

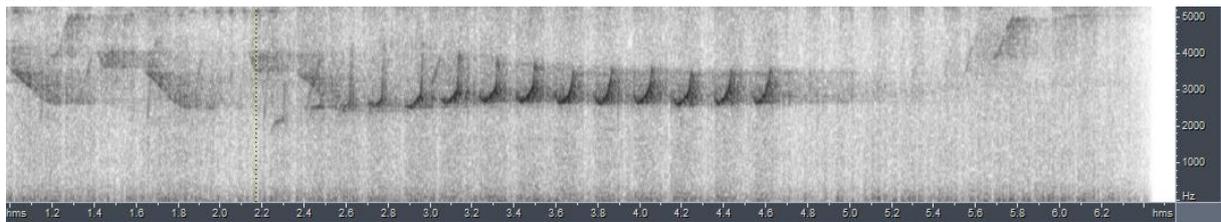
Notes on the vocalizations of Large Wood-shrike (*Tephrodornis virgatus*)

Peter Boesman

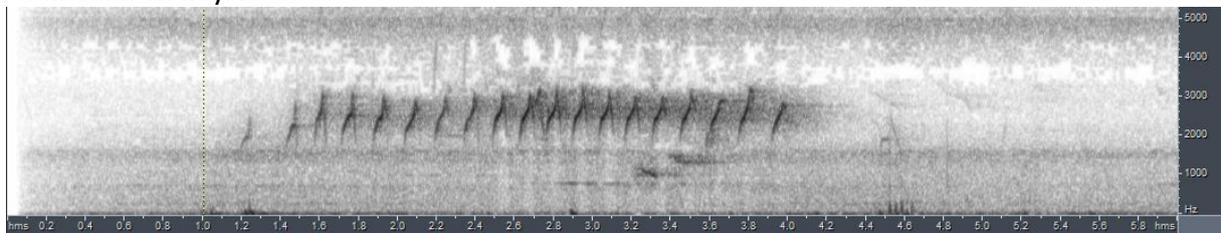
In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the different races of Large Wood-shrike (*Tephrodornis virgatus*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support for taxonomic review. We have made use of sound recordings available on-line from Xeno Canto (XC).

Song of all races (for which recordings are available) is a phrase, consisting of a repeated single note (with the exception of race *sylvicola*). This series at first increases in pitch and amplitude, then remains stable with notes nearly identical. Some random examples:

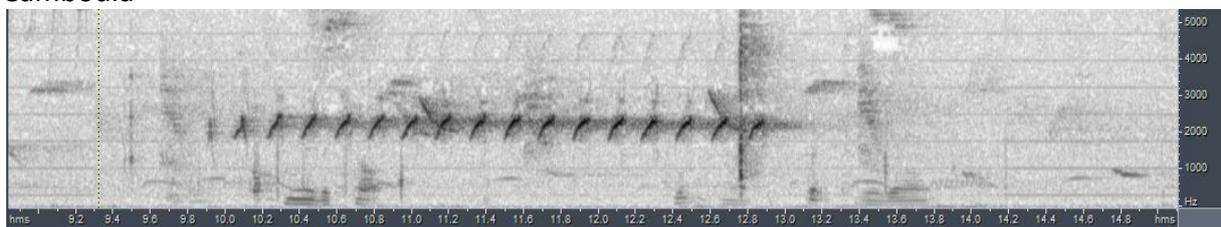
Borneo



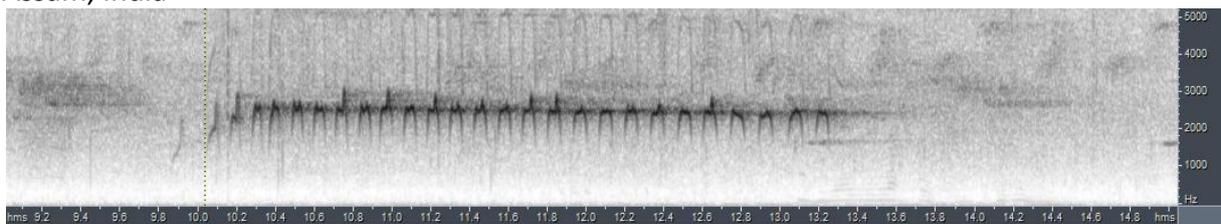
Peninsular Malaysia



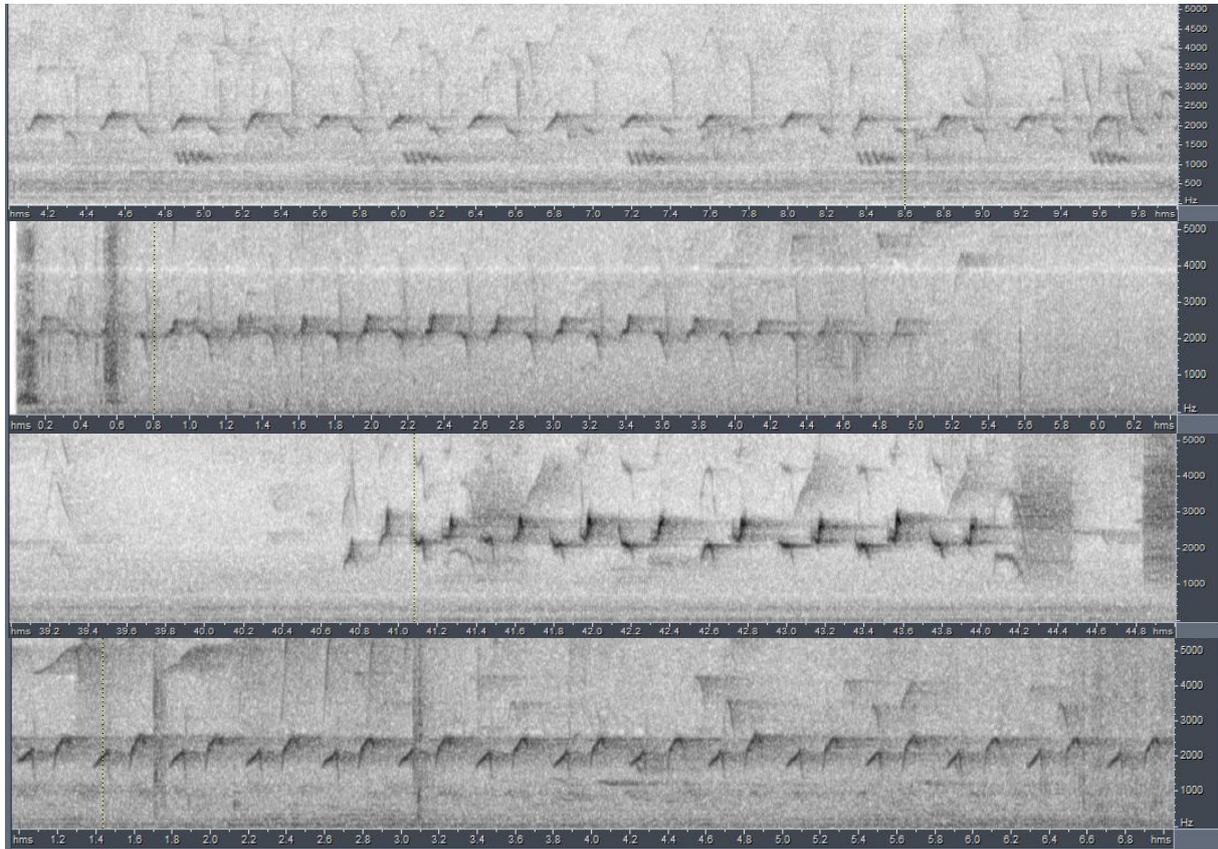
Cambodia



Assam, India



Song of race *sylvicola* is quite different: the song phrase consists of two alternating notes (valid over its entire range). Some examples:



From the above examples, it is clear that the main difference is the single repeated note vs. two different alternating notes (which can be quantified as 1 vs 2, score 4). Other differences are smaller and with considerable overlap, e.g. total length of song in *sylvicola* on average is longer (score 1), *sylvicola* on average doesn't reach that high frequencies (score 1) etc. More recordings (especially of *sylvicola*) would be needed to determine with greater accuracy the difference in all basic sound parameters. With present data, when applying Tobias criteria, we obtain a total vocal score of 4-5.

This note was finalized on 16th November 2015, using sound recordings available on-line at that moment. We would like to thank in particular the sound recordists who placed their recordings for this species on XC and ML: Peter Boesman, Eric Cannizzaro, Niels Poul Dreyer, David Edwards, David Farrow, Richard Hoyer, Vir Joshi, Frank Lambert, Albert Lastukhin, Linda Macaulay, Mike Nelson, Vivek Puliyeri, Mark Robbins, Sudipto Roy, Ramit Singal, Klemens Steiof, Arnoud Van den berg, Iain Woxvold and Ding Li Yong.

References

Tobias, J.A., Seddon, N., Spottiswoode, C.N., Pilgrim, J.D., Fishpool, L.D.C. & Collar, N.J. (2010). Quantitative criteria for species delimitation. *Ibis* 152(4): 724–746.

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