

# SUMATRA

29 JULY – 14 AUGUST 2007

## TOUR REPORT

**LEADER:** JÁNOS OLÁH

This was the fifth Birdquest tour to Sumatra in search of the islands remarkable endemic species! We saw a great selection of the country's specialities on this year's tour and recorded high number of endemics, Sundaic specialities, as well as a total of 73 'diamond' species amongst a highly respectable total of 300 species. Sumatra is one of those locations that conjure up images of remote forests, little-known birds and difficult birding. The 2007 tour lived up to this billing and was particularly eventful, while exploring the birding hotspots of this rarely visited region. This spectacular island has a number of little-known endemics plus some more widespread but harder-to-come-by species. The forests of Indonesia are disappearing fast so Sumatra is a real battleground for conservation in order to save enough habitat to maintain viable populations of its unique species. Our tour focused on the Sumatran and Sundaic endemics and, concentrating on just two main areas: the lowland swampy forests of Way Kambas National Park and the endemic rich forests of Kerinci Seblat National Park. After a lot of hard work on difficult terrain our two weeks yielded a high proportion of our targets. Undoubtedly the superb views of the rare White-winged Duck, the nesting Large Frogmouth and the secretive Graceful Pitta were amongst the main highlights of this action-packed tour!

In the first part of the tour we concentrated on the lowland forests of Way Kambas which is very rich in birds. This great place provided us with some much sought-after nightbirds like Large and Gould's Frogmouths, the mythical Bonaparte's Nightjar and Reddish Scops Owl. On our day time forays into different parts of this last remaining intact lowland forest tract of Sumatra produced some other great stuff too: the enigmatic Storm's Stork, the scarce Jambu Fruit-Dove, the localized Cinnamon-headed Green Pigeon, colorful male Banded Pittas, five species of broadbills, both Banded and Rufous-collared Kingfishers, Red-bearded Bee-eater, twelve species of woodpeckers, a shy male Rufous-tailed Shama and many babblers like Black-throated and Fluffy-backed Tit-Babblers just to name but a few. After this humid and hot lowland area we visited the higher and cooler forests of Kerinci Seblat National Park. This area holds many of Sumatra's endemics, most of which are shy ground dwellers, and the narrow and sometimes steep trail up Mount Kerinci with its lush understorey makes this place one of the most challenging birding sites in Asia. Our highlights this year included Salvadori's and Sumatran Peacock-Pheasants, Salvadori's Nightjar, Sumatran Green Pigeon, Pink-headed Fruit-Dove, Sumatran Trogon, both Rusty-breasted and Sumatran Wren-Babbler and Horsfield's Thrush. On the

last leg of the tour we visited a foothill area of Kerinci Seblat National Park with a distinctively different set of specialties. Here the undoubted star was the Graceful Pitta which gave us remarkable views but other goodies included not less than fifteen species of bulbuls including the endemic Cream-striped and Spot-necked Bulbul, the stunning mega-skulker - Marbled Wren-Babbler, Sumatran Treepie, Sumatran Drongo and both Sumatran and Blue-masked Leafbirds. This was a wonderful place to finish this adventures tour with plenty to remember!

After a long journey from London the group gathered at Jakarta airport. As our afternoon flight to Bandar Lampung was a few hours away we decided to take our lunch out and pay a quick visit to Muara Angke, which is a small mangrove reserve in Jakarta. Despite it being 'wrong' time of day in the midday heat we saw a few interesting birds. The highlights included superb scope views of Small Blue Kingfisher, a Sunda Coucal for some of us, Sunda and Fulvous-breasted Woodpeckers, several Bar-winged Prinias and a stunning male Scarlet-headed Flowerpecker. After our quick lunch we headed back to the airport (with Javan Munias around the waiting lounge) and flew to southern Sumatra into Lampung Province. It was with some relief that we arrived at our comfortable hotel with time to recover from the long journey. It did not seem like very many hours later that we were up and heading towards the rich lowland forests of Way Kambas National Park. After checking into our accommodation just outside the entrance gate of the park, we then began our exploration of this magnificent area. All together we spent four days at this bird-rich site, much of the time exploring the forest along the access road and some excellent forest trails. We also made forays into the swamp forest and made the most of the pre-dawn period for our owling activities which were conducted on a daily basis! It always takes time to get to grips with nightbirds but the effort is usually worthwhile and this year was no exception! In fact we were just after full moon so we also had to do evening excursions as the pre-dawn time was too bright for many species and they were not calling! On our first attempt we found a fabulous Bonaparte's Nightjar which gave us fantastic views as well as a rendition its weird and very unusual song! The following morning was absolutely silent with nothing calling at so the day after we tried really hard both at dawn and dusk and got excellent looks at the much hoped-for Reddish Scops Owl and a Brown Hawk Owl, although Oriental Bay Owl and Large Frogmouth were only heard. Next morning out again full with anticipation but again nothing was calling. By this time we realized it must be the very bright conditions in the early hours as the moon was high this time. Time was running out so we were out again at dusk and first a splendid Gould's Frogmouth was located and then the outrageous Large Frogmouth was finally pinned down too. The latter was calling surprisingly infrequently in the last few days but always from the same spot and we eventually discovered the reason why, she was incubating! We watched her just about 6 metres away for 10 minutes! This treat made this bird the second place of the overall 'bird of the tour contest' with five nominations out of six. Early mornings and late afternoons were a good time to keep an eye open for gamebirds on the road and as well as the expected Red Junglefowls, we saw smart Crested Firebacks on a near daily basis. Although our best views of the Crested Fireback was obtained when Ann spotted one roosting over the main track. We were very lucky this year as on our first visit to Rawa Gajah swamp forest we located four adult White-winged Ducks and we were able to enjoy great views of these incredibly rare birds for fifteen minutes! This morning was particularly good for pigeons too, as about 21 Cinnamon-headed Green Pigeons, numerous Little Green Pigeons, two Pink-necked Green Pigeons and two Thick-billed Green-Pigeons were counted in half an hour! Other goodies around the grassy swamp area included Lesser Adjutants, Black-thighed Falconet and a Grey-headed Fish-Eagle. The walk along the riverside yielded the superb looking Black-and-red Broadbill with its amazingly-coloured bill, both Blue-eared and Stork-billed Kingfishers as well as Malaysian Blue Flycatchers and sneaky White-chested Babblers (the latter two are riparian specialists).

Other highlights at Way Kambas included the rarely seen Storm's Stork, which is a rather secretive forest stork so we were lucky to come across it. We flushed one from a roadside pool by the main track and it flew up to a tree and although it was not the best view, it was still Alain's top bird of the trip. We spent a few early mornings around the Way Kanan clearing and notable birds were Crested Goshawk and a fine male Jambu Fruit-Dove while having breakfast. There were plenty of

multicoloured birds to look for in the forest and our persistence resulted in great views of several electrifying male Banded Pittas as they hopped through the undergrowth, gorgeous and noisy Banded, Black-and-yellow, Green and Dusky Broadbills, shy Blue-rumped Parrots, chattering Red-bearded Bee-eaters and gaudy Red-crowned Barbets visiting fruiting trees. Other colourful highlights included both the stunning Rufous-collared and the equally impressive Banded Kingfisher, and several great views of three species of lowland trogons such as the vivid Red-naped, the skulking Diard's and the smaller Scarlet-rumped Trogons. Although Way Kambas was logged and just few large trees remained it has recovered pretty well in the last twenty years as the presence of a good diversity of woodpeckers indicates. We managed to see no less than twelve species from the diminutive and hyper-active Rufous Piculet to the massive White-bellied Woodpecker. The colourful Rufous-winged, Banded and Checker-throated Woodpeckers were all tracked down and we even managed to see the scarce Orange-backed Woodpecker. The tiny Buff-necked and Buff-rumped Woodpeckers were located in the mid to lower canopy while the 'punk' Grey-and-buff Woodpecker was usually seen on thin branches in the top of the trees. This year and in fact for a few years now hornbills were a little thin on the ground with only Asian Black and Oriental Pied Hornbills being noted. Scarlet and Fiery Minivets, Black-winged Flycatcher-Shrikes joined the canopy flocks, which also housed four species of malkohas (Red-billed, Raffles, Chestnut-breasted and Black-bellied), Dark-throated Orioles, Green Ioras and Lesser Cuckooshrikes, as well as various species of leafbirds and sunbirds. The undergrowth concealed a bewildering array of babblers. We spent much time watching the antics of Black-throated, Chestnut-winged and Ferruginous Babblers as they carefully foraged through the understory, occasionally joined by the charismatic Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler and the handsome Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler. The duetting of the Chestnut-rumped Babbler, when the concealed blue skin on the neck was visible, was a favorite performance too. Short-tailed and Black-capped Babblers foraged on the ground below whilst the drab plumaged *Malacopteron* species (Sooty-capped, Scaly-crowned, Rufous-crowned and Moustached Babblers) drew attention to themselves with their mournful morning songs. Some time was spent playing hide and seeks with a musical though furtive Black Magpie but a ventriloquial Rufous-tailed Shama proved slightly more obliging. Grey-rumped and Whiskered Treeswifts chattered from the canopy and we had great views of nine species of bulbul (including the long-awaited Buff-vented Bulbul for Ann) plus had great looks at the seldom seen Thick-billed and Spectacled Spiderhunters. Flycatchers are not numerous in Way Kambas to say the least, nevertheless we saw Rufous-winged Philentoma and after a bit of sweat we had superb looks at the rather shy Grey-chested Jungle-Flycatcher too.

Several mammal species were also seen including the incredible Siamang Gibbon. The sound made by these agile primates has to be heard to be believed and their cute faces are so human-like – they really are like a miniature great ape! Two species of macaque and Silvered Leaf Monkey were also seen, Wild Boar, Red Muntjac and Lesser Mouse Deer were noted along the track and Sambar wandered through the open grassy patches. Yellow-throated Martens were seen on two different occasions from the vehicle and in the trees, among the many squirrels, it was the colorful Prevost's Squirrels that stood out.

Leaving the hot and humid Way Kambas behind, we enjoyed one night of comfort in Jakarta before we flew to Padang in central Sumatra and travelled to the famous Kerinci Seblat National Park. Our first port of call was Keresek Tua, our base from which to explore this endemic-rich birding Mecca! We were warmly welcomed by Pak Subandi in his simple but clean home-stay where all the visiting birders stay. The imposing volcano cone of Gunung Kerinci, which is the highest peak of Sumatra, was now within striking distance with only a ten minutes drive through a tea plantation (probably the biggest in the World). We could now focus on an altogether different task, tracking down as many endemics of the region which is possible in four days.

Most of our time at Gunung Kerinci were spent on the trail that leads to the summit of this remarkable volcano. We climbed as far as the first-shelter (misleading name as it is in fact the third!) on one occasion but most of our birding was concentrating on the lower slopes. This is definitely one of

those localities where patience and perseverance pays off as the birding is usually very slow and at times frustrating owing to the fact that many of the sought-after endemics are shy ground-dwellers as well as being scarce. All in all it is very difficult to see them! On our first afternoon we met a birder couple who had been there for over ten days and had still not seen everything (also the logbook told of epic tales of birders spending two weeks or more on the trail and still leaving some of their targets behind!). So not surprisingly we also had our fair share of frustration as many sightings were brief and left many of us wanting more (or something at all!). Fortunately hard work usually gives some reward and our patience and persistence paid well and we managed to see a good proportion of the desired endemics and specialties in this relatively short space of time.

Our first late afternoon birding produced about twenty Sumatran Green Pigeons on a large fruiting tree and excellent views of the recently split Sumatran Owlet which has a completely different vocalization from the Collared Owlet. After returning to our accommodation we had a quick dinner and went early to bed all thinking of the forthcoming days at this great place! As the weather was settled next day we decided to climb higher on the mountain so we can take good advantage of the good weather. Starting early we heard a roding Dusky Woodcock and the endemic Sumatran Frogmouth but they both proved elusive. Birding was slow but after entering the forest proper, Sunda Warblers, Mountain Tailorbirds, Mountain Leaf-Warblers and Black-fronted White-eyes frequently joined forces, whilst other canopy dwellers included delightful Blue Nuthatches, Long-tailed Sibilias, White-browed Shrike-Babblers, colourful Grey-chinned and Sunda Minivets, and vivid Temminck's Sunbirds. Just after Air Minum we managed to track down a lovely pair of the scarce Rufous-vented Niltava and climbing to higher altitudes we found Sunda Bush-Warblers, Mountain White-eyes and the scarce Orange-spotted Bulbul, although the shy Red-billed Partridge was only heard. As a surprise we spotted two Horsfield's Thrushes hopping along the trail and we all had good views of this shy *Zoothera*. We also had both the male and female of the delightful Pink-headed Fruit-Dove as well as another striking endemic the recently split Sumatran (Blue-tailed) Trogon.

The next two and a half days we were concentrating on the lower slopes between the forest edge and Air Minum. Around the big fruiting tree we had Barred Cuckoo-Doves and Black-browed Barbets whilst the cicada-like call gave away the presence of the bizarre-looking Fire-tufted Barbets. We also had a perched Besra one morning which is a difficult to observe forest raptor anyway but this extensively rufous breasted Sumatran endemic *vanhemmeli* race is rare too. Nearer to the ground, Grey-throated, Golden and attractive Spot-necked Babblers emerged from the dark shrubbery and wren-babblers were a prominent feature as we enjoyed several views of Pygmy and Eye-browed Wren-Babblers at close range, and both endemic species also entertained us. One of them is the gorgeous but very shy Sumatran Wren-Babbler, which was a long-awaited split from the Himalayan Long-billed Wren Babbler *Rimator malacoptilus* and two different pairs gave very good views to all of us. The other was the chunky Rusty-breasted Wren-Babblers, a clear favorite for the whole group with its very melodious and sweet song especially when duetting! Sadly, trapping for the cagebird industry has taken its toll on Kerinci's birds with species like the Silver-eared Mesia now virtually extinct and others such as Green Magpie and Sunda Laughingthrush are much rarer than they were. Indeed we just accidentally came across three Sunda Laughingthrush but never heard any throughout our stay! Very depressing indeed! Occasionally Lesser Shortwings emerged from the dark undergrowth and from time to time, attractive Sunda Blue Robins and Snowy-browed Flycatchers would appear on the trail. Indigo and Little Pied Flycatchers were also relatively common and we saw the handsome Large Niltava a few times. Although Shiny Whistling Thrushes were frequently seen on the trail, the Schneider's Pitta remained as elusive as ever! Several were heard on the first two days but when we were really solely concentrating on this species we never even heard one. In some years it is more easy to see than in others and clearly 2007 was not one of those 'easy' years. Nightbirding was not very productive this year either mainly because of the weather and probably over-taping too. We managed to see the rare Salvadori's Nightjar but the shy Barred Eagle-Owl and the skittish Rajah's Scops Owl were leader-only birds. At the edge of the forest a magnificent pair of Black Eagles entertained and by descending into a dry riverbed we managed to see Sumatran

(Chestnut-winged) Whistling-Thrush and most of us saw the endemic Sumatran Peacock-Pheasant too as it climbed up to a tree very close to us! The other star bird is the Salvadori's Pheasant which is also endemic to Sumatra. Walking quietly the trail we finally saw a male of this rare bird allowing pretty good views from about five meters. Later János saw a female with minimum three chicks disappearing in the undergrowth and heard the distinctive wing-whirring of the displaying males on two more occasions but did not see it again. Yes, Kerinci was difficult birding indeed and slightly reluctantly, but relieved, we had to leave this great forest behind so we descended from the mountain for the final time...

The short journey through the rice paddies to Sungai Penuh took us past several flocks of Munias and we had great views of the attractive White-headed Munia amongst the common Scaly-breasted Munias. In late afternoon we settled into our simple hotel (but with a very welcome hot shower) ready for the final 'official' leg of the tour. From Sungai Penuh, it is relatively straightforward to access mid-elevation forest and we spent two and a half days birding the road from Bukit Tapan down to Mauro Sako before returning to Padang via the coastal road. Despite the traffic with the annoying toots (to which some of us took elaborate avoidance) we had an extremely productive time here. Of great interest to us were a few more endemics and we had great success in finding most of them. Pride of place went to the stunning Graceful Pitta that performed just a few yards away, standing right out in the open for minutes! It was an absolute favorite for the group and the clear winner of the 'Bird of the trip competition', not to mention being Daniel's 7000<sup>th</sup> species. Sumatran Treepies went noisily through the tree tops, Spot-necked and Cream-striped Bulbuls frequented the fruiting trees and Sumatran Drongos joined the Long-tailed Broadbill flocks. One of the prettiest of the Sumatran endemics, the stunning Blue-masked Leafbird was not easy to locate but finally we saw a pair feeding two juveniles. The recently split Sumatran Leafbird was also seen, however it was not just the endemics that kept us busy as several other localized and difficult species were also present. With some effort, we all achieved fantastic views of Marbled Wren-Babbler first sneaking in the undergrowth, singing loudly, and later we came across a pair just in the roadside vegetation which even allowed scope views! Ann spotted a male of the seldom seen White-tailed Blue Flycatcher and other goodies included the enigmatic Giant (Waterfall) Swiftlet, the diminutive Lesser (Sunda) Forktail, the skulking Horsfield's Babbler and the sneaky Rufous-browed Flycatcher. Mixed flocks held goodies such as Green-billed Malkohas, Sunda Cuckooshrikes, Black-and-crimson Orioles and noisy Maroon Woodpeckers whilst less expected was a fine pair of Speckled Piculet and Yellow-vented Flowerpecker. Fruiting trees along this Tapan Road attracted not less than fifteen species of bulbuls including Grey-bellied, Scaly-breasted, Cinereous and Ochraceous Bulbuls whilst several species of hornbill could be heard and we eventually saw Rhinoceros, Wreathed, Bushy-crested and the spectacular Helmeted which was playing hide and seek with us but luckily we managed to tape it in after about an hour; it was a long-awaited 'boggy-bird' for Andrew, Ann and Geoffrey! Blyth's Hawk Eagles gave first class views on a couple of occasions and Rufous-bellied Eagle appeared too. On our last morning we saw Grey-headed Babbler before we set off on the long drive to Padang along the coast. Although no birding was planned, a couple of roadside stops did produce some open country common birds including Cinnamon Bittern and Asian Glossy Starling. We had an excellent group of Birdquesters who really worked hard and deserved all those endemic birds this magnificent island could offer to us on this occasion! All that was left was for us next day was to fly back to Jakarta and head home but we managed to get two new birds to our growing list, a fly over Purple Heron just before we got to Padang airport and a Great Egret was seen close to the airport in Jakarta.

## SYSTEMATIC LIST

Species which were heard but not seen are indicated by the symbol (H).

Species which were not personally recorded by the leaders are indicated by the symbol (NL).

Species which were only recorded in Java are marked with the symbol (J).

### PHALACROCORACIDAE

Little Black Cormorant *Phalacrocorax sulcirostris* (J): Only seen on our visit to Muara Angke on the first day, about 20 birds just outside Jakarta airport.

### ARDEIDAE

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*: One was seen by some of us on our way to Padang airport on our return journey.

Striated Heron (Little H) *Butorides striatus* (J): About three in the mangroves at Muara Angke on our first afternoon.

Javan Pond Heron *Ardeola speciosa* (J): A single was seen at Way Kambas plus several more in Jakarta and at Muara Angke, including a few in pristine breeding plumage.

Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*: Several flocks in open areas, usually during journeys.

Pacific Reef Egret *Egretta sacra*: Some of us saw one on our way back to Padang along the coast.

Great Egret *Egretta alba* (J): One was seen in flight by some of the group on the way to Jakarta airport on our last afternoon.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*: A few at Muara Angke on our first afternoon and then a few were seen by some on the journey from Kereseq Tua to Sungai Penuh.

Cinnamon Bittern *Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*: A non-leader sighting at Mauro Angke on our first afternoon and later a couple were seen flying over the paddyfields on the way to Kerinci.

### CICONIIDAE

Storm's Stork *Ciconia stormi*: Alain spotted this shy forest stork as we disturbed it from a roadside pool and it flew up to tree so we had a brief sighting of this endangered bird at Way Kambas.

Lesser Adjutant *Leptoptilos javanicus*: We had great views in the open swamps at Way Kambas and along the river near Way Kanan. Classified as 'Vulnerable' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World", with the declining world population estimated at less than 5000.

### THRESKIORNITHIDAE

Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*: Two birds were seen at Way Kambas roosting along the river close to Way Kanan, a new bird for Birdquest in Sumatra. According to MacKinnon & Phillips it has only doubtfully been recorded in Sumatra so it is certainly a rare bird there.

### ANATIDAE

Sunda Teal *Anas gibberifrons* (J): Just two in flight at Muara Angke this year. Bound to be declining its habitat is being methodically destroyed.

White-winged Duck (W-w Wood-D) *Cairina scutulata*: Superb views of a group of four of these very rare birds near Way Kanan on a small pool surrounded by the swampy forest. It was voted as the third in the bird of the trip competition. Classified as 'Endangered' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World". The world population is estimated at 450 with Sumatra holding about one third of them. The population is declining due to habitat loss and degradation and also human exploitation and disturbance.

### ACCIPITRIDAE

Oriental Honey Buzzard *Pernis ptilorhynchus*: We had about five different sightings in Way Kambas and the one on the road to Mauro Sako. Interestingly this was another first for our Sumatra tour.

- Black-winged Kite (B-shouldered K) *Elanus caeruleus*: Two over the tea plantations near Gunung Kerinci as we headed down towards Sungai Penuh.
- White-bellied Fish Eagle (W-b Sea E) *Haliaeetus leucogaster* (NL): One seen by Daniel, Derek and Alain near Gunung Kerinci as we headed down towards Sungai Penuh..
- Grey-headed Fish Eagle *Ichthyophaga ichthyaetus*: Good views of a single bird along the river at Way Kanan. Also classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Crested Serpent Eagle *Spilornis cheela* (H): A single was heard calling at Way Kambas, where Alain and Daniel saw two different birds on two different occasions. No leader sighting of this widespread and common species this year.
- Black Eagle *Ictinaetus malayensis*: A few sightings in the highlands of central Sumatra including a pair twice at Gunung Kerinci. The long broad wings of this species are distinctive.
- Rufous-bellied Eagle *Hieraaetus kienerii*: An adult was seen well albeit distantly along the road to Mauro Sako. Easily identified by its pale underparts and bandit-like ear-covert mask.
- Blyth's Hawk Eagle *Spizaetus alboniger*: Some great sightings along the road to Mauro Sako where we had no less than four sightings in total. The long crest and barred underparts make this species both attractive and distinctive.
- Crested Goshawk *Accipiter trivirgatus*: Excellent scope views of a one at the Way Kanan clearing while we were having breakfast.
- Besra *Accipiter virgatus*: This shy and retiring forest raptor was seen at Gunung Kerinci. This was the little-known and extensively rufous-breasted *vanhemmeli* race, which is endemic to Sumatra.

#### FALCONIDAE

- Black-thighed Falconet *Microhierax fringillarius*: Just one was seen at Way Kambas when we visited the Rawa Gajah area for the ducks.

#### PHASIANIDAE

- Blue-breasted Quail *Coturnix chinensis* (NL): Alain saw a family with three chicks close to our lodge in Way Kambas during one of the lunchtime siestas.
- Red-billed Partridge *Arborophila rubrirostris* (H): We heard it on only one occasion on the higher slopes of Gunung Kerinci. The attentions of the numerous trappers/hunters sadly appear to have made this species very wary of humans and hence extremely difficult to see in the last few years.
- Crested Fireback *Lophura ignita*: Small numbers were seen well on the track on a number of occasions on our way in to and out of Way Kambas - a good example of how well the car can act as a hide, although one of best views was obtained when Ann spotted a roosting bird over the track while out owling! Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Salvadori's Pheasant *Lophura inornata*: It is always difficult to see pheasants, especially in lush undergrowth like Gunung Kerinci. This year however a fine male of this superb endemic performed for most of us as it came to the forest track just about 5 meters from us. Unfortunately manouvering on these narrow trails is almost impossible so we all had different quality views. Later János saw a female with a minimum of three chicks, disappearing into thick vegetation and we also heard the wing-whirring of displaying males on two other occasions. Classified as 'Vulnerable' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World" due to habitat loss and degradation and exploitation by humans. The total population is estimated at 2500-10000 and declining.
- Red Junglefowl *Gallus gallus*: A few seen along the road at Way Kambas. An article a few years ago in the OBC journal suggests that this species may be under threat from hybridization with domestic fowl.
- Sumatran Peacock Pheasant (Bronze-tailed P P) *Polyplectron chalcurum*: A calling male at Gunung Kerinci was seen by most of us as Alain spotted it climbing up a tree. It was unfortunately

not visible for everybody because of the thick tangle but as soon as we moved this shy bird disappeared. We heard up to five birds below Bukit Tapan but even after several attempts we could not see them. Another tough endemic!

Great Argus *Argusianus argus* (H): We heard this ultra-elusive species a few times at Way Kambas but no sighting. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### RALLIDAE

White-breasted Waterhen *Amaurornis phoenicurus*: A couple seen at Muara Angke on our first afternoon and a single bird was seen at Padang Airport.

#### CHARADRIIDAE

Dusky Woodcock *Scolopax saturata* (H): We heard it roding over the forest at Gunung Kerinci on three different mornings but unfortunately we were not lucky enough to see it.

#### COLUMBIDAE

Sumatran Green Pigeon *Treron oxyura*: Most years a difficult bird to see well but thanks to a great fruiting tree right by the main trail at Gunung Kerinci we had repeated excellent views of about 20 birds. Later we had a pair along the road to Mauro Sako as well. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Wedge-tailed Green Pigeon *Treron sphenura*: Just a single bird was seen on the higher slopes of Gunung Kerinci.

Thick-billed Green Pigeon *Treron curvirostra*: Two females were seen at Way Kambas when we visited the Rawa Gajah area.

Cinnamon-headed Green Pigeon *Treron fulvicollis*: This year's tour was very good for this hard-to-come-by and nomadic species. On our first visit to Rawa Gajah we had not less then 21 birds in several small flocks and we had two more sightings along the main track at Way Kambas. Interestingly we saw three fly-over birds on one of our roadside stops on the way back to Padang along the coast. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Little Green Pigeon *Treron olax*: Several good views at Way Kambas both at the Rawa Gajah area and along the main track.

Pink-necked Green Pigeon *Treron vernans*: Just two were seen at Way Kambas.

Jambu Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus jambu*: Half the group was lucky enough to see a fine male of this hard-to-come-by species around the Way Kanan clearing at Way Kambas. While having breakfast one morning it flew into the canopy next to a fruiting tree and we had scope views of it but unfortunately it did not stay long.

Pink-headed Fruit Dove *Ptilinopus porphyreus*: Fantastic views of both male and female of this handsome dove at Gunung Kerinci. We only encountered them on the higher slopes this year. They seem to be a lot shyer than in the past again, presumably due to hunting.

Green Imperial Pigeon *Ducula aenea*: Good numbers were seen on most days at Way Kambas.

Mountain Imperial Pigeon *Ducula badia* (H): We heard this speices once at Gunung Kerinci and Daniel also saw one there.

Rock Pigeon (Rock Dove) *Columba livia*: Present... sadly!

Barred Cuckoo Dove *Macropygia unchall*: Heard regularly at Gunung Kerinci and we had a few sightings there.

Little Cuckoo Dove *Macropygia ruficeps*: Just one at Gunung Kerinci but fairly common along the road between Sungai Penuh and Mauro Sako where many were scoped as we saw up to 50 in a day.

Island Collared Dove *Streptopelia bitorquata* (J): Only a few at Muara Angke on our first afternoon in Java.



Spotted Dove *Streptopelia chinensis*: A few sightings in open areas though common in Java where at least 50 were seen.

Emerald Dove (Green-winged Pigeon) *Chalcophaps indica*: A few sightings at Way Kambas where we bumped into them on the track. A nice male near to the Rhino Sanctuary gave excellent views, we could hardly flush it from the road!

#### PSITTACIDAE

Blue-rumped Parrot *Psittinus cyanurus*: The musical calls of this species betrayed its presence and were a familiar sound in the late afternoons along the main track at Way Kambas. This and the next species were most commonly seen flying over but we had excellent views of six birds feeding quietly on fruits about 10 meters away. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Blue-crowned Hanging Parrot *Loriculus galgulus*: We saw brightly coloured birds perched in dead trees at Way Kambas twice, though most sightings suggested it was one of those species that appears permanently airborne!

#### CUCULIDAE

Large Hawk Cuckoo *Cuculus sparveriioides* (H): Heard once at Gunung Kerinci.

Sunda Cuckoo *Cuculus lepidus*: Excellent views of a juvenile bird at Gunung Kerinci. It was fed by a Mountain Leaf Warbler and we could watch it for several minutes. It is a split from Oriental Cuckoo *Cuculus saturatus*.

Banded Bay Cuckoo *Cacomantis sonneratii*: Seen only once at Way Kambas and others were heard only.

Plaintive Cuckoo *Cacomantis merulinus* (H): Heard a few times at Way Kambas but we always had a bigger fish to fry!

Rusty-breasted Cuckoo (Indonesian C) *Cacomantis sepulcralis* (H): Only heard this year twice at Way Kambas.

Violet Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx xanthorhynchus* (H): Another one which was only heard at Way Kambas.

Drongo Cuckoo *Surnicululus lugubris* (H): Yet another one which was only heard this year at Way Kambas.

Black-bellied Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus diardi*: Several were seen at Way Kambas this year. This lowland species is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Green-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus tristis*: Fairly common in the mixed flocks above Mauro Sako.

Raffles's Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus chlorophaeus*: Another attractive bird that was seen regularly at Way Kambas. We had up to six birds daily.

Red-billed Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus javanicus*: Alain spotted this attractive species along the main track close to the Rhino Sanctuary turn off at Way Kambas and we all had great views of it. This was our only sighting this year.

Chestnut-breasted Malkoha *Phaenicophaeus curvirostris*: A few in the mixed flocks at Way Kambas.

Sunda Coucal *Centropus sinensis* (NL, J): Just one popped up from the riverside vegetation at Muara Angke on our first afternoon in Java but disappeared again before everybody could get on it. A much sought-after Javan endemic.

#### TYTONIDAE

Oriental Bay Owl *Phodilus badius* (H): Only heard this year. We were tracking down two calling Sunda Frogmouth when it started to call and we got very close but frustratingly did not see it as dawn broke. We heard it once more on the same evening at the same spot but we were busy with Large Frogmouth. Our further attempts on other evenings and mornings failed to relocate it!

## STRIGIDAE

Reddish Scops Owl *Otus rufescens*: Some great views of this diminutive skulker at Way Kambas as it was calling from a thick tangle right above us. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Mountain Scops Owl *Otus spilocephalus* (H): Heard only at Kerinci.

Rajah Scops Owl *Otus brookii*: Heard on two occasions at Gunung Kerinci at close range, but only seen by János. So much hard work without success was very frustrating!

Sunda Scops Owl *Otus lempiji* (H): Only heard on one evening at Way Kambas. This form, along with Collared Scops Owl *O. lettia* and Japanese Scops Owl *O. semitorques*, is often lumped in Indian Scops Owl *O. bakkamoena*, with the name Collared Scops Owl being used for the enlarged species.

Barred Eagle-Owl *Bubo sumatranus*: We heard several individuals both at daytime and at night on a number of occasions but never spotted this very shy bird. János saw one perched on the old National Park sign out in the tea plantation early one morning but it flew off and we could not relocate it.

Sumatran Owlet *Glaucidium peritum*: Several great views of this recently split Sumatran endemic form at Gunung Kerinci. The vocalizations are completely different from the Collared Owlet.

Brown Hawk Owl *Ninox scutulata*: One was seen at Way Kambas during a pre-dawn birding.

## PODARGIDAE

Large Frogmouth *Batrachostomus auritus*: This one proved very difficult for a while as it was not calling at Way Kambas at all! Finally we heard one bird briefly on two consecutive nights and eventually tracked it down and got some outstanding views of this huge, bizarre and unmistakable frogmouth. The bird we saw was a female on its nest so this explains why we did not hear them! This one was high in Andrew's list of favourites and was voted as the second best bird of the trip. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Gould's Frogmouth *Batrachostomus stellatus*: One at Way Kambas allowed superb views and several others were heard. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Pale-headed Frogmouth *Batrachostomus poliolophus* (H): Frustratingly only heard this year at Gunung Kerinci. The regular stake out was abandoned and the birds were not responding. It could have been over taping as there were several other groups at this location just before us. We actually had the briefest of a glimpse on one evening. This species is also classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Sunda Frogmouth *Batrachostomus cornutus* (H): This species is always frustratingly difficult to see and this year was no exception as we failed to do more than hear it.

## CAPRIMULGIDAE

Malaysian Eared Nightjar *Eurostopodus temminckii* (H, NL): We heard it on one occasion and Alain saw one as he disturbed it from its roosting place close to our lodge at Way Kambas.

Large-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus macrurus*: Great looks near our accommodation at Way Kambas for those who wanted.

Bonaparte's Nightjar *Caprimulgus concretus*: A little-known, superbly patterned nightjar with the most unusual song which we saw brilliantly at Way Kambas. Up until recently this species was only really known from specimens. With a population estimated to be less than 10000 and declining due to habitat loss and degradation, this species is classified as 'Vulnerable' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Salvadori's Nightjar *Caprimulgus pulchellus*: We had flight views of this rare nightjar at Gunung Kerinci early one morning. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### APODIDAE

Giant Swiftlet (Waterfall S) *Hydrochous gigas*: We had no luck at dusk at the Letter W Waterfall but we connected with seven birds over the upper stretch of the road to Mauro Sako. The heavy body, big head and broad, long wings help distinguish this little-known and somewhat mysterious species which is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Edible Nest Swiftlet *Collocalia fuciphaga*: It was common around Way Kambas. It would seem that the birds in Sumatra are classified as Edible-nest and not Germain's Swiftlets. The taxonomy of this confusing group is far from clear!

Glossy Swiftlet (White-bellied S) *Collocalia esculenta*: Particularly common in the Kerinci area.

Cave Swiftlet (Linchi S) *Collocalia linchi* (J): The common swiftlet around Jakarta. Some of those in the lowlands of Southern Sumatra may have been this species too. Identification in the field is extremely difficult!

Silver-rumped Swift *Rhaphidura leucopygialis*: Just a couple seen at Way Kambas this year and both were along the river.

House Swift *Apus nipalensis*: János saw a few over the lower stretch of the road to Mauro Sako. This form is often lumped in Little Swift *A. affinis*.

Asian Palm Swift *Cypsiurus balasiensis*: Seen well on a couple of occasions at Way Kambas.

#### HEMIPROCNIDAE

Grey-rumped Treeswift *Hemiprocne longipennis*: A few were seen at Way Kambas and on our drive back to Padang along the coast.

Whiskered Treeswift *Hemiprocne comata*: Some great scope studies of several at Way Kambas and also seen very well along the road from Bukit Tapan to Mauro Sako.

#### TROGONIDAE

Sumatran Trogon (S Blue-tailed T) *Harpactes mackloti*: Absolutely superb looks at several individuals on Gunung Kerinci and on the road to Mauro Sako. This and the closely related Javan Trogon (see below) are totally different from all of the other Asian trogons. This species was formerly lumped in Javan Trogon *H. reinwardtii* with the name Blue-tailed Trogon being used for the enlarged species. However, there are quite large morphological differences between this and the larger Javan subspecies and the Handbook of Birds of the World was the first modern publication to treat them as separate species.

Red-naped Trogon *Harpactes kasumba*: Nice views of several males and females at Way Kambas. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Diard's Trogon *Harpactes diardii*: We had great views of a pair at Way Kambas. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Scarlet-rumped Trogon *Harpactes duvaucelii*: A few sightings at Way Kambas, the best of which was a male eating a large locust close to the Rhino Sanctuary. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### ALCEDINIDAE

Blue-eared Kingfisher *Alcedo meninting*: This blue and orange jewel was commonly seen along the river at Way Kambas.

Small Blue Kingfisher *Alcedo coerulescens*: Excellent scope views of this much appreciated species at Muara Angke. We saw one in Sumatra on our way to Way Kambas by a roadside pool too. This was the first time we saw this species in Sumatra.

- Rufous-backed Kingfisher *Ceyx rufidorsa*: We enjoyed some excellent views of this species at Way Kambas this year on our walk to Rawa Gajah.
- Stork-billed Kingfisher *Pelargopsis capensis*: Common and conspicuous at Way Kambas.
- Banded Kingfisher *Lacedo pulchella*: Great views of a male at Way Kambas after much effort. One that Alain was especially keen to see! Several others were heard, one even along the road to Mauro Sako.
- White-throated Kingfisher *Halcyon smyrnensis*: Seen on the way to and at Way Kambas and on the journey back to Padang.
- Sacred Kingfisher *Todiramphus sanctus* (J): A few sightings at Muara Angke on our first afternoon.
- Collared Kingfisher (White-c K) *Todirhamphus chloris*: We saw one at Muara Angke in Java on our first afternoon and a few others on roadside wires on the journey between Keresek Tua and Sungai Penuh.
- Rufous-collared Kingfisher *Actenoides concretus*: Some of us saw this secretive forest kingfisher at Way Kambas. One morning we had up to three birds calling but they were very shy and difficult to see. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### MEROPIDAE

- Blue-tailed Bee-eater *Merops philippinus*: Two sightings at Way Kambas on two different days, another first sighting on our Sumatra tour.
- Red-bearded Bee-eater *Nyctyornis amictus*: Brilliant views of these incredible birds on our first afternoon along the main access track at Way Kambas.

#### CORACIIDAE

- Dollarbird *Eurystomus orientalis*: A single bird at the back of the Way Kanan clearing atop a big tree at Way Kambas was our only sighting.

#### BUCEROTIDAE

- Bushy-crested Hornbill *Anorrhinus galeritus*: We heard them once at Way Kambas and later we got some good flight views of a noisy group above Mauro Sako.
- Wreathed Hornbill *Aceros undulatus*: About five were seen at Kerinci, where they were attending the large fruiting tree and we then had some great views along the Mauro Sako road too.
- Asian Black Hornbill (Black H) *Anthracoceros malayanus*: Two sightings of a pair at Way Kambas and heard on a second occasion. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Oriental Pied Hornbill *Anthracoceros albirostris*: A pair seen around the Rawa Gajah area at Way Kambas.
- Rhinoceros Hornbill *Buceros rhinoceros*: Several unforgettable encounters with these impressive beasts along the road towards Mauro Sako. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Helmeted Hornbill *Buceros vigil*: After a lot of sweating and hard searching we eventually got some flight views of this amazing hornbill above Mauro Sako. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### MEGALAIMIDAE

- Fire-tufted Barbet *Psilopogon pyrolophus*: A strange-looking but very colourful barbet with an insect-like song, which showed very well repeatedly at Gunung Kerinci and along the road to Mauro Sako.
- Gold-whiskered Barbet *Megalaima chrysopogon*: We saw one of these huge-billed barbets along the lower stretches of the road to Mauro Sako and heard a few others.
- Red-crowned Barbet *Megalaima rafflesii*: Some excellent looks at a couple of this most colourful barbet at Way Kambas. This species is a specialist of extreme lowland forest and Way

Kambas is probably the best place to see this bird in the whole world. It is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Red-throated Barbet *Megalaima mystacophanos* (H): Heard only once at Way Kambas.

Black-browed Barbet *Megalaima oorti*: Several good looks of this colourfully-marked species in the montane areas, especially at Gunung Kerinci and below Bukit Tapan. We had our first sighting at a mountain pass on our way to Kerinci.

Blue-eared Barbet *Megalaima australis* (H): Heard almost daily at Way Kambas but we somehow never got to see one but as most of the group widely traveled in Asia we did not put much effort in searching for it.

Brown Barbet *Calorhamphus fuliginosus*: We had several great views of this rather plain barbet at Way Kambas. Their bright orange-pink legs, the large bills give them a distinctive appearance and their call is much different from any other Asian barbets.

#### PICIDAE

Speckled Piculet *Picumnus innominatus*: A pair was spotted by Alain and showed well in a mixed species flock along the lower stretches of the road to Mauro Sako.

Rufous Piculet *Sasia abnormis*: Great views of this hyperactive tiny woodpecker of lowland rainforests in Way Kambas. It was a long-awaited bird for Ann and Andrew!

Rufous Woodpecker *Celeus brachyurus*: Several showed well at Way Kambas.

Greater Yellownape *Picus flavinucha*: We heard it at Gunung Kerinci and later we saw several in the mixed species flocks below Bukit Tapan.

Crimson-winged Woodpecker *Picus puniceus*: Another of the woodpeckers that showed well on a few occasions at Way Kambas.

Banded Woodpecker *Picus miniaceus*: We saw this rather scarce lowland woodpecker twice at Way Kambas. A real stunner!

Checker-throated Woodpecker *Picus mentalis*: Some great looks at a male that responded well to the tape at Way Kambas.

Common Goldenback (C Flameback) *Dinopium javanense* (H): This year we only heard this widespread species at Way Kambas.

Buff-rumped Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tristis*: Only one was seen at Way Kambas.

Buff-necked Woodpecker *Meiglyptes tukki*: Great views of a pair excavating a hole at Way Kambas. This species is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World" and is often somewhat sneaky and inconspicuous.

White-bellied Woodpecker *Dryocopus javensis*: Some good views of this massive woodpecker along the river at Way Kambas,

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker *Picoides macei* (J): Just two seen at Muara Angke on the first afternoon.

Sunda Woodpecker (Brown-capped W) *Picoides moluccensis* (J): About six were seen at Muara Angke on our first day and we heard it at Way Kambas once.

Grey-and-buff Woodpecker *Hemicircus concretus*: About seven of this tiny, short-tailed woodpecker were seen at Way Kambas this year. An agile species, which frequently forages amongst the smaller twigs and hangs upside-down in a tit-like manner.

Maroon Woodpecker *Blythipicus rubiginosus*: We saw our first at Way Kambas but we also had several at Gunung Kerinci and along the road to Mauro Sako as well.

Orange-backed Woodpecker *Reinwardtipicus validus*: A nice male of this elusive woodpecker showed well on our first afternoon at Way Kambas.

#### EURYLAIMIDAE

Dusky Broadbill *Corydon sumatranus*: Being lucky this year we did not need to work hard for this often tricky bird. We saw a flock of minimum eight birds along the entrance road at Way Kambas on our first day. We all managed to get good scope views of these strange creatures.

- Black-and-red Broadbill *Cymbirhynchus macrorhynchos*: We had excellent views of this amazingly bright-billed gem along the river at Way Kambas on two different days.
- Banded Broadbill *Eurylaimus javanicus*: Heard daily and finally we all had some great views at Way Kambas.
- Black-and-Yellow Broadbill *Eurylaimus ochromalus*: Several sightings of this lovely bird at Way Kambas and along the lower stretches of the road to Mauro Sako plus many others heard. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Long-tailed Broadbill *Psarisomus dalhousiae*: First we saw a family party on the last day at Gunung Kerinci and later many above Mauro Sako, including an amazing group of at least 40 birds in a mixed flock.
- Green Broadbill *Calyptomena viridis*: Heard several times at Way Kambas but only half the group got to see one. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### PITTIDAE

- Schneider's Pitta *Pitta Schneideri* (H): We only heard this shy skulker on the first two days and it was as unco-operative as ever. Several hours were spent walking the lower trails at Gunung Kerinci to increase our chances of seeing this elusive species but in the last two days we didn't even hear one. In some years it is easier to see but 2007 was clearly not one of those years! Classified as 'Vulnerable' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World" where they estimate a world population of between 2500-10000, which is declining due to habitat loss and degradation.
- Black-crowned Pitta (Graceful Pitta) *Pitta venusta*: We heard it call once and a few minutes later it hopped out right in front of Derek! After a few nervous seconds everybody was on this stunner as it stood in the open just 3 meters away. This absolutely excellent sighting definitely helped it to be the bird of the trip! It was the 7000<sup>th</sup> species for Daniel and is one of Sumatra's very finest offerings! Classified as 'Vulnerable' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World" where a world population estimated at 2500-10000 is declining due to habitat loss and degradation. It is likely to be more threatened than Schneider's Pitta as it occurs at lower altitudes.
- Banded Pitta *Pitta guajana*: We had repeated great views of this superb bird at Way Kambas. We had seen about four males in total some of which allowed excellent looks. The Sumatran *ripleyi* subspecies is the brightest form of this colourful ground-dweller!

#### HIRUNDINIDAE

- Pacific Swallow *Hirundo tahitica*: Several sightings throughout the tour but most common along the road down from Bukit Tapan, on the coast and around the towns in the highlands.

#### CAMPEPHAGIDAE

- Bar-winged Flycatcher-Shrike *Hemipus picatus*: We saw our first at a roadside stop on our way to Gunung Kerinci. Later small numbers were seen almost daily at Gunung Kerinci and in the mixed flocks below Bukit Tapan.
- Black-winged Flycatcher-Shrike *Hemipus hirundinaceus*: Seen several times in small numbers at Way Kambas, where they are a regular constituent of canopy flocks.
- Sunda Cuckoo-Shrike (Black-faced C-S) *Coracina larvata*: A few seen on the lower stretches of the road to Mauro Sako, including several neat black-hooded males.
- Lesser Cuckoo-Shrike *Coracina fimbriata*: This year we only saw it twice at Way Kambas both occasions in mixed flocks.
- Pied Triller *Lalage nigra* (J): A pair was seen well at Muara Angke on the first day.
- Fiery Minivet *Pericrocotus igneus*: Several good views at Way Kambas, including a few fiery-rumped females and some gorgeous males. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Grey-chinned Minivet (Mountain M) *Pericrocotus solaris*: Daily sightings of this commoner minivet of the highlands both at Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road.

- Sunda Minivet *Pericrocotus miniatus*: Several good flocks on Gunung Kerinci where the red-plumaged females readily identified the presence of this species.
- Scarlet Minivet *Pericrocotus flammeus*: Seen in small numbers daily at Way Kambas (often with Fiery Minivets) and also in the lower areas of forest above Mauro Sako.

#### AEGITHINIDAE

- Green lora *Aegithina viridissima*: A common but attractive species in the canopy mixed species flocks at Way Kambas. This lowland species is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Common lora *Aegithina tiphia* (J): Two pairs were seen at Muara Angke on our first day.

#### IRENIDAE

- Lesser Green Leafbird *Chloropsis cyanopogon*: A single male along the access road at Way Kambas on our first day, where it is an uncommon species. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Greater Green Leafbird *Chloropsis sonnerati*: A singleton was seen at Way Kambas and a pair were found during our leafbird-hunt along the Bukit Tapan to Mauro Sako road!
- Sumatran Leafbird *Chloropsis media*: We saw only three along the upper section of the road to Mauro Sako this year. It is a fairly recent split from Golden-fronted Leafbird *C. aurifrons* and a fine endemic now!
- Blue-winged Leafbird *Chloropsis cochinchinensis*: Several at Way Kambas and a few above Mauro Sako. The form in Sumatra, *icterocephala*, shows a lot of yellow around the head (as indicated by the scientific name).
- Blue-masked Leafbird *Chloropsis venusta*: This beautiful endemic leafbird was rather difficult this year as we spent hours and hours looking for it without success. So it was a great relief when we finally found a family party, a pair with two juveniles. It was great to see the adults feeding the constantly begging juveniles at eye level! Surely the prettiest leafbird in the world and probably the most colorful Sumatran endemic as well. It is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

#### PYCNONOTIDAE

- Cream-striped Bulbul *Pycnonotus leucogrammicus*: Some great views along the road to Mauro Sako. This is one of those "easy" Sumatran endemics and a really nice looking bulbul!
- Spot-necked Bulbul *Pycnonotus tympanistrigus*: Several small groups of this endemic (up to 20 in a day) were seen along the road above Mauro Sako. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Black-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus atriceps*: Only three were seen at Way Kambas and two above Mauro Sako.
- Scaly-breasted Bulbul *Pycnonotus squamatus*: About five in total on roadside trees above Mauro Sako. This and the following species are two of the better bulbuls, which seem to be confined to the middle altitude hill forest! Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Grey-bellied Bulbul *Pycnonotus cyaniventris*: Small numbers seen above Mauro Sako, the best views were obtained on fruiting trees. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Sooty-headed Bulbul *Pycnonotus aurigaster*: Most of our sightings were in Java but we also saw it at Way Kambas, around our lodge on the edge of the forest.
- Orange-spotted Bulbul *Pycnonotus bimaculatus*: We saw three of this attractive Sundaic endemic at an elevation of 2450m on Gunung Kerinci. It took a long hike to get to the first shelter area and most surprisingly we saw two of them at Bukit Tapan as well. Much easier to see on Java!
- Yellow-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus goiavier*: A few sightings of this open-country species throughout the tour.

- Olive-winged Bulbul *Pycnonotus plumosus*: A few were seen almost daily at Way Kambas and we also saw two birds along the road to Mauro Sako.
- Cream-vented Bulbul *Pycnonotus simplex*: Characterized by its white eyes, this species was the most common bulbul along the track at Way Kambas and a single was also seen above Mauro Sako.
- Red-eyed Bulbul *Pycnonotus brunneus*: Seen on a couple of occasions at Way Kambas and a few was noted above Mauro Sako.
- Spectacled Bulbul *Pycnonotus erythrophthalmos*: Several good views at Way Kambas and above Mauro Sako where their orange orbital rings could clearly be seen.
- Ochraceous Bulbul *Alophoixus ochraceus*: Several seen daily along the road to Mauro Sako. The white beard of this species is very distinctive.
- Yellow-bellied Bulbul *Alophoixus phaeocephalus*: Up to ten seen daily at Way Kambas. It is a classic understorey bulbul and a bit skulky.
- Hairy-backed Bulbul *Tricholestes criniger*: Some great looks both at Way Kambas and above Mauro Sako.
- Buff-vented Bulbul *Iole olivacea*: Just four seen at Way Kambas this year but it was a great relief for Ann as she had missed this bird everywhere on her Asian trips. A fairly non-descript species, it is best recognised by its greyish eyes and slightly crested appearance. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Sumatran Bulbul *Ixos virescens*: Another recently split Sumatran endemic that we saw well in small flocks on a couple of occasions along the Mauro Sako road. It used to be called Sunda Bulbul and was a Sundaic endemic.
- Streaked Bulbul *Ixos malaccensis*: Only two birds were seen along the road to Mauro Sako. This species is also classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Cinereous Bulbul *Hypsipetes cinereus*: Only seen along the road above Mauro Sako where they were relatively common with a maximum of 25 being seen in a day. It used to be the Sumatran *cinereus* subspecies of Ashy Bulbul *H. flavala* without any green in the plumage.

#### DICRURIDAE

- Ashy Drongo *Dicrurus leucophaeus*: A few on Gunung Kerinci and common and conspicuous along the road from Bukit Tapan to Mauro Sako.
- Bronzed Drongo *Dicrurus aeneus*: A couple of sightings of this forest species along the entrance road at Way Kambas.
- Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus remifer*: One was seen at Gunung Kerinci and a few daily below Bukit Tapan plus more heard. This small and elusive drongo is restricted to montane forest and many seem to lack the rackets!
- Sumatran Drongo *Dicrurus sumatranus*: Several sightings with gradually better views of this stocky, endemic drongo above Mauro Sako. They seem to travel regularly in the company of Long-tailed Broadbills. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Greater Racket-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus paradiseus*: Fairly common at Way Kambas.

#### ORIOLIDAE

- Dark-throated Oriole *Oriolus xanthonotus*: About four males were seen and others were heard at Way Kambas, where they are another of the constituents of the canopy flocks. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Black-and-crimson Oriole *Oriolus cruentus*: Some good eye-level views of males and females at Mauro Sako, where we recorded up to six in a day.
- Asian Fairy Bluebird *Irena puella*: Just a fine male was seen at Way Kambas and a couple above Mauro Sako, mainly on the fruiting trees while we were tracking down the various bulbuls.



## CORVIDAE

Green Magpie (Common G M) *Cissa chinensis* (NL): Only heard on Gunung Kerinci and we could not lure them in. As with several other species there, I suspect this one is becoming rarer and more wary due to trapping for the cagebird trade. Later Ann, Derek and Geoffrey saw one along the road to Mauro Sako.

Sumatran Treepie *Dendrocitta occipitalis*: We had some great views of this endemic above Mauro Sako, where we recorded up to eight in a day.

Black Magpie *Platysmurus leucopterus*: Heard regularly the "drunk-man" call of this ultra-shy corvid at Way Kambas but we saw it only once. This Sumatran *leucopterus* subspecies has white in the wings. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Racket-tailed Treepie *Crypsirina temia* (J): We saw two of these at Muara Angke on our first day.

Slender-billed Crow *Corvus enca*: About five were seen at Way Kambas.

## PARIDAE

Grey Tit *Parus cinereus*: Our first sighting was at Muara Angke on our first afternoon in Java. Later small numbers were seen on most days in the mixed flocks at Gunung Kerinci and a few along the Tapan Road. The form concerned used to be lumped in Great Tit *P. major* as *ambiguous* subspecies in the '*cinereus* group'.

## SITTIDAE

Velvet-fronted Nuthatch *Sitta frontalis*: Two sightings in mixed flocks along the entrance road at Way Kambas

Blue Nuthatch *Sitta azurea*: This brilliant bird was surprisingly seen just in very small numbers at Gunung Kerinci this year but it was fairly common constituent of the feeding flocks along the Tapan Road.

## TIMALIIDAE

Black-capped Babbler *Pellorneum capistratum*: This interesting forest floor skulker was seen twice at Way Kambas but was heard regularly.

White-chested Babbler *Trichastoma rostratum*: A riparian specialist which was relatively common along the river at Way Kambas. Our best view was from the jetty at Way Kanan. This babbler filling the niche occupied by Silvered Antbird in South America and they slightly look similar too! Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Ferruginous Babbler *Trichastoma bicolor*: It was a leader-only bird for the first few days but finally we all had great views of this handsome babbler at Way Kambas.

Short-tailed Babbler *Malacocincla malaccensis*: It was heard regularly at Way Kambas and was seen by János a few times but most of us had only glimpses of this quickly moving ground-dweller. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Horsfield's Babbler *Malacocincla sepiarium*: We had great views of a rather dark individual along the road above Mauro Sako but concluded it must have been the foggy and misty light conditions which misled us in judging the colouration. Usually skulking but this year actually showed very well with further birds were heard.

Moustached Babbler *Malacopteron magnirostre*: The *Malacopteron* babblers are not the most inspiring to look at but they do have distinctive melancholy songs which are a characteristic dawn sound. We saw a pair of this species, perhaps the least common of the four seen, at Way Kambas. Easily recognised by the distinct moustache.

Sooty-capped Babbler *Malacopteron affine*: As with the other 'Malacopterons', the mournful morning song is the most conspicuous feature! This is the most common and least visually distinctive of the four and we had up to ten daily! Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

- Scaly-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron cinereum*: Several seen at Way Kambas. Smaller than the next species with relatively unstreaked underparts and pink legs.
- Rufous-crowned Babbler *Malacopteron magnum*: It was seen twice at Way Kambas but heard more times there. A large species with distinctly streaked underparts and dark grey legs. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Chestnut-backed Scimitar-Babbler *Pomatorhinus montanus*: Very good views of one at Way Kambas and others heard there.
- Sumatran Wren-Babbler *Rimator albostratus*: A stunner! Two excellent sightings of this shy and rather scarce endemic on Gunung Kerinci. This marvellous species was a long awaited split from the Himalayan Long-billed Wren-Babbler *R. malacoptilus*, with which it was previously lumped.
- Rusty-breasted Wren-Babbler *Napothera rufipectus*: The other Sumatran endemic wren-babbler, which was seen very well on a couple of occasions at Gunung Kerinci. This robust bird is definitely the finest songster of the region and it was a real favorite of this year's tour! The usual 'hot wet tea...' call was a prominent sound of the early mornings.
- Marbled Wren-Babbler *Napothera marmorata*: Stunning views of two different pairs on this year's tour along the Tapan Road! First we saw a skulking pair in a wet gully and then had a pair foraging and occasionally singing right by the roadside. At one point we even had telescope views of this seldom seen species which is a real treat as it is one of the quickest moving birds I know! Thanks to these great views it made it into fourth place in our overall favorites list.
- Eye-browed Wren-Babbler *Napothera epilepidota*: A few sightings at Gunung Kerinci.
- Pygmy Wren-Babbler *Pnoepyga pusilla*: Several excellent views. A star performer, these tiny eggs on legs seemed fearless as they literally hopped to within a few feet of us at Gunung Kerinci.
- Golden Babbler *Stachyris chrysaea*: A fairly common constituent of the understory flocks at Gunung Kerinci.
- Grey-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigriceps*: The main constituent of the understory flocks in the highlands.
- Grey-headed Babbler *Stachyris poliocephala*: A pair of this attractive babbler was seen very well above Mauro Sako on our last morning.
- Spot-necked Babbler *Stachyris striolata*: Another great babbler which showed well both at Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road too.
- Chestnut-rumped Babbler *Stachyris maculata*: Great views of singing birds daily at Way Kambas. Surely it is the coolest babbler in the lowlands when duetting and showing the blue skin patch on the neck. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Black-throated Babbler *Stachyris nigricollis*: This often elusive and scarce babbler was seen brilliantly at Way Kambas this year. First we taped in a single bird and later we saw a flock of five in a mixed species babbler flock. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Chestnut-winged Babbler *Stachyris erythroptera*: Common and we regularly encountered in understory flocks at Way Kambas.
- Striped Tit-Babbler *Macronous gularis*: A few seen and more heard at Way Kambas. They are most common in the scrappy forest around the clearings and along the river where they like to frequent vine tangles. Another single bird was seen along the lower stretches of the road to Mauro Sako.
- Fluffy-backed Tit-Babbler *Macronous ptilosus*: Several of this charismatic species seen at Way Kambas and finally we all had good views of this nice little creature. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".
- Sunda Laughingthrush (Grey-and-brown L) *Garrulax palliatus*: Only Alain, Daniel and János got to see a loose flock of three at Gunung Kerinci as they were quietly (strange for a otherwise noisy laugher) foraging on the ground and disappearing way too fast for everybody to get on them. We did not hear any on the tour and it is my belief that trapping is taking a

serious toll on this species whilst others, such as Silver-eared Mesia, have all but gone to the cages!

Black Laughingthrush *Garrulax lugubris*: This strange laughingthrush gave only brief views along the Mauro Sako road for some of us.

Chestnut-capped Laughingthrush *Garrulax mitratus*: A few were seen along the road below Bukit Tapan. It seemed much less common than in previous years.

White-browed Shrike-Babbler *Pteruthius flaviscapis*: Good looks at both sexes in the mixed flocks at Gunung Kerinci.

Brown Fulvetta *Alcippe brunneicauda*: Flocks of up to twelve were seen along the road to Mauro Sako.

Long-tailed Sibia *Heterophasia picaoides*: This canopy species was quite common at Gunung Kerinci and at higher elevations along the Bukit Tapan to Mauro Sako road. Around the Blue-masked Leafbird spot we even saw these birds foraging at eye level.

#### TURDIDAE

Lesser Shortwing *Brachypteryx leucophrys*: Commonly heard at Gunung Kerinci where we had some excellent looks at confiding individuals, usually hopping on the trail. Also seen one and heard others along the Tapan Road.

White-browed Shortwing (Blue S) *Brachypteryx Montana* (H): We heard several at Gunung Kerinci on our climbing day but had bigger fish to fry.

Magpie-Robin *Copsychus saularis*: Just two seen around the Way Kanan clearing at Way Kambas.

White-rumped Shama *Copsychus malabaricus*: A couple were seen at Way Kambas though always a little bit shy (the non-shy ones are already in cages!).

Rufous-tailed Shama *Trichixos pyrropyga*: Although elusive and shy, when he did eventually come in, most of us managed to get reasonable views. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Sunda Blue Robin *Cinclidium diana*: Quite common, although always inconspicuous at Gunung Kerinci. We had some great looks at several males and females of this Sundaic endemic.

Lesser Forktail *Enicurus velatus*: Another Sundaic endemic, which showed extremely well this year along the road below Bukit Tapan.

Shiny Whistling-Thrush *Myiophonus melanurus*: This Sumatran endemic was fairly common and conspicuous along the trail at Gunung Kerinci where we had repeated good views.

Sumatran Whistling-Thrush (Chestnut-winged W-T) *Myiophonus castaneus*: Another recently-split Sumatran endemic. It is less numerous than Shiny Whistling-Thrush but we had several great views in the dry riverbed and along the forest trail too at Gunung Kerinci.

Blue Whistling-Thrush *Myiophonus caeruleus*: Just one was seen at the Letter 'W' Waterfall near Kerinci.

Horsfield's Thrush *Zoothera horsfieldi*: We had excellent views of this shy mountain thrush at Gunung Kerinci when we climbed higher on the mountain. There were two birds foraging on the path and we all had great views. This is a recent split from the White's/Scaly Thrush complex and is confined to the highlands of Sumatra, Java and Bali.

#### PARDALOTIDAE

Golden-bellied Gerygone *Gerygone sulphurea* (J): The song is more impressive than the bird! It was common at Muara Angke on our first day but was also heard at Way Kambas.

#### SYLVIIDAE

Chestnut-crowned Warbler *Seicercus castaniceps*: Only two birds were seen below Bukit Tapan (Mauro Sako road). A surprisingly scarce bird in Sumatra.

Sunda Warbler *Seicercus grammiceps*: This friendly little sundaic endemic was numerous and obliging at Gunung Kerinci.

Yellow-bellied Warbler *Abroscopus superciliaris*: Just two were seen, above Mauro Sako.

Mountain Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus trivirgatus*: Commonly encountered at Gunung Kerinci and we

saw one feeding a juvenile Sunda Cuckoo *C. lepidus*.

Dark-necked Tailorbird *Orthotomus atrogularis*: Fairly common at Way Kambas by voice and we even took the trouble to look at one or two!

Ashy Tailorbird *Orthotomus ruficeps* (H): A few heard along the river at Way Kambas.

Rufous-tailed Tailorbird *Orthotomus sericeus*: A few good views at Way Kambas and several more heard.

Mountain Tailorbird *Orthotomus cuculatus*: Common in the mixed flocks at Gunung Kerinci where we got some great looks.

Hill Prinia *Prinia atrogularis*: Common and fairly conspicuous (vocally at least), especially around the forest edge, at Kerinci and along the road below Bukit Tapan.

Bar-winged Prinia *Prinia familiaris*: Another Sundaic endemic. It was very common at Muara Angke on our first afternoon and we saw it near the lodge at Way Kambas, above Mauro Sako and at Padang.

Zitting Cisticola (Fan-tailed Warbler) *Cisticola juncidis*: Heard and seen on the paddies near Sungai Penuh and also seen on the drive back to Padang.

Sunda Bush Warbler (Mountain B W) *Cettia vulcania*: Another friendly (near) Sundaic endemic (it just strays into Nusa Tenggara - The Lesser Sundas) which was seen very well at Gunung Kerinci.

#### MUSCICAPIDAE

Grey-chested Jungle Flycatcher *Rhinomyias umbratilis*: After a bit of sweat we all had great views of a single at Way Kambas with a few others heard only. This inconspicuous species is classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Verditer Flycatcher *Eumyias thalassina*: Commonly seen along the road to Mauro Sako.

Indigo Flycatcher *Eumyias indigo*: Some nice views of some very confiding individuals at Gunung Kerinci.

Rufous-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula solitarius*: We had good views of this smart understorey skulker along the Tapan Road although the sighting was disturbed by a Graceful Pitta hopping into view!

Snowy-browed Flycatcher *Ficedula hyperythra*: Commonly on or near the path at Kerinci.

Little Pied Flycatcher *Ficedula westermanni*: A few seen and others heard up in the high elevation forests.

Large Niltava *Niltava grandis*: We had about four sightings of this superb flycatcher at Gunung Kerinci. On several occasions we saw the same pair and probably at least two other males. This was another new bird for the Sumatra tour.

Rufous-vented Niltava *Niltava sumatrana*: Most of us had excellent views of a pair on our climbing day at Gunung Kerinci, just above Air Minum. Daniel probably saw the same birds there.

White-tailed Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis concretus*: Some great views of a single male spotted by Ann, along the road to Mauro Sako.

Malaysian Blue Flycatcher *Cyornis turcosus*: A riparian specialist, which was seen once at Way Kambas. Classified as 'Near Threatened' in BirdLife's "Threatened Birds of the World".

Grey-headed Flycatcher *Culicicapa ceylonensis*: Fairly common at Kerinci and along the Mauro Sako road.

#### MONARCHIDAE

White-throated Fantail *Rhipidura albicollis*: Also fairly common at Gunung Kerinci and along the Mauro Sako road.

Pied Fantail *Rhipidura javanica*: A few seen at Muara Angke on our first day and a single sighting at Way Kambas.

Black-naped Monarch *Hypothymis azurea*: Up to fifteen were seen daily in mixed flocks at Way Kambas and also seen in the lower elevation forest above Mauro Sako.

Rufous-winged Philentoma (R-w Flycatcher) *Philentoma pyrhopterum*: Seen well at Way Kambas, where we had several sightings.  
Asian Paradise-Flycatcher *Terpsiphone paradisi*: A single male seen at Way Kambas.

#### ARTAMIDAE

White-breasted Wood Swallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*: A single leader-only sighting at Way Kambas, three at the Bandar Lampung airport and two along the Tapan Road.

#### LANIIDAE

Long-tailed Shrike *Lanius schach*: Common around the forest edge at Kerinci and in the scrubber habitats along the Mauro Sako road.

#### STURNIDAE

Asian Glossy Starling (Philippine G S) *Aplonis panayensis*: Derek saw one on the drive to Keresek Tua and the first car saw a flock of fifteen on our drive back to Padang along the coast.

Javan Myna *Acridotheres javanicus*: We saw four at Muara Angke and the second car saw a flock of six near Sungai Penuh.

Hill Myna *Gracula religiosa*: Usually fairly common and conspicuous at Way Kambas, so it was a surprise to have only one sighting this year.

#### NECTARINIIDAE

Yellow-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus maculates*: A nice male was seen briefly along the main track at Way Kambas in low vegetation.

Crimson-breasted Flowerpecker *Prionochilus percussus*: About three individuals showed very well by the track at Way Kambas and another male was seen along the Tapan Road.

Yellow-vented Flowerpecker *Dicaeum chrysorrheum*: A lovely pair was seen on the lower stretches of the road to Mauro Sako.

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trigonostigma*: This widespread species was seen well at both Way Kambas and above Mauro Sako.

Scarlet-headed Flowerpecker *Dicaeum trochileum*: After a female we eventually managed some good views of a lovely male at Maura Angke on our first day there. More interestingly some of us had a splendid male around the garden of our lodge at Way Kambas and indeed this was the first sighting for Birdquest in Sumatra. This could be a recent colonist from Java or has simply been overlooked in the past.

Fire-breasted Flowerpecker (Buff-bellied F) *Dicaeum ignipectus*: A few seen below Bukit Tapan.

Plain Sunbird *Anthreptes simplex*: One of this warbler-like species was seen at Way Kambas and several in feeding flocks above Mauro Sako.

Plain-throated Sunbird (Brown-t S) *Anthreptes malacensis*: A few at Way Kambas and also seen on our drive back to Padang along the coast.

Red-throated Sunbird *Anthreptes rhodolaema*: A single male was seen by some of us along the entrance road at Way Kambas.

Ruby-cheeked Sunbird *Anthreptes singalensis*: Seen on several occasions at Way Kambas and also seen on our drive back to Padang along the coast. This short-billed species is largely insectivorous and often travels with mixed species flocks.

Purple-naped Sunbird *Hypogramma hypogrammicum*: Seen well at Way Kambas on a couple of occasions. The large size and green streaky plumage are quite reminiscent of a spiderhunter.

Purple-throated Sunbird *Nectarinia sperata*: Although distantly a fine pair was seen perched on the top of a dead tree near Rawa Gajah at Way Kambas.

Olive-backed Sunbird *Nectarinia jugularis*: Seen on a few occasions around our accommodation at Way Kambas, along the Tapan Road and common in Jakarta.

Crimson Sunbird *Aethopyga siparaja*: daily sightings including some super males at Way Kambas.

Temminck's Sunbird *Aethopyga temminckii*: A pair on the lower slopes of Gunung Kerinci and

others seen below Bukit Tapan. This form was formerly lumped in Scarlet Sunbird *A. mystacalis* which, following the splitting-off of Temminck's Sunbird, is now endemic to Java.

Little Spiderhunter *Arachnothera longirostra*: It was seen on several occasions at Way Kambas.

Thick-billed Spiderhunter *Arachnothera crassirostris*: This elusive species was seen on two occasions at Way Kambas and showed pretty well though high in a dead tree. Always a tricky species to see.

Spectacled Spiderhunter *Arachnothera flavigaster*: Good views of a single associating a large mobbing flock on our first day at Way Kambas.

Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter *Arachnothera affinis* (NL): A single bird was seen by some of us at Gunung Kerinci. The taxonomic status of this form is complex. Most authors lump Grey-breasted Spiderhunter *A. modesta* in this form using the name Grey-breasted Spiderhunter for the enlarged species. For a while, there was a trend to split off the form *everetti* (of Borneo) as a separate species, Bornean Spiderhunter, and treat all the other forms as one species: Grey-breasted Spiderhunter *A. affinis* (as followed by Mackinnon & Phillipps). However, it has now become more popular to treat the largely submontane and montane forms in the Greater Sundas as one species, Streaky-breasted Spiderhunter *A. affinis* and the less heavily streaked lowland forms of the mainland and west Borneo as Grey-breasted Spiderhunter *A. modesta*. This could well change again!

#### ZOSTEROPIDAE

Oriental White-eye *Zosterops palpebrosus*: First seen on the way to and then fairly common around the forest edge at Gunung Kerinci. It was also common above Mauro Sako.

Black-capped White-eye *Zosterops atricapilla*: Up to 25 daily at Gunung Kerinci.

Mountain White-eye *Zosterops montanus*: A few high up at Gunung Kerinci when we climbed to the first shelter.

#### PASSERIDAE

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (Tree S) *Passer montanus*: The common open country and town passerine in this part of the world.

Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*: Several were seen this year both at Gunung Kerinci and along the Tapan Road.

Paddyfield Pipit *Anthus rufulus*: A single displaying bird was seen in the Rawa Gajah area at Way Kambas.

White-rumped Munia *Lonchura striata*: First a small group of six or so seen flying off from the roadside and later we found one feeding on the grassy edge in the same area along the Tapan Road.

Javan Munia *Lonchura leucogastroides*: First seen at Jakarta Airport but it was seen almost daily at Way Kambas.

Scaly-breasted Munia *Lonchura punctulata*: It was seen at Muara Angke in Java and some flocks in the Sungai Penuh area and on the drive back to Padang.

White-headed Munia *Lonchura maja*: A good flock of some 150+ were seen in paddies near Sungai Penuh and was much appreciated, especially by Daniel.

#### MAMMALS

Pale Coloured Giant Squirrel *Ratufa affinis*: There are four species of Asian giant squirrels, of which we saw one. *R. affinis* was seen first in Way Kambas, once at Gunung Kerinci and once along the Tapan Road.

Black-striped Squirrel (Black-banded S) *Callosciurus nigrovittatus*: Seen on several occasions at Way Kambas and above Mauro Sako.

Prevost's Squirrel *Callosciurus prevostii*: The genus *Callosciurus* is referred to as the 'beautiful squirrels', a sub-group within the 'tree squirrel' group. They are indeed attractive,

- particularly this species which was seen on several occasions at Way Kambas.
- Three-striped Ground Squirrel *Lariscus insignis*: This is one of a number of Asian striped ground squirrels, a sub-group within the ground squirrels group. Seen on numerous occasions at Gunung Kerinci, especially around the base shelter area.
- Low's Squirrel *Sundasciurus lowii*: One of the 'Sunda tree squirrels'. It was seen on several occasions at Gunung Kerinci where it was quite common.
- Sumatran Shrew-like Mouse *Mus crociduroides*: We saw an all black looking mouse on several occasions at Gunung Kerinci but we could not identify it.
- Small-toothed Palm Civet *Arctogalidia trivirgata*: One was seen on our last morning at Gunung Kerinci, running along the branches high up in the canopy.
- Yellow-throated Marten *Martes flavigula*: We saw this species twice along the track at Way Kambas from the vehicle and spotlighted one at Gunung Kerinci on one of our owling sessions. This species lives in varied forest habitats up to 2,750m and hunts, alone or in family groups, by both day and night.
- Large Flying Fox *Pteropus vampyrus*: An extremely widespread and varied species. There are many common names (and, in many cases, sub-species names to match) that reflect the range of locations where it occurs. Some island sub-species are critically endangered. We saw hundreds roosting on trees on our drive back to Padang along the coast.
- Short-nosed Fruit Bat sp *Cynopterus sp.*: We saw four and the next day three of these bats roosting in the attic of a house at the Way Kanan clearing in Way Kambas.
- Sunda Loris *Nycticebus coucang*: One was seen very well close to the forest edge at Gunung Kerinci one evening.
- Mitred Leaf Monkey *Presbytis melalophos*: The taxonomy of this genus is complex. Basically, the Banded Leaf Monkey *P. femoralis*, (which is only found in NE Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula) is sometimes lumped in this species with the name Banded Leaf Monkey being used for the enlarged species. We saw this attractive species on several occasions at Gunung Kerinci and Mauro Sako.
- Silvered Leaf Monkey *Trachypithecus cristatus*: This species can live in groups of up to 50. Seen on one occasion on our way back to Padang.
- Long-tailed Macaque *Macaca fascicularis*: Seen at Way Kambas and on the final journey to the airport.
- Sunda Pig-tailed Macaque *Macaca nemestrina*: A diurnal mammal living in troops of between 15-40. Unlike other primates, they will descend from the trees and flee on the ground when alarmed. A few were seen at Way Kambas and a large troop at Mauro Sako.
- Agile Gibbon *Hylobates agilis* (NL): Daniel saw two at Gunung Kerinci.
- Siamang *Hylobates syndactylus*: Their extraordinary vocalisations were heard on many occasions at all three main sites. Good views were obtained at Way Kambas several times. We also had good sightings at Gunung Kerinci. Surely one of the most amazing creatures in the forest!
- Tree Shrew sp. *Tupaia spp.*: There are four species of tree shrews in this genus in Sumatra, of which *T. glis* (Common Tree Shrew) and *T. tana* (Large Tree Shrew) are the more familiar and likely. Several were seen along the Tapan Road which we believed were Common Tree Shrews. At Gunung Kerinci however, on a few occasions, a different Tree Shrew was seen. It resembled Mountain Tree Shrew *T. montana* but this species only occurs in the mountains of Borneo, and so it was clearly not this species and consequently species level identification remains unclear.
- Eurasian Wild Boar *Sus scrofa*: This familiar mammal was seen at Way Kambas and along the road to Mauro Sako.
- Lesser Mouse-Deer *Tragulus javanicus*: We saw this species twice in Way Kambas. Once along the loop trail where we could get a real good luck at it and once along the main track.
- Indian Muntjac *Muntiacus muntjak*: Seen on a number of occasions at Way Kambas.
- Sambar *Cervus unicolor*: A large deer seen on a couple of occasions in Way Kambas.

## REPTILES

Asian Water Monitor *Varanus salvator*: Seen on a few occasions in Way Kambas.

Estuarine Crocodile *Crocodylus porosus*: One was seen at Way Kambas along the river near Way Kanan.





Black-and-yellow Broadbill



Blue-rumped Parrot



Large Frogmouth



Gould's Frogmouth



Large Frogmouth



Red-crowned Barbet



Crested Fireback



The group at Gunung Kerinci



Bonaparte's Nightjar



Sumatran Trogon



Pink-headed Fruit Dove



Rusty-breasted Wren-Babbler





Marbled Wren-Babbler



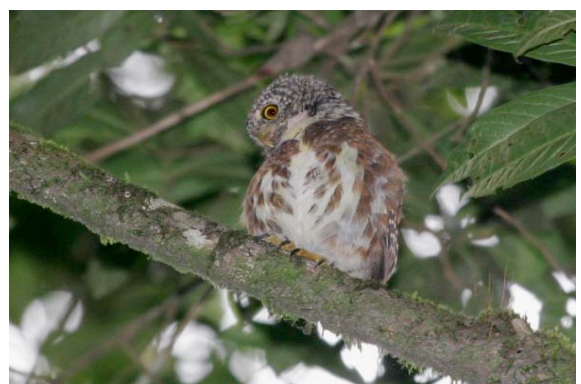
Graceful Pitta



White-winged Duck



Sunda Forktail



Sumatran Owlet