

Avifaunal assemblages at Gorumara and Jaldapara National Parks in India with reference to habitat association and feeding guild

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ABSTRACT

128 avifaunal taxa belonging to 49 families were recorded from Gorumara and Jaldapara National Park, West Bengal, India in a seasonal field survey (2013 and 2014). The forest understory found to be the most preferred nesting niche for birds. Insectivores were most prominent feeding guilds. Survey shows that these Himalayan foothill landscapes are frequently visited by 2 Vulnerable (Lesser Adjutant and Pallas's Fish Eagle) and 1 Near Threatened species (River Lapwing). The study documented Kalij Pheasant (*Lophura leucomelanos*) which is probably new sighting from this region. In this attempt, latest and perennial causes of bird habitat loss were highlighted to draw conservation design for future.

Key words: Birds of North Bengal, Jaldapara National Park, Gorumara National Park, Feeding guild, Nesting niche, Open forest