black-capped Lory

Lorius lory

(4) 10 Waigeo Island 25.8, 4 Waigeo Island 27.8, 1 Waigeo Island 29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

cyanauchen:

(1) 2 Biak Island 8.8.

viridicrissalis:

(2) 3 Nimbokrang 10.8 and 2 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Widespread in the lowlands.

Black Lory

Chalcopsitta atra atra

(1) 3 Sorong 30.8.

Flying over the road in the Sorong Lowlands.

Brown Lory

Chalcopsitta duivenbodei

(2) 4 Nimbokrang 9.8 and 4 Nimbokrang 10.8.

Seen in flight from the tower and perched distantly from the lookout in Nimbokrang.

Goldie's Lorikeet

Psitteuteles goldiei

(1) 8 en route 18.8.

Seen well on the way down from Lake Habbema.

Violet-necked Lory

Eos squamata squamata

(1) 3 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Spotted during our final morning on Waigeo Island near the airstrip.

Black-winged Lory (VU)

Eos cyanogenia

(3) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Seen well in flight on Biak Island, an uncommon endemic.

Coconut Lorikeet

Trichoglossus haematodus haematodus

(10) 3 en route 9.8, up to 10 Nimbokrang 10-12.8, 1 en route 25.8, up to 8 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 8 Sorong 30.8.

Common in lowland areas.

Biak Lorikeet (VU)

Trichoglossus rosenbergii

(2) 2 heard Biak Island 7.8 and 2 Biak Island 8.8.

After some effort, we saw a pair in flight along the coastal road on Biak Island.

Large Fig Parrot

Psittaculirostris desmarestii desmarestii

(1) 2 Sorong 30.8.

Briefly in flight Sorong lowlands.

Salvadori's Fig Parrot (VU)

Psittaculirostris salvadorii

(1) 4 Nimbokrang 12.8.

It was worth the long hike after we arrived at a nesting tree where we could scope a pair at length.

Orange-breasted Fig Parrot

Cyclopsitta guliemitertii guliemitertii

(1) 1 Sorong 30.8.

Brief flight views Sorong lowlands.

Double-eyed Fig Parrot

Cyclopsitta diophthalma diophthalma

(4) 4 Nimbokrang 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 10.8, 2 Sorong 29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Good perched views from the tower in Nimbokrang.

Pittas Pittidae

Papuan Pitta

Erythropitta macklotii

(2) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8.

macklotii:

(3) Up to 1 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Somewhat obscured views in Nimbokrang of the *habenicht* subspecies and seen very well from the Wilson’s Bird-of-paradise blind on Waigeo Island.

Hooded Pitta

Pitta sordida rosenbergii

(3) Up to 4 Biak Island 6-8.8.

One foraging right in the trail on Biak Island gave superb views, sometimes considered Biak Pitta.

Bowerbirds Ptilonorhynchidae

Tan-capped Catbird

Ailuroedus geislerorum geislerorum

(3) 1 heard Nimbokrang 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8.

Easily heard, but hard to see, yet we still managed great views of one flying in close and perching in full view.

Arfak Catbird

Ailuroedus arfakianus arfakianus

(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Up to two showed well right in front of one of the Magnificent Bird-of-paradise blinds.

Vogelkop Bowerbird

Amblyornis inornata

(4) Up to 1 Arfak Mountains 21-24.8.

Great views of one bird tending his bower near German Camp.

Masked Bowerbird

Sericulus aureus

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Scope views from the main road in the Arfak Mountains where one perched in full view.

Fawn-breasted Bowerbird

Chlamydera cerviniventris

Observed 1 day(s) in total Sentani.

Distant views in the Sentani Grasslands where one foraged in low shrubbery.

Australasian Treecreepers Climacteridae

Papuan Treecreeper

Cormobates placens placens

(4) 1 heard Lake Habbema 18.8, Arfak Mountains 20.8, 2 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Best views in the Arfak Mountains along the Mingre trail.

Fairywrens Maluridae

Emperor Fairywren

Malurus cyanocephalus

(1) 5 Sorong 30.8.

mysorensis:

(3) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8.

This stunning species was seen well in the lowland areas.

White-shouldered Fairywren*Malurus alboscapulatus aida*

Observed 2 day(s) in total.

Excellent views in the open fields in Nimbokrang and also Sentani grasslands.

Honeyeaters *Meliphagidae***Ruby-throated Myzomela***Myzomela eques eques*

(3) Up to 1 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Several good views on Waigeo.

Dusky Myzomela*Myzomela obscura*

(1) 1 Biak Island 6.8.

fumata:

(1) 2 Sorong 29.8.

The ones in the Sorong mangroves were a bit surprising and we also saw the distinct subspecies with its reddish colouration on Biak Island.

Red Myzomela*Myzomela cruentata cruentata*

(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Seen well along the main road in the Arfak Mountains where a pair showed well in roadside trees.

Red-collared Myzomela*Myzomela rosenbergii rosenbergii*

(10) 2 en route 14.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Common in the Arfak and Snow Mountains.

Green-backed Honeyeater*Glycichaera fallax*

(1) 1 Waigeo Island 26.8.

fallax:

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8.

Uncommon but seen well from the tower in Nimbokrang.

Rufous-sided Honeyeater*Ptiloprora erythropleura*

Observed 3 day(s) in total.

dammermani:

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 15.8.

Common in the Arfak Mountains.

Grey-streaked Honeyeater*Ptiloprora perstriata*

(4) 1 Lake Habbema 15.8.

Common around Lake Habbema

Plain Honeyeater*Pycnopygius ixoides proximus*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Seen well in Nimbokrang.

Marbled Honeyeater*Pycnopygius cinereus cinereus*

(2) 1 Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Good but brief views in the Arfak Mountains.

Streak-headed Honeyeater*Pycnopygius stictocephalus*

(3) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8, 2 en route 12.8 and 1 en route 14.8.

We had the best views from the tower in Nimbokrang.

Spotted Honeyeater*Xanthotis polygrammus polygrammus*

(2) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Excellent studies in fruiting trees on Waigeo.

Tawny-breasted Honeyeater*Xanthotis flaviventer*

(3) Up to 4 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

meyerii:

Observed 1 day(s) in total.

Common on Waigeo Island and also seen briefly in lowlands of the mainland.

Meyer's Friarbird*Philemon meyeri*

(2) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8 and 1 Nimbokrang 10.8.

Heard in Nimbokrang where briefly seen.

New Guinea Friarbird*Philemon novaeguineae*

(4) Up to 10 Waigeo Island 26-29.8.

jobiensis:

(6) 4 Nimbokrang 9.8, 2 Nimbokrang 10.8, 2 Nimbokrang 14.8, 1 en route 25.8 and 8 Sorong 30.8.

Common in lowland areas.

Long-billed Honeyeater*Melilestes megarhynchus vagans*

(3) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 Nimbokrang 12.8.

One was seen very well in the scope along Jalan Korea in Nimbokrang.

MacGregor's Honeyeater (VU)*Macgregoria pulchra carolinae*

(2) 2 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 17.8.

Great views of these massive honeyeaters along the Ibele Trail and again seen near Lake Habbema.

Arfak Honeyeater*Melipotes gymnops*

(5) 4 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 1 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Common and conspicuous in the Arfak Mountains.

Common Smoky Honeyeater*Melipotes fumigatus kumawa*

(4) Up to 4 Lake Habbema 15-18.8.

Common and vocal in the Lake Habbema area.

Varied Honeyeater*Gavicalis versicolor*

2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Seen well during the boat trip off Waigeo.

Brown-backed Honeyeater*Ramsayornis modestus*

(1) 6 Sorong 29.8.

Seen well in the Sorong mangroves.

Black-throated Honeyeater*Caligavis subfrenata*

(2) 2 Lake Habbema 15.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 17.8.

Seen well at the edge of Lake Habbema.

Sooty Melidectes*Melidectes fuscus*

(2) 1 Lake Habbema 17.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

We had great luck with this species that is quite rare in West Papua with repeated views in two locations near Lake Habbema.

Short-bearded Melidectes*Melidectes nouhuysi*

(3) Up to 4 Lake Habbema 15-17.8.

Common around Lake Habbema and even seen right next to camp.

Cinnamon-browed Melidectes*Melidectes ochromelas*

(2) 3 Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 23.8.

Always high in the canopy, but with patience, we all managed to see these large and vocal honeyeaters.

Vogelkop Melidectes*Melidectes leucostephes*

(5) 3 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 2 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Best views right next to our lodge in the Arfak Mountains where birds made repeated visits to a fruiting tree.

- Belford's Melidectes** *Melidectes belfordi joiceyi*
Observed 4 day(s) in total.
Common and very vocal around Lake Habbema.
- Ornate Melidectes** *Melidectes torquatus torquatus*
(2) 2 en route 14.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8.
Good views outside of Wamena and then even better views right next to our lodge in the Arfak Mountains.
- Forest Honeyeater** *Meliphaga montana montana*
(1) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8.
Heard only in the Arfak Mountains.
- Mountain Honeyeater** *Meliphaga orientalis facialis*
(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.
Good views on the way down from the Arfak Mountains.
- Scrub Honeyeater** *Meliphaga albonotata*
(1) 1 Sorong 30.8.
Excellent views of a vocal bird in the Sorong lowlands.
- Mimic Honeyeater** *Meliphaga analoga*
(9) Up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.
Common and widespread.
- Orange-cheeked Honeyeater** *Oreornis chrysogenys*
(4) Up to 8 Lake Habbema 15-18.8.
This endemic was pleasantly common around our camp and around Lake Habbema in the Snow Mountains.

Australasian Warblers *Acanthizidae*

- Goldenface** *Pachycare flavogriseum flavogriseum*
(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.
Great eye-level views along the road in the Arfak Mountains.
- Rusty Mouse Warbler** *Crateroscelis murina*
(3) 1 heard Nimbokrang 10.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.
capitalis:
(4) Up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-28.8.
Best seen on Waigeo where a furtive pair eventually showed well.
- Mountain Mouse Warbler** *Crateroscelis robusta peninsularis*
(4) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 20.8 and up to 1 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.
Everyone had a brief glimpse of a calling bird as we descended from German Camp.
- Pale-billed Scrubwren** *Sericornis spilodera spilodera*
(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.
Seen from the Magnificent Bird-of-paradise blinds.
- Papuan Scrubwren** *Sericornis papuensis buergeri*
(2) 6 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 18.8.
Common along the Ibele trail where they seem to forage mostly high in the trees.
- Large Scrubwren** *Sericornis nouhuysi nouhuysi*
(1) 4 Lake Habbema 16.8.
Seen along the Ibele trail, often foraging near the forest floor.
- Vogelkop Scrubwren** *Sericornis rufescens*

(5) 4 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Fairly common in the Arfak Mountains.

Grey-green Scrubwren *Sericornis arfakianus*

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Seen briefly along the main trails in the Arfak Mountains.

Brown-breasted Gerygone *Gerygone ruficollis*

(3) 4 en route 14.8, 1 Lake Habbema 17.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Vocal birds were seen well in the Snow Mountains.

Large-billed Gerygone *Gerygone magnirostris affinis*

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 12.8.

A pair showed really well on the edge of Nimbokrang.

Biak Gerygone *Gerygone hypoxantha*

(2) 3 Biak Island 7.8 and 2 Biak Island 8.8.

Good views along the main trail on Biak.

Yellow-bellied Gerygone *Gerygone chrysogaster*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

chrysogaster:

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Best seen in Nimbokrang.

Green-backed Gerygone *Gerygone chloronota chloronota*

(7) 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-29.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

Often heard and seen well in the Arfak Mountains and especially on Waigeo Island.

Fairy Gerygone *Gerygone palpebrosa palpebrosa*

(2) 1 Nimbokrang 13.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

Good views in Nimbokrang and Waigeo.

New Guinea Thornbill *Acanthiza murina*

(2) 3 Lake Habbema 15.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 17.8.

A busy flock greeted us right after we had started birding near Lake Habbema.

Pseudo-Babblers *Pomatostomidae*

Papuan Babbler *Garritornis isidorei*

(2) 2 heard Nimbokrang 10.8 and 3 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Up to three came in that were part of a feeding flock in the Nimbokrang lowlands.

Logrunners *Orthonychidae*

Papuan Logrunner *Orthonyx novaeguineae victorianus*

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8.

This one played hard to get and despite hearing it well only a few managed to glimpse it.

Berrypeckers and Longbills *Melanocharitidae*

Black Berrypecker *Melanocharis nigra*

(2) 1 Waigeo Island 26.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

unicolor:

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Seen well in a feeding flock in Nimbokrang and several seen again well on Waigeo Island.

Mid-mountain Berrypecker *Melanocharis longicauda longicauda*

(3) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8, 2 Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.
Good views in the Arfak Mountains.

Fan-tailed Berrypecker *Melanocharis versteri*

(2) 1 en route 17.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 22.8.

meeki:

(1) 2 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Best seen along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Spotted Berrypecker *Rhamphocharis crassirostris crassirostris*

(2) 3 Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Seen well coming to a fruiting tree while we hiked up to German Camp.

Dwarf Longbill *Oedistoma iliolophus cinerascens*

(1) 1 Waigeo Island 26.8.

Good views of a responsive bird on Waigeo Island.

Pygmy Longbill *Oedistoma pygmaeum pygmaeum*

(1) 2 Waigeo Island 27.8.

A pair of responsive birds came in on Waigeo Island.

Yellow-bellied Longbill *Toxorhamphus novaeguineae novaeguineae*

(2) 1 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Good views in lowlands.

Slaty-headed Longbill *Toxorhamphus poliopterus*

(1) 1 en route 18.8.

A bird made a brief appearance along the main road as we descended from Lake Habbema.

Tit Berrypecker and Crested Berrypecker *Paramythiidae*

Tit Berrypecker *Oreocharis arfaki*

(2) 10 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 5 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Noisy flocks passed by high in the canopy several times and it took some effort to get good views of the striking males.

Crested Berrypecker *Paramythia montium olivacea*

(4) Up to 4 Lake Habbema 15-18.8.

Easily seen well around Lake Habbema.

Whipbirds, Jewel-babblers and Quail-thrushes *Psophodidae*

Spotted Jewel-babbler *Ptilorrhoa leucosticta leucosticta*

(3) Up to 1 Arfak Mountains 20-22.8.

One bird crossed the trail several times right in front of us.

Boatbills *Machaerirhynchidae*

Yellow-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer albifrons*

(3) Up to 1 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Great views of a responsive bird on Waigeo Island.

Black-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus nigripectus*

(5) Up to 1 Arfak Mountains 20-24.8.

saturatus:

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Excellent views near Lake Habbema.

Woodswallows, Butcherbirds and allies *Artamidae***White-breasted Woodswallow** *Artamus leucorhynchus leucopygialis*(4) 1 Waigeo Island 25.8, 2 Waigeo Island 27.8, 2 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 2 Sorong 29.8.
Common on Waigeo and in the Sorong lowlands.**Great Woodswallow** *Artamus maximus*

(1) 4 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Good views in flight and perched along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Lowland Peltops *Peltops blainvillii*

(2) 2 Nimbokrang 10.8 and 1 Nimbokrang 11.8.

A pair came close right by the lookout in Nimbokrang.

Black Butcherbird *Melloria quoyi quoyi*

(5) 1 heard Nimbokrang 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 11.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8, 1 heard Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

Heard often, but only seen by a few in Nimbokrang and Waigeo.

Hooded Butcherbird *Cracticus cassicus cassicus*

(10) Up to 5 Biak Island 6-8.8, 1 en route 9.8, 1 en route 10.8, up to 10 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

Common and this songster was seen regularly in lowland areas.

Mottled Whistler *Rhagologidae***Mottled Berryhunter** *Rhagologus leucostigma leucostigma*

(3) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8, 1 heard Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

A female visited a fruiting tree right next to the lodge in the Arfak Mountains and a second bird was seen briefly in a feeding flock as we hiked down from German Camp.

Cuckooshrikes *Campephagidae***Stout-billed Cuckooshrike** *Coracina caeruleogrisea*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Seen in flight in the Arfak Mountains.

Barred Cuckooshrike *Coracina lineata axillaris*

(2) 1 heard Waigeo Island 26.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 27.8.

Good views on Waigeo.

Boyer's Cuckooshrike *Coracina boyeri boyeri*

(5) 2 Nimbokrang 9.8, 2 Nimbokrang 11.8, 2 Nimbokrang 12.8, 1 en route 14.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Fairly common in the lowlands.

White-bellied Cuckooshrike *Coracina papuensis papuensis*

(2) 6 Sorong 29.8.

This species is partial to open habitats in lowland areas.

Hooded Cuckooshrike *Coracina longicauda*

(1) 3 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Great views of a small group along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Common Cicadabird *Coracina tenuirostris*

(2) 2 Biak Island 7.8 and 3 Biak Island 8.8.

tenuirostris:

(1) 1 Sorong 29.8.

We saw the Biak subspecies very well several times.

Black-shouldered Cicadabird *Coracina incerta*

(1) 3 Waigeo Island 25.8.

Seen well along the main road on Waigeo.

Grey-headed Cuckooshrike

Coracina schisticeps reichenowi

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Excellent views of a female from the tower in Nimbokrang.

Black Cicadabird

Coracina melas melas

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 13.8.

A bird responded from the viewpoint in the forest in Nimbokrang and showed well.

Black-bellied Cuckooshrike

Coracina montana montana

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Seen well along the main road in the Arfak Mountains.

Golden Cuckooshrike

Campochaera sloetii sloetii

(2) 2 Nimbokrang 10.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Good views in the lowlands of this striking cuckooshrike.

Black-browed Triller

Lalage atrovirens

(4) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 10-12.8 and 3 Sorong 30.8.

leucoptera:

(4) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-9.8.

We also saw the Biak subspecies with its extensive white wing panel.

Sittellas Neosittidae

Black Sittella

Daphoenositta miranda

(1) 4 Lake Habbema 18.8.

A small flock was a welcome addition during the cold morning along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Australo-Papuan Bellbirds Oreoicidae

Rufous-naped Bellbird

Aleadryas rufinucha rufinucha

(5) Up to 1 Arfak Mountains 20-24.8.

Eventually, we enjoyed great views after hearing the species for two days prior.

Whistlers and allies Pachycephalidae

Black Pitohui

Melanorectes nigrescens nigrescens

(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 23.8.

Excellent views of a vocal pair in the Arfak Mountains.

Vogelkop Whistler

Pachycephala meyeri

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

We saw a calling bird very well as we hiked back up from the Superb Bird-of-paradise blind. This species is best identified by voice as females of other whistler species can look very similar.

Grey Whistler

Pachycephala simplex griseiceps

(6) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-28.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

Fairly common.

Sclater's Whistler

Pachycephala soror soror

(2) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Good views in the Arfak Mountains.

Baliem Whistler

Pachycephala balim

(2) 1 en route 14.8 and 2 en route 15.8.

We found one just outside of Wamena and again along the main road coming down from Lake Habbema.

Lorentz's Whistler *Pachycephala lorentzi*

(3) Up to 2 Lake Habbema 16-18.8.

Good views at the start of the Ibele Trail and again near Lake Habbema.

Regent Whistler *Pachycephala schlegelii schlegelii*

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

A striking whistler seen well along the trails in the Arfak Mountains.

Rusty Pitohui *Pseudorectes ferrugineus*

(3) Up to 2 Waigeo Island 27-29.8.

holerythrus:

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8.

This species was seen especially well on Waigeo Island where it seemed to be common in secondary habitats.

Little Shrikethrush *Colluricincla megarhyncha*

(2) 2 Waigeo Island 26.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

hybridus:

(3) 1 heard Nimbokrang 10.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

melanorhyncha:

(1) 1 Biak Island 6.8.

Common and widespread.

Old World Orioles *Oriolidae*

Northern Variable Pitohui *Pitohui kirhocephalus kirhocephalus*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Heard and seen briefly along the main road out of the Arfak Mountains.

Raja Ampat Pitohui *Pitohui cerviniventris cerviniventris*

(3) Up to 4 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Common and easily seen on Waigeo.

Hooded Pitohui *Pitohui dichrous*

(1) 3 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Excellent views of a small group near the Magnificent Bird-of-paradise blind in the Arfak Mountains, the birds offered better and better views as we waited.

Brown Oriole *Oriolus szalayi*

(3) Up to 2 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

Great scope views on Waigeo.

Drongos *Dicruridae*

Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus carbonarius*

(8) 1 Biak Island 6.8, 2 Biak Island 7.8, 1 Biak Island 9.8, up to 1 Waigeo Island 26-29.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Common in lowland areas.

Fantails *Rhipiduridae*

Willie Wagtail *Rhipidura leucophrys melaleuca*

(11) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-9.8, 2 en route 12.8, 2 en route 14.8 and up to 2 Waigeo Island 25-29.8.
Common in open habitats.

Northern Fantail *Rhipidura rufiventris*

(2) 1 Waigeo Island 26.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

kordensis:

(3) 1 Biak Island 6.8, 2 Biak Island 7.8 and 2 en route 11.8.

We saw the distinctly pale Biak subspecies and were able to compare the differences when we saw it again on Waigeo Island.

Sooty Thicket Fantail *Rhipidura threnothorax threnothorax*

(2) 2 Nimbokrang 12.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

Good views deep in the forest in Nimbokrang.

Black Thicket Fantail *Rhipidura maculipectus*

(1) 1 heard Sorong 29.8.

Heard only in the Sorong mangroves.

White-bellied Thicket Fantail *Rhipidura leucothorax leucothorax*

(3) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8, 1 heard Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Seen very well near the lodge in Nimbokrang where it offered excellent views.

Black Fantail *Rhipidura atra atra*

(6) 1 en route 19.8 and up to 4 Arfak Mountains 20-24.8.

Repeated views in the Arfak Mountains.

Friendly Fantail *Rhipidura albolimbata*

(7) 1 en route 15.8, 2 Lake Habbema 16.8, 1 Lake Habbema 18.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and up to 1 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.

Common in the highlands.

Dimorphic Fantail *Rhipidura brachyrhyncha*

(2) 1 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

A vocal bird came right in near German Camp in the Arfak Mountains.

Rufous-backed Fantail *Rhipidura rufidorsa rufidorsa*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Seen well in a feeding flock in Nimbokrang.

Drongo Fantail *Chaetorhynchus papuensis*

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 20.8.

Good studies in Nimbokrang.

Monarchs *Monarchidae*

Black Monarch *Symposiachrus axillaris fallax*

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 20.8.

Present in a feeding flock near the Magnificent Bird-of-paradise blind.

Spot-winged Monarch *Symposiachrus guttula*

(1) 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

Great views along the narrow side trail on Waigeo Island.

Biak Monarch *Symposiachrus brehmii*

(2) 4 Biak Island 7.8 and 1 Biak Island 8.8.

Repeated good views on Biak of this formerly very difficult to find Biak endemic.

Black-winged Monarch *Monarcha frater frater*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

Great right views next to the main road in the Arfak Mountains.

Golden Monarch*Carterornis chrysomela*

(3) 2 Waigeo Island 26.8, 2 Waigeo Island 27.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

kordensis:

(3) Up to 4 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Seen well in the lowlands on Waigeo and we also saw the subspecies on Biak well with its more orange tones.

Ochre-collared Monarch*Arses insularis*

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8.

Good views in Nimbokrang where one was seen from the tower.

Frilled Monarch*Arses telescopthalmus*

(2) 1 heard Waigeo Island 26.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 27.8.

telescopthalmus:

(1) 1 Sorong 30.8.

Best views on Waigeo Island where a pair showed well.

Biak Black Flycatcher (NT)*Myiagra atra*

(3) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Regularly seen on Biak Island where it is one of the easier endemics to find.

Shining Flycatcher*Myiagra alecto chalybeocephala*

(9) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-8.8, 1 en route 9.8, 1 Nimbokrang 12.8, up to 2 Waigeo Island 27-29.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Widespread.

Crows, Jays, and Magpies Corvidae**Brown-headed Crow (NT)***Corvus fuscicapillus*

(1) 2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

It took some effort but eventually we worked our way deeper into the forest and found a vocal pair that gave great flight views right overhead while calling.

Grey Crow*Corvus tristis*

(4) 4 Nimbokrang 10.8, 1 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8 and 5 Sorong 30.8.

Fairly common in the lowlands.

Torresian Crow*Corvus orru orru*

(1) 2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Seen well right by the lodge on Waigeo.

Melampittas Melampittidae**Lesser Melampitta***Melampitta lugubris*

(2) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 1 heard Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Heard in the Snow Mountains where some saw it and heard again closely in the Arfak Mountains.

Birds-of-paradise Paradisaeidae**Glossy-mantled Manucode***Manucodia ater ater*

(7) Up to 2 Nimbokrang 10-12.8 and up to 4 Waigeo Island 27-30.8.

Numerous in Nimbokrang and on Waigeo.

Crinkle-collared Manucode*Manucodia chalybatus*

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 22.8.

A bird seen briefly but well in a fruiting tree near the Black-billed Sicklebill spot.

Trumpet Manucode*Phonygamus keraudrenii keraudrenii*

(1) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Heard only distantly in the Arfak Mountains.

Long-tailed Paradigalla (NT)

Paradigalla carunculata

(2) 2 Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Wow, a pair came into a fruiting tree right in front of us during our hike up to German Camp and seen again on a nest during the hike back down.

Arfak Astrapia

Astrapia nigra

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 23.8.

Great scope views of an immature male at Japanese Camp, the highest point we reached in the Arfak Mountains.

Splendid Astrapia

Astrapia splendidissima helios

(3) 1 Lake Habbema 15.8, 1 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 18.8.

We finally found a stunning male right along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Western Parotia

Parotia sefilata

(4) 6 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

The birds displayed really well and everyone saw them dance from various blinds in the Arfak Mountains, also seen in fruiting trees, especially females.

Superb Bird-of-paradise

Lophorina superba

(3) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 21.8, 1 Arfak Mountains 22.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

feminina:

(1) 4 en route 14.8.

Good views of a male outside of Wamena that even revealed its purple breast shield and seen again in the Arfak Mountains where a responsive bird came in very close. The birds in the Arfak Mountains are split as a separate species by some taxonomies.

Magnificent Riflebird

Ptiloris magnificentus magnificentus

(2) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 24.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

Excellent views of a male and female in the Sorong lowlands.

Black Sicklebill

Epimachus fastosus

(3) Up to 2 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.

Wow, this bird got top honours and not surprisingly since a male came onto its display post and performed a full horizontal display while uttering its loud rattling calls.

Brown Sicklebill

Epimachus meyeri

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

A male was seen exceptionally well along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Black-billed Sicklebill

Drepanornis albertisi albertisi

(2) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 20.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 22.8.

After some patient waiting we saw a male very well.

Pale-billed Sicklebill

Drepanornis bruijnii

(3) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8, 2 Nimbokrang 11.8 and 1 heard Nimbokrang 12.8.

Great views of a pair, the male flew right in and we watched the female forage on a mossy trunk with the improbable long bill.

Magnificent Bird-of-paradise

Diphyllodes magnificentus magnificentus

(3) Up to 2 Arfak Mountains 20-22.8.

Everyone was able to enjoy displaying males from the various hides.

Wilson's Bird-of-paradise

Diphyllodes respublica

(3) Up to 8 Waigeo Island 26-28.8.

One of the top birds of the trip and we were very lucky with up to eight birds, yes eight, in the display court at the same time. We witnessed a variety of behaviours of these colorful Bops.

King Bird-of-paradise

Cicinnurus regius coccineifrons

(4) Up to 3 Nimbokrang 10-12.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Great repeated views of several males in the low canopy at two different stakeouts in Nimbokrang.

Twelve-wired Bird-of-paradise

Seleucidis melanoleucus

(2) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8 and 1 Nimbokrang 10.8.

Wow, this was our first bird-of-paradise and one of the most memorable as the male displayed on a bare tree right in front of us in perfect light.

Lesser Bird-of-paradise

Paradisaea minor minor

(4) Up to 4 Nimbokrang 9-11.8 and 1 heard Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Great views of displaying males along the trail with several females seen nearby.

Red Bird-of-paradise (NT)

Paradisaea rubra

(5) Up to 8 Waigeo Island 25-29.8.

The steep hike before sunrise was worth it as several males displayed vigorously right above our heads bouncing back and forth on a bare display post for great photo opportunities.

Australasian Robins *Petroicidae*

Ashy Robin

Heteromyias albispecularis albispecularis

(4) 1 Arfak Mountains 20.8 and up to 2 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.

Tame around German Camp.

Black-chinned Robin

Poecilodryas brachyura brachyura

Observed 1 day(s) in total.

Herad only along the main road as we left the Arfak Mountains.

Black-sided Robin

Poecilodryas hypoleuca

(4) Up to 1 Waigeo Island 26-28.8 and 1 heard Sorong 30.8.

hermani:

(1) 2 Nimbokrang 11.8.

Good views in Nimbokrang and again on Waigeo.

Black-throated Robin

Poecilodryas albonotata

(2) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

griseiventris:

(2) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

We saw the species well in the Snow Mountains and we saw a calling juvenile bird briefly right next to camp in the Arfak Mountains.

White-winged Robin

Peneothello sigillata quadrimaculata

(2) 2 Lake Habbema 16.8 and 1 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Good repeated views along the Ibele Trail and the main road in the Snow Mountains.

Smoky Robin

Peneothello cryptoleuca cryptoleuca

(1) 1 Arfak Mountains 23.8.

Seen well in the Arfak Mountains as we hiked up to Japanese Camp.

Slaty Robin

Peneothello cyanus cyanus

(1) 2 Arfak Mountains 20.8.

A pair showed well right next to the lodge in the Arfak Mountains.

White-faced Robin

Tregellasia leucops leucops

(2) 1 Arfak Mountains 19.8 and 3 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

Good views for all as we hiked a short trail in the Arfak Mountains one afternoon.

Green-backed Robin

Pachycephalopsis hattamensis hattamensis

(3) Up to 1 Arfak Mountains 20-22.8.

Good views during the hike up to German Camp.

Canary Flyrobin

Microeca papuana

(3) 1 Lake Habbema 18.8, 2 Arfak Mountains 23.8 and 2 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

A pair was tending an active nest during the hike down from German Camp, also seen well near Lake Habbema.

Garnet Robin

Eugerygone rubra

(2) 1 en route 15.8 and 3 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Eye-level views along the main road on the way up to Lake Habbema and seen again well during the hike down from German Camp.

Mountain Robin

Petroica bivittata caudata

(1) 6 Lake Habbema 18.8.

Great views of at least three pairs of this uncommon robin along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Greater Ground Robin

Amalocichla sclateriana occidentalis

(1) 1 Lake Habbema 16.8.

Wow, one of the best birds of the trip as one flew up right in front of us to call in full view.

Lesser Ground Robin

Amalocichla incerta incerta

(4) 1 heard Arfak Mountains 20.8 and up to 1 Arfak Mountains 22-24.8.

We lured one onto the trail in the Arfak Mountains.

Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

Sooty-headed Bulbul

Pycnonotus aurigaster aurigaster

(4) Up to 4 Biak Island 6-9.8.

An introduced species that is common on Biak Island.

Swallows Hirundinidae

Barn Swallow

Hirundo rustica

(2) 2 en route 14.8 and 1 Waigeo Island 27.8.

This migrant was seen occasionally.

Pacific Swallow

Hirundo tahitica frontalis

(9) Up to 4 Biak Island 6-8.8, 1 en route 12.8, 2 Nimbokrang 14.8, 2 en route 25.8 and up to 10 Waigeo Island 27-29.8.

Common in coastal areas.

Tree Martin

Petrochelidon nigricans nigricans

Observed 1 day(s) in total.

Seen in the Sentani grasslands, a migrant from Australia.

Leaf warblers and allies Phylloscopidae

Island Leaf Warbler

Phylloscopus maforensis

(1) 2 Biak Island 7.8.

poliocephalus:

(5) Up to 2 Arfak Mountains 20-24.8.

albigularis:

(1) 2 en route 15.8.

Common in the mountains and we also saw the distinctive Biak subspecies with its large feet and bill (and fast-paced song) very well, a likely split.

Grassbirds and allies *Locustellidae*

Papuan Grassbird

Megalurus macrurus alpinus

(3) Up to 1 Lake Habbema 15-17.8.

Seen very well near Lake Habbema.

Cisticolas and allies *Cisticolidae*

Golden-headed Cisticola

Cisticola exilis diminutus

Observed 2 day(s) in total.

Common in the Sentani grasslands.

White-eyes *Zosteropidae*

Biak White-eye (NT)

Zosterops mysorensis

(1) 3 Biak Island 6.8.

We tracked down three at a stake-out on Biak Island where this endemic scrub specialist is surprisingly uncommon.

Capped White-eye

Zosterops fuscicapilla fuscicapilla

(5) 50 en route 14.8, up to 2 Arfak Mountains 20-22.8 and 4 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Common in the mountains with big flocks outside of Wamena.

Papuan White-eye

Zosterops novaeguineae novaeguineae

(1) 3 Arfak Mountains 24.8.

Seen well along the main road as we were leaving the Arfak Mountains.

Starlings *Sturnidae*

Metallic Starling

Aplonis metallica

(5) 2 Nimbokrang 11.8, 30 Nimbokrang 12.8, 4 Nimbokrang 14.8, 20 Sorong 29.8 and 5 Sorong 30.8.

inornata:

(6) Up to 30 Biak Island 6-9.8 and 6 en route 10.8.

Common and widespread in lowland areas.

Singing Starling

Aplonis cantoroides

(1) 3 Waigeo Island 29.8.

Last minute find near the ferry landing on Waigeo.

Long-tailed Starling

Aplonis magna magna

(3) Up to 10 Biak Island 6-8.8.

Many good views of this endemic on Biak.

Yellow-faced Myna

Mino dumontii

(4) 2 Nimbokrang 9.8, 6 Nimbokrang 10.8, 30 Waigeo Island 29.8 and 5 Waigeo Island 30.8.

Good scope studies of this striking myna.

Thrushes and allies *Turdidae*

Island Thrush

Turdus poliocephalus versteegi

(4) 1 en route 15.8 and up to 6 Lake Habbema 16-18.8.

Common around Lake Habbema.

Chats, Old World Flycatchers *Muscicapidae***Pied Bush Chat***Saxicola caprata belensis*

(3) 2 en route 14.8, 1 Lake Habbema 15.8 and 1 en route 18.8.

Seen in open areas near Wamena.

Flowerpeckers *Dicaeidae***Olive-crowned Flowerpecker***Dicaeum pectorale pectorale*

(4) 1 Arfak Mountains 24.8, 2 Waigeo Island 27.8, 1 Waigeo Island 28.8 and 1 Sorong 30.8.

Commonly seen in the west.

Red-capped Flowerpecker*Dicaeum geelvinkianum*

(4) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-9.8.

diversum:

(4) 1 en route 10.8, 1 Nimbokrang 11.8, 2 Nimbokrang 12.8 and 2 Nimbokrang 14.8.

Common in lowlands of Nimbokrang and on Biak Island.

Sunbirds and Spiderhunters *Nectariniidae***Black Sunbird***Leptocoma aspasia*

(3) 1 Waigeo Island 28.8.

aspasia:

(3) 1 Nimbokrang 14.8, 2 en route 25.8 and 2 Sorong 30.8.

mysorensis:

(5) Up to 4 Biak Island 6-10.8.

Widespread.

Olive-backed Sunbird*Cinnyris jugularis idenburgi*

(9) Up to 2 Biak Island 6-9.8, 2 Nimbokrang 12.8, 2 en route 25.8 and 2 Waigeo Island 28.8.

Common.

Old World Sparrows *Passeridae***Eurasian Tree Sparrow***Passer montanus malaccensis*

(9) Up to 10 Biak Island 6-9.8, 6 en route 14.8 and 8 en route 21.8.

Present in settled areas.

Waxbills, Munias and allies *Estrildidae***Mountain Firetail***Oreostruthus fuliginosus*

(1) 2 Lake Habbema 18.8.

A pair seen really well along the main road near Lake Habbema.

Crimson Finch*Neochmia phaeton evangelinae*

(3) 4 Nimbokrang 14.8.

Seen well in the Sentani grasslands.

Scaly-breasted Munia*Lonchura punctulata*

(1) 1 Sorong 29.8.

Seen briefly in the Sorong mangroves, an introduced species.

Streak-headed Mannikin*Lonchura tristissima hypomelaena*

(1) 5 Sorong 30.8.

Great views along the roadside in the Sorong lowlands with birds giving great views.

Great-billed Mannikin*Lonchura grandis destructa*

(2) 1 Nimbokrang 12.8.

Seen in Nimbokrang and again perched on wires Sentani grasslands.

Grey-banded Mannikin (VU)

Lonchura vana

(1) 30 Arfak Mountains 21.8.

It was a long, bumpy drive to the Angii Lake area in the Arfak Mountains, but well worth it in the end when we found a cooperative flock of these rare and recently rediscovered endemic mannikins.

Hooded Mannikin

Lonchura spectabilis mayri

Observed 2 day(s) in total.

Excellent views in the Sentani grasslands.

Black-breasted Mannikin

Lonchura teerinki mariae

(2) 15 en route 14.8 and 6 en route 15.8.

Good views outside of Wamena and again on the drive up to Lake Habbema, endemic to the Snow Mountains.

Western Alpine Mannikin

Lonchura montana

(2) 20 Lake Habbema 17.8 and 2 Lake Habbema 18.8.

After not finding any along the road we went for a hike in the grasslands on the edge of Lake Habbema and found a large flock that showed really well, of course then we found more right by the road, figures.

Wagtails, Pipits *Motacillidae*

Alpine Pipit

Anthus gutturalis wollastoni

(4) Up to 6 Lake Habbema 15-18.8.

Common near Lake Habbema and one of the first birds to sing at dawn, a very special experience to wake up with singing Alpine Pipits!

Mammals (4 in total: 4 seen)

Status codes: E = Endemic, NE = Near-endemic, I = Introduced

IUCN codes: CR = Critically endangered, EN = Endangered, VU = Vulnerable, EW = Extinct in the Wild, NT = Near Threatened, DD = Data Deficient

Possums, Cuscuses, Gledero, Ringtails *Phalangeridae*

Northern Common Cuscus

Phalanger orientalis

(1) 1 Nimbokrang 9.8.

Oceanic Dolphins *Delphinidae*

Short-finned Pilot Whale

Globicephala macrorhynchus

(1) Waigeo Island 25.8.

Risso's Dolphin

Grampus griseus

(1) Waigeo Island 25.8.

Old World Fruit Bats *Pteropodidae*

Great Flying Fox

Pteropus neohibernicus

(1) Waigeo Island 28.8.

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