

Dear Carol and Tim Inskipp.

I am writing to inform you, that while I was in Nepal I observed a Pied Wheatear (*Oenanthe pleschanka*). According to the list in "A Birdwatchers' Guide to Nepal" this is the first sighting of this species in Nepal.

From december 1989 until june 1990 I was visiting India and Nepal with Charlotte Carstensen. When we were in Nepal we did the Thak Khola-trek leaving Pokhara on the 16th of march and arriving at Muktinath on the 27th returning to Pokhara on the 4th of april. On our way back from Muktinath we started out from Marpha on the 29th of march, and between Tukche and Kalopani at a place called Sauru (about 2500 M.AS.) I spotted a wheatear which was identified as a Pied Wheatear, a species which I have formerly seen In Elat, Israel in spring `89(though it was actually Cyprus Pied Wheatear). At the time of the observation I had the Variable Wheatear(*O. picata*) of the form "capristriata" in fresh mind from Jaisalmer, India, and I could exclude this species on the greyish on the crown, the brownish tinge on the breast and the remiges of same(blackish) colour as the coverts.

Together with Charlotte we watched the bird for about half an hour, and we agreed on a description (copy of original notes included).

I hope this information will be useful.

Kasper Thorup (1990)
~~Valdemarsgade 26, I.~~
~~DK-1865 Kbh. V~~
DENMARK.

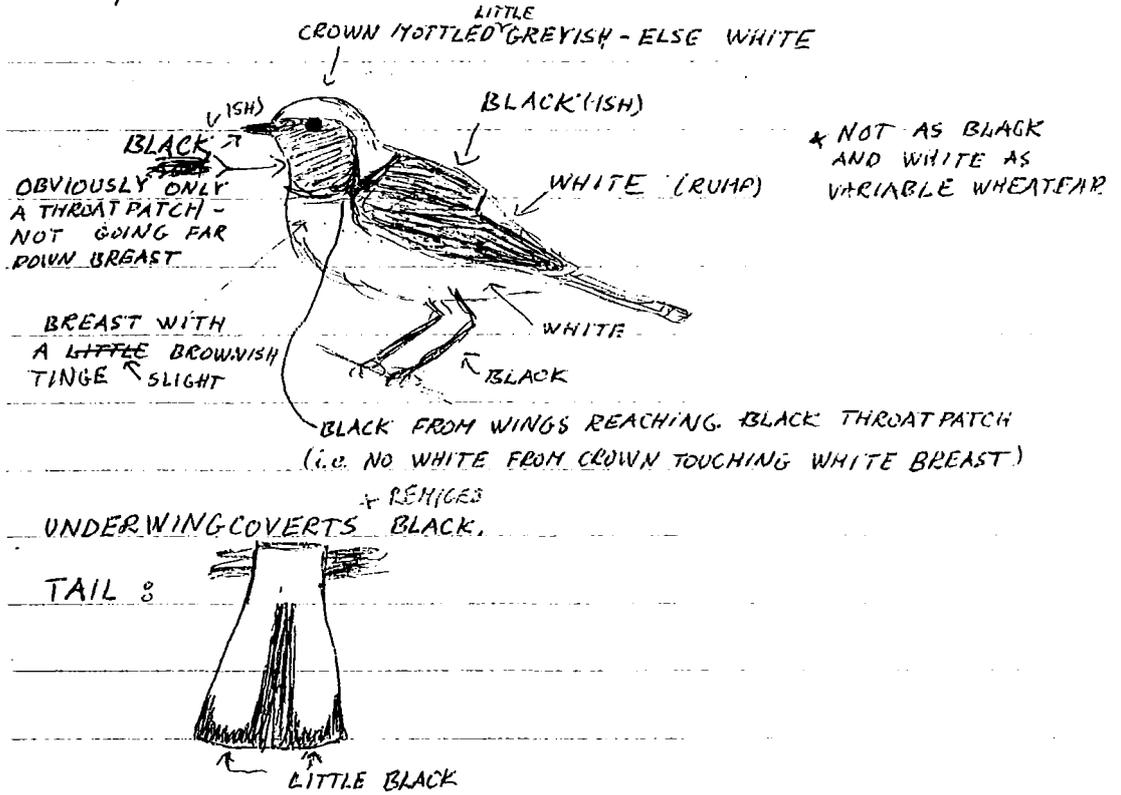
P.S. I have sent my notes from my whole trip to the danish section of the ICBP, but maybe I should mention that I observed 10 Snow Pigeon(*Columba leuconota*) near Muktinath on the 27th of march, and that that species is not mentioned in your list for the Annapurna Conservation Area.

P.P.S. I have just found out that a Pied Wheatear was seen near Tukche on the 11th of january 1985, so this record is in fact only the second record.

Mangrove → Lake

BETWEEN KALOPANI & TURCHE

29/3 1990 SAURU (CA. 2500 M AS)



SEEN IN STRONG WIND FROM THE SOUTH. MUSTLY SITTING ON ~~LEAVES~~ TOP OF LOW BUSHES OR ON SOME WIRES. UNDERWING SEEN CLEARLY WHEN LANDING ON WIRE IN THE STRONG WIND. SEEN BOWN TO ABOUT 20 METER IN ABOUT HALF AN HOUR. BOTH SEEN IN SUN AND OVERCAST. BINS = 10x50