

# A Tropical Birding Set Departure tour

# West Papua: Paradise Regained

# 2<sup>nd</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2023



Vogelkop Bowerbird by Rich Lindie

Guided by Rich Lindie & Jose Illanes

### **TOUR SUMMARY:**

"Challenging but successful". That's how one of this year's tour participants summed up the trip. "One of the toughest trips we've ever done, but also one of the most productive", as another put it. Nothing unusual there; travel and birding in New Guinea are challenging exploits on several levels, yet worth every effort. After all, the island's oft-repeated list of major drawcards and unique attractions are actually worthy of the hype. Sure, the act of simply focusing optical equipment on many of the island's feathered inhabitants is difficult to say the least, and, yes, the ever-present threat of forced logistical changes comes with the territory, but the almost indescribable displays and norm-challenging morphologies of many of its birds is genuinely unmatched in scale. Where else offers a combination of pigeons the size of well, pheasants, parrots smaller than some hummingbirds, and plumages so bizarre that it's not uncommon to hear, "where do those feathers come from?", or, ""what part of the bird is that?". Oh, and then there's the unmatched density of endemism and all that. Still not convinced? How does the image of swathes of near-untouched forest, often stretching as far as the airplane-bound eye can see, sound? It seldom gets the same amount of airtime as the spectacular birds and such, but the vastness of New Guinea's forests is nothing short of a serious breath of fresh air that has to go down as a highlight worth writing home about, for even the most well-traveled of birders (maybe even more so?).

But enough about the general, what about this year's tour to see 'the best birds on earth'. Well, despite being effectively restricted to under 3km of road and trails for our entire time in the Snow Mountains (amounting to an elevational range of just 300m), and some incredibly challenging conditions in the lowlands around Nimbokrang, we racked up over 330 species. That's including 5 endemic families, 17 species of Bird-of-Paradise seen, nearly 50 species of Kingfisher, Fruit-Dove and Parrot (why not add them all up!?), as well as scarce species like Papuan Owl, Orange-crowned Fairywren and Brown-headed Crow. Throw in several dozen tasty Soursop blends, some fascinating encounters with several of the island's 2-legged inhabitants, and a journey that spent much of its time well off the beaten tourist track, and I think it's safe to say the trip was an against-the-odds success by any count.

# **TOP THREE Birds-of-the-tour:**

1-Red Bird-of-Paradise 2-Vogelkop Bowerbird 3-Western Crowned Piegon (Waigeo) (Arfaks) (Malagufuk)

The runners-up:

Mottled Berryhunter Orange-crowned Fairywren Tit-Berrypecker Papuan Pitta (Arfaks) (Arfaks) (Arfaks) (Waigeo)



Note that Wilson's Bird-of-Paradise (right) didn't even make the top 10!



Geelvink Pygmy-Parrot by José Illanes

### Days 1 to 3 (of the extension): 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Biak Island

Kicking things off with a couple of days of birding on Biak island, those who signed up for the pre-tour extension added nearly all the island's endemic species and subspecies to their total West Papua haul, as well as some other bonuses; thanks in no small part to the bonus morning's birding we enjoyed on our first day, owing to the early arrival of all members of the group.

Highlights of course included sightings of **Biak Monarch**, a pair of **Biak Scops Owl** (five minutes into our first attempt!), a sighting of a pair of **Biak Scrubfowl**, an early encounter with a flock of the sometimes tricky **Biak White-eye**, great looks at the distinctive local form of **Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove**, several sightings of **Geelvink Fruit-Dove**, **Great Cuckoo-Dove** displays, perched **Geelvink Pygmy-Parrot**, the local subspecies of **Hooded Pitta**, countless sightings **of Long-tailed Starling**, a handful of sightings of **Biak Flycatcher**, a pair of **Coconut Lorikeet** of the endemic subspecies, several **Black-winged Lorys**, **Biak Paradise-Kingfisher**, perched and flying **Geelvink Imperial Pigeons**, and (eventually) good looks at **Biak Coucal**. Not a bad haul for just a little over 2 days of birding in warm and steamy conditions!



Papuan Owl by Rich Lindie

### Days 1 to 3 (of the main tour): 4<sup>th</sup> to 6<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Nimbokrang

From Biak, we flew to Sentani where we collected the last of our 2023 TB West Papua family members, and made our way directly to Nimbokrang. There we spent the next two days and nights experiencing a combination of the most-humid weather of the trip and several of its most memorable sightings. Chief among these sightings were, of course, those of the first Birds-of-Paradise of the tour - four of which came within the first 24 hours! Starting with an afternoon visit to the small-but-productive canopy tower near our accommodation, where several species of cuckooshrike and honeyeater provided us with our first looks at mainland endemics, and where our very first species of Bird-of-Paradise was seen (albeit a Manucode), it finally felt like West Papua birding had begun in earnest.

And so the theme continued, as the next morning saw us move from one display site to the next, starting with that of a **Twelve-wired BoP**, and moving on to those of **Lesser** and **King BoPs** in quick succession. Climbing hills in the hot and steamy conditions was taxing to say the least, but there's no denying that first morning was a highlight of the trip. For the afternoon and early evening, we visited Jalan Korea, where highlight sightings included those of a **Dwarf Koel** and **Zoe's Imperial Pigeons** in full song and in full-view, and a **Papuan Nightjar**, while lowlights were only hearing Pale-billed Sicklebill and birding to the ever-present background noise of chainsaws.

For our second morning in the area, revisits to the tower and the trails behind the lodge provided yet more firsts, as well as some appreciated further looks at species seen only the day before, while the afternoon saw us dodging rain storms at the KM9 viewpoint, where bird activity was incredibly slow, though this was soon forgotten as our next stop was the air-conditioned lobby of our hotel in Sentani.



Grand Munia by Daniëlle Perdaen

### Day 4: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Sentani

Afforded the opportunity to visit grasslands near Sentani during early-morning hours, our first visit to the area was particularly productive and enjoyable. And while a sighting of a snipe species was all too brief, we enjoyed fantastic and multiple views of all our targets, including **Blue-breasted Quail**, **Hooded Munia** and **Grand Munia**, as well as several bonuses; the most talked about of which was a **Cinnamon Bittern**, but also included a **Papuan Harrier** and **White-browed Crake**.

For our first afternoon in the area, we took a leisurely and enjoyable, even if relatively unproductive, boat ride around Sentani lake - the highlights of which were **Nankeen Night Herons** and dinner in lovely settings on the edge of the lake.



New Guinea Landscape by Daniëlle Perdaen

### Days 5 to 9: 8<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – The Snow Mountains

Leaving Sentani (after another trip out to the grasslands), we flew to Wamena where cooler climes and a nearcompletely new suite of avifauna awaited, and where, for the first time on the trip, we were to unpack our bags of a full four night's stay. Both a blessing and a curse, as it turned out, as troubles in the region had meant not only were we denied access to Lake Habbema and its surroundings, but also much of the Baliem Valley, leaving us with very a very limited area to explore for nearly four whole days of birding! I say 'curse' somewhat lightly, though, as our persistent efforts and patience in our confined space yielded both new and wonderful sightings on every day we were in the area, not to mention a very respectable total number of species seen - many of which were endemics. Among the rewards and consolations, sightings of **Loria's Satinbird**, point-blank looks at **Archbold's Nightjar**, hard-earned looks at **Mountain Kingfisher**, **Short-tailed Paradigalla** and **Modest Tiger Parrot** were outstanding, while even repeated sightings of **Smoky Honeyeaters** were still not unappreciated by our final day. Two separate visits to a small ridge overlooking a mix of farmland, grasslands and scrub yielded great looks at male and female **Greater Lophorinas**, **Ornate Melidectes**, a surprise **Australasian Grass-Owl**, several **Baliem Whistlers** and flocks of **Capped White-eyes**.

Good as it had been under the circumstances, by the time our final morning in the Snow Mountains came, we were all nonetheless ready for some change, and so it was we sat eagerly in the airport, perusing the long list of target species that lay ahead, before we flew to Sentani for our final night there.



**Black-billed Sicklebill by Rich Lindie** 

### Days 10 to 14: 13<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Arfak Mountains

The Arfak mountains were next on the agenda, and so we winged our way across Cenderawasih Bay to Manokwari, had a quick lunch, and set off for our drive to base-camp in Minggre village. Stopping along the way, we managed to pick up a few new species, including our first **Vulturine Parrots** of the trip, but our real Arfak adventures were only to begin the next morning.

That morning started with a visit to a hide to see **Crescent-caped Lophorina**, a male and female of which we had great looks at. From there, we walked a short way along the road nearby, where we saw our first **Arfak Honeyeaters**. A short while later we hiked a short way from camp to a hide overlooking a **Vogelkop Bowerbird bower**. Admiring the bower in all its plastic-filled glory, we were soon graced with the presence of its owner-builder, who duly went about tidying up his display court, much to the amusement of the group. Few birds as drab as this leave such a lasting impression on birding groups but this species and its bower never cease to amaze! The morning wasn't over, though, as our next stop was to see a **Vogelkop Owlet-Nightjar** hiding out in a tree stump. Surely the most referenced hike of the tour, our journey to and from the stump really gave us an appreciation for the gradients in the Arfak mountains, and just how handy the ever-present hoard of porters

were to become! Our afternoon involved yet more steep trails, another hide (this time for **Black Sickelbill**) and a little more roadside birding, though nothing of significance was seen during the latter - largely owing to some miserable weather.

For our second morning in the Arfaks, we made our way into the valley above Syoubri Village, where top sightings included both **Tit-Berrypecker** and **Mottled Berryhunter**, a small flock of **Orange-crowned Fairywrens** and two **Spotted Berrypeckers**, followed by a short-but-steep hike from basecamp to see a roosting **Mountain Owlet-Nightjar**. For the afternoon, we started with a visit to a couple of hides overlooking **Magnificent BoP** display courts, where we all got to see this well-named bird, and where some got to see its mesmerizing display. After that, some birding along a nearby stretch of road produced a wonderful flock that held several **Goldenface** and **Drongo Fantails**.



Western Parotia (female) by Rich Lindie

Our third morning in the Arfaks saw us splitting into two main groups. Some of us spent some time at a viewpoint where we enjoyed great looks at a **Flame Bowerbird** - a truly spectacular bird - while others opted for visits to various hides. Most of us then met up for a hike to see a **Sooty Owl** that was a no-show, but for which we were consoled with great looks at **Mottled Berryhunter**, our only **Lesser Melampitta** of the trip, a **Rufescent Imperial Pigeon** and a **Lesser Ground Robin**. That afternoon, most of the group opted for a trip to Lake Anggi where they

saw **Grey-banded Mannikin**, while the rest of us paid visits to a **Vogelkop Bowerbird** bower and a hide overlooking some fruit, where **Black Sicklebill** was seen again. Reunited again shortly before dark, we all took a short walk to admire a roosting **Feline Owlet-Nightjar** - our third and final for the mountains.

Our final day in the Arfaks saw us splitting up again, with some opting for a (successful) trip to catch up with **Masked Bowerbird**, while others spent some time in hides. In the end, we all ended up with great views of **Black-billed Sicklebill** and **Western Parotia**.

After a photo-shoot and a somewhat ceremonial fairwell from our hosts at camp, we made our way down to the foothills, where some fast-paced birding bagged us **Northern Variable Pitohui**, **Frilled Monarch**, **Greater Black Coucal** and **Golden Monarch** before we finally made our way back to Manokwari.



Vogelkop Bowerbird by Rich Lindie



Western Crowned Pigeon by José Illanes

### Days 15 and 16: 18<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023 – Manokwari to Sorong and on to Waigeo

From Manokwari, we flew to Sorong, where we took a break at our hotel in the midday heat, and then headed out to some nearby mangroves. There, in yet more warm and steamy conditions, we finally caught up with **Orange-fronted Fruit Dove** and, after some patience, a gorgeous **Blue-black Kingfisher**!

The next morning, we headed east of town to the start of the Malagufuk Ecovillage boardwalk, where a couple of hours of birding produced several firsts, as well as some of the very best birds of the trip, including **Red-breasted Paradise Kingfisher**, **Golden Cuckooshrike**, **Papuan Babbler**, **Golden Myna**, **Sooty Thicket-Fantail**, **Olive Flyrobin**, and a major bonus in the form of a **Western Crowned Pigeon**!

For the afternoon, we made our way to Waigeo Island aboard a public ferry, where some of us opted for birding from the deck while others stuck it out in the air-conditioned cabin which was anything but. On the island, we managed to see a **Brown-headed Crow** before bird activity quietened down, and enjoyed a little time to admire the surroundings of our beachside accommodations before dark.



**Red Bird-of-Paradise by José Illanes** 

### Days 16 and 18: 20<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023 – Waigeo

Our first full day on Waigeo began with a visit to hides overlooking **Wilson's Bird-of-Paradise** display sites, where we all eventually laid eyes on this much-anticipated species. We then walked the nearby track, where we found one new species after another, including **Common Paradise-Kingfisher**, **Raja Ampat Pitohui**, **Papuan Pitta**, **Waigeo Shrikethrush** and **Brown Oriole**, ending up with great looks at **Beautiful Fruit Dove** to round off a great morning's birding. For the afternoon, we headed out to look for **Hook-billed Kingfisher**, which we found in record time, and enjoyed great looks at, before rain put paid to nocturnal birding plans.

Our second morning on Waigeo saw us hiking a steep hill one last time on the tour, and, once again, in the predawn dark. This time, we were headed to a display site for **Red Bird-of-Paradise**. To say the hike was worth it would be an understatement, as not only did the birds put on a spectacular display, **Red BoP** made its way onto almost all of the top-5 lists submitted by the group. After satiating on the avian show, we made our way down the trail and back to the road where we slowly walked our way back toward camp for an enjoyable few hours. For the afternoon, we headed 30km over the water to Merpati Island, where a very enjoyable 90 minutes of birding bagged us all our target species, including **White-breasted Fruit-Dove**, **Violet-necked Lory**, **Olive Honeyeater** and **Moluccan Starling**. Back at home-base, we then gathered our flashlights and headed to some nearby forest where we had wonderful looks at **Papuan Boobook** and a **Waigeo Spotted Cuscus**.

#### Tropical Birding Trip Report West Pag

Our final morning on Waigeo was spent along various stretches of road near the airstrip. It took some time but we eventually tracked down our first and only Palm Cockatoos of the trip, as well as some much-appreciated bonuses, including **Lowland Peltops**, **Orange-fronted Hanging-Parrot** and **Radjah Shelduck**. The ferry trip back to Sorong in the afternoon was somewhat uneventful, though we were glad to find that at least one airconditioner was working in the cabin. A celebratory dinner at our hotel in Sorong saw in the last moments of the tour, though birding was not over, as the majority of the group went on to Jakarta the morning, where several hours produced some great birds, including Christmas Island Frigatebird!



Waigeo Cuscus by Daniëlle Perdaen



Black Sicklebill by Daniëlle Perdaen

### **CHECKLISTS**:

### **BIRDS**

The taxonomy of the bird list follows **Clements, James F., White, Anthony W., and Fitzpatrick, John W.** *The Clements Checklist of Birds of the World*. Cornell, 2007. *This list is up to date with changes published by Cornell in October 2022.* 

(E) - INDICATES A SPECIES OR SUBSPECIES THAT IS ENDEMIC TO NEW GUINEA AND/OR ITS NEARBY ISLANDS.

### Number of families for which at least one representative was recorded: 66

### DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL (Anatidae)

Spotted Whistling-Duck

Radjah Shelduck

Dendrocygna guttata

Radjah radjah

A flock at Nimbokrang, several on Lake Sentani. One sighting on our last morning on Waigeo.

# **MEGAPODES (Megapodiidae)**

Red-billed Brushturkey (E)	Talegalla cuvieri	Heard a few times, along Malagufuk boardwalk.
Red-legged Brushturkey (E)	Talegalla jobiensis	Heard a few times, at Nimbokrang.
Dusky Megapode (Scrubfowl)	Megapodius freycinet	One sighting on Merpati Island.
Biak Megapode (Scrubfowl) (E)	Megapodius geelvinkianus	One sighting of a pair, along the Sauri Trail, Biak.

# PHEASANTS, GROUSE, AND ALLIES (Phasianidae)

Brown Quail	Synoicus ypsilophorus	Several sightings, in grasslands near Sentani.
Blue-breasted (King) Quail	Synoicus chinensis	Several sightings, in grasslands near Sentani.

# PIGEONS AND DOVES (Columbidae)

Rock Pigeon (I)	Columba livia	
Spotted Dove (I)	Spilopelia chinensis	Daily sightings in the grasslands near Sentani.
Amboyna (Slender-billed) Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia amboinensis	A few on Biak, a couple in the Nimbokrang area.
Sultan's (Slender-billed) Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia doreya	alea.
Black-billed (Bar-tailed) Cuckoo-Dove	Macropygia nigrirostris	A few in the Baliem Valley, several in the Arfaks
Great Cuckoo-Dove	Reinwardtoena reinwardti	Displaying birds seen from the tower at Nimbokrang.
Great (Biak) Cuckoo-Dove (E)	Reinwardtoena reinwardti brevis	Two separate sightings of displaying birds!
Stephan's Dove	Chalcophaps stephani	A few very brief sightings on Waigeo
Western Crowned-Pigeon (E)	Goura cristata	A welcome, lengthy and up-close sighting of one, near the start of the Malagufuk boardwalk.
Wompoo Fruit-Dove	Ptilinopus magnificus	A few heard on Waigeo.
Pink-spotted Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus perlatus	A young bird, close to the tower in Nimbokrang.
Orange-fronted Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus aurantiifrons	Several in the mangroves near Sorong.
Superb Fruit-Dove	Ptilinopus superbus	One sighting in the Arfak foothills.
Beautiful Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus pulchellus	Great views of a pair, at the end of our first morning walk on Waigeo.
White-breasted (Mountain) Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus rivoli bellus	Scattered sightings in the Arfaks, countless heard there, too.
White-breasted (Moluccan) Fruit-Dove	Ptilinopus rivoli prasinorrhous	Good looks at a couple, on Merpati Island.
Geelvink (Yellow-bibbed) Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus speciosus	Great looks at several, on Biak.
Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove	Ptilinopus viridis	Great looks at several, of two distinctive forms, on Biak and on Waigeo.

Orange-bellied Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus iozonus	Ubiquitous around Nimbokrang, a few on
-	-	Waigeo.
Dwarf Fruit-Dove (E)	Ptilinopus nainus	A brief sighting at Nimbokrang, from the lookout on the hill behind our lodge.
Spice Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula myristicivora	Great looks at a few, in the grounds of our
Geelvink Imperial-Pigeon (E)	Ducula geelvinkiana	Waigeo accommodation. Several on our second afternoon on Biak.
Purple-tailed Imperial-Pigeon (E)	Ducula rufigaster	A probable sighting of one, from a bridge on
Rufescent (Shining) Imperial-Pigeon (E)	Ducula chalconota	Jalan Korea, near Nimbokrang. A brief sighting of one, on our return from the
Kurescent (Similig) imperial-rigeon (E)	Ducuia charconola	no-show Sooty Owl, along a trail up the road
Pinon's Imperial-Pigeon (E)	Ducula pinon	from Minggrei Several around Nimbokrang and on Waigeo.
Collared Imperial-Pigeon (E)	Ducula mullerii	Good looks at several at the mangroves near
		Sorong.
Zoe's Imperial-Pigeon (E)	Ducula zoeae	Great looks at a few, first from a bridge along Jalan Korea.
Pied Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula bicolor	Several sightings, mostly close the beach, on
Torresian Imperial-Pigeon	Ducula spilorrhoa	Waigeo. A couple of sightings on Biak.
Papuan Mountain-Pigeon	Gymnophaps albertisii	A handful in the Arfaks, some through the telescope.
CUCKOOS (Cuculidae)		
Biak Coucal (E)	Centropus chalybeus	Eventually seen well, on our second afternoon on Biak.
Greater Black Coucal (E)	Centropus menbeki	One frustrating encounter in the Arfak foothills.
Lesser Black Coucal (E)	Centropus bernsteini	A few in grasslands near Sentani.
Pheasant Coucal	Centropus phasianinus	A few in grasslands near Sentani.
Dwarf Koel (E)	Microdynamis parva	Great looks at a singing individual, from a
Pacific Koel	Eudynamys orientalis	bridge along Jalan Korea, Nimbokrang area. Heard in the Arfaks.
Channel-billed Cuckoo	Scythrops novaehollandiae	A few sightings in the grasslands near Sentani, first sighted over the mangroves on Biak.
Rufous-throated Bronze-Cuckoo (E)	Chrysococcyx ruficollis	Great looks at a signing bird, near the upper 'camp' on the Pass Valley road.
White-eared Bronze-Cuckoo (E)	Chrysococcyx meyerii	Two sightings in the Arfaks.
Little Bronze-Cuckoo	Chrysococcyx minutillus	A few in the Nimbokrang area, a great show from a gathering of 3 on our final morning on Waigeo.
White-crowned Koel (E)	Cacomantis leucolophus	Heard in the Arfak foothills.
Fan-tailed Cuckoo	Cacomantis flabelliformis	A couple seen along the Pass Valley road.
Brush Cuckoo	Cacomantis variolosus	Several sightings, starting with a few on Biak.

### **FROGMOUTHS (Podargidae)**

Marbled Frogmouth	Podargus ocellatus	One near our accommodation in Nimbokrang,
		another on a rainy nocturnal excursion on Biak.
Papuan Frogmouth	Podargus papuensis	At least three near our accommodation in
		Nimbokrang, another at our accommodation on

Waigeo.

Arfaks.

### NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES (Caprimulgidae)

Papuan Nightjar (E)	Eurostopodus papuensis	One, along Jalan Korea, Nimbokrang area.
Archbold's Nightjar (E)	Eurostopodus archboldi	Point-blank looks at one, along the Pass Valley road, others seen during drives in the area.
Large-tailed Nightjar	Caprimulgus macrurus	One sighting during our vigil for Biak Scops Owl.

### **OWLET-NIGHTJARS (Aegothelidae)**

Feline Owlet-nightjar (E)	Aegotheles insignis	Great looks at one, in a tree fern, in the Arfaks.
Mountain Owlet-nightjar (E)	Aegotheles albertisi	One, roosting in dense vegetation, at the bottom of a very steep, short track, in Minggrei.
Vogelkop Owlet-nightjar (E)	Aegotheles affinis	One, roosting in a hollow, at the bottom of a very steep, not-so-short track, in the lower

### SWIFTS (Apodidae)

Papuan Spinetailed Swift (E)	Mearnsia novaeguineae	A few sightings in the Nimbokrang area.
Glossy Swiftlet	Collocalia esculenta	
Mountain Swiftlet (E)	Aerodramus hirundinaceus	
Uniform Swiftlet	Aerodramus vanikorensis	

# **TREESWIFTS (Hemiprocnidae)**

Moustached Treeswift	Hemiprocne mystacea	Several sightings, first on Biak.

# **RAILS, GALLINULES AND COOTS (Rallidae)**

Lewin's Rail	Gymnocrex pectoralis	A surprise sighting of one, near the upper camp,
		along the Pass Valley road.
Buff-banded Rail	Gallirallus philippensis	A couple of sightings in the grasslands near
		Sentani, another in the mangroves near Sorong.
White-browed Crake	Poliolimnas cinereus	Good looks at a pair, in the grasslands near
		Sorong.

Tropical Birding Trip Report	West Papua: Paradise Regained	- September 2023
Pale-vented Bush-hen	Amaurornis moluccana	Heard by some, along Jalan Korea and in the
White-striped Forest-Rail (E)	Rallina leucospila	grasslands near Sentani. One sighting in the Arfaks.
Spotless Crake	Zapornia tabuensis	One sightings, in the grasslands near Sentani.
PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS	(Charadriidae)	
Pacific Golden-Plover	Pluvialis fulva	A flock at the ferry terminal on Waigeo.
SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES (	Scolopacidae)	
Whimbrel Red-necked Stint Snipe sp. Red-necked Phalarope Common Sandpiper	Numenius phaeopus Calidris ruficollis Gallinago sp Phalaropus lobatus Actitis hypoleucos	Two brief sightings in grasslands near Sentani.
Gray-tailed Tattler	Tringa brevipes	Waigeo
GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMM	AERS (Laridae)	
Bridled Tern Little Tern Whiskered Tern Common Tern Great Crested Tern	Onychoprion anaethetus Sternula albifrons Chlidonias hybrida Sterna hirundo Thalasseus bergii	
SHEARWATERS AND PETR	ELS (Procellariidae)	
Bulwer's Petrel Tahiti Petrel Streaked Shearwater Wedge-tailed Shearwater	Bulweria bulwerii Pseudobulweria rostrata Calonectris leucomelas Ardenna pacifica	During the ferry ride to Waigeo. During the ferry ride to Waigeo. During the ferry ride to Waigeo. During the ferry ride to Waigeo.
FRIGATEBIRDS (Fregatidae)		
Lesser Frigatebird	Fregata ariel	A few around Waigeo and Merpati.
CORMORANTS AND SHAGS	6 (Phalacrocoracidae)	
Little Black Cormorant	Phalacrocorax sulcirostris	
HEDONG ECDETS AND DI		

### Cinnamon Bittern Great Egret White-faced Heron Little Egret

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS (Ardeidae)

Striated Heron Nankeen Night-Heron

### **OSPREY (Pandionidae)** 17

www.tropicalbirding.com

Ixobrychus cinnamomeus

Ardea alba

One, in grasslands near Sentani.

One at Sentani airport.

Two, on the coast at Waigeo. Several at Lake Sentani,

Osprey
--------

#### Pandion haliaetus

### HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES (Accipitridae)

Long-tailed Honey-buzzard (E)	Henicopernis longicauda	A few good sightings, including some in the Nimbokrang area.
Pacific Baza	Aviceda subcristata	Three on Biak, 1 on our last morning on Waigeo.
Pygmy Eagle (E)	Hieraaetus weiskei	One in the Arfak foothills.
Gurney's Eagle	Aquila gurneyi	One, during the drive from Malagufuk to Sorong.
Papuan Marsh-Harrier (E)	Circus spilothorax	One in the grasslands near Sentani, others in the Baliem Valley.
Variable Goshawk	Accipiter hiogaster	Several.
Black-mantled Goshawk (E)	Accipiter melanochlamys	One sighting from the Flame Bowerbird viewpoint, another further up in the Arfaks.
Whistling Kite	Haliastur sphenurus	
Brahminy Kite	Haliastur indus	
White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Haliaeetus leucogaster	

# **BARN-OWLS (Tytonidae)**

Sooty Owl	Tyto tenebricosa	Heard near our accommodation in the Arfaks.
Australasian Grass-Owl	Tyto novaehollandiae	One sighting in the Baliem Valley.

# **OWLS (Strigidae)**

Biak Scops-Owl (E)	Otus beccarii	A pair, after only a few minutes of trying, in the interior of Biak.
Papuan Boobook (E)	Ninox theomacha	One, near our accommodation on Waigeo.
Papuan Owl (E)	Uroglaux dimorpha	Great looks at one, on our second evening in the

Nimbokrang area.

### **HORNBILLS (Bucerotidae)**

Blyth's (Papuan) Hornbill

Rhyticeros plicatus ruficollis

# **KINGFISHERS (Alcedinidae)**

Little Kingfisher	Ceyx pusillus	One, flying, in the mangroves near Sorong.
Rufous-bellied Kookaburra (E)	Dacelo gaudichaud	Several.

Blue-black Kingfisher (E)	Todiramphus nigrocyaneus	One, in the mangroves near Sorong.
Sacred Kingfisher	Todiramphus sanctus	Several.
Beach Kingfisher	Todiramphus saurophagus	First in the Biak mangroves, a handful of
Hook-billed Kingfisher (E)	Melidora macrorrhina	sightings on Waigeo/Merpati. Superb looks, after only minutes of trying, on Biak.
Yellow-billed Kingfisher	Syma torotoro	Several heard, one seen near the lookout at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Mountain Kingfisher (E)	Syma megarhyncha	Eventually seen, on our last morning along the Pass Valley road.
Common Paradise-Kingfisher	Tanysiptera galatea	A couple seen, several heard, on Waigeo.
Biak Paradise-Kingfisher (E)	Tanysiptera riedelii	A few, along the Sauri trail, Biak.
Red-breasted Paradise-Kingfisher (E)	Tanysiptera nympha	One, along the Malagufuk boardwalk.
<b>BEE-EATERS (Meropidae)</b>		
Blue-tailed Bee-eater	Merops philippinus	In the grasslands near Sentani.
Rainbow Bee-eater	Merops ornatus	Biak and Waigeo.
ROLLERS (Coraciidae)		
Dollarbird	Eurystomus orientalis	
FALCONS AND CARACARAS (F	Falconidae)	
Oriental Hobby	Falco severus	One, in the grasslands near Sentani.
Brown Falcon	Falco berigora	One, in the Baliem Valley.
COCKATOOS (Cacatuidae)		
Palm Cockatoo	Probosciger aterrimus	Two sightings, both of single individuals only, on our last morning on Waigeo.
Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	Cacatua galerita	on our last morning on wargeo.
OLD WORLD PARROTS (Psittac	zulidae)	
Pesquet's (Vulturine) Parrot (E)	Psittrichas fulgidus	A few in the Arfaks, a pair during the drive from
Geelvink Pygmy-Parrot (E)	Micropsitta geelvinkiana	Malagufuk to Sorong. A couple of sightings, one of a perched bird, on Biak.
Buff-faced Pygmy-Parrot (E)	Micropsitta pusio	A couple of sightings at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.

**Tropical Birding Trip Report** 

#### West Papua: Paradise Regained - September 2023

Moluccan King-Parrot	Alisterus amboinensis	A handful, seen together, from the Flame Bowerbird viewpoint, Arfaks.
Eclectus Parrot	Eclectus roratus	Biak and Waigeo, several on the latter, no
Red-cheeked Parrot	Geoffroyus geoffroyi	females sighted on the former. Biak, Nimbokrang and Waigeo; great looks on
Blue-collared Parrot (E)	Geoffroyus simplex	the latter. One flock, flying over distantly, on our first
Modest Tiger-Parrot (E)	Psittacella modesta	morning in the Arfaks. Great looks at one, on trail near the upper camp
Great-billed Parrot	Tanygnathus megalorynchos	along the Pass Valley road. One, flying over, on our last morning on
Double-eyed Fig-Parrot	Cyclopsitta diophthalma	Waigeo. One sighting from the tower at Nimbokrang.
Plum-faced Lorikeet (E)	Oreopsittacus arfaki	One sighting along the Pass Valley road.
Red-flanked Lorikeet	Hypocharmosyna placentis	One sighting, of birds in flight, in the interior of
Fairy Lorikeet (E)	Charmosynopsis pulchella	Biak. Heard in the Arfaks.
Papuan Lorikeet (E)	Charmosyna papou	One sighting in the Arfaks.
Stella's Lorikeet (E)	Charmosyna papou goliathina	One sighting along the Pass Valley road.
Yellow-billed Lorikeet (E)	Neopsittacus musschenbroekii	Several along the Pass Valley road.
Orange-billed Lorikeet (E)	Neopsittacus pullicauda	A few along the Pass Valley road.
Black-capped Lory (E)	Lorius lory	A handful in the Nimbokrang, again on Waigeo.
Dusky Lory (E)	Pseudeos fuscata	A couple of sightings in the Nimbokrang area.
Goldie's Lorikeet (E)	Glossoptilus goldiei	One sighting, of two birds in flight, along a trail
Black-winged Lory (E)	Eos cyanogenia	near the upper camp along the Pass Valley road. Several sightings of birds flying by, on Biak.
Violet-necked Lory	Eos squamata	At least one pair, in coconut flowers, on Merpati
Coconut Lorikeet	Trichoglossus haematodus	Island.
Coconut (Biak) Lorikeet (E)	Trichoglossus h. rosenbergii	Two seen in flight, on our second afternoon on
Papuan (Orange-fronted) Hanging-Parrot (I	E)Loriculus aurantiifrons	Biak. Several feeding in a flowering tree, next to a main road, on Waigeo.

# PITTAS (Pittidae)

Papuan Pitta (E)	Erythropitta macklotii	One, obligingly on a mossy log, during our first morning on Waigeo.
Hooded Pitta (Papuan)	Pitta sordida novaeguineae	One, during our second morning on Waigeo.
Hooded Pitta (Biak) (E)	Pitta sordida rosenbergii	

### **BOWERBIRDS (Ptilonorhynchidae)** 20

West Papua: Paradise Regained - September 2023

Arfak (Black-eared) Catbird (E)	Ailuroedus arfakianus	Heard daily in the Arfaks.
Vogelkop Bowerbird (E)	Amblyornis inornata	Unforgettable encounters in the Arfaks.
Flame Bowerbird (E)	Sericulus ardens	Two sightings, both on separate mornings, from a roadside viewpoint in the Arfaks.

# AUSTRALASIAN TREECREEPERS (Climacteridae)

Papuan Treecreeper (E)	Cormobates placens	A few sightings, first along the Pass Valley road.
FAIRYWRENS (Maluridae)		

Orange-crowned Fairywren (E)	Clytomyias insignis	A wonderful encounter with a small flock, along a trail above Syoubri Village, in the Arfaks.
Emperor Fairywren (E)	Malurus cyanocephalus	One sighting on Biak.
White-shouldered Fairywren (E)	Malurus alboscapulatus	Several.

# **HONEYEATERS (Meliphagidae)**

Plain Honeyeater (E)	Pycnopygius ixoides	A few in the Nimbokrang area, first from the tower.
Marbled Honeyeater (E)	Pycnopygius cinereus	Two brief sightings along the Pass Valley road.
Streak-headed Honeyeater (E)	Pycnopygius stictocephalus	A few in the Nimbokrang area, first from the tower.
Puff-backed Honeyeater (E)	Meliphaga aruensis	A brief sighting from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Mountain Honeyeater (E)	Microptilotis orientalis	A few sightings in the Arfaks.
Mimic Honeyeater (E)	Microptilotis analogus	Several around Nimbokrang and on Waigeo.
Black-throated Honeyeater (E)	Caligavis subfrenata	One sighting, along the Pass Valley road.
Ornate Melidectes (E)	Melidectes torquatus	A few in the Baliem Valley, one in the Arfaks.
Vogelkop Melidectes (E)	Melidectes leucostephes	A few in the Arfaks, one from a Mag BoP hide.
Belford's Melidectes (E)	Melidectes belfordi	Several along the Pass Valley road.
Varied Honeyeater	Gavicalis versicolor	Merpati Island.
Brown-backed Honeyeater	Ramsayornis modestus	A few in the mangroves near Sorong.
Arfak Honeyeater (E)	Melipotes gymnops	A few in the Arfaks.
Smoky Honeyeater (E)	Melipotes fumigatus	Several along the Pass Valley road, as well as in
Long-billed Honeyeater (E)	Melilestes megarhynchus	the Baliem Valley. One heard in the Arfak foothills.

# Tropical Birding Trip Report

#### West Papua: Paradise Regained - September 2023

Ruby-throated Myzomela (E)	Myzomela eques	One brief sighting, from the lookout at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Red Myzomela (E)	Myzomela cruentata	A couple of sightings in the Arfaks, first above Syoubri.
Elfin (Mountain) Myzomela (E)	Myzomela adolphinae	One sighting in the Arfaks.
Red-collared Myzomela (E)	Myzomela rosenbergii	A few in the Arfaks, first above Syoubri.
Green-backed Honeyeater (E)	Glycichaera fallax	Two, from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Rufous-sided Honeyeater (E)	Ptiloprora erythropleura	Two together, at the start of the trail to the no- show Sooty Owl, Arfaks.
Gray-streaked Honeyeater (E)	Ptiloprora perstriata	Several along the Pass Valley road.
Olive Honeyeater	Lichmera argentauris	Several on Merpati Island.
Tawny-breasted Honeyeater	Xanthotis flaviventer	Nimbokrang, Arfak foothills and Waigeo.
Meyer's Friarbird (E)	Philemon meyeri	Jalan Korea, near Nimbokrang.
Helmeted (New Guinea) Friarbird (E)	Philemon buceroides novaeguineae	

# THORNBILLS AND ALLIES (Acanthizidae)

Goldenface (E)	Pachycare flavogriseum	A few encountered in mixed-species flocks, at several spots in the Arfaks.
Rusty Mouse-Warbler (E)	Crateroscelis murina	A couple of sightings, one above Syoubri, another from a Wilson's BoP hide, Waigeo.
Mountain Mouse-Warbler (E)	Crateroscelis robusta	Good looks at a pair, along the Pass Valley road.
Large Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis nouhuysi	Several in both high-elevation areas visited.
Vogelkop Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis rufescens	A few sightings in the Arfaks.
Buff-faced Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis perspicillatus	A couple of sightings along the Pass Valley road.
Papuan Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis papuensis	A couple of sightings along the Pass Valley road.
Gray-green Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis arfakianus	A couple of sightings in the Arfaks, first above Syoubri Village.
Pale-billed Scrubwren (E)	Sericornis spilodera	Two sightings on our first morning on Waigeo, first from a Wilson's BoP hide.
Gray (Ashy) Thornbill (E)	Acanthiza cinerea	One sighting, from a hide in the Arfaks.
Green-backed Gerygone	Gerygone chloronota	Great looks from the tower at Alex's place, more seen and heard on Waigeo.
Biak (Large-billed) Gerygone (E)	Gerygone hypoxantha	At least three seen during our second morning on Biak.
Yellow-bellied Gerygone (E)	Gerygone chrysogaster	First seen in the forest above Alex's place, Nimbokrang, several seen on Waigeo.
Large-billed Gerygone	Gerygone magnirostris	A pair, in mangroves, near our accommodation on Waigeo.
Brown-breasted Gerygone (E)	Gerygone ruficollis	A few at both high-elevation sites visited.

### **PSEUDO-BABBLERS (Pomatostomidae)**

Papuan Babbler (E)	Pomatostomus isidorei	Great looks, along the Malagufuk boardwalk.

### **QUAIL-THRUSHES AND JEWEL-BABBLERS (Cinclosomatidae)**

Spotted Jewel-babbler (E)	Ptilorrhoa leucosticta	Heard in the Arfaks.
Blue Jewel-babbler (E)	Ptilorrhoa caerulescens	Very brief views, in the forest above Alex's place, Nimbokrang.

## **CUCKOOSHRIKES (Campephagidae)**

Barred Cuckooshrike	Coracina lineata	Seen well on our final morning on Waigeo.
Boyer's Cuckooshrike (E)	Coracina boyeri	Great looks at a few from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
White-bellied Cuckooshrike	Coracina papuensis	Above our accommodation in Nimbokrang, again in the Mangroves near Sorong.
Golden Cuckooshrike (E)	Campochaera sloetii	One sighting, at the start of the Malagufuk boardwalk.
Black-browed Triller (E)	Lalage a. atrovirens	Several, throughout the lowlands.
Black-browed (Biak) Triller (E)	Lalage atrovirens leucoptera	Several on Biak.
Black-bellied Cicadabird (E)	Edolisoma montanum	Two sightings in the Arfaks.
Papuan (Black-shouldered) Cicadabird (E)	Edolisoma incertum	Best views were had in the Arfak foothills, on our final afternoon there.
Common Cicadabird (Geelvink) (E)	Edolisoma tenuirostre meyerii	A couple of pairs on Biak.
Gray-headed Cicadabird (E)	Edolisoma schisticeps	A pair seen well from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Black Cicadabird (E)	Edolisoma melas	A pair seen well from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.

### **AUSTRALO-PAPUAN BELLBIRDS (Oreoicidae)**

Rufous-naped Bellbird (E)	Aleadryas rufinucha	A few sightings along the Pass Valley road, a couple more above Syoubri in the Arfaks.

### TIT BERRYPECKER AND CRESTED BERRYPECKER (Paramythiidae)

Tit Berrypecker (E)	Oreocharis arfaki	One sighting above Syoubri, Arfaks.
WHISTLERS AND ALLIES (Pacl	hycephalidae)	
Rusty Pitohui (E)	Pseudorectes ferrugineus	Two brief encounters on Waigeo.

Waigeo Shrikethrush (E)	Colluricincla affinis	A couple of good looks during our time on Waigeo
Mamberamo Shrikethrush (E)	Colluricincla obscura	Heard in the Nimbokrang area.
Arafura Shrikethrush	Colluricincla megarhyncha	Good looks at one, along the Malagufuk boardwalk, others heard and glimpsed there.
Black Pitohui (E)	Melanorectes nigrescens	One sighting above Syoubri Village, in the Arfaks.
Regent Whistler (E)	Pachycephala schlegelii	A pair seen attending a nest, at the start of a trail in the Arfaks.
Vogelkop Whistler (E)	Pachycephala meyeri	At least one sighting in the Arfaks, just behind our accommodation.
Sclater's Whistler (E)	Pachycephala soror	One sighting in the Arfaks.
Baliem (Golden) Whistler (E)	Pachycephala balim	Several.
Lorentz's Whistler (E)	Pachycephala lorentzi	Daily sightings along the Pass valley road.
Island Whistler	Pachycephala phaionota	A few on Merpati Island.
Biak Whistler (E)	Pachycephala melanorhyncha	Two, during the same morning walk, on Biak.
Gray (Gray-headed) Whistler	Pachycephala simplex	One sighting at the lookout above Alex's place, Nimbokrang.

# **OLD WORLD ORIOLES (Oriolidae)**

Hooded Pitohui (E)	Pitohui dichrous	A couple of sightings from the Flame Bowerbird lookout, Arfaks.
Raja Ampat Pitohui (E)	Pitohui cerviniventris	Several, Waigeo.
Northern Variable Pitohui (E)	Pitohui kirhocephalus	Several in the Arfak foothills.
Brown Oriole (E)	Oriolus szalayi	A few on Waigeo.

# **BOATBILLS (Machaerirhynchidae)**

Black-breasted Boatbill (E)	Machaerirhynchus nigripectus	A pair seen from the Pass Valley road, another
		pair seen above Syoubri in the Arfaks.
Yellow-breasted Boatbill	Machaerirhynchus flaviventer	One sighting along the Malagufuk boardwalk.

# WOODSWALLOWS, BELLMAGPIES, AND ALLIES (Artamidae)

White-breasted Woodswallow	Artamus leucorynchus	A handful on Waigeo, seen on three days.
Mountain Peltops (E)	Peltops montanus	One sighting, for some of the group, in the Arfaks.
Lowland Peltops (E)	Peltops blainvillii	One sighting from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang, another on our final morning on Waigeo.
Hooded Butcherbird (E)	Cracticus cassicus	A few on Waigeo and Biak.

Tropical Birding Trip Report

Black Butcherbird	Cracticus quoyi	One, during our final morning on Waigeo.
MOTTLED BERRYHUNTER (RE	agologidae)	
Mottled Berryhunter (E)	Rhagologus leucostigma	Two sightings in the Arfaks; one along a trail above Syoubri Village, another along the trail to the no-show Sooty Owl.
FANTAILS (Rhipiduridae)		
Drongo Fantail (Pygmy Drongo) (E)	Chaetorhynchus papuensis	A few sightings in the Arfaks, mostly of birds
Black Fantail (E)	Rhipidura atra	attending mixed-species flocks. Several, at both highland sites visited.
Northern Fantail	Rhipidura rufiventris	A few in the Arfaks.
Northern Fantail (Biak) (E)	Rhipidura rufiventris kordensis	At least three on Biak, all on the same morning.
Sooty Thicket-Fantail (E)	Rhipidura threnothorax	One sighting, along the Malagufuk boardwalk.
White-bellied Thicket-Fantail (E)	Rhipidura leucothorax	Several heard, one seen along a trail at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Willie-wagtail	Rhipidura leucophrys	place, Mindoklang.
Rufous-backed Fantail (E)	Rhipidura rufidorsa	One sighting, along a trail at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Dimorphic Fantail (E)	Rhipidura brachyrhyncha	Both morphs seen well along the Pass Valley road.
Arafura Fantail	Rhipidura dryas	Several on Merpati Island.
Friendly Fantail (E)	Rhipidura albolimbata	Several, at both highland sites visited.
DRONGOS (Dicruridae)		
Spangled Drongo (Papuan)	Dicrurus bracteatus carbonarius	Biak, Nimbokrang and Waigeo.
BIRDS-OF-PARADISE (Paradisae	eidae)	
Crinkle-collared Manucode (E)	Manucodia chalybatus	One seen from a hide in the Arfaks.
Jobi Manucode (E)	Manucodia jobiensis	One seen from the tower at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Glossy-mantled Manucode (E)	Manucodia ater	Several.
Western Parotia (E)	Parotia sefilata	Several in the Arfaks, some from hides.
Twelve-wired Bird-of-Paradise (E)	Seleucidis melanoleucus	The first BoP we saw in display; on our first morning in Nimbokrang.
Black-billed Sicklebill (E)	Drepanornis albertisi	Eventually seen by all, from a hide overlooking
Pale-billed Sicklebill (E)	Drepanornis bruijnii	some fruit, in the Arfaks. Heard along Jalan Korea.
Vogelkop Lophorina (Superb B.o.P.) (E) 25	Lophorina niedda	A few sightings, of both males and females,

www.tropicalbirding.com

Greater Lophorina (Superb B.o.P.) (E)	Lophorina superba	some from hides, in the Arfaks. A couple of males and females seen, perched in tall trees, in the Baliem Valley.
Magnificent Riflebird	Ptiloris magnificus	Eventually seen, along the Malagufuk boardwalk, several heard prior.
Black Sicklebill (E)	Epimachus fastosus	A female seen coming to fruit on several occasions, from a hide in the Arfaks.
Brown Sicklebill (E)	Epimachus meyeri	Heard from the Pass Valley road.
Short-tailed Paradigalla (E)	Paradigalla brevicauda	Great looks at one, from the Pass Valley road.
Splendid Astrapia (E)	Astrapia splendidissima	Two lengthy encounters, at the same spot on the Pass Valley road.
King Bird-of-Paradise (E)	Cicinnurus regius	Fantastic encounter with a displaying male, Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Wilson's Bird-of-Paradise (E)	Cicinnurus respublica	Males and females seen from hides on Waigeo.
Magnificent Bird-of-Paradise (E)	Cicinnurus magnificus	Males and females seen from hides in the Arfaks.
Red Bird-of-Paradise (E)	Paradisaea rubra	Watched from beneath, at length, from atop a hill on Waigeo.
Lesser Bird-of-Paradise (E)	Paradisaea minor	Watched from a hide at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.

# **MONARCH FLYCATCHERS (Monarchidae)**

Golden Monarch (E)	Carterornis chrysomela	Nimbokrang, Arfak foothills and Waigeo.
(Biak) Golden Monarch (E)	Carterornis chrysomela kordensis	Seen on three days during our time on Biak.
Black-winged Monarch	Monarcha frater	Two seen in the Arfaks, not by all in the group.
Fan-tailed Monarch (E)	Symposiachrus axillaris	One sighting in the Arfaks.
Biak Monarch (E)	Symposiachrus brehmii	One sighting of two.
Hooded Monarch (E)	Symposiachrus manadensis	One sighting, and only for some, near the Lesser BoP hide, Alex's place, Nimbokrang.
Spot-winged Monarch (E)	Symposiachrus guttula	Great looks at a pair, from the Malagufuk boardwalk.
Frilled Monarch (E)	Arses telescopthalmus	Great looks at a group of three, in the Arfak foothills.
Biak Flycatcher (E)	Myiagra atra	A few.
Shining Flycatcher	Myiagra alecto	

### **MELAMPITTAS (Melampittidae)**

Lesser Melampitta (E)

Melampitta lugubris

One sighting, along a trail in the Arfaks, right after our second sighting of Mottled Berryhunter.

# CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES (Corvidae) 26

Brown-headed Crow (E)	Corvus fuscicapillus	One sighting on Waigeo, soon after we arrived.
Gray Crow (E)	Corvus tristis	Seen on a handful of days.
Torresian Crow	Corvus orru	
SATINBIRDS (Cnemophilidae)		
Loria's Satinbird (E)	Cnemophilus loriae	A very luck sighting along the Pass valley road.
BERRYPECKERS AND LONGBI	LLS (Melanocharitidae)	
Mid-mountain Berrypecker (E)	Melanocharis longicauda	A few females along Pass Valley road.
Fan-tailed Berrypecker (E)	Melanocharis versteri	A few along the Pass Valley road, a couple in the Arfaks.
Spotted Berrypecker (Thick-billed) (E)	Melanocharis c. crassirostris	One sighting along the trail above Syoubri Village, Arfaks.
Yellow-bellied Longbill (E)	Toxorhamphus novaeguineae	Seen on three days, for some only on Waigeo.
Spectacled Longbill (E)	Oedistoma iliolophus	First seen along a trail at Alex's place, Nimbokrang.

# **AUSTRALASIAN ROBINS (Petroicidae)**

Lesser Ground-Robin (E)	Amalocichla incerta	Heard at both highland sites, seen along the
Olive Flyrobin (Flyrobin) (E)	Microeca flavovirescens	Sooty Owl trail in the Arfaks. Great looks at one, along the Malagufuk boardwalk.
Papuan Flycatcher (Canary Flyrobin) (E)	Microeca papuana	A few sightings along, and near, the Pass Valley road.
Garnet Robin (E)	Eugerygone rubra	Seen by only a few, on one occasion, from the
White-faced Robin	Tregellasia leucops	Pass Valley road. Seen once, by some, in the Arfaks.
Black-sided Robin (E)	Poecilodryas hypoleuca	Great looks at one, from the Malagufuk boardwalk.
White-winged Robin (E)	Peneothello sigillata	Seen by a few, along the Pass Valley road.
Blue-gray Robin (E)	Peneothello cyanus	Several, at both highland sites.
Green-backed Robin (E)	Pachycephalopsis hattamensis	Daily sighting in the Arfaks, mostly from hides.

# CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES (Cisticolidae)

Golden-headed Cisticola	Cisticola exilis	Common in the grasslands near Sentani.
SWALLOWS (Hirundinidae)		
Pacific Swallow	Hirundo tahitica	

### **BULBULS (Pycnonotidae)**

Sooty-headed Bulbul (I	)
------------------------	---

Pycnonotus aurigaster

### LEAF WARBLERS (Phylloscopidae)

Island Leaf Warbler	Phylloscopus poliocephalus	Heard several times, looked at during a walk above Syoubri in the Arfaks.

# WHITE-EYES, YUHINAS, AND ALLIES (Zosteropidae)

Lemon-bellied White-eye	Zosterops chloris	Half a dozen on Merpati Island.
Black-fronted White-eye (E)	Zosterops minor	A few in the Arfaks.
Capped White-eye (E)	Zosterops fuscicapilla	Several, in the Baliem Valley and in the Arfaks.
Biak White-eye (E)	Zosterops mysorensis	A wonderful encounter with a small flock, on our first morning on Biak.
New Guinea White-eye (E)	Zosterops novaeguineae	One sighting in the Arfaks.

### **STARLINGS (Sturnidae)**

Metallic Starling	Aplonis metallica	Several; first on Biak.
Long-tailed Starling (E)	Aplonis magna	Several on Biak.
Singing Starling	Aplonis cantoroides	A handful at the Waigeo ferry terminal.
Moluccan Starling	Aplonis mysolensis	Several on Merpati Island.
Yellow-faced Myna (E)	Mino dumontii	Three sightings; one in Nimbokrang, two on Waigeo.
Golden Myna (E)	Mino anais	A few at the Malgufuk boardwalk.

# OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS (Muscicapidae)

Pied Bushchat	Saxicola caprata	A few in the Baliem Valley.

### FLOWERPECKERS (Dicaeidae)

Olive-crowned Flowerpecker (E)	Dicaeum pectorale
Red-capped Flowerpecker (E)	Dicaeum geelvinkianum

# SUNBIRDS AND SPIDERHUNTERS (Nectariniidae)

Black Sunbird	Leptocoma aspasia
Olive-backed Sunbird	Cinnyris jugularis

# WAXBILLS AND ALLIES (Estrildidae)

Mountain Firetail (E)	Oreostruthus fuliginosus	One sighting, near the upper camp along the Pass Valley road.
Crimson Finch	Neochmia phaeton	In the grasslands near Sentani.
Scaly-breasted Munia	Lonchura punctulata	In the mangroves near Sorong.
Grand Munia (E)	Lonchura grandis	In the grasslands near Sentani.
Black-breasted Munia (E)	Lonchura teerinki	In scrub and grasslands in the Baliem Valley and along the Pass Valley road.
Grey-banded Munia (E)	Lonchura vana	Near Anggi Lake, Arfaks.
Hooded Munia (E)	Lonchura spectabilis	In the grasslands near Sentani.
Blue-faced Parrotfinch	Erythrura trichroa	One sighting, near the road, above our accommodation in the Arfaks.

# **OLD WORLD SPARROWS (Passeridae)**

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (I)	Passer montanus

# WAGTAILS AND PIPITS (Motacillidae)

Gray WagtailMotacilla cinereaOne sighting, at the Flame Bowerbird lookoArfaks.	out,
--	------



Moustached Treeswift by Daniëlle Perdaen



Moluccan Starling by Daniëlle Perdaen



Vogelkop Owlet-Nightjar by José Illanes



Frilled Monarch by José Illanes



Merpati Island Scenery by Daniëlle Perdaen



Lesser Bird-of-Paradise by José Illanes



Dwarf Koel by Daniëlle Perdae



Western Parotia by Daniëlle Perdae



Biak White-eye by José Illanes



Magnificent Bird-of-Paradise by Daniëlle Perdae