

ISLANDS OF THE LESSER SUNDAS AND REMOTE MOLUCCAS

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ISLANDS VISITED: Bali, Sumba, Timor, Flores, Komoto, Ambon, Tanimbars, Kais, Seram and Buru

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia, being a nation of islands, contains over 350 endemic species of birds. Of those, over 100 are only found in the Lesser Sundas and remote Moluccas. Having visited Indonesia in past years, I knew it to be safe and cheap for independent birders like myself. I decided to dedicate some four months to the process of birding these remote destinations. Richard Hopf, whom I have joined on other trips, also expressed interest in such a venture, at least for the Lesser Sundas. We started planning a trip for July 2009.

Much of the most recent information in the birding public domain was in the form of tour trip reports, which are self-serving and don't impart much information about specific sites or logistics. There are a few exceptions and one outstanding one is the trip report by Henk Hendriks for the Lesser Sundas (2008). It has all the information that anyone might need when planning such a trip, including maps. We followed it religiously and I would encourage others to consult it before all others. My modest contribution in the form of this trip report is to simply offer an independent approach to visiting some of the most out of the ordinary birding sites in the world.

It became clear from the beginning that the best approach was simply to go and make arrangements along the way. Birding there is slow and it was not possible to know in advance as to how much time was needed at each site. My instinct is to try and bird-out a site completely. Initially I wanted to go to a site without a predetermined departure date. Move on to the next site only after the current one was reasonably birded-out. However due to limited transportation options between islands, time considerations and financial restrictions, this approach became impractical and we modified it along the way. Many of these islands are served by only one or two airlines and they could be fully booked for weeks in advance. The ferries in most cases are infrequent, slow and don't go where/when you want to go. Furthermore, we faced several time constraints. Richard could not start the trip before the second week of August. The rainy season starts in November. Finally, foreigners are limited to a 60-days visit in Indonesia. Due to these considerations, I had to give up my hopes of visiting Wetar and Taliabu in the Sula group. Still, this trip exceeded our original expectations.

BASICS

Visas

It is possible to get an Indonesian visa-on-arrival but it is only valid for 30 days. A 60-day (maximum allowed) tourist visa can only be obtained outside Indonesia thru an Indonesian embassy/consulate. Neither visa is extendable and one has to leave the country to obtain a new visa before returning. Visa fees and conditions vary depending on your nationality. Check with the Indonesian Embassy in your country for details.

Money

1US\$ = 9200 Rupiah

A few ATMs can be found in most large cities and airports and are the most convenient way of obtaining supplementary funds. You may have trouble finding them on the more remote islands, such as Seram and Tanimbars, or smaller town throughout. I did not see any on Buru, at all. VISA and/or MASTERCARD ATM cards have the largest acceptance. Each ATM withdraw is usually limited to about \$100. Changing US\$, euros or travelers cheques is only possible at major banks in large cities. It is a time consuming process and you may not get the best return. One exception to this is Bali, where moneychangers are everywhere in the tourist areas; the other was Buru where it was not possible to change money, at all. Good advice would be to exchange a large amount at the international airport on arrival or in Bali and use your ATM cards for additional funds along the way. Always have ample funds in the form of Rupiah when venturing into the more

remote areas. In this report, I will be using US\$ for estimated costs as it is a universally understood currency by tourists but don't expect anyone locally to accept US\$ as payments.

Communications

Bahasa Indonesian is the common language throughout the country. Outside of Bali, very few people speak English. An Indonesian-English phrasebook will come in handy. In many cases we patronized accommodations in which English was spoken (as reported in Lonely Planet guide, trip reports, etc). Cell phones are in common use and are very cheap. There are a number of telecommunication providers but getting a Telkomsel sim-card will assure the widest coverage throughout the country. Internet access can be found in most large cities at reasonable prices.

Accommodations and food

Outside of Bali, this part of Indonesia does not have a large tourist infrastructure. Furthermore, the best birding sites are away from cities and large towns. Accommodations (\$10/night) and meals (\$2) are best arranged close to birding sites and are discussed in the Site section of this report.

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- Lesser Sundas (Nusa Tenggara) 23 July-20 August 2008 by Henk Hendriks
Birding Seram, Kai and Tanimbar (Indonesia) 24.06.94 – 12.08.94 by Filip Verbelen
Yamdena Island, the Tanimbars, Indonesia 20-26.2006 by Mehd Halaouate
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South Maluku, Indonesia, July 21st –19th August 2007 by Ron Hoff
Maluku, Indonesia, 19 July – 5 August 2009 by Jon Hornbuckle (published after this trip)

LOGISTICS

If you are pressed for time and expenditures are of little concern to you, your best option would be to contact an Indonesian travel agency that specializes in assisting birders. One individual who does this and has received good reviews from other birders is Politarius (Poli). The contact information that I was given for him is: email, politarius@hotmail.com or poliecoventure@gmail.com; phone, 08123912010 and cell phone 628125020781. I have not dealt with him directly but Rich ran into him at the airport in Bali and received some useful contacts for our trip to the Moluccas.

Our only prearranged flight was from Bali to Sumba. As no airlines would accept payments on foreign credit cards thru the Internet, I contact www.Travelindo.com and for a modest fee they purchased those Merpati ticket for us. They accept payments via Paypal. Thereafter, we simply bought our air tickets from one destination to the next by cash at each airport. Many regional Indonesian airlines will accept only cash for ticket purchases at airport ticket windows. In most cases where a credit card is accepted, you will be charged an additional local fee for its use.

Bali should be the starting point for the Lesser Sundas. Bali has an international airport (Denpasar), second only to Jakarta. All the flights to these main islands originate from or go thru Bali. We flew from Bali to Sumba to Timor to Flores and back to Bali on different airlines. A better option might be to begin your trip in Flores and to go from Bali to Flores to Sumba to Timor to Bali. A ferry could then be used to travel from Flores to Sumba. There were four direct ferries each week from Flores to Sumba but only one direct from Sumba to Flores. It is easy to leave Timor as its major city, Kupang, is the capital of the Lesser Sundas and thus has the most flight back to Bali. There are countless

accommodation options on Bali but they are on the pricey side and many times full. We stayed at Sugi Bungalow (www.sujibglw.com) in Kuta, close to the airport, for about \$25/double.

Ambon is the starting point for the remote Moluccas. Although it is possible to fly from Bali to Ambon (via Makassar), Jakarta has much better connections. You can save a lot if you buy your Jakarta-Ambon tickets two weeks in advance. Check Lonely Planet for accommodation options on Ambon. The taxi ride between Kota Ambon and the airport, which is located some distance from the city, is expensive. A cheaper option is to walk 200 meters to the road outside the airport terminal and catch a bemo to Kota Ambon for a few dollars.

Here is a list of some of our routes and suggested providers of travel.

- Denpasar, Bali to Waingapu, Sumba – Merpati Airlines, Transnusa Airlines
- Waingapu, Sumba to Kupang, Timor – Merpati Airlines, Transnusa Airlines
- Kupang, Timor to Ruteng, Flores - Transnusa Airlines
- Labuanbajo, Flores to Bali - Indonesian Air Transport. Merpati Air discontinued its flights before our visit
- Jakarta to Ambon – Batavia Air, Sriwijaya Airlines, Lion Air
- Ambon to Tanimbars to Kais – Trigana Air, Xpress Air.
- Ambon to Seram – Fast ferry from Tulehu (Ambon)
- Ambon to Buru – over-day ferry every two days, over-night ferry every two days

On only a few occasions did we use a hired vehicle. Short-distance overland transport, as for accommodations to/from birding site, was mostly on the back of motorcycle (ojek) or a public minibus (bemo). Longer distances between sites were on buses or “Travels”. On several occasions we took ferries or hired boats locally to get to a site.

A few words of advise about schedules and times in these remote parts of Indonesia. Their idea of a schedule is something that happened yesterday and is not guaranteed to be repeated today or tomorrow. The local saying is that “time is like rubber” (they are not referring the Einstein). Another words, be prepared for delays, cancellations, reschedules and much confusion.

SITES

Trying to describe directions to specific sites is a challenging task for anyone trying to write a trip report. This is especially applicable in remote areas where there are no road markers or even highway signs. I find detailed maps in trip reports to be the most informative in this respect. Hendriks’s maps are the crown jewels of his trip reports. For orientation purposes, I have created some basic maps of the Moluccas I have visited on this trip. To help future birders find these sites, I am adding precise GPS coordinates (**G01 –G67**) in this trip report. I hope you will find this useful.

SUMBA

Sumba is not a popular destination and has only limited air service options. Waingapu is the airport nearest the birding sites and is serviced by a single Merpati Air or Transnusa Air flight on alternate days. Upon arriving at Waingapu Airport on Merpati Airlines, we hired a taxi to take us to the Yumbu site for two hours and then onto Lewa. For several days we birded with Nick Preston, whom we met there and who had a local guide with him. Should you be interested in hiring a local guide to help you with the birds, you might try Freddy Hambuwali. He knows the Sumba sites and birds and can be reached by email at freddy_ikat@yahoo.com.

1. Yumbu (G01)

This area of dry grasslands, found about 16 km east of Waingapu, is the best location for the endemic Sumba Buttonquail. See Hendriks for directions and a map of this area. We birded the traditional area north of the road but only found Brown Quail there. On a second visit, we eventually found the Sumba Buttonquail (**G02**) about a half-kilometer east of the bridge, on the south side of the road and some distance from that road. If you continue on this road for some 14 km beyond the bridge, you will come to a marshy area (**G03**), which is worth investigating.

Birds of Interest: Sumba Buttonquail, Brown Quail, Javan Plover and Australian Pratincole

2. Lewa (G04)

Again, check out Hendriks for directions, details and a map. The place to stay here is at the homestay (losmen) of Katy Hary (phone – 085239910745). She speaks some English and can help you with permits, guides and transport to the nearby birding areas. There are four distinct areas to be birded from this base of operations.

3. Lewa fields

The nearest birding location is the farm fields south of Lewa. Within 200 meters of the Hary homestay, we found flocks of Pale-headed Munias and Red Avadavats.

4. Km 51 track

The best birding spot on Sumba is a patch of forest about 10 km east of Lewa. Along the main highway, near the km 51 marker, there is sidetrack (**G05**) that goes to the south and splits after half kilometer into two tracks. The left track traverses patches of forest. This is not part of the national park and therefore no guide or permits are required. We found most of our Sumba target birds here. You can arrange with the Harys for a motorcycle (ojek) to drop you off and pick you up at predetermined times.

Birds of interest: Brown Goshawk, Black-naped and Red-naped Fruit-Dove, Sumba Boobook, Little Sumba Hawk-Owl, Mees's Nightjar, Elegant Pitta, Sumba Cuckoo-Shrike, Sumba Brown and Sumba Flycatcher, Yellow-spectacled White-eye, Apricot-breasted Sunbird as well as the local races of Rainbow (Sumba) Lorikeet, Flores (Sumba) Jungle-Flycatcher, Rufous (Arafura) Fantail and Wallacean (Lesser) Drongo.

5. Roadside between km 68 to km 71

Approximately 10 km to the west of Lewa and along the main highway is the primary birding area in the national park. A permit and an official ranger/guide were mandatory to bird the National Park and even the road within the park. The ranger does not speak English and does not know the birds. Unlike in past years, that permit is now obtainable in the regional office in Lewa on weekdays. The best birding area (**G06**) is from km 68 to 71. There are few trails here and most of the birding is done from the road. Although we tried we did not get satisfactory looks at the nightbirds here.

Birds of interest: Red-naped Fruit-Dove, Barn Owl, Sumba Boobook, Little Sumba Hawk-Owl, Mees's Nightjar, Sumba Hornbill, Elegant Pitta, Sumba Myzomela, Chestnut-backed Thrush, Ashy-bellied White-eye, Yellow-spectacled White-eye and local races of Yellow-crested (Citron-crested) Cockatoo, Flores (Sumba) Jungle-Flycatcher and Rufous (Arafura) Fantail.

6. Watumbela Forest

The fourth location is Watumbela Forest and it is also within the national park; thus requiring a mandatory ranger/guide to accompany you. Finding the trail to the observation hill thru the numerous fields would be difficult at night without a guide. This is the most reliable location for the Cockatoo and the only place we saw the Sumba Green-Pigeon. From Lewa it takes about two hours (one hour by road and one hour on foot) to reach the observation hill (**G08**). You should plan your arrival on the observation hill at dawn. A car is necessary from Lewa for this trip as a predawn hour-long motorcycle ride would be very cold and uncomfortable. A telescope would be helpful here.

Birds of Interest: Orange-footed Scrubfowl, Sumba Green-Pigeon, Red-naped Fruit-Dove, Mees's Nightjar, Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher, Sumba Hornbill, Yellow-spectacled White-eye, Apricot-breasted Sunbird and local races of Yellow-crested (Citron-crested) Cockatoo, Rainbow (Sumba) Lorikeet and Rufous (Arafura) Fantail

TIMOR

Consult Hendriks for specifics. Kupang is the largest city in west Timor and the capital of the Lesser Sundas. As a result, it is serviced by the most airlines of any city in the group. Merpati, Transnusa, Lion and Garuda were among the major Indonesian carriers we noted there and some fly direct here from Bali. If you are looking for comfort, Kupang is the place

to stay. However, the birding sites are some distance away and you will require private transport to reach them at a timely hour. We chose basic local accommodations near our birding sites.

1. Camplong

This is a sizeable patch of lowland forest found some 47 km west of Kupang along the main road to Soe. The only nearby accommodations are at the seminary (Wisma Oenat Honis, **G09**), which is only a few hundred meters from this forest. No one speaks English at the Seminary. Again consult Hendriks for a detailed map.

Birds of Interest: Brown Goshawk, Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, Olive-shouldered Parrot, Yellow-eared and Streak-breasted Honeyeater, Black-breasted Myzomela, Plain Gerygone, Fawn-breasted Whistler, Timor Oriole, Green Figbird, Timor Stubtail, Buff-banded Bushbird, Black-banded Flycatcher, Timor Bushchat, Orange-banded Thrush, Ashy-bellied White-eye, Timor White-eye, Red-chested Flowerpecker, Flame-breasted Sunbird and local races of Rufous Fantail and Sunda Bush-Warbler.

2. Bipolo (G11)

Another patch of lowland forest found some 20 km from the Camplong seminary and along a newly paved side road. This road branches-off the Kupang-Soe Road in the village of Oelmasi (**G10**). The seminary is still the nearest accommodations but Kupang is also near by. See Hendriks for details and map. Explore the various sidetracks and trails and look for fruiting trees. The best location for the Timor Sparrow is the dirt road that leads to the shrimp ponds. The sparrows (**G12**) were found in small groups at the forest edge as this road enters the fields.

Birds of Interest: Brown Quail, Brown Goshawk, Red-backed Buttonquail, Black-backed Fruit-Dove, Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, Pink-headed Imperial-Pigeon, Olive-headed Lorikeet, Olive-shouldered Parrot, Australian Koel, Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher, Indonesian, Yellow-eared and Streak-breasted Honeyeater, Black-breasted Myzomela, Timor Friarbird, Black-faced Woodswallow, Wallacean and Black-faced Cuckoo-Shrike, Fawn-breasted Whistler, Timor Oriole, Green Figbird, Broad-billed Flycatcher, Timor Stubtail, Buff-banded Bushbird, Black-banded Flycatcher, Timor Blue-Flycatcher, Orange-banded Thrush, Ashy-bellied White-eye, Flame-breasted Sunbird, Zebra Finch, Five-colored and Pale-headed Munias, Timor Sparrow and local races of Emerald (Green-winged Pigeon) Dove, Rainbow (Merigold) Lorikeet and Wallacean (Greater) Drongo,

3. Oelnasi Reserve (G13)

This forest patch is some 15 km east of Soe. Being along the main Kupang-Soe road, it can be reached by public bus. The nearest accommodations are in Soe, which has hotels (**G14**) and restaurants (see Lonely Planet). If coming from Soe, you can also hire an ojek to bring you here for about \$2. There is a hefty fee (which I don't recall) for visiting this site. The birds here are similar to Camplong with a few special exceptions. This is the only place on Timor we found Slaty and Dusky Cuckoo-Dove. Buff-banded Bushbird was more numerous here and more cooperative.

Birds of Interest: Slaty and Dusky Cuckoo-Dove, Black-backed and Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, Olive-shouldered Parrot, Australian Koel, Yellow-eared and Streak-breasted Honeyeater, Black-breasted Myzomela, Timor Friarbird, Plain Gerygone, Fawn-breasted Whistler, Green Figbird, Broad-billed Flycatcher, Timor Stubtail, Buff-banded Bushbird, Black-banded Flycatcher, Timor Blue-Flycatcher, Timor Bushchat, Ashy-bellied and Timor White-eye.

4. Oel Bubuk(G15)

A tiny patch of forest found at a higher elevation (1100 m) on the way to Gunung Mutis. From Soe go 21 km to Kapan and then some additional 13 km toward Fatumnasi. The road goes thru it. This forest patch is quite small and if you blink you might miss it. We did not find much here. However Hendriks did get a Slaty Cuckoo-Dove and a Black-banded Flycatcher.

Birds of Interest: Brown Quail, Yellow-eared Honeyeater, Black-breasted Myzomela, Timor Leaf-Warbler and Timor White-eye.

5. Gunung Mutis – Fatumnasi

This is the most readily accessible highland forest in West Timor. The village of Fatumnasi can be reached from Soe. From Soe, regular bemos run to Kapan. In Kapan a daily bus goes to Fatumnasi. If you miss the bus, you can hire an ojek to take you up there. During our visit in some places that road was in terrible condition and could only be traveled with a high clearance vehicle or on a motorcycle (ojek). The accommodations and food in Fatumnasi are found at the homestay (G16) of Mathius Anin. From Fatumnasi, simply continue up the road into the forest and explore sidetracks (G17).

Birds of interest: Metallic Pigeon, Black-backed Fruit-Dove, Timor Imperial-Pigeon, Olive-headed and Iris Lorikeet, Yellow-eared Honeyeater, Fawn-breasted Whistler, Timor Leaf-Warbler, Timor Blue-Flycatcher, Chestnut-backed, Orange-banded and Island Thrushes, Tricolored Parrotfinch and local races of Rufous Fantail, Tree Martin, Sunda Bush-Warbler and Pygmy Wren-Babbler.

FLORES

Flores is another transportation headache. The only airline we found that flew from Kupang to Ruteng was Transnusa Air. The actual plane we boarded was Riau Air, whom Transnusa just bought out. All of the target birds on Flores can be found on the western part of the island. The three areas to base oneself are Kisol, Ruteng and Labuanbajo. There are only two airlines that service Labuanbajo. Merpati is no longer one of them. It might be wise to book flights to and from Flores in advance as we found them full.

1. Kisol (G20)

This patch of lowland forest is found in south-central Flores. See Hendriks for details and map. The place to stay is at the seminary (G19). Some trip reports indicate that a letter from the priest at the Ruteng church is required to stay here. We followed this up and were told that no such requirement exists now. When we visited the Kisol seminary, there was an English-speaking priest in charge who was most helpful to us. From the seminary, it takes about an hour on foot to reach the small patch of forest. This is the most reliable place to see the Flores Hawk-Eagle (G21). Moluccan Scops-Owl is easy and abundant in this forest patch but the Wallacean Scops-Owl appears to be taped-out here.

Birds of Interest: Orange-footed Scrubfowl, Brown Quail, Flores Hawk-Owl, Black-naped Fruit-Dove, Wallace's and Moluccan Scops-Owl, Mees's Nightjar, White-rumped Kingfisher, Elegant Pitta, Flores Crow, Russet-capped Tesia, Brown-capped Fantail, Yellow-spectacled and Flores White-eye, Black-fronted Flowerpecker, Flame-breasted Sunbird and local races of Wallacean (Lesser) Drongo and Rufous (Arafura) Fantail.

2. Danau Rana Mese (G23)

This area of highland forest some 20 km east of Ruteng is one of the best spot for Flores endemics. See Hendriks for details and map. The nearest accommodations are in Ruteng. The Rima Hotel (G22) is recommended as they speak English and can help you with transportation options. They also have Internet there. Danau (Lake) Rana Mese is on the main road to Kisol and Bajawa and can be reached by bus, bemo or ojek. Most of the birding is done from the main road but there are a few trails worth exploring for skulky species.

Birds of Interest: Flores and Wallace's Scops-Owl, White-rumped Kingfisher, Sumba Cuckoo-Shrike, Flores Minivet, Bare-throated Whistler, Brown-capped Fantail, Russet-capped Tesia, White-browed White-eye and the local races of Oriental (Sunda) Cuckoo, Wallacean (Lesser) Drongo and Timor (Flores) Leaf-Warbler.

3. Golo Lusang (G24)

Although somewhat higher in elevation, this area has similar target species to that of Danau Rana Mese and Poco Ranaka. This pass is reached by taking the main road near the cathedral and heading south and up to the pass. The best birding is along the road from the pass and down the far side for several kilometers. Ojeks are your best transportation bet.

Birds of Interest: Black-backed Fruit-Dove, Sumba Cuckoo-Shrike, Flores Minivet, Bare-throated Whistler, Brown-capped Fantail, Flores Jungle-Flycatcher, White-browed White-eye and local races of Rainbow Lorikeet, Wallacean (Lesser) Drongo, Timor (Flores) Leaf-Warbler and Pygmy Wren-Babbler.

4. Poco Ranaka Road

Found about 8 km east of Ruteng, this paved but abandoned and over-grown road switchbacks up to a deserted communication station next to a smoldering volcanic cone. The road begins (**G25**) at 1230 masl and goes up to 2100 masl. The one special bird here is the Flores race of the White-browed Shortwing (**G26**). Its appearance and behavior suggests to everyone that it does not belong in this species.

Birds of Interest: Black-backed Fruit-Dove, Dark-backed Imperial-Pigeon, Flores Scops-Owl, Sumba Cuckoo-Shrike, Flores Minivet, Bare-throated Whistler, Brown-capped Fantail, Russet-capped Tesia, Chestnut-backed Thrush, White-browed and Dark-crowned White-eye, Black-fronted and Golden-rumped Flowerpecker and local races of Bonelli's Eagle, Rainbow Lorikeet, Wallacean (Lesser) Drongo, Timor (Flores) Leaf-Warbler, White-browed (Flores) Shortwing and Pygmy Wren-Babbler.

5. Pagal Forest Patch (G27)

This patch of roadside forest is found about 23 km north of Ruteng on the main Ruteng-Reo road. From Ruteng you can catch an infrequent Reo bound bus and get off at the forest patch. A more reliable alternative is to take a bemo from Ruteng for some 20 km to the village of Pagal. In Pagal, hire an ojek to drop you off at the forest patch some three kilometers farther down the main road or simply walk. There are no trails here and the birding is done from the road but the traffic is very light. Some have reported Wallace's Hanging-Parrot from this site. For us, this was the only site that we recorded Flores Green-Pigeons (**G28**). The Pigeons were found along this road at the far end of the forest patch about half a kilometer before the next village. The buses back to Ruteng stop running in the mid-afternoon.

Birds of Interest: Flores Green-Pigeon, White-rumped Kingfisher, Elegant Pitta, Brown-capped Fantail, Russet-capped Tesia, Yellow-spectacled, Dark-crowned and Flores White-eye, Golden-rumped and Black-fronted Flowerpecker, Flame-breasted Sunbird and local races of Golden Whistler and Oriental White-eye.

6. Puarlolo Telecommunication Station

This small forest preserve is found about 36 km east of Labuanbajo and along the main Labuanbajo-Ruteng road. There is a short, partly overgrown trail (**G29**) branching of the main road about 300 meters toward Labuanbajo and away from the station road. This is the place for the endemic Flores Monarch. There is a large sign next to the station road suggesting that Wallace's Hanging-Parrot is also found here. It can be reached by bus or ojek from your accommodations in Labuanbajo.

Birds of Interest: Flores Monarch, Flores Crow, Russet-capped Tesia, Dark-crowned and Flores White-eye.

7. Potawangka Road (G30)

This paved road branches of the main Labuanbajo-Ruteng road about 10 km east of Labuanbajo. You will travel for about three kilometers before reaching the area of lowland dry forest, which itself goes for an additional three kilometers. It is best reached by bemo or ojek from Labuanbajo. It will be very hot and quiet during the middle of the day. The main attraction here is the Wallace's Hanging-Parrot, of which I only got an unsatisfactory view.

Birds of Interest: Green Junglefowl, Black-naped Fruit-Dove, Wallace's Hanging-Parrot, White-rumped Kingfisher, Elegant Pitta, Wallacean Cuckoo-Shrike, Flores Crow, Yellow-spectacled and Flores White-eye, Golden-rumped and Black-fronted Flowerpecker, Flame-breasted Sunbird and local races of Wallacean (Lesser) Drongo.

8. Labuanbajo

This small city on the western tip of Flores is a popular tourist destination for westerners and there are numerous hotels and restaurants to choose from. It is the most convenient base for visiting Puarlolo Telecommunication Station, Potawangka Road as well as Rinca and Komoto Islands. It has direct service by two airlines to Bali and by ferry directly or indirectly to Sumba, Sumbawa and Bali. There are several travel agencies that can help you make transportation arrangements and some English is spoken here in many places.

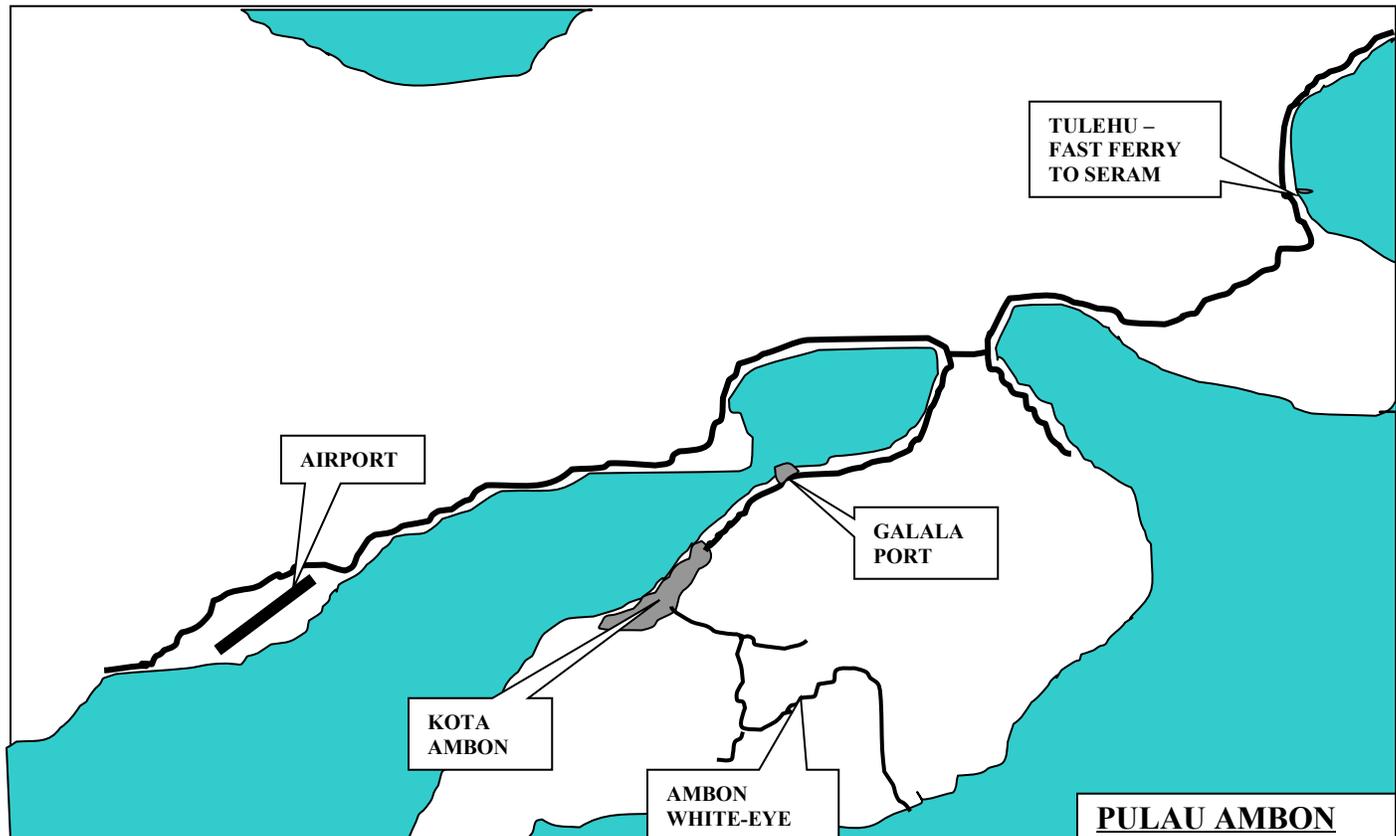
9. Komoto Island(G32)

This is the place for the world famous Komoto Dragon. For the birder, it is the only reliable place for the Yellow-crested Cockatoo. It can be reached by chartered boats from Labuanbajo. Most Labuanbajo hotels and travel agencies offer some sort of a packaged boat trip to Rinca and Komoto for about \$200 per boat. By shopping around we managed to find a two-day direct trip from Labuanbajo to Komoto Island for about \$150. The dragon can also be seen on nearby Rinca and thus most of the tourists go only there. However, Rinca does not have the Cockatoo. Only a few tourists go all the way to Komoto Island and thus it is difficult to find others to share with you the cost of a boat charter. There is a trail near the park headquarters where you will easily see the Cockatoo. A park guide is mandatory to use that trail or to go anywhere on the island. Early and late in the day are best as bird activity is the least during the midday heat. The Komoto Dragons are also easily seen near the park restaurant there. There are modern, comfortable, overnight accommodations near the park headquarters but they are expensive and we saw nobody using them.

Birds of Interest: Green Junglefowl, Orange-footed Scrubfowl, Yellow-crested Cockatoo, Flame-breasted Sunbird and local races of Golden Whistler and Wallacean Drongo.

AMBON

Kota Ambon is the capital of the Moluccas. It is like the hub of a spoked wheel in terms of transportation. If you wish to travel to outer islands of the Moluccas, chances are that you will need to travel thru here. If you wish to go to Tanimbar, Kisar, Wetar, Kai, Seram or Buru you will be going thru Ambon. Three airlines (Batavia, Lion and Sriwijaya) have direct flights to/from Jakarta but only one had an indirect connection to Bali. Airline prices change by the minute but the cheapest Jakarta-Ambon flights are those usually bought two weeks in advance. Four ferry ports on different parts of Ambon island offer boat service to nearby islands as well as long distance ships to remote parts of the Moluccas. English is rarely spoken here, even at travel agencies.

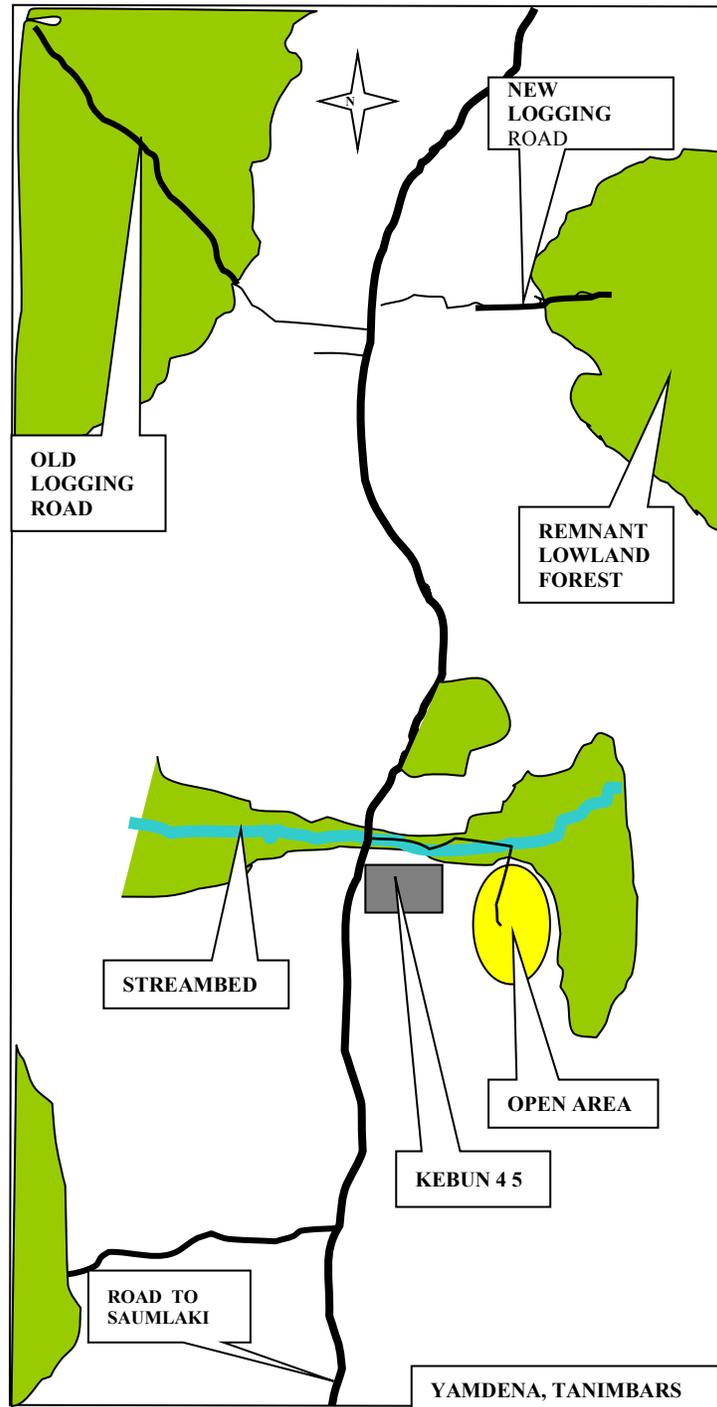


Ambon is not a birding destination in itself. It only offers one endemic species, the Ambon White-eye. It is the most populous island in the group and has little access to good forest. The road to Soya Atas village goes thru a patch of hill forest and is the place I found the white-eye (G33). It is only a few kilometers from Kota Ambon and can be reached on an ojek.

Birds of Interest: Moluccan Flycatcher, Ambon White-eye and Ashy Flowerpecker

YAMDENA, TANIMBARS

Yamdena is the largest island in the Tanimbars and fortunately it contains all of the endemics of this island group. Two airlines (Trigana and Xpress Air) offer service several days each week from Ambon to Yamdena and onto Kai Kecil. A round-trip ticket from Ambon to Yamdena to Kai Kecil and back to Ambon cost between \$300 and \$400. Your luggage is limited to 10 kg per person on these propeller driven planes. The current airport is in the city of Saumlaki. However, a new international airport is planned some 15 km away and some construction is taking place on it.



1. Saumlaki

Saumlaki is the largest community on the island of Yamdena. Very few tourists come here. There are two hotels. Most people stay at Hotel Harapan Indah (**G34**), which has a restaurant and an English-speaking staff member. Cheaper and more basic restaurants can be found nearby. There are numerous shops of all kinds and a market near the main pier. We enlisted the aid of a local English-speaking gofer named Higgy (cell phone 6281228107277) to help us with arrangements and transportation.

The short grass along the airport's single runway is a place to look for some shorebirds during migration. Great Frigatebird has been reported from the Harapan Indah Hotel observation deck as well as Lesser. There are a few mangrove patches along the shore as you leave town and they hold some birds of interest.

Birds of Interest: Lesser Frigatebird, Oriental Plover, Australian Pratincole, Little Curlew. White-tufted Honeyeater, Rufous-sided Gerygone, Cinnamon-tailed Fantail, Ashy-bellied White-eye and the local race of Broad-tailed Flycatcher

2. Kebun 45 (G35)

This working farm also serves as a basic lodge. It is owned by the Harapan Indah Hotel in Saumlaki and arrangements to stay here should be made with this hotel. The accommodations at both the hotel and the farm are on the pricey side at about \$25 per night. There is no restaurant at the farm and you need to bring supplies from Saumlaki with you. You can cook your meals yourself or for a fee (\$5/meal) they will cook your food for you. This farm/lodge is located some 22 km from Saumlaki along the main road. Kilometer markers cannot be used for reference, as the road is being rebuilt and its curves straightened for the new airport at the current km 16 marker. At the far edge of this farm there is a shallow streambed (often dry) that goes under the small road bridge and it can be explored on both sides of the road. If you continue on the paved road beyond the farm, you will come to small patches of forest with side trails during the next three kilometers. They are all worth exploring.

Birds of Interest: Brown Quail, Dusky Cuckoo-Dove, Wallace's and Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, Pink-headed Imperial-Pigeon, Tanimbar Corella, Blue-streaked Lory, Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher, White-tufted Honeyeater, Banda Myzomela, Black-faced Friarbird, Rufous-sided Gerygone, Wallacean Cuckoo-Shrike, White-browed Triller, Wallacean Whistler, Buru Oriole, Cinnamon-tailed and Long-tailed Fantail, Loetoe and Black-bibbed Monarch, Golden-bellied Flyrobin, Tanimbar Bush-Warbler, Slaty-backed and Fawn-breasted Thrush, Ashy-bellied White-eye, Tanimbar Starling and local races of Emerald (Green-winged Pigeon) Dove, Little (Pied) Bronzed-Cuckoo, Moluccan Hawk-Owl, Wallacean (Greater) Drongo, Rufous (Arafura) Fantail, Broad-billed Flycatcher, Torresian Crow, Rufous-chested Flycatcher.

3. Old Logging Track

The best forest is about 3 kilometers from the kebun/farm and on the left side of the road. There is a narrow overgrown trail (**G36**) branching off to the left from the paved road about two kilometers beyond the Kebun 45 farm/lodge. It eventually leads to an old logging road/track. During the first half kilometer, this trail goes thru a brushy area but afterwards enters the second growth forest and the logging track, which continues for some five kilometers. Furthermore, when the logging track ends a hunter trail continues for an additional 15 kilometers and into primary lowland forest. This is the place we found the Tanimbar Scrubfowl. This area is heavily trapped and you will encounter many traps along the latter part of the trail. We found a local hunter who guided us to his camp, 20 kilometers from the road. His name is Paulinus; he does not speak English and lives in the town of Tumbur. His guiding fee for the two days was \$20. Anyone going to his camp should take it slowly and allow a full day of walking/birding in each direction. Don't forget to take some food and plenty of water with you. Although this trail is shaded by a canopy almost the entire distance, it is still very warm there and taxing.

Birds of Interest: Tanimbar Scrubfowl, Dusky Cuckoo-Dove, Wallace's and Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, Tanimbar Corella, Blue-streaked Lory, Forest Kingfisher, White-tufted Honeyeater, Banda Myzomela, Black-faced Friarbird, Rufous-sided Gerygone, Wallacean Cuckoo-Shrike, Wallacean Whistler, Buru Oriole, Cinnamon-tailed and Long-tailed Fantail, Loetoe and Black-bibbed Monarch, Tanimbar Bush-Warbler, Slaty-backed and Fawn-breasted Thrush, Ashy-bellied White-eye and local races of Emerald (Green-winged Pigeon) Dove, Little (Pied) Bronzed-Cuckoo, Golden Whistler, Wallacean (Greater) Drongo, Rufous (Arafura) Fantail, Broad-billed Flycatcher

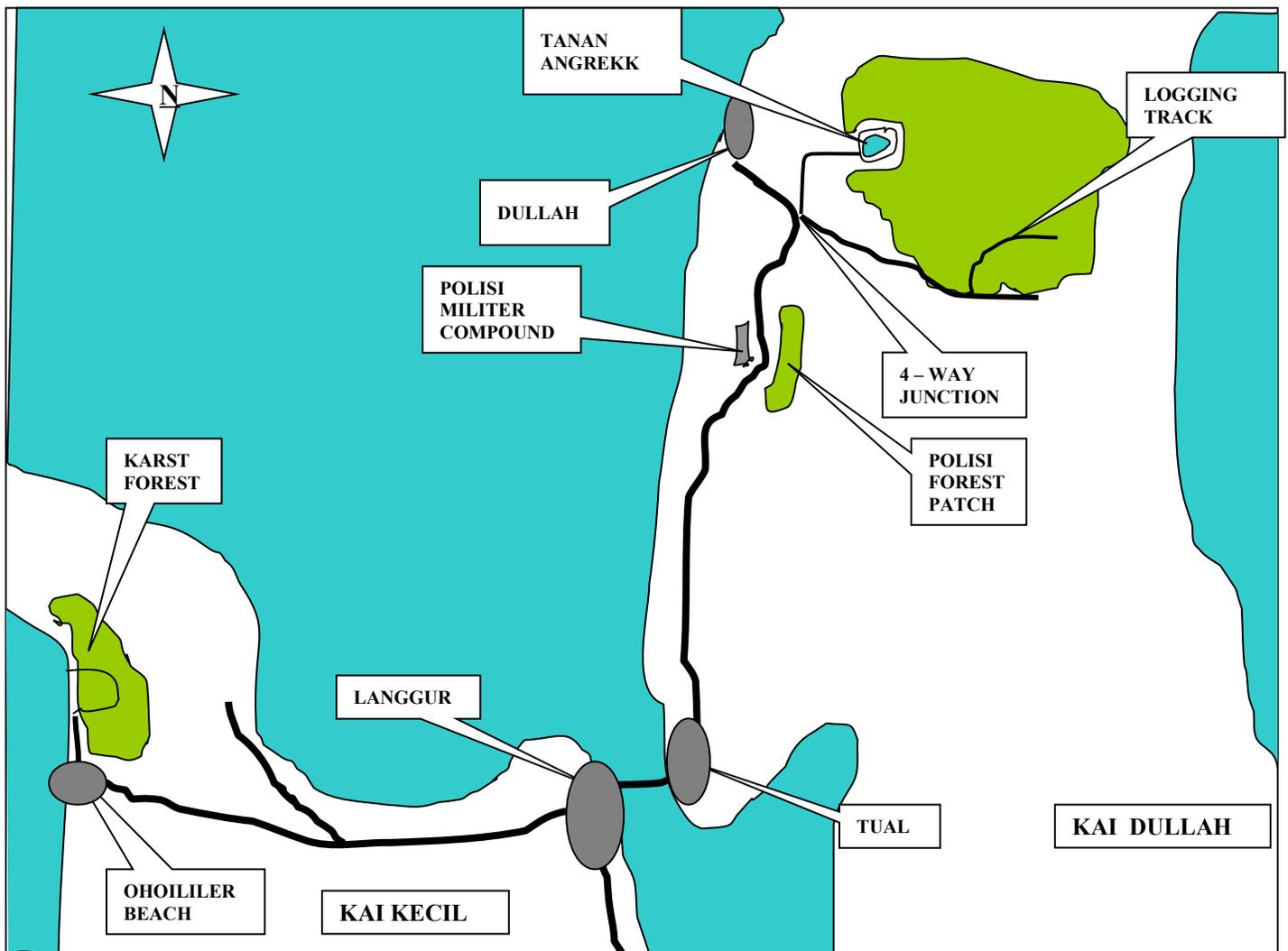
4. Weluan Beach Road (G37)

This road and the beach area are found some 5 km southeast of Saumlaki. It can be reached on ojek. Great Frigatebird has been reported here.

Birds of Interest: Lesser Frigatebird, Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove, White-tufted Honeyeater, Black-faced Friarbird and Golden-bellied Flyrobin.

KAI (KED) ISLANDS

All of the Kai endemics can be found on the three largest islands – Kai Kecil (Little Kai), Kai Dullah and Kai Besar (Great Kai). Kai Kecil and Kai Dullah are connected by a bridge and will thus be treated as one island in this report. The only airport is in the town of Langgur on Kai Kecil and there is daily air service to Ambon and less frequently to Saumlaki, Tanimbars. There are also flights from here to the Aru Islands. In addition to Trigana and Xpress Air, Lion Air also flies here from Ambon. There are several hotels here but we stayed at the Hotel Dragon (G38), which according to Lonely Planet was the only hotel with an English-speaking staff. Apparently that staff person moved on by the time we arrived. However, the owner's nephew, who spoke English, was most helpful to us. The place to base oneself is in Langgur or neighboring Tual, as all the sites are reachable by ojek, bemo or boat. With the exception of the Great Kai White-eye, all the specialties can be found on Kai Kecil.



1. Langgur-Tual Bridge

This is a bridge on the main road joining the two towns of Langgur (Kai Kecil) and Tual (Kai Dullah). In the afternoon this channel at the bridge was a good spot for Frigatebirds.

Birds of Interest: Lesser Frigatebird, Great Frigatebird

2. Ohoililur Beach (G39)

This basic beach resort area is found some 13 kilometers west of Langgur on Kai Kecil. Accommodations can be arranged here should someone wish to spend the night here. Just behind the beach and to the north is a karst ridge with some surviving forest and contains many of the island endemics. Infrequent bemos travel to and from Langgur but not late in the day. A prearranged ojek is your best bet. There are a few hard-to-find, short trails into this karst forest but they are worth exploring. The best and longest trail (**G40**) starts some 200 meters after the last building. It eventually goes up and onto the karst ridge. Bring sturdy shoes to explore this area.

Birds of Interest: Great Frigatebird, White-breasted Fruit-Dove, Yellow-capped Pygmy-Parrot, Kai Coucal, Black-faced Friarbird, Kai Cuckoo-Shrike, Varied Triller, Island Whistler, Green Figbird, Island and White-tailed Monarch, Little Kai White-eye and local races of Emerald (Green-winged Pigeon) Dove, Wallacean (Greater) Drongo, Rufous (Arafura) Fantail and Olive-backed Sunbird.

3. Polisi Forest Patch

A patch of roadside forest found on Kai Dullah some 7 kilometers from the Langgur-Tual Bridge and between the towns of Tual and Dullah. Opposite a “Polisi Militer” compound there are several short trail (**G41**) going up hill and into this small patch of forest.

Birds of Interest: White-breasted Fruit-Dove, Yellow-capped Pygmy-Parrot, Kai Coucal, Black-faced Friarbird, Island and White-tailed Monarch, Little Kai White-eye and local races of Little (Pied) Bronze-Cuckoo and Wallacean (Greater) Drongo.

4. Taman Angrekk (G43)

A decade ago, this was the best area for Kai Island endemics. However we found the area wanting during our visit. Much of the previously described forest was gone. Some habitat and trees can still be found along the boggy trail that circles the small lake. To find this area, continue along the main road from the last site for some two kilometers. You will come to a 4-way junction (**G42**) with the main road turning to the left just before entering the town of Dullah. At this junction go straight on a track for half kilometer and turn right to the lake.

Birds of Interest: Red-bellied Pitta, Australian Koel, Black-faced Friarbird, Varied Triller, Island Monarch and Little Kai White-eye.

5. Logging track (G44)

This is a continuation of Taman Angrekk and is only a few kilometers away with much easier trails. At the four-way junction (**G42**) mentioned above, take the secondary road to the right (from Langgur) and go 2.5 km. There, on the left side of the road is the start of an old logging road (**G44**). After half a kilometer this logging track enters the best and largest patch of forest we were able to find on these two islands. There are several side tracks and are all worth exploring.

Birds of Interest: Orange-footed Scrubfowl, White-breasted Fruit-Dove, Australian Koel, Kai Coucal, Black-faced Friarbird, Kai Cuckoo-Shrike, Varied Triller, Island and White-tailed Monarch, Little Kai White-eye and the local races of Wallacean (Greater) Drongo and Olive-backed Sunbird.

6. Kai Besar

The only transportation option from Kai Kecil to see the Great Kai White-eye is the daily boat. It leaves in the morning when full (usually around 8 am) from the Langgur (G45). It takes about two hours to arrive at the port town of Elat on Kai Besar. Likewise, the return boat also leaves when full in the early afternoon. You can find overnight accommodations at Elat should you find yourself stranded here. We hired ojek for a few hours at the port of Elat to take us several kilometers outside the town. There, along the road we found some suitable habitat and the White-eye (G46). Like other birders, we only came to Kai Besar for the White-eye and immediately returned to Kai Kecil. If one has ample time, it would be interesting to spend a few days here and bird the higher parts of Kai Besar. Cinnamon-chested Flycatcher should be found here.

Birds of Interest: Great Kai White-eye.

SERAM

Although there is a weekly flight from Ambon, the most convenient method of transport here is via a public ferry. At its closest distance, this large island is only 12 kilometers from Ambon. Several daily vehicle ferries leave from Hunimua, Ambon to Waipirit, Seram. A more popular method is the fast (2 hours, 80 km) passenger ferry between Tulehu-Hurnala (G47), Ambon and Amahai, Seram. There are usually two per day, one in morning (8:00) and one in the afternoon (2:00). Masohi, the largest Seram community, is only a few kilometers from Amahai. Almost all of the Seram target species can be found along the cross-island road from its highest pass and the north shore lowlands – a distance of 11 kilometers. The place to stay is in the small village of Sawai (G49) on the north shore. It is possible to take a bus from Kota Ambon to Wahai (G55) via the car ferry and get off at the Sawai road junction (G48). If going by fast ferry, look for the infrequent bemos at the Masohi bus station that might be going to Wahai and again get off at the Sawai road junction at about km marker 119. You can walk the 5 km from this junction to the village of Sawai, if you cannot find someone to take you there near the junction. In this small village there is a noteworthy hotel, Pondok Wisata Lisar Bahari, where the owner speaks some English. He can arrange a boat to Pulau Sawai or possibly an ojek drop-off/pickup at the pass or elsewhere.

Because we were short on time and wanted to get as many of the island's birds as possible, we decided to hire a vehicle for our entire stay on Seram. This was the only place on this trip that we resorted to this costly option and we found it to be a regrettable experience. We contacted Caesar from Likes Travels in Kota Ambon. We found his driver (Noke) to be disagreeable in many ways. He insisted on smoking and did not want to use vehicle's air conditioning. He claimed both conditions allowed him to stay awake!? His driving was reckless. We had to tell him many times to slow down to a safe speed. He picked up a buddy on several occasions and stranded us while they disappeared for hours with the vehicle. The cost was excessive for the area and service delivered and they changed the conditions of the hire at the end to get more money out of us. Finally, Caesar refused to return any of our many calls/text after our disagreement with the driver about the costs involved. Neither Noke nor Caesar proved to be dependable and I would not recommend doing business with either of them. If you wish to hire a vehicle on Seram, I would recommend using a different travel agency in Kota Ambon or simply hire someone in Amahai or Masohi after you arrive. You might also consider hiring a vehicle in Kota Ambon and taking it on the vehicle ferry to Seram.

1. Pulau Sawai (G50)

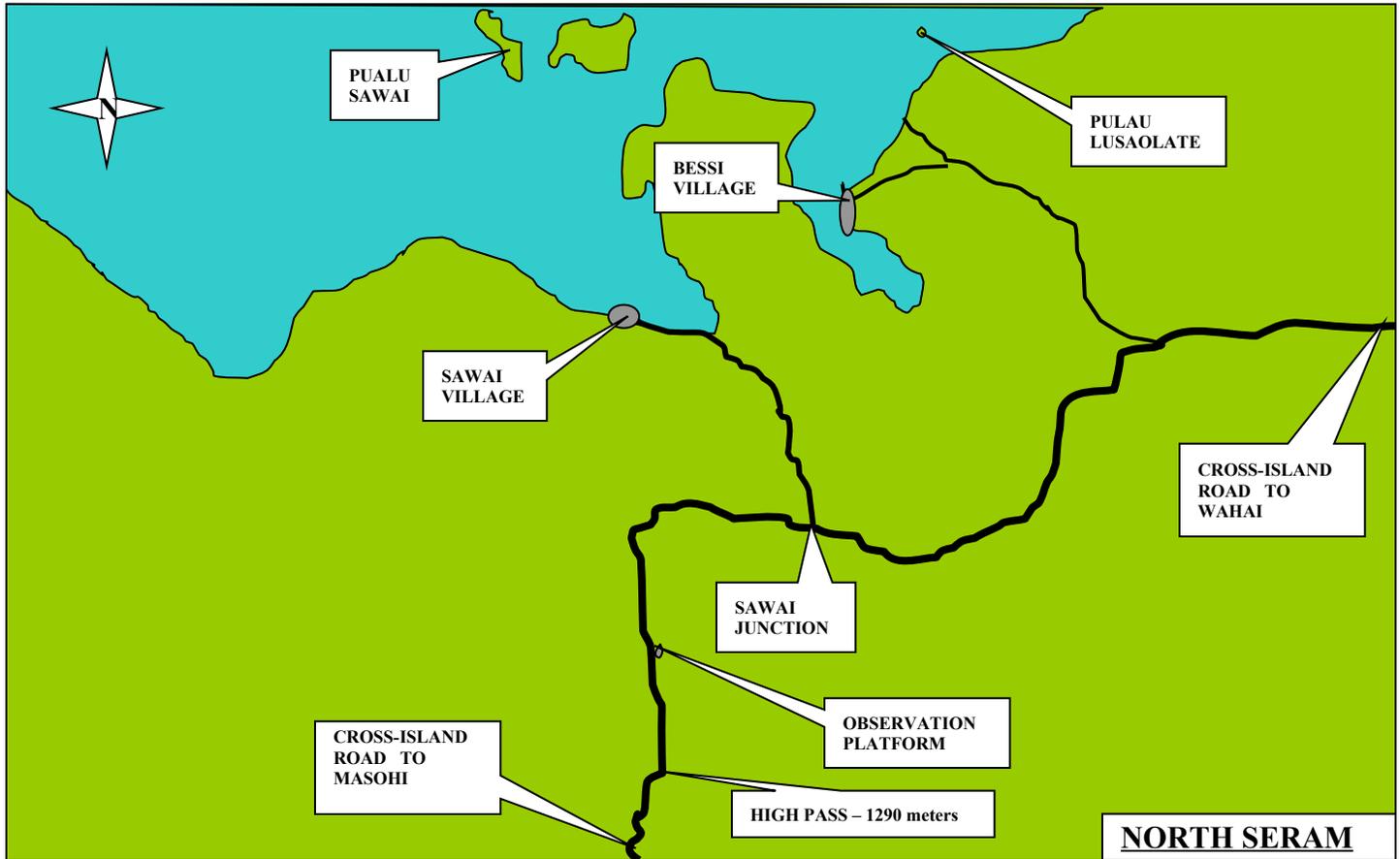
This small island is found north of the village of Sawai. A boat can be arranged with the hotel in Sawai to take you there.

Birds of interest: Forsten's Scrubfowl, Island Monarch and local race of Olive-backed Sunbird.

2. Sawai road junction (G48)

Along the cross-island road, near kilometer marker 119 is the side road that leads to the village of Sawai. The lowland forest found near this junction and along the main road for a kilometer or so toward the pass holds a number of interesting lowland Seram birds. It is 5 kilometers from your accommodations in Sawai and thus can be reached on foot. Morning and late afternoon are the best birding times as it becomes very hot and quiet during midday. It might also be possible to arrange an ojek drop-off and pickup in Sawai.

Birds of interest: Oriental Hobby, Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove, Salmon-crested Cockatoo, Red Lory, Moluccan King-Parrot, Lazuli Kingfisher, Moluccan and Pale-gray Cuckoo-Shrike, Island Flycatcher, Moluccan Starling, Long-crested Myna and local races of White-eyed Imperial-Pigeon, Moluccan Scops-Owl and Moluccan Hawk-Owl and Olive-backed Sunbird.



3. Road from high pass (G51) to Sawai road junction (pass road)

The cross-island road reaches its highest point (1290 masl) at kilometer marker 108. We mostly birded from this pass down toward the Sawai road junction. This is all part of the Manusela National Park but we saw no park personnel there or even any signs associated with it. There are no trails and the birding is done from the road. At about km 111.7 there is an observation platform (G52) overlooking the forest below. Traffic is very light on this road.

Birds of Interest: Superb and White-breasted Fruit-Dove, Long-tailed Mountain-Pigeon, Seram Honeyeater, Wakolo Myzomela, Seram Friarbird, Pale-gray Cuckoo-Shrike, Seram Oriole, Streaky-breasted Fantail, Cinnamon-chested Flycatcher, Seram and Gray-hooded White-eye, Ashy Flowerpecker and local races of White-eyed Imperial Pigeon, Rainbow Lorikeet, Moluccan (Seram) Swiftlet, Golden and Drab Whistler, Slender-billed Crow, Golden (Seram) Bulbul and Mountain White-eye.

4. Pulau Luscaolate (G54)

This tiny island, about 100 meters in diameter, is one of only a few know places for the Olive Honeyeater. However it is not resident here. The island is only 2 kilometer from the north shore of Seram and only 5 kilometers from the village of Bessi (G53). A boat (\$10) can be hired in Bessi to take you to this island. The road to Bessi branches of the main cross-island road at km 126.1. It might also be possible to arrange a boat in Sawai in conjunction with a trip to Pulau Sawai, which is 7 kilometers from Pulau Luscaolate. Seasonal timing appears to be important in finding the honeyeater here. Hornbuckle found over 30 on single visit here in early August but I found none on two visits in early October.

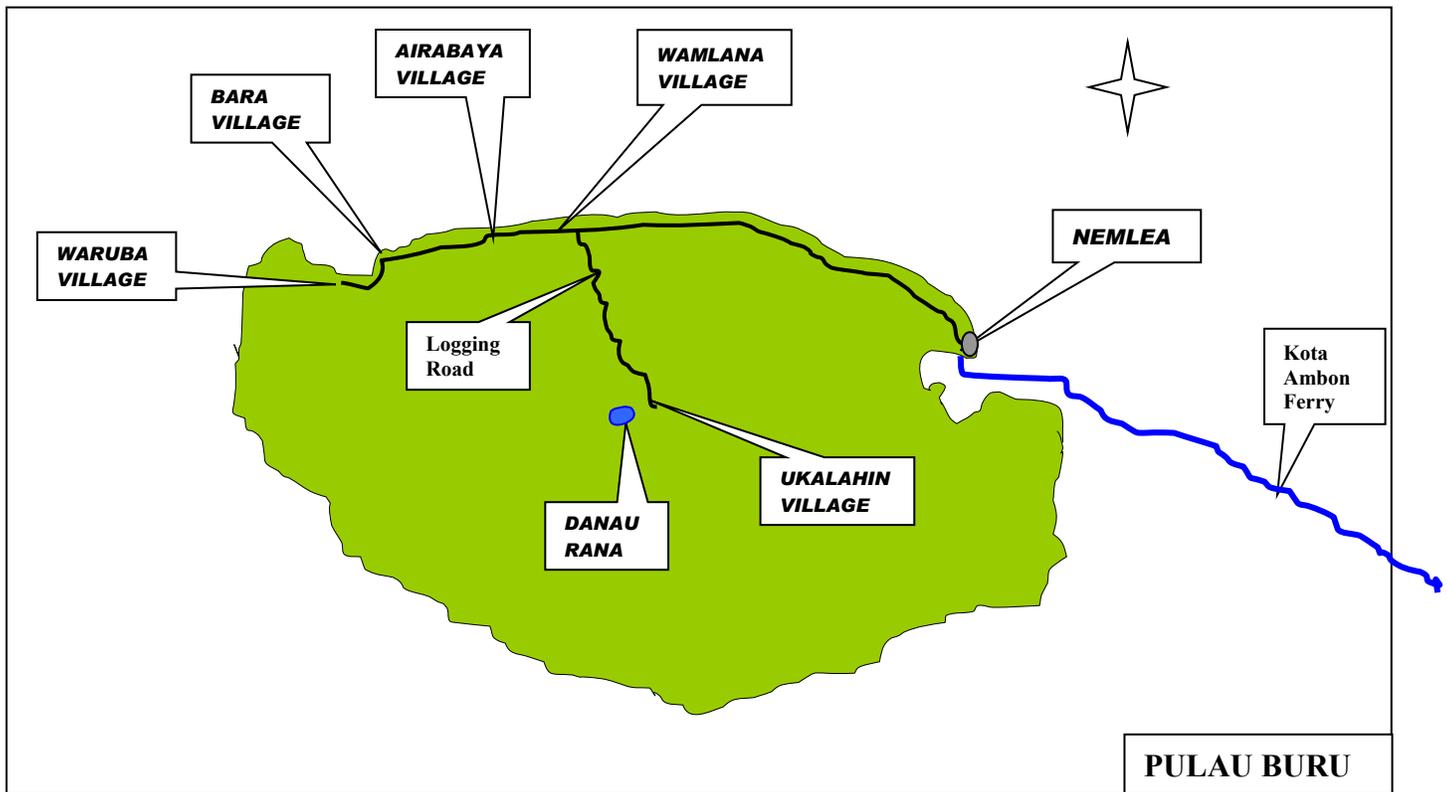
5. Wahai (G55)

The cross-island road continues eastward along the north shore of Seram to the town of Wahai and beyond. In Wahai there are a few accommodations and restaurants. Beyond Wahai the road enters the Manuela National Park again. The birds found in this lowland forest are similar to those of Sawai junction. We did not find any birds here which were not seen/heard elsewhere. However we only spent one afternoon and night there. If you don't have your own transport, you would be better off to concentrate on the lowland forest around Sawai junction.

Birds of Interest: Lazuli Kingfisher and local races of White-eyed Imperial-Pigeon, Moluccan Scops-Owl, Moluccan Hawk-Owl and Slender-billed Crow.

BURU

Like Seram, the island of Buru is most readily reached by ferries from Ambon. At the time of my visit, there were two different ferries offering transport from Kota Ambon to Nemlea. One leaves every two days from the port in Kota Ambon in the morning and the other at night every two days from a dock at Galala (G56), some four kilometers east of Kota Ambon. They take eight hours or less for the crossing and both arrive at the port in Nemlea, Buru. There are also ferries to the towns on the southern coast of Buru but the lack of roads there makes it an undesirable destination for birders. Nemlea is the center of government, business and transportation on Buru but is still a small town. There is no tourist infrastructure with the exception of a few small hotels and a few basic restaurants. No one speaks English here. From Nemlea there is a road that runs westward for some 140 kilometers along the northern shore to within 10 kilometers of the western tip. Along this road there are several interesting forest areas worth exploring. I concentrated on the remnant lowland forest found near Bara Village and highland forest along the Danau Rana logging road that starts near the village of Wamlana.



Of all these islands, Buru is the least developed. Very few tourists ever visit Buru. Lonely Planet does not cover it. In Kota Ambon, I found no one who had any first hand knowledge of Buru. As I don't speak Indonesian, I decided I needed some help along the way. I wasn't interested in a guide but only in someone as a translator. In Kota Ambon, I found a young local by the name of Damian (cell phone – 6281247410855) who spoke reasonable English. He agreed to accompany me for a fee of \$20/day. He, like myself, had never been there and knew nothing about it. It took some inquiring around Kota Ambon just to find out about the ferries. Foreigners are advised to register with the police on Buru.

In Nemlea, we had to visit three different police stations in different parts of town to deal with bureaucracy revolving around this. Eventually I was given a document, which allowed me unrestricted travel throughout Buru.

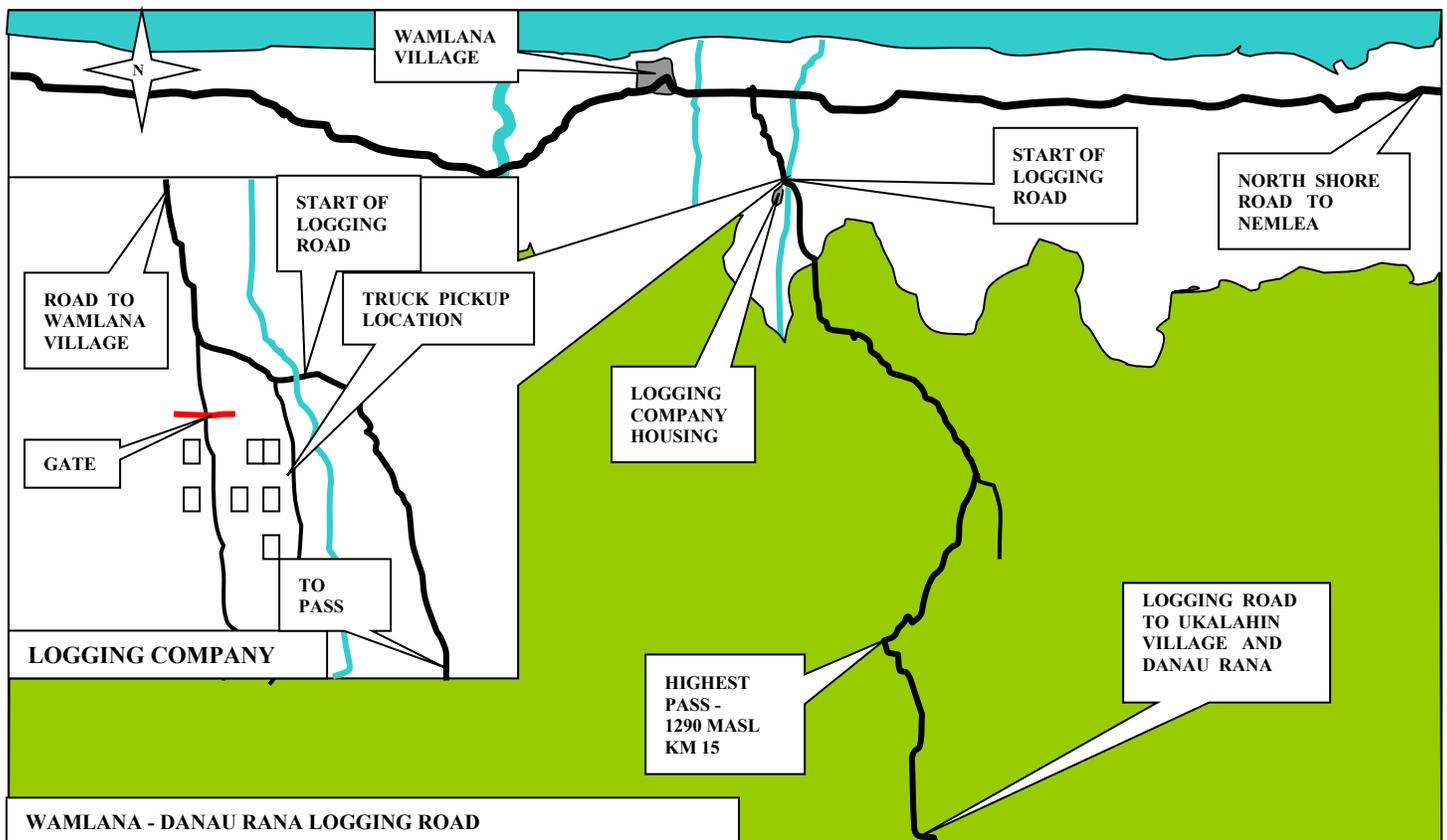
1. Nemlea

I stayed at Penginapan Haider (G57, \$10 for fan room). It is conveniently located near the main market and the bus station. The area around Nemlea is best described as an avian desert. One has to travel some distance away from Nemlea before seeing any forest. One morning, I tried to find some birdable habitat on the back of an ojek, but found only scrub. A flock of Oriental Plovers, found at a burned-out grassy area, were the only noteworthy birds.

Birds of interest: Oriental Plover

2. Wamlana logging road

Wamlana (G58) is a small coastal town and is about 95 km west of Nemlea along the north shore road. There is little of interest around town with the exception of few Moluccan Scrubfowl (Meleo) that can be found on the beach at night and around the time of the full moon. There are no hotels or homestays in this town but it does have at least one basic restaurant. We reported to the head (G58) of the village and he allowed us to stay at his home for two nights.



The most interesting area is the logging road, which starts (G60) outside this village and ascend the coastal mountains and eventually leads for some 50 kilometers to Ukalahin Village (G63) near Danau Rana (G64) in the center of the island. The only regular transport along this road is on a huge earth-moving truck (G61) run by the logging company to supply its camps along the way. The truck bed is dirty, greasy, open to the sun and rain, very bumpy and two meters from the ground. By the time you reach your destination, you will be covered by a layer of dust or mud (if it rains, as it did in my case). There is no schedule. The truck simply goes when it goes. We only had to wait about four hours but others there said they were waiting for over a day. I traveled along this logging road all the way to the village of Ukalahin in that truck along with 20 locals. My original intent was to stay at this village for a few days and to bird the forest around Danau Rana. When I arrived there, I found the forest had been totally cleared and the locals in the village told me the situation was similar around the lake. I decided not to remain there, as the next return truck would not come for four days. So I

returned to Wamlana Village the same day and decided to bird the first 17 kilometers of the logging road on foot the next few days.

From Wamlana Village, go about 1 km east to a side road (**G59**) that leads to the logging company and the start (**G60**) of the logging road. This logging road climbs from the coastal lowlands along steep ridges and after 15 kilometers reaches its ultimate elevation (**G62**) of 1290 meters. At about the km 11 junction, take the right road to higher elevations. All along this part of the road the forest is in excellent condition with many mature trees. The steep terrain saved much of the forest from logging but it also makes it difficult to bird. There are no side trails and being a modern logging road, it cuts a very, very wide swath thru the habitat. The road itself is covered by a talcum-like dust and just walking on it covers you with it. A high clearance 4x4 vehicle is necessary to drive this road at the beginning, where the road is the steepest. Motorbikes don't have enough power to climb the steep first kilometer of the road. I started walking an hour before sunrise and eventually reached the highest area in the heat of the day. Between 8 am and 4 pm, cicada calls drown out most calling birds. Still I did find a few of Buru's higher species. I had hoped to revisit the next day, starting at midnight. However, upon returning to Wamlana I was made aware of several realities. For one, I was exhausted after a 35-kilometer hike on a hot, steep, dusty road. For another, I was informed that the only buses for Nemlea leave in the morning. If I wanted to catch the next day's overnight Nemlea-Galala ferry, I would have to leave Wamlana early in the morning. Regrettably, I birded this road for only one day. Future birders might consider camping for a few days at higher elevations along this road in order to be there early and late in the day when birding activity is at its peak. It would give you better opportunities for such rarities as Moluccan Thrush. If so, remember to bring food and plenty of water.

Birds of Interest: Moluccan Scrubfowl, White-breasted Fruit-Dove, Red Lory, Buru Racquet-tail, Moluccan King-Parrot, Buru Honeyeater, Wakolo Myzomela, Buru and Pale-gray Cuckoo-Shrike, Buru Oriole, Loetoe Monarch, Buru Jungle-Flycatcher, Buru White-eye and local races of White-eyed Imperial-Pigeon and Long-tailed Mountain-Pigeon.

3. Airabaya Village (G65)

This village is found some 105 km west of Nemlea along the north shore road and on the way to Bara Village. I only stopped here to check in with the local police. It supposedly has a homestay (losmen) and at least one very basic restaurant. I have been told by locals this is the best place to come to see the Moluccan Scrubfowl. Its local name is "Meleo" but don't confuse it with the Meleo of Sulawesi. I have been told they can easily be found on the beach either side of this village. However after examining Google Earth imagery, I believe the best location would be the beach area about 1 km west of the village. You might want to inquire locally about specifics and perhaps find some local kids to guide you. Remember, they only fly here at night to bury their eggs in the sand and are easiest to find around the time of the full moon.

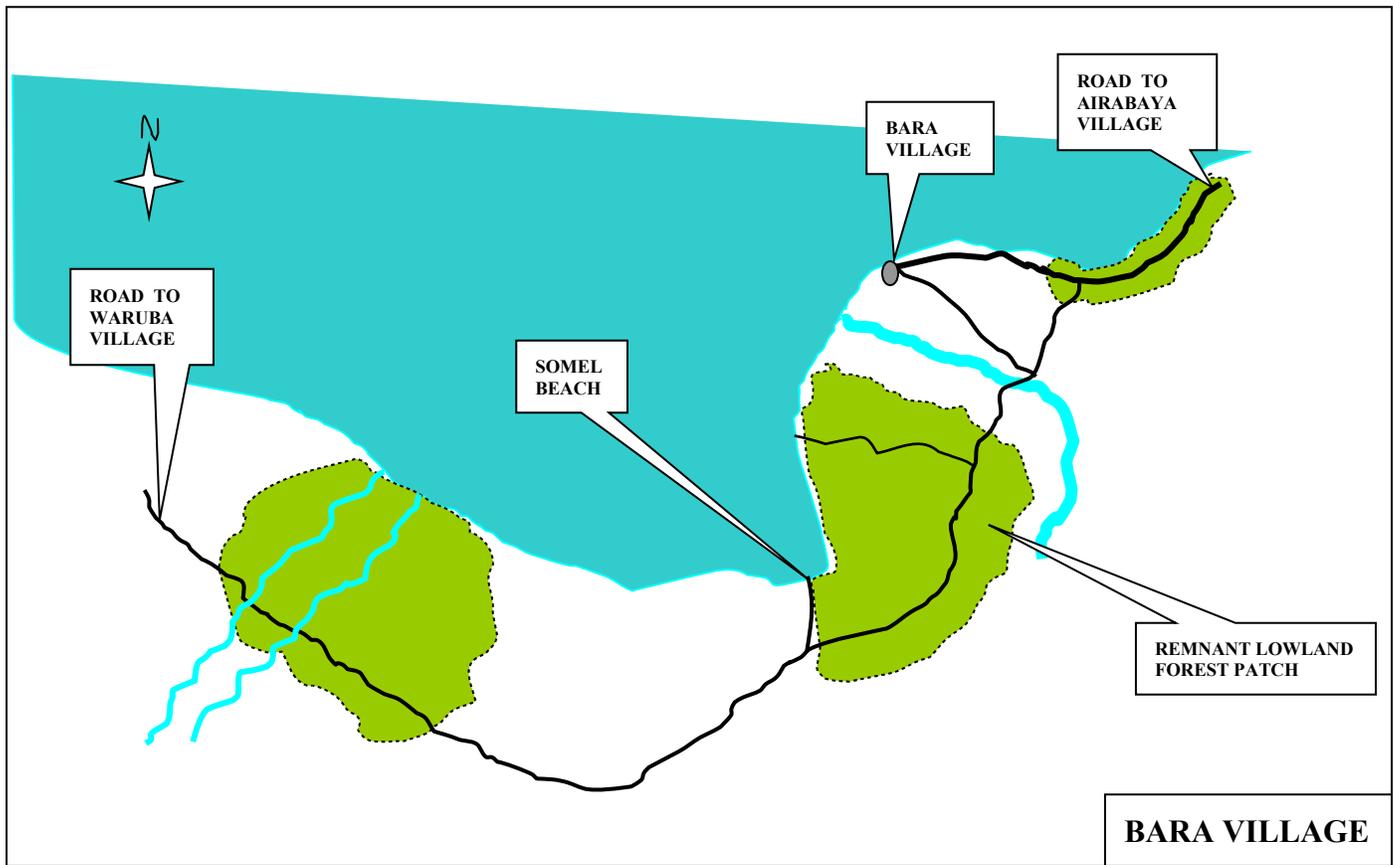
Birds of Interest: Moluccan Scrubfowl.

4. Bara Village (G66)

Bara Village is some 130 km west of Nemlea along the north shore road. There is one daily bus that leaves Nemlea at about 13:00 and arrives at Bara Village at about 17:00. An alternative is to take a minibus from Nemlea to Airbuaya (105 km) and then hire ojek for the additional 25 km to Bara Village. This is a small village and has no tourist accommodations of any kind and no one speaks English or any other western language. Upon arrival you need to report to the head (kepala desa) of the village and ask permission to stay there. In my case, the village chief (Sulaiman Tabona) offered me accommodations in his home. There are others willing to take in visitors. Your meals will be very basic and rice is much of it. Upon arrival, I gave them 400,000 rupiah (\$40) to buy food and supplies and another 500,000 rupiah for our accommodations when I left. There are several motorcycles in the village and it may be possible to hire them as ojek should you wish. You can also hire a local boat to take you along the coast to destinations farther away. Supposedly there is a nearby beach reachable by boat, which has Meleo (Moluccan Scrubfowl) nesting on it. The village chief told me that visitors are welcome there.

The best habitat (**G67**) is found by going some three kilometers beyond the village of Bara and toward the next village, Waruba, to which there is a bus every few days. You need to wade a river, whose water level depends on seasonal rains. During my visit, it was very dry and I was able to hop rocks on most days. There are sidetracks and trails to be explored thru some decent remaining lowland forest. There are no roads or trails leading to higher elevations. I tried to follow a riverbed for several hours but wasn't making any headway in terms of elevation and gave up. I inquired locally but no one

knew of any easy way of reaching the mountaintops. The highest mountains on Buru are found here at over 2000 meters and should hold such rarities as Black-lored Parrot.



A word of advice about local realities. The lowland forest here is rapidly being cleared for cocoa plantations. During my visit, there were many fires smoldering throughout the area. This area may change drastically within a few years and not for the better. You might be wiser to visit sooner rather than later. Also, you are a guest here and need to be respectful of local conditions and sensibilities. When I wanted to go owling for the entire night, the village chief insisted that I take along a local guide (a hindrance to me). He was concerned that if something had happened to me, government officials would fault him. So I hired a local (\$10) to accompany me for that night.

Birds of Interest: Forsten’s Scrubfowl, White-breasted and Claret-breasted Fruit-Doves, Red Lory, Buru Racquet-tail, Moluccan King-Parrot, Lesser Masked-Owl, Buru and Pale Gray Cuckoo-Shrike, Buru Oriole, Loetoe and Black-tipped Monarch, Buru White-eye, Flame-breasted Flowerpecker and local races of Pompadour (Buru) Green-Pigeon, White-eyed Imperial Pigeon, Long-tailed Mountain-Pigeon, Rainbow Lorikeet, Moluccan (Seram) Swiftlet, Black-faced Friarbird, Golden Whistler, Golden Bulbul and Olive-backed Sunbird. location

GPS COORDINATES

#	Place	Approx. Location	GPS Coordinates	Elevation asl
G01	Yumbu bridge	16 km east Waingapu, Sumba	S9°39'04.68", E120°23'32.03"	10 m
G02	Sumba Buttonquail	About 1 km from Yumbu bridge	S9°39'14.12", E120°24'00.26"	40 m
G03	Marshy Area	14 km east of Yumbu bridge	S9°41'12.92", E120°29'27.71"	10 m
G04	Lewa	Sumba	S9°42'21.72", E119°53'18.20"	540 m
G05	Km 51 track	10 km east of Lewa	S9°43'29.84", E119°56'29.01"	650 m
G06	Km 69.5	10 km west of Lewa	S9°39'38.51", E119°49'49.28"	530 m
G07	Watumbela	Sumba	S9°46'32.39", E119°45'49.05"	520 m

G08	Observation Hill	3 km from Watumbela, Sumba	S9°45'48.85", E119°44'47.53"	610 m
G09	Camplong Seminary	Km 46.9 from Kupang, Timor	S10°2'17.53", E123°55'34.20"	230 m
G10	Bipolo road junction	Oelmasi, Kupang-Soe road	S10°3'50.82", E123°52'42.06"	50 m
G11	Bipolo	Timor	S10°0'34.62", E123°48'28.08"	30 m
G12	Timor Sparrow	Bipolo, Timor	S10°0'56.52", E123°48'16.86"	20 m
G13	Oelnasi Reserve	15 km east of Soe, Timor	S9°53'27.18", E124°12'16.38"	490 m
G14	Hotel Cahaya	Soe, Timor	S9°51'47.82", E124°16'49.98"	890 m
G15	Oel Bubuk	Between Kapan and Fatumnasi	S9°45'57.6", E124°16'36.72"	1070 m
G16	Mathius Anin	Homestay in Fatumnasi	S9°38'59.82", E124°13'18.66"	1530 m
G17	Side track	5 km beyond Fatumnasi (G16)	S9°36'35.22", E124°13'35.4"	1760 m
G18	Timor Imperial-Pigeon	3 km beyond G17	S9°35'36.12", E124°14'17.04"	1760 m
G19	Kisol Seminary	Flores	S8°48'25.56", E120°39'45.6"	160 m
G20	Kisol Forest Patch	Kisol	S8°50'6.06", E120°39'36.78"	270 m
G21	Flores Hawk-Eagle	Kisol	S8°50'30.84", E120°39'45.66"	270 m
G22	Rima Hotel	Ruteng	S8°36'39.96", E120°28'16.86"	1180 m
G23	Danau Rana Mese	20 km east of Ruteng	S8°38'09.14", E120°33'36.69"	1290 m
G24	Golo Lusang	8 km south of Ruteng	S8°39'43", E120°27'37"	1700 m
G25	Poco Ranaka road	8 km east of Ruteng	S8°36'55.26", E120°30'51.84"	1230 m
G26	Flores Shortwing	Poco Ranaka	S8°37'27.12", E120°31'13.8"	1660 m
G27	Pagal Forest Patch	23 km north of Ruteng, Flores	S8°29'01.68", E120°29'44.58"	980 m
G28	Flores Green-Pigeon	4 km beyond Pagal village	S8°28'39.62", E120°29'21.26"	870 m
G29	Puarlolo trail	36 km east of Labuanbajo, Flores	S8°36'19.92", E120°01'47.58"	920 m
G30	Potawangka road	10 km east of Labuanbajo	S8°32'53.64", E119°55'09.54"	40 m
G31	Hotel Wisata	Labuanbajo, Flores	S8°29'58.14", E119°52'53.22"	20 m
G32	Komoto Park hdq	Komoto Island	S8°34'11.90", E119°29'57.98"	5 m
G33	Ambon White-eye	Soya Atas Village road, Ambon	S3°43'15.78", E128°12'49.02"	330 m
G34	Harapan Indah Hotel	Saumlaki, Yamdena, Tanimbars	S7°58'52.88", E131°17'48.05"	5 m
G35	Kebun 45	22 km from Saumlaki	S7°50'13.62", E131°21'07.14"	110 m
G36	Start of trail	Leads to old logging track & beyond	S7°49'08.82", E131°21'28.14"	110 m
G37	Weluan Beach	5 km southeast of Saumlaki	S8°00'46.32", E131°18'42.06"	5 m
G38	Hotel Dragon	Langgur, Kai Kecil	S5°39'23.94", E132°44'24.36"	5m
G39	Ohoililer Beach	Kai Kecil	S5°38'43.80", E132°38'16.56"	5 m
G40	Start of karst trail	Ohoililer Beach	S5°38'31.20", E132°38'14.64"	5 m
G41	Polisi forest patch	Between Tual and Dullah	S5°35'15.90", E132°45'10.86"	30 m
G42	4-way road junction	Just before Dullah	S5°34'24.75", E132°45'30.24"	10 m
G43	Taman Angrekk	Lake near Dullah	S5°34'21.24", E132°45'47.10"	15 m
G44	Logging track	2.5 km from G42 on side road	S5°35'05.82", E132°46'34.20"	25 m
G45	Boats for Kai Besar	Langgur, Kai Kecil	S5°38'52.01", E132°44'33.71"	1 m
G46	Great Kai White-eye	Kai Besar	S5°40'01.14", E132°59'32.58"	200 m
G47	Teluhu-Hurnala	Seram fast ferry dock, Ambon	S3°35'09.18", E128°19'46.74"	1 m
G48	Sawai road junction	Km 119, cross-island road, Seram	S2°59'08.88", E129°12'28.26"	50 m
G49	Sawai village	Seram	S2°57'29.82", E129°10'46.02"	1 m
G50	Pulau Sawai	5 km north of Sawai village	S2°55'27.06", E129°10'00.18"	1 m
G51	High pass	Km 108, cross-island road, Seram	S3°01'27.54", E129°10'57.60"	1290 m
G52	Observation platform	Km 111.7 Cross-island road	S3°00'18.66", E129°10'57.24"	880 m
G53	Bessi Village	Seram	S2°56'20.31", E129°12'50.59"	2 m
G54	Pulau Lusaolate	5 km northeast from Bessi	S2°54'04.14", E129°14'12.78"	1 m
G55	Hotel	Wahai, Seram	S2°47'43.26", E129°29'44.10"	10 m
G56	Nemlea, Buru ferry	Galala, 4 km east of Kota Ambon	S3°39'43.02", E128°12'18.48"	2 m
G57	Haider Hotel	Nemlea, Buru	S3°16'51.84", E127°05'50.1"	5 m
G58	Wamlana Village	95 km west of Nemlea, Buru	S3°04'23.76", E126°32'07.68"	10 m

G59	Road to log company	1 km east of Wamlana	S3°04'31.38", E126°32'35.34"	15 m
G60	Start of logging road	2.1 km from main road	S3°05'38.28", E126°33'01.32"	45 m
G61	Truck pickup	Logging company truck pickup point	S3°05'42.79", E126°32'59.51"	50 m
G62	High point	Highest elevation along logging road	S3°10'47.70", E126°34'06.72"	1290 m
G63	Ukalahin Village	8 km from Danau Rana	S3°22'50.34", E126°39'27.42"	430 m
G64	Danau Rana	Middle of Lake Rana	S3°24', E126°34'	750 m
G65	Airbuaya Village	105 km west of Nemlea	S3°05'07.47", E126°26'07.88"	10 m
G66	Bara Village	130 km west of Nemlea	S3°08'03.60", E126°14'07.44"	10 m
G67	Lowland forest	4 km from Bara Village	S3°09'55.92", E126°14'30.72"	70 m

ITINERARY

- 11-Aug I arrived at Bali International airport from Kuala Lumpur on Air Asia at 23:00. Went thru immigration, changed some US\$ to Rupiah and went to booked hotel in Kuta.
- 12-Aug Went birding in the vicinity of Benoa Harbor. Richard arrives in afternoon from Singapore on Cathay Pacific Airlines. Changed more money, picked up Telkomsel sim-card for my cell phone.
- 13-Aug Flew from Bali to Waingapu, Sumba on Merpati Airlines. E-Ticket bought on line thru Travelindo.com several weeks earlier. On arrival, we hired a local taxi to take us to Lewa for \$60 with a stop at Yumbu beforehand. Birded Yumbu grasslands for several hours but did not find Sumba Buttonquail in the traditional location. Taxi took us to Kati homestay in Lewa. To our surprise, we found Nick Preston already at Katy's Losmen. He turned out to be the only other birder we came across during our entire trip.
- 14-Aug In the morning, we took ojeks (motorcycles) to km 51 track and birded forest patch. During midday we went to the national park office in Lewa to get permits and to arrange for a ranger to accompany us. In afternoon along with Nick Preston, we went to km 69.5 forest in national park.
- 15-Aug In the morning, we again birded the km 51 km forest patch. In midday, we checked the farm fields south of Lewa. In afternoon we visited the fields and some remnant forest along the Langgaliru River.
- 16-Aug Left at 4 am in car for Watumbela. Arrived at observation hill just after sunrise. Spent several hours looking for Cockatoo and thanks to Nick's telescope saw our only Sumba Green-Pigeon as well as numerous sightings of the Cockatoo. In the afternoon, we returned to km 69-72 in the national park.
- 17-Aug This was Nick's last day on Sumba and his priority was to find the Sumba Buttonquail. As we missed the bird earlier and it might be easier with more people, Rich and I joined Nick and all went back to Yumbu. We again failed to find the Sumba Buttonquail in the traditional location north of the road and west of the bridge. Then we went about half kilometer east beyond the bridge and explored the higher grasslands to the right of the road and eventually found the Buttonquail. In late morning we visited the marshy area some 14 east of Yumbu. In the afternoon returned to Lewa's km 51 track and birded it well into the night. We were rewarded with all three nightbirds.
- 18-Aug Returned to km 51 track and birded it all day and into the night.
- 19-Aug Brief visit to the fields south of Lewa. I had hoped to go from Sumba to Flores but that proved to be a fantasy. The single direct ferry to western Flores only went once a week. There were no direct flights at all from Sumba to western Flores. Furthermore there were no available flights from Waingapu to Kupang, Timor during the next few days. However we found that there was a flight available from the western Sumba city of Waikelo. Flew from there via Maumere to Kupang. As we arrived in Kupang too late in the day to take the bus to Camplong, we hired a taxi to take us direct to the seminary there. Once there we discovered that there was no responsible individual at the seminary. The nuns had gone to Kupang. It wasn't till almost midnight when someone showed up and made a room available to us.
- 20-Aug We birded Camplong all day
- 21-Aug Birded Camplong all day again.
- 22-Aug We needed a vehicle for the next two days. By phone, we contacted a provider in Kupang. The only option they offered was a high-clearance vehicle with a driver and an English guide for \$100/day. Before dawn, they picked us up at the seminary and we went to Bipolo. Birded the forest and fields in the morning. Then we drove back to Kupang, where we went to the only airline carrier that flew to Ruteng, Flores. We purchased tickets with Transnusa Airlines for eight days in the future. In afternoon returned to the forest and fields of Bipolo. Spent the night in Kupang.

- 23-Aug Left Kupang long before dawn and we arrived at the Oelnasi Reserve at sunrise. Birded Oelnasi for several hours and proceed onto Gunung Mutis. Stopped for an hour or so at Oel Bubuk. Arrived in Fatumnasi at mid day and made arrangements with Mathius Anin to stay with him for a few days. Our hired vehicle dropped us off some five kilometers beyond Fatumnasi and it, along with the guide, left for Kupang. We birded Gunung Mutis for the remainder of the day and walked back to Fatumnasi.
- 24-Aug Left homestay at dawn for higher elevations. Birded Gunung Mutis all day. Having seen most of our target birds already, we decided to leave in the morning. Made arrangement to take the morning bus back to Kapan and Soe.
- 25-Aug We get the bad news that there will be no bus this morning as the driver is sick. We hired three ojeks (one for Rich, one for myself and one for out luggage) and traveled to Kapan. There we caught a bemo for Soe, where we find a hotel. In afternoon we hired ojeks to drop us off at Oelnasi. Birded Oelnasi for remainder of the day and went back to Soe hotel on prearranged ojeks.
- 26-Aug Caught a predawn bus back to Kupang and got off at the Camplong seminary. Make arrangements to stay there with the nuns. In midday, we hired ojeks to take us and drop us off at Bipolo. Birded Bipolo for the remainder of day. Returned on prearranged ojeks to the seminary for dinner and a bed.
- 27-Aug Traveled to and from Bipolo on prearranged ojeks and birded there the entire day.
- 28-Aug Caught a predawn bus for Soe and got off at the Oelnasi Reserve. Birded Oelnasi most of day and returned to the Seminary for the night.
- 29-Aug Rich birds Camplong and I head for Bipolo. We return to seminary in the afternoon, pack up; catch a bus to Kupang, where we find a hotel for the night.
- 30-Aug Flew from Kupang to Ruteng, Flores with Transnusa Airlines on a Riau Airlines plane. We decided to head for Kisol first. The place to stay at Kisol is at the seminary there. According to some trip reports, one first needed to get a permission letter from the priest in Ruteng. We went to the massive Ruteng Cathedral and after an hour of searching on a Sunday, we found someone in authority who told us that no letter was needed. Went to the Ruteng Bus terminal only to find out that the regular long-distance buses don't run on Sundays on Flores. After a long delay we found a minibus to Bajawa and it would drop us off at the seminary. Arrived at the Kisol seminary in early afternoon. Made arrangement to stay here for few days with the priest who spoke English. Birded for several hours in the afternoon.
- 31-Aug Birded Kisol all day and into night.
- 1-Sept. Birded Kisol all day and into night
- 2-Sept Birded Kisol in morning, returned to seminary for mid day nap. Make arrangements with priest for travel back to Ruteng tomorrow. Returned to forest in late afternoon and stayed in forest all night trying to see Wallace's Scops-Owl but failed. As on the previous two nights, this species was only heard briefly.
- 3-Sept "Travels" picks us up in the morning and we go to Ruteng. Checked into Rima Hotel on the outskirts of Ruteng and we go birding for several hours to Danau Rana Mese. Diner and night at Rima Hotel.
- 4-Sept Traveled on ojeks to/from Golo Losang and bird there all morning. In afternoon birded Poco Ranaka. Night at Rima Hotel
- 5-Sept Birded Poco Ranaka all day. Night at Rima Hotel.
- 6-Sept Birded Golo Losang in morning. In afternoon we hired a bemo to take us to Pagal forest patch. Night at Rima Hotel.
- 7-Sept Birded Danau Rana Mese all day and night.
- 8-Sept Birded Danau Rana Mese in morning and Poco Ranaka in afternoon and few hours into night. Night at Rima Hotel.
- 9-Sept Both of us birded Poco Ranaka in the morning. Rich remains on Poco Ranaka looking for the Flores Shortwing. I traveled via bemo and ojek to Pagal forest patch and bird there all afternoon. Night at Rima Hotel.
- 10-Sept We both return to Pagal forest in search of Hanging-Parrot and Green-Pigeon. Birded there all day. Had to hitch back to Ruteng as no bemos or buses were running after 16:00 hours. Night at Rima Hotel.
- 11-Sept In the morning, we traveled via prearranged "travels" from Ruteng to Labuanbajo. Checked into a local hotel and spend the rest of the day trying to make various future arrangements. After much shopping around for a cheap boat to Komoto Island, we settled for one at \$150. Upon arriving in town, we heard that all flights to Bali were fully booked for the next 12 days. After visiting various travel and airline agencies, we heard rumors that a special flight was being considered by IAT on 16-Sept. It was not until late in the day, that this was confirmed and we bought two tickets for Bali.
- 12-Sept We took the boat trip direct to Komoto. Bird the area around the Komoto National Park headquarters in the afternoon. Sleep on boat deck at night.

- 13-Sept Boat traveled back to Labuanbajo in the morning. In the afternoon, we hired a bemo to take us to Puarlolo station. We bird there and return to Labuanbajo for the night.
- 14-Sept A hired Bemo drops us off at Potanwanka road, where we birded all morning. Rich continues to bird Potanwanka road for the rest of the day. In midday, I traveled via ojek to/from Puarlolo Station for early afternoon visit. Then, I returned to Potanwanka road for more late afternoon birding. Night in Labunbajo.
- 15-Sept We both bird Potanwanka road all day but fail to get satisfactory view of Wallace's Hanging-Parrot. Night at Labunbajo.
- 16-Sept Fly to Bali in the morning. At the Bali (Denpasar) international airport, we visit various airlines looking for a flight to Ambon. There were no direct flights and none that could be done in one day. The best deal was on Lion Air for \$120 per person. It involved flying back Jakarta and then connecting to a midnight flight for Ambon. Rich run into Poli, who gave us some contact info for the Moluccas.
- 17-Sept We arrive at Ambon at 06:00. At the Ambon airport, we checked with all the airlines for a flight to Saumlaki, Tanimbars. Trigana Airlines has a flight later that day and has open seats. We bought round trip tickets with a stopover at Kai Islands. Upon arriving in Saumlaki, we contact Higgy (local gofer) who picked us up on his ojek at the airport and took us to the Harapan Indah Hotel. We made arrangements with the hotel to stay at Kebun 45 (farm). We stocked up on food at the local shops in Saumlaki for the planned 4-day visit to the farm. A bemo, arranged by Higgy, dropped us of, along with our supplies, at Kebun 45, where we bird the rest of the day.
- 18-Sept Birded the patches of forest found around the farm and down the road for several kilometers
- 19-Sept Birded the roadside habitat for several kilometer beyond Kebun 45. Explored side trails and I found an old logging road leading into decent second-growth habitat.
- 20-Sept Birded main road and the old logging road in the morning. Returned to the farm and waited or prearranged Bemo back to Saumlaki. Checked into Harapan Indah Hotel and visited the Saumlaki Airport for Oriental Plover.
- 21-Sept We rented a bemo for the morning. Our aim was to find the area where King found the Lesser Masked Owl and Tanimbar Scrubfowl. With Higgi's help, we tried to find the long distance logging road mentioned by Hopf but failed. We did not have detailed direction and our best estimate was that this logging road should be somewhere around km 16. That turned out to be the area of the new airport. We spoke with locals and they told us that these old roads were obliterated by new ones created for the new airport only a week before our arrival. We inquired about any local hunter/trapper who might know the area and could help us find suitable habitat. Eventually we were led to a trapper who proved most helpful. He told us that he had a camp in the forest were the Scrubfowl nests. He agreed to guide us there for the following two days. In the afternoon, at the Saumlaki dock, I tried to find a Great Frigatebird among the Lesser but failed
- 22-Sept In the morning, I visited the few remaining mangrove patches around Saumlaki. In mid day we hired a bemo, picked up our hunter-guide and drove to the start of his trail. To my surprise, his trail was a continuation of the same logging road I discovered four days earlier. According to the trapper/guide, his camp was some 3 or four hours away. Along the way, we saw many traps and Rich, who preceded me, flushed one Scrubfowl from the trail. When we finally reached the hunter's camp, it was 6 hours later and 20 km from the start. We spent the night at his camp but heard no Lesser Masked-Owls.
- 23-Sept Before dawn, I heard the Scrubfowl calling. The trapper led us to an active nesting mount but we did not find the scrubfowl at the mount or near the camp. We started back to Saumlaki and along the trail I flushed a Tanimbar Scrubfowl with flew into a tree, where we got good looks at it. Later on, we flush two or three more but they disappeared into the trees like ghosts. Made it back to the road in the early afternoon dead tired and were picked up by a prearranged bemo.
- 24-Sept In the early morning, I took a ojek to Weluan road and birded there for several hours. Rich birded the mangroves around Saumlaki. In midday, we flew on Trigana Air from Saumlaki to Langgur, Kai Kecil. Checked into the Hotel Dragon and on ojek went to Ohoililer Beach, where we birded the remainder of that day. Returned to Langgur for the night by hitch hiking.
- 25-Sept On ojek we went again to Ohoililer Beach and birded the area in the morning. In midday returned on a bemo to Langgur. In afternoon we birded Taman Angrekk but fail to find much decent habitat there.
- 26-Sept We caught the morning boat from Langgur to Elat on Kai Besar. Hired ojek at dock to take us several kilometers outside town on the road that crosses the island. After finding Great Kai White-eye, we return to the dock and wait for the boat back to Langgur. In Langgur, we hired ojek to take us to a patch of forest along the main road between Tual and Dullah. Birded there for the remainder of day and returned to Hotel Dragon for the night.

- 27-Sept We returned to the roadside forest patch between Tual and Dullah but failed to find our last Kai endemic, the Kai Cuckoo-shrike. We decided we need more time on Kai to look for this bird, so we went to the airline office and pushed back (\$50/person) our return flight to Ambon by two days. In the afternoon, we explored the area west of the lake at Taman Angrekk and found several logging roads worth exploring.
- 28-Sept We returned to the best logging road we found the previous day and find the Kai Cuckoo-Shrikes in short order. In the afternoon, we went to Ohoililer Beach and looked for Cinnamon-chested Flycatcher but did not find it.
- 29-Sept I returned to Ohoililer Beach and birded the area in the morning. In the afternoon we flew from Langgur to Ambon on Trigana Air. Hired a taxi at the airport to take us to a recommended hotel near the ferry port of Tulehu-Hurnala. Caesar from Likes Tours met us at the hotel. Because we were short on time, we made arrangements with him for a vehicle and driver (Noke) for \$100 per day on Seram. Considering the location, we thought the rate to be excessive but reached a verbal agreement that a day would start on the hour we were picked up and end 24 hours later. Caesar also told us that if our return was delayed a few hours, it would not be a problem.
- 30-Sept We took ojek from the Hotel to the ferry terminal. Rich takes one ojek to a nearby forest patch in fruitless search for Ambon White-eye while I stay with the luggage. The morning speed ferry took us to Amahai, Seram. There at 10:30, we were met by Noke, our driver, with a 4x4 vehicle and his buddy. We drove into Masohi to get more money from ATM machines and check email. Then onto the cross-island road that traverses the Manusela National Park. We stop at the highest pass and bird down the road for several hours before heading for our accommodations in Sawai.
- 1-Oct Returned to the cross-island road and birded the road from the lowlands to the pass for most of the day. In late afternoon we returned to Sawai and chartered a small boat to take us to Sawai Island for Forsten's Scrubfowl.
- 2-Oct Again returned to the cross-island road and birded the road from bottom to the pass in the morning. In midday, we went to the little coastal village of Bessi and told our driver to wait for us as we would be returning within two hours. Here, we chartered a small boat to take us to Pulau Lusaolate, which is only 5 kilometers from the village. When we returned two hours later from the island, our driver and vehicle are gone. We waited for half an hour and then start walking. We didn't know what happened but after an hour he showed up along the road. We drove to Wahai, checked into a local hotel and went birding in the lowland part of the national park for the rest of the day and into the night.
- 3-Oct Having found our lowland target species here yesterday, we left Wahai before dawn and returned to the cross-island road near Sawai. We birded the road from the lowlands to the pass. In the early afternoon, I decided to revisit Lusaolate Island and try again for the Olive Honeyeater. Rich remained on the cross-island road with the understanding that I would pick him up at 5pm. So I went with Noke to Bessi and told him to wait there, as I would be back in less than 2 hours. Again I failed to find the Olive Honeyeater on this tiny island. Upon returning to Bessi, I could not find the vehicle or the driver. I waited for a while than started walking. An hour later he still had not showed up and it was late in the day. I hitched a ride on motorcycle for a few kilometers to the main road. Waited there and still no driver or vehicle. The sun was setting and I decided to walk. Along the way, I hitched a ride on dump truck but it only went a few kilometers. By dusk, I was at Sawai road junction and I heard a vehicle coming from behind. It is our vehicle. Our driver picked up a local buddy and apparently they went joyriding somewhere for four hours. We looked for Rich but he had given up and walked back to Sawai. I was more than furious at Noke.
- 4-Oct On our last day on Seram, we birded the lowlands near Sawai for an hour or so, then drove up to the pass and birded the road down the other side and back to Amahai. We check into a hotel in the early afternoon and tried to settle with our driver and that is when things became complicated. According to our understanding with Caesar, we owed for four days. Noke insists that we owe him for five days. Noke did not speak English but we found a local who did and he served as our translator. Noke would not budge; he insisted that we owed him another \$100. By Phone we contact Caesar from Likes Travel who made the original agreement with us but Caesar took Noke's position. The negotiation between Noke/Caesar and us went on for about an hour and the other side was not budging. They wanted \$100 for the additional two and half hours we used the vehicle that day. Eventually we gave Noke \$60 for those two and hours in question. We believed that we got a raw deal by both Noke and Caesar. It was contrary to our original understanding with Caesar and on top of this, Noke stranded us on two occasions.
- 5-Oct Rich phoned and texted Caesar about arranging a previously discussed speedboat from Ambon to Pulau Haruku for Moluccan Scrubfowl but did not get any answers. We took the morning ferry from Amahai to Ambon. Again Rich tried to reach Caesar several times but no answer. From our hotel, we visited a nearby forest patch

for Ambon White-eye and failed in seeing it. However, most of the day was spent waiting on Caesar to reply to our queries about the Scrubfowl but he never did.

6-Oct We flew from Ambon to Bali via Makassar.

7-Oct Rich tried to catch up on his notes. On an ojek, I went to Sanur and birded the Mertasari Temple mangrove area. That evening we both flew out of the country. Rich went home via Singapore. I flew back to Kuala Lumpur to get a new 60-day Indonesian visa.

8-13 Oct Obtained a 60-day visa at the Indonesian embassy in Kuala Lumpur. Went by bus to Cameron Highlands, where it rained heavily for much of two days. Caught the bus to Taman Negara NP and birded there for three days. Returned to Kuala Lumpur for the night of Oct. 13.

14-Oct Flew on Air Asia to Jakarta. All three airlines quoted me a price of \$300 for a one-way ticket to Ambon. However by pushing back my flight 10 days, the cost dropped to \$70 on Batavia Airlines. I took the airport bus to Bogor and minibus onto Cibodas, Java.

15-23 Oct Birded Gunung Gede-Pangrango National Park

24-Oct Took buses back to Jakarta Airport and flew overnight to Ambon.

25-Oct Arrived in Ambon in the early morning. Took bemo to Kota Ambon and checked into hotel. Caught up on lost sleep.

26-Oct Ran around Kota Ambon trying to make transportation arrangements for Wetar. It became extremely difficult as almost no one speaks English there.

27-Oct In the morning, I went to Soya Atas Village. Found some decent hill forest along the road and my target bird, the Ambon White-eye. In the afternoon, I again tried to get some info about going to Wetar and Buru but wasn't getting anywhere. Then I contact Damian, an English-speaking local gofer/guide. He agreed to meet with me tomorrow.

28-Oct With Damian, I went about town trying to arrange transportation for Wetar. At the dock we found the only ship that did a two-week circuit of the southern Moluccas but it was leaving shortly. The next opportunity would be two week later. In the past, Wetar was one of its ports-of-call but we learned from the captain that was no longer the case. It only went as far as Kisar and turned back. Kisar is also reachable by a small plane. Merpati flies there once a week on Mondays but they were booked fully for the next two weeks. The bottom line was that I could get to Kisar in about three weeks. Afterwards it was up to me to find my way to Wetar, bird there and return back with about three weeks left on my Indonesian Visa. Considering all the uncertainties, I decided to forgo Wetar for this trip and head for Buru. After asking around we found out the next Buru ferry was leaving that night from the Galala, 4 km east of Kota Ambon. I decide to take Damian along to Buru as I had no information on this island where no one speaks English. We take the overnight ferry from Galala.

29-Oct The ferry arrived at Nemlea, Buru at 05:00, we hired ojek to take us to the local hotel. I took an ojek outside the down and tried without success to find some birdable habitat. In the mean time, Damian inquired around town as to transportation, necessary formalities and permit, tourist information etc. In the afternoon, we go thru the lengthy procedure of registering with the police in Namlea.

30-Oct At the Nemlea bus station we get on a minibus for the village of Airbuaya. Arrived in Airbuaya at midday and reported to the local police station. Had lunch and hired ojek to take to the village of Bara. Arrived in Bara in the afternoon and report to the village chief, who offered us accommodations at his home. Visited a local forest patch for the rest of the day.

31-Oct Hired a local to show us the best forest around and any trails. Birded all day around Bara Village.

1-Nov Birded all day around Bara Village

2-Nov Left before dawn, tried to follow a river bed to reach higher elevation and different habitat. Having made no progress and after three hours gave up and returned to road tracks were I birded the rest of the day.

3-Nov Left at 2 am and went looking for nightbirds. Heard Lesser Masked-Owls in four different locations but failed to see any. This owl only calls one or twice and infrequently. Birded the area in the morning. Returned to Bara Village to take a nap. In the evening left the village with guide and Damian and went owling for the entire night. Saw, heard and recorded several of the Lesser Masked-Owls.

4-Nov Continued to bird throughout the morning. In the heat of the day, we returned to the village for lunch and a nap. In the afternoon, I birded along the shore while Damian was arranging a boat for tomorrow.

5-Nov At day break we went via a boat to Somel Beach. For the rest of the day I birded this area toward Waruba Village. At dusk took the boat back to Bara Village for the night.

6-Nov We caught the 05:00 bus from Bara to Nemlea and get off at the village of Wamlana. Inquired locally about getting transport on the logging road that leads inland to Danau Rana. By noon we boarded a earthmoving truck with 20 other locals and tons of supplies and head for Danau Rana. After seeing much habitat destruction

as we approached Danau Rana, I decided to return back to Wamlana on the same truck. We visit the village head and he offered us accommodations at his home for several nights.

- 7-Nov An ojek dropped me off at the start of yesterday's logging road before dawn. I walked and birded this steep and dusty road up to km 17 and back. Night at chief's house.
- 8-Nov At 2:00 am we go out with local kids to the Wamlana beach in search of Moluccan Scrubfowl. We take the morning bus for Nemlea. As we arrive at the dock, we see the day ferry pulling out. I buy a ticket for the overnight ferry and wait there until it departs at 20:00 hours. Night on the ferry.
- 9-Nov Arrived at Galala at 05:00, took bemo into Kota Ambon and my hotel. Went to a travel agency and bought airline ticket to Surabaya for tomorrow.
- 10-Nov Flew from Ambon to Surabaya, Java and took buses indirectly to Ijen.

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF OBSERVED SPECIES

Taxonomy, sequence and nomenclature follow Clements and subsequent supplements. This list contains only birds recorded by me unless otherwise indicated.

DUCKS, GEESE, AND WATERFOWL (ANSERIFORMES ANATIDAE)

Wandering Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna arcuata*)

Sumba: Yumbu, 2 at marshy area on 17/8

Pacific Black Duck (*Anas superciliosa*)

Flores: Danau Rana Mese, 12 on 7/9

Sunda Teal (*Anas gibberifrons*)

Sumba: Yumbu, 20 in marshy on 17/8

Bali: Sanur, 3 on 7/10

MEGAPODES (GALLIFORMES MEGAPODIIDAE)

Moluccan Scrubfowl (*Megapodius wallacei*)

Buru: Wamlana Beach, 2 on 8/11, know locally as Meleo

Tanimbar Scrubfowl (*Megapodius tenimberensis*)

Tanimbar: 1 seen well and others flushed on Logging track/trail on 23/9

Forsten's Scrubfowl (*Megapodius forstenii*)

Seram: Pulau Sawai, 2 on 1/10

Buru: Bara village, 2 on 30/10, 2 on 31/10, 3 on 1/11, 1 on 2/11

Orange-footed Scrubfowl (*Megapodius reinwardt*)

Sumba: Watumbela, 1 on 16/8

Flores: Kisol, 2 heard only

Kai Kecil: Taman Angrekk, 1 heard only

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, AND ALLIES (GALLIFORMES PHASIANIDAE)

Brown Quail (*Coturnix ypsilophora*)

Sumba: Yumbu, 4 on 13/8, 3 on 17/8

Timor: Oel Bubuk, 2 on 23/8. Bipolo, 2 on 27/8 and 4 on 29/8

Flores: Kisol, 2 on 30/8

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9

Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*)

Timor: Eolnasi, 5 on 25/8

Green Junglefowl (*Gallus varius*)

Flores: Potawangka Road, 1 on 14/9 and 1 on 15/9

GREBES (PODICIPEDIFORMES PODICIPEDIDAE)

Little Grebe (*Tachybaptus ruficollis*)

Flores: Danau Rana Mese, 3 on 8/9

Kai Kecil: Taman Angrekk, 2 on 25/9

BOOBIES AND GANNETS (PELECANIFORMES SULIDAE)

Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*)

Seram-Ambon ferry: 1 on 6/10

PELICANS (PELECANIFORMES PELECANIDAE)

Australian Pelican (*Pelecanus conspicillatus*)

Tanimbar: Saumlaki, 1 on 21/9

CORMORANTS AND SHAGS (PELECANIFORMES PHALACROCORACIDAE)

Little Black Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax sulcirostris*)

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 1 on 21/9

Kai Kecil: Taman Angrekk, 5 on 25/9

Seram: Pulau Luscaolate, 2 on 2/10 and 100 on 3/10

Little Pied Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax melanoleucos*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 1 on 22/9

Buru: Bara village, 2 on 4/11

FRIGATEBIRDS (PELECANIFORMES FREGATIDAE)

Great Frigatebird (*Fregata minor*)

Kai Kecil: Tual bridge, 1 on 25/9, 2 on 26/9. Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 25/9

Buru: Bara village, 5 on 3/11

Lesser Frigatebird (*Fregata ariel*)

Common and greatly outnumbers previous species throughout the area

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERNS (CICONIIFORMES ARDEIDAE)

Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*)

Buru: Nemlea, 1 on 29/10

Great Egret (*Ardea alba*)

A few on Bali, Sumba, Timor Seram and Buru

Intermediate Egret (*Mesophoyx intermedia*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8

White-faced Heron (*Egretta novaehollandiae*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)

Small numbers Bali, Sumba, Timor and Seram

Pacific Reef-Heron (*Egretta sacra*)

Komoto: 1 on 12/9

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 1 on 21/9

Seram: Pulau Luscaolate, 1 on 2/10 and 3 on 3/10

Pied Heron (*Egretta picata*)

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 3 on 21/9

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Recorded on Sumba, Timor, Buru

Javan Pond-Heron (*Ardeola speciosa*)

Bali: 20 on 12/8 and 10 on 7/10

Sumba: 1 on 17/8

Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)

Bali: 1 on 12/8

Timor: Bipolo, 4 on 27/8

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 3/11

Rufous Night-Heron (*Nycticorax caledonicus*)

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 3/11

IBISES AND SPOONBILLS (CICONIIFORMES THRESKIORNITHIDAE)

Australian Ibis (*Threskiornis molucca*)

Seram: Sawai, 1 on 4/10

Royal Spoonbill (*Platalea regia*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 22/8

OSPREY (FALCONIFORMES PANDIONIDAE)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 1 on 21/9

Buru: Bara Village, 1 on 30/10 and 2/11

HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES (FALCONIFORMES ACCIPITRIDAE)

Pacific Baza (*Aviceda subcristata*)

Timor: Eolnasi, 1 on 25/8

Seram: Wahai: 1 on 2/10

Black-shouldered Kite (*Elanus caeruleus*)

Sumba: Lewa fields, 1 on 19/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8 and 26/8

Black Kite (*Milvus migrans*)

Sumba: Lewa fields, 15/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 26/8 and 27/8

Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*)

Few on Sumba, Timor, Komoto, Seram, Ambon and Buru

White-bellied Sea-Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucogaster*)

Seram: Pulau Luscaolate, 1 on 2/10

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 30/10, 31/10, 1/11 and 5/11

Short-toed Eagle (*Circaetus gallicus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8 and 29/8

Variable Goshawk (*Accipiter hiogaster*)

Seram: Sawai, 1 on 4/10

Brown Goshawk (*Accipiter fasciatus*)

Sumba: Lewa km 51 track, 1 on 17/8

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 20-8, Bipolo, 1 on 22/8

Black Eagle (*Ictinaetus malayensis*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 1/10, 2/10 and 3/10

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 30/10, 1/11, 5/11. Logging road, 3 on 7/11

Bonelli's Eagle (*Aquila fasciata*)

Flores: (renschii) Poco Ranaka, 2 on 4/9 and 5/9. Pagal forest patch, 1 on 9/9

Rufous-bellied Eagle (*Lophotrioichis kienerii*)

Flores: Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9

Flores Hawk-Eagle (*Nisaetus floris*)

Flores: Kisol, 1 adult on 1/9

FALCONS AND CARACARAS (FALCONIFORMES FALCONIDAE)

Spotted Kestrel (*Falco moluccensis*)

Few on Sumba, Timor, Tanimbars, Seram and Buru

Oriental Hobby (*Falco severus*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 1 on 3/10 and 4/10

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)

Ambon, Soya Atas road, 1 on 27/10

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS (GRUIFORMES RALLIDAE)

White-breasted Waterhen (*Amaurornis phoenicurus*)

Bali: Sanur, 1 on 7/10

White-browed Crake (*Porzana cinerea*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 27/8

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

Flores: Danau Rana Mese, 3 on 7/9, 5 on 8/9

PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS (CHARADRIIFORMES CHARADRIIDAE)

Black-bellied Plover (*Pluvialis squatarola*)

Bali: Sanur, 2 on 7/10

Pacific Golden-Plover (*Pluvialis fulva*)

Buru: Bara village, 3 on 4/11

Greater Sand-Plover (*Charadrius leschenaultii*)

Bali: Sanur, 2 on 7/10

Javan Plover (*Charadrius javanicus*)

Sumba: Yumbu marsh, 2 on 17/8

Bali: Sanur, 4 on 7/10

Little Ringed Plover (*Charadrius dubius*)

Sumba: Yumbu marsh, 1 on 17/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8

Oriental Plover (*Charadrius veredus*)

Tanimbars: Saumlaki Airport, 20 on 20/9 and 10 on 24/9

Kai Islands: Langgur airport, 2 on 29/9

Buru: Nemlea, 20 on 29/10

STILTS AND AVOCETS (CHARADRIIFORMES RECURVIROSTRIDAE)

Black-winged Stilt (*Himantopus himantopus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES (CHARADRIIFORMES SCOLOPACIDAE)

Common Sandpiper (*Actitis hypoleucos*)

Few on Bali, Tanimbars, Kai Kecil, Seram and Buru

Gray-tailed Tattler (*Tringa brevipes*)

Bali: Sanur, 2 on 7/10

Buru: Bara village, a few most days

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 22/8 and 3 on 27/8

Bali, Sanur, 1 on 7/10

Marsh Sandpiper (*Tringa stagnatilis*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8

Common Redshank (*Tringa totanus*)

Bali: Sanur, 2 on 12/8 and 1 on 7/10

Little Curlew (*Numenius minutus*)

Tanimbars: Saumlaki Airport, 3 on 20/9 and 24/9

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 28/9

Seram: Pulau Sawai, 1 on 1/10

Bali: Sanur, 1 on 7-10

Buru: Bara Village, 3 on 2/11

Far Eastern Curlew (*Numenius madagascariensis*)

Bali: 10 on 12/8

Ruddy Turnstone (*Arenaria interpres*)

Bali: Sanur, 10 on 7/10

Sanderling (*Calidris alba*)

Bali: Sanur, 15 on 7/10

Red-necked Stint (*Calidris ruficollis*)

Bali: Sanur, 2 on 7/10

Curlew Sandpiper (*Calidris ferruginea*)

Bali: Sanur, 3 on 7/10

Red Phalarope (*Phalaropus fulicarius*)

Komoto: boat ride, 20 on 12/9

Seram: Pulau Luscaolate boat, 2 on 2/10 and 3/10. Seram-Ambon ferry, 10 on 5/10

BUTTONQUAIL (CHARADRIIFORMES TURNICIDAE)

Red-backed Buttonquail (*Turnix maculosus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 27/8

Sumba Buttonquail (*Turnix everetti*)

Sumba: Yumbu, 3 on 17/8

PRATINCOLES AND COURSERS (CHARADRIIFORMES GLAREOLIDAE)

Australian Pratincole (*Stiltia isabella*)

Sumba: Yumbu marsh, 2 on 17/8

Tanimbars: Saumlaki airport, 3 on 20/9 and 4 on 24/9

Kai Kecil: Langgur Airport, 1 on 29/9

GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS (CHARADRIIFORMES LARIDAE)

Black-naped Tern (*Sterna sumatrana*)

Komoto: boat trip, 10 on 12/9

Seram: Pulau Sawai, 4 on 1/10

Great Crested Tern (*Thalasseus bergii*)

Komoto: boat trip, 10 on 12/9

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 2 on 21/9

PIGEONS AND DOVES (COLUMBIFORMES COLUMBIDAE)

Metallic Pigeon (*Columba vitiensis*)

Timor: (metallica) Gunung Mutis, 3 on 23/8 and 24/8

Island Collared-Dove (*Streptopelia bitorquata*)

Komoto: 2 on 12/9

Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*)

Few on Timor, Komoto, Tanimbars, Bali

Dusky Cuckoo-Dove (*Macropygia magna*)

Timor:(magna) Eolnasi, 2 on 25/8

Tanimbars:(timorlaensis) Kebun 45, 2 on 17/9, 10 on 18/9, 1 on 19/9

Slender-billed Cuckoo-Dove (*Macropygia amboinensis*)

Daily on Seram and Buru

Little Cuckoo-Dove (*Macropygia ruficeps*)

Flores: Pagal forest patch, 1 on 10/9

Slaty Cuckoo-Dove (*Turacoena modesta*)

Timor: Eolnesi, 1 on 25/9, 3 on 28/9

Emerald Dove (*Chalcophaps indica*)

Sumba: (indica) Langgaliru River, 1 on 15/8

Timor: (timorensis) Camplong, 2 on 20/9, Bipolo, 1 on 22/8, 1 on 26/8 and 1 on 27/8

Flores: (indica) Pagal, 1 on 10/9. Potawangka road, 2 on 14/9 and 10 on 15/9

Tanimbars: (timorensis) Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9 and 19/9

Kai Kecil: (timorensis) Ohoililer Beach, 3 on 25/9

Buru:(indica) Bara Village, few daily

Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*)

Bali: Sanur, 10 on 7/10

Barred Dove (*Geopelia maugei*)

Common on Sumba, Timor, Komoto, Tanimbars and Kai Kecil

Pompadour Green-Pigeon (*Treron pompadora*)

Buru: (aromatica) Bara Village, 1 on 3/11

Sumba Green-Pigeon (*Treron teysmannii*)

Sumba: Watumbela, 1 on 16/8

Flores Green-Pigeon (*Treron floris*)

Flores: Pagal forest patch, 8 on 9/9 and 2 on 10/9

Black-backed Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus cinctus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8 and 2 on 27/8. Eolnasi, 1 on 23/8, 1 on 25/8 and 5 on 28/8. Gunung Mutis, 2 on 24/8

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 3 on 5/9 and 1 on 9/09. Golo Lusang, 1 on 6/9

Red-naped Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus dohertyi*)

Sumba: Watumbela, 3 on 16/8. Lewa km 69, 1 on 16/8. 51 track, 1 on 17/8 and 18/8

Wallace's Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus wallacii*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9 and 10 on 18/9. Logging road, 1 on 19/9

Superb Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus superbus*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 3/10 and 4/10

Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus regina*)

Timor: (flavicollis) common in all lowland forest

Tanimbars: (xanthogaster) Common

White-breasted Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus rivoli*)

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 25/9 and 4 on 29/9. Polisi forest patch, 1 on 27/9. Logging road, 1 on 27/9 and on 28/9

Seram: Pass road, 2 on 30/9 and 1 on 4/10

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 2/11. Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

Claret-breasted Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus viridis*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 1 on 1/10

Buru: Bara village, 5 on 31/10 and 1/11

Black-naped Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus melanospilus*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 5 on 14/8 and 15/8. km 69, 2 on 16/8

Flores: Kisol, 10 on 31/8, 1 on 1/9 and 2 on 2/9. Potanwangka Road, 1 on 14/9

Green Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula aenea*)

Few on Sumba, Komoto and Flores

White-eyed Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula perspicillata*)

Seram: (neglecta) Common at most sites

Buru: (perspicillata) Common at most sites

Elegant Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula concinna*)

Tanimbars: common

Kai Kecil: Common

Pink-headed Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula rosacea*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 27/8 seen well by Richard but only glimpsed by me

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 2 on 17/9

Dark-backed Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula lacernulata*)

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 5 on 4/9 and 1 on 5/9

Timor Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula cineracea*)

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 1 on 5/9

Pied Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula bicolor*)

Kai Kecil: Common

Seram: Common

Buru: Common

Long-tailed Mountain-Pigeon (*Gymnophaps mada*)

Seram: (stalker) Pass road, 1 on 30/9 and 3 on 1/10

Buru: (mada) Bara village, 3 on 3/11, 2 on 5/11. Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

COCKATOOS (PSITTACIFORMES CACATUIDAE)

Tanimbar Corella (*Cacatua goffiniana*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 3 on 18/9, 1 on 19/9 and 3 on 20/9. Logging road, 2 on 23/9

Yellow-crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua sulphurea*)

Sumba: (citrinocristata) Watumbela, 5 on 16/8. Km 68, 3 on 16/8

Komoto: (parvula) 25 on 12/9

Sulphur-crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua galerita*)

Kai Kecil: (introduced) Polisi forest patch, 3 on 26/9 and 2 on 27/9. Logging road, 1 on 28/9

Salmon-crested Cockatoo (*Cacatua moluccensis*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 2 on 1/10, 2 on 2/10. pass road, 3 on 4/10

PARROTS (PSITTACIFORMES PSITTACIDAE)

Red Lory (*Eos bornea*)

Seram: (bornea) common

Buru: (cyanonothus) common

Blue-streaked Lory (*Eos reticulata*)

Tanimbars: common in forest area

Rainbow Lorikeet (*Trichoglossus haematodus*)

Sumba: (fortis) km 51 track, 4 on 15/8 1 on 17/8 and 2 on 18/8. Watumbela, 10 on 16/8

Timor: (capistratus) Bipolo, 4 on 22/8, 5 on 26/8 and 7 on 27/8

Flores: (weberi) Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9 and 2 on 6/9. Poco Ranaka, 2 on 9/9

Seram: (haematodus) Pass road, 5 on 30/9, 12 on 1/10, 1 on 3/10 and 5 on 4/10

Buru: (haematodus) Bara village, small numbers daily

Olive-headed Lorikeet (*Trichoglossus euteles*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 22-8. Gunung Mutis, 30 on 24/8

Yellow-capped Pygmy-Parrot (*Micropsitta keiensis*)

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 25/9. Polisi forest patch, 1 on 26/9 and 4 on 27/9

Red-cheeked Parrot (*Geoffroyus geoffroyi*)

Small numbers on Sumba, Timor, Flores, Tanimbar, Kai, Seram and Buru

Buru Racquet-tail (*Prioniturus mada*)

Buru: Bara Village, 2 on 5/11. Wamlana logging road, 10 on 7/11

Great-billed Parrot (*Tanygnathus megalorynchos*)

Flores: Potawangka road, 2 on 14/9 and 3 on 15/9

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 2 on 1/10 and 3 on 4/10

Buru: Bara village, 2 on 31/10, 1 on 2/11, 5 on 3/11 and 10 on 5/11

Eclectus Parrot (*Eclectus roratus*)

Sumba: Lewa km 69, 4 on 16/8,

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9 and 19/9

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 25/9

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 1 on 2/10, 8 on 3/10

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 1/11, 4 on 3/11, 1 on 4/11 and 7 on 5/11

Moluccan King-Parrot (*Alisterus amboinensis*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 3/10 and 4/10

Buru: Bara village, 5 on 31/10, 3 on 1/11, 1 on 2/11 and 5/11. Wamlana logging road, 6 on 7/11

Olive-shouldered Parrot (*Aprosmictus jonquillaceus*)

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 21/8, Bipolo, 3 on 22/8, Oelnasi, 1 on 23/9 and 4 on 28/8

CUCKOOS (CUCULIFORMES CUCULIDAE)

Oriental Cuckoo (*Cuculus optatus*)

Flores: (lepidus) Danau Rana Mese, 2 on 8/9

Buru: (saturatus) Bara village, 2 on 31/10, 1 on 3/11

Brush Cuckoo (*Cacomantis variolosus*)

Timor: (whitei) Oelnasi, 2 on 28/8

Seram: (sepulcralis) 1 on 4/10

Shining Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx lucidus*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 2 on 14/8

Little Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx minutillus*)

Timor: (russatus) Camplong, 2 on 20/8

Tanimbars: (crassirostris) Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9. Logging road, 2 on 20/9

Kai Kecil: (crassirostris) Polisi forest patch, 1 on 26/9 and 27/9

Australian Koel (*Eudynamis cyanocephalus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8, 2 on 29/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 28/8

Tanimbars: Logging road, heard only on 23/9

Kai Kecil: Taman Angrekk, heard only on 25/9. Logging road, 1 on 27/9

Kai Coucal (*Centropus spilopterus*)

Kai Kecil, Ohoililer Beach, 3 on 25/9. Polisi forest patch, 2 on 27/9. Logging road, 1 on 28/9

Lesser Coucal (*Centropus bengalensis*)

Sumba: Km 51 track, 1 on 18/8

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 1 on 8/9 and 9/9

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 1 on 3/10

BARN-OWLS (STRIGIFORMES TYTONIDAE)

Lesser Masked-Owl (*Tyto sororcula*)

Buru: Bara Village, 4 only heard on 3/11, 2 seen + 3 heard on 4/11, 1 only heard on 5/11, know locally as the ghost bird

Barn Owl (*Tyto alba*)

Sumba: Lewa km 70, 1 on 14/8 and 16/8

OWLS (STRIGIFORMES STRIGIDAE)

Flores Scops-Owl (*Otus alfredi*)

Flores: Danau Rana Mese, 2 seen 1 heard on 7/9, 3 only heard on 8/9. Poco Ranaka, 4 only heard on 8/9

Wallace's Scops-Owl (*Otus silvicola*)

Flores: Kisol, heard only on 31/8, 1/9, 2/9. Danau Rana Mese, 1 seen 4 heard on 7/9, 2 only heard on 8/9

Moluccan Scops-Owl (*Otus magicus*)

Flores: (albiventris) Kisol, 1 seen and 5 heard on 31/8, 3 seen and 7 heard on 1/9

Seram: (magicus) heard nightly at Sawai, 2 seen Wahai lowlands on 2/10

Buru: (magicus) Bara village, 1 seen and 5 heard on 3/11, 1 seen plus 10 heard on 4/11

Sumba Boobook (*Ninox rudolfi*)

Sumba: Km 51 track, 1 on 17/8 and 18/8

Southern Boobook (*Ninox boobook*)

Timor: (fusca) Camplong, 1 seen and 3 heard on 21/8

Little Sumba Hawk-Owl (*Ninox sumbaensis*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 1 seen and another heard on 17/8, 1 seen on 18/8

Moluccan Hawk-Owl (*Ninox squamipila*)

Tanimbars: (forbesi) Kebun 45, 1 seen and another heard on 18/9. Logging track, 2 only heard on 23/9

Seram: (squamipila) 1 seen at Wahai Lowlands. Rich heard others at Sawai

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES (CAPRIMULGIFORMES CAPRIMULGIDAE)

Large-tailed Nightjar (*Caprimulgus macrurus*)

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, only heard on 24/9

Buru: Bara village, 5 on 2/11 and 3 on 4/11, Wamlana beach, 1 on 8/11

Mees's Nightjar (*Caprimulgus meesi*)

Sumba: Watumbela, 1 on 16/8. Km 51 track, 1 on 17/8 and 2 on 18/8

Flores: Kisol, 2 seen and 5 heard on 31/8, 5 only heard on 1/9

Savanna Nightjar (*Caprimulgus affinis*)

Timor: Bipolo, 3 on 22/8

SWIFTS (APODIFORMES APODIDAE)

Glossy Swiftlet (*Collocalia esculenta*)

Common, seen on Sumba, Timor, Flores, Tanimbars, Kai, Ambon, Seram and Buru

Cave Swiftlet (*Collocalia linchi*)

Bali: common

Moluccan Swiftlet (*Aerodramus infuscatus*)

Seram: (ceramensis) Pass road, 20 on 1/10 and 10 on 2/10

Buru: (ceramensis) Bara village, abundant. Wamlana logging road, 10 on 7/11

Uniform Swiftlet (*Aerodramus vanikorensis*)

Tanimbars: Logging track, 2 on 22/9

Kai Kecil: small numbers daily. Kai Besar, 3 on 26/9

Edible-nest Swiftlet (*Aerodramus fuciphagus*)

Flores: Kisol, 10 on 31/8

TREESWIFTS (APODIFORMES HEMIPROCENIDAE)

Moustached Treeswift (*Hemiprocne mystacea*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 1 on 4/10

Buru: Bara village, 2 on 5/11

KINGFISHERS (CORACIIFORMES ALCEDINIDAE)

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 31/10, 5/11, 2 on 2/11. Wamlana, 1 on 7/11

Small Blue Kingfisher (*Alcedo coerulescens*)

Bali: Sanur, 7 on 12/8 and 2 on 7/10

Lazuli Kingfisher (*Todiramphus lazuli*)

Seram: Wahai lowlands, 2 on 2/10. Sawai lowlands, Rich had one on 3/10

Forest Kingfisher (*Todiramphus macleayii*)

Tanimbars: Logging track, 1 on 18/9

Collared Kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris*)

The common kingfisher throughout, Seen on Sumba, Timor, Flores, Tanimbars, Kai, Seram and Buru

Cinnamon-banded Kingfisher (*Todiramphus australasia*)

Sumba: Watumbela, 1 on 16/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 29/8

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9. Logging road, 20/9

Sacred Kingfisher (*Todiramphus sanctus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 5 on 22/8, 2 on 27/8

Komoto: 1 on 12/9

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 22/9

Kai Kecil: Taman Angrekk, 1 on 28/9

Seram: Pulau Sawai, 1 on 1/10

White-rumped Kingfisher (*Caridonax fulgidus*)

Seram: Kisol, 1 seen 2 heard on 31/8. Danau Rana Mese, 1 on 8/9. Pagal, 1 seen and 5 heard on 10/9, Potawangka road, several heard on 14/9 and 15/9

BEE-EATERS (CORACIIFORMES MEROPIDAE)

Blue-tailed Bee-eater (*Merops philippinus*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 2 on 18/8

Timor: Bipolo, 3 on 22/8 and 10 on 27/8

Flores: Kisol, 1 on 31/8

Rainbow Bee-eater (*Merops ornatus*)

The common bee-eater on Lesser Sundas, seen on Sumba, Timor, Komoto and Flores

ROLLERS (CORACIIFORMES CORACIIDAE)

Dollarbird (*Eurystomus orientalis*)

Tanimbars: Logging track, 1 on 18/9 and 22/9

Kai Kecil: few seen daily. Kai Besar, 1 on 26/9

Seram: Wahai lowlands, 1 on 2/10

HORNBILLS (CORACIIFORMES BUCEROTIDAE)

Sumba Hornbill (*Aceros everetti*)

Sumba: Langgaliru River, 3 on 15/8. Watumbela, 1 on 16-8. Km 69, 1 on 16/8

Blyth's Hornbill (*Aceros plicatus*)

Seram: Pass road, a few seen daily

WOODPECKERS (PICIFORMES PICIDAE)

Brown-capped Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos moluccensis*)

Bali: 1 on 12/8

Flores: Kisol, 1 on 30/8 and 31/8. Poco Ranaka, 3 on 5/9. Pagal, 2 on 6/9 and 9/9. Potawangka road, 1 on 14/9

Fulvous-breasted Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos macei*)

Bali: Sanur, 1 on 7/10

PITTAS (PASSERIFORMES PITTIDAE)

Red-bellied Pitta (*Pitta erythrogaster*)

Kai Kecil: Taman Angrekk, heard only on 25/9

Buru: (rubrinucha) Bara village, 1 on 31/10 and 3/11

Elegant Pitta (*Pitta elegans*)

Sumba: Km 51 track, 2 on 15/8. Km 69, 1 on 16/8

Flores: Kisol, 1 seen and 5 heard on 31/8, 1 seen on 2/9. Pagal, 1 seen on 10/9 and others heard on 9/9 and 10/9.

Potanwanka road, 1 seen and others heard on 14/9

HONEYEATERS (PASSERIFORMES MELIPHAGIDAE)

Sunda Honeyeater (*Lichmera lombokia*)

Flores: seen at higher elevations at Danau Rana Mese, Golo Lusang and Poco Ranaka

Indonesian Honeyeater (*Lichmera limbata*)

Sumba: Lewa fields, 1 on 19/8

Timor: Bipolo, 5 on 27/8

White-tufted Honeyeater (*Lichmera squamata*)

Tanimbars: In brushy area the most abundant bird, seen at Kebun 45, Saumlaki, Logging track and Weluan Beach

Buru Honeyeater (*Lichmera deningeri*)

Buru: Wamlana logging road, 2 on 7/11

Seram Honeyeater (*Lichmera monticola*)

Seram: Pass road, 3 on 1/10 and 2 on 3/10

Yellow-eared Honeyeater (*Lichmera flavicans*)

Timor: Camplong, 6 on 20/8. Bipolo, 3 on 22/8 and 1 on 27/8. Oel Bubuk, 3 on 23/8. Gunung Mutis, 1 on 24/8 and 25/8.

Oelnasi, 1 on 25/8 and 28/8

Seram Myzomela (*Myzomela blasii*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 3/10 and 4/10

Sumba Myzomela (*Myzomela dammermani*)

Sumba: Km 69, 1 on 16/8

Wakolo Myzomela (*Myzomela wakoloensis*)

Seram: Pass road, 3 on 1/10

Buru: Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

Banda Myzomela (*Myzomela boiei*)

Tanimbars, Logging track, 1 on 20/9

Black-breasted Myzomela (*Myzomela vulnerata*)

Timor: Camplong, 6 on 20/8 and 2 on 21/8. Bipolo, 3 on 22/8 and 26/8, 5 on 27/8. Oel Bubuk, 1 on 23/8. Oelnasi, 3 on 29/8

Streak-breasted Honeyeater (*Meliphaga reticulata*)

Timor: Commonly seen at all lowland forest areas.

Timor Friarbird (*Philemon inornatus*)

Timor: Oelnasi, 1 on 23/8, 3 on 25/8 and 5 on 28/8. Bipolo, 1 on 27/8 and 29/8

Black-faced Friarbird (*Philemon moluccensis*)

Tanimbars: (*plumigenis*) Kebun 45, few seen daily

Kai Kecil: (*plumigenis*) few seen daily

Buru: (*moluccensis*) Bara village, few seen daily

Seram Friarbird (*Philemon subcorniculatus*)

Seram: Pass road, 2 on 1/10, 1 on 2/10 and 4 on 4/10

Helmeted Friarbird (*Philemon buceroides*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 4 on 15/8 and 2 on 17/8

Flores: Small numbers seen at all low or mid elevation forests.

THORNBILLS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES ACANTHIZIDAE)

Golden-bellied Gerygone (*Gerygone sulphurea*)

Flores: Pagal forest patch, 2 on 10/9

Bali: Sanur, 1 on 7/10

Plain Gerygone (*Gerygone inornata*)

Timor: Camplong, 2 on 20/8 and 3 on 21/8. Oelnasi, 2 on 23/8, 1 on 25/8 and 2 on 28/8. Gunung Mutis, 7 on 25/8

Rufous-sided Gerygone (*Gerygone dorsalis*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 17/9 and 18/9. Logging road, 3 on 19/9, 5 on 20/9 and 1 on 23/9. Saumlaki, 3 on 22/9

WOODSWALLOWS (PASSERIFORMES ARTAMIDAE)

White-breasted Woodswallow (*Artamus leucorhynchus*)

Timor: Oelnasi, 1 on 25/8

Flores: Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9 and 2 on 6/9. Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9 and 9/9

Komoto: 1 on 12/9

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 4 on 18/9 and 19/9

Seram: Pulau Luscaolate, 2 on 3/10

Black-faced Woodswallow (*Artamus cinereus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 26/8 and 4 on 27/8

CUCKOO-SHRIKES (PASSERIFORMES CAMPEPHAGIDAE)

Wallacean Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina personata*)

Timor: Bipolo, 3 on 27/8

Flores: Potawangka road, 1 on 14/9

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9. Logging track, 1 on 20/9 and 22/9

Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina novaehollandiae*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 29/8

Moluccan Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina atriceps*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 3 on 4/10

Buru Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina fortis*)

Buru: Bara village, 2 on 5/11. Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

Cicadabird (*Coracina tenuirostris*)

Kai Kecil: Polisi forest patch, 1 on 26/9 and 27/9

Sumba Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina dohertyi*)

Sumba: Km 51 track, 3 on 14/8 and 1 on 18/8.

Flores: Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9. Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9. Danau Rana Mese, 1 on 8/9

Kai Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina dispar*)

Kai Kecil: Logging track, 2 on 28/9. Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 29/9

Pale-gray Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina ceramensis*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 30/9. Sawai lowlands, 1 on 4/10

Buru: Bara village, few daily. Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

White-shouldered Triller (*Lalage sueurii*)

Bali: 4 on 12/8 and 2 on 7/10

Sumba: Yumbu, 2 on 13/8 and 17/8

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 22/8, 3 on 26/8, 10 on 27/8 and 2 on 29/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 23/8 and 25/8, 2 on 28/8.

White-browed Triller (*Lalage moesta*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 4 on 18/9 and 19/9. Logging track, 3 on 20/9

Varied Triller (*Lalage leucomela*)

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 24/9 and 3 on 25/9. Taman Angrekk, 3 on 25/9. Polisi forest patch, 5 on 26/9. Logging track, 5 on 27/9 and 2 on 28/9

Flores Minivet (*Pericrocotus lansbergei*)

Flores: few seen daily at all highland sites

WHISTLERS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES PACHYCEPHALIDAE)

Island Whistler (*Pachycephala phaionota*)

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 24/9, 2 on 25/9 and 6 on 28/9

Fawn-breasted Whistler (*Pachycephala orpheus*)

Timor: small numbers at all sites

Golden Whistler (*Pachycephala pectoralis*)

Sumba: (*fulviventris*) km 51 track, 2 on 14/8, 4 on 15/8. Km 69, 1 on 16/8

Flores: (*fulvotincta*) Kisol, 5 on 31/8, 3 on 1/9. Pagal, 2 on 9/9 and 3 on 10/9. Puarlolo, 1 on 14/9

Komoto: (*fulvotincta*) 3 on 12/9

Tanimbars: (*fuscoflava*) Logging track, 1 on 23/9

Seram: (*macrorhynchus*) Pass road, 1 on 2/10 and 4/10, 2 on 3/10

Buru: (*buruensis*) 1 on 1/11

Bare-throated Whistler (*Pachycephala nudigula*)

Flores: Golo Lusang, 10 on 4/9 and 7 on 6/9. Poco Ranaka, 10 on 5/9 and 4 on 9/9. Danau Rana Mese, 5 on 8/9

Drab Whistler (*Pachycephala griseonota*)

Seram: (*griseonota*) Pass road, 1 on 3/10

Buru: (*examinata*) Bara village, 4/11

Wallacean Whistler (*Pachycephala arctitorquis*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 17/9. Logging track, 1 on 20/9

SHRIKES (PASSERIFORMES LANIIDAE)

Long-tailed Shrike (*Lanius schach*)

Timor: Oelnasi, 1 on 25/8 and 2 on 28/8

OLD WORLD ORIOLES (PASSERIFORMES ORIOLIDAE)

Timor Oriole (*Oriolus melanotis*)

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 20/8 and 2 on 21/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 25/8. Bipolo, 2 on 26/8, 27/8 and 29/8

Buru Oriole (*Oriolus bouroensis*)

Tanimbars: (*decipiens*) Kebun 45, 2 on 18-9

Buru: (*bouroensis*) few seen daily at Bara village and Wamlana logging road

Seram Oriole (*Oriolus forsteni*)

Seram: Pass road, 2 on 2/10 and 3 on 3/10

Black-naped Oriole (*Oriolus chinensis*)

Few on Sumba, Komoto and Flores

Green Figbird (*Sphecotheres viridis*)

Timor: common at lowland fruiting trees

Kai Kecil: Ohoililer Beach, 8 on 25/9 and 2 on 28/9

DRONGOS (PASSERIFORMES DICRURIDAE)

Wallacean Drongo (*Dicrurus densus*)

Sumba: (*sumbae*) km 51 track, 4 on 14/8, 5 on 15/8 and on 17/8

Timor: (*densus*) Bipolo, 1 on 26/8

Flores: (*bimaensis*) small numbers at all sites

Komoto: (*bimaensis*) 4 on 12/9

Tanimbars: (*kuehni*) Kebun 45, 1 on 19/9

Kai Kecil: (*magalornis*) few all sites

Spangled Drongo (*Dicrurus bracteatus*)

Seram: few on the pass road and Sawai lowlands.

Ambon: 2 on Soya Atas village road.

Buru: few near Bara village

FANTAILS (PASSERIFORMES RHIPIDURIDAE)

Northern Fantail (*Rhipidura rufiventris*)

Timor: common at all lowland forest areas

Kai Kecil: few at all sites

Seram: few along the pass road

Buru: common

Pied Fantail (*Rhipidura javanica*)

Bali: 1 on 12/8

Willie-wagtail (*Rhipidura leucophrys*)

Buru: Bara village, small numbers recorded daily

Brown-capped Fantail (*Rhipidura diluta*)

Flores: recorded in small numbers at Kisol, Golo Lusang, Poco Ranaka, Danau Rana Mese and Pagal

Cinnamon-tailed Fantail (*Rhipidura fusciorufa*)

Tanimbars: recorded daily around Kebun 45 and logging track

Streaky-breasted Fantail (*Rhipidura dedemi*)

Seram: pass road, few recorded daily

Long-tailed Fantail (*Rhipidura opistherythra*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9. Logging track, 3 on 20/9 and 1 on 23/9

Rufous Fantail (*Rhipidura rufifrons*)

Sumba: (sumbensis) few recorded at most Lewa sites

Timor: (semicollaris) common in lowland forest sites

Flores: (semicollaris) Kisol, 3 on 31/8 and 1 on 1/9. Potawangka, 1 on 15/9

Tanimbars: (hamadryas) a few at all forest sites

Kai Kecil: (squamata) Ohoililer Beach, 1 on 25/9 and 28/9

MONARCH FLYCATCHERS (PASSERIFORMES MONARCHIDAE)

Black-naped Monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*)

Flores: Kisol, 3 on 31/8 and 1 on 1/9, Puarlolo, 2 on 13/9. Potawangka, 2 on 14/9 and 15/9

Komoto: 3 on 12/9

Asian Paradise-Flycatcher (*Terpsiphone paradisi*)

Sumba: km 69, 1 on 16/8

Flores: few recorded at Kisol, Pagal, Potawangka road and Puarlolo

Island Monarch (*Monarcha cinerascens*)

Kai Kecil, few recorded daily at all sites

Seram: Pulau Sawai, 1 on 1/10

Buru: Bara Village, 1 on 31/10

Loetoe Monarch (*Monarcha castus*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 2 on 18/9. Logging road, 1 on 19/9 and 3 on 20/9

Buru: Bara village, 4 on 31/10 and 2 on 4/11. Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

Black-bibbed Monarch (*Monarcha mundus*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9 and 19/9. Logging track, 3 on 20/9 and 1 on 23/9

Spectacled Monarch (*Monarcha trivirgatus*)

Sumba: Km 51 track, 5 on 14/8 and 3 on 15/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8

Flores: Kisol, 2 on 31/8

Flores Monarch (*Monarcha sacerdotum*)

Flores: Puarlolo, 1 seen and 2 heard on 13/9, 3 seen and 3 heard on 14/9

Black-tipped Monarch (*Monarcha loricatus*)

Buru: Bara village, few seen daily

White-tailed Monarch (*Monarcha leucurus*)

Kai Kecil: few seen at all sites

Moluccan Flycatcher (*Myiagra galeata*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 1/10

Ambon: 2 on 5/10

Buru: Bara village, 4 on 31/10, 2 on 1/11, 3 on 2/11, 2 on 4/11, 4 on 5/11

Broad-billed Flycatcher (*Myiagra ruficollis*)

Sumba: (ruficollis) Langgaliru River, 1 on 15/8

Timor: (ruficollis) Bipolo, 1 on 22/8, 26/8 and 3 on 27/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 28/8

Tanimbars: (*fulviventris*) few at all sites, favors mangroves

Shining Flycatcher (*Myiagra alecto*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 2 on 18/9. Weluan beach road, 1 on 24/9

CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES (PASSERIFORMES CORVIDAE)

Slender-billed Crow (*Corvus enca*)

Seram: (*violaceus*) Pass road, 2 on 2/10. Wahai lowlands, 1 on 2/10

Buru: (*violaceus*) Bara village, 1 on 5/11

Flores Crow (*Corvus florensis*)

Flores: Kisol, 4 on 31/8, 2 on 1/9 and 1 on 2/9. Puarlolo, 3 on 14/9. Potawangka road, 2 on 15/9

Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)

Sumba: Km 69, 2 on 14/8 and 16/8. Km 51 track, 1 on 23/8

Timor: Few at most sites

Komoto: 5 on 12/9

Bali: Sunar, 3 on 7/10

Torresian Crow (*Corvus orru*)

Tanimbars: (*latirostris*) Kebun 45, 1 on 19/9

AUSTRALASIAN ROBINS (PASSERIFORMES PETROICIDAE)

Golden-bellied Flyrobin (*Microeca hemixantha*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 18/9. Weluan Beach road, 1 on 24/9

SWALLOWS (PASSERIFORMES HIRUNDINIDAE)

Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 2 on 21/9

Pacific Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica*)

Bali: 2 on 12/8

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 2 on 21/9

Kai Kecil: Polisi forest patch, 1 on 27/9. Kai Besar, 5 on 26/9

Ambon: 2 on 30/9

Buru: Nemlea, 1 on 29/10

Striated Swallow (*Cecropis striolata*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 27/8

Flores: Pagal, 10 on 10/9

Tree Martin (*Petrochelidon nigricans*)

Timor: (*timoriensis*) Gunung Mutis, 2 on 24/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 25/8 and 28/8

FAIRY FLYCATCHERS (PASSERIFORMES STENOSTIRIDAE)

Gray-headed Canary-Flycatcher (*Culicicapa ceylonensis*)

Sumba: Km 51 track, 2 on 14/8, 1 on 15/8

Flores: Puarlolo, 1 on 14/9

CHICKADEES AND TITS (PASSERIFORMES PARIDAE)

Great Tit (*Parus major*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 1 on 14/8

Flores: Dana Rana Mese, 1 on 3/9, 2 on 8/9 and 9/9. Pagal, 1 on 9/9 and 2 on 10/9

Komoto: 1 on 12/9

BUSH-WARBLERS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES CETTIIDAE)

Russet-capped Tesia (*Tesia everetti*)

Flores: Kisol, 2 on 30/8. Pagal, 4 on 6/9 and 10/9. Danau Rana Mese, 10 on 8/9. Poco Ranaka, 4 on 8/9 and 1 on Puarlolo, 14/9

Timor Stubtail (*Urosphena subulata*)

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 20/8 and 21/8. Bipolo, 3 on 26/8, 2 on 27/8 and 1 on 29/8. Oelnasi, 3 on 28/8

Tanimbar Bush-Warbler (*Cettia carolinae*)

Tanimbars: Logging track, 2 on 19/9 and 3 on 20/9

Sunda Bush-Warbler (*Cettia vulcania*)

Timor: (*everetti*) Camplong, 1 on 21/8. Gunung Mutis, 1 on 24/8

Mountain Tailorbird (*Phyllergates cuculatus*)

Flores: Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9. Poco Ranaka, 2 on 5/9

Seram: pass road, 2 on 1/10 and 4/10.

Buru: Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

BULBULS (PASSERIFORMES PYCNONOTIDAE)

Sooty-headed Bulbul (*Pycnonotus aurigaster*)

Bali: 2 on 12/8

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 21/8. Bipolo, 1 on 26/8 and 2 on 27/8

Yellow-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus goiavier*)

Bali: Sunar, 4 on 12/8 and 7/10

Golden Bulbul (*Alophoixus affinis*)

Seram: (affinis) Pass road, 2 on 30/9 and 1/10, 4 on 4/10

Buru: (mystacalis) Bara village, small numbers recorded daily, Wamlana logging road, 10 on 7/11

LEAF-WARBLEDERS (PASSERIFORMES PHYLLOSCOPIIDAE)

Arctic Warbler (*Phylloscopus borealis*)

Buru, Bara village, recorded daily

Timor Leaf-Warbler (*Phylloscopus presbytes*)

Timor: (presbytes) Oel Bubuk, 1 on 23/8. Gunung Mutis, 3 on 23/8 and 24/8

Flores: (floris) small numbers recorded at Danau Rana Mese, Golo Lusang and Poco Ranaka on each visit.

Island Leaf-Warbler (*Phylloscopus poliocephalus*)

Seram: Pass road, small numbers recorded on each visit

Buru: Wamlana, 1 on 7/11

Yellow-breasted Warbler (*Seicercus montis*)

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 2 on 24/8

Flores: Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9. Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9

GRASSBIRDS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES MEGALURIDAE)

Tawny Grassbird (*Megalurus timoriensis*)

Tanimbars: (alisteri) Kebun 45, 3 on 18/9 and 1 on 19/9

Buff-banded Bushbird (*Buettikoferella bivittata*)

Timor: Camplong, 1 seen and 4 heard on 21/8. Bipolo, 1 on 27/8. Oelnasi, 3 seen and 5 heard on 28/8

CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES CISTICOLIDAE)

Zitting Cisticola (*Cisticola juncidis*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 2 on 15/8 and 1 on 17/8

Timor: Bipolo, 10 on 22/8 and 27/8

Golden-headed Cisticola (*Cisticola exilis*)

Buru: Nemlea, 5 on 29/10

Bar-winged Prinia (*Prinia familiaris*)

Bali: 2 on 12/8, 1 on 6/10 and 7/10

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS (PASSERIFORMES MUSCICAPIDAE)

Buru Jungle-Flycatcher (*Rhinomyias additus*)

Buru: Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

Flores Jungle-Flycatcher (*Rhinomyias oscillans*)

Sumba: (stresemanni) Km 51 track, 3 on 14/8. Km 69, 1 on 14/8

Flores: (oscillans) Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9. Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9

Gray-streaked Flycatcher (*Muscicapa griseisticta*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 1/10

Buru: Bara village, few recorded daily. Wamlana logging road, 2 on 7/11

Sumba Brown Flycatcher (*Muscicapa segregata*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 3 on 15/8 and 1 on 18/8

Snowy-browed Flycatcher (*Ficedula hyperythra*)

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 4 on 23/8 and 2 on 24/8.

Rufous-chested Flycatcher (*Ficedula dumetoria*)

Tanimbars: (riedeli) Kebun 45, 3 on 18/9

Cinnamon-chested Flycatcher (*Ficedula buruensis*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 2/10

Sumba Flycatcher (*Ficedula harterti*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 3 on 14/8

Little Pied Flycatcher (*Ficedula westermanni*)

Timor: Oelnasi, 2 on 25/8 and 1 on 28/8

Flores: Few recorded at most highland sites.

Black-banded Flycatcher (*Ficedula timorensis*)

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 20/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 28/8. Bipolo, 2 on 29/8

Island Flycatcher (*Eumyias panayensis*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 1/10 and 4/10

Timor Blue-Flycatcher (*Cyornis hyacinthinus*)

Timor: Bipolo, 2 on 22/8, 3 on 26/8, 1 on 27/8, 2 on 29/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 23/8 and 25/8, 3 on 28/8. Gunung Mutis, 3 on 23/8 and 7 on 24/8

Pied Bushchat (*Saxicola caprata*)

Sumba: recorded in open areas most days

Timor: Bipolo, 5 on 22/8 and 26/8 and 2 on 29/8. Gunung Mutis, 2 on 24/8

Flores: Pagal, 1 on 6/9

Timor Bushchat (*Saxicola gutturalis*)

Timor: Camplong, 3 on 20/8 and 21/8. Oelnasi, 2 on 23/8 and 25/8, 4 on 28/8

THRUSHES AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES TURDIDAE)

Slaty-backed Thrush (*Zoothera schistacea*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 17/9. Logging track, 1 on 19/9

Chestnut-capped Thrush (*Zoothera interpres*)

Flores: Puarlolo, 1 on 14/9

Chestnut-backed Thrush (*Zoothera dohertyi*)

Sumba: km 69, 1 on 14/8.

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 2 on 5/9 and 8/9

Orange-banded Thrush (*Zoothera peronii*)

Timor: Camplong, 2 on 20/8. Gunung Mutis, 1 on 24/8. Bipolo, 1 on 29/8

Fawn-breasted Thrush (*Zoothera machiki*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 1 on 17/9 and 2 on 18/9. Logging track, 1 on 23/9

Island Thrush (*Turdus poliocephalus*)

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 4 on 23/8 and 20 on 24/8

White-browed Shortwing (*Brachypteryx montana*)

Flores: (floris) Poco Ranaka, 3 on 8/9 and 1 on 9/9

BABBLERS (PASSERIFORMES TIMALIIDAE)

Pygmy Wren-Babbler (*Pnoepyga pusilla*)

Timor: (timorensis) Gunung Mutis, 2 on 23/8 and 4 on 24/8

Flores: (everetti) Golo Lusang, 1 on 4/9 and 2 on 6/9. Poco Ranaka, 3 on 8/9

Oriental White-eye (*Zosterops palpebrosus*)

Flores: (unicus) Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9. Pagal, common. Puarlolo, common, Potawangka Road, 2 on 14/9

Mountain White-eye (*Zosterops montanus*)

Timor: Abundant on Gunung Mutis

Flores: common at all highland sites

Seram: Common along higher areas of the pass road

Ashy-bellied White-eye (*Zosterops citrinella*)

Sumba: km 69, 2 on 14/8. Langgaliru, 2 on 15/8

Timor: abundant at all lowland forests

Tanimbars: few at most sites

Great Kai White-eye (*Zosterops grayi*)

Kai Besar: Elat, 3 on 26/9 about four kilometers outside Elat along main road

Little Kai White-eye (*Zosterops uropygialis*)

Kai Kecil: Oheililer Beach, 3 on 24/9, 2 on 28/9 and 29/9. Taman Angrekk, 5 on 25/9. Polisi forest patch, 1 on 26/9.

Logging track, 6 on 27/9 and 5 on 28/9

Yellow-spectacled White-eye (*Zosterops wallacei*)

Sumba: few at all forest sites

Flores: common daily at Kisol, Pagal and Potawangka road

Seram White-eye (*Zosterops stalker*)

Seram: Pass road, 2 on 3/10 and 1 on 4/10

Buru White-eye (*Zosterops buruensis*)

Buru: Bara village, 1 on 31/10. Wamlana, 4 on 7/11

Ambon White-eye (*Zosterops kuehni*)

Ambon: Soya Atas village road, 3 on 27/10

Gray-hooded White-eye (*Lophozosterops pinaiae*)

Seram: Pass road, 1 on 30/9 and 1/10 and 2 on 4/11 along highest part of road

White-browed White-eye (*Lophozosterops superciliaris*)

Flores: few on each visit at Danau Rana Mese, Golo Lusang and Poco Ranaka

Dark-crowned White-eye (*Lophozosterops dohertyi*)

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9 and 9/9. Pagal, 2 on 6/9 and 1 on 10/9. Puarlolo, 2 on 13/9 and 4 on 14/9

Flores White-eye (*Heleia crassirostris*)

Flores: Kisol, 3 on 31/8 and 5 on 1/9. Pagal, 2 on 10/9. Puarlolo, 2 on 14/9

Timor White-eye (*Heleia muelleri*)

Timor: Camplong, 3 on 21/8. Oel Bubuk, 1 on 23/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 28/8

STARLINGS (PASSERIFORMES STURNIDAE)

Metallic Starling (*Aplonis metallica*)

Kai Kecil: few at all forest sites

Ambon: Soya Atas village road, 100 on 4/11

Buru: Bara village, 10 on 4/11 and 30 on 5/11

Tanimbar Starling (*Aplonis crassa*)

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, 3 on 19/9

Moluccan Starling (*Aplonis mysolensis*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 4 on 4/10

Buru: Bara village, 2 on 5/11

Short-tailed Starling (*Aplonis minor*)

Timor: Bipolo, few on each visit

Flores: Golo Lusang, 4 on 4/9

Long-crested Myna (*Basilornis corythaix*)

Seram: Sawai lowlands, 2 on 1/10 and 1 on 4/10

FLOWERPECKERS (PASSERIFORMES DICAIEIDAE)

Golden-rumped Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum annae*)

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 1 on 9/9. Pagal, 2 on 6/9 and 1 on 10/9. Potawangka road, 1 on 14/9

Thick-billed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum agile*)

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 26/8

Flame-breasted Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum erythrothorax*)

Buru: Bara village, few recorded daily

Ashy Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum vulneratum*)

Seram: Pass road, few recorded daily

Ambon: Soya Atas village road, 3 on 27/10

Black-fronted Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum igniferum*)

Flores: few recorded at Kisol, Pagal, Poco Ranaka and Potawangka road

Red-chested Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum mauegi*)

Timor: Camplong, 2 on 20/8 and 21/8. Bipolo, 1 on 22/8. Oelnasi, 1 on 23/8 and 28/8

Blood-breasted Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum sanguinolentum*)

Sumba: km 51, 2 on 14/8. Watumbela, 1 on 16/8. km 69, 1 on 16/8

Flores: Poco Ranaka, 1 on 5/9

Mistletoebird (*Dicaeum hirundinaceum*)

Tanimbars: singles daily at Kebun 45 and logging track

Kai Kecil: few seen most forest sites. Kai Besar, 1 on 26/9

Scarlet-headed Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum trochileum*)

Bali: Kuta, 2 on 12/8, 3 on 6-10 and 2 on 7/10

SUNBIRDS AND SPIDERHUNTERS (PASSERIFORMES NECTARINIIDAE)

Plain-throated Sunbird (*Anthreptes malacensis*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 1 on 15/8

Flores: Potawangka road, 1 on 15/9

Black Sunbird (*Leptocoma sericea*)

Seram: Pulau Sawai, 2 on 1/10. Sawai lowlands, 1 on 3/10

Ambon: 2 on 5/10. Soya Atas village road, 3 on 27/10

Buru: Bara village, few recorded almost daily. Wamlana logging road, 1 on 7/11

Olive-backed Sunbird (*Cinnyris jugularis*)

Kai Kecil: (*keiensis*) few daily at each site. Kai Besar, 2 on 26/9

Seram: (*clementiae*) Sawai lowlands, 1 on 1/10 and 2/10. Pulau Sawai, 2 on 1/10

Ambon: (*clementiae*) Soya Atas village road, 10 on 27/10

Buru: (*buruensis*) Nemlea, 10 on 29/10. Bara village, 1 on 31/10, 2 on 3/11 and 5/11

Apricot-breasted Sunbird (*Cinnyris buettikoferi*)

Sumba: km 51 track, 1 on 14/8. Watumbela, 16/8

Flame-breasted Sunbird (*Cinnyris solaris*)

Timor: Camplong, 1 on 20/8. Bipolo, 2 on 26/8 and 27/8.

Flores: Kisol, common. Pagal, 4 on 10/9. Potawangka road, 4 on 14/9 and 3 on 15/9

Komoto: 3 on 12/9

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS (PASSERIFORMES MOTACILLIDAE)

Western Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*)

Ambon: few

Buru: Nemlea, 1 on 29/10. Bara village, 2 on 31/10 and 1 on 3/11

Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)

Seram: Pass road, 3 on 3/10 and 2 on 4/10

Buru: Bara village, 4 on 1/11, 1 on 4/11 and 2 on 5/11. Wamlana logging road, 3 on 7/11

Richard's Pipit (*Anthus richardi*)

Sumba: Yumbu, 2 on 17/8

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 10 on 24/8

Komoto: 1 on 12/9

OLD WORLD SPARROWS (PASSERIFORMES PASSERIDAE)

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Bali: few

Sumba: Lewa fields, 20 on 15/8 and 19/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8

Tanimbars: Saumlaki, 5 on 25/9

Kai Kecil, common at several sites. Kai Besar, 10 on 26/9

Buru: Nemlea, 10 on 29/10

WAXBILLS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES ESTRILDIDAE)

Red Avadavat (*Amandava amandava*)

Sumba: Lewa fields, 20 on 19/8

Timor: Bipolo, 20 on 22/8 and 1 on 27/8

Zebra Finch (*Taeniopygia guttata*)

Sumba: Yumbu, 3 on 13/8 and 5 on 17/8

Timor: Bipolo, 4 on 26/8, 7 on 27/8 and 1 on 29/8

Tricolored Parrotfinch (*Erythrura tricolor*)

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 1 on 24/8

Javan Munia (*Lonchura leucogastroides*)

Bali: Kuta, 4 on 5/10

Black-faced Munia (*Lonchura molucca*)

Sumba: Langgaliru River, 4 on 15/8. Watumbela, 5 on 16/8

Timor: Bipolo, 10 on 22/8 and 26/8. Oelnasi, 5 on 23/8 and 25/8

Flores: Kisol, 5 on 30/8, 2 on 31/8 and 5 on 1/9. Potawangka road, 3 on 15/9

Buru: Bara village, small groups almost daily

Nutmeg Mannikin (*Lonchura punctulata*)

Sumba, Lewa fields, 5 on 19/8

Timor: Gunung Mutis, 5 on 24/8. Bipolo, common in rice fields

Tanimbars: common in open areas

Bali: Kuta, 100 on 5/10

Chestnut Munia (*Lonchura atricapilla*)

Ambon: 10 on 17/9

Buru: Nemlea, 5 on 29/10

Five-colored Munia (*Lonchura quincolor*)

Timor: Bipolo, abundant in rice fields with up to 500 on 22/8.

Tanimbars: Kebun 45, common in brushy areas with up to 50 on 21/9

White-headed Munia (*Lonchura maja*)

Bali: Kuta, 1 on 7/10

Pale-headed Munia (*Lonchura pallida*)

Sumba: Lewa fields, 50 on 15/8 and 30 on 19/8

Timor: Bipolo, 1 on 22/8 and 2 on 27/8

Timor Sparrow (*Padda fuscata*)

Timor: Bipolo, 7 on 26/8, 12 on 27/8 and 15 on 29/8