

# Sulawesi & Halmahera Wallacean Endemics Trip Report

17<sup>th</sup> August to 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013



Lilac Kingfisher by David Hoddinott



Trip report compiled by Tour Leader: David Hoddinott

## Top 10 birds as voted by participants:

- 1. Standardwing
- 2. Maleo
- 3. Sulawesi Masked Owl
- 4. Ivory-breasted Pitta
- 5. Mountain Serin

- 6. Azure Dollarbird
- 7. Moluccan Owlet-nightjar
- 8. Lilac Kingfisher
- 9. Red-backed Thrush
- 10. Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher

# **Tour Summary**

Surrounded to the north by the Philippines, to the east by New Guinea, the south by Australia and the west by Borneo, the two larger islands of Sulawesi and Halmahera form a significant part of central Indonesia's nearly 15000 islands. We recorded over 100 endemics of a total trip list of 254 species, thus emphasising that this is certainly one of the endemic hotspots of the world!

Our tour started off with an early morning visit to the limestone crags of Karaenta Forest, Sulawesi. Departing Makassar, we set off early to maximise our limited time as we had a flight to catch in the early afternoon. Arriving just as the sun's first rays hit the treetops, we were soon enjoying wonderful sightings



Black-ringed White-eye by David Hoddinott

of stunning Grey-sided and Yellow-sided Flowerpeckers. You could actually feel the sense of excitement in the air as we notched up our first endemics. After enjoying our tea and coffee, we then quickly picked up our main target, the rather localised endemic Black-ringed Whit-eye, which showed splendidly as it sat just in front of us gobbling down some ripe fruit. Scanning the surrounding area we also observed several Blue-backed Parrots, including nice perched scope views. Next we quickly added an eclipse-plumaged Sulawesi Myzomela and the fabulous and often tricky Sulawesi Hornbill, which stayed long enough for everyone to enjoy multiple scope views. Other species observed here included the striking Piping Crow and Spot-tailed Sparrowhawk, confiding Sulawesi Babbler, lovely White-necked Myna, active Brownthroated, Olive-backed and Black Sunbirds, and an ultra-confiding Ashy Woodpecker. Shortly before enjoying lunch at the airport we notched up a bonus endemic in the form of Pale-headed Munia. Thereafter we took a brief flight to Palu and then drove to the fabulous Lore Lindu National Park for a three night stay.

We spent a most enjoyable time exploring the network of trails in Lore Lindu for a fabulous two full days. Some of the highlights during this time included Sulawesi Hawk-Eagle (along with close perched views), a splendid Sulawesi Goshawk, flocks of Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon, smart Red-eared Fruit Dove, Superb Fruit Dove, White-bellied Imperial Pigeon, huge and rarely seen Sombre Pigeon, numerous Goldenmantled Racket-tails, elusive Black-billed Koel, a co-operative pair of Cinnabar Boobook, and stunning



views of Satanic Nightjar at its daytime roost. On several occasions we encountered good mixed species flocks including the tiny Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker, Cerulean and Pygmy Cuckooshrikes, shy Maroonbacked Whistler, Sulawesi Drongo, Rusty-bellied Fantail, Citrine Canary-flycatcher, unusual Malia, secretive Chestnut-backed Bush Warbler, Streak-headed White-eye, Fiery-browed Starling, Sulawesi Thrush, Great Shortwing and Blue-fronted Blue Flycatcher. A real bonus came in the form of good scope



Satanic Nightjar by David Hoddinott

views of the very seldom-encountered Mountain Serin of the beautiful orange-coloured race (a good candidate for a separate species), whilst the lovely Ivory-backed Woodswallow was seen sallying for insects over the open glades in the forest. The whistler-like Hylocitrea, recently placed in its own family, was of course a major target and unfortunately only showed briefly for some. Our overall expectations, however, were greatly exceeded when we recorded a whopping 37 endemics on our first day in the park, a testament to this fabulous national reserve!

Leaving Lore Lindu, we next made our way back to Palu, locating the lovely endemic Purple-winged

Roller and several flocks of Black-faced, Chestnut and Scaly-breasted Munias en route. Other notable sightings during the drive included a stately Oriental Hobby, Buff-banded Rail, a flock of Wandering Whistling Ducks and, rounding off a great day, a cryptic Savanna Nightjar perched on a branch giving unbeatable scope views.

On the following morning we made an early departure for our flight back to Makassar, en route to Manado. Time birding at the airport was most entertaining with remarkable views being had of the polyandrous Barred Buttonquail, including a male accompanied by three tiny chicks. We also found the tricky Java Sparrow, Black Kite, Woolly-necked Stork and White-shouldered Triller before enjoying lunch in the comfortable airport lounge, awaiting our flight to the north-eastern city of Manado.

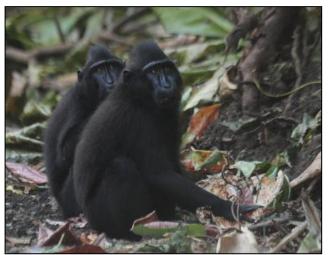
From here we made our way to Dumoga-Bone National Park, where we explored several sections of lowland and mid-altitude rainforest. An early departure the following morning saw us arriving at the entrance to the park just before dawn, where the lovely calls of several Great Eared Nightjars greeted us and we enjoyed good sightings as these huge birds flew by, heading off to their roosting sites. Two splendid Maleos were seen in quick time and stayed for a good while, giving all of us superb scope views and even posing long enough for some photos. What a great highlight this was and certainly a memory cherished by all! At times we weren't quite sure which way to look as a splendid Green-backed Kingfisher made an appearance, and



Sulawesi Masked Owl by David Hoddinott



then a confiding Red-backed Thrush was spotted and White-faced Dove called nearby. After enjoying scope views of this exquisite kingfisher we had the most fabulous views of no less than three thrushes – these *Geokichla* thrushes are a shy and cryptically beautiful group. Shortly thereafter a pair of striking White-faced Dove showed superbly well and the male was seen doing his impressive display flight. After



**Sulawesi Crested Macaque by David Hoddinott** 

enjoying a superb breakfast in the field, we found both Great and Pygmy Hanging Parrots perched in the same tree, allowing for wonderful comparisons. Other highlights of this incredible morning included Bay Coucal, elusive Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher, impressive Ashy Woodpecker, several Red-bellied Pittas and White-rumped Triller. What a start this had been to another fabulous day!

Leaving the forest, we made our way to some wetlands, which produced good numbers of Wandering Whistling Duck, several Sunda Teal, the sought-after Spotted Harrier, Barred and Buff-banded Rails and White-headed Stilt.

After a relaxed lunch we then headed for another section of the park. A Pont crossing allowed

us access to Toraut Forest, which was most rewarding with excellent scope views being had of Yellow-breasted Racket-tail, Blue-backed Parrot and, after a concerted effort, a family group of the very tricky Pied Cuckooshrike.

Well pleased with a most outstanding day's birding, we returned to our hotel for dinner and a good night's rest. A visit to the Molibagu Road the following morning yielded some fabulous new species including a lovely perched Barred Honey Buzzard, several striking Sulawesi Hawk-Eagles, Rufous-bellied Hawk-

Eagle, lovely Lilac Kingfisher, impressive Knobbed Hornbill, Sulawesi Myna and Crimson Sunbird. We then rounded off another great day with an evening excursion, which gave us magnificent views of a pair of Sulawesi Masked Owl – fantastic!!

Next we headed for Tangkoko Nature Reserve, stopping at Gunung Ambang en route. A muddy walk up the mountain was worthwhile as we found the desired target, Matinan Blue Flycatcher, which after some time showed very well, and an adult Spot-tailed Sparrowhawk also gave good views.

Tangkoko was as fabulous as ever and rewarded us with wonderful sightings of both birds and mammals. Some of the highlights here included



**Ruddy Kingfisher by David Hoddinott** 

Philippine Megapode (a wonderful sighting as we watched two birds excavating nest holes at our leisure), Silver-tipped Imperial Pigeon that posed in the early morning light, Ornate Lorikeet (scope views), Yellow-billed Malkoha (a flock of 12 birds following a large troop of Sulawesi Crested Macaque was a most memorable sighting!), a pair of Sulawesi Scops Owl at their day roost (what a cutie!), the noticeably



sexually dimorphic Ochre-bellied Boobook, Sulawesi Nightjar and fabulous Ruddy Kingfisher on a night roost (see photo). We also enjoyed unforgettable sightings of Bear Cuscus and the tiny Spectral Tarsier.



**Great-billed Kingfisher by David Hoddinott** 

Not that it stopped there: a boat trip along the Sampirang River then yielded Great-billed Heron, our main target the Great-billed Kingfisher after a considerable search, and also White-rumped Cuckooshrike.

Leaving Sulawesi, we next boarded a flight to Ternate and then proceeded on a boat trip to Sidangoli on the island of Halmahera – but not before our final early morning visit to Tangkoko, where we obtained superb views of White-bellied Imperial Pigeon and Purple-winged Roller. The boat trip across to Sidangoli was interesting with great sightings of a whopping fifty Red-necked Phalarope, several Bridled Tern and Beach

Kingfisher in the mangroves, while overhead we enjoyed two Great and many Lesser Frigatebirds.

Our time at KBP (Kali Batu Putih) forest produced some brilliant birds including superb views of Gurney's Eagle, cracking scope views of Cinnamon-bellied Imperial Pigeon, a very vocal White Cockatoo, splendid scope views of the tricky Moluccan Hanging Parrot, Large-tailed Nightjar, much-wanted Moluccan Owletnightjar and Paradise-crow.

During the drive to Foli we then recorded a splendid Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove, Moustached Treeswift attending a tiny chick, and immaculate Common Paradise Kingfisher.

The birding at Foli was superb and we recorded a good number of species including Blue-capped and Greyheaded Fruit Doves, a rare and confiding Chattering Lory, Goliath Coucal – the name says it all, superb

scope views of Moluccan Drongo-Cuckoo, Moluccan Scops Owl, Halmahera Boobook, a pair of the rare Azure Dollarbird, elusive Sombre Kingfisher, Blyth's Hornbill, White-streaked Friarbird, Halmahera and Moluccan Cuckooshrikes, Dusky-brown Oriole, Long-billed Crow, Creamthroated White-eye, Moluccan Starling and Dusky Myzomela. The undoubted highlight here, however, was a fabulous male Standardwing displaying to three females for half an hour! We all stood in awe as we watched this wonderful show, the male constantly waving his standards and dancing from branch to branch as soon as a female approached his display area. This truly was an incredible birding



Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher by David Hoddinott

experience and one that I suspect we will all cherish for as long as we live!!!



We next continued with a visit to Lame Forest, which had us all creeping stealthily along a forest trail and



**Spectral Tarsier by David Hoddinott** 

then into the undergrowth as we sought our main quarry here, the magnificent Ivory-breasted Pitta. After a good deal of patience and persistence, we were finally rewarded with fair views of this fantastic species – another major tour target in the bag!

Returning to the island of Ternate, we visited the Tolire Crater Lake and were rewarded with great scope views of the recently split Tricoloured Grebe.

On our last day back in Sulawesi we visited Gunung Mahawu, where we found Barred Rail, Isabelline Bush-hen and the scarce Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker. The wetland here was most productive and we recorded Yellow and Cinnamon Bitterns amongst a host of egrets and herons, Little Pied Cormorant, White-browed Crake, Purple Swamphen and Dusky Moorhen. And so ended another wonderful and richly rewarding adventure through the world's number one endemic hotspot!

Our final night together on the island saw us enjoying a scrumptious farewell dinner followed by a good night's sleep, before catching our respective departure flights home; or, for those continuing on with our fabulous extension, to Denpasar,

Bali. Thanks must go to a wonderful group of enthusiastic and fun participants as well as a superb ground operations team. I am very much looking forward to travelling with you all again!

## **Annotated List of Birds recorded**

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows the IOC 3.4 list of: Gill, F. and Wright, M. Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press.

(ES) – Endemic to Sulawesi; (EM) – Endemic to Moluccas

# Total species recorded: 254

# Megapodes Megapodiidae

Maleo (ES)

Macrocephalon maleo

What a great bird! Two magnificent individuals perched up allowing for superb scope views for all. We enjoyed subsequent views of a further two during our forest walk for a full ten minutes. This was certainly one of the highlights of the tour!

**Philippine Megapode (Tabon Scrubfowl)** *Megapodius cumingii* 

We were treated with superb views of two birds digging nest holes in their mounds in Tangkoko Nature Reserve. A real treat!

**Dusky Megapode** 

Megapodius freycinet



This year they proved particularly elusive and we only observed two birds briefly. One was seen on the Lame road and another at KBP.

## **Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae**

**Wandering Whistling Duck** 

Dendrocygna arcuata

About ten birds were first encountered near Palu, with further sightings of 86 at a wetland near Dumoga Bone National Park.

**Pacific Black Duck** 

Anas superciliosa

We had good fly by views of one during the drive back from Lore Lindu NP to Palu.

**Sunda Teal** 

Anas gibberifrons

Our first sighting was superb views of a pair at Lake Tambing in Lore Lindu NP. We later enjoyed good views of five birds that showed well in a wetland near Dumoga Bone.

## Grebes Podicipedidae

**Tricoloured Grebe** 

Tachybaptus tricolor

We enjoyed wonderful scope views of at least 30 birds on the Tolire Crater Lake at Ternate.

Note: This species is sometimes split from Little Grebe, P. ruficollis and is endemic to Java, Wallacea, New Guinea & Solomon Islands. IOC accepts this split.

## **Storks Ciconiidae**

**Woolly-necked Stork** 

Ciconia episcopus

We had superb views of one at the Makassar airport.

## Herons, Bitterns Ardeidae

Yellow Bittern

Ixobrychus sinensis

We enjoyed superb views of two at Tondano wetland near Manado.

**Cinnamon Bittern** 

Ixobrychus cinnamomeus

Our first sightings were of a couple en route to Lore Lindu NP. However our best views were of three at Tondano wetland near Manado.

Nankeen (Rufous) Night Heron

Nycticorax caledonicus

Just a couple birds were seen at Tondano wetland, Manado.

**Striated (Little) Heron** 

Butorides striata

Two birds were seen in the mangroves near Tangkoko.

**Javan Pond Heron** 

Ardeola speciosa

We had many scattered sightings of breeding-plumage birds in paddyfields throughout the tour.

**Eastern Cattle Egret** 

Bubulcus coromandus

This widespread species was commonly encountered throughout the tour in open fields.

**Great-billed Heron** 

Ardea sumatrana

One of these giant birds was seen very well during our boat trip into the mangroves near Tangkoko.

**Purple Heron** 

Ardea purpurea

We enjoyed scattered sightings throughout the tour of this widespread species.

**Great Egret** 

Ardea alba

We had a superb sighting of one near Dumoga Bone NP and another en route to Foli.

**Intermediate Egret** 

Egretta intermedia



We found one bird in a paddy field en route from Lore Lindu to Palu and later enjoyed another en route to Foli. Peak numbers of eight were seen at Tondano wetland near Manado.

**Little Egret** Egretta garzetta

A few scattered sightings were had of this widespread species throughout the tour.

**Pacific Reef Heron** *Egretta sacra* 

At least ten birds were seen during our trip to the mangroves near Tangkoko.

## Frigatebirds Fregatidae

**Great Frigatebird** 

Fregata minor

We enjoyed superb views of a male and female flying with a flock of 20 lesser frigatebirds at Sidangoli.

Lesser Frigatebird

Fregata ariel

We had a great sighting of twenty at Sidangoli, Halmahera.

#### Cormorants, shags Phalacrocoracidae

**Little Pied Cormorant** 

Microcarbo melanoleucos

We had good scope views of one at Tondano wetland near Manado.

# Ospreys Pandionidae

**Eastern Osprey** 

Pandion cristatus

We had superb scope views of one during the drive from Subaim to Sidangoli and another was seen at Tondano wetland, Manado.

## Kites, Hawks & Eagles Accipitridae

**Barred Honey Buzzard** 

Pernis celebensis

We had very distant views of one at Lore Lindu NP and later enjoyed fabulous scope views of an adult on the Molibagu Road.

Pacific Baza Aviceda subcristata

We had cracking scope views of one during our final morning at Sidangoli, Halmahera.

**Sulawesi Serpent Eagle (ES)** 

Spilornis rufipectus

Two birds were seen well in Lore Lindu NP and another at Tambun, Dumoga-Bone NP.

Sulawesi Hawk-Eagle (ES)

Nisaetus lanceolatus

We enjoyed outstanding views of this endemic, first one perched right above us at Lore Lindu NP and several including a calling juvenile on the Molibagu Road.

**Rufous-bellied Hawk-Eagle** 

Lophotriorchis kienerii

A splendid adult was seen flying along a ridge on the Molibagu Road.

Black Eagle Ictinaetus malayensis

This widespread species was seen twice in Lore Lindu NP.

**Gurney's Eagle** 

Aquila gurneyi

We enjoyed outstanding views of a pair with juvenile at KBP. Later a further pair was seen above the Tolire Crater lake on Ternate.

Sulawesi Goshawk (ES)

Accipiter griseiceps

Often a tough endemic to find, we were very fortunate to have great scope views of an adult in Lore Lindu NP and amazingly another on the Molibagu Road.

**Spot-tailed Sparrowhawk (ES)** 

Accipiter trinotatus



We had brief views of one at Kaerenta Forest and later enjoyed fabulous scope views of a juvenile at Lore Lindu NP and finally an adult at Gunung Ambang.

Variable (Grey-throated) Goshawk

Accipiter hiogaster griseogularis

We found this sleek species almost daily in Halmahera including several fine perched views.

Note: a species which is sometimes split from Variable Goshawk and endemic to the northern Moluccas. IOC does not accept this split.

**Spotted Harrier** 

Circus assimilis

We had magnificent views of six near Dumoga Bone NP.

Black Kite

Milvus migrans

Small numbers of this widespread species were seen near Dumoga Bone.

**Brahminy Kite** 

Haliastur indus

This bird was commonly encountered throughout the tour near coastal areas.

White-bellied Sea Eagle

Haliaeetus leucogaster

Several adults were seen during the drive to Kotamabagu and a juvenile was seen at the Tolire Crater Lake.

## Caracaras, Falcons Falconidae

**Spotted Kestrel** 

Falco moluccensis

About a dozen birds were seen in total during the tour with our first views near Lore Lindu NP.

**Oriental Hobby** 

Falco severus

We had splendid scope views of one near Lore Lindu NP.

# Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae

**Barred Rail** 

Gallirallus torquatus

Pleasantly common and often conspicuous, we enjoyed good views of this attractive species on several occasions, including awesome sightings on our final day at Gunung Mahawu.

**Buff-banded Rail** 

Gallirallus philippensis

A magnificent seven were seen in rice paddies near Dumoga-Bone NP.

Isabelline Bush-hen (ES)

Amaurornis isabellina

Always a secretive bird, one brief sighting en route to Lore Lindu NP. Our best sighting was of one on our final afternoon at Gunung Mahawu.

Pale-vented (Rufous-tailed) Bush-hen

Amaurornis moluccana

A pair was heard at KBP on Halmahera as they scolded us loudly.

White-browed Crake

Porzana cinerea

We enjoyed a good sighting of one at a wetland en route to Subaim. Several more were seen at Tondano wetland.

Purple [Black-backed] Swamphen

Porphyrio porphyrio [indicus]

A couple birds were seen well at a wetland in Dumoga Bone and a further two at Tondano wetland.

**Common Moorhen** 

Gallinula chloropus

We had good scope views of three at Tondano wetland.

**Dusky Moorhen** 

Gallinula tenebrosa

We enjoyed good scope views of one at Tondano wetland near Manado.

# **Buttonquail Turnicidae**

**Barred Buttonquail** 

Turnix suscitator



One bird showed briefly as we walked through the secondary scrub near Palu. A further eight, including a male with 3 chicks were seen exceptionally well walking in short grass at the Makassar airport.

## Stilts, Avocets Recurvirostridae

White-headed Stilt

Himantopus leucocephalus

We enjoyed fabulous scope views of two in a wetland near Dumoga-Bone NP.

Sandpipers, Snipes Scolopacidae

**Common Greenshank** 

Tringa nebularia

We had great views of two during the drive from Kotamabagu to Tangkoko.

Wood Sandpiper

Tringa glareola

Scattered sightings at wetlands near Dumoga Bone, en route to Tangkoko and near Manado.

**Grey-tailed Tattler** 

Tringa brevipes

One bird showed for everyone at the entrance to the mangroves during our boat trip near Tangkoko.

**Common Sandpiper** 

Actitis hypoleucos

Two birds were seen at some salt pans near Palu with a further sighting near Dumoga Bone.

**Red-necked Phalarope** 

Phalaropus lobatus

We had wonderful views of 50 during the boat trip from Ternate to Sidangoli. A very pleasant surprise!

**Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae** 

**Greater Crested Tern** 

Thalasseus bergii

One was seen from our hotel in Manado and another during the boat trip from Ternate to Halmahera.

**Bridled Tern** 

Onychoprion anaethetus

Four of these smart birds were seen on the boat crossing from Ternate to Halmahera.

**Common Tern** 

Sterna hirundo

We had good views of one during the boat trip from Ternate to Halmahera.

Skuas Stercorariidae

Parasitic (Arctic) Jaeger

Stercorarius parasiticus

We had brief views of one during the boat trip from Ternate to Halmahera.

Pigeons, Doves Columbidae

**Rock Dove** 

Columba livia

Seen in small numbers in the larger towns and cities, including several sightings in Palu.

Red Turtle (Collared) Dove

Streptopelia tranquebarica

We found several birds in the secondary habitat near Palu.

**Spotted Dove** 

Spilopelia chinensis

This common species was regularly seen in secondary habitat throughout the tour.

Slender-billed (Brown) Cuckoo-Dove

Macropygia amboinensis

With a taxonomy still poorly understood, this widespread species was seen regularly throughout the tour in forested areas.

Note: Slender-billed Cuckoo-Dove, M. amboinensis is sometimes split from Brown Cuckoo-Dove, M. phasianella. IOC accepts this split.

White-faced (S. Black Pigeon) C-Dove (ES)

Turacoena manadensis



Just a couple sightings this year, we first saw a magnificent pair at Tambun and later enjoyed superb scope views of one at Toraut Forest.

**Common Emerald Dove** 

Chalcophaps indica

One was seen briefly flying over the road at Lame Forest.

**Stephan's Emerald Dove** 

Chalcophaps stephani

One was seen very briefly at Tambun, Dumoga-Bone NP.

Pink-necked Green Pigeon

Treron vernans

This widespread species was scarce in the mangrove forest near Tangkoko where a few flew over briefly. Later we enjoyed superb scope views of six on our final morning at Sidangoli.

**Grey-cheeked Green Pigeon** 

Treron griseicauda

We had scattered sightings of this species including stunning scope views of a dozen along the Salibu Road and a further six at Toraut Forest.

**Red-eared Fruit Dove (ES)** 

Ptilinopus fischeri

This fine-looking endemic was seen especially well in Lore Lindu where we saw 7 birds including prolonged scope views of one bird perched only ten meters away!

Oberholser's (Maroon-chinned) Fruit Dove (ES) Ptilinopus epius

Always a tough endemic, one was heard calling on the Molibagu Road.

**Scarlet-breasted Fruit Dove (EM)** 

Ptilinopus bernsteinii

What a super bird! Another tricky species, we were fortunate to find one gaudy bird during the drive from Sidangoli to Subaim. Erling was fortunate to find a further pair at KBP.

**Superb Fruit Dove** 

Ptilinopus superbus

A lovely bird. Six birds were seen well in Lore Lindu NP.

**Blue-capped Fruit Dove (EM)** 

Ptilinopus monacha

Plenty of fine sightings were had of this specialty at Foli.

**Grey-headed Fruit Dove (EM)** 

Ptilinopus hyogastrus

Pleasantly common on Halmahera, we enjoyed scope views of plenty including at least twenty seen on one day near Foli.

**Black-naped Fruit Dove** 

Ptilinopus melanospilus

Several pairs were watched at length through the scope with our finest sunlit views in Lore Lindu and Dumoga Bone.

White-bellied Imperial Pigeon (ES)

Ducula forsteni

An attractive endemic, we had great scope views of this huge pigeon in Lore Lindu NP.

**Grey-headed Imperial Pigeon (ES)** 

Ducula radiata

We had superb scope views of three on the Salibu Road and a further four en route from Tangkoko to Manado, another tricky endemic!

**Green Imperial Pigeon** 

Ducula aenea

The subspecies here has a distinct rufous nape and we found plenty throughout the tour with our first views at Tambun and several more including scope studies at Toraut Forest.

**Spectacled (White-eyed) Imperial Pigeon** 

Ducula perspicillata

A smashing bird, we enjoyed great scope views of one near Foli and had many others flying overhead.

A further two were seen at Tolire Crater Lake, Ternate.

**Cinnamon-bellied Imperial Pigeon (EM)** 

Ducula basilica

Simply gorgeous views of this elegant species were had at KBP.

**Pied Imperial Pigeon** 

Ducula bicolor

We first encountered this widespread species near Foli with further views of perched birds en route from Subaim to Sidangoli.



Silver-tipped (White) Imperial Pigeon (ES)

Ducula luctuosa

Often a scarce species, we first saw two flying over Toraut Forest with further good views in the forest of Tangkoko.

Sombre Pigeon (ES) Cryptophaps poecilorrhoa

We had brief views of this rare pigeon in Lore Lindu NP.

## Cockatoos Cacatuidae

#### White Cockatoo (EM)

Cacatua alba

Plenty of noisy birds were seen well in Halmahera and Ternate, we recorded peak numbers of ten at the latter site. They were also observed flailing their crests.

#### **Parrots Psittacidae**

**Great (Sulawesi) Hanging Parrot (ES)** 

Loriculus stigmatus

Quite a few sightings were had of this small parrot in Dumoga Bone NP with multiple scope studies of perched birds.

**Moluccan Hanging Parrot (EM)** 

Loriculus amabilis

We enjoyed good views in the forest of KBP, including scope views of a perched bird.

Pygmy (Small) Hanging Parrot (ES)

Loriculus exilis

This scarce species was only seen in Dumoga Bone where we scoped a cooperative individual at Tambun.

**Violet-necked Lory** 

Eos squamata

The colours on this bird have to be seen to be believed, and we enjoyed several sightings of bright red and purple birds, including perched views through the scope.

**Ornate Lorikeet (ES)** 

Trichoglossus ornatus

Our first sightings were very brief flight views at Toraut Forest. We later enjoyed superb scope views of several in Tangkoko NR.

**Citrine (Yellow-and-green) Lorikeet (ES)** 

Trichoglossus flavoviridis

These fast-flying lorikeets were seen in good numbers at Lore Lindu NP.

**Chattering Lory (EM)** 

Lorius garrulus

We had amazing views of one of these beautiful and rare birds at Foli, Halmahera.

**Red-flanked Lorikeet** 

Charmosyna placentis

Plenty of these fast-flying lorikeets were seen well in the forests of Halmahera including scope studies of a female.

**Red-cheeked Parrot** 

Geoffroyus geoffroyi

We enjoyed plenty of fine sightings of perched and flying birds in the forests of Halmahera; a great songster.

Yellow-breasted Racket-tail (ES)

Prioniturus flavicans

Often a tough bird to obtain good views of, we had superb scope views of a pair at Toraut Forest.

**Golden-mantled Racket-tail (ES)** 

*Prioniturus platurus* 

More common than the preceding species, we had numerous views including fine flocks in flight in Lore Lindu and Dumoga Bone.

**Great-billed Parrot** 

*Tanygnathus megalorynchos* 

An impressive species, we had brief flight views of two at Tolire Lake, Ternate.

Blue-backed (Azure-rumped) Parrot

Tanygnathus sumatranus



Our first sightings were of three at Kaerenta Forest, where we obtained great scope views. We later enjoyed further nice perched views of this attractive species at Toraut Forest.

**Eclectus Parrot**Eclectus roratus

Still fairly numerous on Halmahera, we saw several colorful birds each day including several perched views. It was pleasing to see a good number of females this year.

## **Cuckoos Cuculidae**

**Bay Coucal (ES)** 

Centropus celebensis

A party of four of this noisy species was seen moving through the vine tangles at Tambun, Dumoga Bone NP.

**Goliath Coucal (EM)** 

Centropus goliath

Several great encounters were had of this impressive coucal with large black and white adults and juveniles clamoring about the thick growth on Halmahera.

**Lesser Coucal** 

Centropus bengalensis

This widespread species was seen on a number of occasions in open secondary habitat throughout the tour.

Yellow-billed Malkoha (ES)

Rhamphococcyx calyorhynchus

A striking bird, we found this species in most forests in Sulawesi in small numbers.

**Black-billed Koel (ES)** 

Eudynamys melanorhynchus

Easier to hear than see, we first found an adult that perched for good but brief views near Lore Lindu NP with a further good sighting at Toraut Forest.

**Channel-billed Cuckoo** 

Scythrops novaehollandiae

A monstrous member of the cuckoo family! A superb six birds were seen at the Tolire Crater Lake.

Little (Gould's) Bronze Cuckoo

Chrysococcyx minutillus

We had great views of one in Lore Lindu NP.

**Brush Cuckoo** 

Cacomantis variolosus

Heard regularly in Halmahera and several were seen well near Sidangoli.

**Rusty-breasted Cuckoo** 

Cacomantis sepulcralis

We had several great sightings in Lore Lindu NP.

Moluccan (Square-tailed) Drongo-Cuckoo

Surniculus musschenbroeki

This cuckoo was heard singing from a distance near Lore Lindu NP and later we enjoyed cracking scope views of one at Foli, Halmahera.

**Oriental Cuckoo** 

Cuculus optatus

Elaine and Mary saw what was most likely this species, near Gunung Ambang.

# **Barn Owls Tytonidae**

Sulawesi Masked Owl (ES)

Tyto rosenbergii

After having good flyover views at Toraut Forest we were treated to superb perched views of an adult in Kotamabagu.

# Owls Strigidae

**Moluccan Scops Owl** 

Otus magicus

It took us a few tries, but eventually we coaxed a bird out giving good but brief views in KBP and a further confiding pair was seen at Foli.

Sulawesi Scops Owl (ES)

Otus manadensis



We had simply outrageous views of one during a night walk at Tangkoko and the following day we found a pair roosting at our lodge.

Ochre-bellied Boobook (ES)

Ninox ochracea

A real treat this year as we enjoyed fabulous scope views of a pair at their day roost in Tangkoko.

Cinnabar Boobook (ES)

Ninox ios

A fabulous bird showed exceptionally well in Lore Lindu NP.

Halmahera (Moluccan) Boobook

Ninox hypogramma

We had to spend a good deal of night birding to find this species. Our patience and persistence was rewarded with good views of one at Foli.

Speckled Boobook (ES)

Ninox punctulata

We had brief views of this striking bird near Lore Lindu NP.

# Nightjars Caprimulgidae

Satanic (Diabolical/Heinrich's) Nightjar (ES) Eu

Eurostopodus diabolicus

A gorgeous bird when seen well, we observed splendid views of one at its day roost for close study of the detailed pattern across their breast and faces. What a stunner!

**Great Eared Nightjar** 

Lyncornis macrotis

Plenty of these huge vocal birds were seen well in the Dumoga Bone area at dawn where we enjoyed great views and another was seen near Lore Lindu NP.

Large-tailed Nightjar

Caprimulgus macrurus

One bird showed exceptionally well at KBP, Halmahera.

Sulawesi Nightjar (ES)

Caprimulgus celebensis

One bird showed well over the forest in Tangkoko.

Savanna Nightjar

Caprimulgus affinis

We had simply amazing views of three birds in farmbush near Palu, one even sat up in a tree giving us outrageous views.

# Owlet-nightjars Aegothelidae

Moluccan Owlet-nightjar (EM)

Aegotheles crinifrons

A splendid calling individual perched for everyone to admire in the KBP forest.

# Treeswifts Hemiprocnidae

**Grey-rumped Treeswift** 

Hemiprocne longipennis

Plenty of these widespread treeswifts were seen well at scattered sites throughout Sulawesi.

**Moustached Treeswift** 

Hemiprocne mystacea

Several of these huge and most impressive treeswifts were seen en route to Foli, Halmahera. We also enjoyed scope views of an adult attending a small chick.

## **Swifts Apodidae**

**Glossy Swiftlet** 

Collocalia esculenta

This species was commonly encountered at all forest sites.

Halmahera (Moluccan) Swiftlet (EM)

Aerodramus infuscatus

We had great views of two birds at a small pond near Sidangoli.

Sulawesi (Moluccan) Swiftlet (ES)

Aerodramus sororum



Small numbers of this species were seen flying over Lore Lindu NP and later we enjoyed good views of several flying low over some fields on Gunung Mahawu.

Note: a species which is sometimes split from Halmahera (Moluccan) Swiftlet, A.infuscatus. IOC accepts this split.

**Uniform Swiftlet** 

Aerodramus vanikorensis

This is another common species that we saw in most lowland areas especially over disturbed habitat.

**Purple Needletail** 

Hirundapus celebensis

At least eight birds were seen cruising overhead in Lore Lindu NP.

**Asian Palm Swift** 

Cypsiurus balasiensis

Four birds were seen alongside the road during our drive from Lore Lindu to Palu.

**House Swift** 

Apus nipalensis

A flock of twenty was seen at our hotel in Makassar.

## Rollers Coraciidae

**Purple-winged Roller (ES)** 

Coracias temminckii

A beautiful endemic, we found one bird during our time near Lore Lindu and a further one was seen near Tangkoko.

**Oriental Dollarbird** 

Eurystomus orientalis

One was seen in the mangroves near Tangkoko and later we enjoyed numerous sightings in Halmahera.

**Azure Dollarbird (EM)** 

Eurystomus azureus

We had prolonged and magnificent scope views of a pair at Foli. This species has become exceedingly difficult to find and we were very fortunate to see it!

## Kingfishers Alcedinidae

**Green-backed Kingfisher (ES)** 

Actenoides monachus

After tracking down two birds in Tambun for scope views we later found a spectacular male in Tangkoko.

**Scaly-breasted Kingfisher (ES)** 

Actenoides princeps

A tough customer, after a concerted effort we heard this extremely elusive species in Lore Lindu NP.

**Common Paradise Kingfisher** 

Tanysiptera galatea

We were pleased to coax into view an elegant adult while birding en route from KBP to Foli.

Lilac (-cheeked) Kingfisher (ES)

Cittura cyanotis

We enjoyed exceptional views of this beauty on the Molibagu Road and another at Tangkoko, we marveled at a single bird perched through the scope for twenty minutes!

**Great-billed (Black-billed) Kingfisher (ES)** 

Pelargopsis melanorhyncha

After scanning through the mangroves near Tangkoko during our boat trip, we were pleased to find one monster bird that cooperated for excellent perched views.

**Ruddy Kingfisher** 

Halcyon coromanda

We had fabulous views of two at Tangkoko. Our first was fantastic views of a perched bird which gave prolonged views of this often shy species. Later we enjoyed phenomenal views of a bird on its night roost.

**Blue-and-white Kingfisher (EM)** 

Todiramphus diops

A pleasantly common endemic on Halmahera, we had several nice sightings at the edge of forest during our time on the island.

Sombre Kingfisher (EM)

Todiramphus funebris



After some searching for this scarce endemic, our efforts were rewarded with a responsive bird that shot into view like a rocket and perched only meters away until we finally left the bird where it landed twenty minutes later!

**Collared Kingfisher** 

Todiramphus chloris

This widespread species was common throughout the tour in degraded habitats.

**Beach Kingfisher** 

Todiramphus saurophagus

A striking bird with a white head, we found eight birds that showed well along the mangrove edge on our boat trip to Sidangoli.

**Sacred Kingfisher** 

Todiramphus sanctus

First seen at the Makassar airport. Later a few of these more widespread birds were seen in Dumoga Bone at a wetland and again in the mangroves of Tangkoko.

Common Kingfisher

Alcedo atthis

A few birds of the endemic subspecies *hispidoides* were seen well with the distinctive blue ear-patch. Our first sighting was at the Makassar airport with further views in Dumoga Bone and Tangkoko.

**Sulawesi Dwarf Kingfisher (ES)** 

Ceyx fallax

We all had amazing views of one through the scope of this colourful gem at Tambun.

# **Bee-eaters Meropidae**

**Purple-bearded Bee-eater (ES)** 

Meropogon forsteni

This wonderful endemic was seen in Lore Lindu NP with good perched views through the scope. One of the world's great bee-eaters!

**Blue-tailed Bee-eater** 

Merops philippinus

A bird of open habitats, we found at least six in farmbush near Palu.

**Rainbow Bee-eater** 

Merops ornatus

Plenty of this Australian species were seen very well during our time on Halmahera.

# Hornbills Bucerotidae

Sulawesi (Dwarf) Hornbill (ES)

Penelopides exarhatus

Often a tough endemic to connect with. We enjoyed superb views of a flock of four at Kaerenta Forest.

**Knobbed Hornbill (ES)** 

Aceros cassidix

A marvel of nature, the swooshing of heavy wings was a regular sight in healthy forests in Sulawesi with numerous outstanding views of this attractive endemic.

**Blyth's Hornbill** 

Rhyticeros plicatus

Pleasantly common on Halmahera, we found this huge hornbill also found on New Guinea on a daily basis. We enjoyed a peak count of 25 on one day in KBP.

# **Woodpeckers Picidae**

Sulawesi Pygmy Woodpecker (ES)

Dendrocopos temminckii

Never especially common, we had good views of two of this tiny woodpecker in Lore Lindu NP.

Ashy Woodpecker (ES)

Mulleripicus fulvus

This hefty endemic was first seen at Kaerenta Forest with further good views in Lore Lindu NP and at Tangkoko NR.

## Pittas Pittidae

**Red-bellied (Blue-breasted) Pitta** 

Erythropitta erythrogaster



Two of these widespread but extremely attractive pittas were seen incredibly well by everyone at Tambun.

**Ivory-breasted Pitta (EM)** 

Pitta maxima

What a magnificent species!!! After a great deal of effort we located one which showed reasonably well along the Lame road. This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip!

## Honeyeaters Meliphagidae

**Dusky Myzomela** 

Myzomela obscura

We had great views of two at Foli, Halmahera.

Sulawesi Myzomela (ES)

Myzomela chloroptera

We enjoyed scattered sightings of this pretty endemic during our time on Sulawesi with our first views in the forest at Kaerenta

White-streaked Friarbird (EM)

Melitograis gilolensis

A species which can prove elusive on Halmahera, we found a couple birds on a daily basis in KBP and at Foli.

Dark-eared Myza (Lesser Str Honeyeater) (ES) Myza celebensis

This species was common in Lore Lindu with several nice views including scope studies of an unusually motionless bird.

White-eared Myza (Greater S. Honeyeater) (ES) Myza sarasinorum

Harder to get good views of than the preceding species, several birds were seen in the higher areas of Lore Lindu along the Anaso track.

## Australian Warblers Acanthizidae

**Golden-bellied Gerygone** 

Gerygone sulphurea

Two birds were seen in the forest of Lore Lindu and thereafter heard in other forest areas in the north of Sulawesi.

# **Woodswallows Artamidae**

White-breasted Woodswallow

Artamus leucorynchus

This widespread species was commonly seen throughout the tour in secondary habitats.

Ivory-backed (White-bckd) Woodswallow (ES) Artamus monachus

A beautiful endemic, we had our first sightings in Lore Lindu with further views of several close perched birds in Dumoga Bone.

# **Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae**

**Moluccan Cuckooshrike (EM)** 

Coracina atriceps

We enjoyed cracking sightings of several of this large species in the forest of Foli on Halmahera.

Cerulean Cuckooshrike (ES)

Coracina temminckii

Six were seen and scoped during our time in Lore Lindu NP.

Pied Cuckooshrike (ES)

Coracina bicolor

After a concerted effort we were finally rewarded with fabulous scope views of this elusive canopy dweller in the Toraut forest of Dumoga Bone.

White-rumped Cuckooshrike (ES)

Coracina leucopygia

Five vocal birds were seen very well in the mangroves near Tangkoko.

White-bellied Cuckooshrike

Coracina papuensis



A widespread species, we found a few birds in open country on Halmahera.

Halmahera Cuckooshrike (EM)

Coracina parvula

Always a low density bird, we enjoyed two separate sightings in the forest at Foli and once at KBP.

Pygmy Cuckooshrike (ES)

Coracina abbotti

Often a scarce bird, we had one sighting of this attractive cuckooshrike in Lore Lindu NP.

Sulawesi Cicadabird (ES)

Coracina morio

We had superb views of five in Lore Lindu NP and a further one at Tambun.

White-rumped (Sulawesi) Triller (ES)

Lalage leucopygialis

We had good views of two at Tambun, Dumoga Bone NP with a further sighting on the Molibagu

Road.

**White-shouldered Triller** 

Lalage sueurii

Our first sightings were at the Makassar airport and several more were seen near Palu.

**Rufous-bellied Triller (EM)** 

Lalage aurea

A striking species, we enjoyed many great views in the forests of Halmahera, especially in Foli.

## Whistlers and Allies Pachycephalidae

**Maroon-backed Whistler (ES)** 

Coracornis raveni

After a very persistent effort we obtained great views of a male on our second visit up the Anaso track.

**Sulphur-vented (Yellow-) Whistler (ES)** 

Pachycephala sulfuriventer

This species was seen in montane forest habitat in Sulawesi with numerous great views in Lore Lindu.

**Australian Golden Whistler** 

Pachycephala pectoralis

A common sound on Halmahera, one female showed very well in KBP.

**Drab Whistler (EM)** 

Pachycephala griseonota

Small numbers were seen at Foli, Halmahera.

Figbirds, Orioles Oriolidae

**Dusky-brown (Halmahera) Oriole (EM)** 

Oriolus phaeochromus

We had good views of this scarce species on two occasions in the forest of Foli.

**Black-naped Oriole** 

Oriolus chinensis

A widespread and often common species, we found several birds in the lowlands of Lore Lindu NP.

# **Drongos Dicruridae**

**Hair-crested Drongo** 

Dicrurus hottentottus

Plenty of these noisy creatures were seen well throughout Sulawesi, especially in the north.

Sulawesi Drongo (ES)

Dicrurus montanus

Just a few birds were seen well in Lore Lindu often with small mixed flocks.

**Spangled Drongo** 

Dicrurus bracteatus

This was a regularly encountered species on Halmahera in forest habitat.

# Fantails Rhipiduridae

Willie Wagtail

Rhipidura leucophrys

This active bird was abundant in secondary habitat on Halmahera where we noted a bird nesting directly on a telephone line.

**Rusty-bellied Fantail (ES)** 

Rhipidura teysmanni

Plenty of fine sightings were had of the sprightly little bird in Lore Lindu NP.



#### Monarchs Monarchidae

Black-naped [Pale Blue] Monarch

Hypothymis azurea puella

Several were seen at Tambun, Dumoga-Bone NP and a few more in Tangkoko.

Moluccan (Spectacled) Monarch (EM)

Symposiachrus bimaculatus

Several attractive birds were seen well in the forests of Foli and KBP.

Note: This species is sometimes lumped with Spectacled Monarch, S.trivirgatus, IOC accepts this split.

White-naped Monarch (EM)

Carterornis pileatus

A splendid pair was found nesting in the forest of KBP on Halmahera. Moluccan (Slaty) Flycatcher (EM)

Myiagra galeata

A beautiful songster, we found several males during our time at KBP and Foli.

**Shining Flycatcher** 

Myiagra alecto

This is a widespread species that we heard and saw on several occasions during our time in Halmahera.

## Crows, Jays Corvidae

**Slender-billed Crow** 

Corvus enca

We had scattered sightings across Sulawesi with more birds noted especially in the north.

**Piping Crow (ES)** 

Corvus typicus

A striking specialty and a great songster, we first saw this attractive bird briefly in the Kaerenta forest followed by further splendid scope views of a pair in Lore Lindu NP.

**Long-billed Crow (EM)** 

Corvus validus

With a honking big bill, this species left a lasting impression from our several sightings in the forests of Halmahera.

**Torresian Crow** 

Corvus orru

We had great views of several near the Tolire Crater Lake, Ternate.

# Birds-of-paradise Paradisaeidae

Paradise-crow (EM)

Lycocorax pyrrhopterus

Sometimes a tricky species to see well, we were fortunate to all have multiple scope views of exposed birds squawking on open limbs on two occasions in KBP forest.

Standardwing (Wallace's Bird of Paradise) (EM) Semioptera wallacii

After hearing a couple birds during our walk in the dark we were absolutely delighted to observe a male displaying to three females at close quarters and in good light. We watched in awe for a full half hour. This was certainly the major highlight of the trip!!!

# Hylocitrea Hylocitreidae

Hylocitrea (Yellow-/Olive-flanked) Whistler (ES) Hylocitrea bonensis

This highly sought after monotypic family was high on most participants want list. It proved particularly difficult to find and we only obtained brief views of one male.

# Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae

Citrine Canary-flycatcher

Culicicapa helianthea

A regularly encountered species in small bird parties, we had great views in Lore Lindu NP.

# **Bulbuls Pycnonotidae**



#### **Sooty-headed Bulbul**

Pycnonotus aurigaster

This introduced species was plentiful in secondary habitat throughout Sulawesi.

## **Northern Golden Bulbul (EM)**

Thapsinillas longirostris

Pleasantly common, we found numerous birds daily during our birding adventures on Halmahera.

#### Malia (ES)

Malia grata

Another bird that is gradually increasing on people's 'want list' due to its unique characteristics, we enjoyed great sightings of this noisy species usually in threes foraging through the thick arboreal mosses and epiphytes in Lore Lindu NP.

## **Swallows, martins Hirundinidae**

**Barn Swallow** 

Hirundo rustica

Small numbers were seen at scattered sites on Sulawesi & Halmahera.

**Pacific Swallow** 

Hirundo tahitica

This species was common throughout the tour.

## **Cettia warblers and allies Cettiidae**

**Mountain Tailorbird** 

Phyllergates cuculatus

Especially plentiful in Lore Lindu, many birds were seen in the thick vine tangles.

## **Leaf warblers and allies Phylloscopidae**

Sulawesi Leaf Warbler (ES)

Phylloscopus sarasinorum

Abundant by voice, we had many quality sightings of this subtle endemic throughout Sulawesi with our largest numbers in Lore Lindu.

# Grassbirds and allies Locustellidae

**Chestnut-backed Bush Warbler (ES)** 

Locustella castanea

Moving on the ground like a mouse, we observed several birds during our time in Lore Lindu NP ensuring everyone had outstanding views.

**Tawny Grassbird** 

Megalurus timoriensis

Two birds were seen in a wetland near Dumoga-Bone NP.

# Cisticolas and allies Cisticolidae

**Zitting Cisticola** 

Cisticola juncidis

We had great views of one at Tondano wetland.

**Golden-headed Cisticola** 

Cisticola exilis

Another widespread species, one bird was seen near Gunung Ambang.

# Fulvettas, Ground Babblers Pellorneidae

Sulawesi Babbler (ES)

Trichastoma celebense

We found small numbers of this species in virtually every forest in Sulawesi.

# White-eyes Zosteropidae

Streak-headed White-eye (Dark-eye) (ES)

Lophozosterops squamiceps

An aberrant white-eye, we enjoyed great views but always in small numbers in the forests of Lore Lindu NP.



**Mountain White-eve** 

Zosterops montanus

Several small flocks were seen in the upper areas of Lore Lindu.

Lemon-bellied White-eye

Zosterops chloris

We found this species in secondary habitats near Palu and the surrounding areas of Lore Lindu.

**Black-ringed White-eye (ES)** 

Zosterops anomalus

An endemic to the southern forests of Sulawesi, we enjoyed outstanding views of this unique-looking white-eye with one particularly responsive bird showing well in good lighting.

**Cream-throated White-eye (ES)** 

Zosterops atriceps

This species was uncommonly heard in the forests of Halmahera with some outstanding views in the forest en route to Foli.

**Black-crowned (-fronted) White-eye** 

Zosterops atrifrons

Small numbers were seen in the forest of Lore Lindu NP.

# Starlings, Rhabdornis Sturnidae

**Metallic Starling** 

Aplonis metallica

This species was very common throughout Halmahera with daily counts often over 50.

Moluccan (Island) Starling

Aplonis mysolensis

We picked out several nice scope studies of this starling on Halmahera compared with its much more common cousin, the Metallic Starling.

**Short-tailed Starling** 

Aplonis minor

We enjoyed a good sighting of six in Lore Lindu NP.

Sulawesi (Crested) Myna (ES)

Basilornis celebensis

A scarce bird and easy to miss during a tour. After a concerted effort we found four birds on the Molibagu Road.

White-necked Myna (ES)

Streptocitta albicollis

We found this attractive species to be fairly common near Lore Lindu NP and in Dumoga Bone.

Fiery-browed Starling (ES)

Enodes erythrophris

Another striking starling, many birds were seen well in Lore Lindu.

Grosbeak Starling (Finch-billed Myna) (ES)

Scissirostrum dubium

We first found this species in the lower areas of Lore Lindu, and later a large dead tree full of these colorful birds in Dumoga Bone NP.

Pale-bellied Myna (ES)

Acridotheres cinereus

One was seen at Makassar by some participants.

# Thrushes Turdidae

**Red-backed Thrush (ES)** 

Geokichla erythronota

What a bird! After a diligent effort by everyone to move slowly through a forested valley in Dumoga Bone NP we all enjoyed excellent scope studies of 3 of this gorgeous bird.

Sulawesi Thrush (ES)

Cataponera turdoides

Another tricky species, we were fortunate to all see three in Lore Lindu that fed confidingly near the roadside for several minutes.

**Great Shortwing (ES)** 

Heinrichia calligyna

A single bird showed for most participants and was seen well but briefly in Lore Lindu NP.

# Chats, Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae



**Snowy-browed Flycatcher** 

Ficedula hyperythra

Several birds were seen well by everyone in Lore Lindu NP.

**Rufous-throated Flycatcher (ES)** 

Ficedula rufigula

One was heard calling at Gunung Mahawu.

Little Pied Flycatcher

Ficedula westermanni

A stunning male of this widespread flycatcher was seen well in Lore Lindu NP.

**Turquoise (Island Verditer) Flycatcher** 

Eumyias panayensis

We enjoyed great sightings of this conspicuous songster in Lore Lindu NP.

Sulawesi Blue Flycatcher (ES)

Cyornis omissus

Only encountered in Lore Lindu NP, we coaxed a colorful male into view near a densely forested area of riparian habitat.

**Blue-fronted Blue Flycatcher (ES)** 

Cyornis hoevelli

Nicely patterned with a pleasant song, we found several birds daily during our time in Lore Lindu NP.

**Matinan Blue Flycatcher (ES)** 

Cyornis sanfordi

Only discovered relatively recently. After an early morning hike ascending the muddy slope of Gunung Ambang we were all rewarded with outstanding scope views of one.

## Flowerpeckers Dicaeidae

Yellow-sided Flowerpecker (ES)

Dicaeum aureolimbatum

This is a pleasantly common endemic that we encountered frequently throughout the tour in Sulawesi.

**Crimson-crowned Flowerpecker (ES)** 

Dicaeum nehrkorni

A tricky bird. We had great views of two birds in Lore Lindu NP and a further pair at Gunung Mahawu.

Halmahera (Flame-brstd) Flowerpecker (EM)

D. schistaceiceps erythrothorax

Another scarce species, we enjoyed great views of two males in the forest of KBP.

**Grey-sided Flowerpecker (ES)** 

Dicaeum celebicum

Plenty of this brightly-coloured flowerpecker were seen throughout our time in Sulawesi.

# Sunbirds Nectariniidae

**Brown-throated Sunbird** 

Anthreptes malacensis

We had several scattered sightings during the tour in secondary growth and forest edge with our best views in Dumoga Bone.

**Black Sunbird** 

Leptocoma sericea

This was a common species in secondary growth throughout the tour.

**Olive-backed Sunbird** 

Cinnyris jugularis

This was also a common species in secondary growth throughout the tour.

**Crimson Sunbird** 

Aethopyga siparaja

Two females were seen on the Molibagu Road and a beautiful male was seen at Gunung Mahawu.

# Old World Sparrows Passeridae

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** 

Passer montanus

Commonly seen in larger towns and cities throughout the tour.

# Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae

**Black-faced Munia** 

Lonchura molucca



We enjoyed nice scope studies of this localized species in the secondary habitat near Palu and again in Dumoga Bone.

Scaly-breasted Munia (Nutmeg Mannikin) Lonchura punctulata

This widespread species was found in the paddyfields en route from Manado.

Chestnut Munia

Lonchura atricapilla

We found this species almost everywhere in secondary habitat throughout the tour.

Pale-headed Munia (ES)

Lonchura pallida

We had good views of a few at the Makassar airport.

Java Sparrow Lonchura oryzivora

An introduced species on Sulawesi but still a pleasure to see, we found two juveniles at the Makassar airport.

## Finches Fringillidae

**Mountain Serin** 

Serinus estherae

Two of these highly elusive birds were seen whilst birding on the Anaso track. One bird gave superb scope views and we all enjoyed seeing this rare orange form.

## **Annotated List of Mammals recorded**

Bear Cuscus Phalanger ornatus

We enjoyed wonderful scope views of a pair in Tangkoko NR.

Sulawesi Dwarf Squirrel Stigocuscus celebensis

We enjoyed good views of three in Lore Lindu NP.

Montane Long-nosed Squirrel Hyosciurus heinrichi

We found this species in Lore Lindu NP.

**Lowland Long-nosed Squirrel** *Hyosciurus ileile* 

Three were seen in the lowlands of Tangkoko NR, Sulawesi.

**Spectral Tarsier** *Tarsius spectrum* 

We enjoyed simply amazing views of 7 of these adorable animals in Tangkoko NR, from only a few feet away.

Moor Macaque Macaca maura

Erling was fortunate to see one at Kaerenta Forest.

**Tonkean Macaque** *Macaca tonkeana* 

A fabulous troop of ten including a large male was seen very well in Lore Lindu NP.

Sulawesi Crested Macaque Macaca nigra

During our magical morning in Tangkoko we were mixed in amongst a confiding troop of 40 individuals including several young animals.

Common Bottle-nosed Dolphin Tursiops truncatus

A pod of five was seen during our boat trip to Sidangoli.

# **Annotated List of Reptiles recorded**

Monitor Lizard sp.



Flying Lizard sp.

Rockjumper Birding Tours CC
Worldwide Birding Adventures
Registration number 2001/059480/23
PO Box 13972, Cascades, 3202, South Africa

Tel: +27 33 394 0225 Fax: +27 88 033 394 0225

Email: info@rockjumperbirding.com

Alternative email: rockjumperbirding@yahoo.com

Website: www.rockjumperbirding.com