

TRIP REPORT
Cape York DIFO (Drive In – Fly Out)
6th – 13th September 2021



Magnificent Riflebird (*Ptiloris magnificentus*) © Jun Matsui

CLIENTS: Kim & Andrew Mahoney

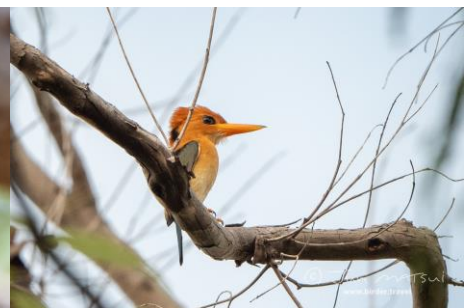
GUIDE: Jun Matsui



Papuan Frogmouth © Jun



Rufous Whistler © Jun



Yellow-billed Kingfisher © Jun

Itinerary

Day 1 – Monday 6th September 2021

We all met up at the airport before heading to the Green Hoose to check-in. Birding started at the Green Hoose before moving to the Ranger Station. Spotlighting took place after dinner where the highlight was good views of Marbled Frogmouth.

Day 2- Tuesday 7th September 2021

AM: We investigated the area along Gordon Creek to Gordon Creek Campsite.

PM: We drove to Chilli Beach. It was very windy and chilly.

Day 3 – Wednesday 8th September

AM: We explored the area from Rainforest Campsite to the Old Eclectus nest tree.

PM: We explored the area around Rainforest Campsite.

Day 4 Thursday 9th September

This was a driving day to Bramwell Station. We had a fantastic night there.

Day 5 – Friday 10th September

Another day spent driving to Bamaga and Punsand Bay. Here we had a great Pizza.

Day 6 – Saturday 11th September

AM: We spent the morning brding at Lockerbie Scrub

PM: We went up to the most northerly point of the Australian Mainland - The Tip.

Day 7 – Sunday 12th September

AM: The morning was again spent birding at Lockerbie Scrub

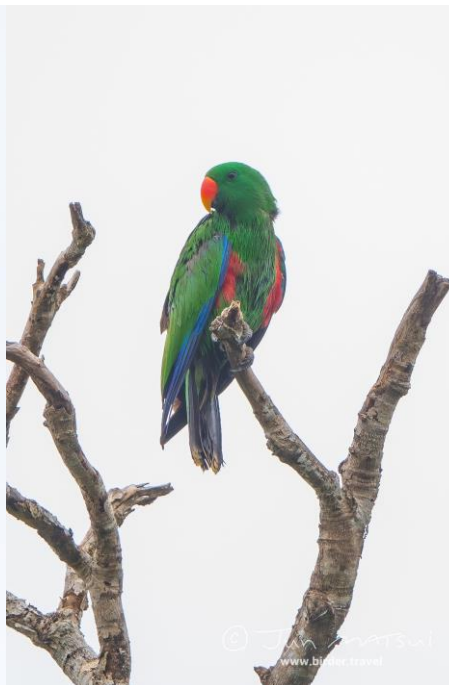
PM:We visited a WW2 Plane Crash site.

Day 8 – Monday 13th September

Few returned to Bamaga where the Kim and Andrew had an early flight to Cairns to catch while Jun set off back down the Cape.



Palm Cockatoo © Jun



Eclectus Parrot © Jun



Rainbow Lorikeet © Jun

BIRD LIST**MEGAPODIIDAE**

- 1 Australian Brush-Turkey *Alectura lathami*
Common in rainforest area. Race *purpureicollis*.
- 2 Orange-footed Scrubfowl *Megapodius reinwardt*
Some seen at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP

PODICIPEDIDAE

- 3 Australasian Grebe *Tachybaptus novaehollandiae*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond.

THRESKIORNITHIDAE

- 4 Straw-necked Ibis *Threskiornis spinicollis*
Some seen at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP

ARDEIDAE

- 5 Eastern Cattle Egret *Bubulcus coromandus*
Small flock at Lockhart River Sewage pond.
- 6 Great Egret *Ardea alba modesta*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond.
- 7 Pied Heron *Egretta picata*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond.
- 8 Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond.
- 9 Eastern Reef Heron *Egretta sacra*
At Chilli Beach.

FREGATIDAE

- 10 Lesser Frigatebird *Fregata ariel*
At Chilli Beach.

ACCIPITRIDAE

- 11 Whistling Kite *Haliastur sphenurus*
Common throughout the tour.
- 12 Black Kite *Milvus migrans*
Common throughout the tour.
- 13 Grey Goshawk *Accipiter novaehollandiae*
One fly over.

CHARADRIIDAE

- 14 Pacific Golden Plover *Pluvialis fulva*
At Chilli Beach.
- 15 Red-capped Plover *Charadrius ruficapillus*
At Chilli Beach.
- 16 Greater Sand Plover *Charadrius leschenaultii*
At Chilli Beach.
- 17 Lesser Sand Plover *Charadrius mongolus*
At Chilli Beach.
- 18 Masked Lapwing *Vanellus miles miles*
Some at Lockhart River town.

JACANIDAE

- 19 Comb-crested Jacana *Irediparra gallinacea*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond.

SCOLOPACIDAE

- 20 Whimbrel *Numenius phaeopus*
At Chilli Beach.
- 21 Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond
- 22 Latham's Snipe *Gallinago hardwickii*
At Lockhart River Sewage pond

LARIDAE

- 23 Silver Gull *Chroicocephalus novaehollandiae*
At Chilli and Quintel Beach.

COLUMBIDAE

- 24 Brown Cuckoo-Dove *Macropygia amboinensis*
Common in rainforest, heard more often than seen.
- 25 (Brown-capped) Emerald-Dove *Chalcophaps longirostris*
Some at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP.
- 26 Peaceful Dove *Geopelia placida*
Some at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP.
- 27 Bar-shouldered Dove *Geopelia humeralis*
Common in dry places.
- 28 Torresian Imperial Pigeon *Ducula spilorrhhoa*
Common in Iron Range NP.
- 29 Wompoo Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus magnificus*
Mostly heard, some fly overs.
- 30 Rose-crowned Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus regina*
Mostly heard, good views at Bamaga.
- 31 Superb Fruit-Dove *Ptilinopus superbus*
Mostly heard, barely saw some fly overs.

CACATUIDAE

- 32 Palm Cockatoo *Probosciger aterrimus*
Wasn't easy, had some good views.
- 33 Sulphur-crested Cockatoo *Cacatua galerita*
Reasonably common through the tour.

PSITTACIDAE

- 34 Rainbow Lorikeet *Trichoglossus haematodus*
Common in many places.
- 35 Double-eyed Fig-Parrot *Cyclopsitta diophthalma*
Calling. Saw some fly overs.
- 36 Eclectus Parrot *Eclectus roratus*
Flew over us many times and good view at several places.
- 37 Red-cheeked Parrot *Geoffroyus geoffroyi*
Female on the nest, many fly overs.

PODARGIDAE

- 38 Marbled Frogmouth *Podargus ocellatus marmoratus*
Took us while. eventually got good view at Cooks Hut Campsite.
- 39 Papuan Frogmouth *Podargus papuensis*
Fantastic view at Punsand Bay.

APODIDAE

- 40 Australian Swiftlet *Aerodramus terraereginae*

Moderately common at Lockhart River.

ALCEDINIDAE

- 41 Laughing Kookaburra *Dacelo novaeguineae*
Some in Bamaga.
- 42 Blue-winged Kookaburra *Dacelo leachii*
Some in Bamaga.
- 43 Yellow-billed Kingfisher *Syma torotoro*
Good view sat Gordon creek, Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP. And Bamaga.
- 44 Forest Kingfisher *Todiramphus macleayii*
Good view sat Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP.

MEROPIIDAE

- 45 Rainbow Bee-eater *Merops ornatus*
Common through the tour.

PITTIDAE

- 46 Noisy Pitta *Pitta versicolor*
Heard only at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP

PTILONORHYNCHIDAE

- 47 Fawn-breasted Bowerbird *Chlamydera cerviniventris*
Good view at Portland Road.

MALURIDAE

- 48 Lovely Fairywren *Malurus amabilis*
Good view at Bamaga.

MELIPHAGIDAE

- 49 Yellow-spotted Honeyeater *Meliphaga notata*
Common in rainforest.
- 50 Graceful Honeyeater *Meliphaga gracilis*
Common in rainforest.
- 51 Green-backed Honeyeater *Glyciphila fallax*
Common in rainforest, at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP.
- 52 Dusky Honeyeater *Myzomela obscura*
Very common and abundant in rainforest.
- 53 White-streaked Honeyeater *Trichodere cockerelli*
Great views at Fruitbat falls.
- 54 Hornbill Friarbird *Philemon yorki*
Common in rainforest.
- 55 Tawny-breasted Honeyeater *Xanthotis flaviventer*
Reasonably common in rainforest. Not easy to see.

ACANTHIZIDAE

- 56 Tropical Scrubwren *Sericornis beccarii*
Moderately common, but not easy to see.
- 57 Fairy Gerygone *Gerygone palpebrosa*
Common in rainforest.

CRACTICIDAE

- 58 Black Butcherbird *Cracticus quoyi*

MACHAERIRHYNCHIDAE

- 59 Yellow-breasted Boatbill *Machaerirhynchus flaviventer*
Some good views, common in rainforest.

ARTAMIDAE

- 60 White-breasted Woodswallow *Artamus leucorhynchus*
At Bamaga.

CAMPEPHAGIDAE

- 61 Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina novaehollandiae*
Very common through the tour.
- 62 White-bellied Cuckoo-shrike *Coracina papuensis*
Common through the tour.
- 63 Varied Triller *Lalage leucomela*
Common through the tour. Mostly heard.

PACHYCEPHALIDAE

- 64 Grey Whistler *Pachycephala simplex*
Common in rainforest.
- 65 Rufous (Little) Shrikethrush *Colluricincla rufogaster*
Common and good views at Iron Range.

ORIOLIDAE

- 66 Australian Figbird *Sphecotheres vieilloti*
Common throughout the tour.
- 67 Yellow Oriole *Orioles flavocinctus*
Heard many times in rainforest.

RHIPIDURIDAE

- 68 Rufous Fantail *Rhipidura rufifrons*
Reasonably common in rainforest.

DICRURIDAE

- 69 Spangled Drongo *Dicrurus bracteatus*
Common.

MONARCHIDAE

- 70 Leaden Flycatcher *Myiagra rubecula*
Seen in several places.
- 71 Shining Flycatcher *Myiagra alecto*
Good view sat Portland Roads.
- 72 Spectacled Monarch *Monarcha t. albiventris*
Common in rainforest.
- 73 White-eared Monarch *Carterornis leucotis*
Good views at Rainforest campsite.
- 74 Frill-necked Monarch *Arses lorealis*
Good views at rainforest, several locations.
- 75 Magpie-lark *Grallina cyanoleuca*
Common throughout the tour.

PARADISAEIDAE

- 76 Trumpet Manucode *Phonygammus keraudrenii*
Good view snear Rainforest Campsite. Heard/seen at several locations.
- 77 Magnificent Riflebird *Ptiloris magnificus alberti*
Took while, but good views near Gordon Creek.

PETROICIDAE

- 78 Yellow-legged Flyrobin *Microeca griseiceps*
Good view at Rainforest Campsite.
- 79 White-faced Robin *Tregellasia leucops*
Common in rainforest.
- 80 Northern Scrub-Robin *Drymodes superciliaris*
Good views at the Green Hoose.

ZOSTEROPIDAE

- 81 Silvereye *Zosterops lateralis*
Common throughout the tour.

STURNIDAE

- 82 Metallic Starling *Aplonis metallica*
Common throughout the tour.

DICAEIDAE

- 83 Mistletoebird *Dicaeum hirundinaceum*

NECTARINIDAE

- 84 Yellow-bellied (Olive-b) Sunbird *Nectarinea jugularis*

ESTRILDIDAE

- 85 Red-browed Finch *Neochmia temporalis*
Surprisingly common at Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP

MAMMALS

- | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| Agile Wallaby | <i>Macropus agilis</i> | Common through the tour. |
| Common Wallaroo | <i>Macropus robustus</i> | Bamaga. |
| Spotted Cuscus | <i>Spiloglossus maculatus</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP and Bamaga. |
| Feral Pig | <i>Sus scrofa</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |
| Spectacled Flying-fox | <i>Pteropus conspicillatus</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |

REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS

- | | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Amethystine Python | <i>Morelia amethystina</i> | Bamaga |
| Water Python
'Olive Python'. | <i>Liasis fuscus</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP, I think I mentioned it |
| Sand Monitor | <i>Varanus gouldii</i> | Bamaga. |
| Cane Toad | <i>Bufo marinus</i> | Common through the tour. |
| White-lipped Treefrog | <i>Litoria infrafrenata</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |

BUTTERFLIES

- | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Ulysses Swallowtail | <i>Papilio ulysses</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |
| Orchard Swallowtail | <i>Papilio aegaeus</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |
| New Guinea Birdwing | <i>Ornithoptera priamus</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) |
| Hamadryad | <i>Tellervo zolius</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |
| Bordered Rustic | <i>Cupha prosopis</i> | Kutini-Payamu (Iron Range) NP |
| Varied Eggfly | <i>Hypolimnys bolina</i> | Rinyirru (Lakefield) NP. |