

Recorder's Report HKBWS Eighteenth Annual General Meeting 21 October 2020

Since the last AGM in October 2019, the HKBWS Records Committee (Geoff Carey, Gary Chow, Paul Leader, Richard Lewthwaite and Yu Yat Tung plus secretary Carrie Ma) has met on two occasions (10 March, 12 October 2020). Taxonomic changes have resulted in one species being added to and one removed from Cat I, whilst field records have led to 9 species being added, taking the main Hong Kong list (Cats I-II) to **561 species**.

The most recent HK bird list produced by the Records Committee was posted on HKBWS website in March 2020 and included a number of the additions and changes which are outlined below:

Species added to Category I:

- Hen Harrier *Circus cyaneus* 白尾鷺 at Mai Po NR on 31 December 2018
- Collared Owlet *Glaucidium brodiei* 領鴝鷂 at Tai Po Kau on 23 April 2019
- Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* 西黃鷺鷥 at Lut Chau on 28 March 2019
- Chinese Grey Shrike *Lanius sphenocercus* 楔尾伯勞 at Tam Kon Chau on 5 November 2019
- Silver Oriole *Oriolus mellianus* 鵲色鷓 (EN) at Po Toi on 29 November 2018
- Fire-capped Tit *Cephalopyrus flammiceps* 火冠雀 at KFBG on 25 January 2019
- Wood Warbler *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* 林柳鶯 at Po Toi on 2 April 2019
- Buff-throated Warbler *Phylloscopus subaffinis* 棕腹柳鶯 at Hong Kong Wetland Park on 9 October 2018
- Kloss's Leaf Warbler *Phylloscopus ogilviegranti* 白斑尾柳鶯 at Tai Po Kau on 16 March 2017 (with further records in 2019 and 2020)

Species added to Category I as a result of taxonomic changes:

- **Swinhoe's Plover** *Charadrius dealbatus* has been added to Cat I. It was formerly treated as a subspecies of Kentish Plover *C. alexandrinus* but has recently been

split and is now treated as a full species (IOC 10.1 world list). As a result, both Kentish Plover and Swinhoe's Plover are on the HK list. Kentish Plover is a very common winter visitor to the Deep Bay mudflats, and Swinhoe's Plover is rare, with only 5 accepted records, all 2013-2017.

Subspecies added to Category I:

- **Blue-and-white Flycatcher** *Cyanoptila cyanomelana* spp *intermedia* at Mount Austin on 29 March 2019.

Species added to Category III:

- **Barred-shouldered Dove** *Geopelia humeralis* 斑肩姬地鳩 at Mai Po NR on 4 November 2017
- **Blue-capped Cordon-bleu** *Uraeginthus cyanocephalus* 藍頂藍飾雀 at Mai Po NR on 29 May 2017
- **Asian Glossy Starling** *Aplonis panayensis* 亞洲輝椋鳥 at Po Toi on 11 November 2018
- **Asian Fairy-bluebird** *Irena puella* 和平鳥 at Jordan Valley on 17 December 2019
- **Racket-tailed Treepie** *Crypsirina temia* 盤尾樹鵲 at Long Valley on 20 March 2019

Taxonomic changes affecting the HK list (in line with IOC 10.1 and 10.2):

A large number of changes which result from the latest IOC world lists (10.1, 10.2) will be reflected in an updated HK list due to be uploaded to the HKBWS website early next year. The changes affect scientific names, sequence of species within a family, and sequence of families within the whole list, and are too many to detail individually here. To give a few examples, new names for species on the HK list include Stejneger's Scoter *Melanitta stejnegeri*, now split from White-winged Scoter *M. degallandi*, and *Cyornis whitei* for Hill Blue Flycatcher. New generic names include *Lewinia* and *Zapornia* for some rail / crane species, *Curruca* (Lesser Whitethroat), *Staphidia* (Chestnut-crowned Yuhina) and *Cyanoderma* (Rufous-capped Babbler). Families which have been moved in the list, internally resequenced or otherwise changed include the grebes, shearwaters, storks, frigatebirds, ardeids, raptors, pittas, bulbuls and babblers.

Record assessment:

- The Records Committee is close to completing assessment of all URFs for the year 2019 and has already started assessment of URFs for 2020.

Hong Kong Bird Reports (HKBR)

- **HKBR 2018** is expected to be ready for publication by the end of the year

Number of species by year

No. of species	Year
318	2000
380	2006
382	2007
385	2008
397	2009
399	2010
396	2011
404	2012
393	2013
411	2014
412	2015
404	2016
414	2017
428	2018