Figure 1. Painting from field notes of the Heuglin's Wheatear seen in Djoudj N.P., Senegal, 18 Jan 2007 (painting: A. Le Nevé).

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Movements of a Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* in West Africa

West Africa hosts the smallest and least known population of the Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* (Trolliet & Fouquet 2001, Childress 2005, Childress *et al.* 2008). In 2009, the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology initiated a project to investigate movements of Lesser Flamingos by satellite telemetry (Salewski *et al.*

2010a). As part of this project one adult Lesser Flamingo was equipped with a solar-powered GPS satellite transmitter at Lac Khar in Djoudj National Park, Senegal, on 11 Feb 2010 (Salewski *et al.* 2010b). This transmitter stopped sending data on 9 Nov 2010.

The bird's main movements are described in Table 1 and its flight paths in Fig. 1. It first moved to Aftout es Saheli in Mauritania, where a group of Lesser Flamingos had started breeding (Isenmann *et al.* 2010, VS & Ould Sidaty pers. obs.), but after about a week it was back in Djoudj NP, near the initial capture site. In April it moved back to Mauritania but after two days there it flew non-stop for about 525 km to Guinea Bissau, during the night of 16–17 Apr. After some movements over four days in this country it moved about 175 km to Guinea and a few days later another 170 km back to Guinea Bissau. It stayed there until October, then moved back to Guinea, where the transmitter stopped sending data.

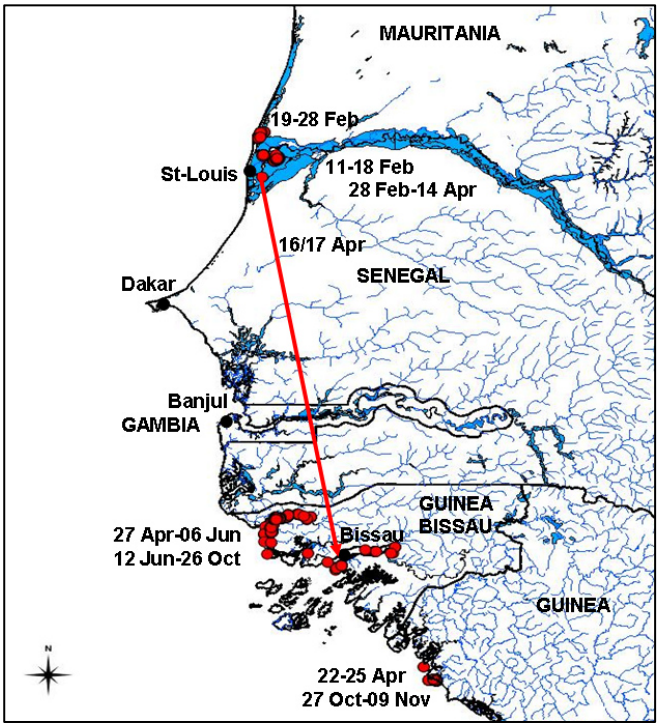

Figure 1. Movements of a Lesser Flamingo equipped with a satellite transmitter in West Africa. Shown are the daily locations (red dots), the dates of stay at the major staging areas and the main movement from the Senegal valley to Guinea Bissau (red arrow).

Table 1. Movements of a Lesser Flamingo equipped with a satellite transmitter in West Africa. Date is when the bird was first recorded at a locality; distance is minimum distance from previous locality. Most movements of < 35 km are omitted.

Date (2010)	Locality	Distance (km)
11 Feb	Captured at Lac Khar, Djoudj NP, Senegal	
19 Feb	Aftout es Saheli, Diawling NP, Mauritania	35
28 Feb	Grand Lac, Djoudj NP, Senegal	35
15 Apr	Bassin du Diawling, Diawling NP, Mauritania	18
17 Apr	Mouth of the Geba River near Bissau, Guinea Bissau	525
20 Apr	Geba River near Ganjauara, Guinea Bissau	70
21 Apr	Mouth of the Geba River near Bissau, Guinea Bissau	70
22 Apr	Near Kamsar[1], Guinea	175
26 Apr	Near Colicunda, Guinea Bissau	170
26 Apr	Mouth of the Geba River near Bissau, Guinea Bissau	50
27 Apr	Near Cacheu, Guinea Bissau	80
7 Jun	Near Colicunda, Guinea Bissau	115
12 Jun	Near Cacheu, Guinea Bissau	90
27 Oct	Near Kamsar[1], Guinea	265
9 Nov	Last data transmitted from near Kamsar, Guinea	

[1]Coordinates similar to those of the site called Khonibenki by Trolliet & Fouquet (2001).

The movements described above support suggestions by Trolliet & Fouquet (2001) that fluctuations of Lesser Flamingo numbers in Guinea may be due to movements from the Senegal delta. They counted 1600 and 1300 Lesser Flamingos in January 1999 and 2000 respectively, but 10,900 in December 2000 and 13,000 in January 2002, at Khonibenki, close to Kamsar (Trolliet & Fouquet 2001, Trolliet *et al*. 2007). The shallow lakes used by Lesser Flamingos in the Djoudj National Park (> 45,000 counted in the Senegal delta in February 1990, Trolliet & Fouquet 2001) hold water only temporarily. They dry out some months after the rainy season, forcing the birds to leave. At Lac Khar and Grand Lac, Lesser Flamingos are found only from January to April (I. Diop pers. com.). The movement of the tagged bird may indicate where they go during the dry season, as the tagged bird visited rivers, estuaries, mudflats or shallow lagoons that hold water permanently. However, large numbers of Lesser Flamingos also occur permanently in the Senegal delta (Isenmann *et al*. 2010).

Although the tag transmitted data for only nine months, a similar project with Lesser Flamingos in Kenya shows that satellite tags can transmit data for up to seven years (Childress *et al.* 2007, BC unpubl. data). As of April 2011, four Lesser Flamingos equipped with satellite transmitters in Ethiopia and eight out of 15 tagged in Kenya by the Max Planck Institute in 2009 continued to send data.

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Nocturnal roosting by Piapiacs *Ptilostomus afer* on a dockyard crane in Lagos, Nigeria

The Piapiac *Ptilostomus afer* is mainly a savanna species often associated with palm trees and villages (Fry 2000, Madge 2009). In Lagos, SW Nigeria, it is common in suburbs (Fry 2000). Its roosting habits have been reported only in general terms: Fry (2000) wrote that they often roost in palm crowns, and fly "to roost in compact flock,