Detecti g the -b eedi g egi a d ig ati te f Whi b e (*Numenius phaeopus rogachevae*) i the Ea t A ia -A t a a ia F a



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Numenius pheeopusICrogachevaebreeding range spent their non-breeding season in the northern Sumatra, Singapore, East ava and Northwest Australia and mainly stopped over along Chinas coasts during migration. None of our birds bred in the exclusive breeding range of the phaeopus b ecie. Pei t die ha e edicted that rogachevae hi be ig ate a g the Ce t a A ia F a a d e d the -b eedi g ea i We II dia a d Ea t Af ica. We f d that at ea t e rogachevae hi b e ig ate a g the EAAF a d e d the -b eedi g ea i S thea t A ia a d A ta ia. The . phaeopus i at be t a e dit ib ted i the EAAF i the et egi , ib d e t

cc ata.

1. Introduction

See becie f Whibe (*Numenius phaeopus*) hae bee de cibed i the d (de H a d C a, 2014). Acc digt the atet IOC W d Bid it, the Whibe a e diided it H d ia Whibe (*Numenius hudsonicus*) a d E a ia Whibe (*N. phaeopus*) (Gieta., 2021), hich i ted bge ic a a i (Taeta., 2019). S b ecie *ru ventris* fH d ia Whi b e b eed i A a ka a d N th e t Ca ada a d e d -b eed i g ea f e te USA t S th A e ica (Gi et a., 2021). S b ecie *hudsonicus* fH d ia Whi b e b eed i H d Ba a eat N theat Ca ada a d the b k f the ati e d the -b eed i g ea i the Ca ibbea a d S th A e ica (Gi et a., 2021), a d a be ha e bee e ted f Ne Zea a d (Gi et a., 2010). Fi e b ecie f E a ia

* C e digath. *E-mail address:* hij @f da.ed.c (Z.Ma). Whi b e (N. phaeopus) a e ec g i ed (Gi et a., 2021). The b eedi g a d -beedig dit ib ti ff f the e becie a e k et a., 2014; Bi d ife I te ati a a d Nat eSe e, 2015; Ca -**(B** ei et a., 2019; ee Fig. 1). N. p. islandicus b eed i Ice a d a d the Bitih Ie (a i Gee ad ad Fae Iad) ad ed -b eedi g ea i We t Af ica; N. p. phaeopus b eed i the egi f N thE et We te Sibe ia a d e d -b eedig ea i Af ica; N. p. alboaxillaris b eed i the egi f We te Ka akh ta t S the te Sibe ia a d e d -b eedigea the i a d a d c a t f the We t I dia Ocea ; N. p. variegatus b eed i the a ge f ce ta t Ea te Sibe ia a d e d -b eedigea the ca t fS th A ia, S thea t A ia a d A t a ia. The t ece t de c ibed b ecie, N. p. rogachevae (T k ich, 2008), b eed i Ce t a Sibeia. The -b eedi g ite a e ti c ea (Fig. 1; T k ich, 2008; La et a., 2012; B et a., 2014). It ha bee ec ated that the rogachevae hibe igatea gthe Ceta Aia Fa (Tkich, 2008) a d e d the -b eedi g ea i We te I dia a d Ea te Af ica (Skee a d Ma , 2020; Gi et a., 2021), b t the e i ti a ack fe ide ce.

I the Eat A ia – A taaia F a (EAAF), b th . phaeopus a d variegatus ha e bee ide e ted a d that thei ai b eedi g g d a e cated i the e te a d ea te egi e ecti e . N. p. phaeopus ai dit ib ted f the c a t f Ba g ade h (Ri e , 1982) a d S i La ka (Phi i , 1975). The -b eedi g variegatus Whi b e ide dit ib ted a g the c a t f Ba g ade h (Ri e , 1982) (e bi d cca i a i ited t S i La ka; Phi i , 1975) t Ma ia a I a d (Sti et a., 1997) a d Mic e ia (Bake, 1951) i the Ce t a Pacific. A fe variegatus hi b e e d -b eedi g ea i the Ma a Pe i a, Wa acea egi a dS da I a d, hie t*variegatus* hibe e d -beedig ea i ea te I d e ia, the G ada ca a I a d a d the F ida Ia d f the S a chie ag i the S th Pacific, Ne G i ea, a d A taia (Bih, 2006; C a d et a., 2016).

S e t die ha e c ide ed that *N. p. variegatus* i the becie f the E a ia Whi b e i S theat A ia a d A t a ia (B et a., 2014; de H a d C a., 2014; de ci ti f the h gica feat e a e c i te t ith the . rogachevae: the b ack ti g the e back a d f .rogachevae a e e i te e da k tha that f .variegatus, a d the da k ba the a i a feathe f .rogachevae a e ide tha th e f the . phaeopus (T k ich, 2008). S e i di id a e hibited the i te ediate age cha acte i tic bet ee .variegatus a d phaeopus e e a acc ted i I d e ia (C a , 1983), Ma a Pe i a (R bi a d Cha e , 1936), Thai a d (J ge e , 1949) a d B e (MacKi a d Phi i , 1993). I additi , fied e f d that -b eedi g hi b e i N th e t A taia h ed a a iati i the t c f e back a d f e i te eda k t gi te e da k, a d the a ed th gh Ja a d i g ig ati (K a g et a., 2000). The e t f G a tha (2000) a th gge t that the E a ia Whi b e a i g th gh Ja a a d e hibiti g the i te ediate age cha acte i tic e tike f N th e t A taia.

B th b eedig a ge a d -b eedig a ge f variegatus Whi b e

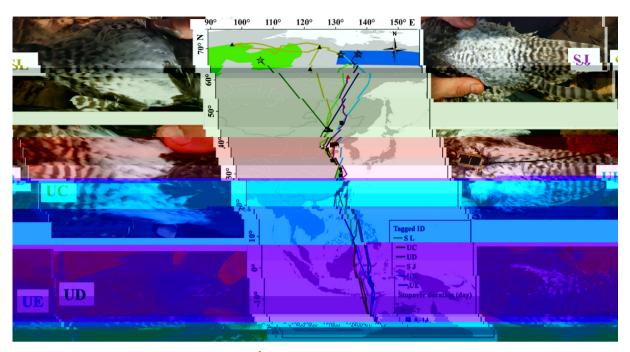


Fig. 2. Mig ati te ad h gica feat e f the e back ad f i tagged hi be i N th et A taia. The theei di id a the eft (SL, UC a d UD) ha e e i te e da k t the e back ad ; the b edi the beedi g a ge f b th *variegatus* a d *rogachevae* b ecie, hie the the e i di id a the ight (SJ, UB a d UE) ha e t g i te e da k t the e back ad ; the b edi thi the beedi g a ge f the *variegatus* b ecie. The e tace h the beedi g ite, the fied b (tig a, adiate a, a d e tag) h the t e ite, a d the h b e h the -beedi g ite i N th et A taia. Red tia ge h the cati he e the SL a h t d i g th a d ig ati. Mig ati te e e dified f K a g et a. (2020).

Fig. 2, 130.71° E, 61.09° N, c et the beedig a ge f the *.variegatus*) d i g it thad ig ati. The the the bid e hibited e i te e da i tti g (a t ica feat e f *.rogachevae*), e f the ta ed i the beedig a ge f *.rogachevae*, a d t f the ta ed i the e te a t f the beedig a ge f the *.variegatus* (Fig. 2).

4. Discussion

ided e ifati the b eedi g ite f Thi td E a ia Whi be i the EAAF acc digt ig ati tacki g f bid f t t e ite a d th ee -b eedig ite. O e t gge t that b th rogachevae a d variegatus cc i the EAAF. We f d that t tagged bid bed i the egi bet ee the $\dot{\mathbf{k}}$ beed ig a ge f . rogachevae a d variegatus (114° E t 132° E; Fig. 1; A e di Tab e S2). Thi egi (bet ee the a e f the A aba a d Ya a Rie) habee gge ted a the ga fbeedig hibe det aack f b eedi g ec d i thi e ed a ea (La et a ., 2012).The t bid ta edi the egi f 63 a d 65 da e ectie, gge tig that bid ike beed the e athe tha ig the a ea a a t e ite te a ta bef e/afte b eedi g acti itie. D e t the ack f detaied if ati i h t a d DNA, e ca t dete i e the becie f the e t tagged bid. I the f t e, te atic a a i f DNA t gethe ith ta da di ed h t f e back/ a d de ig/aia atte ibeheft dete iethe becieat the ga .

The i tagged bid that bed i the beedig age f the . rogachevae ca ef S theat A ia a d N th et A t a ia, i c dig ef S at a I a d, t f Siga e, ef the Eat Ja a a d t f N th et A t a ia (Fig. 1; A e di Tabe S2; Fig. S2). N bid ca ef M et Ba (MB) the eat c a t f A t a ia. Of the i tagged bid, the e a a ige ig ati f the t bid that e t -beedig e i d i S at a I a d a d Eat Ja a, hie the 4 bid et ed t thei -beedig ite d ig th a d ig ati. Thi gge t that the Whi be a e itefaithf t thei -beedig ite. A e ti ed ab e, E a ia Whi b e ith age feat e f the . phaeopus ha e bee a ge e ted i theat A ia (G a tha , 2000; R b , 2005; I ba a d Rid a , 2009; Je a aja i ga a d Pea , 2012; A tt, 2018), b t th e bid a e bab the . rogachevae (ee di c i be). A the e e t gge t that rogachevae hi b e a bec i S theat A ia a d N th e t A t a ia.

A th gh the c ected ate ia f .*rogacheva* a i ited, ge etic t d the Whi b e ha ide tified that the e i a ba ie bet ee the .*rogachevae* f Ce t a Sibe ia a d *phaeopus* i b-A ctic E e i E a ia. H e e, the c c i i ba ed t i g e eci e a d the ef e h d be take ith ca ti . The e t a i dicate that .*rogachevae* a d *variegatus* ca be ited i t a c te di ti ct f

. phaeopus (Ta et a., 2019). Acc di g t the age feat e f bid at -b eedig ite, a e i t die hae e ted that eidiida iia ith . phaeopus cc i S theat A ia (Lekag a d R d, 1991; We , 1999; G a tha , 2000; R b , 2007; I ba a d Rid a , 2009; Je a aja i ga a d Pea , 2012; A tt, 2018). Hee, f the t ta 30 tagged bid i thi t d (f t t e ite a d th ee -b eedi g ite i the EAAF), e b ed i the eciebeedig agef the . phaeopus. Act a , ef the e e i t die e e b i hed bef e . rogachevae a de c ibed (T k ich, 2008), a d the a that be a a e that the becie had bee de c ibed. I the e ci c ta ce, the a th d ha e bab a ed that Whi b e ith e te i e hite e e . phaeopus. O t acki g e t i dicate that the . phaeopus ight be a e dit ib ted i the EAAF i the et egi , bab d e t cc ata. The bid i i a ith . phaeopus i age t ait that a e i e ted i S thea t A ia ight be the e de c ibed . rogachevae, hich ha a c e e ati hi ith the . variegatus (Ta et a., 2019).

O e f the aj diffe e ce i age feat e bet ee the . rogachevae a d variegatus i that the f e ha e ati e e i te e da i tti g the e back a d (T i ich, 2008). O t d f d that t f the i bi d tagged at RB i N th e t A t a ia a d

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