

SEVERAL REMOTE PHILIPPINE BIRDING SITES

March and April 2010

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SITES FEATURED

Subic Bay, Luzon
Pandan Island, Palawan
Calayan Island, Luzon
Zamboanga Watershed, Mindanao
Camiguin Sur, Mindanao

INTRODUCTION

In March and April of 2010, I revisited the Philippines in the hope of seeing some of the bird species I missed on a previous visit. The Philippine archipelago holds approximately 200 endemic bird species. The vast majority of these endemics is found on the main islands and they are regularly reported on by commercial birding tours and independent birders. Although I did revisit some the better-known sites, I will not discuss them here as one can easily find information about them on the Internet. Instead, I will discuss the more remote and challenging sites, rarely visited by independent birders and which lack logistical information on the web or in print. Each of these sites holds something special, something that cannot easily be seen elsewhere in the archipelago.

BASICS

Visas

Check with the Philippine embassy in your country for specifics. Most western tourists are given an automatic 21-day visa on arrival in the country. If you plan to stay longer than that initial 21-days, you can extend that visa to 59 days at any time during the initial 21-days. This extension can be done at any immigration offices in most provincial capitals and is most conveniently done away from Manila. Lonely Planet discusses this adequately.

Money

The currency of the Philippines is the peso (1US\$ = 43 pesos). Changing US dollar and the Euro is possible at moneychangers and banks and most readily in tourist areas but is still a time consuming process. Traveler's cheques are not readily changed at most locations. ATMs are found at most banks but may not always allow you to withdraw funds on foreign accounts and when they do, you will be charged an extra fee by the Philippine bank. I would recommend that everyone traveling to the sites in this report, go there with ample funds in pesos. Several areas do not have ATMs and others might prove challenging when converting foreign currency.

Communications

Several cell phone networks cover all of these sites but not necessarily all the birding areas. The best sim-card to get is SMART as it appears to have the largest coverage. The country code for the Philippines is 63. However for cell phone calls within the Philippines, this country code (63) is replaced with a "0". Internet is available at reasonable prices in the larger cities but not on Calayan Island.

Accommodations and food

By western standards accommodations are cheap (\$10-\$20) as are meals (\$3-\$5). Do not expect such luxuries as air-conditioning and cable TV as many of these sites are outside regular tourist areas. In the more remote areas don't expect more than a bed and a structure to keep out the rain. Bring along bed netting or mosquito coils (can be purchased locally) for the night. Specifics will be discussed under each site.

REFERENCES

Allen, D. and all. A new species of Gallirallus from Calayan island, Philippines. Forktail 20, 2007
Arndt, T. A new hanging parrot from Camiguin Island, Philippines. BirdingASIA #5, 55-58, 2006
Bloom, G. Lonely Planet Philippines. 2009
Clements, J. F. The Clements Checklist of the Birds of the World. 2007
Kennedy, R. S. and all. A Guide to the Birds of the Philippines. 2000

Internet sources:

<http://www.birding2asia.com/W2W/Philippines/Subic.html> A details description on birding Subic Bay.
<http://www.xeno-canto.com> An excellent source for bird recordings. I have added some of mine as well.

LOGISTICS

I consider myself a backpacker birder and budget considerations are always on my mind. Birding to me is more about the quest than the twitch. The idea of hiring professional birding guides to find, show and identify birds is contrary to the spirit of birding. As in sports, the difference is between being a participant or a spectator. However, I will accept hiring a local as a guide to show me the trails, especially so if it proves beneficial in the local community. None of the contacts in this report are bird guides. Don't expect them to find or identify the birds for you but only to lead you to the sites.

The information I acquired for these sites comes from a variety of sources and my own wanderings. The most useful source was the Lonely Planet travel guide to the Philippines. Although many times their information is out of date and incomplete, it leads you in the right direction. It basically gives you an idea how one can get to the local community near the birding sites. Although airplanes are the easiest and fastest way of getting around the Philippines, it is usually my last option. If I find a cheaper alternative, I will usually take it. Overnight and local buses, ferries and hiring motorcycles are my preferred mode of travel. The only place I hired a taxi/car was in Manila to get to/from the Airport. Manila, the transportation hub of the Philippines, is the logical starting point. One of the negative consequences of bus travel to/from Manila is the lack of a central bus terminal. Instead, the various bus companies are widely situated throughout the city and discussed in Lonely Planet. Cebu Pacific Air, Air Philippine and Philippine Airlines are the three main air carriers in the Philippines and all have Internet booking options. Prices are very reasonable by western standards and are cheapest when booked well in advance and thru the Internet. Trying to book flights in short order as for the same or the next day can be complicated and expensive.

The specific logistics will be discussed under each site.

SITES

I am a firm believer in maps. I find them most useful in orientating oneself in new and unfamiliar locations. For that reason, I have made an attempt at creating maps for the sites where none exist on the web. I am also including GPS coordinates to help find specific birding spots. I will discuss these sites in the order I visited them.

1. Subic Bay, Luzon

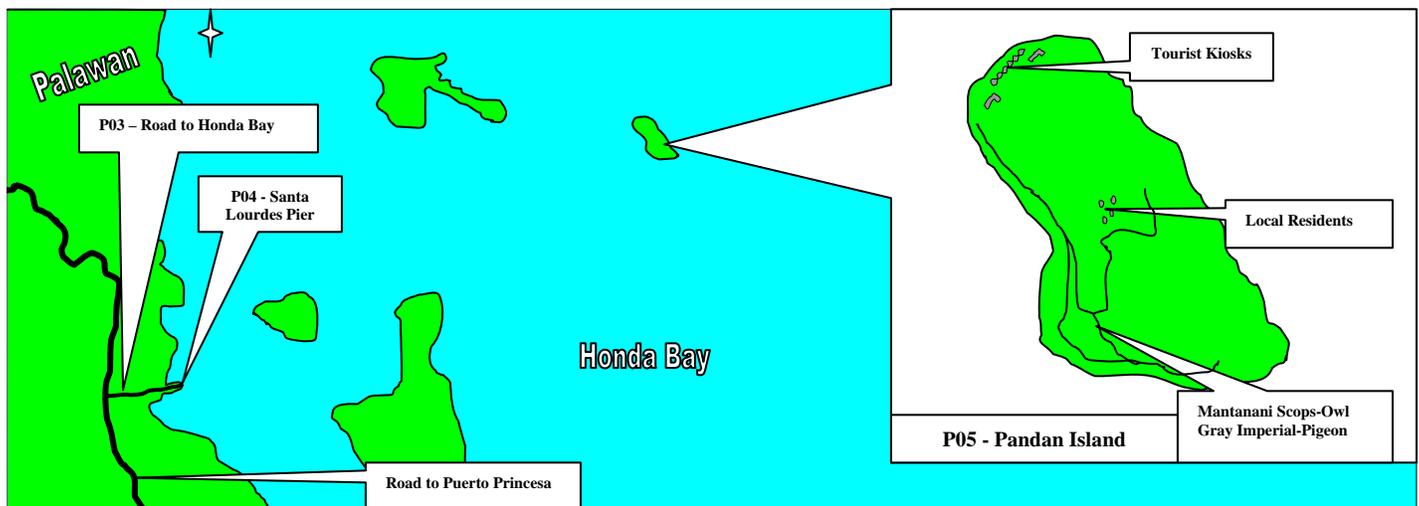
Stijn De Win already superbly discusses Subic Bay as a birding site. I would suggest everyone consult his web site - <http://www.birding2asia.com/W2W/Philippines/Subic.html> I only added this site to this report to direct other birders to Stijn's web site as this information is not commonly referenced in other trip reports. Subic Bay Freeport Zone contains the most readily accessible, undisturbed lowland forest on Luzon. It is the closest site to Manila and can readily be reached by public transport. Victory Liner Bus Company offers the best service (3 hours) between Manila and Olongapo. Transportation within the Subic Bay Freeport Zone is difficult without your own vehicle. There are a few public buses on the main road but they don't go to the best birding areas (Hill 394, etc.) and don't run at the best birding times. Being a lowland forest, the best birding times are early in the morning and late in the afternoon. Hiring a car would be the most convenient option. However, for a lone birder like myself it proved way too expensive. The most economical option for me was to find accommodations (800 pesos) in Baloy Beach (**P01**) and to rent a motorcycle (500 pesos/day) as Stijn

suggests. From Olongapo, one can take a blue jeepney and get off at km marker 133 and walk to the numerous accommodations near the Baloy Beach.

Birds of Interest: Philippine Hawk-Eagle, Spotted Buttonquail, Yellow-breasted Fruit-Dove, Spotted Imperial-Pigeon, Green Racquet-tail, Blue-naped Parrot, Philippine Eagle-Owl, Rufous and Luzon Hornbill, Blackish and Black-bibbed Cuckoo-Shrike, White-fronted Tit, Stripe-sided Rhabdornis, Lowland White-eye, White-lored Oriole and local race of Pompadour Green-Pigeon.

2. Pandan Island (P05), Palawan

This tiny island located some 9 kilometers off the Palawan coast in Honda Bay can be easily reached from Puerto Princesa on a day trip. Although it is only a half-kilometer in length it holds two small-island specialties, Mantanani Scops-Owl and Gray Imperial-Pigeon. Seeing the Mantanani Scops-Owl requires being there after dark. Contrary to the information in Lonely Planet, overnight camping is no longer allowed on the Honda Bay islands by order of the city council. Although there are locals living on Pandan Island, there are no overnight accommodations. Arrangements can be made with the boatmen to make the return trip after dark in order to see the owl. It might be wise to plan the trip there during a full moon as the shallow reefs makes navigation in the dark a challenge for the boatmen. Planning a trip here for the mid-afternoon and into the evening should result in seeing both species.



From Puerto Princesa, take a tricycle north toward Batis. Some 11 km from Puerto Princesa, by the roadside sign for “Honda Bay”, take the road (P03) to the east to Santa Lourdes Pier. At this pier (P04), tickets can be bought for the boats, which take tourists to the islands in the bay. Most tourists take a party boat, which visits several Honda Bay islands, including Pandan, for picnicking and snorkeling but all return before dark. Chartering a boat for yourself or a group to Pandan Island will cost about \$30 to \$50.

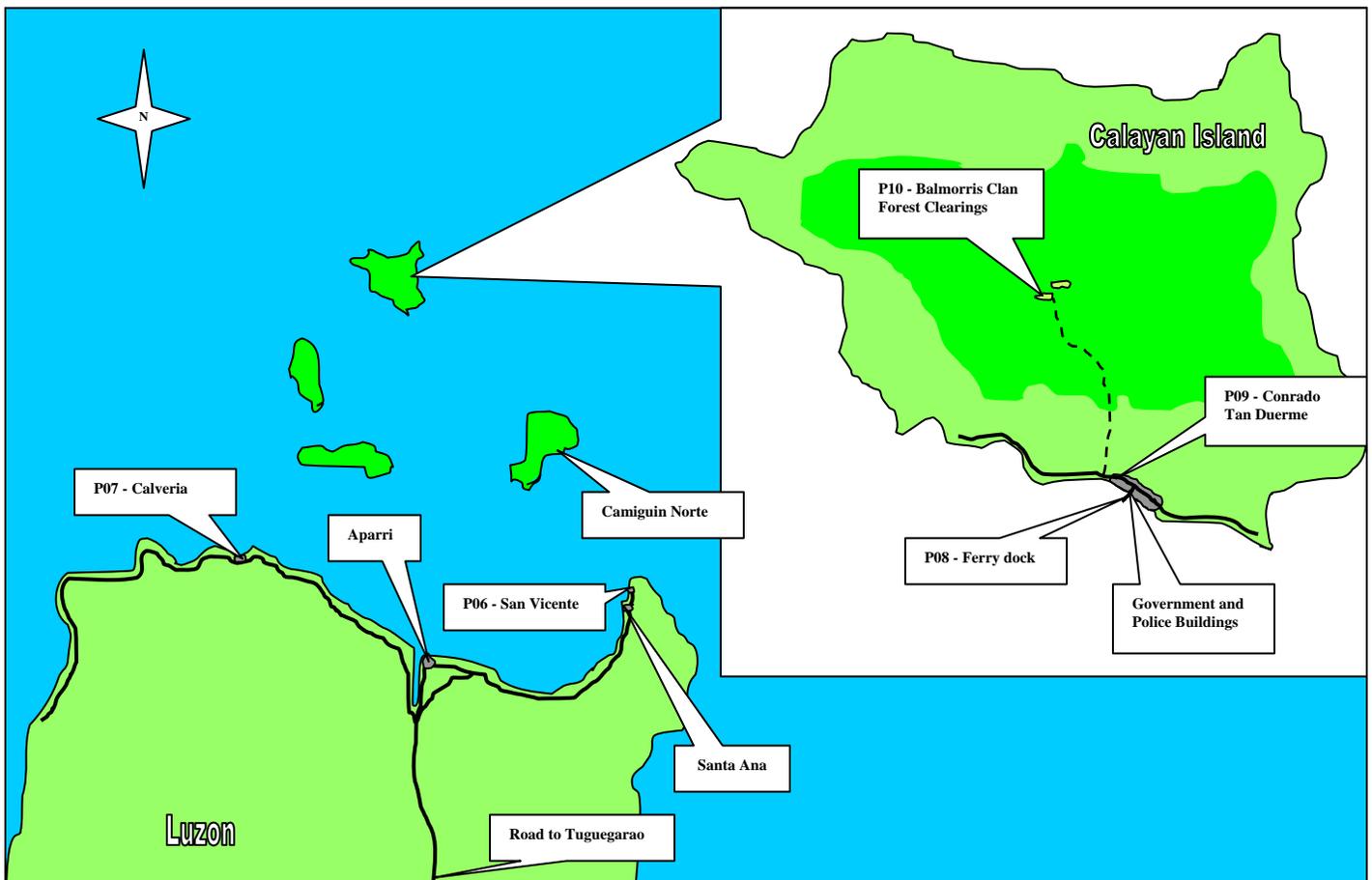
Birds of Interest: Tabon Scrubfowl, Great-billed Heron, Gray Imperial-Pigeon, Mantanani Scops-Owl,

3. Calayan Island, Luzon

If you want to see the newly discovered Calayan Rail, you have to travel to this large island some 80 kilometer off the northern tip of Luzon. Calayan is the largest and most populous island in the Babuyan group. This island does not have an airport and the only way for its ten thousand plus inhalants to reach the mainland of Luzon is by sea. Throughout much of the year, sea conditions made the crossing problematical. During the worst months, no ship/boat may be able to reach Calayan for a month or more. Prior to March, sea conditions were often too rough and the typhoon season starts in June. The best time to visit Calayan Island is during the months of April and May, when sea conditions are most favorable.

Recently, access to Calayan Island became easier with a regular, twice-weekly, passenger ferry from San Vicente (P06), 7 kilometers north of Santa Ana, Luzon. Currently, the MV Eagle Ferry leaves San Vicente early in the morning (7 or 8 am)

on Tuesdays and Fridays for Calayan. The return ferry leaves Calayan for San Vicente on Wednesdays and Sundays morning. Schedules are subject to change and everyone should verify the sailing times at cell phone #639196406758. The regular fare for the crossing is 800 pesos/person but is currently discounted to 560 pesos and it takes about four hours for the crossing. The Tuesday/Wednesday ferry takes longer (6 hours) as it makes stops at Camiguin Norte. A second and less desirable option is to travel to Claveria and take one of the long boats (500 pesos) that regularly carry cargo to Calayan. There is no schedule but they usually make the crossing every few days if the sea conditions are favorable. These small (less than 10 meters) boats leave from the river (**P07**) in Calveria. I would discourage everyone from using these long boats, which look like large canoes with runners. Once loaded with cargo, the top of the hull is barely one foot above the water line. Even though the sea conditions were calm during my crossing, I was completely soaked by sea spray and sunburned from my seat on top of the cargo. The ferry from/to San Vicente is the most reliable, safest, comfortable and convenient travel option to Calayan Island. Both Santa Ana and Calveria can be reached (4 hours) from Tuguegarao by frequent public buses/vans. Tuguegarao has regular air flights from/to Manila or you can take a regular Florida Lines overnight, air-con bus from Cubao in Manila, as I did.



There are no hotels on Calayan Island but basic accommodations can be found at several homestays. English is understood/spoken by a sizeable portion of the locals. There is cell phone coverage but no Internet. There is only a handful of cars/trucks and most transport is on motorcycles on the single coastal road or on foot. There are several general stores not far from the ferry dock where all kinds of supplies can be purchased.

I traveled there without any prior information concerning transport, accommodations, where to find the rail or local contacts and as a result it took me several days just to get my bearings. A local contact would greatly expedite one's trip there. Conrado Tan Duerme (**P09**) is one such contact on Calayan Island. He speaks English and can be reached at cell phone #639072212008. I stayed with him and he has offered to help future birders coming there. He can arrange a local guide (400 pesos/day) and a porter (300 pesos/day) to take you where the rail can be seen.

The people of Calayan Island are proud of their rail. The Calayan Rail, along with the Ryukyu Scops-Owl, is prominently featured on the welcome mural at the main harbor (**P08**) and everyone knows of it. There are local efforts in progress to create a reserve in the center of the island to protect the habitat for the rail. It is a forest rail and in order to see it one has to trek some five kilometers to the center of the island where suitable forest still exists. One such location is the forest clearing of the Balmorris family clan (**P10**). It is normally a three-hour trek and is best done early or late in the day when temperatures are most pleasant. The Balmorris clan has several rice paddies there and three basic buildings in that clearing. The local name of "Piding" is used for both the Calayan Rail and Plain Bush-hen and may result in some misunderstanding. Both species are found in close proximity of the Balmorris clearing. The Bush-hen was heard at the edge of the rice fields and the Rails were only seen within the forest but as little as 100 meters from the clearing.

Considering the current ferry schedule, six days (two for the ferry crossing and four on the island) needs to be dedicated for a leisurely visit to Calayan Island. However, if pressed for time, it could be done in three days with advance planning and arrangement. One could take the Friday ferry from San Vicente and arrive there at midday and go directly to the center of the island for the rail before nightfall. Spend the night (chance for owls) with the Balmorris clan. That would give you all day Saturday to look for the rail and return to the coast by nightfall. Then take the Sunday ferry back to San Vicente. A more aggressive schedule would be to leave the coastal homestay before dawn on Saturday; arrive at the rail site by 9 am; bird for six hours and leave for the coast by 3 pm. There are many crisscrossing trails and a knowledgeable local to guide you is helpful. Joel Balmorris, who do not speak English, is recommended. It may take a few days to find him as he comes to the coastal community at irregular intervals. Contact Conrado well before your visit to make the arrangements for your arrival and he can contact Joel. It is possible to do this without a guide using the GPS track I created and available on request. However, the fees are very reasonable and it creates good will within the community to involve the locals. The clearing and trails are grassy and used by water buffalos and thus harbors countless numbers of chiggers. Bringing along insect repellent, like DEET, and spraying your cloths will avoid much scratching later on.

Birds of Interest: Calayan Rail, Plain Bush-hen, Lowland White-eye and local races (potential splits) of Rykyu Scops-Owl and Whistling Green-Pigeon (reported here in September and October).

4. Zamboanga Watershed, Mindanao

Located in the extreme southwestern part of Mindanao, the outskirts of the city of Zamboanga hosts two regional endemics and several species hard to see elsewhere. The city wisely set aside a large portion of the forest adjacent to the city as a protected area to safeguard its water supply. There are several locations within the protected watershed (also know as Pasonanca Natural Park), which are worth birding. In the past, political unrest in the western parts of Mindanao has discouraged birders from traveling here. In my opinion that concern is less valid today and visiting Zamboanga can be very rewarding. I saw quite a few westerners arriving at Zamboanga on my flight from Manila.

Zamboanga is well serviced by frequent the flights of the major Philippine air carriers from Manila and less so from Cebu and Davao. Although buses connect it with Davao and Cagayan de Oro, I would not recommend using them at this time because of the distances involved, road conditions and safety issues.

Zamboanga has several upscale hotels. I found those recommended in Lonely Planet to be priced higher than listed and instead settled on the GC Hotel (**P11**, 700 pesos/night) at the corner of T. Claudio St and Gov. Wood, only two hundred meters from the city center.

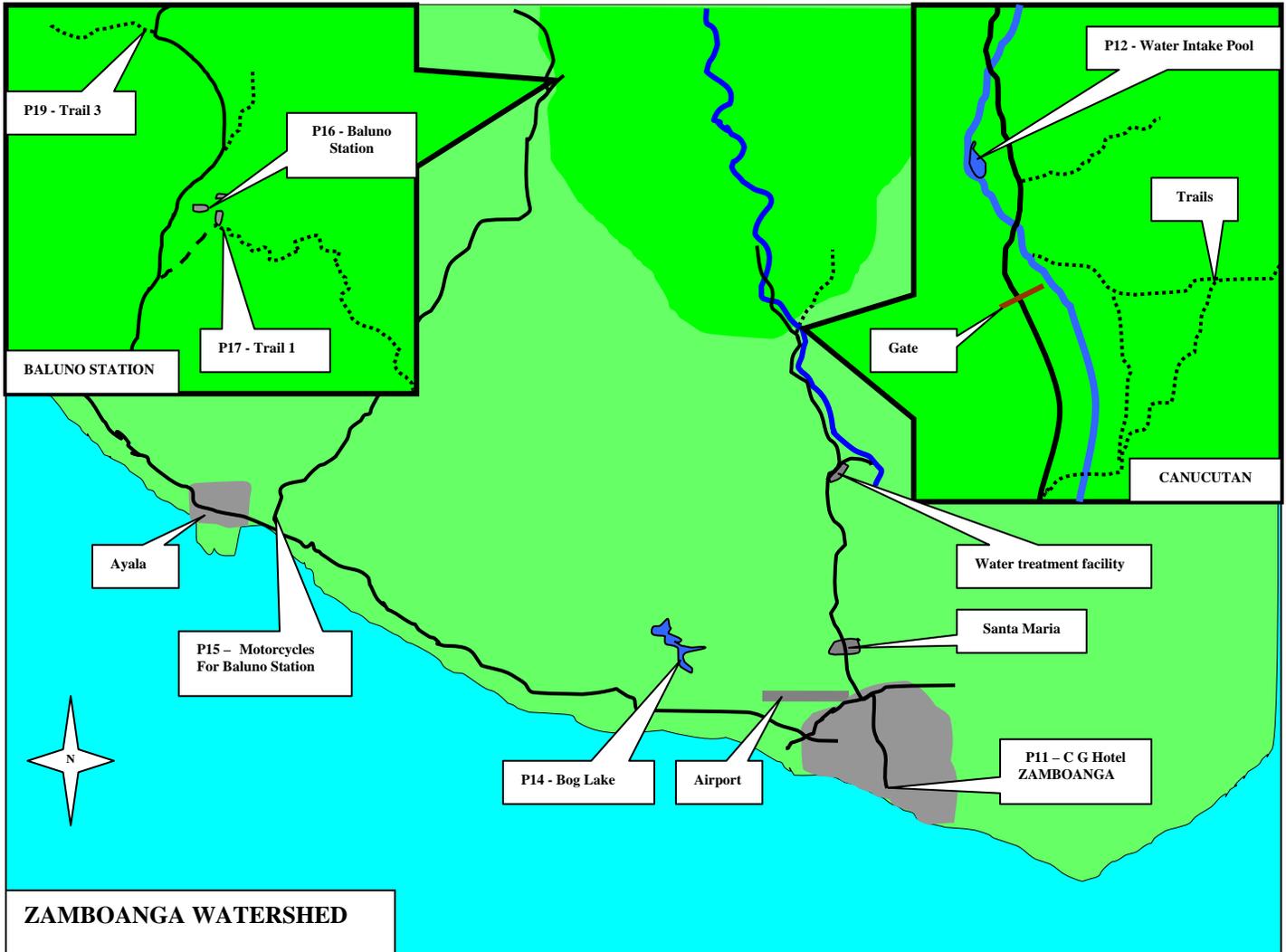
There are three worthwhile birding sites close to the city. Two of those three are in the protected watershed and thus are governed by entry regulations. A permit is required to bird there, a fee of 100 pesos/person/day is charged and a trail guide (500 pesos/day) has to accompany you. This cannot be arranged at the gates but needs to be prearranged before going there. Tim Fisher helped me with contact information. Contact Superintendent Mike de la Cruz at cell phone # 639208979430 or email at mikodelacruz2003@yahoo.com. Additionally, Assistant Superintendent Joel Baysa, Jr can also be contacted at cell phone #639155313209 or by email at joel_baysa11@yahoo.com.

4.1 Canucutan, Zamboanga Watershed

The first site (7 km northwest of the city) is the city water intake site and is also know as Canucutan by it proximity to the local community of the same name. From Zamboanga go north thru the town of Santa Maria and continue to roadside km

marker 6. There you will find the water treatment facility on the right side of the road. Take the narrow road that curves sharply to the left from the main road (which now curves to the right) and follows the stream for several kilometers to its end at a gate. There are several short trails in this area worth birding. This is the best place to see the two tiny Kingfishers. The Silvery Kingfisher is found along the stream and water intake pool (P12) and the Philippine (Dwarf-) Kingfisher in the low dark areas of the forest. A Permit and a guide are required here.

Birds of Interest: Silvery and Philippine Kingfisher, Black-faced Coucal, Zamboanga Bulbul, White-eared Tailorbird, Miniature Tit-Babbler



4.2 Baluno Ecological Research and Training Center (P16, hereafter Baluno Station), Zamboanga Watershed

This facility is located 14 km Northwest of the city on the western edge of the watershed at a higher elevation of 750m. Birding can be done here along the road that skirts the preserve or along several trails. This facility is run down and no longer in use but is still maintained by a caretaker and birders can stay there for a fee of 100 pesos/person/night. A permit and a trail guide are also required here. You have to bring all the food for yourself and the guide from Zamboanga with you and the caretaker/guide can cook it for you. From Zamboanga go 12 km west on the coastal coastal road to the town of Ayala. There turn right and go northeast 10 km to the Baluno Station. Vehicle hire will be necessary if a group is involved. In my case, Joel and I simply took the public transport to Ayala and then hired two motorcycles (P15) to take us to the station.

There are three trails in the vicinity of the Station. All are in poor condition and a guide is helpful in finding your way around, at least for the first time. The longest one is a loop trail that starts at the station and descends steeply to a stream

and back up. The other two trails are short, fairly straight and start at different points off the road that goes beyond Baluno Station. The Giant Scops-Owl was most responsive along this road about ½ km beyond the station.

Birds of Interest: Giant and Philippine Scops-Owl, Mindanao and Rufous Hornbill, Sooty Woodpecker, Yellow-wattled and Zamboanga Bulbul, White-eared Tailorbird, Little Slaty Flycatcher, Rusty-crowned Babbler, Naked-faced Spiderhunter

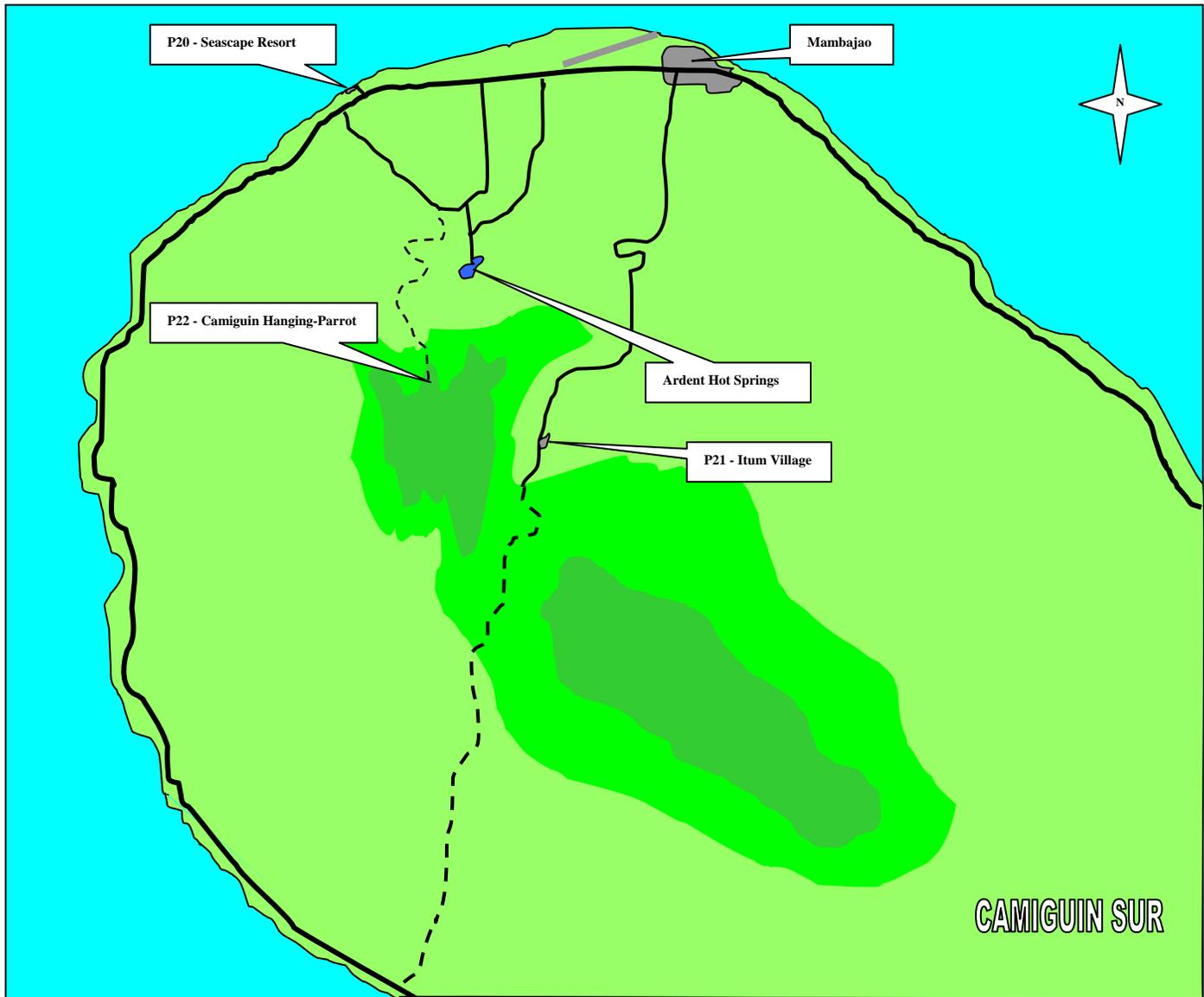
4.3 Bog Lake (P14), Zamboanga

This fresh water, lily pad covered lake is located on the western edge of the city. No permits are required to visit it but a local to guide you is helpful as access to it is thru private property and involves an indirect route. Joel Baysa is the best person to get you there. It offers no area specialties but several Philippine water birds can be easily seen here.

Birds of Interest: Philippine Duck, Wandering Whistling-Duck and the Philippine race of the Purple Swamphen.

5. Camiguin Sur, Mindanao

This large island, some ten kilometers off northern Mindanao, is the only location for the newly described Camiguin Hanging-Parrot. I question whether it deserves full species status and is simply not a different race of the Philippine Hanging-Parrot. However as Clements has given it full species status, I will do so here as well. This island also holds several other species, which could be candidates for a future split.



Camiguin Sur is a populous (80,000 inhabitants) and well-known tourist destination. Lonely Planet covers accommodations and travel to the island in some detail. Although it has limited air service, the most convenient method of travel there is by ferry for either Mindanao or Bohol. There are frequent (every few hours) ferries from the Balingoan, 80 km north of Cagayan de Oro, Mindanao and one or two ferries daily ferries from Jagna, Bohol. Camiguin Sur could be visited/birded as a side trip to either Bohol's Rajah Sikatuna National Park or Mindanao's Mt. Kitanglad.

The largest community is on the northeastern shore at Mambajao, where most of the tourist facilities are located. I stayed at the Seascape Resort (P20) bungalows (600 pesos/night) which is about 4.5 km west of Mambajao. To get around, I rented a motorcycle (300 pesos/day) from Kidd at cell phone #639295054736 or email at robeman32@yahoo.com.ph.

The entire island can be circumnavigated on the coastal road, where the vast majority of the residents live. The only remaining forest is in the center of the island on the higher steep slopes above 600 meters. There are only a few roads that reach the higher parts of the island. One such paved road goes from Mambajao to Itum village (P21). From the end of the road an old track lead down the backside of the island to the coast. This track south of Itum has some good forest and is worth birding.

I explored the island for two days but did not find the Hanging-Parrot in suitable habitat. Several locals told me that these birds are quiet common on the remaining forest on the highest mountain ridges. As the trails that lead to the mountaintops are obscure and all appear to go thru private property, I decided to hire a local to show me the way. Hunters and trappers know these mountains best and I found one who catches the parrots for sale as a cage bird. He agreed to show me the trails to the area (P22) where the parrot can be seen. His name is George Ariata and he does not speak English. However, birders can contact Norman Bacor Dizon (speaks English) and Norman can arrange for George to lead you to the parrot area. Norman can be reached at cell phone #639267708327 or email at normanbaczon@yahoo.com. I paid George 500 pesos for the day, which is twice as much as he gets for each parrot he catches. We spend most the day in the area until it started to rain heavily in the afternoon and only heard the parrots. Next day I returned alone and saw the Camiguin Hanging-Parrot even though it rained much of the day.

Birds of Interest: Camiguin Hanging-Parrot, Writhed Hornbill, Yellow-wattled Bulbul and local races of Variable Kingfisher, Yellowish Bulbul, Mangrove Blue-Flycatcher (not in mangroves but in the forest)

GPS COORDINATES

#	Place	Approx. Location	GPS Coordinates	Elevation asl
P01	Baloy Beach	Subic Bay, Luzon	N14°50'51.83", E120°15'18.26"	4 m
P02	Hill 394	Subic Bay, Luzon	N14°45'42.54", E120°18'35.85"	250 m
P03	Road junction for Honda Bay	11 km north of Puerto Princesa, Palawan	N9°50'35.60", E118°44'11.64"	10 m
P04	Santa Lourdes Pier	Puerto Princesa, Palawan	N9°50'38.50", E118°44'44.89"	2 m
P05	Pandan Island	Honda Bay, Palawan	N9°52'26.16", E118°48'52.95"	2 m
P06	San Vicente Port	7 km. North of Santa Ana, Luzon	N18°30'39.13", E122°08'55.40"	3 m
P07	Calveria long-boats	River, Calveria, :Luzon	N18°36'33.89", E121°05'25.31"	3 m
P08	Calayan ferry dock	Calayan Island, 80 km north of Luzon	N19°15'40.98", E121°28'29.91"	3 m
P09	House of Conrado Tan Duerme	1 km west of P08, Calayan ferry dock	N19°16'02.60", E121°28'05.73"	5 m
P10	Balmorris Clan Forest Clearing	Approx. 5 km. from coast and P09, Calayan Island	N19°19'24.53", E121°27'13.74"	300 m
P11	G C Hotel	Zamboanga, Mindanao	N6°54'27.41", E122°04'42.22"	10 m
P12	Water intake pool	Cunucutan, Zamboanga watershed	N6°58'38.98", E122°04'03.07"	90 m
P13	Cunucutan trails	Zamboanga watershed, Mindanao	N6°58'25.34", E122°04'07.66"	90 m
P14	Bog Lake	Zamboanga, Mindanao	N6°55'42.88", E122°02'18.12"	15 m
P15	Motorcycles for Baluno Station	12 km west of Zamboanga	N6°57'20.36", E121°58'25.81"	10 m

P16	Baluno Station	14 km northwest of Zamboanga	N7°01'03.26", E122°01'44.22"	745 m
P17	Baluno Trail 1	Starts at Baluno Station, P15	N7°01'01.46", E122°01'43.84"	740 m
P18	Baluno Trail 2	200 meters beyond Baluno Station	N7°01'06.67", E122°01'51.60"	745 m
P19	Baluno Trail 3	1 km beyond Baluno Station	N7°01'20.08", E122°01'49.63"	780 m
P20	Seascape Resort	4.5 km west of Mambajao, Camiguin S	N9°15'08.16", E124°40'30.84"	3 m
P21	Itum Village	7 km south of Mambajao, Camiguin Sur	N9°12'21.78", E124°41'34.19"	600 m
P22	Parrot Site	Approx. 5 km south of Seascape Resort	N9°12'47.65", E124°40'47.25"	660 m

ITINERARY

- 17 March Took the Victory Liner Bus from Pasay terminal in Manila and arrived in Olongapo, Subic Bay in mid afternoon. Walked over to the blue jeepney stand and took the one going to Boloy Beach. Found accommodations (800 pesos) and a shop that rented motorcycle for 500 pesos per day.
- 18 March At first light left Boloy Beach on the rented motorcycle and arrived on Hill 394 at sunrise. Birded most the morning around the ammo bunkers there and the forest track. Very hot by 10 am with little bird activity. Explored the various side roads of the Subic Bay Freeport Zone but found little bird activity during midday. Spent afternoon birding the road leading to the Hospital. Returned to Boloy Beach in the evening.
- 19 March Again motorcycled to Hill 394 and arrived there at sunrise. Birded the area and the track as yesterday. Similar species recorded as yesterday. Left area by 10 and returned to Boloy Beach and checked out by noon. Took the jeepney back to Olongapo and Victory Liner Bus back to Manila. Purchased a plane ticket for Palawan for tomorrow. Night in Manila.
- 20 March Flew Cebu Pacific Airways to Puerto Pincesa and arrived in late morning. Took tricycle (100 pesos) to Santa Lourdes Pier and inquired about going to Pandan Island for the night. I wanted to camp overnight on Pandan Island, as that would give me a better chance at the owl and a second chance for the pigeon the following morning. I was informed that camping was no longer allowed on any of the Honda Bay Islands as a result of a new city council order. After some lengthy discussions, pleading and a phone call to someone in authority, I was permitted to spend the night on Pandan Island. As it was too late to take a party boat, I had to hire a boat for myself to drop me off there and another to pick me up the next day. Arrived on Pandan Island in mid afternoon and found the Gray Imperial-Pigeon within 30 minutes. Set up my tent on the back side of the island and waited for nightfall. Mantanani Scops-Owls start calling before it become fully dark and I had no problem finding one. Spent the night in my tent.
- 21 March In the predawn and morning, I birded the island several time before being picked up by the boatmen and was taken back to Santa Lourdes Pier. Took tricycle to the bus station outside Puerto Princesa and caught the noon jeepney to Sabang. Arrived at Sabang in late afternoon and found accommodations at Taraw Lodge (500 pesos). Even though there were no new birds here for me, my intention was to leisurely bird Puerto Princesa Suberranean River National Park again for a few days. I was shocked by the changes I saw since my last visit there three years ago. They are building a large Sheridan Hotel and Conventions center there, right on the beach. All the trails in the park were closed, supposedly for repair, and could not be accessed as both the bridge over the river and the stairway near the cave entrance were removed. The only place in the park you could go birding was by boat to the cave mouth. To make things even worse, there was no party boat option and everyone had to hire a boat themselves at 1000 pesos (\$22). What a rip-off!!! That effectively destroyed my plans to bird the park.
- 22 March In the morning I birded around Sabang and caught the noon bus to Puerto Princesa. There I found accommodations for the night and purchased airline tickets back to Manila for the next day and to San Jose, Mindoro for the following day.
- 23 March Flew to and spent the night in Manila.
- 24–29 March Flew to San Jose and traveled by bus to Siburan Penal Colony where I birded the lowland forest. Flew back to Minila on the night of 29 March
- 30-31 March Took overnight Florida bus from Manila's Cubao Station to Tuguegarao in northern Luzon. Hired Jeepney to the village of Baliaug and there made arrangements for Hamut track.
- 1-8 April With two porters and supplies birded Magakong and Hamut tracks. Overnight at Tuguegarao on 8 April.
- 9 April Inquired about transport to Calayan Island via ferry but could not get definite info without going to Santa Ana myself. One rumor was that the ferry now only went there once each week and that might have been yesterday. Instead, I decided to go by bus to Calveria and hoped to catch one of the long boats carrying cargo.

Upon arriving in Calveria, I found accommodations at Bayview Inn and inquired about transport to Calayan Island. At the river, I found two long boats being loaded with cargo that would be going to the island in the morning. These are not large boats. Less than 10 meters long, two meters wide and the top of the hull sits only one foot above the water when loaded with cargo and passengers. They resemble big canoes with runners.

- 10 April Went to the river at first light. By 7 am the boats were buttoned down and some dozen passengers, including myself boarded the two boats and we found seats on top of the cargo. The boats traveled only some 500 meters and both became stuck on the sand bank in the river mouth. Even though all the passengers disembarked, it took about two hours to free the cargo-laden boats and to clear the sand banks. We finally left Calveria at about 9 am and faced calm seas with only a slight head wind. As the loaded boats ride very low in the water and you are unsheltered, sea spray could not be avoided. Even though I put on my rain suit, it was not long before I found myself sunburnt and completely soaked. We arrived on Calayan Island by 1 pm and I asked around about accommodations. Settled in at Conrado Tan Duerme's house, rinsed the salt out of my cloths and tried to get some info about seeing the Calayan Rail. It became immediately clear that no good forest remained within several kilometers of the coast. That one had to trek deep into the island interior for any hopes of seeing the rail.
- 11 April Walked about town to get my bearing and tried to find some birdable habitat without much luck. Made inquiries around town about knowledgeable locals who might be willing to guide me to the center of the island where better forest could be found. Several people told me that knew such individuals but they were not around at present. Got information on the ferry schedule. In the late afternoon found a track that led to higher elevations and better forest and planned to revisit the area the next day. Upon returning to Conrado's house, two potential guides were waiting for me and they told me that they were familiar with the rail and could guide me. One was Joel Balmorris, whose family clan has rice fields and houses in the center of the island, and he told me that the rail is common there; that it is easy to see it. So I decide to go with Joel and we made plans to go to his clearing. The main reason for coming to Calayan Island was to look for the rail and I was prepared to dedicate some time to end. I didn't know what to expect there, so I took my tent and sleeping bag and I went to the local general store and stocked up on supplies for three nights there. Carrying a full pack would be a hindrance to my birding along the way. So I also decided to hire a porter to carry my pack. This worked out well because the porter that Conrado found spoke English, while Joel does not.
- 12 April We left Conrado's homestay at dawn and to my surprise went up the track I briefly explored the day before. Even though I stopped quite a few times to check out something interesting along the way, we reached our destination within three hours. I left my guide and porter at the Balmorris clearing and went birding in the forest along the nearby trails. Within the first hour, I saw my first Calayan Rail. In total, I had four sightings of at least three different Calayan Rails during the day. I make recordings of its calls, which I have put on the Xenocanto. Spent the night in my tent.
- 13 April Birded the same forest trails around the Balmorris clearing as yesterday for two hours in the morning and saw the rail one more time. The ferry back to Luzon was tomorrow morning and the next after that would not be for four days. As I had already found my main target, I decided to return back to the coast and catch tomorrow's ferry. I had not bothered to spray myself with insect replant, as mosquitoes were not a problem. That proved to be a big mistake. The grassy area at the Balmorris clearing had Water Buffaloes and I shortly found out that it also has chiggers, many chiggers. I was scratching for days afterwards and found over fifty welts on me.
- 14 April The 7am departure of the ferry was delayed to 8am and it was less than half full with passengers. After making two stops on Camiquin Norte to drop off and pickup passengers, we arrived at the Port of San Vicente at 2 pm. I took a tricycle from the pier to the Florida Lines Bus Station in Santa Ana and caught the 3 pm overnight bus for Manila.
- 15 April Arrived in Manila at 6 am. Purchased plane ticket for Zamboanga for tomorrow. Contacted Mike de la Cruz about visiting Zamboanga Watershed.
- 16 April Flew to Zamboanga in the afternoon. From Airport took tricycle to several hotels mentioned in Lonely Planet but found their prices much higher than listed. Eventually found and saddled in at the GC Hotel near the center of the city. In the evening, I met with Joel Baysa. He would be my trail guide for the next few days.
- 17 April Joel picked me up on his motorcycle and we went to the water intake site also known as Canucutan. I birded the area for most of the morning. In midday we returned to Zamboanga for lunch and visited a supermarket to stock up on supplies for tomorrow's three-day trip to Baluno Station. In the afternoon Joel dropped me off at Canucutan while he went back to the office to deal with paperwork and the permit for my visit. I birded the short trails at Canucutan until dusk, when Joel picked me up and took me back to the hotel.
- 18 April With our supplies, Joel and I took a bus to Ayala and there we hired two motorcycles to take us the remainder of the way to Baluno Station. For the rest of the day, I birded the road beyond the Station and trail 3.

The caretaker cooked the food we brought with us for dinner. After dark I listened for nightbirds but heard little and saw nothing around the station.

- 19 April Birded the road again in early morning and then the long trail 1 near the station. After lunch returned to the road. After dinner went out for several hours of owling on the road. Some 500 meters beyond the station, I found a responsive Giant Scops-Owl, which came to a tree some 20 meters from me and I watched it for some 10 minutes. Near trail 3, I saw a calling Philippine Scops-Owl next to the road.
- 20 April I was up before dawn and looked for owls again. The Giant Scops-Owl was again responsive to playback but quit calling shortly as it was getting light. I birded the long trail 1 near the station in the morning. As my quest for the main target, the Giant Scops-Owl, was successful, I decided to leave this site and return to Zamboanga. At noon we packed up; were picked up by the motorcycles; taken to Ayala and there we caught a bus back to Zamboanga. In the afternoon, Joel took me to Bog Lake where I would see the Philippine race of the Purple Swamphen, which are numerous there.
- 21 April Joel dropped me off at the Canucutan, where I searched for the Philippine (Dwarf-) Kingfisher and eventually saw one sitting quietly on a low branch (one meter from ground) in a dry gully. As I had seen my main target species and as I was running short on time, I decided to head for Cagayan de Oro and Camiguin Sur. The most sensible travel option was to fly the next day from Zamboanga to Cebu and onto Cagayan de Oro with Cebu Pacific Air. The problem was that it was too late in the day to buy tickets as Cebu offices had already closed for the day. The most expedient and cheapest option was to take the overnight aircon bus from Zamboanga to Cagayan de Oro. Even though safety is still an issue, I decided to take this last option.
- 22 April Arrived in Cagayan de Oro southern bus terminal in the mid morning. Took shuttle to the northern bus terminal, where I picked up the bus (2 hours, 70 pesos) for Balingoan. There I caught the ferry (1 hour, 135 pesos) to Benoni, Camiguin Sur. At the Benoni harbor, I hired a motorcycle to take me to Seascape Resort outside of Mambajao.
- 23 April I rented a motorcycle (300 for all day) and went up the paved road to Itum village. The road continues thru some good forest as an unpaved track down the backside of the island to the coast. I birded this area all day but did not see any sign of the newly described hanging-parrot.
- 24 April On the rented motorcycle, I explored the island trying to find access to the mountaintops where good highland forest is rumored to remain but found no obvious approach. By late afternoon I became discouraged and started to inquire about finding a local hunter or trapper who would know the trails and could be hired as a guide. Eventually, I was led to George Ariata and he agreed to guide me for 500 pesos per day.
- 25 April We leave at dawn and by 7 am we reached the area where George has been catching his parrots. We stayed in the area until 3 pm, when it started to rain heavily. On several occasions we heard the parrot but I failed to see it. My view was either obstructed or I was in the wrong position. The rain continued into the night.
- 26 April Rains continues intermittently but I decided to return to yesterday's site by myself. This time I was fortunate enough to see one of the Camiguin Hanging-Parrot during one of the rainless periods. Rain continued into the night.
- 27 April Took the 8am ferry (4 hours, 400 pesos) from Balbagon, just south of Mambajao, to Jagna, Bohol. There on different buses, I then went to bird Rajah Sikatuna National Park and made arrangement to stay there for the night at the park.
- 28 April Birded Rajah Sitatuna National Park in the morning. In late afternoon left for Tagbilaran and spend the night there.
- 29 April – 4 May Traveled by ferry from Tagbilaran, Bohol to Dumaguete, Negros. Birded South Negros and returned to Manila on 4 May.

SYSTEMATIC LIST OF OBSERVED SPECIES

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

Wandering Whistling-Duck (*Dendrocygna arcuata*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 1 on 20/4

Philippine Duck (*Anas luzonica*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 12 on 20/4

MEGAPODES (GALLIFORMES MEGAPODIIDAE)

Tabon Scrubfowl (*Megapodius cumingii*)

Pandan Island: 3 on 20/3 and 2 on 21/3

PHEASANTS, GROUSE, AND ALLIES (GALLIFORMES PHASIANIDAE)

Red Junglefowl (*Gallus gallus*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 5 on 19/3

HERONS, EGRETS, AND BITTERN (CICONIIFORMES ARDEIDAE)

Yellow Bittern (*Ixobrychus sinensis*)

Zamboanga: Bog lake, 10 on 20/4

Cinnamon Bittern (*Ixobrychus cinnamomeus*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 5 on 20/4

Great-billed Heron (*Ardea sumatrana*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 20/3 and on 21/3

Purple Heron (*Ardea purpurea*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 1 on 20/4

Intermediate Egret (*Mesophoyx intermedia*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 11/4

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 2 on 28/4

Little Egret (*Egretta garzetta*)

Pandan Island: 2 on 20/3

Calayan Island: 40 on 10/4

Zamboanga: Canucutan 1 on 17/4 and 21/4; Bog Lake, 3 on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4

Pacific Reef-Heron (*Egretta sacra*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 20/3

Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*)

Calayan Island: 15 on 11/4 and 20 on 12/4

Zamboanga: Bog Lake: 20 on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 5 on 24/4

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 20 28/4

Javan Pond-Heron (*Ardeola speciosa*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 4 on 20/4

Striated Heron (*Butorides striata*)

Pandan Island: 2 on 20/3 and 21/3

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4

Malayan Night-Heron (*Gorsachius melanolophus*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 13/4

OSPREY (FALCONIFORMES PANDIONIDAE)

Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 10/4

HAWKS, EAGLES, AND KITES (FALCONIFORMES ACCIPITRIDAE)

Oriental Honey-buzzard (*Pernis ptilorhynchus*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

Calayan Island: 2 on 12/4

Brahminy Kite (*Haliastur indus*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 1 on 19/3

Camiguin Sur: 2 on 23/4 and 1 on 24/4

Philippine Serpent-Eagle (*Spilornis holospilus*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 23/4 and 1 on 25/4

Chinese Goshawk (*Accipiter soloensis*)

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4

Philippine Hawk-Eagle (*Nisaetus philippensis*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

FALCONS AND CARACARAS (FALCONIFORMES FALCONIDAE)

Philippine Falconet (*Microhierax erythrogenys*)

Subic Bay: 3 on 18/3 and 1 on 19/3

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4; Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4

Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 13/4

RAILS, GALLINULES, AND COOTS (GRUIFORMES RALLIDAE)

Barred Rail (*Gallirallus torquatus*)

Camiguin Sur: 2 on 24/4

Calayan Rail (*Gallirallus calayanensis*)

Calayan Island: 3 on 12/4 and 1 on 13/4

Plain Bush-hen (*Amaurornis olivacea*)

Calayan Island: 1 heard on 11/4, 1 seen and 5 heard on 12/4

Purple Swampphen (*Porphyrio porphyrio*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 5 on 20/4

Common Moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*)

Zamboanga: Bog lake, 2 on 20/4

CRANES (GRUIFORMES GRUIDAE)

Demoiselle Crane (*Anthropoides virgo*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 10/4, 11/4 and 13/4. This is one of 3 birds that arrived in Oct. 2008. The other 2 were shot and killed and this one was injured but alive. It is flying freely now but does not migrate.

SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES (CHARADRIIFORMES SCOLOPACIDAE)

Gray-tailed Tattler (*Tringa brevipes*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 21/3

Common Greenshank (*Tringa nebularia*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 21/3

Whimbrel (*Numenius phaeopus*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 20/3 and on 21/3

GULLS, TERNS, AND SKIMMERS (CHARADRIIFORMES LARIDAE)

Whiskered Tern (*Chlidonias hybrida*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 1 on 20/4

PIGEONS AND DOVES (COLUMBIFORMES COLUMBIDAE)

Rock Pigeon (*Columba livia*)

Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 6 on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 26/4

Spotted Dove (*Streptopelia chinensis*)

Calayan Island: 5 on 13/4

Philippine Cuckoo-Dove (*Macropygia tenuirostris*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 2 on 17/4 and 21/4

Emerald Dove (*Chalcophaps indica*)

Subic Bay: 4 on 19/3

Zebra Dove (*Geopelia striata*)

Pandan Island: 10 on 21/3

White-eared Dove (*Phapitreron leucotis*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 19/3

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 23/4 and 26/4

Pompadour Green-Pigeon (*Treron pompadora*)

Subic Bay: amadoni ssp, 1 on 18/3 and 5 on 19/3

Yellow-breasted Fruit-Dove (*Ptilinopus occipitalis*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 1 on 28/4

Green Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula aenea*)

Subic Bay: 5 on 18/3 and 4 on 19/3

Calayan Island: 5 on 12/4

Gray Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula pickeringii*)

Pandan Island: 5 on 20/3 and 10 on 21/3

Pied Imperial-Pigeon (*Ducula bicolor*)

Pandan Island: 10 on 20/3 and 2 on 21/3

PARROTS (PSITTACIFORMES PSITTACIDAE)

Guaibero (*Bolbopsittacus lunulatus*)

Subic Bay: 5 on 18/3 and 4 on 19/3

Green Racquet-tail (*Prioniturus luconensis*)

Subic Bay: 5 on 18/3 and 1 on 19/3

Blue-naped Parrot (*Tanygnathus lucionensis*)

Subic Bay: 4 on 18/3 and 2 on 19/3

Philippine Hanging-Parrot (*Loriculus philippensis*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

Camiguin Hanging-Parrot (*Loriculus camiguinensis*)

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 26/4

CUCKOOS (CUCULIFORMES CUCULIDAE)

Himalayan Cuckoo (*Cuculus saturatus*)

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4

Little Bronze-Cuckoo (*Chrysococcyx minutillus*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 2 on 21/4

Philippine Drongo-Cuckoo (*Surniculus velutinus*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4; Baluno Station, 1 on 20/4

Asian Koel (*Eudynamys scolopaceus*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 20/3 and 21/3

Calayan Island: 1 seen on 12/4 and 2 on 13/4 and many heard

Black-faced Coucal (*Centropus melanops*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 2 on 17/4

Philippine Coucal (*Centropus viridis*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

Calayan Island: major ssp, 1 seen on 12/4 and 5 heard

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 2 heard on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 26/4

OWLS (STRIGIFORMES STRIGIDAE)

Philippine Scops-Owl (*Otus megalotis*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 seen on 19/4 and 1 heard on 20/4

Mantanani Scops-Owl (*Otus mantananensis*)

Pandan Island: 1 seen and 1 heard on 20/3, 1 seen and 2 heard on 21/3

Giant Scops-Owl (*Mimizuku gurneyi*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 seen on 19/4 and 2 heard on 20/4

Ryukyu Scops-Owl (*Otus Elegans*)

Calayan Island: calayensis ssp, 1 seen on 13/4, several heard nightly. Suggested by some as being a potentially split due to its different call.

Northern Boobook (*Ninox japonica*)

Calayan Island: only heard on 12/4

Chocolate Boobook (*Ninox randi*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, heard only on 19/4

FROGMOUTHS (CAPRIMULGIFORMES PODARGIDAE)

Philippine Frogmouth (*Batrachostomus septimus*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, heard only on 19/4

NIGHTJARS AND ALLIES (CAPRIMULGIFORMES CAPRIMULGIDAE)

Great Eared-Nightjar (*Eurostopodus macrotis*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, heard only on 20/4

Large-tailed Nightjar (*Caprimulgus macrurus*)

Pandan Island: 1 on 20/3 and 2 on 21/3

SWIFTS (APODIFORMES APODIDAE)

Philippine Needletail (*Mearnsia picina*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4 and 4 on 19/4

Purple Needletail (*Hirundapus celebensis*)
Subic Bay: 2 on 19/3

Glossy Swiftlet (*Collocalia esculenta*)
Subic Bay: 20 on 19/3
Calayan Island: septentrionalis ssp, 3 on 12/4 and 1 on 13/4
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 5 on 18/4
Camiguin Sur: 30 on 23/4 and 5 on 26/4

Pygmy Swiftlet (*Collocalia troglodytes*)
Calayan Island: 2 on 12/4
Camiguin Sur: 10 on 25/4 and 2 on 26/4

TREESWIFTS (APODIFORMES HEMIPROCNIDAE)

Whiskered Treeswift (*Hemiproctes comata*)
Subic Bay: 4 on 18/3 and 2 on 19/3

TROGONS (TROGONIFORMES TROGONIDAE)

Philippine Trogon (*Harpactes ardens*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 2 only heard on 20/4
Rajah Sikatuna NP: 3 on 28/4

KINGFISHERS (CORACIIFORMES ALCEDINIDAE)

Common Kingfisher (*Alcedo atthis*)
Pandan Island: 1 on 21/3

Silvery Kingfisher (*Alcedo argentata*)
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4 and 3 on 21/4

Philippine Kingfisher (*Ceyx melanurus*)
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 21/4

Variable Kingfisher (*Ceyx lepidus*)
Camiguin Sur: 1 on 26/4

White-throated Kingfisher (*Halcyon smyrnensis*)
Subic Bay: 3 on 18/3
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4 and 2 on 21/4

Collared Kingfisher (*Todiramphus chloris*)
Pandan Island: 2 on 20/3 and 7 on 21/3
Zamboanga: Bog lake, 1 on 20/4
Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4 and 3 on 26/4

BEE-EATERS (CORACIIFORMES MEROPIDAE)

Blue-throated Bee-eater (*Merops viridis*)
Subic Bay: 20 on 18/3 and 19/3
Camiguin Sur: 2 on 23/4 and 1 on 24/4

ROLLERS (CORACIIFORMES CORACIIDAE)

Dollarbird (*Eurystomus orientalis*)
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 2 on 17/4

HORNBILL (CORACIIFORMES BUCEROTIDAE)

Rufous Hornbill (*Buceros hydrocorax*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, heard only on 19/4 and 2 seen on 20/4

Luzon Hornbill (*Penelopides manillae*)
Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 19/3

Mindanao Hornbill (*Penelopides affinis*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 4 on 18/4

Wreathed Hornbill (*Aceros leucocephalus*)
Camiguin Sur: 2 on 23/4

ASIAN BARBETS (PICIFORMES MEGALAIMIDAE)

Coppersmith Barbet (*Megalaima haemacephala*)
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4

WOODPECKERS (PICIFORMES PICIDAE)

Philippine Woodpecker (*Dendrocopos maculatus*)
Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3

White-bellied Woodpecker (*Dryocopus javensis*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 19/3

Greater Flameback (*Chrysocolaptes lucidus*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3 and 2 on 19/3

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 21/4

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 2 on 28/4

Sooty Woodpecker (*Mulleripicus funebris*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 20/4

BROADBILLS (PASSERIFORMES EURYLAIMIDAE)

Visayan Broadbill (*Eurylaimus samarensis*)

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 3 on 27/4

PITTAS (PASSERIFORMES PITTIDAE)

Azure-breasted Pitta (*Pitta steerii*)

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 1 on 28/4

Red-bellied Pitta (*Pitta erythrogaster*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4

Camiguin Sur: 1 seen 4 heard on 23/4 and 2 heard on 25/4

WOODSWALLOWS (PASSERIFORMES ARTAMIDAE)

White-breasted Woodswallow (*Artamus leucorhynchus*)

Subic Bay: 5 on 18/3

Pandan Island: 10 on 20/3 and 21/3

Camiguin Sur: 3 on 24/4

CUCKOO-SHRIKES (PASSERIFORMES CAMPEPHAGIDAE)

Bar-bellied Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina striata*)

Subic Bay: *Striata* ssp, 7 on 18/3 and 4 on 19/3

Zamboanga: *kochii* ssp, Baluno Station, 4 on 18/4

Blackish Cuckoo-shrike (*Coracina coerulescens*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 19/3

Black-and-white Triller (*Lalage melanoleuca*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 5 on 17/4 and 21/4

Pied Triller (*Lalage nigra*)

Pandan Island: 2 on 20/3 and 21/3

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 23/4

Scarlet Minivet (*Pericrocotus flammeus*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 2 on 19/4

WHISTLERS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES PACHYCEPHALIDAE)

Yellow-bellied Whistler (*Pachycephala philippinensis*)

Calayan Island: 3 on 12/4

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 19/4

SHRIKES (PASSERIFORMES LANIIDAE)

Brown Shrike (*Lanius cristatus*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 1 on 19/3

Calayan Island: 1 on 11/4, 6 on 12/4 and 4 on 13/4

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 3 on 18/4; Bog Lake, 1 on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 2 on 23/4

OLD WORLD ORIOLES (PASSERIFORMES ORIOLIDAE)

Black-naped Oriole (*Oriolus chinensis*)

Subic Bay: 4 on 18/3 and 2 on 19/3

Calayan Island: 1 on 11/4 and 2 on 13/4

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4; Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4

DRONGOS (PASSERIFORMES DICRURIDAE)

Balicassiao (*Dicrurus balicassius*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 1 on 19/3

Spangled Drongo (*Dicrurus bracteatus*)

Zamboanga: *striatus* ssp, Canucutan, 3 on 17/4, Baluno Station, 2 on 20/4

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 1 on 27/4 and 7 on 28/4
FANTAILS (PASSERIFORMES RHIPIDURIDAE)
Blue Fantail (*Rhipidura superciliaris*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 20/4
Rajah Sikatuna NP: 1 on 27/4 and 4 on 28/4
Pied Fantail (*Rhipidura javanica*)
Pandan Island: 2 on 20/3 and 21/3
Camiguin Sur: 1 on 26/4
MONARCH FLYCATCHERS (PASSERIFORMES MONARCHIDAE)
Black-naped Monarch (*Hypothymis azurea*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 20/4
Camiguin Sur: 3 on 23/4
Rajah Sikatuna NP: 3 on 28/4
CROWS, JAYS, AND MAGPIES (PASSERIFORMES CORVIDAE)
Large-billed Crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*)
Subic Bay: 5 on 18/3 and 2 on 19/3
Calayan Island: 1 on 12/4, 10 on 12/4 and 13/4
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 5 on 18/4 and 3 on 19/4
Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4
SWALLOWS (PASSERIFORMES HIRUNDINIDAE)
Barn Swallow (*Hirundo rustica*)
Calayan Island: 10 on 10/4 and 11/4
Pacific Swallow (*Hirundo tahitica*)
Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 5 on 20/4
Camiguin Sur: 10 on 26/4
CHICKADEES AND TITS (PASSERIFORMES PARIDAE)
Elegant Tit (*Pardaliparus elegans*)
Calayan Island: *edithae* ssp, 1 on 11/4 and 4 on 12/4
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4 and 20/4
NUTHATCHES (PASSERIFORMES SITTIDAE)
Sulphur-billed Nuthatch (*Sitta oenochlamys*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 2 on 18/4
BULBULS (PASSERIFORMES PYCNONOTIDAE)
Yellow-wattled Bulbul (*Pycnonotus urostictus*)
Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4 and 20/4, 2 on 19/4; Canucutan, 1 on 21/4
Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4
Rajah Sikatuna NP: 2 on 28/4
Yellow-vented Bulbul (*Pycnonotus goiavier*)
Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 1 on 19/3
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 5 on 17/4 and 21/4
Camiguin Sur: 10 on 23/4
Philippine Bulbul (*Ixos philippinus*)
Subic Bay: 5 on 18/3 and 19/3
Zamboanga Bulbul (*Ixos rufigularis*)
Zamboanga: Canucutan, 5 on 17/4; Baluno Station, 7 on 18/4 and 19/4, 4 on 20/4
Brown-eared Bulbul (*Ixos amaurotis*)
Calayan Island: *fugensis* ssp, 30 on 12/4 and 20 on 13/4
Yellowish Bulbul (*Ixos everetti*)
Camiguin Sur: *catarmanensis* ssp, 15 on 23/4, 2 on 24/4 and 25/4, 5 on 26/4
REED-WARBLERS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES ACROCEPHALIDAE)
Oriental Reed-Warbler (*Acrocephalus orientalis*)
Zamboanga: Bog Lake, 5 on 20/4
GRASSBIRDS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES MEGALURIDAE)
Striated Grassbird (*Megalurus palustris*)
Camiguin Sur: 2 on 23/4

CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES CISTICOLIDAE)

White-eared Tailorbird (*Orthotomus cinereiceps*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 2 on 17/4 and 21/4, Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4 and 20/4, 3 on 19/4

OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS (PASSERIFORMES MUSCICAPIDAE)

Chestnut-tailed Jungle-Flycatcher (*Rhinomyias ruficauda*)

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 1 on 28/4

Gray-streaked Flycatcher (*Muscicapa griseisticta*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4 and 19/4, Canucutan, 1 on 21/4

Little Slaty Flycatcher (*Ficedula basilanica*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4 and 20/4

Mangrove Blue-Flycatcher (*Cyornis rufigastra*)

Camiguin Sur: 6 on 23/4, 1 on 24/4 and 26/4

Oriental Magpie-Robin (*Copsychus saularis*)

Camiguin Sur: 2 on 23/4, 24/4 and 26/4, 1 on 25/4

Rajah Sikatuna NP: 1 on 28/4

Pied Bushchat (*Saxicola caprata*)

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 23/4

THRUSHES AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES TURDIDAE)

Blue Rock-Thrush (*Monticola solitarius*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

BABBLERS (PASSERIFORMES TIMALIIDAE)

Rusty-crowned Babbler (*Stachyris capitalis*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 4 on 20/4

Brown Tit-Babbler (*Macronous striaticeps*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 3 on 17/4 and 5 on 21/4; Baluno Station, 7 on 19/4 and 5 on 20/4

Lowland White-eye (*Zosterops meyeri*)

Calayan Island: meyeri ssp, 2 on 11/4 and 3 on 12/4

Everett's White-eye (*Zosterops everetti*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 3 on 18/4 and 19/4, 2 on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 5 on 23/4, 1 on 24/4 and 4 on 26/4

STARLINGS (PASSERIFORMES STURNIDAE)

Asian Glossy Starling (*Aplonis panayensis*)

Pandan Island: 5 on 20/3 and 3 on 21/3

Calayan Island: 10 on 10/4 and 11/4

Camiguin Sur: 10 on 23/4

Coleto (*Sarcops calvus*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 3 on 19/3

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4; Baluno Station, 3 on 18/4, 2 on 19/4 and 20/4

Crested Myna (*Acridotheres cristatellus*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 11/4

PHILIPPINE CREEPERS (PASSERIFORMES RHABDORNITHIDAE)

Stripe-sided Rhabdornis (*Rhabdornis mysticalis*)

Subic Bay: 4 on 18/3

Zamboanga: 1 on 19/4

FLOWERPECKERS (PASSERIFORMES DICAIEIDAE)

Bicolored Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum bicolor*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station: 1 on 20/4

Red-striped Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum australe*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station: 1 on 19/4

Orange-bellied Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum trigonostigma*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan: 5 on 17/4 and 2 on 21/4; Baluno Station, 5 on 18/4

Camiguin Sur: 5 on 23/4, 2 on 25/4 and 26/4

Pygmy Flowerpecker (*Dicaeum pygmaeum*)

Calayan Island: 2 on 13/4

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 18/4

SUNBIRDS AND SPIDERHUNTERS (PASSERIFORMES NECTARINIIDAE)

Plain-throated Sunbird (*Anthreptes malacensis*)

Pandan Island: 2 on 21/3

Purple-throated Sunbird (*Leptocoma sperata*)

Calayan Island: 4 on 11/4, 5 on 12/4 and 13/4

Zamboanga: *juliae* ssp, Canucutan, 1 on 17/4; Baluno Station, 4 on 20/4

Camiguin Sur: 4 on 23/4, 5 on 25/4 and 2 on 26/4

Olive-backed Sunbird (*Cinnyris jugularis*)

Subic Bay: 1 on 18/3

Pandan Island: *aurora* ssp, 3 on 20/3 and 5 on 21/3

Camiguin Sur: 4 on 23/4, 1 on 24/4, 2 on 25/4 and 26/4

Naked-faced Spiderhunter (*Arachnothera clarae*)

Zamboanga: Baluno Station, 1 on 19/4

WAGTAILS AND PIPITS (PASSERIFORMES MOTACILLIDAE)

Yellow Wagtail (*Motacilla flava*)

Calayan Island: 15 on 13/4

Gray Wagtail (*Motacilla cinerea*)

Calayan Island: 1 on 11/4 and 2 on 12/4

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 21/4

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 23/4 and 24/4

OLD WORLD SPARROWS (PASSERIFORMES PASSERIDAE)

Eurasian Tree Sparrow (*Passer montanus*)

Subic Bay: 2 on 18/3 and 5 on 19/3

Pandan Island: 5 on 21/3

Calayan Island: 10 on 11/4

Camiguin Sur: 2 on 24/4 and 4 on 26/4

WAXBILLS AND ALLIES (PASSERIFORMES ESTRILDIDAE)

White-bellied Munia (*Lonchura leucogastra*)

Zamboanga: Canucutan, 1 on 17/4

Chestnut Munia (*Lonchura atricapilla*)

Camiguin Sur: 1 on 24/4