

Compiled by Frédéric Goes, San Sikol (Srun) and Sanh Sophoan

Thanks to all contributors. Observers are invited to send records they think may be of interest to fredbaksey@yahoo.com. Species names follow *The Birds of Cambodia, An Annotated Checklist* (Goes 2014).

National Park, Wildlife Sanctuary, Protected Forest, Bengal Florican Conservation Area and Sarus Crane Conservation Area are abbreviated as NP, WS, PF, BFCa and SCCA respectively. Siem Reap-based *Sam Veasna Center for Wildlife Conservation* is abbreviated SVC.

PHNOM PENH

On 8 September, a **Chestnut-winged Cuckoo** flew into a window of a town garden, and was killed from the impact (AS). This is not the first time this species has been encountered in the capital, indicating it regularly migrates or moves through the area.

SOUTH-EAST

In **Takeo**, the usual observer was absent during July and August, but **River Lapwings** and **Small Pratincoles** were still present around the water reservoir southeast of town during the first half of September. Numbers suddenly dropped from 19 lapwings on 18 September to one on the next day. In the well-watched Takeo garden, a male **Blue-eared Kingfisher** reappeared on 6-7 September and intermittently until the end of the month (all RO).

At Prek Ksach, a **Golden-bellied Gerygone** was photographed on 24 August (AJ).

SOUTH-WEST

A **Rufous-bellied Eagle** at **Kep** on 13 August was a first for the park (SM).



A Mangrove Whistler at Bos Thom on 14 July, the first ever photographed from Cambodia (Photo: Eam Sam Un)

NORTH-WEST

At **Ang Tropeang Thmor**, a **Common Kingfisher** on 8 July (VT) and **Wood Sandpiper** (DN) on 12 July were unseasonal, as earliest documented are from mid-August and late August respectively. On 5 August, **Milky Stork** (number unreported) was noted (KC).

In **Siem Reap province**, no less than five **Mangrove Whistlers** were recorded in Rajchon Toul Community Forest during 18-20 June (CeS). This little known species, mainly recorded from the coast and occasionally the Tonle Sap, was then found in degraded semi-evergreen forest at Bos Thom Community Forest just south of Phnom Kulen NP, with three birds seen on 14 July and two birds on 16 August. Last but not least, a **Bar-bellied Pitta** was also recorded at Bos Thom CF on 16 August, only the second known site for this species in the northwest (all SVC guides).

The **SVC garden** was again a coveted stopover for the narrow passage migrant **Yellow-rumped Flycatcher**, with a male showing up on 19 September, and a female on 21 September (OS).

TONLE SAP

The edge the Siem Reap floodplain around **Chreaw** proved again to be a productive area during post-nuptial migration. Records of interest were **Wood Sandpiper** (unseasonal) and three **Comb Ducks** on 18 July (VT), three **Greater Sand Plovers** on 6 August (SC), **Marsh Sandpiper** on 28 August (earliest date) (VT), and single **Long-toed Stint** and **Curlew Sandpiper** on 5 September (DN).

The best series came up on 2 September with at least 18 **Black Bitterns** and 25+ **Yellow Bitterns**, 15 **Long-toed Stints**, 10 **Black-tailed Godwits**, single **Lesser Sand Plover**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Whimbrel** and **Ruddy Turnstone** on 2 September (JN). The latter two are inland rarities, though perhaps overlooked as two **Whimbrels** showed up on 6 September (SMo) while a single **Ruddy Turnstone** was there on 7 September (DN) and another again on 23 September (OS). On the latter date there were also a single **Long-toed Stint** and two **Red-necked Stints**. Nice as well was one **Red-necked Phalarope**, a rather rarely recorded passage migrant, seen in the late afternoon of 23 September (KC, SSi).



Red-necked Stint migrating through Chreaw on 23 September (Photo: Orn Sambovannak)

Survey from 28 August to 7 September in the Pursat area did not produce any sightings or other tangible evidence/reports of the regular occurrence of post-breeding River Tern on this part of the lake (PE). Unfortunately no report or birdlist was produced.

In Prek Toal, a single presumably **Himalayan Cuckoo** was spotted on 15-16 August (SMo), the first non-spring record of a migrant *Cuculus* in the country.

NORTH

At Koh Ker, a **Rufous-bellied Woodpecker** on 20 August is noteworthy (DN), and a single **Oriental Hobby** was seen en route to the temple on 12 August (SSo).

In Kulen Promtep WS, several records confirm that a small population of **Masked Finfoot** annually breeds along the Stung Memay near Antiel village. Two adults were seen near a nest holding six eggs on 2 July, but nesting had failed by 7 July, presumably due to snake predation. An adult accompanied by three chicks was seen feeding in another stretch of the stream on 17 September (all RV). At Thmat Baeuy, no less than 31 **White-shouldered Ibises** came to roost on 23 September (RO).

NORTH-EAST

A local report led to the finding of a **Giant Ibis** nest just adjacent to the central Kratie - Stung Treng Mekong River, in O'Chralang village, O'Marah commune; an adult was on a nest with two eggs in mid-July (SK).

In Seima PF, a dead (trapped) rail photographed by the Protected Forest staff on 15 July appeared to be the second country record of **Red-legged Crake** (NMh). Given that the previous record was from camera-trap photos taken at Kbal Spean, Phnom Kulen NP in August 2010, the species remains thus to be observed alive.



A snared Red-legged Crake was uncovered at Seima PF on 15 July (Photo: Nut Meng Hor)

A SVC birding trip to Mondolkiri during 21-24 July managed to find good birds despite daily monsoon rains. The best sightings were made at Dak Dam on 23 July, namely a **Black-backed Kingfisher** – bird of the trip, a calling **Bar-backed Partridge** – fourth record of a species not reported since 2000, and two **Maroon Orioles** – seventh record of this localised species, only known from this site. Other species with a nationally restricted range were reported but require proper verification: **Spot-breasted Babbler** (heard only) and **Rufous-fronted Babbler**, a species not known from the area or adjacent southern Annam – Record Committee welcome here! Highest altitudinal occurrence at 900m was noted for **Grey-breasted Prinia**, **Common Flameback**, **Blossom-headed** and **Red-breasted Parakeets** (all SVC guides, SSL, CSo).

OBSERVERS

(* = SVC guides)

AJ	Ashish John	RV	Rours Vann
AS	Adam Starr	SC *	Seab Chea
CeS *	Chen Sophal (Naran)	SK	Sok Ko
CSo	Chhin Sophea	SM	Simon Mahood
DN *	Duong Nara	SMo *	Sang Mony
JN	Jack Noordhuizen	SP	Sun Phearum
KC *	Kunthea Chhoun	SSi *	San Sikol (Srun)
NMh	Nut Menghor	SSl	Suy Senglim
OS *	Orn Sambovannak (Johnny)	SSo *	Sanh Sophoan
PE	Paul Everingham	VT *	Vanh Tharath
RO	Rob Overtoom		

Black-backed Kingfisher,
a stunning little jem, was
found at Dak Dam on 23 July
(Photo: Suy Senglim)

