

# First photographic record of endemic brown eared-pheasant *Crossoptilon mantchuricum* by camera-trapping at Jinguashan- Henglingzi Hemaji Nature Reserve, China

AI Lianmin<sup>1</sup>, LI Zengming<sup>1</sup>, DING Kai<sup>1</sup>, and Thomas D. DAHMER<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Hebei Jinguashan-Henglingzi Hemaji Nature Reserve, Laishui Forestry Bureau, Laishui, Hebei, China

<sup>2</sup>Ecosystems Ltd., Unit B13, 12/F, Block B2, Yau Tong Industrial City, 17 Ko Fai Road,  
Yau Tong, Kowloon, Hong Kong SAR, China

\*Corresponding Author's E-mail: tdahmer@pacific.net.hk

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## ABSTRACT

We deployed passive camera-traps at Hebei Jinguashan-Henglingzi Hemaji Nature Reserve (JHNR), Hebei Province, China for 18 months during 2013-2014 to survey cryptic wildlife species. Over the 18-month period from March 2013 through December 2014, 799 camera-trap-days were recorded, yielding a total of 198 photographs of wild fauna (25 wildlife photographs per 100 trap-days). In total, 15 wildlife species were photographed, five mammals and ten birds. The most frequently photographed mammal species were wild boar (*Sus scrofa*), roe deer (*Capreolus pygargus*), and leopard cat (*Prionailurus bengalensis*, China Red List Vulnerable, CITES App. I). Most frequently photographed birds were large-billed crow (*Corvus macrorhynchos*) and blue whistling thrush (*Myophonus caeruleus*). Leopard cat was the only recorded representative of the Felidae. Domestic goat was photographed once. Infrequent injuries to goats were attributed by villagers to attacks by Leopard (*Panthera pardus*), a species not recorded by camera-traps. A notable record was the first photograph at JHNR of the endemic brown eared-pheasant *Crossoptilon mantchuricum*. Brown eared-pheasant is classified by IUCN Red List as globally Vulnerable, is listed in Appendix I of CITES, is classified as Vulnerable by China's Red List, is protected in China at National Level I, and is one of four species of eared-pheasant in China, three of which, including brown eared-pheasant, are endemic to China.

**Keywords:** brown eared-pheasant, China, camera-trap, Taihang Mountains