

# ORNITHOLOGICAL TRIP REPORT KAZAKHSTAN MAY 2009

*Arend Wassink*

## Introduction

From 1 – 22 May 2009 Jos van den Berg, Ruud van Beusekom, Jeroen de Bruijn, Pieter Duin, Nils van Duivendijk and Arend Wassink made an ornithological trip in Kazakhstan. The trip was divided into three parts. During the first part our base was Jabagly, a small village situated in the foothills of the Talasskiy Alatau mountains, western Tien Shan. From there we made trips to the lower parts of the mountains bordering Aksu-Jabagly nature reserve, Abail, Ters Asthibulak lake, Berkara valley, Koktal valley and the Red Gate in the Karatau mountains, Bilikol lake, Koksay gorge and Kyzylkol lake, all in South Kazakhstan and Zhambyl provinces. During the second part we mainly stayed at Kolshengel in the Taukum desert, from where we visited the Topar lakes, Zhelturanga and Aydarli, and from and to Kolshengel we visited Sorbulak lake and the Wish Tree, all in Almaty province. The third part consisted of a stay in Ili-Alatau national park (mainly from Big Almaty lake upwards) in the Zailiyskiy Alatau mountains, also in Almaty province.

Underneath the itinerary:

30 April Amsterdam – Almaty (43:15 N, 76:57 E)  
1 May Almaty - Chimkent (42:18 N, 69:36 E) to Jabagly (42:25 N, 70:28 E)  
2-3 May Jabagly  
4 May Jabagly – Bilikol lake (42:58 N, 70:43 E) - Koktal valley (43:30 N, 70:34 E) - Kyzylkol lake (43:45 N, 69:30 E)  
5-7 May Kyzylkol lake  
8 May Kyzylkol lake- Koktal valley - Jabagly  
9 May Jabagly and Abail (42:29 N, 70:29 E)  
10 May Jabagly and Red Gate (43:29 N, 69:21 E)  
11 May Bilikol lake, Berkara valley (42:55 N, 70:38 E), Koksay valley (42:10 N, 70:33 E), Ters Asthibulak lake (including Ters valley) (42:40 N, 70:54 E)  
12 May Jabagly  
13 May Jabagly- Chimkent – Almaty – Sorbulak lake (43:40 N, 76:34 E) – Kolshengel (44:20 N, 75:33 E)  
14 May Kolshengel  
15 May Kolshengel and Aydarli (44:06 N, 75:55 E)  
16 May Kolshengel – Topar lakes (44:58 N, 75:09 E) – Zhelturanga (45:04 N, 75:15 E)  
17 May Kolshengel and Aydarli  
18 May Kolshengel  
19 May Kolshengel – Wish Tree, Sorbulak lake – Almaty – Ili-Alatau national park (43:10 N, 77:50 E)  
20 May Ili-Alatau national park  
21 May Ili-Alatau national park - Almaty  
22 May Almaty - Amsterdam

## Acknowledgement

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## Species list

species sequence, taxonomy and nomenclature follow van den Berg (2008) and Wassink & Oreeel (2008). English names follow van den Berg (2008), Gill and Wright (2006) and Gill *et al* (2008)

**Mute Swan** *Cygnus olor*

7 Apr 2 ad Kyzylkol lake

**Greylag Goose** *Anser anser rubirostris*

4 May 1 Bilikol lake

**Ruddy Shelduck** *Tadorna ferruginea*

Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 50 per day) Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Aydarli, Topar lakes, Ili-Alatau national park

**Common Shelduck** *Tadorna tadorna*

Kyzylkol lake (max 20 per day), Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes

**Red-crested Pochard** *Netta rufina*

Kyzylkol lake, Bilikol lake, Sorbulak lake (max 100 per day), Topar lakes

**Common Pochard** *Aythya ferruginea*

16 May 3 (including a pair) Topar lakes

**Ferruginous Duck** *Aythya nyroca*

Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (50)

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula*

Kyzylkol lake (1 male), Topar lakes (1 female)

**Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala c clangula*

4 May 1 Bilikol lake

**Gadwall** *Anas s strepera*

Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake (max 10 per day), Topar lakes

**Eurasian Wigeon** *Anas penelope*

Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 5 per day), Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata*

Kyzylkol lake (max 40 per day), Kolshengel, Sorbulak lake

**Mallard** *Anas p platyrhynchos*

Jabagly, Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Koksay valley, Topar lakes (16), Sorbulak lake

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta*

Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake (max 9 per day)

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol and Sorbulak lakes (max 25 per day), Kolshengel, Topar lakes

**Common Teal** *Anas crecca*

Kyzylkol and Sorbulak lakes (max 6 per day)

**Himalayan Snowcock** *Tetraogallus himalayanis sewerzowi*

19-21 May max 5 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Chukar** *Alectoris chukar falki*

Kyzylkol lake, Koptal valley, Red Gate, Berkara valley, Koksay gorge (10), Ili-Alatau national park

**Grey Partridge** *Perdix perdix robusta*  
16 May 1 Topar lakes

**Common Quail** *Coturnix c coturnix*  
Jabagly (max 3 per day), Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel

**Common Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus mongolicus*  
Jabagly, Bilikol lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (5)

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Ters Asthibulak lake, Sorbulak lake (several thousands), Topar lakes

**Great White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus*  
5 and 6 May 190 and 665 migrating Kyzylkol lake

**Dalmatian Pelican** *Pelecanus crispus*  
Kyzylkol lake (17 on 6 May), Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes

**Great Bittern** *Botaurus s stellaris*  
Bilikol lake, Topar lakes (2)

**Little Bittern** *Ixobrychus m minutus*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Ters valley, Kolshengel, Topar lakes (6)

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax n nycticorax*  
Jabagly, Kyzylkol lake, Ters valley (8), Topar lakes

**Western Great Egret** *Casmerodius a albus*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake (max 20 per day)

**Grey Heron** *Ardea c cinerea*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Ters Asthibulak lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (tens)

**Purple Heron** *Ardea purpurea*  
4 May 1 Bilikol lake, 5-7 May 1 first-summer Kyzylkol lake

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*  
Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Koksay gorge, Bilikol lake (7 on 11 May), Jabagly

**Eurasian Spoonbill** *Platalea l leucorodia*  
5 May 2 Kyzylkol lake.

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis*  
16 May 3 Topar lakes.

**Great Crested Grebe** *Podiceps c cristatus*  
Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (20).

**Horned Grebe** *Podiceps a auritus*  
13 May 1 Sorbulak lake.

**Black-necked Grebe** *Podiceps n nigricollis*  
5 May 21 Kyzylkol lake.

**European Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*  
Kyzylkol lake (5 and 6 May, Jabagly 5 and 1), Jabagly

**Crested Honey Buzzard** *Pernis ptilorhyncus orientalis*  
Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Jabagly, Kolshengel (41, of which 39 on 18 May)

**Black-eared/Black Kite** *Milvus migrans / lineatus*  
Widespread; max 140 per day at Kolshengel

**White-tailed Eagle** *Haliaeetus a albicilla*  
16 May Topar lakes

**Lammergeier** *Gypaetus barbatus aureus*  
Jabagly and Ili-Alatau national park (max 3 per day)

**Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron p percnopterus*  
5 and 6 May 1 Kyzylkol lake, 11 May 1 Koksay gorge

**Eurasian Griffon Vulture** *Gyps f fulvus*  
Jabagly, Koksay gorge (2)

**Himalayan Griffon Vulture** *Gyps himalayensis*  
11 May 1 adult Koksay gorge (Wassink in prep), 12 May 1 Jabagly

**Eurasian Black Vulture** *Aegypius monachus*  
Jabagly (max 7 per day), Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Kolshengel

**Short-toed Eagle** *Circaetus gallicus*  
Jabagly (max 5 per day), Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Koksay gorge, Kolshengel

**Western Marsh Harrier** *Circus a aeruginosus*  
Bilikol lake (max 10 per day, of which 1 melanistic male on 4 May), Kyzylkol lake, Topar lakes

**Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus*  
Bilikol and Kyzylkol lakes (max 4 per day), Kolshengel

**Eurasian Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter nisus*  
Widespread; max 25 per day at Jabagly

**Shikra** *Accipiter badius cenchroides*  
Kyzylkol lake, Koptal valley, Kolshengel, Zhelturanga (5), Aydarli, Wish Tree

**Common Buzzard** *Buteo buteo vulpinus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 20 per day), Jabagly

**Long-legged Buzzard** *Buteo r rufinus*  
Widespread; max 10 Koksay gorge

**Upland Buzzard** *Buteo hemilasius*  
11 May 1 juvenile (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Koksay gorge

**Greater Spotted Eagle** *Aquila clanga*  
18 May 1 juvenile (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Kolshengel

**Booted Eagle** *Aquila pennata*  
Jabagly (max 5 per day), Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Kolshengel, Ili-Alatau national park

**Golden Eagle** *Aquila chrysaetos canadensis*  
Kyzylkol lake, Koksay gorge, Jabagly (4 on 12 May), Ili-Alatau national park

**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis*  
Kyzylkol lake, Kolshengel (max 4 per day)

**Eastern Imperial Eagle** *Aquila heliaca*  
18 May 1 juvenile (2<sup>nd</sup> year) Kolshengel

**Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni*  
Koktal valley (max 15 per day), Kyzylkol lake, 3 Red Gate

**Common Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus*  
Widespread: 10 Topar lakes

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius pallidus*  
4 May 1 male Bilikol lake  
unidentified subspecies  
6 May 1 Kyzylkol lake

**Eurasian Hobby** *Falco s subbuteo*  
Widespread; max 20 per day Jabagly

**Saker Falcon** *Falco cherrug*  
11 May 1 Tuzkol lake

**Water Rail** *Rallus aquaticus*  
7 May 1 Kyzylkol lake

**Spotted Crane** *Porzana porzana*  
5-7 May max 1 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Little Crane** *Porzana parva*  
5-7 May max 2 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Baillon's Crane** *Porzana pusilla intermedia*  
5-7 May max 3 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula c chloropus*  
Kyzylkol lake, Bilikol lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (6)

**Eurasian Coot** *Fulica a atra*  
Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake (max 50 per day)

**Demoiselle Crane** *Grus virgo*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 106 per day), Koksay gorge, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel

**Little Bustard** *Tetrax tetrax*  
11 May 30 en route to and at Koksay valley

**Macqueen's Bustard** *Chlamydotis macqueenii*  
14-18 May max 2 per day Kolshengel

**Eurasian Oystercatcher** *Haematopus ostralegus longipes*  
4 and 8 May, resp 1 and 12 Kyzylkol lake

**Ibisbill** *Ibidorhyncha struthersii*  
19 May 1 Big Almaty lake, Ili-Alatau national park

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus h himantopus*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes (50)

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta*  
4-8 May max 10 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Stone-curlew** *Burhinus oedicnemus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 2 per day), Kolshengel

**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola p pratincola*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 200 per day), Sorbulak lake

**Black-winged Pratincole** *Glareola nordmanni*  
6 and 7 May, resp 1 and 10 Kyzylkol lake

**Little Ringed Plover** *Charadrius dubius curonicus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 50 per day), Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes, Kolshengel

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula tundrae*  
4-8 May max 5 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Kentish Plover** *Charadrius a alexandrinus*  
4-8 May max 30 per day

**Greater Sand Plover** *Charadrius leschenaultii crassirostris*  
Kyzylkol lake, Kolshengel (max 20 per day)

**Caspian Plover** *Charadrius asiaticus*  
14 May 7 ad and 6 pulli Kolshengel

**Pacific Golden Plover** *Pluvialis fulva*  
18 May 1 Kolshengel

**White-tailed Lapwing** *Vanellus leucurus*  
19 May 1 Sorbulak lake (Wassink in prep)

**Northern Lapwing** *Vanellus vanellus*  
Bilikol lake (max 20 per day), Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes

**Sanderling** *Calidris a alba*  
4 May 5 Kyzylkol lake

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 30 per day), Sorbulak lake

**Temminck's Stint** *Calidris temminckii*  
Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel (max 150 per day)

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea*  
5 and 8 May, Jabaglyectively 1 and 30 Kyzylkol lake

**Dunlin** *Calidris a alpina*  
5-8 May max 20 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*  
4-8 May max 5 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Common Snipe** *Gallinago g gallinago*  
Jabagly, Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (2)

**Eurasian Woodcock** *Scolopax rusticola*  
7 May 1 Kyzylkol lake

**Black-tailed Godwit** *Limosa limosa*  
*limosa*  
5 and 8 May 12 and 1 Kyzylkol lake  
*melanuroides*  
4 and 7 May, resp 1 and 2 males Kyzylkol lake (Wassink in prep)

**Bar-tailed Godwit** *Limosa l lapponica*  
7 May 1 Kyzylkol lake

**Eurasian Whimbrel** *Numenius p phaeopus*  
14 May 1 Kolshengel

**Terek Sandpiper** *Xenus cinereus*  
Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel (11 on 17 May)

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*  
Widespread; max 20 per day Kyzylkol lake

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel (max 5 per day), Topar lakes

**Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 22 per day), Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 10 per day)

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 10 per day)

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 10 per day), Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes

**Common Redshank** *Tringa totanus ussuriensis*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 100 per day), Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes

**Red-necked Phalarope** *Phalaropus lobatus*  
5 and 8 May, resp 3 and 25 Kyzylkol lake

**Slender-billed Gull** *Chroicocephalus genei*  
4-8 May max 75 Kyzylkol lake

**Black-headed Gull** *Chroicocephalus ridibundus*  
Kyzylkol lake, Ters Asthibulak lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lake (30)

**Pallas's Gull** *Larus ichthyaetus*  
5 May 1 first-summer Kyzylkol lake

**Heuglin's Gull** *Larus heuglini*  
*barabensis*  
4-8 May max 10 per day Kyzylkol lake  
*heuglini*  
4-8 May some large, dark mantled gulls at Kyzylkol probably referred to this taxon

**Caspian Gull** *Larus cachinnans*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake (max 500), Topar lakes

**Little Tern** *Sternula a albifrons*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 8 per day), Sorbulak lake

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica*  
Jabagly, Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 30 per day), Kolshengel, Sorbulak lake

**Caspian Tern** *Hydroprogne caspia*  
4 May 1 Kyzylkol lake

**Black Tern** *Chlidonias niger*

4 May 1 Bilikol lake, 16 May 75 Topar lakes

**White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus*

Bilikol lake, Kyzykol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes (200)

**Common Tern** *Sterna h hirundo*

Bilikol lake, Kyzykol lake, Sorbulak lake, Topar lakes (50)

**Black-bellied Sandgrouse** *Pterocles orientalis arenarius*

Bilikol lake, Kyzykol lake, Kolshengel (max 80 per day)

**Asian Pin-tailed Sandgrouse** *Pterocles alchata caudacutus*

14 and 18 May 2 Kolshengel

**Pallas's Sandgrouse** *Syrrhaptes paradoxus*

13-18 May max 3 per day Kolshengel

**Rock Dove** *Columbia livia* including *forma domestica*

Widespread; absent Kyzykol lake

**Yellow-eyed Dove** *Columba eversmanni*

16 May 15 Zhelturanga

**Common Wood Pigeon** *Columba palumbus casiotus*

Widespread; absent Kyzykol lake

**Eurasian Collared Dove** *Streptopelia d decaocto*

Widespread; not present at Kyzykol lake

**European Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*

Ters valley, Kolshengel, Aydarli (max 10 per day)

**Oriental Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia orientalis meena*

Widespread; max 150 per day Kolshengel

**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis ermanni*

Jabagly (max 20 per day), Abail, en route from Jabagly to Koksay gorge, Almaty

**Common Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus*

Widespread; max 40 en route from Jabagly to Kyzykol lake on 4 May

**European Scops Owl** *Otus scops pulchellus*

11 May 1 Bilikol lake, Jabagly, Almaty (4)

**Little Owl** *Athene noctua bactriana*

7 May 1 Kyzykol lake

**Tengmalm's Owl** *Aegolius funereus pallens*

21 May 1 Ili-Alatau national park

**European Nightjar** *Caprimulgus e europaeus/sarudnyi*

Kyzykol lake, Red Gate, Kolshengel (at each location max 1)

**Common Swift** *Apus apus*

Widespread; max 600 per day at Jabagly on 12 May

**Alpine Swift** *Apus melba tuneti*

Jabagly (max 80 per day)



**Common Kingfisher** *Alcedo a atthis*

Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes (5)

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops p persicus*

Koktal valley, Kyzylkol lake (max 8 per day), Kolshengel

**European Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*

Widespread; not recorded Ili-Alatau national park, max 70 en route Almaty-Sorbulak-Kolshengel

**European Roller** *Coracias garrulus*

Widespread; not recorded Ili-Alatau national park, max 129 en route Kyzylkol lake-Jabagly,  
Note: breeding birds, for instance, at Kyzylkol lake refer to subspecies *semenowi*

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa e epops*

Widespread (max 10 per day en route Kolshengel-Zhelturanga and Kolshengel-Aydarli); absent from Ili-Alatau national park,

**Eurasian Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla sarudnyi*

1 and 3 May, resp 2 and 8 Jabagly

**White-winged Woodpecker** *Dendrocopus leucopterus*

Jabagly, Zhelturanga (8)

**Calandra Lark** *Melanocorypha calandra psammochroa*

Widespread (max 100's Kolshengel); not recorded Jabagly and Ili-Alatau national park

**Bimaculated Lark** *Melanocorypha bimaculata torquata*

Kyzylkol, Koksay valley, Sorbulak, Kolshengel (max 15 per day)

**Greater Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella brachydactyla longipennis*

En route to and from Jabagly-Kyzylkol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Koksay valley, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel (max hundreds per day)

**Lesser Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella rufescens heinei*

Kyzylkol lake, Koksay valley, Kolshengel (max tens per day)

**Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata magna*

En route Shimkent-Jabagly, en route Jabagly-Kyzylkol lake, Bilikol lake, en route to and from Almaty-Kolshengel (max 10 per day)

**Eurasian Skylark** *Alauda arvensis dulcivox*

Kyzylkol lake, Jabagly, Koksay valley, en route Almaty-Kolshengel (3)

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

Kyzylkol lake (max 400 per day), Kolshengel, Topar lakes

Note: unidentified *Riparia*- mostly due to light conditions- at other locations)

**Pale Sand Martin** *Riparia diluta*

Kyzylkol lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes (70)

Note: see above

**Eurasian Crag Martin** *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*

1 May 1 Jabagly

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo r rustica*

Widespread; max thousands per day

**Common House Martin** *Delichon u urbicum*

Jabagly, Koksay gorge, en route Almaty-Kolshengel, Ili-Alatau national park (max 40 per day)

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*

Jabagly, en route Kyzylkol lake-Jabagly (10), Koksay gorge, en route Almaty-Kolshengel

**Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*

Widespread (max 10 per day at Kyzylkol lake and en route Jabagly-Kyzylkol lake; not recorded Ili-Alatau national park)

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*

Widespread (max 10 per day Kyzylkol lake)

*haringtoni*

Breeding birds, for instance, at the Koktal valley and Ili-Alatau national park, referred to this subspecies

*trivialis*

most other records probably referred to this subspecies

**Meadow Pipit** *Anthus pratensis*

2 May 1 Jabagly

**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*

Single birds at Jabagly on 2 May, Kyzylkol on 5 and 6 May, Koktal valley on 8 May, and Bilikol lake on 11 May

**Water Pipit** *Anthus spinoletta blakistoni*

Ili-Alatau national park (max 20 per day)

**Blue-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla flava beema*

Kyzylkol lake (max 8 per day), Kolshengel

**Grey-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla thunbergi*

Kyzylkol lake (max 30 per day), Kolshengel, Sorbulak lake

**Black-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla feldegg*

Widespread (several hundreds female-types at Kyzylkol probably mostly this species; not recorded Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park)

**Eastern Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla tschutsensis*

15 May 1 first-summer male Kolshengel (Wassink in prep)

**White-headed Wagtail** *Motacilla leucocephala*

15 May 1 first-summer male Kolshengel

**Citrine Wagtail** *Motacilla citreola*

*citreola*

Kyzylkol lake (max 10 per day), Bilikol lake, Jabagly, Kolshengel, Topar lakes

*calcarata*

Kolshengel (max 2 per day), Aydarli

**Grey Wagtail** *Motacilla c cinerea*

Widespread (max 50 per day Jabagly)

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla a alba*

Widespread (max hundreds per day Kyzylkol lake); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Masked Wagtail** *Motacilla personata*

Widespread (max 25 en route Kyzylkol lake– Jabagly)

**East Siberian Wagtail** *Motacilla ocularis*

7 May 1 Kyzylkol lake, 13, 14, 15 and 18 May 1 per day Kolshengel, 16 May 3 Topar lakes

**Brown Dipper** *Cinclus pallasii tenuirostris*  
11 May 1 Koksay gorge, 21 May 2 Ili-Alatau national park

**Winter Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes tianschanicus*  
20 and 21 May, resp 1 and 2 Ili-Alatau national park

**Black-throated Accentor** *Prunella atrogularis huttoni*  
19-21 May max 10 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Altai Accentor** *Prunella himalayana*  
19-20 May max 10 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Rufous Scrub Robin** *Cercotrichas galactotes familiaris*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake (max 2 per day)

**Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia*  
Kyzylkol lake, Aydarli, Kolshengel (max 2 per day)

**Eastern Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos golzii*  
Widespread (max 25 per day Aydarli); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Bluethroat** *Luscinia svecica pallidogularis* (and *svecica*?)  
Jabagly, Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Topar lakes, Kolshengel, Ili-Alatau national park?

**White-tailed Rubythroat** *Luscinia pectoralis ballioni*  
19-20 May max 6 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Eversmann's Redstart** *Phoenicurus erythronotus*  
19-21 May max 3 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Blue-capped Redstart** *Phoenicurus coeruleocephalus*  
19-21 May max 8 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Black Redstart** *Phoenicurus ochruros phoenicuroides*  
14-15 May 1 male Kolshengel

**Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus p phoenicurus*  
Widespread (max 10 per day Jabagly); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Güldenstädt's Redstart** *Phoenicurus erythrogaster grandis*  
20 May 4 Ili-Alatau national park

**Siberian Stonechat** *Saxicola maurus*  
Widespread (max 50 per day Jabagly)

**Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina*  
Widespread (max 25 en route Kyzylkol lake-Jabagly); not recorded Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park

**Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe o oenanthe*  
Koktal valley, Koksay valley, Kolshengel, Ili-Alatau national park (4 on 20 May)

**Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka*  
Jabagly (max 6 per day), Kyzylkol lake, Zhelturanga, Taukum desert (Wish Tree)

**Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush** *Monticola saxatilis*  
11 May 4 pairs Koksay gorge, 16 May 1 Topar lakes

**Blue Rock Thrush** *Monticola solitarius pandoo*  
11 May 1 Koksay gorge

**Blue Whistling Thrush** *Myophonus caeruleus temminckii*  
Koktal valley, Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park (10 on 21 May)

**Common Blackbird** *Turdus merula intermedius*  
Jabagly (max 15 per day), Red Gate, Koktal valley, Berkara valley, en route Almaty-Kolshengel, Ili-Alatau national park

**Black-throated Thrush** *Turdus atrogularis*  
Jabagly (max 15 per day), Koksay gorge, Kolshengel

**Mistle Thrush** *Turdus viscivorus bonapartei*  
Jabagly, Koksay gorge, Ili-Alatau national park (max 20 per day)

**Cetti's Warbler** *Cettia cetti albiventris*  
Bilikol lake, Kyzylkol lake, Koktal valley, Ters valley, Topar lakes (4 on 16 May)

**Common Grasshopper Warbler** *Locustella naevia straminae*  
Jabagly, Kyzylkol lake (max tens per day), Ili-Alatau national park

**Savi's Warbler** *Locustella luscinioides fusca*  
5 and 7 May, Jabagly, Kyzylkol lake

**Upcher's Warbler** *Hippolais languida*  
11 May 1 Ter valley

**Paddyfield Warbler** *Acrocephalus agricola*  
Widespread (max 100+ per day Kyzylkol lake); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Blyth's Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus dumetorum*  
Widespread (max 40 per day Kolshengel); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**European Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus fuscus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 10 per day), Bilikol lake, Ters valley, Kolshengel

**Moustached Warbler** *Acrocephalus melanopogon mimicus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 4 per day), Bilikol lake, Kolshengel

**Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *Acrocephalus pallidus elaeicus*  
5 and 7 May, resp 1 Kyzylkol lake

**Booted Warbler** *Acrocephalus caligatus*  
5-7 May max 5 per day Kyzylkol lake, 15 May 1 Kolshengel

**Sykes's Warbler** *Acrocephalus rama*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 30 per day), en route Kyzylkol lake-Jabagly, Sorbulak lake, Kolshengel, Aydarli, Topar lakes

**Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus zarudnyi*  
Jabagly, Kyzylkol lake, Bilikol lake, Kolshengel, Topar lakes (6 on 16 May)

**Clamorous Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus stentoreus brunnescens*  
11 May 2 Ters valley

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca halimodendri* (and *blythi* ?)  
Widespread (max 500 per day Kolshengel)

**Common Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*  
Jabagly, Koksay valley, Kolshengel and Aydarli (max 6 per day)

**Greenish Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochiloides viridanus*  
Widespread (max 30 per day Kolshengel)

**Hume's Leaf Warbler** *Phylloscopus h humei*  
Widespread (max hundreds per day Jabagly)

**Sulphur-bellied Warbler** *Phylloscopus griseolus*  
3 May 1 Jabagly, 14 May 1 Kolshengel, 15 May 1 Aydarli

**Common Chiffchaff** *Phylloscopus collybita tristis*  
Widespread (max several thousands per day Jabagly)  
*abietinus*  
3 May 1 singing/calling Jabagly (Wassink in prep)

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*  
3 May 1 Jabagly, 11 May Ters valley

**Goldcrest** *Regulus regulus tristis*  
19-21 May max 10 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**White-browed Tit Warbler** *Leptopoecile s sophiae*  
19-21 May max 6 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata neumanni and/or sarudnyi*  
Widespread (max 30 per day) Kyzylkol lake

**Asian Paradise-flycatcher** *Terpsiphone paradisi leucogaster*  
11 May 2 pairs Berkara valley, 12 May 1 pair Jabagly

**Bearded Reedling** *Panurus biarmicus russicus*  
16 May 2 Topar lakes

**Yellow-breasted Tit** *Cyanistes flavipectus*  
9 May 3 Abail, 12 May 1 pair Jabagly

**Azure Tit** *Cyanistes cyanus koktalensis*  
16 May 4 Zhelturanga

**Turkestan Tit** *Parus bokharensis ferghanensis*  
Jabagly, Abail, Red Gate, Koksay gorge, Zhelturanga (10)

**Great Tit** *Parus m major*  
Aydarli, 19-21 May max 5 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Coal Tit** *Periparus ater rufipectus*  
19-21 May max 10 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Songar Tit** *Poecile s songara*  
19-21 May max 10 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Eastern Rock Nuthatch** *Sitta tephronata*  
8 May 2 Koktal valley

**Eurasian Treecreeper** *Certhia familiaris tianschanica*  
21 May 3 Ili-Alatau national park

**Black-headed Penduline Tit** *Remiz macronyx ssaposhnikowi*  
16 May 6 en route between Topar lakes and Zhelturanga

**White-crowned Penduline Tit** *Remiz c coronatus*

Jabagly (max 20 per day), Koktal valley, Red Gate Koksay gorge, Kolshengel

**Eurasian Golden Oriole** *Oriolus o oriolus*

Widespread (max 25 per day Jabagly); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

*oriolus*

at least 2 at Kolshengel on 14 May

*kundoo*

at least most at Jabagly, and 2 at Kolshengel on 17 May belonged to this subspecies

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius c collurio*

Kyzylkol (max 12 per day), Koksay valley, Kolshengel, Aydarli

Note: also some hybrids x Red-tailed Shrike *L phoenicuroides*

**Red-tailed Shrike** *Lanius phoenicuroides*

Widespread (max 30 per day Kyzylkol lake); not recorded Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park

Note: also some hybrids x Red-backed Shrike

**Daurian Shrike** *Lanius i isabellinus*

Kyzylkol lake (max 5 per day), Koksay valley, Jabagly, Kolshengel

**Long-tailed Shrike** *Lanius schach erythronotus*

Widespread (max 15 per day Jabagly); not recorded Topar lakes, Zhelturanga, Ili-Alatau national park

**Lesser Grey Shrike** *Lanius minor*

Widespread (max 20 per day Kyzylkol lake, Jabagly); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Steppe Grey Shrike** *Lanius pallidirostris*

16 May 5 en route between Kolshengel and Topar lakes

**Eurasian Magpie** *Pica pica bactrianus*

Widespread (max tens per day)

**Spotted Nutcracker** *Nucrifaga caryocatactes rothschildi*

19-21 May max 6 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Alpine Chough** *Pyrrhcorax graculus forsythi*

19-21 May max 5 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Red-billed Chough** *Pyrrhcorax pyrrhcorax centralis*

20 May 5 Ili-Alatau national park

**Western Jackdaw** *Corvus monedula soemmerringii*

Widespread (max tens per day)

**Rook** *Corvus f frugilegus*

Widespread (max 200 per day Aydarli)

**Carrion Crow** *Corvus corone orientalis*

Widespread (max tens per day)

**Hooded Crow** *Corvus cornix sharpii*

14 May 1 Kolshengel

**Brown-necked Raven** *Corvus r ruficollis*

13-19 May max 15 per day (also immatures) Kolshengel

**Common Raven** *Corvus corax tibetanus*

Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park (max 3 per day)

**Common Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris porphyronotus*  
Widespread (max some tens per day)  
Note: some migrating birds could have belonged to subspecies *poltaratskyi*

**Rose-coloured Starling** *Sturnus roseus*  
Widespread (max 300 per day Kyzylkol, Kolshengel); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Common Myna** *Acridotheres t tristis*  
Widespread (max hundreds per day); not recorded Kyzylkol lake

**Saxaul Sparrow** *Passer ammodendri nigricans*  
16 May 8 Zhelturanga

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus*  
*bactrianus*  
Widespread (max 50 per day Kyzylkol lake); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park  
*domesticus*  
Jabagly (max 6 per day), Almaty

**Spanish Sparrow** *Passer hispaniolensis transcaspicus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 50 per day), Koksay gorge, Jabagly, Kolshengel, Sorbulak lake

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*  
Jabagly (max 200 per day), en route Kyzylkol lake-Jabagly, Sorbulak lake

**Common Chaffinch** *Fringilla c coelebs*  
1-3 May 1 female Jabagly, 10 May 1 male Jabagly, 2 May 1 male Koksay gorge

**Red-fronted Serin** *Serinus pusillus*  
13 May 1 Kolshengel (Wassink in prep), 19-21 May max 10 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**European Greenfinch** *Chloris chloris turkestanicus*  
9 May 4 Jabagly

**European Goldfinch** *Carduelis carduelis parapanisi*  
8 May Kortal valley, Berkara valley, Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park (max 15 per day)

**Eurasian Siskin** *Carduelis spinus*  
1 and 2 May 1 Jabagly

**Common Linnet** *Carduelis cannabina bella*  
3 and 9 May, Jabagly 3 and 2 Jabagly

**Common Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra tianschanica*  
19-21 May max 20 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Plain Mountain Finch** *Leucosticte nemoricola altaica*  
19-21 May max 70 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**Desert Finch** *Rhodospiza obsoleta*  
16 May 1 en route Kolshengel – Topar lakes, 17 May 2 Kolshengel

**Mongolian Finch** *Bucanetes mongolicus*  
Kyzylkol lake (max 50 per day), Kolshengel

**Common Rosefinch** *Carpodacus erythrinus*  
Widespread (max hundreds per day Jabagly)  
*ferghanensis*  
at least all breeding birds involved this subspecies  
*erythrinus*

Part of the migrants probably involved this subspecies

**Red-mantled Rosefinch** *Carpodacus rhodochlamys*

19-21 May max 6 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**White-winged Grosbeak** *Mycerobas c. carnipes*

11 May 2 Koksay gorge (Wassink in prep), 19-21 May max 8 per day Ili-Alatau national park

**White-capped Bunting** *Emberiza stewarti*

14 May 1 female Aydarli (Wassink in prep)

**Rock Bunting** *Emberiza cia par*

Koksay gorge (5), Jabagly, Ili-Alatau national park

**Ortolan Bunting** *Emberiza hortulana*

Widespread (max 50 per day Kolshengel); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Grey-necked Bunting** *Emberiza buchanani neobscura*

Kyzylkol lake, Red Gate, Koksay gorge (3), Kolshengel

**Common Reed Bunting** *Emberiza schoeniclus pyrrhuloides*

11 May 1 Bilikol lake, 16 May 10 Topar lakes

**Red-headed Bunting** *Emberiza bruniceps*

Widespread (max 500 per day); not recorded Ili-Alatau national park

**Corn Bunting** *Emberiza calandra buturlini*

Jabagly, en route Kyzylkol lake-Jabagly, en route Jabagly-Koksay gorge (20), en route Almaty-Sorbulak lake



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## Correspondence

Arend Wassink  
Postweg 64  
1795 JR De Cocksdorp  
Texel  
Netherlands  
+31(0)222311306  
+31(0)653843415  
[arendwassink@texel.com](mailto:arendwassink@texel.com)  
[www.birdsofkazakhstan.com](http://www.birdsofkazakhstan.com)



