

NOTES ON BIRDS RECORDED IN ROYAL BARDIA NATIONAL PARK, NEPAL,

4-18 JANUARY 1992

A Report to the Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation,
Nepal.

by

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INTRODUCTION

Covering an area of 968 sq km, Royal Bardia National Park is situated in the mid-western Terai extending into the Siwalik Hills and immediately east of the Karnali River. About 70% of the Park is covered with dominantly sal Shorea robusta forest with the remainder a mixture of grassland, savannah and riverine forest. The altitude varies from 152 metres in the Terai to 1441 metres at Sukarmala on the crest of the Churia Range.

Royal Bardia National Park was identified by Inskipp (1989) as one of nine under-recorded protected areas in Nepal where more bird surveys are needed. A good knowledge of the occurrence and status of bird species will be useful for the better management of Bardia. The following report is based on casual observations by Hem Sagar Baral (Nepal Birdwatching Club) in the vicinity of the Karnali River on 4 and 5 January 1992, and John B Halliday (Scottish Natural Heritage) in the vicinity of the Park Headquarters at Thakurdwara on 9 to 15 January and Chisapani (East) including the Babai River valley on 16 to 18 January.

ITINERARY

4-5 January: Riverine forest and grassland in vicinity of Karnali River and Tiger Tops Karnali Tented Camp.

9-15 January: Riverine and sal forest, grassland including Baghora and Lamkoili Phantos, Karnali River, in vicinity of Park H.Q. at Thakurdwara.

16 and 18 January: Mixed sal forest in vicinity of Chisapani (East).

17 January: Riverine forest, grassland and deciduous hill forest in Babai River valley immediately west of Chepang.

SPECIES LIST (* indicates new confirmed record for the Park).

- Great Cormorant Phalacrocorax carbo
Common on Karnali River with 80 on 5 January.
- Little Cormorant Phalacrocorax niger
Fairly common on Karnali River.
- Oriental Darter Anhinga melanogaster
Fairly common on Karnali River with 15 on 5 January.
- Black-crowned Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax
Single near Karnali River on 4 January.
- Striated Heron Butorides striatus
Single on Karnali River on 12 January.
- Indian Pond Heron Ardeola grayii
Fairly common in vicinity of Karnali and Babai Rivers.
- Cattle Egret Bubulcus ibis
Fairly common at edge of Park in fields and vicinity of Karnali River.
- Little Egret Egretta garzetta
Fairly common in vicinity of Karnali River.
- Intermediate Egret Egretta intermedia
Single in Babai River.
- Great Egret Egretta alba
Small numbers on Karnali (six on 5 January) and Babai Rivers.
- Grey Heron Ardea cinerea
Fairly common on Karnali River with 20 on 5 January.
- *Painted Stork Mycteria leucocephala
Single on Karnali River on 5 January.
- Black Stork Ciconia nigra
Fairly common on Karnali River with 16 on 5 January.
- Woolly-necked Stork Ciconia episcopus
Two in vicinity of Karnali on 5 January and one on small river at Thakurdwara on 13 January.
- Black-necked Stork Ephippiorhynchus asiaticus
Singles (male and female) on Karnali on 4 and 5 January.
- Red-naped Ibis Pseudibis papillosa
Common on Karnali River with 101 on 5 January.
- Ruddy Shelduck Tadorna ferruginea
Common on Karnali River with 120+ on 5 January.

Mallard Anas platyrhynchos

Six on Karnali on 5 January.

Goosander Mergus merganser

Fairly common on Karnali River with flocks of 30+, predominantly males. A single male was on the Babai River on 17 January.

Oriental Honey-Buzzard Pernis ptilorhynchus

Single near Karnali River on 12 January.

Black Kite Milvus migrans

Fairly common in vicinity of Thakurdwara and Karnali River (15 on 5 January). Singles at Chisapani (East) and Chepang.

Pallas's Fish Eagle Haliaeetus leucoryphus

Pair by Karnali River on 13 January.

White-tailed Eagle Haliaeetus albicilla

Single adult over Karnali River on 15 January.

Egyptian Vulture Neophron percnopterus

Single by Karnali River on 15 January.

Oriental White-backed Vulture Gyps bengalensis

Fairly common and breeding in trees in vicinity of Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Long-billed Vulture Gyps indicus

Small numbers in vicinity of Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Eurasian Griffon Vulture Gyps fulvus

Single near Karnali on 4 January.

Red-headed Vulture Sarcogyps calvus

Pair near Karnali River on 11 January.

Crested Serpent Eagle Spilornis cheela

Singles regularly recorded near Thakurdwara, Karnali River, Chisapani and Babai River.

Eurasian Marsh Harrier Circus aeruginosus

Single female near Thakurdwara on 12 January.

Hen Harrier Circus cyaneus

Single adult males and 'ringtails' occasionally over grassland near Karnali River and Lamkoili Phanta.

Eurasian Sparrowhawk Accipiter nisus

Single near Karnali River on 12 January.

Shikra Accipiter badius

Singles occasionally near Karnali River and Chisapani (East).

Tawny Eagle Aquila rapax

Single in Babai River valley on 17 January.

Changeable Hawk Eagle Spizaetus cirrhatus

Three near Karnali on 4 January and single in Babai River valley on 17 January.

Osprey Pandion haliaetus

Singles occasionally on Karnali River (three on 5 January).

Common Kestrel Falco tinnunculus

Single in Babai River valley on 17 January.

Red Junglefowl Gallus gallus

Small numbers in vicinity of Karnali River and single in forest near Chisapani (East).

Blue Peafowl Pavo cristatus

Fairly common in riverine vegetation in vicinity of Karnali and Babai Rivers and in open sal forest at Thakurdwara.

Eurasian Thick-Knee Burhinus oedicnemus

Flock of seven by Karnali River on 11 January.

Great Stone-Plover Esacus recurvirostris

Small flocks occasionally on Karnali River with nine on 15 January.

Little Pratincole Glareola lactea

Huge flocks by Karnali River on 15 January including a sub-flock of 300+.

Little Ringed Plover Charadrius dubius

Two on Karnali River on 15 January.

River Lapwing Hoplopterus duvaucellii

Fairly common on Karnali River (15 on 5 January) and two on Babai River on 17 January.

Red-wattled Lapwing Hoplopterus indicus

Small numbers on edge of Park at Thakurdwara and in vicinity of Karnali River with up to ten on 14 January.

Temminck's Stint Calidris temminckii

Singles by Karnali River on 12 and 15 January.

Common Redshank Tringa totanus

Single on Karnali on 4 January.

Common Greenshank Tringa nebularia

Fairly common on Karnali and tributary streams with up to 12 on 5 January.

*Green Sandpiper Tringa ochropus

Singles occasionally on Karnali and tributary streams near Thakurdwara.

Common Sandpiper Tringa hypoleucos

Small numbers occasionally on Karnali (six on 5 January) and single on Babai River.

Great Black-headed Gull Larus ichthyaetus

Small numbers occasionally on Karnali River with four on 4 and 5 January.

*Herring Gull Larus argentatus

Two and single adult on Karnali on 5 and 11 January respectively.

River Tern Sterna aurantia

Three on Karnali River on 5 January.

Black-bellied Tern Sterna acuticauda

Fairly common on Karnali River with 10+ on 15 January.

*Rock Pigeon Columba livia

Two in Babai River valley on 17 January.

Eurasian Collared Dove Streptopelia decaocto

Small numbers at Thakurdwara and vicinity of Karnali River with ten on 4 January.

Oriental Turtle Dove Streptopelia orientalis

Fairly common in vicinity of Thakurdwara and Karnali River with 15 on 4 January.

Spotted Dove Streptopelia chinensis

Common in riverine forest and edge of Park at Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Emerald Dove Chalcophaps indica

Single near Karnali River on 4 January.

Yellow-footed Green Pigeon Treron phoenicoptera

Small numbers occasionally in riverine forest by Karnali River.

Alexandrine Parakeet Psittacula eupatria

Common in riverine and sal forest at Thakurdwara, Chisapani, Karnali and Babai Rivers.

Rose-ringed Parakeet Psittacula krameri

Common in riverine and sal forest at Thakurdwara, Chisapani, Karnali and Babai Rivers.

Plum-headed Parakeet Psittacula cyanocephala

Fairly common in riverine and sal forest at Thakurdwara, Chisapani, Karnali and Babai Rivers.

Greater Coucal Centropus sinensis

Singles occasionally in riverine vegetation by Karnali and Babai Rivers.

Lesser Coucal Centropus bengalensis

Single in riverine vegetation near Thakurdwara on 13 January.

Jungle Owlet Glaucidium radiatum

Singles regularly recorded near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani.

Spotted Owlet Athene brama

Single near Karnali River on 4 January.

Savanna Nightjar Caprimulgus affinis

Single near Karnali on 4 January.

Large-tailed Nightjar Caprimulgus macrurus

One or two regularly hawking at dusk along small river at Park H.Q.

Himalayan Swiftlet Collocalia brevirostris

Abundant over Karnali River with an estimated 1000 on 4 January and 300+ on 5 January.

White-rumped Needletail Zoonavena sylvatica

An estimated 50 in vicinity of Karnali River on 4 January.

Alpine Swift Apus melba

Fifteen near Karnali River on 4 January and two on 11 January.

House Swift Apus affinis

Common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Crested Tree Swift Hemiproctes coronata

Fairly common in vicinity of Karnali River with an estimated 20 and 30 on 4 and 5 January respectively, two near Thakurdwara on 11 January, six at Chisapani (East) and six in Babai River valley.

White-throated Kingfisher Halcyon smyrnensis

Small numbers regularly recorded near Thakurdwara and Karnali River with up to five on 4 January.

Stork-billed Kingfisher Pelargopsis capensis

Small numbers occasionally on small rivers near Thakurdwara and Karnali River with up to three on 4 January.

Eurasian Kingfisher Alcedo atthis

Small numbers regularly recorded at Karnali River and small rivers near Thakurdwara (four on 15 January) and two on Babai River.

Pied Kingfisher Ceryle rudis

Small numbers on Karnali River with up to four on 5 January.

*Crested Kingfisher Ceryle lugubris

Single on Karnali River on 5 January and single on Babai River on 17 January.

Blue-bearded Bee-eater Nyctyornis athertoni

Single in riverine forest near Karnali River on 9 January.

Green Bee-eater Merops orientalis

Small numbers in cultivated areas on the edge of Park at Thakurdwara.

Indian Roller Coracias benghalensis

One or two occasionally at forest edge at Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani (East).

Hoopoe Upupa epops

Four near Thakurdwara on 12 January.

Indian Grey Hornbill Tockus birostris

Singles occasionally in riverine forest near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Oriental Pied Hornbill Anthracoceros coronatus

Fairly common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani (East).

Brown-headed Barbet Megalaima zeylanica

Small numbers regularly recorded in riverine forest at Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Lineated Barbet Megalaima lineata

Single near Karnali River on 5 January.

Streak-throated Woodpecker Picus xanthopygaeus

Fairly common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River with 10+ on 4 January.

Himalayan Flameback Dinopium shorii

Small numbers regularly recorded near Thakurdwara, Karnali River, Chisapani (East) and Babai River valley.

Black-rumped Flameback Dinopium benghalense

Small numbers near Karnali River with up to six on 4 January.

Greater Flameback Chrysocolaptes lucidus

Single female in riverine forest near Karnali River on 15 January.

White-naped Woodpecker Chrysocolaptes festivus

Singles and pairs occasionally in riverine forest near Thakurdwara.

Great Slaty Woodpecker Mulleripicus pulverulentus

Singles in sal forest near Thakurdwara (Tiger Tops Lodge) on 10 and 14 January.

Yellow-crowned Woodpecker Dendrocopos mahrattensis

Single female in sal forest at Chisapani (East) on 16 January.

- Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker Dendrocopos nanus
Small numbers regularly recorded near Thakurdwara, Karnali River
and Chisapani (East).
- *Long-tailed Broadbill Psarisomus dalhousiae
Two in riverine forest near Karnali River on 11 January.
- Ashy-crowned Finch Lark Eremopterix grisea
Flock near Karnali River on 12 January.
- Sand Lark Calandrella raytal
Small flocks occasionally by Karnali River.
- Plain Martin Riparia paludicola
Common along Karnali River with an estimated 200 on 5 January
and smaller numbers along Babai River.
- Barn Swallow Hirundo rustica
Common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River with smaller numbers in
Babai River valley.
- *Red-rumped Swallow Hirundo daurica
Small numbers near Karnali River on 5 and 12 January.
- Nepal House-Martin Delichon nipalensis
Common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River with an estimated 50 on
4 January.
- Richard's Pipit Anthus novaeseelandiae
Single near Karnali River on 12 January.
- Olive-backed Pipit Anthus hodgsoni
Fairly common with flocks regularly recorded near Thakurdwara and
Karnali River with an estimated 20 on 4 January.
- *Citrine Wagtail Motacilla citreola
Two by Karnali River on 12 January.
- Grey Wagtail Motacilla cinerea
Small numbers regularly on Karnali and small rivers near Thakurdwara.
- White Wagtail Motacilla alba
Fairly common in vicinity of Karnali River.
- White-browed Wagtail Motacilla maderaspatensis
Fairly common on Karnali (six on 5 January) and Babai Rivers.
- Common Woodshrike Tephrodornis pondicerianus
Flocks occasionally near Thakurdwara, Karnali River
(20 on 4 January) and Chisapani (East).
- *Large Woodshrike Tephrodornis gularis
Flock in deciduous hill forest near Babai River.

- Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike Hemipus picatus
Flocks occasionally in riverine forest near Karnali River, with
15 on 5 January.
- Black-winged Cuckoo-Shrike Coracina melaschistos
Singles in riverine forest near Thakurdwara on 9 and 10 January.
- Large Cuckoo-Shrike Coracina novaehollandiae
Three near Karnali River on 5 January and single near Thakurdwara
on 11 January.
- Scarlet Minivet Pericrocotus flammeus
Flocks occasionally near Thakurdwara and Chisapani (East).
- *Long-tailed Minivet Pericrocotus ethologus
Flocks occasionally near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani
(East).
- Small Minivet Pericrocotus cinnamomeus
Twenty near Karnali River on 4 January.
- Rosy Minivet Pericrocotus roseus
Flocks near Karnali River on 4 January and Thakurdwara on 10 January.
- Black-crested Bulbul Pycnonotus melanicterus
One or two occasionally near Karnali River, Thakurdwara and
Babai River valley.
- Red-whiskered Bulbul Pycnonotus jocosus
Common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.
- White-cheeked Bulbul Pycnonotus leucogenys
Two near Thakurdwara on 11 January.
- Red-vented Bulbul Pycnonotus cafer
Common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Babai River.
- *Ashy Bulbul Hypsipetes flavalus
Flock in deciduous hill forest near Babai River.
- Common Iora Aegithina tiphia
Fairly common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.
- Golden-fronted Leafbird Chloropsis aurifrons
Single near Karnali River on 11 January and pair at Chisapani
(East) on 18 January.
- White-tailed Rubythroat Luscinia pectoralis
Small numbers occasionally in scrub and grassland near Thakurdwara
and Chisapani (East).
- Asian Magpie-Robin Copsychus saularis
Single at Thakurdwara on 13 January.

White-rumped Shama Copsychus malabaricus

Small numbers occasionally near Thakurdwara (four on 10 January), Karnali River and singles at Chisapani (East).

*Plumbeous Redstart Rhyacornis fuliginosus

Small numbers on Karnali (three on 4 January) and Babai (three on 17 January).

Common Stonechat Saxicola torquata

Fairly common at Thakurdwara, Karnali and Babai Rivers.

White-tailed Stonechat Saxicola leucura

Four near Karnali River on 5 January.

Pied Bushchat Saxicola caprata

Single near Thakurdwara on 12 January.

Grey Bushchat Saxicola ferrea

Small numbers near Thakurdwara, Karnali River, Chisapani (East) and Babai River.

White-capped Redstart Chaimarrornis leucocephalus

Single on Karnali River on 9 January and three on Babai River on 17 January.

Indian Robin Saxicoloides fulicata

A single male near Karnali River on 4 January.

Blue Whistling Thrush Myiophonus caeruleus

Singles occasionally near Thakurdwara, Karnali River (three on 4 January) and Chisapani (East) and common in hill forest near Babai River.

*Scaly Thrush Zoothera dauma

Two near Karnali River on 13 January.

*Orange-headed Ground Thrush Zoothera citrina

Small numbers regularly recorded near Thakurdwara with four on 14 January.

*Tickell's Thrush Turdus unicolor

Flocks of approximately ten in open sal forest near Thakurdwara on 10 January, six (three males and three females) near Karnali River on 5 January and 1+ at Chisapani (East) on 16 January.

Dark-throated Thrush Turdus ruficollis

Single near Karnali River on 11 January.

*Black-backed Forktail Enicurus immaculatus

Three on tributary stream of Babai River on 17 January.

Pale-footed Bush Warbler Cettia pallidipes

Single and 5+ near Karnali River on 4 and 5 January respectively.

- *Grey-sided Bush Warbler Cettia brunnifrons
Single in grassland near Karnali River on 10 January.
- *Bright-capped Cisticola Cisticola exilis
Single near Karnali River on 4 January.
- Zitting Cisticola Cisticola juncidis
Small numbers at Baghora and Lamkoili Phantas and grassland in vicinity of Karnali River.
- Plain Prinia Prinia inornata
Common in grassland near Thakurdwara, Karnali and Babai Rivers.
- Ashy Prinia Prinia socialis
Small numbers in grassland near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.
- Grey-breasted Prinia Prinia hodgsonii
Common in grassland by Karnali River.
- *Yellow-bellied Prinia Prinia flaviventris
Singles occasionally in grassland near Karnali River.
- Jungle Prinia Prinia sylvatica
Single near Karnali River on 4 January.
- Common Tailorbird Orthotomus sutorius
Small numbers at Thakurdwara and Karnali River (six on 5 January).
- Chestnut-crowned Warbler Seicercus castaniceps
Single at Chisapani (East) on 18 January.
- Grey-hooded Warbler Seicercus xanthoschistos
Small numbers near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani (East).
- *Blyth's Leaf Warbler Phylloscopus reguloides
Common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River, Chisapani (East) and Babai River valley.
- Greenish Warbler Phylloscopus trochiloides
Small numbers occasionally near Thakurdwara and vicinity of Karnali River.
- *Pallas's Leaf Warbler Phylloscopus proregulus
Fairly common near Thakurdwara and vicinity of Karnali River, single at Chisapani (East).
- Yellow-browed Warbler Phylloscopus inornatus
Small numbers occasionally near Thakurdwara and Karnali River with six on 4 January.
- *Dusky Warbler Phylloscopus fuscatus
Single near Karnali River on 5 January.

- *Smoky Warbler Phylloscopus fuligiventer
Single near Karnali River on 4 January.
- *Tickell's Warbler Phylloscopus affinis
Single near Karnali River on 12 January.
- *Chiffchaff Phylloscopus collybita
Small numbers occasionally near Thakurdwara.
- *Rufous-bellied Niltava Niltava sundara
Pair at Chisapani (East) on 18 January.
- Tickell's Blue Flycatcher Cyornis tickelliae
Small numbers occasionally near Thakurdwara (including one in H.Q. garden) and near Karnali River with three males on 4 January, single in open forest near Babai River on 17 January.
- Verditer Flycatcher Muscicapa thalassina
One or two occasionally near Thakurdwara and Karnali River, single at forest edge at Chisapani (East).
- Slaty-Blue Flycatcher Ficedula tricolor
Single male near Thakurdwara on 11 January and single females near Karnali River on 4 and 5 January.
- *Little Pied Flycatcher Ficedula westermanni
Single and two in riverine forest near Karnali River on 10 and 11 January respectively.
- Snowy-browed Flycatcher Ficedula hyperythra
Single female near Karnali River on 5 January.
- *Red-breasted Flycatcher Ficedula parva
Small numbers near Thakurdwara with up to five near Karnali River on 4 January and singles near Chisapani (East).
- Grey-headed Flycatcher Culicicapa ceylonensis
Common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River (twelve on 5 January) and Chisapani (East).
- Yellow-bellied Fantail Rhipidura hypoxantha
Singles occasionally near Thakurdwara, Chisapani (East) and Babai River valley, small numbers near Karnali River on 4 and 5 January.
- *White-throated Fantail Rhipidura albicollis
One or two occasionally near Thakurdwara and Chisapani (East), fairly common near Karnali River with 12 on 4 January.
- White-browed Fantail Rhipidura aureola
Two near Karnali River on 4 January.
- *Tawny-bellied Babbler Dumetia hyperythra
Flocks in grassland near Karnali River on 11 and 15 January.

- Striped Tit-Babbler Macronous gularis
Small flocks near Thakurdwara on 9 and 10 January.
- *Chestnut-capped Babbler Timalia pileata
Small flocks occasionally in grassland near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.
- Yellow-eyed Babbler Chrysomma sinense
Flock in grassland by Karnali River on 12 January.
- Striated Babbler Turdoides earlei
Six near Karnali River on 4 January.
- Jungle Babbler Turdoides striatus
Common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River and flock at Chisapani (East).
- Silver-eared Mesia Leiothrix argenteauris
Large flocks, with an estimated 45+, near Karnali River on 5 January.
- Great Tit Parus major
Common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Babai River valley.
- Velvet-fronted Nuthatch Sitta frontalis
Three and two in vicinity of Karnali River on 4 and 5 January respectively.
- Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch Sitta castanea
Small numbers near Thakurdwara, Karnali River (six on 4 January), Chisapani (East) and Babai River valley.
- Wallcreeper Tichodroma muraria
Single by Karnali River on 5 January.
- Bar-tailed Treecreeper Certhia himalayana
Single near Karnali River on 5 January.
- Crimson Sunbird Aethopyga siparaja
Singles occasionally near Thakurdwara and Chisapani (East).
- Oriental White-eye Zosterops palpebrosa
Small numbers near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.
- Black-hooded Oriole Oriolus xanthornus
Common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani (East) and single in Babai River valley.
- Brown Shrike Lanius cristatus
Two near Karnali River on 4 January and single in Babai River valley on 17 January.
- Long-tailed Shrike Lanius schach
Eleven near Karnali River on 4 January.

*Grey-backed Shrike Lanius tephronotus

Single near Karnali River on 9 January and in Babai River valley on 17 January.

Black Drongo Dicrurus macrocercus

Singles occasionally near Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Ashy Drongo Dicrurus leucophaeus

Singles and small flocks occasionally near Karnali River.

White-bellied Drongo Dicrurus caerulescens

Common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River and Chisapani (East).

Spangled Drongo Dicrurus hottentottus

Small numbers occasionally near Karnali River, Chisapani (East) and Babai River valley.

Greater Racket-tailed Drongo Dicrurus paradiseus

Fairly common near Thakurdwara, Karnali River (15 on 5 January) and single near Chisapani (East) on 16 January.

Red-billed Blue Magpie Urocissa erythrorhyncha

Two near Babai River in hill forest on 17 January.

Rufous Treepie Dendrocitta vagabunda

Fairly common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River (six on 5 January) single in Babai River valley.

Jungle Crow Corvus macrorhynchos

Common near Thakurdwara and Karnali River (25 on 5 January) with small numbers at Chisapani (East) and Babai River valley.

Asian Pied Starling Sturnus contra

Flock of 10+ in fields near Thakurdwara.

Common Mynah Acridotheres tristis

Occasional in vicinity of Thakurdwara and Karnali River.

Jungle Mynah Acridotheres fuscus

Occasional in vicinity of Thakurdwara, Karnali and Babai Rivers.

House Sparrow Passer domesticus

Common on edge of Park near Thakurdwara.

Scaly-breasted Munia Lonchura punctulata

Fifteen near Karnali River on 4 January and single on 9 January.

*Yellow-breasted Greenfinch Carduelis spinoides

Pair near Karnali River on 4 January.

Crested Bunting Melophus lathami

Fairly common near Thakurdwara.

DISCUSSION

A total of 204 species were recorded during the survey period (4 to 18 January 1992), 33 of which were new confirmed records for the National Park. A total of 297 species have now been recorded in Royal Bardia National Park (see Appendix 1), 25 of which are considered at risk in Nepal. Of these 25 threatened species, 13 were recorded during the survey viz. Pallas' s Fish Eagle Haliaeetus albicilla (endangered), Tawny Eagle Aquila rapax (rare), Changeable Hawk-Eagle Spizaetus cirrhatus (vulnerable), White-rumped Needletail Zoonavena sylvatica (rare), Oriental Pied Hornbill Anthraccoceros coronatus (vulnerable), Great Slaty Woodpecker Mulleripicus pulverulentus (vulnerable), *Long-tailed Broadbill Psarisomus dalhousiae (endangered), Rosy Minivet Pericrocotus roseus (rare), White-tailed Stonechat Saxicola leucura (rare), Pale-footed Bush Warbler Cettia pallidipes (rare), *Bright-capped Cisticola Cisticola exilis (rare), *Little-Pied Flycatcher Ficedula westermanni (rare) and Silver-eared Mesia Leiothrix argenteauris (endangered). Three of these species (marked *) were new confirmed records for the National Park. The majority of threatened species in Bardia are dependent on dense forest habitat.

Royal Bardia National Park remains an under-recorded protected area. The fact that almost 70% of its bird species were recorded during this brief twelve day survey period is a reflection of high species diversity. Further survey work is highly recommended especially in the little known eastern sector of the Park in the Babai River Valley.

Despite the fact that Bardia is a relatively extensive protected area, habitat loss and degradation is very much in evidence. The construction of the East-West Highway has severely eroded pristine sal forest from Motipur to Chisapani (West). Other large scale development projects include a proposed dam on the Karnali River. The Karnali supports a large and diverse population of resident and migratory birds and the riverine influence is a very important factor in the Park's ecology. Dam construction would be a serious threat and could have an adverse effect on important bird populations and also on the endangered Gangetic Dolphin, which was observed during the survey near Thakurdwara.

It is vital that Royal Bardia National Park, the largest and most undisturbed wilderness area in the Terai, providing excellent habitat for many endangered species, remains free from further large scale developments if these species are to survive.

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APPENDIX

Checklist and status of Birds of Royal Bardia National Park.

Key

+ Species for which Nepal may hold internationally significant breeding populations.

* Species for which Nepal may hold internationally significant breeding populations and for which the country may be especially important.

m Passage migrant

r Resident

s Summer visitor

W Winter visitor

? Status uncertain

Species at risk in Nepal:

E = Endangered

V = Vulnerable

R = Rare

Great Cormorant <u>Phalacrocorax carbo</u>	r
Little Cormorant <u>Phalacrocorax niger</u>	w? m?
Darter <u>Anhinga melanogaster</u>	r?
Cinnamon Bittern <u>Ixobrychus cinnamomeus</u>	s?
Black-Crowned Night Heron <u>Nycticorax nycticorax</u>	r? s?
Green-backed Heron <u>Butoridus striatus</u>	r? s?
Indian Pond Heron <u>Ardeola grayii</u>	r
Cattle Egret <u>Bubulcus ibis</u>	r
Little Egret <u>Egretta garzetta</u>	r
Intermediate Egret <u>Egretta intermedia</u>	r
Great Egret <u>Egretta alba</u>	r
Grey Heron <u>Ardea cinerea</u>	w
Purple Heron <u>Ardea purpurea</u>	r
Black Stork <u>Ciconia nigra</u>	w? m?
Painted Stork <u>Mycteria leucocephala</u>	w?
Woolly-necked Stork <u>Ciconia episcopus</u>	r? s?
Black-necked Stork <u>Xenorhynchus asiaticus</u>	r? w?
Lesser Adjutant Stork <u>Leptoptilos javanicus</u>	r
Red-naped Ibis <u>Pseudibis papillosa</u>	r

	Lesser Whistling Duck <u>Dendrocygna javanica</u>	w m?
	Greylag Goose <u>Anser anser</u>	w? m?
	Bar-headed Goose <u>Anser indicus</u>	m
	Ruddy Shelduck <u>Tadorna ferruginea</u>	w
	Mallard <u>Anas platyrhynchos</u>	w? m?
	Northern Pintail <u>Anas acuta</u>	w? m?
	Goosander <u>Mergus merganser</u>	w
	Crested Honey Buzzard <u>Fernis ptilorhynchus</u>	r? m?
	Black-shouldered Kite <u>Elanus caeruleus</u>	r
	Black Kite <u>Milyus migrans</u>	r
	Brahminy Kite <u>Haliastur indus</u>	r
E	Pallas's Fish Eagle <u>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</u>	w? m?
	White-tailed Eagle <u>Haliaeetus albicilla</u>	w
E	Lesser Fishing Eagle <u>Ichthyophaga nana</u>	r
	Egyptian Vulture <u>Neophron percnopterus</u>	r
	Lammergeier <u>Gypaetus barbatus</u>	m?
	Oriental White-backed Vulture <u>Gyps bengalensis</u>	r
	Long-billed Vulture <u>Gyps indicus</u>	r
	Eurasian Griffon Vulture <u>Gyps fulvus</u>	r
	Red-headed Vulture <u>Sarcogyps calvus</u>	r
	Crested Serpent Eagle <u>Spilornis cheela</u>	r? w?
	Marsh Harrier <u>Circus aeruginosus</u>	w? m?
	Hen Harrier <u>Circus cyaneus</u>	w? m?
	Pied Harrier <u>Circus melanoleucus</u>	w? m?
	Northern Sparrowhawk <u>Accipiter nisus</u>	r? w?
	Shikra <u>Accipiter badius</u>	r
	White-eyed Buzzard <u>Butastur teesa</u>	r
R	Tawny Eagle <u>Aquila rapax vindhiana</u>	r
	Steppe Eagle <u>Aquila rapax nipalensis</u>	w? m
E	Rufous-bellied Eagle <u>Hieraaetus kienerii</u>	r? m?
V	Changeable Hawk-Eagle <u>Spizaetus cirrhatus</u>	r
	Mountain Hawk-Eagle <u>Spizaetus nipalensis</u>	w?
	Osprey <u>Pandion haliaetus</u>	r? w?
	Common Kestrel <u>Falco tinnunculus</u>	r? w? m?
	Eurasian Hobby <u>Falco subbuteo</u>	r? m? w?
	Black Francolin <u>Francolinus francolinus</u>	r
	Grey Francolin <u>Francolinus pondicerianus</u>	r
	Red Junglefowl <u>Gallus gallus</u>	r
	Blue Peafowl <u>Pavo cristatus</u>	r
	Barred Buttonquail <u>Turnix suscitator</u>	r
	White-breasted Waterhen <u>Amaurornis phoenicurus</u>	r
	Common Moorhen <u>Gallinula chloropus</u>	r? w?
	Sarus Crane <u>Grus antigone</u>	r
E*	Bengal Florican <u>Houbaropsis bengalensis</u>	r?
E	Lesser Florican <u>Sypheotides indica</u>	s?
	Northern Stone-curlew <u>Burhinus oedionemus</u>	r
	Great Stone-Plover <u>Esacus recurvirostris</u>	r? w?
	Little Pratincole <u>Glareola lactea</u>	r?
	Little Ringed Plover <u>Charadrius dubius</u>	r? w?
	Kentish Plover <u>Charadrius alexandrinus</u>	w? m?
	River Plover <u>Hoplopterus duvaucellii</u>	r b
	Red-wattled Plover <u>Hoplopterus indicus</u>	r
	Temminck's Stint <u>Calidris temminckii</u>	w m
	Common Redshank <u>Tringa totanus</u>	w m

	Common Greenshank <u>Tringa nebularia</u>	w m
	Green Sandpiper <u>Tringa ochropus</u>	w?
	Common Sandpiper <u>Actitis hypoleucos</u>	w m
	Great Black-headed Gull <u>Larus ichthyaetus</u>	w m
	Brown-headed Gull <u>Larus brunnicephalus</u>	w m
	Herring Gull <u>Larus argentatus</u>	w?
	Caspian Tern <u>Sterna caspia</u>	m
	River Tern <u>Sterna aurantia</u>	r
	Black-bellied Tern <u>Sterna acuticauda</u>	r? s?
	Little Tern <u>Sterna albifrons</u>	s b
	Rock Pigeon <u>Columba livia</u>	r?
	Collared Dove <u>Streptopelia tranquebarica</u>	r
	Red Turtle Dove <u>Streptopelia decaocto</u>	r
	Oriental Turtle Dove <u>Streptopelia orientalis</u>	w
	Spotted Dove <u>Streptopelia chinensis</u>	r
	Emerald Dove <u>Chalcophaps indica</u>	r
R	Orange-breasted Green Pigeon <u>Treron bicincta</u>	r
	Yellow-footed Green Pigeon <u>Treron phoenicoptera</u>	r
V	Pin-tailed Green Pigeon <u>Treron apicauda</u>	r
	Alexandrine Parakeet <u>Psittacula eupatria</u>	r
	Ring-necked Parakeet <u>Psittacula krameri</u>	r
	Blossom-headed Parakeet <u>Psittacula cyanocephala</u>	w?
	Slaty-headed Parakeet <u>Psittacula himalayana</u>	w?
	Grey-bellied Plaintive Cuckoo <u>Cacomantis passerinus</u>	s
	Common Hawk-Cuckoo <u>Hierococcyx varius</u>	s
	Indian Cuckoo <u>Cuculus micropterus</u>	s
	Common Cuckoo <u>Cuculus canorus</u>	s
	Drongo-Cuckoo <u>Surniculus lugubris</u>	s
	Common Koel <u>Eudynamys scolopacea</u>	r
	Green-billed Malkoha <u>Phaenicophaeus tristis</u>	r
	Sirkeer Malkoha <u>Phaenicophaeus leschenaultii</u>	r
	Greater Coucal <u>Centropus sinensis</u>	r
	Lesser Coucal <u>Centropus bengalensis</u>	r? s?
E	Forest Eagle Owl <u>Bubo nipalensis</u>	r
V	Brown Fish Owl <u>Ketupa zeylonensis</u>	r
	Jungle Owlet <u>Glaucidium radiatum</u>	r
	Asian Barred Owlet <u>Glaucidium cuculoides</u>	r
	Brown Hawk Owl <u>Ninox scutulata</u>	r
	Spotted Little Owl <u>Athene brama</u>	r
	Savanna Nightjar <u>Caprimulgus affinis</u>	?
	Indian Nightjar <u>Caprimulgus asiaticus</u>	?
	Large-tailed Nightjar <u>Caprimulgus macrurus</u>	?
	Jungle Nightjar <u>Caprimulgus indicus</u>	r
	Himalayan Swiftlet <u>Collocalia brevirostris</u>	r
R	White-rumped Needletail <u>Zoonavena sylvatica</u>	r?
	Alpine Swift <u>Apus melba</u>	?
	Little Swift <u>Apus affinis</u>	r
	Crested Tree Swift <u>Hemiprocne coronata</u>	r
	White-breasted Kingfisher <u>Halcyon smyrnensis</u>	r
	Stork-billed Kingfisher <u>Pelargopsis capensis</u>	r
	Common Kingfisher <u>Alcedo atthis</u>	r
	Pied Kingfisher <u>Ceryle rudis</u>	r
	Crested Kingfisher <u>Ceryle lugubris</u>	r?
	Blue-bearded Bee-eater <u>Nyctyornis athertoni</u>	r

	Green Bee-eater <u>Merops orientalis</u>	r s
	Blue-tailed Bee-eater <u>Merops philippinus</u>	s
	Chestnut-headed Bee-eater <u>Merops leschenaulti</u>	s
	Indian Roller <u>Coracias benghalensis</u>	r
R	Dollarbird <u>Eurystomus orientalis</u>	s
	Hoopoe <u>Upupa epops</u>	r m
	Indian Grey Hornbill <u>Tockus birostris</u>	r
V	Oriental Pied Hornbill <u>Anthracoceros coronatus</u>	r
E	Great Pied Hornbill <u>Buceros bicornis</u>	r
	Brown-headed Barbet <u>Megalaima zeylanica</u>	r
	Lineated Barbet <u>Megalaima lineata</u>	r
	Blue-throated Barbet <u>Megalaima asiatica</u>	r
	Coppersmith Barbet <u>Megalaima haemacephala</u>	r
	Rufous Woodpecker <u>Celeus brachyurus</u>	r
	Grey-headed Woodpecker <u>Picus canus</u>	r
	Streak-throated Green Woodpecker <u>Picus myrmecophoneus</u>	r
	Himalayan Golden-backed Woodpecker <u>Dinopium shorii</u>	r
	Lesser Golden-backed Woodpecker <u>Dinopium benghalense</u>	r
	Greater Golden-backed Woodpecker <u>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</u>	r
	White-naped Woodpecker <u>Chrysocolaptes festivus</u>	r
V	Great Slaty Woodpecker <u>Mulleripicus pulverulentus</u>	r
	Yellow-crowned Pied Woodpecker <u>Dendrocopos mahrattensis</u>	r
	Brown-capped Pygmy Woodpecker <u>Dendrocopos molluccensis</u>	r
E	Long-tailed Broadbill <u>Psarisomus dalhousiae</u>	r?
R	Indian Pitta <u>Pitta brachyura</u>	s
	Bengal Bush Lark <u>Mirafra assamica</u>	r
	Ashy-crowned Finchlark <u>Eremopterix grisea</u>	r
	Sandlark <u>Calandrella raytal</u>	r
	Crested Lark <u>Galerida cristata</u>	r
	Brown-throated Sand Martin <u>Riparia paludicola</u>	r
	Barn Swallow <u>Hirundo rustica</u>	r? w?
	Red-rumped Swallow <u>Hirundo daurica</u>	w?
+	Nepal House-Martin <u>Delichon nipalensis</u>	r
	Olive-backed Pipit <u>Anthus hodgsoni</u>	w
	Richard's Pipit <u>Anthus novaeseelandiae</u>	r? w? m?
	Yellow Wagtail <u>Motacilla flava</u>	w? m?
	Citrine Wagtail <u>Motacilla citreola</u>	w?
	Grey Wagtail <u>Motacilla cinerea</u>	w
	White Wagtail <u>Motacilla alba</u>	w? m?
	White-browed Wagtail <u>Motacilla maderaspatensis</u>	r
	Common Woodshrike <u>Tephrodornis pondicerianus</u>	r
	Large Woodshrike <u>Tephrodornis gularis</u>	r?
	Bar-winged Flycatcher-shrike <u>Hemipus picatus</u>	r
	Black-headed Cuckoo-shrike <u>Coracina melanoptera</u>	s?
	Black-winged Cuckoo-shrike <u>Coracina melaschistos</u>	r
	Large Cuckoo-shrike <u>Coracina novaehollandiae</u>	r
	Scarlet Minivet <u>Pericrocotus flammeus</u>	r
	Long-tailed Minivet <u>Pericrocotus ethologus</u>	w?
	Small Minivet <u>Pericrocotus cinnamomeus</u>	r
R	Rosy Minivet <u>Petricrocotus roseus</u>	r?
+	Striated Bulbul <u>Pycnonotus striatus</u>	r
	Black-crested Bulbul <u>Pycnonotus melanicterus</u>	r
	Red-whiskered Bulbul <u>Pycnonotus jocosus</u>	r b
	White-cheeked Bulbul <u>Pycnonotus leucogenys</u>	r

	Red-vented Bulbul <u>Pycnonotus cafer</u>	r
	Ashy Bulbul <u>Hypsipetes flavalus</u>	r?
	Black Bulbul <u>Hypsipetes madagascariensis</u>	r
	Common Iora <u>Aegithina tiphia</u>	r
	Golden-fronted Leafbird <u>Chloropsis aurifrons</u>	r
	White-tailed Rubythroat <u>Luscinia pectoralis</u>	w? m?
	Asian Magpie-Robin <u>Copsychus saularis</u>	r
	White-rumped Shama <u>Copsychus malabaricus</u>	r
	Hodgson's Redstart <u>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</u>	w
	Plumbeous Redstart <u>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</u>	w?
	White-bellied Redstart <u>Hodgsonius phoenicuroides</u>	m
	Common Sonechat <u>Saxicola torquata</u>	r? w? m?
R+	White-tailed Stonechat <u>Saxicola leucura</u>	r
	Pied Bushchat <u>Saxicola caprata</u>	r
	Grey Bushchat <u>Saxicola ferrea</u>	r?
	White-capped Redstart <u>Chaimarrornis leucocephalus</u>	w
	Indian Robin <u>Saxicoloides fulicata</u>	r
	Blue Whistling Thrush <u>Myiophonus caeruleus</u>	w?
	Scaly Thrush <u>Zoothera dauma</u>	w?
	Orange-headed Ground Thrush <u>Zoothera citrina</u>	w?
+	Tickell's Thrush <u>Turdus unicolor</u>	w?
	Dark-throated Thrush <u>Turdus ruficollis</u>	w
+	Black-backed Forktail <u>Enicurus immaculatus</u>	r?
	Grey-bellied Tesia <u>Tesia cyaniventer</u>	w
R*	Pale-footed Bush Warbler <u>Cettia pallipides</u>	r
+	Grey-sided Bush Warbler <u>Cettia brunnifrons</u>	w?
R	Bright-capped Cisticola <u>Cisticola exilis</u>	r?
	Fantail Cisticola <u>Cisticola juncidis</u>	r
	Graceful Prinia <u>Prinia gracilis</u>	r
	Plain Prinia <u>Prinia inornata</u>	r
	Ashy Prinia <u>Prinia socialis</u>	s r
	Grey-breasted Prinia <u>Prinia hodgsoni</u>	r
	Yellow-bellied Prinia <u>Prinia flaviventris</u>	r?
	Jungle Prinia <u>Prinia sylvatica</u>	r
*	Grey-capped Prinia <u>Prinia cinereocapilla</u>	r
	Common Tailorbird <u>Orthotomus sutorius</u>	r
	Blyth's Reed Warbler <u>Acrocephalus dumetorum</u>	w
	Golden-spectacled Warbler <u>Seicercus burkii</u>	w
	Chestnut-crowned Warbler <u>Seicercus castaniceps</u>	w?
+	Grey-hooded Warbler <u>Seicercus xanthoschistos</u>	r?
	Blyth's Leaf Warbler <u>Phylloscopus reguloides</u>	w?
	Greenish Warbler <u>Phylloscopus trochiloides</u>	w? m?
	Pallas's Leaf Warbler <u>Phylloscopus proregulus</u>	w?
	Yellow-browed Warbler <u>Phylloscopus inornatus</u>	w? m?
	Dusky Warbler <u>Phylloscopus fuscatus</u>	w?
*	Smoky Warbler <u>Phylloscopus fulgiventis</u>	w?
	Tickell's Warbler <u>Phylloscopus affinis</u>	w?
	Chiffchaff <u>Phylloscopus collybita</u>	w?
+	Rufous-bellied Niltava <u>Niltava sundara</u>	w?
	Tickell's Blue Flycatcher <u>Cyornis tickelliae</u>	w? m?
	Verditer Flycatcher <u>Muscicapa thalassina</u>	r?
	Asian Sooty Flycatcher <u>Muscicapa sibirica</u>	m
	Asian Brown Flycatcher <u>Muscicapa latirostris</u>	m
	Slaty-blue Flycatcher <u>Ficedula tricolor</u>	w? m?

R	Little Pied Flycatcher <u>Ficedula westermanni</u>	w?
	Snowy-browed Flycatcher <u>Ficedula hyperythra</u>	w?
	Orange-gorgetted Flycatcher <u>Ficedula strophilata</u>	w
	Red-breasted Flycatcher <u>Ficedula parva</u>	w?
	Grey-headed Flycatcher <u>Culicicapa ceylonensis</u>	w?
+	Yellow-bellied Fantail <u>Rhipidura hypoxantha</u>	w?
	White-throated Fantail <u>Rhipidura albicollis</u>	r?
	White-browed Fantail <u>Rhipidura aureola</u>	r
	Asian Paradise Flycatcher <u>Terpsiphone paradisi</u>	s
	Black-naped Monarch <u>Hypothymis azurea</u>	r
	Tawny-bellied Babbler <u>Dumetia hyperythra</u>	r?
	Striped Tit-Babbler <u>Macronous gularis</u>	r
	Chestnut-capped Babbler <u>Timalia pileata</u>	r?
	Yellow-eyed Babbler <u>Chrysomma sinense</u>	r
	Spiny Babbler <u>Turdoides nipalensis</u>	r
	Striated Babbler <u>Turdoides earlei</u>	r
	Jungle Babbler <u>Turdoides striatus</u>	r
+	White-throated Laughing Thrush <u>Garrulax albogularis</u>	r
E	Silver-eared Mesia <u>Leiothrix argentauris</u>	r
	Great Tit <u>Parus major</u>	r
	Velvet-fronted Nuthatch <u>Sitta frontalis</u>	r
	Chestnut-bellied Nuthatch <u>Sitta castanea</u>	r
	Wallcreeper <u>Tichodroma muraria</u>	w
	Bar-tailed Treecreeper <u>Certhia himalayana</u>	w
	Purple Sunbird <u>Nectarinia asiatica</u>	r
	Crimson Sunbird <u>Aethopyga siparaja</u>	r
	Thick-billed Flowerpecker <u>Dicaeum agile</u>	r
	Pale-billed Flowerpecker <u>Dicaeum erythrorhynchos</u>	r
	Buff-bellied Flowerpecker <u>Dicaeum ignipectus</u>	r
	Oriental White-eye <u>Zosterops palpebrosa</u>	r
	Black-hooded Oriole <u>Oriolus xanthornus</u>	r
	Golden Oriole <u>Oriolus oriolus</u>	s
	Brown Shrike <u>Lanius cristatus</u>	w? m?
	Bay-backed Shrike <u>Lanius vittatus</u>	w? m?
	Long-tailed Shrike <u>Lanius schach</u>	r
+	Grey-backed Shrike <u>Lanius tephronotus</u>	w?
	Great Grey Shrike <u>Lanius excubitor</u>	r
	Black Drongo <u>Dicrurus macrocercus</u>	r
	Ashy Drongo <u>Dicrurus leucophaeus</u>	r
	White-bellied Drongo <u>Dicrurus caerulescens</u>	r
V	Crow-billed Drongo <u>Dicrurus annectans</u>	s?
	Bronzed Drongo <u>Dicrurus aeneus</u>	r
	Spangled Drongo <u>Dicrurus hottentottus</u>	r
	Greater Racket-tailed Drongo <u>Dicrurus paradiseus</u>	r
+	Lanceolated Jay <u>Garrulus lanceolatus</u>	r?
	Red-billed Blue Magpie <u>Urocissa erythrorhyncha</u>	r
	Rufous Treepie <u>Dendrocitta vagabunda</u>	r
	House Crow <u>Corvus splendens</u>	r
	Jungle Crow <u>Corvus macrorhynchos</u>	r
	Chestnut-tailed Starling <u>Sturnus malabaricus</u>	r
	Asian Pied Starling <u>Sturnus contra</u>	r
	Common Mynah <u>Acridotheres tristis</u>	r
	Jungle Mynah <u>Acridotheres fuscus</u>	r
	House Sparrow <u>Passer domesticus</u>	r

Eurasian Tree Sparrow <u>Passer montanus</u>	r
Baya Weaver <u>Ploceus philippinus</u>	r
Red Avadavat <u>Amandaya amandaya</u>	r
Striated Munia <u>Lonchura striata</u>	r
Scaly-breasted Munia <u>Lonchura punctulata</u>	r
Yellow-breasted Greenfinch <u>Carduelis spinoides</u>	w?
Common Rosefinch <u>Carpodacus erythrinus</u>	w
Crested Bunting <u>Melophus lathami</u>	r

