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# The birds of the Parc National du Haut Niger, Guinea 

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Received 20 March 1998; revised 16 October 1999


#### Abstract

\section*{Summary}

A large woodland in central Guinea-Conakry was surveyed for birds during the dry season in winter 1996-7, as part of an investigation for a new national park. Abundance, habitat use and monthly presence within the park are given for 300 bird species, including 17 new to the Guinea list.


## Résumé

Une grand étendue de terrain boisé au centre de la Guinée-Conakry a été explorée pour les oiseaux pendant la saison sèche de l'hiver 1996-7, dans le cadre d'une recherche pour un nouveau parc national. L'abondance, l'utilisation de l'habitat et la présence mensuelle dans le parc sont données pour 300 espèces, y compris 17 nouvelles pour la liste de Guinée.

## Introduction

Up to now, studies on birds in Guinea have been carried out only in the west along the coast, around Conakry and the Fouta Djalon (Richards 1982, Demey 1995), and in the east along the border of Sierra Leone and Liberia, especially Mt Nimba and the Ziama forest (Morel \& Morel 1988). The central part of the country, mainly formed by the Upper Niger basin, has never been surveyed, except for some brief observations by Walsh (1987) visiting Kouroussa and Beyla in the northeast. As in many other parts of Africa with savanna woodland, tsetses, blackflies and mosquitoes have prevented intensive land use.

The new National Park of Haut Niger, established in April 1997 and linked to the Forêt classée de la Mafou, protects one of the last untouched primary woodlands of the West African Guinea savanna belt and covers 600,000 ha.

## Methods

This study was part of an inventory of the flora and fauna for the Park and covered the five months of the dry season from late November 1996 to April 1997. The aim of
the study was to produce a bird list for the Park. To achieve this goal the following techniques were used. First the available literature was studied. Field observations at regular intervals covered similar routes in each study site, including the Park headquarters at Sidakoro ( $10^{\circ} 17^{\prime} \mathrm{N}, 10^{\circ} 28^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ ), at Somoria ( $10^{\circ} 30^{\prime} \mathrm{N}, 10^{\circ} 28^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ ), Serekoroba ( $10^{\circ} 25^{\prime} \mathrm{N}, 10^{\circ} 7^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ ) and Kouroussa ( $10^{\circ} 41^{\prime} \mathrm{N}, 9^{\circ} 54^{\prime} \mathrm{W}$ ). Also all casual observations along roads were included. At the end of each day all birds seen during the day were listed on record forms by study site. Mist-netting was carried out at least once a month, with 5-15 mist nets placed in different habitats.

Checking the hunting bags of hunters at some villages in the Park added a few large species. Usually once a week the markets at Mansiramouribaya, Foya and Njako were checked for birds and small mammals hunted during the last week. The hunters agreed to keep the heads for identification. Guineafowl were the most common birds, but many others also turned up.

Catching birds for export in Guinea is a well-organised business. Especially in autumn often a few thousand birds a day leave Conakry. Most birds caught are granivores, but parrots, tauracos, starlings, pigeons and a few larger species are also on the export lists. Around Sidakoro two bird-catchers were operating. At that time in the dry season they were looking for finches. All other birds they caught were of no use for them, and it was arranged to take them over for this study. This enlarged the list of passerines and added some migrants to the ringing totals.

## Habitats, vegetation and bird communities

The Park was planned to protect the large, almost untouched woodland of the Forêt classée de la Mafou. However, several other small habitats are included, forming a mosaic with the following proportional areas: savanna woodland $88.1 \%$; agriculture $4.7 \%$; bowals (short grass patches on laterite pans) $3.2 \%$; bowl forest (small patches of forest usually in depressions) $2.8 \%$; gallery forests (mainly along the large rivers Niger and Mafou) $1.2 \%$. During this study all these habitats were surveyed.

Most of these habitats undergo dramatic changes during the year. In the rainy season, with an average annual rainfall of 1500 mm falling mainly between May and August, the vegetation is luxuriant green and probably insects are plenty. In the dry season, with about 6 months completely without rain, many trees lose their leaves, the grass and small rivers dry up. On the other hand there are plenty of seeds, some trees flower or even produce new leaves. The most drastic change takes place in the second half of the dry season, when almost all of the park gets burned by bush fires. Most of the grass goes, the trees lose their leaves and the face of the Park changes completely.

## Savanna woodland

The savanna woodland has a few, probably highly specialised bird species, which occur only in undisturbed primary wooded savanna. So far very little attention has
been given to this habitat. The typical primary savanna woodland species for the Park are (scientific names of all birds mentioned in the text may be found in the Appendix): Beaudouin's Snake Eagle, Wahlberg's Eagle, Forbes's Plover, White-crowned Plover, Vinaceous Dove, Red-headed Lovebird, Violet Tauraco, Wood Owl, Fierynecked Nightjar, Striped Kingfisher, Swallow-tailed Bee-eater, Blue-bellied Roller, Vieillot's Barbet, Fine-spotted Woodpecker, Rufous-rumped Lark, Grey-rumped Swallow, White-breasted Cuckoo Shrike, Green-backed Eremomela, Red-winged Warbler, Pallid Flycatcher, Blackcap Babbler, White-winged Black Tit, Violetbacked Sunbird, African Golden Oriole, Yellow-billed Shrike, White Helmet Shrike, Purple Glossy Starling, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver, Red-headed Weaver, White-cheeked Olive-back, Yellow-winged Pytilia, Cabanis's Bunting. Most of these species are still quite common in the Park, but it is yet not known what effects bush fires have on these birds. Bush fires on a large scale seem to be a fairly recent event.

Among the typical woodland birds are residents, African migrants and Palaearctic migrants. The residents have to cope with the seasonal changes. It seems that in the non-breeding season they move around, because ringed birds were hardly ever controlled at the same site again. Especially among the small passerines, some species move around in mixed parties. Resident birds are expected to be strongly effected by bush fires, because their habitat changes completely within hours, but on the other hand they could benefit from their good knowledge of their home range.

Typical species of mixed bird parties found in the Park were: Golden-rumped Tinkerbird, Common Bulbul, Green-backed Eremomela, Northern Crombec, Yellow White-eye, White-winged Black Tit and Black-necked Weaver.

The African migrants spend either the dry season or the rainy season in the Park; Some come to breed like Wahlberg's Eagle, Rock Pratincole, Standard-winged Nightjar and African Golden Oriole. Others just spend the non-breeding season and moult there, like Grasshopper Buzzard and Carmine Bee-eater.

A few Palaearctic migrants spend the winter in the woodland, but in general this is the least used habitat by Palaearctic migrants in winter. Only European Bee-eater, Tree Pipit, Nightingale, Whinchat, and Pied Flycatcher winter in substantial numbers. In others, like Reed Warbler, Olivaceous Warbler, Willow Warbler and Chiffchaff, only a few individuals winter, most moving on to the forest zone or wintering further north. Most passerine migrants, whether on passage or wintering, favour secondary vegetation especially former farmland, which usually has fairly dense, green thicket mixed with open patches. The number of Palaearctic species recorded for the Park is fairly high, but some like Melodious Warbler and Wryneck are only passing visitors in autumn or spring. Others, like Cattle Egret and Night Heron, have an African population likely to occur there and are probably not from the Palaearctic.

## Bowals

Bowals are covered with short grass and have some similarities with short grass plains in the soudan savanna. Birds that appear here in the dry season are mainly

African migrants including: Forbes's Plover, Denham's Bustard, Rufous-rumped Lark, Sun Lark, Plain-backed Pipit, Yellow-winged Pytilia, Orange-cheeked Waxbill, Lavander Waxbill and Black-bellied Fire-Finch. Two Palaearctic species favour this habitat in winter: Tree Pipit and Whinchat.

Bowals are often burned first and seed eating birds are then abundant for a few days. There might be some advantage of early fires to bowal specialists. The grass is short and quickly dried up, and after the fire a new low green vegetation quickly appears. This provides enough cover for the ground nesting birds and they have no risk of fire for the rest of the season.

## Swamps

The main difference from bowals is in the rainy season. Swamps are usually flood plains of the larger rivers or old river beds and sometimes even have small ponds which remain throughout the year. In the dry season, most grass gets burned and they differ less from the bowals, except for the difference in soil. The most typical birds of swamps are Painted Snipe, African Jacana, Yellow-throated Longclaw, African Moustached Warbler, cisticolas, Red-winged Warbler, Yellow-mantled Whydah, Zebra Waxbill and Quail Fich. Palaearctic migrants typical for this habitat are Purple Heron, Little Egret, Snipe, Wood Sandpiper and Yellow Wagtail.

## Bowl forests

Related to lowland forests, bowl forests are small forest patches in a depression and often include a small swamp, lake or spring. Large green trees, thick undergrowth and humid surface throughout the year are characteristic. The bird community here is very similar to primary lowland forest. Bowl forests are often near to villages and are slightly protected, by being ritual places. On the other hand the big trees are near to the villages and easily cut. Once the trees are gone, they are attractive for agricultural use. These little forest patches also have a very distinct population of small mammals and in the late dry season with its bush fires, when food might be most limited, are probably of great value to the regional fauna. The value of these bowl forests within the savanna ecosystem needs more research before they are gone.

Typical species are: Tambourine Dove, Little Greenbul, Grey-winged RobinChat, White-crowned Robin-Chat, Green Crombec, Red-faced Cisticola, Olive Sunbird, Square-tailed Drongo, White-cheeked Oliveback and Crimson Seedcracker.

## River edge vegetation

Along the two big rivers Niger and Mafou is a small fringe which sometimes continues also along the larger tributaries. The green vegetation is often restricted to the river banks. As with bowl forest, they are green throughout the year and provide thick undergrowth. African species that favour this habitat include: Guinea Tauraco, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, Shining Blue Kingfisher, Giant Kingfisher, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, Yellow-throated Leaflove, Oriole Warbler, White-browed Forest

Flycatcher, Cassin's Flycatcher and Brown Sunbird. There are also some Palaearctic migrants attracted by this habitat: Olivaceous Warbler, Sedge Warbler and Chiffchaff were only found here.

## Rivers Niger and Mafou

These are large enough to attract a variety of waterbirds, including the Afrotropical Hamerkop, African Fish Eagle, Senegal Thick-knee, Egyptian Plover, Rock Pratincole, White-crowned Plover, African Skimmer and Pel's Fishing Owl. Purple Heron, Black Stork, Osprey, Greenshank, Green Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper and Common Sandpiper are winter visitors from Europe. Most of the African species use the late dry season with a low water level and sandbanks for breeding; during the rainy season, when the water level is high, they seem to move down the river to Mali. But this pattern of migration is still not clear.

## Farmland and farmbush

This man-made habitat is only found in the buffer zone. Around the villages are small fields, most used only for a few years until the soil is exhausted and a new plot is selected. Soon after a field is abandoned, the vegetation recovers; the stumps of the trees, which were left in the ground, grow up again. After a few years a habitat with low trees and bushes mixed with open patches attracts many birds, like Laughing Dove, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Western Black Flycatcher, Whistling Cisticola, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Red-billed Firefinch and Yellow-fronted Canary. Even though the species composition is different from primary woodland, these habitats seem to be a valuable addition to the Park. Among the migrants from Europe, Nightingale, Whinchat and Willow Warbler show a preference for this habitat.

## Kouroussa region:

The small part of the Park next to Kouroussa is quite different from the rest of the Park. Fairly intensive agriculture over the last few hundred years has influenced the vegetation. The trees are much smaller and the vegetation is much more open. The area was visited in January and March and the species recorded from the Kouroussa region are presented separately in the species list. Future research should establish how marked the difference really is. Typical species recorded only in the Kouroussa region are: White-backed Vulture, Bateleur, Black-shouldered Kite, Temminck's Courser, Bronze-winged Courser and Chestnut-backed Sparrow Lark.

## Birds recorded

A preliminary visit to the Park by Falk Hüttmann in December 1995 resulted in a bird list with 120 species (Hüttmann 1996) but, due to inadequate literature, about $20 \%$ of the birds listed were wrongly identified; therefore the list was ignored in this report.

Dowsett \& Dowsett-Lemaire (1993) summarised 552 bird species so far recorded from Guinea and more were added by Demey (1995). This study adds a further 17 species to the Guinea list, discussed below and marked with * in the systematic list (Appendix), which includes all species observed during the study (almost all were mist-netted or brought in by hunters), and those photographed by Udo Lange at Kouroussa.

So far, 300 species of birds are recorded for the Park, but since this study covered only the dry season, it is expected that the final bird list will total about 350 species. Considering that the Park covers just one major habitat, the numbers are surprisingly high.

The following recorded species are new to the Guinea list:
Black Stork. Up to two seen on several occasions around Somoria in the centre of the Park, in Jan.
Ovampo Sparrowhawk. Two adult birds appeared in connection with a bush fire on 14 Dec in the centre of the Park near Somoria. A wing and tail of another bird was received from hunters in Feb.
Spotted Thick-knee. One stayed for a few days on a bowal closed to Somoria, in Dec. The spotted plumage and the wing pattern separated it clearly from Senegal Thickknee and European Thick-knee Burhinus oedicnemus.
Cuckoo. Occasionally seen Dec-Jan in open bush country close to villages between Sidakoro and Faranah. They were never calling. Confirmed by a tail brought in by a hunter in Jan. African Cuckoo appeared in Mar and was soon commonly seen and heard in open bush country with large trees.
Pel's Fishing Owl. U. Lange photographed this owl at the Niger near Kouroussa in Oct. In addition feathers were collected during this study at an exposed tree along the Niger near to Somoria on each visit.
Fiery-necked Nightjar. Appeared at the Park headquarters late Dec, and was soon noticed throughout the Park in tall open woodland.
Wryneck. One caught and ringed closed to Park headquarters on 8 Dec.
Grey-winged Robin-Chat. Caught and ringed at Sidakoro in low gallery vegetation along a small stream.
Red-breasted Wheatear. Two seen around a bush fire on an open bowal in Jan. The darkish red plumage and small amount of white around the tail made it clearly this species.
Chiffchaff. Commonly caught along the large rivers in the Park. A newly discovered moult pattern was described (Nikolaus in press.).
Whitethroat. Found on spring passage in the more open and dry part of the Park at Kouroussa in Mar. One was ringed.
Yellow-chested Apalis. Only seen in Jan, in bird parties at Sidakoro Park headquarters.

Gambaga Flycatcher. Seen twice at Park headquarters in Dec. This unstreaked grey flycatcher with the typical yellow base of the lower mandible was very familiar to me from other sites in E and W Africa.
Cassin's Flycatcher. At least two seen and caught in Dec and Jan at a small stream at Sidakoro. They left after the river dried up.
Tropical Boubou. Regularly seen and caught at Sidakoro. It favoured sites in the Park with tall grass within woodland.
Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver. Often hard to detect, unless its call is known. It is typical of the treetops in undisturbed tall woodland. Only present Dec-Jan.
Pale-winged Indigobird. At first, only Village Indigobird was seen and caught. But in Jan, when the catches of two bird-catchers were examined, a second type of adult male indigobird turned up. Comparing them with skins in the Bonn and Berlin museums, the second type was confirmed as $V$. wilsoni.

## References

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Appendix: Systematic list
"Habitat" presents the usual habitat for each species, with the main ones indicated by XX. Habitats are grouped as: For = Forest: bowl or relict forests and gallery forest species. $\mathrm{W}=$ Primary woodland birds.
$\mathrm{Bu}=$ Bushes: species preferring low bushes, woodland edges or secondary woodland.
$\mathrm{Gr}=$ Grassland: mainly the bowals, but also includes tall grassland in swamps that usually dried up in the dry season. $\mathrm{Sw}=$ Swamps: birds depending even in the dry season on wet swampy vegetation.
$\mathrm{RE}=$ River-edge: species found along the bigger rivers in the riverine vegetation. This does not include the tall gallery forest. Riv $=$ Birds living on the large open rivers Niger and Mafou.
$\mathrm{K}=$ Kouroussa.
These habitats do not correspond completely with those listed in the text, partly because of changes in those habitats during the year, which cause changes in the bird species composition in them, but mainly because the habitat types recognised by birds may be more general than those listed in the text. For example, "forest" birds may be found in bowl, relict and gallery forests, "grassland" birds may be found in bowals and dried-up swamps.
For each species found in the Park, abundance in the main habitat during this study is given. Abundance (especially for migrants) may change with season or from year to year. $\mathrm{R}=$ rare: species with fewer than five records during the study period. F $=$ frequent: species that are occasionally seen, but not every day and usually in small numbers. $\mathrm{C}=$ common: species found easily in their typical habitat and often in larger numbers. If a species was found breeding during this study, B is added.
The study covered only late November to early April. Observations for each 10-day period are marked with X. Birds recorded only from Kouroussa area are marked with x. For U. Lange's Kouroussa observations made at a different season than covered by this study, the month is given in brackets.

Nycticorax nycticorax Night Heron


|  | Habitat |  |  |  | Abund. | Month |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For W Bu | Gr Sw |  | K |  | Nov | $v$ Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar Apr |
| Necrosyrtes monachus Hooded Vulture | XX | X |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Gyps africanus White-backed Vulture | X X |  |  | X | R |  |  | xXx |  | xxx |
| Circaetus gallicus beaudouini Beaudouin's Snake-Eagle | X XX |  |  |  | R |  |  | X |  |  |
| C. cinereus Brown Snake-Eagle | XX X |  |  |  | R |  |  | X |  |  |
| C. cinerascens Western banded Snake-Eagle | XX X |  |  |  | R |  | X |  |  |  |
| Terathopius ecaudatus Bateleur | X XX | X |  | X | R |  |  | Xxx |  |  |
| Polyboroides typus Harrier Hawk | XX X |  |  |  | F |  | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Circus aeruginosus Marsh Harrier |  | XX | X | X | F |  | XXX |  |  | XXX |
| Melierax metabates Dark-chested Goshawk | X XX |  |  | X | R |  |  | X |  |  |
| M. gabar Gabar Goshawk | X XX X |  |  |  | F |  | XXX | XXX |  |  |
| Accipiter melanoleucus Black Goshawk | XX X |  |  |  | R |  |  | X |  |  |
| *A. ovampensis Ovampo Sparrow-Hawk | XX |  |  |  | R |  | X |  |  |  |
| A. tachiro African Goshawk | X XX XX |  |  |  | F |  | X XXX | XXX |  | XXX |
| A. badius Shikra | X XX | X |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Butastur rufipennis Grasshopper Buzzard | XX | X |  | X | F |  | XXX |  | XXX | XXX |
| Kaupifalco monogrammicus Lizard Buzzard | X XX |  |  | X | R |  |  | XXX |  |  |
| Buteo auguralis Red-necked Buzzard | XX X |  |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Aquila wahlbergi Wahlberg's Eagle | XX X | X |  |  | F |  |  |  | XXX | XXX |
| A. rapax Tawny Eagle | X XX | X |  | X (Sep) | R |  |  |  |  |  |
| Hieraaetus spilogaster African Hawk Eagle | XX X |  |  |  | R |  |  |  |  | XXX |
| H. ayresii Ayres's Hawk Eagle | X X |  |  |  | R |  |  | X |  |  |
| Lophaetus occipitalis Long-crested Hawk Eagle | X XX |  |  |  | R |  |  | X |  | X |
| Stephanoaetus coronatus Crowned Eagle | XX X |  |  |  | R |  |  | X |  | X |
| Polemaetus bellicosus Martial Eagle | XX X X | X |  | X | R |  |  | Xxx |  |  |
| Pandion haliaetus Osprey |  |  | X |  | R |  |  | X |  |  |


|  | Habitat |  |  |  | Abund. | Month |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For W Bu | Gr | Sw RE Riv | K |  | Nov | v Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar Apr |
| Falconidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Falco ardosiaceus Grey Kestrel | X XX |  |  | X | F |  |  | X |  |  |
| F. cuvierii African Hobby | XX |  |  |  | F |  |  |  |  | XXX |
| F. biarmicus Lanner | XX | X |  |  | F/B |  | X XXX |  | XXX |  |
| Phasianidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Francolinus bicalcaratus Double-spurred Francolin | XX XX | X |  | X | A/B |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Coturnix chinensis Blue Quail |  | XX |  |  | F |  | X |  |  |  |
| Ptilopachus petrosus Stone Partridge | X XX | X |  | XB | C/B |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Numida meleagris Helmeted Guineafowl | X XX |  |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Turnicidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turnix sylvatica Button Quail |  |  | XX X |  | F |  |  |  |  | X |
| Rallidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Amaurornis flavirostris Black Crake |  |  | X | X | C |  |  | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Gallinula chloropus Moorhen |  |  | XX X | X | F |  |  | xxx |  |  |
| Gruidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Balearica pavonina Black Crowned Crane |  |  | XX |  | R |  |  |  |  |  |
| Heliornithidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Podica senegelensis Finfoot |  |  | X XX | X | C |  | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| Otididae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Neotis denhami Denham's Bustard |  | XX |  |  | M |  | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Eupodotis melanogaster Black-bellied Bustard |  | XX |  |  | R |  |  |  | X |  |
| Jacanidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Actophilornis africanus Lilytrotter |  |  | XX X | XB | C/B |  |  | XXX |  | XXX |
| Rostratulidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rostratula benghalensis Painted Snipe |  |  | X |  |  |  |  |  |  | XXX |


|  | Habitat |  |  |  |  |  |  | Abund. | Month |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For W | Bu |  |  | RE Riv |  | K |  | Nov | $v$ Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar Apr |  |
| Haematopodidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Himantopus himantopus Black-winged Stilt |  |  |  | XX | X |  | X | R |  |  | XXX |  |  |  |
| Burhinidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Burhinus senegalensis Senegal Thick-knee |  | X | X |  | XX |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| *B. capensis Spotted Thick-knee |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | R |  | X |  |  |  |  |
| Glareolidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Pluvianus aegyptius Egyptian Plover |  |  |  |  | X | XX | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| Rhinoptilus chalcopterus Bronze-winged Courser |  | X | XX |  |  |  | X | F |  |  |  |  | xxx |  |
| Cursorius temminckii Temminck's Courser |  |  | X |  |  |  | X | R |  |  | xxx |  |  |  |
| Glareola nuchalis Rock Pratincole |  |  |  | X |  | XX |  | F |  |  |  |  | XXX |  |
| Charadriidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Charadrius forbesi Forbes's Plover |  |  |  |  | X |  | X | F |  | X XXX | XXX |  | XXX |  |
| Vanellus senegallus Senegal Wattled Plover |  |  |  | XX | XX |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XX |  |
| $V$. albiceps White-crowned Plover |  |  |  |  |  | XX | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| Scolopacidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Gallinago gallinago Snipe |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | R |  | X |  |  |  |  |
| Tringa stagnatilis Marsh Sandpiper |  |  |  | XX | X | X |  | R |  | XXX | XXX |  |  |  |
| T. nebularia Greenshank |  |  |  | X |  | XX |  | F |  | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| T. ochropus Green Sandpiper |  |  |  |  | X | X |  | C |  | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| T. glareola Wood Sandpiper |  |  |  |  |  |  |  | F |  | XXX |  |  | XXX |  |
| Actitis hypoleucos Common Sandpiper |  |  |  |  |  | XX | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| Laridae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Rynchops flavirostris African Skimmer |  |  |  |  |  | X | X | F |  |  |  | XXX | XXX |  |
| Columbidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Streptopelia senegalensis Laughing Dove |  | XX | X |  |  |  | X | C |  | X XxX | xxx | xxx | xxx | X |
| S. vinacea Vinaceous Dove | XX | XX | X |  |  |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |






|  | Habitat |  |  |  | Month |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For W Bu | Sw RE Riv | K |  | Nov Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar Apr |
| Motacillidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Motacilla flava Yellow Wagtail |  | XX | X | F | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| M. f. flava Blue-headed Wagtail |  |  | X | F | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| M. aguimp African Pied Wagtail |  | X |  | F | XXX | XXX |  | XXX |
| Anthus richardi Richard's Pipit |  | XX |  | F |  | X |  |  |
| A. leucophrys Plain-backed Pipit | X X |  |  | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| A. trivialis Tree Pipit | X XX |  | X | C | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Macronyx croceus Yellow-throated Longclaw |  |  | X | F |  | XXX |  | XXX |
| Campephagidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Campephaga phoenicea Red-shouldered Cuckoo Shrike | XX X |  | X(Sep) | R |  |  |  |  |
| Coracina pectoralis White-breasted Cuckoo Shrike | X |  | X | F | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Pyenonotidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Andropadus virens Little Greenbul | XX X |  |  | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Chlorocichla flavicollis Yellow-throated Leaflove | XX X |  |  | F | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Pyrrhurus scandens Leaflove | XX X |  |  | F | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| Pygnonotus barbatus Common Bulbul | XX XX | X | X | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Turdidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Turdus pelios African Thrush | X XX X |  | X | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Luscinia megarhynchos Nightingale | X XX |  |  | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| *Cossypha polioptera Grey-winged Robin-Chat | X |  |  | R |  | XXX |  |  |
| C. niveicapilla Snowy-headed Robin-Chat | X XX X |  |  | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| C. albicapilla White-crowned Robin-Chat | XX X |  |  | F |  | XXX | XXX |  |
| Saxicola rubetra Whinchat |  | X X | X | C | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Oenanthe oenanthe Wheatear |  |  |  | R | XXX |  |  |  |
| *O. bottae Red-breasted Wheatear | X X |  |  | R |  | X |  |  |
| Myrmecocichla albifrons White-fronted Black Chat | X |  |  | F | X |  |  |  |


|  | Habitat |  |  |  |  | Abund. | Month |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | For W B | Bu | Gr Sw | RE Riv | K |  | Nov | v Dec | Jan | Feb | Mar Apr |
| Sylviidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Melocichla mentalis African Moustached Warbler |  |  | X |  |  | F |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Acrocephalus schoenobaenus Sedge Warbler |  |  |  | X |  | F |  |  | XXX |  | XXX |
| A. scirpaceus Reed Warbler |  | X | X XX | X |  | F |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| Hippolais pallida Olivaceous Warbler |  |  |  | XX | X | F |  | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| H. polyglotta Melodious Warbler |  | X |  |  | X | F |  | X XXX | XXX |  | XXX |
| Eremomela pusilla Green-backed Eremomela | X X | XX |  |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Sylvietta virens Green Crombec | X |  |  |  |  | F |  |  | XXX |  |  |
| S. brachyura Northern Crombec |  | X |  |  |  | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Phylloscopus trochilus Willow Warbler |  | XX |  | X | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX |
| *P. collybita Chiffchaff | X | X |  | XX |  | C |  | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| Hyliota flavigaster Yellow-bellied Hyliota | XX X |  |  |  |  | F |  | XXX | XXX |  |  |
| *Sylvia communis Whitethroat |  | X |  |  | X | R |  |  |  |  | xxx |
| Cisticola juncidis Fan-tailed Cisticola |  |  | X |  |  | F |  | X XXX | XXX |  | XXX |
| C. natalensis Croaking Cisticola |  |  | XX |  |  | F |  | XXX | XXX | XXX |  |
| C. lateralis Whistling Cisticola |  |  | XX |  |  | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| C. erythrops Red-faced Cisticola | X | X | X XX |  |  | C |  |  | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| C. cantans Singing Cisticola |  | XX | X |  |  | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| C. brachypterus Short-winged Cisticola | XX |  | X | X | X | F |  |  |  | XXX | XXX |
| Prinia subflava Tawny-flanked Prinia |  | XX |  |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Heliolais erytroptera Red-winged Warbler |  | XX |  |  |  | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| *Apalis flavida Yellow-chested Apalis | X |  |  |  |  | F |  |  | XXX |  |  |
| Camaroptera brachyura Grey-backedCamaroptera | X XX | X |  |  | X | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Hypergerus atriceps Oriole Warbler | X |  |  | XX |  | F |  | XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |
| Muscicapidae |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| Bradornis pallidus Pallid Flycatcher | XX |  |  |  |  | C |  | X XXX | XXX | XXX | XXX X |






