Please contact X. Lu at <u>xlu@whu.edu.cn</u> with any questions regarding these data and their associated code.

Data are age, helper presence, whether receiving help (i.e. ever- and never-receiving help over life), fledgling number, territory quality, lifespan, and sex of ground tits in Dangxiong (30° 28′ N, 91° 05′ E, 4300 m elevation), south Tibet from 2006-2018.

Column headings (variable names):

Year	The year in which observations were taken. This was used
	in generalized linear mixed models as a random effect to
	account for repeated measures.
Individual_id	The individual that was monitored over study time. This
	was used in generalized linear mixed models as a random
	effect to account for repeated measures.
Mate_id	The social mate of the focal individual that was monitored
	in a given year. This was used in generalized linear mixed
	models as a random effect to account for repeated
	measures.
Individual_age	Individual age was the age of the focal individual in a
	given year.
Mate_age	Mate age was the age of the social mate of the focal
	individual in a given year.
Helper_presence	Helper presence was whether or not a helper appeared in
	a given nest.
Whether_receiving_help	Whether receiving help was whether or not the focal
	individual has received help over life.

Fledgling_number	Fledgling number was defined as the brood size at
	fledging.
Territory_quality	Territory quality was the quality of territory occupied by
	the focal individual. The study plot includes two sections,
	one along and the other far from, the river bank. The
	former has moister soil and better vegetation cover and
	thus more abundant soil invertebrates than the latter. The
	difference in habitat quality was set as a binary
	explanatory variable to specify each breeder.
Lifespan	Lifespan was defined as the interval between the year of
	birth (observed or inferred) and the year of death or last
	follow-up.
Sex	Sex (female or male) was set as a binary explanatory
	variable in the models.