

# Birds of Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve, Nepal

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Nepal is rich in bird diversity and recorded 871 bird species. Our study aimed to update bird diversity of Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (DHR) of Nepal which is an Important Birds Area (IBA) out of 27 IBAs of Nepal. One hundred forty nine species of birds were recorded in DHR; out of them *Catreus wallichii* was globally threatened bird which has faced different anthropogenic problem. Twelve species of birds were included in CITIES Appendices and 3 species were nationally threatened. Most of the species of order *Passeriformis* were recorded. Only one species of order *Upupiformes* i.e. *Upupa epops* was recorded during the study.

**Keywords:** Bird; Checklist; Threatened; Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve

## Introduction

Birds (class Aves) are feathered, winged, bipedal, endothermic, egg-laying, vertebrate animals (Wikipedia, 2013). Although Nepal covers just 0.1% of the global land mass, nearly 9% of the world's bird species are found here (BCN, 2012). With the latest record of ash y minivet (*Pericrocotus divaricatus*) and long-billed vulture (*Gypus indicus*) Nepal's bird diversity has reached 871 species (BCN, 2012; BCN and DNPWC, 2012). A total of 29 species recorded in Nepal were identified as globally threatened by BirdLife International in 1999 (Grimmett et al., 2000). Zoo-geographically, Nepal falls between two great regions: the Palaearctic in the north and Oriental to the south so Nepal has one of the world's richest avian fauna (Shrestha, 1981).

A total of 27 Important Birds Areas (IBAs) had been identified in Nepal. Thirteen IBAs are within protected areas (Thakuri & Thapa, 2012). Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (DHR) is one of the IBAs (BCN and DNPWC, 2011). DHR was a habitat of 137 species of bird out of them cheer pheasant (*Catreus wallichii*) is listed in endangered category of IUCN red data list (Thapa, 2007). Here we updated the checklist of bird species of DHR. DHR was good habitat of birds (Thapa, 2007) but checklist update was lacking. Our aim was to update the checklist of bird species in DHR and to identify their order, family, conservation status and threats.

## Material and Methods

### Study Area

The Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (DHR) is the only one hunting reserve in Nepal located in Dhaulagiri Himal range of the eastern part of the country (Aryal & Kreigenhofer, 2009; Panthi et al., 2012). The reserve was established in 1983 and gazetted in 1987. The reserve covers 1325 km<sup>2</sup> and ranges from 2000 to 7246 m (altitude). It falls within the Rukum, Baglung and

Myadgi districts of Nepal (Figure 1). The reserve supports 14 ecosystems types represented in the mid hill to higher Himalayan ecosystem (Shrestha et al., 2002; Lillesø et al., 2005; Bhujui et al., 2007).

The reserve provide prime habitat for fauna such as barking deer (*Muntiacus muntjak*), Himalayan thar (*Hemitragus jemlanchicus*), rhesus macaque (*Macaca radiata*) wolf (*Canis lupus*), red panda (*Ailurus fulgens fulgens*), wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), blue sheep (*Pseudois nayaur*), Himalayan black bear (*Ursus thibetanus*), common leopard (*Panthera pardus*), goral (*Naemorhedus goral*), serow (*Capricornis thar*) and variety of avifauna including cheer pheasant (*Catreus wallichii*) and danphe (*Lophophorus impegius*) (Aryal & Kreigenhofer, 2009; Aryal et al., 2010a; Aryal et al., 2010b; Panthi et al., 2012).

### Methods: Checklist of Birds in DHR

Intensive survey was conducted throughout the reserve to update the checklist of birds in study area. We used The books "Birds of Nepal" prepared by Richard Grimmett, Carol Inskipp and Tim Inskipp (2000) and "Birds of Nepal: An Official Checklist" (2012) prepared by Bird Conservation of Nepal (BCN) and Department of National Parks and Wildlife Conservation (DNPWC) to identify the birds during the study. We visited all seven hunting blocks of DHR viz. Barse, Dogadi, Fagune, Ghustung, Seng, Sundaha and Surtibang blocks and observed the birds in two season viz. winter and summer throughout the year 2012. We observed the birds carefully by the help of binoculars took photographs with digital camera and compared that photo with the photos of book to identify the birds. We also interviewed local people and DHR staffs to identify birds and their threats during the study.

## Results and Discussion

We recorded one hundred forty nine species of birds in DHR (Table 1). Out of them, *Catreus wallichii* was globally threat-

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**Table 1.**  
Bird of Dhorpatan Hunting Reserve (DHR), identified during the survey periods in 2012.

S.N.	Common name	Scientific name	Order	Family	Conservation status	CITIES
						Appendix
1	Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	<i>Anseriformes</i>	<i>Anatidae</i>		
2	Ruddy Shelduck	<i>Tadorna ferruginea</i>	<i>Anseriformes</i>	<i>Anatidae</i>		
3	Black Eagle	<i>Ictinaetus malayensis</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Accipitridae</i>		II
4	Cinereous Vulture	<i>Aegypius monachus</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Accipitridae</i>		II
5	Himalayan Griffon	<i>Gyps himalayensis</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Accipitridae</i>		II
6	Pallas's Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucoryphus</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Accipitridae</i>		II
7	Ibisbill	<i>Ididorhyncha struthersii</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Charadriidae</i>		
8	Common Krestrel	<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Falconidae</i>		II
9	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Scolopacidae</i>		
10	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	<i>Ciconiformis</i>	<i>Scolopacidae</i>		
11	Hill Pigeon	<i>Columba rupestris</i>	<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>		
12	Oriental Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis</i>	<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>		
13	Rock Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>		
14	Snow Pigeon	<i>Columba palumbus</i>	<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>		
15	Speckled Wood Pigeon	<i>Columba hodgsonii</i>	<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>		
16	Spotted Dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis</i>	<i>Columbiformes</i>	<i>Columbidae</i>		
17	Blood Pheasant	<i>Ithaginis cruentus</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>		II
18	Cheer Pheasant	<i>Catreus wallichii</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>	GT, NP	I
19	Hill Partridge	<i>Arborophila torqueola</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>		
20	Himalayan Monal	<i>Lophophorus impejanus</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>	NP	I
21	Kalij Pheasant	<i>Lophura leucomelanos</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>		
22	Koklas Pheasant	<i>Pucrasia macrolopha</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>		
23	Satyr Tragopan	<i>Tragopan satyra</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>	NP	III
24	Snow Partridge	<i>Lerwa lerwa</i>	<i>Galliformis</i>	<i>Phasianidae</i>		
25	White-Throated Tit	<i>Aegithalos niveogularis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Aegithalidae</i>		
26	Oriental Skylark	<i>Alauda gulgula</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Alaudidae</i>		
27	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Certhiidae</i>		
28	Brown Dipper	<i>Cinclus pallasii</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Cinclidae</i>		
29	Hill Prinia	<i>Prinia atrogularis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Cisticolidae</i>		
30	Striated Prinia	<i>Prinia criniger</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Cisticolidae</i>		
31	Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Cisticolidae</i>		
32	Ashy Drongo	<i>Dicrurus leucophaeus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>		
33	Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>		
34	Common Iora	<i>Aegithina tiphia</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>		

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35	Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
36	House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
37	Large-Billed Crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
38	Rufous Treepie	<i>Dendrocitta vagabunda</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
39	Short-Billed Minivet	<i>Pericrocotus flammeus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
40	Spotted Nutcracker	<i>Nucifraga caryocatactes</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
41	Yellow-Billed Blue Magpie	<i>Urocissa flavirostris</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
42	Yellow-Billed Cough	<i>Pyrrhocorax graculus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
43	Yellow-Billed Fantail	<i>Rhipidura hypoxantha</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
44	White-Throated Fantail	<i>Rhipidura albicollis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Corvidae</i>
45	Beautiful Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus pulcherrimus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
46	Blanford's Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rubescens</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
47	Collard Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas affinis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
48	Common Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus erythrinus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
49	Crested Bunting	<i>Melophus lathami</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
50	Dark-Rumped Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus edwardsii</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
51	Fire-Fronted Serin	<i>Serinus pusillus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
52	Little Bunting	<i>Emberiza pusilla</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
53	Pine Bunting	<i>Emberiza leucocephalos</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
54	Pink-Browed Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rodochrous</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
55	Red-Fronted Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus puniceus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
56	Rock Bunting	<i>Emberiza cia</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
57	Scarlet Finch	<i>Haematospiza sipahi</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
58	Streaked Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus rubicilloides</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
59	Twite	<i>Carduelis flavirostris</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
60	Vinaceous Rosefinch	<i>Carpodacus vinaceus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
61	White-Winged Grosbeak	<i>Mycerobas carnipes</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
62	Yellow-Breasted Greenfinch	<i>Carduelis spinoides</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Fringillidae</i>
63	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Hirundinidae</i>
64	Black-Backed Forktail	<i>Enicurus immaculatus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
65	Black Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus ochruros</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
66	Blue-Capped Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus coeruleocephalus</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
67	Blue-Fronted Redstart	<i>Phoenicurus frontalis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
68	Common Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquata</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
69	Dark-Sided Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa sibirica</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
70	Dark-Throated Thrush	<i>Turdus ruficollis</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>
71	Dusky Thrush	<i>Turdus naumanni</i>	<i>Passeriformes</i>	<i>Muscicapidae</i>

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72	Eurasian Blackbird	<i>Turdus merula</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
73	Golden Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger chrysenus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
74	Grandala	<i>Grandala coelicolor</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
75	Grey Bushchat	<i>Saxicola ferra</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
76	Grey-Winged Blackbird	<i>Turdus boulboul</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
77	Hodgson's Redstrat	<i>Phoenicurus hodgsoni</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
78	Indian Blue Robin	<i>Luscinia brunnea</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
79	Kessler's Thrush	<i>Turdus kessleri</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
80	Mistle Thrush	<i>Turdus viscivorus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
81	Orange-Flanked Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger cyanurus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
82	Oriental Magpie Robin	<i>Copsychus saularis</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
83	Pied Bushchat	<i>Saxicola caprata</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
84	Plumbeous Water Redstart	<i>Rhyacornis fuliginosus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
85	Purple Cochoa	<i>Cochoa purpurea</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
86	Red-Throated Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula parva</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
87	Rufous-Breasted Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger hyperythrus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
88	Rufous-Gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula strophiate</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
89	Rusty-Tailed Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa ruficauda</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
90	White-Browed Bush Robin	<i>Tarsiger indicus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
91	White-Bellied Redstrat	<i>Hodgsonius phaenicuroides</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
92	White-Capped Water Redstart	<i>Chaimarronis leucocephalus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
93	White-Collared Blackbird	<i>Turdus albocinctus</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
94	White-Gorgeted Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula monileger</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
95	White-Tailed Robin	<i>Miomela leucura</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
96	White-Throated Redstrat	<i>Phoenicurus schisticeps</i>	Passeriformes	Muscicapidae
97	Black-Lored Tit	<i>Parus xanthogenys</i>	Passeriformes	Paridae
98	Coal Tit	<i>Parus ater</i>	Passeriformes	Paridae
99	Fire-Capped Tit	<i>Cephalopyrus flammiceps</i>	Passeriformes	Paridae
100	Green-Backed Tit	<i>Parus monticolus</i>	Passeriformes	Paridae
101	Rufous-Napped Tit	<i>Parus rufonuchalis</i>	Passeriformes	Paridae
102	Rufous-Vented Tit	<i>Parus rubidiventris</i>	Passeriformes	Paridae
103	Alpine Accentor	<i>Prunella collaris</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
104	Altai Accentor	<i>Prunella himalayana</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
105	Brown Accentor	<i>Prunella fulvescens</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
106	Citrine Wagtail	<i>Motacilla citreola</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
107	Grey Wagtail	<i>Motacilla cinerea</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
108	House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae

## Continued

109	Olive-Backed Pipit	<i>Anthus hodgsoni</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
110	Paddyfield Pipit	<i>Anthus rufulus</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
111	Red-Thorated Pipit	<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
112	Robin Accentor	<i>Prunella rubeculoides</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
113	Rosy Pipit	<i>Anthus roseus</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
114	Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
115	Upland Pipit	<i>Anthus sylvanus</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
116	Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	Passeriformes	Passeridae
117	Long-Tailed Shrike	<i>Lanius schach</i>	Passeriformes	Pittidae
118	Black Bulbul	<i>Hypsipetes leucocephalus</i>	Passeriformes	Pycnonotidae
119	Himalayan Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i>	Passeriformes	Pycnonotidae
120	Striated Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus melanicterus</i>	Passeriformes	Pycnonotidae
121	Goldcrest	<i>Regulus regulus</i>	Passeriformes	Regulidae
122	Black-Faced Laughinthrush	<i>Garrulax affinis</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
123	Black-Throated Parrotbill	<i>Paradoxornis nipalensis</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
124	Brownish-Flanked Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia fortipes</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
125	Chesnut-Crowned Bush Warbler	<i>Cettia major</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
126	Great Parrotbill	<i>Conostoma oemodium</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
127	Greenish Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochiloides</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
128	Grey-Hooded Warbler	<i>Seicercus xanthoschistos</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
129	Hoary-Thorated Barwing	<i>Actinodura nipalensis</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
130	Hume's Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus humei</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
131	Jungle Babbler	<i>Turdoides striatus</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
132	Large-Billed Leaf Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus magnirostris</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
133	Rufus-Vented Yuhina	<i>Yuhina occipitalis</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
134	Slender-Billed Scimitar Babbler	<i>Xiphirhynchus Superciliaris</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
135	Straited Laughinthrush	<i>Garrulax striatus</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
136	Streaked Laughinthrush	<i>Garrulax lineatus</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
137	Variegated Laughinthrush	<i>Garrulax variegates</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
138	Whistler's Warbler	<i>Seicercus whistleri</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
139	White-Browed Tit Warbler	<i>Leptopoecile sophiae</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
140	White-Creasted Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax monileger</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
141	White-Throated Laughingthrush	<i>Garrulax albogularis</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
142	Yellow-Bellied Warbler	<i>Abrascopus superciliaris</i>	Passeriformes	Sylviidae
143	Crimson-Breasted Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos cathpharius</i>	Piciformes	Indicatoridae
144	Greater Flameback	<i>Chrysocolaptes lucidus</i>	Piciformes	Indicatoridae
145	Rufous-Bellied Woodpecker	<i>Dendrocopos hyperythrus</i>	Piciformes	Indicatoridae

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146	Little Owl	<i>Athene noctua</i>	<i>Strigiformes</i>	<i>Strigidae</i>	II
147	Spotted Owlet	<i>Athene brama</i>	<i>Strigiformes</i>	<i>Strigidae</i>	II
148	Tawny Owl	<i>Strix aluco</i>	<i>Strigiformes</i>	<i>Strigidae</i>	II
149	Common Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i>	<i>Upupiformes</i>	<i>Upupidae</i>	

Note: GT: Globally Threatened, NP: Nationally Protected.



**Figure 1.**  
Dhorpatan hunting reserve, Nepal.

ened bird which has faced different anthropogenic problem.

*C. wallichii* *Lophophorus impejanus* *Tragopan satyra* are nationally protected birds found in the reserve. *C. wallichii* and *L. impejanus* are included in CITIES appendix I (BCN and DNPWC 2012).

We recorded 9 species which are included in CITIES appendix II and one species which is included in CITIES appendix III. Most of the species of order *Passeriformis* were recorded. Only one species of order *Upupiformes* i.e. *Upupa epops* was recorded during the study.

This study showed that snares were main threats of birds. Local people used snares to capture large sized birds such as *Arborophila torqueola*, *Catreus wallichii*, *Ithaginis cruentus* *Lophophorus impejanus*, *Lophura leucomelanos*, *Pucrasia macrolopha* and *Tragopan satyra* for fulfillment of meat.

We recorded snares in two places viz. Karichaur in Fagune block and Rukhacahur in Barse block. Small children killed small sized forest birds due to lack of awareness. The present study provided basic information on birds of DHR. However further species wise information is needed. Distribution and detail threats identification of globally threatened and nationally protected species are further recommended study in DHR.

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