

Notes on the vocalizations of White-browed Bush-robin (*Tarsiger indicus*)

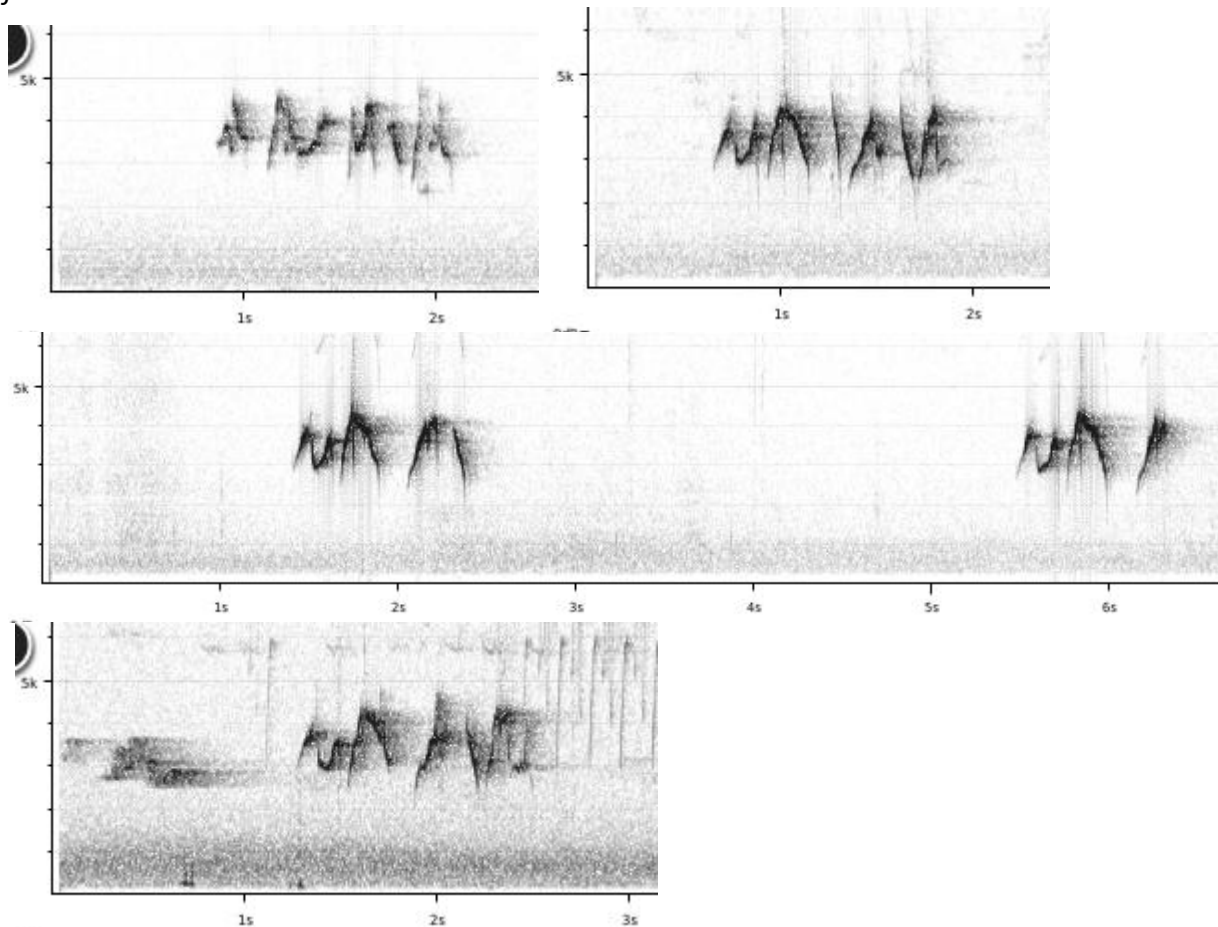
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In the following we briefly analyze and compare voice of the three races of White-browed Bush-robin (*Tarsiger indicus*). We also try to quantify the extent of any vocal differences using the criteria proposed by Tobias *et al.* (2010), as a support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

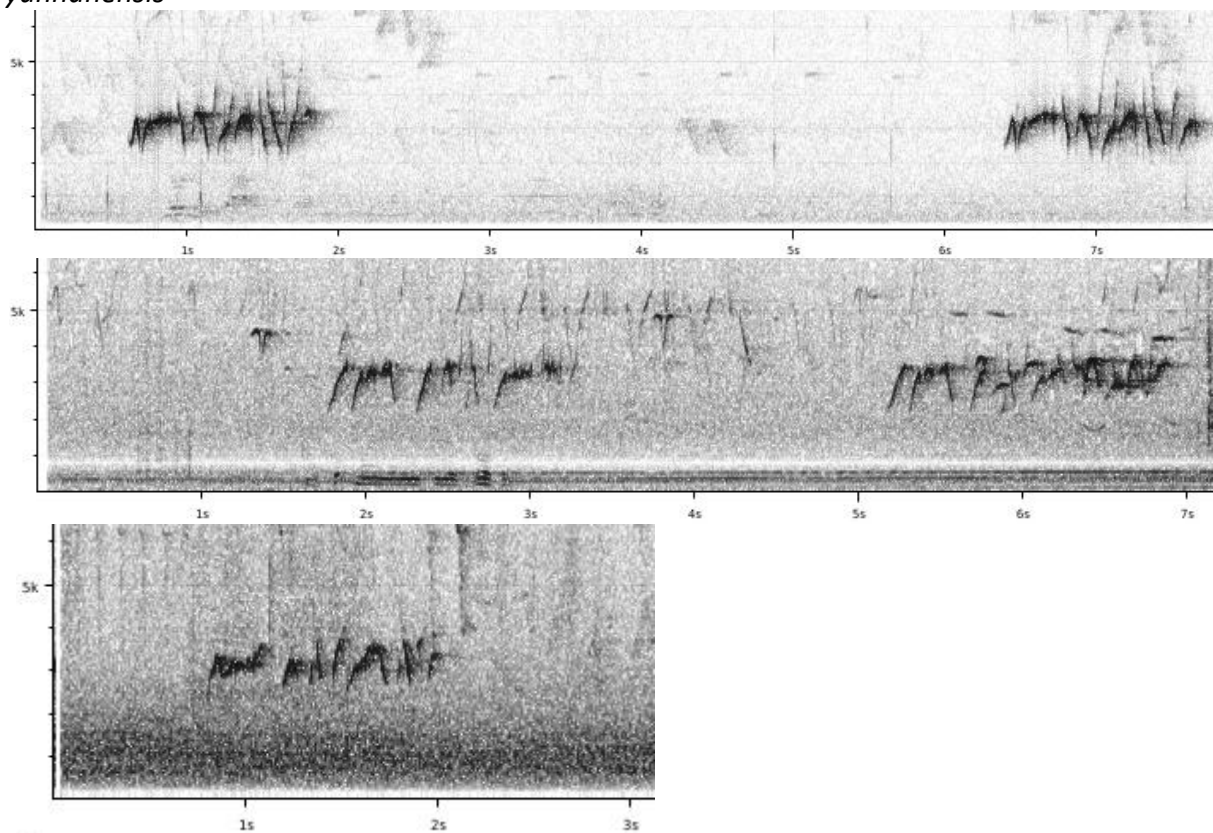
Our main interest is to compare voice of disjunct race *formosanus* from Taiwan with the two mainland races.

Song is a short mellow phrase at about flat pitch. A comparison per race, illustrated with sonograms:

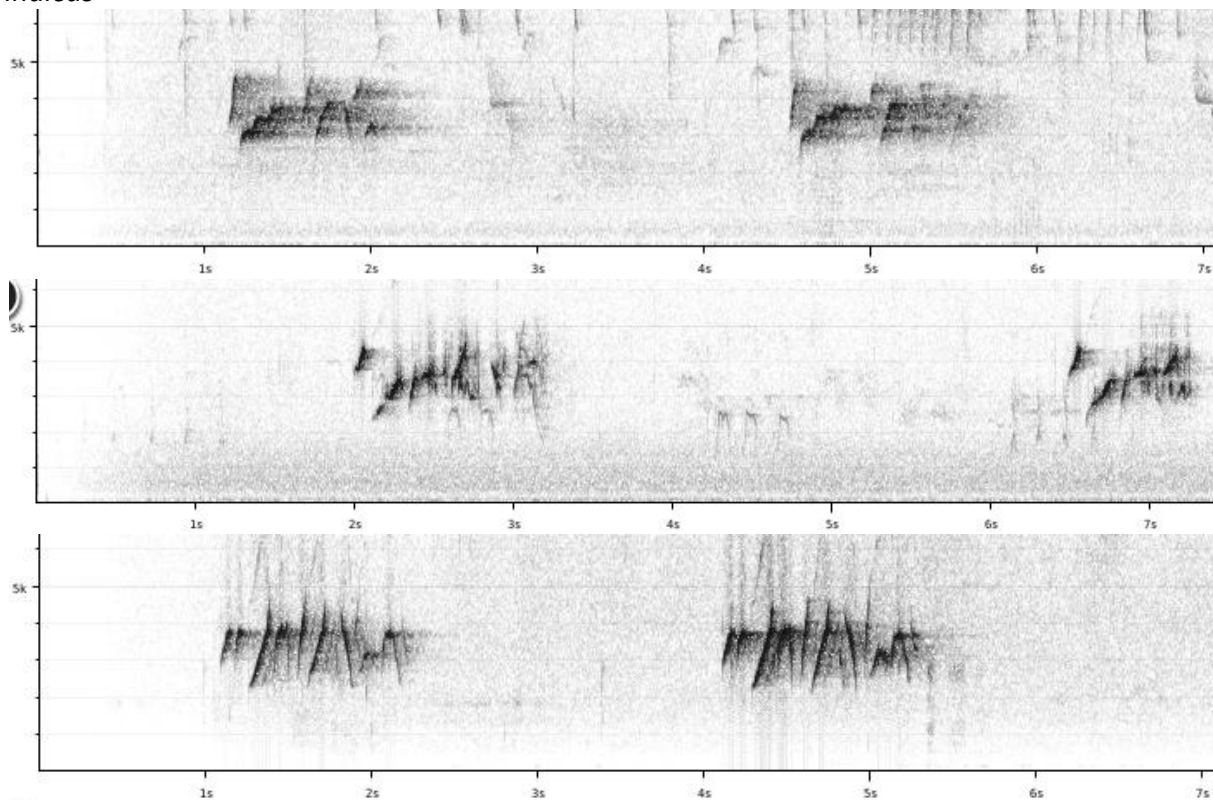
formosanus

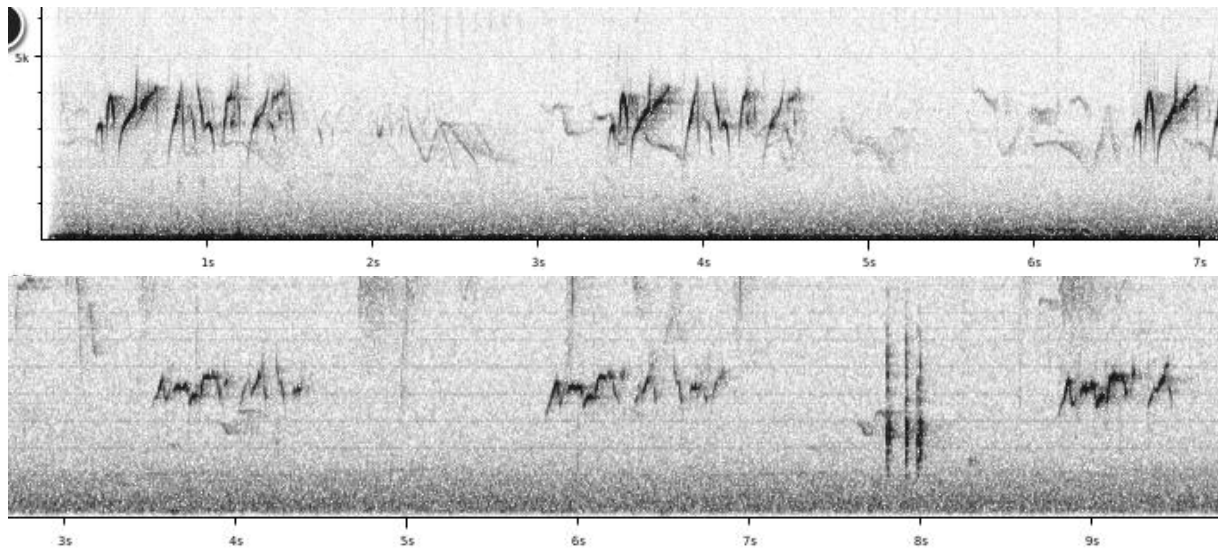


yunnanensis



indicus





Differences among races are minor at most, and basic sound parameters (phrase length, note duration, min./max. frequency,...) all very similar.

yunnanensis possibly slightly lower-pitched. *formosanus* very similar to *indicus*, possibly using on average slightly longer notes and longer pauses between notes.

Main call note, a rising 'wheet' also very similar between races *formosanus* and *indicus*.

We can thus conclude that *formosanus* is not particularly different in voice from mainland races.

This note was finalized on 11th May 2016, 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: Marc Anderson, Nick Athanas, Niels Poul Dreyer, David Edwards, Ko Chie-Jen, David Farrow, Frank Lambert, Arnold Meijer, Mike Nelson, Mathias Ritschard, Cynthia Su and Yong Ding Li.

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.

Recommended citation

Boesman, P. (2016). Notes on the vocalizations of White-browed Bush-robin (*Tarsiger indicus*). *HBW Alive Ornithological Note* 327. In: *Handbook of the Birds of the World Alive*. Lynx Edicions, Barcelona. (retrieved from <http://www.hbw.com/node/1252677> on 22 October 2016).