



中国自然影像志

NATURE AND WILDLIFE
PHOTOGRAPHY
IN
CHINA

影像生物调查所 (IBE) 编



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图书在版编目 (CIP) 数据

中国自然影像志 / 影像生物调查所 (IBE) 编. —
北京 : 北京出版社, 2019. 4
ISBN 978-7-200-12626-6

I. ①中… II. ①影… III. ①珍稀动物 — 中国 — 摄影集②珍稀植物 — 中国 — 摄影集 IV. ①Q95-49 ②Q94-49

中国版本图书馆 CIP 数据核字 (2016) 第 284631 号

项目策划: 安 东 王曷灵
项目统筹: 宋佩谦 司徒剑萍
责任编辑: 王曷灵 宋佩谦
装帧设计: 李珊珊 吕丽梅 赵赞普
责任印制: 武绽蕾 承伯平

中国自然影像志

ZHONGGUO ZIRAN YINGXIANG ZHI
影像生物调查所 (IBE) 编

出 版 北京出版集团公司
北京出版社
地 址 北京北三环中路 6 号
邮 编 100120
网 址 www.bph.com.cn
总 发 行 北京出版集团公司
版 印 次 2019 年 4 月第 1 版第 1 次印刷
印 刷 北京雅昌艺术印刷有限公司
开 本 787 毫米 × 1092 毫米 1/16
印 张 19.375
字 数 160 千字
书 号 ISBN 978-7-200-12626-6
定 价 298.00 元
如有印装质量问题, 由本社负责调换
质量监督电话: 010-58572393

序言

Preface

4月末的一个清晨，天刚蒙蒙亮，我起身离开宾馆，前往不远处的北京奥林匹克森林公园。虽然天色尚早，公园里却已有不少散步、跑步的人，只有我带着双筒望远镜。正值鸟类大量迁徙的季节，很适合在工作前来这里待上几个小时。林间，柳莺和捕蝇鸟的叫声不绝于耳。

一转弯，我突然看见二十几个人紧紧地挤在一起，端着相机和“长枪短炮”，对准了一小片开阔地，好像在等着什么。就算是大牌明星到场，恐怕粉丝也不会如此专注，更别说用上这么昂贵的专业相机和器材。我站在他们身后，想一问究竟。其中一人骄傲地向我展示了他早前拍摄的一张照片：一只雄雉。哦，原来大家都在等着它呢。

在之后的几周里，每每清晨前来，都会遇见几拨同样热切的野生生物摄影师。湖边，每隔一段就能看见有人端着相机，耐心地等待着鸟儿出现。同样受到关注的还有一群在这里歇脚、准备继续飞往俄罗斯北部的大天鹅。

我之前当然也遇见过其他的野生生物摄影师，但北京的人数之多、专注度之高，无不说明中国人对此的热情。《中国自然影像志》就是一个很好的例证，其中收录了大量哺乳动物、鸟类、花草、昆虫和山水的照片，令人心醉。但中国摄影师的志向还远不止于此。

2009年，这群摄影师组建了“影像生物调查所”，利用视像与野外考察相结合的方法，记录下包括中国60个自然保护区在内的不同地区的生物多样性编目。他们还与科学团队合作，以确保自己对生物种类的判断无误。这本书就是他们在过去10年的时间里，行走30多万千米，记录下8000种野生生物物种的精华。

中国的野生生物分布于种类繁多的栖息地内。书中，黑颈鹤俯身冲下大雪覆盖的喜马拉雅山顶，藏野驴和普氏野马漫步在广阔的草地，大象、猴子和鸟儿出没于潮湿的热带森林……此外还有长江江豚、热带珊瑚等。中国地域辽阔，从极寒之地到炎热地区，从干旱的沙漠到潮湿的森林，有着各种各样的物种。在这片与美国本土大陆面积相当的土地上，生活着世界上15%的陆栖脊椎动物以及12%的植物。在这里，野生生物摄影师有如此多的物种可以拍摄！

而通过植物摄影，我们看到雪融化后的几周里高山上绽放的清丽、雨林中的兰花、干旱沙漠里的生命、湖面上漂浮着的淡雅。每一朵花就像一颗宝石，让大地缀满了色彩。

本书的摄影师们得端着巨大的长焦镜头去接近动物。那当然，否则怎么可能拍到一对雪豹？但除此之外，他们还运用到了其他很多技术。特写镜头下呈现出一个昆虫的世界，精彩得就连科幻小说家都难以想象。

红外线触发相机捕捉到的一系列照片也同样令我惊喜。它们或许不具备传统照片的艺术性，但科学意义重大，并且代表着重要的技术进步。就在十几年前，数码相机反应还很慢，动物走过面前时根本来不及拍摄。摄影机虽然能够拍摄，但必须不时地去查看和调整。如今，数码相机可以耐心地隐藏数月，抓拍上千张照片。它们捕捉到了我们知之甚少的一些动物，这些物种非常惧怕人类，很难用其他方式观察到。现在，我们终于开始了解那些隐藏在我们视线以外的生命了。

翻看这本书时，我不断地感受到惊喜。例如，书中用 10 多页介绍了几种不同的雉科动物，一种比一种美。我想看这个！不，那个！中国一共有 35 种雉类，是世界上雉类品种最多的国家。它们居住在中国西部和南部的山间，用那里的自然景色衬托出自己的靓丽。书里还有藏羚、川金丝猴，如果有幸遇见它们，一定要细细看上几个钟头。高原草甸上盛开着鲜艳的花，登山时一定会忍不住驻足观望。

而在这一切美好的背后，藏着我们深深的担忧，不知道后代是否还能和我们一样，欣赏并拍到这神奇的大自然。有一些物种已经非常稀少。最著名的例子就是大熊猫。它们曾经遍布中国大地，但现在基本只能在四川的山区找到了。更糟糕的是，大熊猫呈一个个孤立的族群分布，有一些族群因为过小而无法长久生存。此外，云南的热带森林里，人们为开展橡胶种植而占用了大片的土地。长江江豚也在沿岸工业活动的影响下走向灭绝，而全国近 7.5 亿人口居住在一流域。

近年的研究证明，中国特有的物种——世界其他地区都没有——大多集中于西部地区。保护它们也就是保护中国的生物多样性。当然，这里还住着中国官方重点保护的动物——大熊猫。

于是不禁发问：保护大熊猫，对于保护其他物种是否也有利？我和中国同事李彬彬共同研究后得出结论：有许多中国特有的物种与大熊猫生活在同一片地区，在大熊猫的“保护伞”下得以生存。当然，这并不是一个完美的方案，因为还有许多物种生活在其他地方，也需要保护。我们热爱大熊猫，但我们也同样热爱书里拍摄到的其他物种。

这就是本书的意义所在。中国的野生世界不仅美得令人神往，更具有重要的科学价值。这些自然风光以其独特的魅力，吸引着来自国内和国外的游客。而本书则告诉我们，如果不着力保护自然，我们将会失去什么。

所以，当遇见那群等待雄雉的摄影师时，我很高兴。我当时就应该告诉他们，看见他们这么喜爱这种可爱的鸟类，我有多激动。正因为有了这份热情，我们才可以做出承诺，为了子孙后代、为了中国未来数千年的文化传承，保护好我们丰富的野生动植物资源。

斯图尔特·皮姆
杜克大学尼古拉斯环境学院教授

Preface

At sunrise, one late April morning, I walked the short distance from my hotel to the Olympic Forest Park in Beijing. Even at this early hour, many were walking and running its trails, but I was there with my binoculars. At peak bird migration, this was a great place to spend a couple of hours before work. The woods and marshes were busy with songs of warblers and flycatchers.

Coming round a bend in a path, a group of twenty people surprised me. Huddled close together, they stood with cameras and huge telephoto lenses looking across a small open field with great anticipation. No famous film star could have expected a more attentive group of fans, nor a more expensive collection of professional cameras and equipment. I stood at the back of the group, hoping for some explanation, when someone proudly showed me what he'd photographed earlier: a male pheasant. They were waiting for it to reappear.

On my morning walks over the next few weeks, I regularly encountered groups of equally intent wildlife photographers. The lake was a favourite spot, with cameras and their owners strung along its bank at intervals, waiting patiently for a bird to appear. A family of whooping swans was another favourite, as they stopped by on the migration to northern Russia.

Of course, I've met wildlife photographers before, but the number and dedication of these in Beijing tells me this is a very Chinese passion. *Nature and Wildlife Photography in China* is confirmation. It's a thrilling collection of photographs of mammals, birds, flowers, insects, and scenery. China photographers have much to be passionate about.

This group of photographers behind this collection formed a group "Imaging the Biodiversity Expedition" in 2009. They combine visuals with field surveys to document biodiversity inventories in different areas, including 60 nature reserves throughout China. They also pair with science team to make sure their identifications were right. This book summarizes their efforts over the past 10 years, covering more than 300,000 km and recording 8000 species.

China's wildlife reflects the country's exceptional range of habitats. There are black-necked cranes, descending past a snow-covered Himalayan peak, Tibetan asses and Przewalski's horses roaming wild grasslands. There are elephants, monkeys and birds from steamy tropical forests, the Yangtze river dolphin, tropical corals. China spans the very cold to the hot, the very dry deserts to wet forests and all the species these areas contain. In an area roughly the same size as the continental United States, China has 15% of the world's terrestrial vertebrate species, and 12% of its plants. Wildlife photographers have so many species to capture!

The plant photographs alone capture this: we see them flowering on high mountains during the few weeks when the snow melts, orchids in the rainforests, flowers of dry deserts, flowers floating on lakes. Each is jewel, adding splashes of colour to the landscape.

The book's photographers stalk their animals with large telephoto lenses, of course — how else would one get a photo of a pair of snow leopards? But this book spans so many other techniques. The close-up photographs of insects are of a world with creatures beyond the imagination of those who invent science fiction. Surely the fly, *Eudorylas*, is a mechanised monster from another planet. The mantis, *Ceratantis*, surely gives the small insects on which it feeds nightmares.

I'm pleased too to see a collection of photographs from camera traps. These are not artistic triumphs as photographs. But, they are scientifically significant — and represent a major technical advance. A decade or so ago, digital cameras were too slow to turn on, when an animal passed them. Film cameras worked but one had to check them frequently. Now, digital cameras can wait patiently for months, snapping thousands of photos. What they see are animals that we know very poorly indeed, species that are very shy and hard to detect any other way. We are learning so much about what's out there, hiding from us.

Throughout, this book fills me with a sense of wonder. For example, there are more than ten pages of different kinds of pheasants, each more beautiful than

the next. I want to see that one! No, that one! China is the pheasant capital of the world with 35 species. Their homes in the mountains of the south and west are a fitting backdrop to their vivid colours. There are the herds of Tibetan antelopes, or the family of golden snub-nosed monkeys that would be fascinating to watch for hours were one lucky to come across them. Or the brilliant flowers in their alpine meadows that would fascinate on a mountain hike.

All this wonder comes with the price of worrying whether our children will be able to experience — and photograph — nature in the way we have done. Some the species are very rare indeed — the giant panda is the most famous example. It was once widespread in China but now lives in a few mountain ranges mostly in Sichuan. Worse, it's population is fragmented into isolated groups, some likely too small to be viable in the long term. Other species live in the tropical forests in Yunnan where extensive areas are being cleared for rubber plantations. The Yangtze river dolphin may now be extinct, a victim of massive industrial activity along the river's banks and the almost three-quarters of a billion people living in its watershed.

Certainly, there is some good news. China is protecting more of its land, setting aside large for nature protection. Over the last few years, I've been fortunate to visit many such places, from the wetland in Zha Long in the north to the remaining forests on the tropical island of Hainan and west to the Sanjiangyuan National Nature Reserve the Tibetan plateau in Qinghai, and Jiuzhaigou Nature Reserve and other protected places in Sichuan. Many millions of people now visit these areas. The facilities for tourists — armed with their cameras to photograph wildlife or just smartphones — are impressive indeed. Most of these areas are in the west and southwest, as indeed are the photographs in this book. There are fewer people there of course, but there are also more species.

Recent studies have shown that the species that are uniquely Chinese — those found nowhere else on Earth — concentrate in these western regions. Protecting them is vital to protecting China's biodiversity. Of course, this is where the giant panda lives and it has been a priority for the Chinese authorities.

This makes me ask: is protecting the panda good for protecting other species? Working with my Chinese colleague, Binbin Li, we've concluded that it is — a lot of China's other unique species live where the pandas live, under its protective umbrella, as it were. It's not a perfect solution — there are a lot of species that live in other places, too, and they need protection. We love pandas, but we also love the many other species that this book photographs.

And that's the point of it. China's wildlife is beautiful and fascinating and scientifically interesting and its natural areas are unique places that fascinate Chinese and international visitors alike. This book shows what we have to lose if we are not careful to protect nature.

So, when I met the group waiting for the pheasant, I was delighted. I wish I could have told them how thrilled I was to see their pleasure in such a lovely bird. With that enthusiasm comes the commitment we can all share to save China's exceptional wildlife for our children — and for thousands of more years in this country's long cultural experience.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Stuart H. Pimm". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Doris Duke Professor of Conservation Ecology

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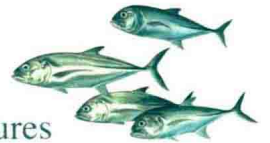


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地理分区

Ground partition



东北区

东北区在中国的最北端，气候寒冷而湿润。植被从松辽平原和三江平原的草原、沼泽缓慢地过渡到大小兴安岭和长白山的森林，地势平缓，景观开阔，是驯鹿、狍、榛鸡、松鸡、东北小鲵、林蛙等典型北方物种在中国的主要分布区。在大兴安岭北部，驼鹿、雪兔和森林旅鼠等寒带典型种类也有分布，广阔的森林和众多的沼泽为有蹄类、鹤类、鹭类、雁鸭类、松鸡和雉类提供了良好的栖息地，不少在南方越冬的鸟类，夏季会迁到本区繁殖。不过，寒冷的气候限制了两栖类和爬行类物种往本区扩展，因而种类相对较少。在最近的 100 年内，森林采伐、湿地排干和农田的开垦大面积地改变了原生植被景观，已经严重威胁到东北虎、远东豹、丹顶鹤等物种的生存。

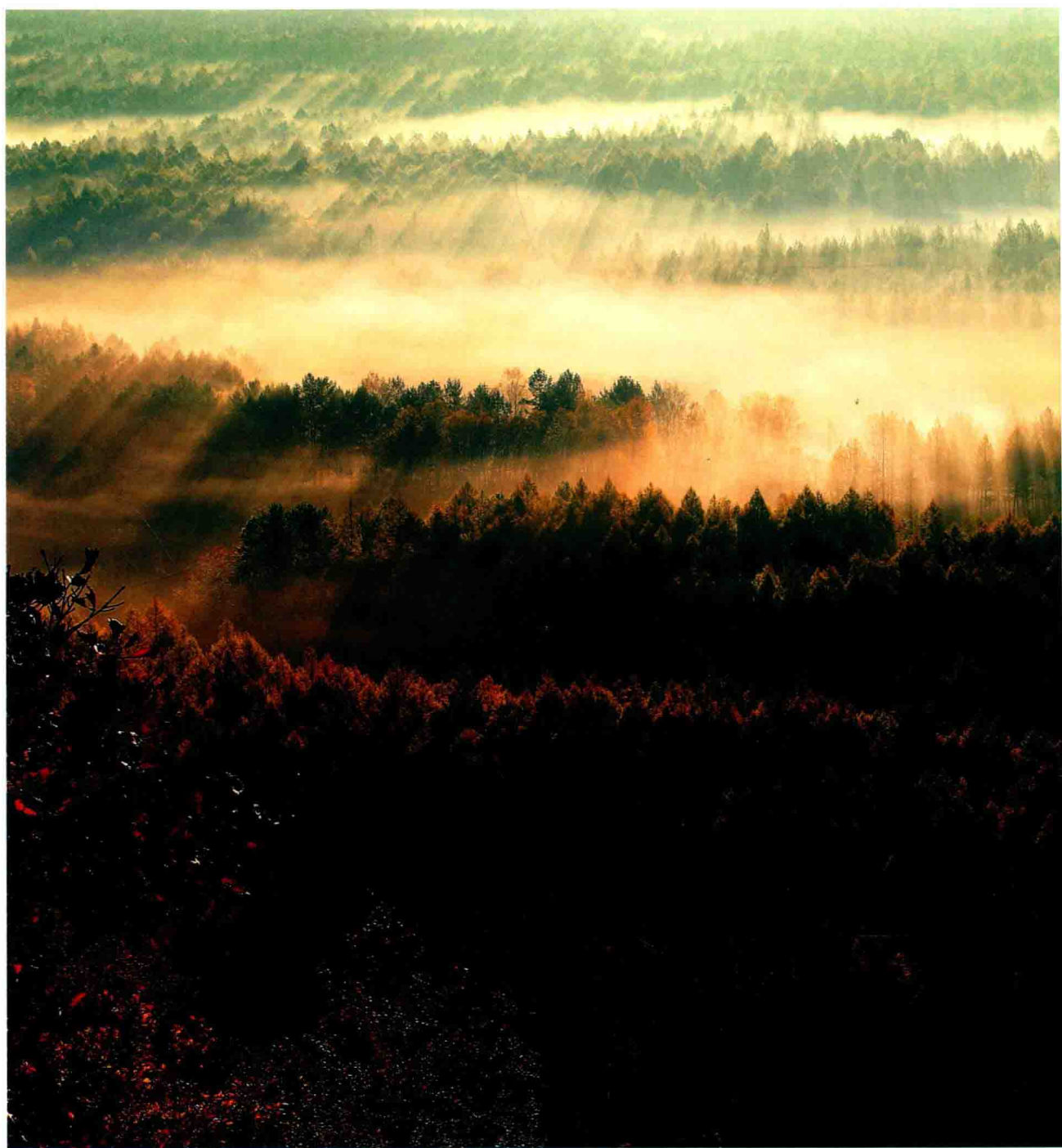
Northeast China

Located at the northern tip of China, the region features a frigid and moist climate. From east to west, steppes and marshes in Songliao and Sanjiang Plains gradually give way to forests in Greater and Lesser Khingan Ranges. Northeast China is the country's main habitat of reindeer, roe deer, (hazel) grouse, Korean salamander, wood frog and other typical northern species. The north of Greater Khingan Ranges is home to typical frigid-zone species including moose, mountain hare and wood lemming. The expansive forests and numerous marshes have created a wonderful kingdom of hoofed animals, crane, egret, wild goose, duck, grouse and pheasant. Birds overwintering in the south will migrate to the region in the summer. Daunted by the frigid climate, amphibians and reptiles here are limited in type. Over the past century, the landscape of Northeast China has been dramatically reshaped by deforestation, reclamation, and draining of wetlands. Human factors as such have posed severe threats to the survival of Siberian tiger, Amur leopard and red-crowned crane.

< 郭亮 Guo Liang

赤狐

Vulpes Vulpes





胜山国家级自然保护区，位于黑龙江小兴安岭山地西北端，为低山丘陵加河谷湿地的地貌类型。这里是中俄边境区域内唯一森林类型保护区，也是红松林生长的北纬最上限。秋季的清晨，雨后天晴，越过对面的山岭的阳光，被层层叠叠的树冠梳理成琴弦，任由河谷飘散的雾气抚摸着、弹拨着，和着欢快的鸟鸣与潺潺的水声，奏响一曲天籁之音。

Located at the northwestern edge of Lesser Khingan Mountains, Shengshan National Nature Reserve is made up of hills, river valley and wetland. It is the only forest reserve along the China-Russia border, and the north point where Korean pine woods can grow. On an early autumn morning after the rain, the sun climbs above the yonder hills and emanates its rays through layers of tree-crowns. The mist hanging over the valley caresses the string-like rays, playing a celestial concerto with merry twitters and gurgling streams.

< 崔林 Cui Lin
东北区 - 中国黑龙江省胜山
Sheng Mountains, HeiLongjiang



华北区

华北区位于古北界的南部,南边以秦岭淮河为界与东洋界相邻,是南北动物混杂的区域,动物区系内兼有东北区森林和蒙新区草原荒漠的物种,以及喜湿的南方物种。本区特有的种类较少,只有无蹼壁虎、山噪鹛、褐马鸡、麝鼯等。区内北部山地和西部黄土高原地势较高,东部的黄淮平原地势较低,属暖温带气候,受季风影响,本区夏热冬寒,四季分明。本区人类活动和农业开发的历史极为悠久,原始森林已被栎和松的次生林所替代,原始草原已被次生草、灌丛和农田所替代,适合原始森林草原环境的大型动物,包括马鹿、梅花鹿、麋鹿、虎、黑熊等,都已在本区消失或近乎消失,数量较多的则是体形较小,或适应了农耕环境的种类,如仓鼠、田鼠、鼯鼠、乌鸦、喜鹊等。本区的沿海地带,是许多鸟类的迁徙路线,对鸟类有特殊的意义。

North China

Located in the south of the Palaearctic realm, North China shares its southern border - Qinling Mountains and Huaihe River - with the Oriental realm. It is where northern species - typified by forest creatures from Northeast China and desert/grassland animals from Inner Mongolia and Xinjiang - intermix with moisture-loving southern ones. Peking gecko, plain laughingthrush, brown-eared pheasant and desman are among the few species endemic to the region. Topographically, it is high in the north (mountainous areas) and west (Loess Plateau) and low in the east (Huanghuai Plain). Featuring a warm-temperate climate, the monsoon-influenced region has four distinct seasons. Agriculture and other human activities go back a long way in North China. The passage of years has seen primary forests give place to secondary woods of oaks and pines, and primary steppes to coppices, farmlands and meadows. Large animals which originally lived here, like red deer, sika deer, David's deer, tiger and black bear, have fully or substantially vanished; only smaller ones or those accustomed to the agri-environment, like hamster, field mouse, zokor, crow and magpie, remain in large quantities. As a part of the migration routes, coastal areas of North China are vital to birds.

< 郭亮 Guo Liang
西伯利亚狍
Capreolus Pygargus