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Subtropical South Africa Trip Report – October/November 2014

By Errol de Beer

Our standard trip covering the eastern part of South Africa covers a wide variety of habitats and a good sampling of what the country has to offer. We had good weather for most of the trip with no rained-out days; in fact, northern KwaZulu Natal was again in the grips of a major drought.

Day 1, 18th October. Durban to Umhlanga

I met the group at their lodge in Durban, from where we planned to head to Gateway Country Lodge in Umhlanga to drop off the trailer before going out birding. The group was still waiting to have breakfast, so I joined some of them on the veranda, looking at what birds were present. A dapper little **White-bellied Sunbird** cruised around like he owned the place among small flocks of **Cape White-eye**.

After breakfast and introductions we started loading the van and headed north out of Durban shortly thereafter. We dropped the trailer and managed to find several **Amethyst Sunbirds**, **Rose-ringed Parakeet**, **Speckled Mousebird**, and **Cardinal Woodpecker** in the gardens at Gateway before heading towards the Umhlanga Waste water treatment plant, often just referred to as the Umhlanga ponds. The roads were mighty confusing, with several new developments going up, and both roads I had used in the past were now blocked off. We managed to get directions from a site crew, though, and slowly made our way to the ponds, finding **Sombre Greenbul**, **Rattling Cisticola**, **Lesser Striped Swallow**, and **African Pipit**, the latter with a juvenile in tow, on the way.

The ponds were relatively productive, with birds such as **Burchell's Coucal**, **Yellow-billed Duck**, **Black-bellied Starling**, and **African Jacana**. An unidentified medium-sized cuckoo never showed long enough, but looked very interesting.

We returned to town for lunch, then heading down to the Umhlanga Nature Reserve shortly thereafter. Birding was relatively quiet by now, but we still managed to get cracking views of **Southern Boubou** and **Terrestrial Brownbul**.

We went back to the lodge to have a quick clean-up before heading out for dinner

Day 2, 19th October. Umhlanga to Creighton via Hela Hela Pass.

We started the day with some early morning birding around the lodge. **Bronze Mannikins** were immediately evident as they went about building their nest in some nearby shrubbery. **Olive Sunbird** was vocal as ever, and we heard **Brown-backed Honeybird** but were unable to locate it. **Tambourine Dove** showed nicely, as did **African Hoopoe**, both on the extensive lawns, while **Black-throated Wattle-eye** entertained us as it foraged in a large fig tree. Other good garden birds included **Spectacled Weaver**, **Collared Sunbird**, **African Paradise Flycatcher**, **Green-backed Camaroptera**, **Kurrichane Thrush**, **White-eared Barbet**, **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird**, and **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**. **Southern Black Tit** showed briefly, but most in the group missed it. But a nice surprise awaited us as we found our first **Grey Sunbird** for the trip.

A short visit to the Umhlanga Nature Reserve again failed to produce Rufous-winged Cisticola, but we did manage to add **Yellow-bellied Greenbul** to the list.

After hooking up the trailer we set off to our next destination, the town of Creighton in the KwaZulu Natal Midlands, finding **Common Starling** and a female **Violet-backed Starling** on the way out of Umhlanga. We decided to drive to Creighton via the Hela Hela Pass, a route often neglected by birders and yet one that can deliver some remarkably good birding.

A short stop at a roadside dam for lunch gave us **African Black Duck**, **Red-knobbed Coot**, **Little Grebe**, and **Yellow-billed Duck**.

After a rest stop in Highover, where we saw **Black-headed Heron** and **Western Cattle Egret** in a heronry right in the middle of town, we proceeded towards the actual pass via the Hela Hela valley. We managed to find **Purple-crested Turaco** twice, but they proved uninterested in playback on both occasions as we attempted to lure them a bit closer for better views. A stop at the bridge crossing the Mkomazi River proved worthwhile, as we ticked **Emerald-spotted Wood Dove** and both **African Black** and **Alpine Swifts**.

Stopping for birds on the ascent was rather limited, as the minivan struggled a bit on pull-away with a full contingent of passengers plus trailer with luggage. The odd stops here and there did, however, produce **Knysna Turaco**, **Chinspot Batis**, and **Olive Woodpecker**, and at the top we had splendid views of a pair of **Red-necked Spurfowl** right on the road. Good raptors came in the form of **Long-crested Eagle**, **African Fish Eagle**, and **Jackal Buzzard**, but the highlight for most was our first flock of **Grey Crowned Cranes**.

We arrived at our lodge just before sunset.

Day 3, 20th October. The Sani Pass and Lesotho

A big day awaited us as we prepared to make our way to the small mountain kingdom of Lesotho. Our first stop in the town of Himeville at a stakeout for Black Sparrowhawk sadly led us to find the half-decomposed carcass of a sub-adult sparrowhawk, presumably having died from natural causes, but hard to say for sure.

Another stop just outside Himeville at a small dam produced a large flock of 50+ **Grey Crowned Cranes** and a pair of **South African Shelduck** in a nearby field. At the dam we watched a pair of **African Marsh Harriers**, a displaying male **Long-tailed Widowbird**, and nesting **Cape Weavers**. A second dam produced lots of **Red-knobbed Coots**, **Black-winged Stilt**, a nice pair of **African Snipe**, and last but certainly not least a flyover by a melanistic **Black Sparrowhawk**. A toilet stop at Sani Backpackers got us **Red-throated Wryneck** before we started the ascent of the pass.

We chose a good spot for breakfast and soon managed great views of **Ground Woodpecker**, **Cape Rock Thrush**, **Cape Bunting**, **Streaky-headed Seedeater**, **Familiar Chat**, and **Buff-streaked Chat**. It took us a while to get onto a calling **Long-billed Pipit**, but getting onto it we did. Reports had it that several trips missed **Gurney's Sugarbird** on the pass, apparently the lack of flowering proteas due to the drought being the reason. This did not deter us, though, as we found a single flowering protea with a single flower head, complete with sugarbird! Not to be outdone, a male **Malachite Sunbird** put in a dazzling performance, as it chased off several potential intruders into his territory. A nice surprise came in the way of a **Grey-winged Francolin** calling on the road right next to us – if only all birds were this obliging! Nearer the top of the pass we started looking for **Drakensberg Rockjumper**, which we managed brief views of. **Rock Kestrel** was the only raptor of note so far.

After some border formalities we entered the kingdom of Lesotho with great views of **Southern Bald Ibis** en route to the Sani Top Chalet, the highest pub in Africa. At the pub we had close-up views of **Drakensberg Siskin** and of arguably one of the mountain's cutest mammals, Sloggett's vlei rat. We proceeded onto the plateau and stopped at our lunch stop away from the road (where there was some major construction going on), finding **Large-billed Lark**, **Layard's Warbler**, **Mountain Pipit**, **Sickle-winged Chat**, and **Sentinel Rock Thrush**.

Our time on the mountain started running out, so we started making our way back down the pass, finding **Barratt's Warbler** and a cracker of a **Black Stork** en route. We arrived back at the lodge in time to freshen up before dinner.

Day 4, 21st October. Creighton to Eshowe

We started the morning in a slightly more relaxed fashion, with coffee and rusks on the veranda of our lodge, continuing to bird the grounds on foot thereafter. A pair of **Red-throated Wrynecks** nesting in a fence pole kept everyone entertained for a while, before we headed for a newly erected bird hide. Here we found **Black Crake**, **Grey Heron**, and **Common Moorhen**. Seedeaters were plentiful, with small flocks of **Red-billed Quelea** joined by **Pin-tailed Whydah**, **Red-collared Widowbird**, **Fan-tailed Widowbird**, **Long-tailed Widowbird**, **Common Waxbill**, and **Southern Red Bishop**. It was certainly most encouraging to see how well the cranes, and in particular **Grey-crowned Cranes**, have adapted to agricultural practices here. We also found a pair of **Blue Crane** and a trio of **Denham's Bustards**. **Zitting Cisticola** showed nicely, but we had to be satisfied with long-distance views of **Wing-snapping Cisticola**.

A short drive from the lodge got us to a favorite spot for **Black-bellied Bustard**, and we were not disappointed, as we found no less than three birds foraging in a nearby field. They were joined by **African Wattled Lapwing**, **Cape Longclaw**, and **Rufous-naped Lark**. Good views of **Lanner Falcon** were had on the way back to the lodge.

We had a long drive ahead of us to Eshowe, but I decided to take a gamble and check in at Marutswa Forest near Bulwer. The drive to Bulwer was rather quiet, but distant views of **Martial Eagle** were had before we arrived at the gate to the forest. Although overall the activity seemed rather subdued, we started with reasonable views of **Forest Canary** on the forest fringe and then **Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler** and **Cape Batis** in the forest proper. A pair of **Bar-throated Apalis** entertained us, and some of the party found nesting **Knysna Turaco**. It took us some time to locate a singing **Orange Ground Thrush**, perched in a tree about five meters off the forest floor. Two more spectacular birds were to follow; the

first, **Bush Blackcap**, showed extremely well, as did three noisy **Cape Parrots**. Other birds included **Cape Rock Thrush**, **African Olive Pigeon**, and **Cape Robin-Chat**.

The rest of the drive was rather uneventful in terms of birding as we concentrated on getting to Eshowe.

Day 5, 22nd October. Dlinza and Ongoye Forests, Mtunzini, Amatikulu Nature Reserve

Our first stop today was Dlinza Forest, justly famous for its elevated boardwalk and canopy tower. Birding was rather quiet, however, and we had to be satisfied with the likes of **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird**, **Black-headed Oriole**, **African Goshawk**, and **Little Sparrowhawk**, before we headed back to the lodge for breakfast.

The lodge grounds produced **Greater Double-collared Sunbird**, **Trumpeter Hornbill**, **Woolly-necked Stork**, and **Purple-crested Turaco**, before we saddled up again, this time heading for Ongoye Forest. The weather was playing along, and everything looked set for some good birding.

Narina Trogon started calling almost as we arrived, and we had great sightings of a male shortly thereafter. This was followed by splendid views of **Yellow-streaked Greenbul**, **Chorister Robin-Chat**, **White-eared Barbet**, and **Crowned Eagle**, the latter soaring over the forest. Sadly, our major target, Green Barbet, wasn't calling during all the time we were there, and although I had brief views of one flying, I could not get anyone else onto it. But what a nice surprise we had when we exited the top of the forest and found an **African Cuckoo-Hawk** perched on a little stone wall! We watched him for another 10 minutes as he hopped down and caught something on the floor – this happened several times.

From Ongoye we headed for Mtunzini, where we connected with **Palm-nut Vulture** with relative ease.

From here we drove south, heading for Amatikulu Nature Reserve. After signing in we found our first target, **Croaking Cisticola**, but then we searched for Swamp Nightjar without any success. So we decided to drive to the lagoon. Upon arriving there we realized that it also was rather quiet, with only **Reed Cormorant** and **Yellow-billed Duck** showing. The same can't be said, however, for the drive back, as we were gobsmacked to find an adult **Crowned Eagle** with a vervet monkey that it had caught right next to the road. Just outside the main gate we found **Scarlet-chested Sunbird** and **Brimstone Canary**.

A fine day came to an end all too soon.

Day 6, 23rd October. Eshowe to St Lucia

We made another early-morning visit to Dlinza Forest, first up the tower to check for Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon, which unfortunately didn't show, then down the trail to look for **Spotted Ground Thrush**. Luckily these were far more obliging, and we enjoyed great views of several birds foraging on the forest floor. **Cape Batis**, **African Green Pigeon**, and **Olive Woodpecker** were also seen well. We enjoyed a superb breakfast at the lodge before departing for St Lucia.

We arrived there just in time for lunch and had another **Crowned Eagle** as soon as we arrived, which this time was being harassed by two **Yellow-billed Kites**. Another bird that we encountered almost immediately was **Crested Guineafowl**, the undeniable punk-rocker of the African birding scene. We headed to our lodge shortly after, where a flowering tree in

the garden played host to **Collared, Grey, Olive, and Purple-banded Sunbirds**. **Livingstone's Turaco** made its way onto our list as well.

After a short break we decided to investigate the estuary, where we had great views of **Purple Heron, Pied Avocet, and Greater Crested Tern**. Shorebirds were plentiful, and we soon had scope views of **Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, White-fronted Plover, Terek Sandpiper, Ruff, Curlew Sandpiper**, and last, but certainly not least, **Bar-tailed Godwit**.

Even though this had basically been a travel day, we still managed a good selection of birds.

Day 7, 24th October. St Lucia and Cape Vidal

A glorious day awaited us, with the weather being absolutely perfect for birding. A short walk along the Igwala Gwala Forest Trail produced several target birds, such as **Rudd's Apalis**, a bird that superficially resembles its more common cousin, the Bar-throated Apalis, and we had good looks at the skulking **Green Malkoha**, a pair of **Brown Scrub Robins**, entertaining **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatchers**, and several other good birds like **Dark-backed Weaver, Red-capped Robin-Chat, Yellow-breasted Apalis**, and **Square-tailed Drongo**.

After breakfast we headed toward the Cape Vidal section of the iSimangaliso Wetland Park. Our first cracker bird came in the form of **African Pygmy Kingfisher**, a bird that could be mistaken for Malachite Kingfisher – the latter a far more aquatic species, though. A short stop at a little pan gave us **Water Thick-knee, African Jacana, Rufous-winged Cisticola**, and **Red-breasted Swallow**. Further on we found **Yellow-throated Longclaw**, several **Brown-hooded Kingfishers, Croaking Cisticola**, and **Crowned Hornbill**.

A stop at a super-duper hide at another pan truly delivered, with great sightings of white rhino, a mother with calf. The pan has been reduced to a puddle, though, and birding was rather slow, with **Marsh Sandpiper, Wood Sandpiper, Collared Pratincole, Egyptian Geese, African Fish Eagle** and **African Marsh Harrier** all putting in a showing.

We now hastily proceeded to Cape Vidal, where we were to have our lunch. Lunch was quickly devoured, after which we walked the grounds amongst the wooden cabins in search of **Green Twinspot**. They proved rather elusive, but we finally managed to track them down amongst the top-most cabins and were treated to extended views of both male and female. **Grey Waxbill** also showed very nicely, as did **Black-throated Canary**. We found a grand **Southern Banded Snake Eagle** directly next to the road; he proved very obliging as he posed for a bunch of photographs.

The trip back did bag us **Striped Kingfisher** and several other more common species. Back at the lodge we managed to find **African Wood Owl** after dinned, but had to be satisfied with only hearing **Buff-spotted Flufftail** calling, as it refused to show itself.

Day 8, 25th October. St Lucia to Mkhuzo Game Reserve

Some of us opted for another walk on the Igwala Gwala Forest Trail and were justly rewarded with good sightings of a juvenile **Olive Bush Shrike** as well as **Woodward's Batis**. **Green Malkoha** showed well again, rather unusual for this rather shy species. A stop at the bridge produced the usual **Southern Brown-throated Weaver**, a stunning male in full display.

Today was mostly a driving day as we headed north to Mkhuze. We stopped at a small wetland on the way, where we managed to record good numbers of shorebirds, which included **Common Ringed Plover**, **Three-banded Plover**, **Little Stint**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, and **Black-winged Stilt**. Good scope views of **Orange-breasted Waxbill** were an added bonus. But we decided against having lunch at this lovely spot, as the sun was blazing down. So we found a shady tree not far away and were again promptly rewarded with a superb male **Klaas's Cuckoo**.

The only other stop was at the big pan outside Mkhuze. Good numbers of **Greater Flamingo** and **Spur-winged Goose** were seen, a lone **Glossy Ibis**, a couple of **Yellow-billed Storks**, and several **Red-billed Teal**. We pushed on through a very dry Mkhuze area, in stark contrast to last year's tour, where the whole area was inundated with water. The drive in the park produced a displaying **Black-bellied Bustard** at the airstrip as well as **Crowned Lapwing** and **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill**.

Day 9, 26th October. Mkhuze Game Reserve

We woke to a rather cloudy day and decided to head for one of the blinds, which proved to be a good choice, as the waterhole was still attracting good numbers of birds as well as mammals. **Purple-crested Turaco** came and drank in the open, **Crested Guinea fowl** were all over the place, flowering trees attracted a multitude of **Sunbirds**, which included **Purple-banded**, **Scarlet-chested**, **White-bellied**, and **Neergaard's**, the latter always a good find. **Red-chested Cuckoo** was seen well by Dan and me as we were walking back to the car.

We headed back to camp for breakfast and got word of a nearby lion sighting. We decided to check it out, but unfortunately the lions must have moved on. But we found several more **Black-bellied Bustards** as well as **White-winged Widowbird**, **Blue Waxbill**, a juvenile **African Hawk-Eagle**, **Bearded Woodpecker**, **Black Cuckoo**, and soaring **White-backed Vultures**.

Our lunch break back at camp again produced the much anticipated **Red-fronted Tinkerbird**, before we headed back to the hide.

By now the rain was coming down in steady waves, but we managed to find **Rudd's Apalis**, **Grey Tit-Flycatcher**, **Southern Black Tit**, and **Southern Boubou** feasting on flying termites. **Grey Waxbill** was present in good numbers this year, and we managed good views of both male and female **Black Cuckooshrike**.

We eventually headed back towards camp, finding **Crested Francolin** en route and another welcome addition in the form of **African Emerald Cuckoo**. We decided to drive once more to the area the lions were seen in, but still they were nowhere to be found. But as we turned the vehicle around we spotted a lone **Senegal Lapwing**, a great find at the best of times.

Day 10, 27th October. Mkhuze to Wakkerstroom

The early morning was spent around camp. One of our very first birds was **Pink-throated Twinspot**; this handsome little bird is high on every visiting birder's wish list, and Mkhuze did not disappoint. We tried again for **Red-fronted Tinkerbird** for those members of the group that had missed it the previous day, and this time we found two birds. **Bearded Scrub Robin** is another regular in camp and has become very confiding. Not so confiding, however, was a **Greater Honeyguide**, which we saw only briefly. **White-rumped Swifts** were overhead, and **Yellow-breasted Apalis** kicked up a racket in a nearby bush.

We bade farewell to Mkhuze and headed out. A short stop along the way got us onto **Common Scimitarbill, Golden-breasted Bunting, Blue Waxbill, Long-billed Crombec, Cape Weaver, and Common Buzzard**. Just outside the gate a **Tambourine Dove** flushed from the road, and photographing a traditional hut along the road ended up costing us about R30.

After breakfast at a Wimpy in Mkhuze we headed north on the N2, making only a few stops before getting to Piet Retief. At one stop we had good views of **Southern Masked Weaver, Fan-tailed Widowbird, and Red-collared Widowbird**, and shortly thereafter of an immature **Jackal Buzzard**. Our regular stop at Dirkiesdorp failed to produce the much-wanted White-bellied Bustard, but we did get good looks at **Ant-eating Chat, South African Cliff Swallow, and Cape Longclaw**. The road between Dirkiesdorp and Wakkerstroom produced a lone **Secretarybird**, much to everyone's delight.

We arrived in Wakkerstroom in time for a late lunch. After settling in we headed back to Dirkiesdorp, stopping at a small dam en route for **Red-knobbed Coot, Intermediate Egret, African Wattled Lapwing, and Pied Starling**. Further along I thought I might have seen the White-bellied Bustard in a field, but on closer inspection it turned out to be a **Black-bellied Bustard**, a nice find either way. Upon arriving at the site for our target we immediately started scanning. The wind was picking up, and one could feel the temperature dropping. Craig spotted the **White-bellied Bustard** first, and we soon found another two birds, quite distant but good scope views nevertheless.

Day 11, 28th October. Wakkerstroom and surrounds

Our pre-breakfast birding consisted of looking for Red-winged Francolin and **Yellow-breasted Pipit**. There was no sign of the former, but we managed great views of the latter.. In the same area we also found **Sentinel Rock Thrush, Malachite Sunbird, African Stonechat, Eastern Long-billed Lark**, and a female **Buff-streaked Chat**. **Ant-eating Chat** was common, but we were mightily surprised when we found a fully albinistic one; this pure white bird really stood out from the rest.

Back at the lodge for breakfast we recorded **Red-winged Starling** and **Speckled Pigeon**.

After breakfast we headed straight for Fickland Pan, where our main target was the rare and very localized **Rudd's Lark**. As part of a community project they protect a tract of land at Fickland Pan, and it is here that the lark occurs. We steadily searched the area with our local guide, Norman, who eventually found one standing motionless amongst a few grass tufts. **African Pipits** were everywhere, and we also saw many **Red-capped Larks** as well as **Cape Longclaws**. The pan itself held an interesting array of waterbirds, such as **Great Crested Grebe, Southern Pochard, Whiskered Tern, and White-breasted Cormorant**.

From Fickland Pan we headed for Daggakraal, where we would target another endemic, Botha's Lark. Our first lark as we arrived, however, was **Eastern Clapper Lark**, of which we had superb views. **Blue Korhaan** followed, with three birds only yards away from us, trying to hide in the grass. We found our first **Botha's Lark** moments later as it flushed. Luckily we were able to pinpoint the location where it had landed and managed to get great scope views of this endangered bird.

We found more **Blue Korhaan, Helmeted Guineafowl**, and a small family of **Spike-heeled Lark** on the way back to Wakkerstroom. A flat tire right in town brought us to a grinding

halt, luckily in view of the hotel, so the group walked over to go and have lunch while I changed the tire.

The late afternoon saw us at the near Wetland Reserve, where we caught glimpses of **African Rail** but good views of **Little Bittern**, **Squacco Heron**, **Dark-capped Yellow Warbler**, and **African Swamphen**.

Back at the lodge I realized that another one of the tires had a puncture, and I was secretly hoping that I could get it fixed somewhere in the morning before heading to Kruger.

Day 12, 29th October. Wakkerstroom to Kruger (Lower Sabie) via Crocodile Bridge

We decided to bird the Wetland Reserve again before breakfast and had great success with the local warblers. First up was a very vocal **African Reed Warbler**, then **Lesser Swamp Warbler**, and last but not least a very skulky **Little Rush Warbler**. Two **Grey Crowned Cranes** were spotted in adjacent fields, while the wetland itself produced even better views of **African Rail**, **African Swamphen**, **Little Bittern**, **African Spoonbill**, **African Snipe**, and **Ruff**. We went back for breakfast, and I managed to fix the puncture at the local garage.

Soon after packing we were on our way. Our first stop was Piet Retief, where I replaced the spare wheel. Slightly pressed for time we continued onwards to Kruger with hardly any time for birding. After what felt like an eternity we eventually reached Crocodile Bridge Gate and entered the park.

Now we could take it slightly easier and soon had some great birds and mammals. Birds included **Southern Red-billed Hornbill**, **Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill**, **Lilac-breasted Roller**, **Green-winged Pytilia**, **White-backed Vulture**, and **Swainson's Spurfowl**; on the mammal side we had good views of African elephant, giraffe, African buffalo, and a big male lion, which sadly did not hang around and disappeared into the bush. Craig had the good fortune of finding our first **White-throated Robin-Chat** in the parking area at Lower Sabie while I was checking us in.

Day 13, 30th October. Kruger – Lower Sabie to Satara

Most of the group opted for using an open game drive vehicle to go from Lower Sabie to Satara, so we got up at the crack of dawn to prepare breakfast before the vehicle arrived. Birds around camp in the morning included **Brown-headed Parrot**, **Natal Spurfowl**, **White-browed Robin-Chat**, and **Greater Blue-eared Starling**.

Craig and I departed shortly after the main group, using a different route from them to our rendezvous point at Tshokwane Picnic Spot. Our first stop, Sunset Dam, produced **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Yellow-billed Stork**, **White-crowned Lapwing**, and **Red-billed Buffalo Weaver**. Shortly after that a large group of vultures gave away the fact that a kill was nearby, a couple of hundred meters down the road, and there it was. **White-backed** and **Hooded Vultures** were waiting for a spotted hyena to finish eating, a lone **Lappet-faced Vulture** also circled overhead. On the opposite side of the road lay those responsible for the kill, three young lions, with bellies bulging – all they were interested in was a bit of shut-eye. Birding slowed slightly but great was the excitement when we stumbled upon a juvenile **Crowned Eagle** just east of the high-water bridge near Skukuza, a rare bird for the south of the park. Actually, raptors were in good numbers, and we also recorded **Tawny Eagle**, **Wahlberg's Eagle**, a juvenile **Lesser Spotted Eagle**, **Dark Chanting Goshawk**, **Bateleur**, **Brown Snake Eagle**, **African Fish Eagle**, and **African Harrier-Hawk**, and the other group also reported **Martial Eagle**.

Tshokwane gave us **Striated Heron**, **African Openbill**, and **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**. Our drive further north netted us great views of **Double-banded Sandgrouse**, a female and two chicks, sadly no male in sight. An **Acacia Pied Barbet** made a first appearance on our list, as did **Purple Roller** and for the other group **Southern Ground Hornbill**, while we also added **Saddle-billed Stork**.

The main group was also fortunate in finding a cheetah family, a mother and two cubs.

A bit of birding in Satara Camp before dark yielded results with birds such as **Green Wood Hoopoe**, **African Hoopoe**, **Mourning Collared Dove**, **Bearded Woodpecker**, **Crested Barbet**, and **Groundscraper Thrush**.

Day 14, 31st October. Kruger (Satara Rest Camp) to Dullstroom

Our early-morning birding around the camp produced **Brown-headed Parrot**, a welcome addition for quite a few people who had missed it the previous day, a group of **Arrow-marked Babblers** gave away their presence by their constant noisy chattering, and a **Diederik Cuckoo** added a splash of color to the proceedings. Unfortunately we couldn't locate the African Scops Owl that usually hangs around in camp, but a pair of **Marico Sunbirds** almost made up for it.

After a rather slow breakfast we hit the road west, finding two breeding pairs of **Common Ostrich** en route, both with a group of chicks. We were, however, taken by surprise when the one male deliberately attacked the chicks of the other pair, pecking at one of the chicks as if to kill it. The only logical explanation I could come up with was a territorial dispute. We also found a small party of **Southern Ground Hornbills** a little further up the road, a catch-up tick for some.

We exited the park and could now make up some time, but still we arrived at the J.G. Strijdom Tunnel a little later than planned for. Unfortunately, a quick search produced no signs of the much hoped-for Taita Falcon; sadly this site has been aborted as a nesting site and very few reports are coming through of sightings of the birds from this spot. We couldn't spend too much time here as we needed to get to our lunch stop, but we did record **Cape Vulture**, **White-necked Raven**, and **Red-winged Starling**. A lone **Lanner Falcon** was seen hunting near Ohrigstad, and a stop at a small bridge produced **Giant Kingfisher** and a juvenile **African Pied Wagtail**.

The rest of the road to Dullstroom was in pretty good condition other than for the occasional pothole, enabling us to make good progress. Sadly, fog started settling in shortly after our arrival and put an end to our plans to go and search for Cape Eagle-Owl. Instead we had to be satisfied with **Olive Thrush**, **Cape Robin-Chat**, and **Cape Canary**. Craig did see a **Rufous-chested Sparrowhawk** fly over, but the rest of us missed it.

Day 15, 1st November. Dullstroom to Rust de Winter Nature Reserve

The early-morning birding turned out to be a bit of a challenge with dense fog. As we ascended into the Verloren Valei Nature Reserve, finding no less than four **African Black Ducks** on a pond at Linger Longer, a single **Buff-streaked Chat** presented itself shortly thereafter, followed by **Long-billed** and **African Pipits**. The fog was restricting visibility to around 10-15 meters, but this turned out a blessing, as we found numerous covies of **Red-winged Francolin**, and they proved very confiding in the bad weather. However, our main target, Wattled Crane, was still eluding us., although we did find two **Blue Cranes**, barely visible in the fog. We pushed on, but after a while, with time catching up with us, we decided

to turn around and head back. Again we spotted the **Blue Cranes** through the fog, but this time around there was a **Wattled Crane** with them, much to everyone's delight.

After a hearty breakfast in the town of Dullstroom we continued to Rust de Winter Nature Reserve. Unbelievably, we suffered another blown tire on the way, again with a nasty sidewall cut.

A roadside stop after lunch produced some dry country birds, such as **Scaly-feathered Weaver, Namaqua Dove, Lesser Grey Shrike, Marico Flycatcher, and Blue Waxbill**. A **Jacobin Cuckoo** put on a show for the folks and came really close to us at times.

We arrived at our beautiful lodge on the banks of the Elands River with some spare birding time. The gardens proved to be a real bird magnet, and we soon had splendid views of **Pearl-spotted Owlet, Striated Heron, Groundscraper Thrush, and Black-headed Oriole**. **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird** was a new addition to our list, and both **Lesser and Greater Honeyguides** were also seen well.

Day 16, 2nd November. Rust de Winter area to O.R. Tambo International Airport

Our last morning arrived all too soon, slightly windy, but a nice morning nevertheless. We decided to look for African Finfoot along the river, but this super-shy bird did its reputation proud and never showed. Sarah and I did, however, have prolonged views of a **Gabar Goshawk** robbing a Village Weaver nest, first trying to get in through the bottom, and in failing to do so promptly proceeded to systematically rip the nest apart from above and then got away with a single chick. All this happened within half a meter from a **Striated Heron** sitting on a nest, seemingly oblivious to what was happening.

A drive up to an aloe-covered ridge produced a stunning male **Red-headed Weaver** in full breeding plumage, several **Green Wood Hoopoes**, and a lone **Yellow-throated Petronia**.

After breakfast and packing for a final time we headed out, finally ticking the much hoped-for **Crimson-breasted Shrike** at the entrance gate to the lodge. A final stop at a small pan near the airport produced one new trip bird in **Cape Teal**.

We arrived at the airport around noon, from where the group was to take their flight to Cape Town.

SUBTROPICAL SOUTH AFRICA BIRD LIST OCTOBER 2014				
Endemic birds highlighted bold . SA = South African Endemic, SnA = Endemic to Southern African Region, NE = Near-endemic to Southern African Region. RAR = Rarity				
Status	Endemic?	Common Name (IOC 4.4)	Scientific Name (IOC 4.4)	Trip
			STRUTHIONIFORMES	
		<u>Ostriches</u>	<u>Struthionidae</u>	
		Common Ostrich	<i>Struthio camelus</i>	1
			ANSERIFORMES	
		<u>Duck, Geese and Swans</u>	<u>Anatidae</u>	

		White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	1
		Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	1
		Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	1
	SnA	South African Shelduck	<i>Tadorna cana</i>	1
		Cape Teal	<i>Anas capensis</i>	1
		African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	1
		Yellow-billed Duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>	1
		Cape Shoveler	<i>Anas smithii</i>	1
		Red-billed Teal	<i>Anas erythrorhyncha</i>	1
		Southern Pochard	<i>Netta erythrophthalma</i>	1
			GALLIFORMES	
		<u>Guineafowl</u>	<u>Numididae</u>	
		Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	1
		Crested Guineafowl	<i>Guttera pucherani</i>	1
		<u>Pheasants and allies</u>	<u>Phasianidae</u>	
	SA	Grey-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila afra</i>	1
		Red-winged Francolin	<i>Scleroptila levaillantii</i>	1
	NE	Orange River Francolin	<i>Scleroptila gutturalis</i>	1
		Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>	1
	NE	Natal Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis natalensis</i>	1
		Red-necked Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis afer</i>	1
		Swainson's Spurfowl	<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>	1
			PODICIPEDIFORMES	
		<u>Grebes</u>	<u>Podicipedidae</u>	
		Little Grebe	<i>Tachybaptus ruficollis</i>	1
		Great Crested Grebe	<i>Podiceps cristatus</i>	1
			PHOENICOPTERIFORMES	
		<u>Flamingos</u>	<u>Phoenicopteridae</u>	
		Greater Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus roseus</i>	1
			CICONIIFORMES	
		<u>Storks</u>	<u>Ciconiidae</u>	
		Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	1
		African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>	1
		Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	1
		Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	1
		Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>	1
			PELECANIFORMES	
		<u>Ibises, Spoonbills</u>	<u>Threskiornithidae</u>	
		African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	1
V	SA	Southern Bald Ibis	<i>Geronticus calvus</i>	1
		Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	1
		Glossy Ibis	<i>Plegadis falcinellus</i>	1

		African Spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>	1
		<u>Herons, Bitterns</u>	<u>Ardeidae</u>	
		Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	1
		Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	1
		Striated (Green-backed) Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	1
		Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1
		Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	1
		Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1
		Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	1
		Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>	1
		Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1
		Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1
		Intermediate Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	1
		Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1
		<u>Hamerkop</u>	<u>Scopidae</u>	
		Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	1
			SULIFORMES	
		<u>Cormorants, Shags</u>	<u>Phalacrocoracidae</u>	
		Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	1
		White-breasted Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax lucidus</i>	1
		<u>Aningas, Darters</u>	<u>Anhingidae</u>	
		African Darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>	1
			ACCIPITRIFORMES	
		<u>Secretarybird</u>	<u>Sagittariidae</u>	
V		Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	1
		<u>Kites, Hawks and Eagles</u>	<u>Accipitridae</u>	
		Black-winged (Black-shouldered) Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1
		African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	1
		Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	1
		African Cuckoo-Hawk	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	1
E		Hooded Vulture	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	1
E		White-backed Vulture	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	1
V	SnA	Cape Vulture	<i>Gyps coprotheres</i>	1
V		Lappet-faced Vulture	<i>Torgos tracheliotos</i>	1
		Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>	1
		Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	1
NT		Southern Banded Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus fasciolatus</i>	1
NT		Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	1
NT		Crowned Eagle	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	1
V		Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	1
		Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	1
		Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Clanga pomarina</i>	1

		Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>	1
		Tawny Eagle	<i>Aquila rapax</i>	1
		African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>	1
		Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>	1
		Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>	1
		Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>	1
		African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	1
		Little Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter minullus</i>	1
		Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter rufiventris</i>	1
		Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	1
		African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	1
		Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	1
		African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	1
		Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1
		Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteo rufofuscus</i>	1
			OTIDIFORMES	
		<u>Bustards</u>	<u>Otididae</u>	
NT		Denham's Bustard	<i>Neotis denhami</i>	1
NT	SA	Blue Korhaan	<i>Eupodotis caerulescens</i>	1
		White-bellied Bustard	<i>Eupodotis senegalensis</i>	1
	NE	Red-crested Korhaan	<i>Lophotis ruficrista</i>	1
		Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>	1
			GRUIFORMES	
		<u>Flufftails</u>	<u>Sarothruridae</u>	
	RAR	Buff-spotted Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura elegans</i>	H
		Red-chested Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura rufa</i>	H
		<u>Rails, Crakes and Coots</u>	<u>Rallidae</u>	
		African Rail	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>	1
		Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>	1
		African Swamphe	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>	1
		Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1
		Red-knobbed Coot	<i>Fulica cristata</i>	1
		<u>Cranes</u>	<u>Gruidae</u>	
E		Grey Crowned Crane	<i>Balearica regulorum</i>	1
V		Blue Crane	<i>Grus paradisea</i>	1
V	RAR	Wattled Crane	<i>Grus carunculata</i>	1
			CHARADRIIFORMES	
		<u>Stone-curlews, Thick-knees</u>	<u>Burhinidae</u>	
		Water Thick-knee	<i>Burhinus vermiculatus</i>	1
		<u>Stilts, Avocets</u>	<u>Recurvirostridae</u>	
		Black-winged Stilt	<i>Himantopus himantopus</i>	1
		Pied Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra avosetta</i>	1

	<u>Plovers</u>	<u>Charadriidae</u>	
	Blacksmith Lapwing	<i>Vanellus armatus</i>	1
	White-crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>	1
	Senegal Lapwing	<i>Vanellus lugubris</i>	1
	Black-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus melanopterus</i>	1
	Crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus coronatus</i>	1
	African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	1
	Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1
	Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	1
	Kittlitz's Plover	<i>Charadrius pecuarius</i>	1
	Three-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius tricollaris</i>	1
	White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	1
	<u>Jacanas</u>	<u>Jacanidae</u>	
	African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	1
	<u>Sandpipers, Snipes</u>	<u>Scolopacidae</u>	
	African Snipe	<i>Gallinago nigripennis</i>	1
	Bar-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa lapponica</i>	1
	Common Redshank	<i>Tringa totanus</i>	1
	Marsh Sandpiper	<i>Tringa stagnatilis</i>	1
	Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	1
	Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	1
	Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	1
	Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	1
	Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	1
	Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	1
	Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	1
	Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1
	Curlew Sandpiper	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	1
	Ruff	<i>Philomachus pugnax</i>	1
	<u>Coursers, Pratincoles</u>	<u>Glareolidae</u>	
	Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	1
	<u>Gulls, Terns and Skimmers</u>	<u>Laridae</u>	
	Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	1
	Kelp Gull	<i>Larus dominicanus</i>	1
	Greater Crested (Swift) Tern	<i>Thalasseus bergii</i>	1
	Whiskered Tern	<i>Chlidonias hybrida</i>	1
	White-winged Tern	<i>Chlidonias leucopterus</i>	1
		PTEROCLIFORMES	
	<u>Sandgrouse</u>	<u>Pteroclididae</u>	
NE	Double-banded Sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles bicinctus</i>	1
		COLUMBIFORMES	
	<u>Pigeons, Doves</u>	<u>Columbidae</u>	

		Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	1
		Speckled Pigeon	<i>Columba guinea</i>	1
		African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	1
		Mourning Collared (African Mourning) Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	1
		Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	1
		Ring-necked (Cape Turtle) Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	1
		Laughing Dove	<i>Spilopelia senegalensis</i>	1
		Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	1
		Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>	1
		Namaqua Dove	<i>Oena capensis</i>	1
		African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	1
			MUSOPHAGIFORMES	
		<u>Turacos</u>	<u>Musophagidae</u>	
		Livingstone's Turaco	<i>Tauraco livingstonii</i>	1
	SA	Knysna Turaco	<i>Tauraco corythaix</i>	1
		Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>	1
		Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	1
			CUCULIFORMES	
		<u>Cuckoos</u>	<u>Cuculidae</u>	
	NE	Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>	1
		Green Malkoha	<i>Ceuthmochares australis</i>	1
		Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>	1
		Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	1
		Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	1
		Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	1
		African Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>	1
		Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	1
		Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	1
			STRIGIFORMES	
		<u>Barn Owls</u>	<u>Tytonidae</u>	
		Western Barn Owl	<i>Tyto alba</i>	1
		<u>Owls</u>	<u>Strigidae</u>	
		Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	1
		African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>	1
		Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>	1
			CAPRIMULGIFORMES	
		<u>Nightjars</u>	<u>Caprimulgidae</u>	
		Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	H
			APODIFORMES	
		<u>Swifts</u>	<u>Apodidae</u>	
		African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	1
		Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	1

	African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	1
	Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	1
	White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	1
		COLIIFORMES	
	<u>Mousebirds</u>	<u>Coliidae</u>	
	Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	1
	Red-faced Mousebird	<i>Urocolius indicus</i>	1
		TROGONIFORMES	
	<u>Trogons</u>	<u>Trogonidae</u>	
	Narina Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>	1
		CORACIIFORMES	
	<u>Rollers</u>	<u>Coraciidae</u>	
	Purple Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>	1
	Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	1
	<u>Kingfishers</u>	<u>Alcedinidae</u>	
	Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>	1
	Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>	1
	African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>	1
	Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>	1
	Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	1
	<u>Bee-eaters</u>	<u>Meropidae</u>	
	Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	1
	European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	1
		BUCEROTIFORMES	
	<u>Hoopoes</u>	<u>Upupidae</u>	
	African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	1
	<u>Wood Hoopoes</u>	<u>Phoeniculidae</u>	
	Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	1
	Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	1
	<u>Hornbills</u>	<u>Bucerotidae</u>	
	Crowned Hornbill	<i>Tockus alboterminatus</i>	1
	African Grey Hornbill	<i>Tockus nasutus</i>	1
	Southern Red-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus rufirostris</i>	1
NE	Southern Yellow-billed Hornbill	<i>Tockus leucomelas</i>	1
	Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>	1
	<u>Ground Hornbills</u>	<u>Bucorvidae</u>	
V	Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	1
		PICIFORMES	
	<u>African Barbets</u>	<u>Lybiidae</u>	
	White-eared Barbet	<i>Stactolaema leucotis</i>	1
	Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>	1
	Red-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus pusillus</i>	1

		Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	1
NE		Acacia Pied Barbet	<i>Tricholaema leucomelas</i>	1
		Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	1
		Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>	1
		<u>Honeyguides</u>	<u>Indicatoridae</u>	
		Brown-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>	H
		Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	1
		Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>	1
		<u>Woodpeckers</u>	<u>Picidae</u>	
		Red-throated Wryneck	<i>Jynx ruficollis</i>	1
		Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	1
SA		Ground Woodpecker	<i>Geocolaptes olivaceus</i>	1
		Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	1
		Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>	1
		Olive Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos griseocephalus</i>	1
			FALCONIFORMES	
		<u>Caracaras, Falcons</u>	<u>Falconidae</u>	
		Rock Kestrel	<i>Falco rupicolus</i>	1
		Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	1
			PSITTACIFORMES	
		<u>Parrots</u>	<u>Psittacidae</u>	
		Rose-ringed Parakeet	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	1
SA		Cape Parrot	<i>Poicephalus robustus</i>	1
		Brown-headed Parrot	<i>Poicephalus cryptoxanthus</i>	1
			PASSERIFORMES	
		<u>Wattle-eyes, Batises</u>	<u>Platysteiridae</u>	
SnA		Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>	1
		Woodward's Batis	<i>Batis fratrum</i>	1
		Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	1
		Black-throated Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira peltata</i>	1
		<u>Bushshrikes</u>	<u>Malaconotidae</u>	
		Grey-headed Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	1
NE		Olive Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus olivaceus</i>	1
		Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>	1
		Four-colored (Gorgeous) Bushshrike	<i>Telophorus quadricolor</i>	H
NE		Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus zeylonus</i>	1
		Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>	1
		Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>	1
		Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>	1
SnA		Southern Boubou	<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>	1
NE		Crimson-breasted Shrike	<i>Laniarius atrococcineus</i>	1
		Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>	H

		<u>Cuckooshrikes</u>	<u>Campephagidae</u>	
		Grey Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina caesia</i>	1
		Black Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga flava</i>	1
		<u>Shrikes</u>	<u>Laniidae</u>	
		Magpie Shrike	<i>Urolestes melanoleucus</i>	1
		Lesser Grey Shrike	<i>Lanius minor</i>	1
		Southern (Common) Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	1
		<u>Figbirds, Orioles</u>	<u>Oriolidae</u>	
		Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	1
		Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	1
		<u>Drongos</u>	<u>Dicruridae</u>	
		Square-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus ludwigii</i>	1
		Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	1
		<u>Monarchs</u>	<u>Monarchidae</u>	
		Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>	1
		African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	1
		<u>Crows, Jays</u>	<u>Corvidae</u>	
		Cape Crow	<i>Corvus capensis</i>	1
		Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	1
		White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	1
		<u>Rockjumpers</u>	<u>Chaetopidae</u>	
	SA	Drakensberg Rockjumper	<i>Chaetops aurantius</i>	1
		<u>Tits, Chickadees</u>	<u>Paridae</u>	
		Southern Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus niger</i>	1
		<u>Penduline Tits</u>	<u>Remizidae</u>	
		Grey Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>	1
		<u>Nicators</u>	<u>Nicatoridae</u>	
		Eastern Nicator	<i>Nicator gularis</i>	1
		<u>Larks</u>	<u>Alaudidae</u>	
		Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafra africana</i>	1
	NE	Eastern Clapper Lark	<i>Mirafra fasciolata</i>	1
	V SA	Rudd's Lark	<i>Heteromirafra ruddi</i>	1
	SA	Eastern Long-billed Lark	<i>Certhilauda semitorquata</i>	1
	NE	Spike-heeled Lark	<i>Chersomanes albofasciata</i>	1
		Red-capped Lark	<i>Calandrella cinerea</i>	1
	E SA	Botha's Lark	<i>Spizocorys fringillaris</i>	1
	SnA	Large-billed Lark	<i>Galerida magnirostris</i>	1
		<u>Bulbuls</u>	<u>Pycnonotidae</u>	
		Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	1
		Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>	1
		Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>	1
		Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>	1

		Yellow-streaked Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus flavostriatus</i>	1
		<u>Swallows, Martins</u>	<u>Hirundinidae</u>	
		Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristopectera</i>	1
		Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	1
		Banded Martin	<i>Riparia cincta</i>	1
		Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1
		White-throated Swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>	1
		Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	1
		Rock Martin	<i>Ptyonoprogne fuligula</i>	1
		Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	1
		Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	1
		Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>	1
	SnA	South African Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon spilodera</i>	1
		<u>Crombecs, African Warblers</u>	<u>Macrosphenidae</u>	
	SnA	Cape Grassbird	<i>Sphenoeacus afer</i>	1
		Long-billed Crombec	<i>Sylvietta rufescens</i>	1
		<u>Leaf Warblers and allies</u>	<u>Phylloscopidae</u>	
		Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ruficapilla</i>	1
		Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	1
		<u>Reed Warblers and allies</u>	<u>Acrocephalidae</u>	
		Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	1
		African Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>	1
		African (Dark-capped) Yellow Warbler	<i>Iduna natalensis</i>	1
		<u>Grassbirds and allies</u>	<u>Locustellidae</u>	
		Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>	1
	SnA	Barratt's Warbler	<i>Bradypterus barratti</i>	1
		<u>Cisticolas and allies</u>	<u>Cisticolidae</u>	
		Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>	H
		Lazy Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aberrans</i>	1
		Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>	1
		Wailing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lais</i>	1
		Rufous-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>	1
		Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	1
		Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>	1
		Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	1
		Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	1
		Cloud Cisticola	<i>Cisticola textrix</i>	H
		Wing-snapping Cisticola	<i>Cisticola ayresii</i>	1
		Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	1
	SA	Drakensberg Prinia	<i>Prinia hypoxantha</i>	1
		Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>	1
	NE	Rudd's Apalis	<i>Apalis ruddi</i>	1

		Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>	1
		Green-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brachyura</i>	1
		Burnt-necked Eremomela	<i>Eremomela usticollis</i>	H
		<u>Laughingthrushes</u>	<u>Leiothrichidae</u>	
		Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>	1
		<u>Sylviid Babblers</u>	<u>Sylviidae</u>	
NT	SA	Bush Blackcap	<i>Lioptilus nigricapillus</i>	1
	SnA	Layard's Warbler (Tit-babbler)	<i>Sylvia layardi</i>	1
		<u>White-eyes</u>	<u>Zosteropidae</u>	
	SnA	Cape White-eye	<i>Zosterops capensis</i>	1
		<u>Sugarbirds</u>	<u>Promeropidae</u>	
	SnA	Gurney's Sugarbird	<i>Promerops gurneyi</i>	1
		<u>Starlings, Rhabdornis</u>	<u>Sturnidae</u>	
		Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	1
		Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	1
		Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	1
		Black-bellied Starling	<i>Notopholia corrusca</i>	1
		Cape Starling (Glossy Starling)	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	1
		Greater Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis chalybaeus</i>	1
	NE	Burchell's Starling	<i>Lamprotornis australis</i>	1
	SA	Pied Starling	<i>Lamprotornis bicolor</i>	1
		Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	1
		Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	1
		<u>Oxpeckers</u>	<u>Buphagidae</u>	
		Red-billed Oxpecker	<i>Buphagus erythrorhynchus</i>	1
		<u>Thrushes</u>	<u>Turdidae</u>	
	RAR	Orange Ground Thrush	<i>Geokichla gurneyi</i>	1
E		Spotted Ground Thrush	<i>Geokichla guttata</i>	1
		Groundscraper Thrush	<i>Turdus litsitsirupa</i>	1
		Kurriichane Thrush	<i>Turdus libonyana</i>	1
		Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	1
		Karoo Thrush	<i>Turdus smithi</i>	1
		<u>Chats, Old World Flycatchers</u>	<u>Muscicapidae</u>	
		Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	1
	SnA	White-throated Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha humeralis</i>	1
		White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>	1
		Red-capped Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>	1
	SA	Chorister Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha dichroa</i>	1
		Bearded Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas quadrivirgata</i>	1
	SnA	Brown Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas signata</i>	1
		White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>	1
		African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	1

	SA	Buff-streaked Chat	<i>Campicoloides bifasciatus</i>	1
	NE	Mountain Wheatear	<i>Myrmecocichla monticola</i>	1
		Familiar Chat	<i>Oenanthe familiaris</i>	1
	NE	Sickle-winged Chat	<i>Emarginata sinuata</i>	1
	SnA	Ant-eating Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla formicivora</i>	1
	SA	Cape Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola rupestris</i>	1
	SA	Sentinel Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola explorator</i>	1
		Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>	1
	NE	Marico Flycatcher	<i>Malaenornis mariquensis</i>	1
		Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1
		Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>	1
		African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>	1
		Grey Tit-Flycatcher	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>	1
		<u>Sunbirds</u>	<u>Nectariniidae</u>	
		Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>	1
		Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i>	1
		Grey Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra veroxii</i>	1
		Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	1
		Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	1
		Malachite Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia famosa</i>	1
	SnA	Southern Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris chalybeus</i>	1
NT	SnA	Neergaard's Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris neergaardi</i>	1
	SA	Greater Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris afer</i>	1
		Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>	1
		Purple-banded Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris bifasciatus</i>	1
		White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>	1
		<u>Old World Sparrows,</u>		
		<u>Snowfinches</u>	<u>Passeridae</u>	
		House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1
	NE	Cape Sparrow	<i>Passer melanurus</i>	1
		Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	1
		Yellow-throated Petronia	<i>Gymnoris superciliaris</i>	1
		<u>Weavers, Widowbirds</u>	<u>Ploceidae</u>	
		Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>	1
	NE	Scaly-feathered Weaver (Finch)	<i>Sporopipes squamifrons</i>	1
		Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	1
		Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>	1
	SA	Cape Weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>	1
		Eastern Golden (Yellow) Weaver	<i>Ploceus subaureus</i>	1
		Southern Brown-throated Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthopterus</i>	1
		Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>	1
		Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	1
		Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	1

		Dark-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus bicolor</i>	1
		Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>	1
		Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	1
		Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	1
		Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	1
		Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>	1
		White-winged Widowbird	<i>Euplectes albonotatus</i>	1
		Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>	1
		Long-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes progne</i>	1
		<u>Waxbills, Munias and allies</u>	<u>Estrildidae</u>	
		Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	1
		Green Twinspot	<i>Mandingoa nitidula</i>	1
	SnA	Pink-throated Twinspot	<i>Hypargos margaritatus</i>	1
		Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	1
		Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	1
		Grey Waxbill	<i>Estrilda perreini</i>	1
		Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	1
		Orange-breasted Waxbill	<i>Amandava subflava</i>	1
		Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	H
		Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	1
		Red-backed Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nigriceps</i>	1
		<u>Indigobirds, Whydahs</u>	<u>Viduidae</u>	
		Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	1
		Long-tailed Paradise Whydah	<i>Vidua paradisaea</i>	1
		<u>Wagtails, Pipits</u>	<u>Motacillidae</u>	
		Cape Wagtail	<i>Motacilla capensis</i>	1
		African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	1
	SnA	Cape Longclaw	<i>Macronyx capensis</i>	1
		Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>	1
		African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	1
		Mountain Pipit	<i>Anthus hoeschi</i>	1
		Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>	1
V	SA	Yellow-breasted Pipit	<i>Anthus chloris</i>	1
		<u>Finches</u>	<u>Fringillidae</u>	
	SA	Forest Canary	<i>Crithagra scotops</i>	1
		Black-throated Canary	<i>Crithagra atrogularis</i>	1
		Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>	1
	SnA	Yellow Canary	<i>Crithagra flaviventris</i>	1
	SA	Drakensberg Siskin	<i>Crithagra symonsi</i>	1
		Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>	1
		Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>	1
	SnA	Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	1

	SnA	Black-headed Canary	<i>Serinus alario</i>	1
		<u>Buntings, New World Sparrows and allies</u>	<u>Emberizidae</u>	
		Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	1
	NE	Cape Bunting	<i>Emberiza capensis</i>	1
		Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	1
		TOTAL		394

SUBTROPICAL SOUTH AFRICA MAMMAL LIST OCTOBER 2014		
IUCN Common Name	Scientific Name	Trip
	CHIROPTERA	
<u>Flying foxes</u>	<u>Pteropodidae</u>	
Egyptian Fruit Bat	<i>Rousettus aegyptiacus</i>	1
	RODENTIA	
<u>True mice and rats, gerbils, and relatives</u>	<u>Muridae</u>	
Sloggett's vlei rat	<i>Otomys sloggetti</i>	1
Four-striped grass mouse	<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>	1
<u>Squirrels and relatives</u>	<u>Sciuridae</u>	
Red bush squirrel	<i>Paraxerus palliatus</i>	1
Smith's bush squirrel	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	1
	HYRACOIDEA	
<u>Hyraxes</u>	<u>Procaviidae</u>	
Rock hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	1
	PROBOSCIDEA	
<u>Elephants</u>	<u>Elephantidae</u>	
African elephant	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	1
	PERISSODACTYLA	
<u>Horses and relatives</u>	<u>Equidae</u>	
Plains zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	1
<u>Rhinoceroses</u>	<u>Rhinocerotidae</u>	
White rhinoceros	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>	1
	ARTIODACTYLA	
<u>Hippopotamuses</u>	<u>Hippopotamidae</u>	
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	1
<u>Pigs and hogs</u>	<u>Suidae</u>	
Common warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	1
<u>Giraffes and okapis</u>	<u>Giraffidae</u>	
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	1
<u>Cattle, antelopes and relatives</u>	<u>Bovidae</u>	
Black wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes gnou</i>	1

Common wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	1
Blesbok	<i>Damaliscus pygargus phillipsi</i>	1
Blue duiker	<i>Philantomba monticola</i>	1
Natal red duiker	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>	1
Common duiker	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	1
Klipspringer	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	1
Steenbok	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	1
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	1
Grey rhebok	<i>Pelea capreolus</i>	1
African buffalo	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	1
Greater kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	1
Nyala	<i>Tragelaphus angasii</i>	1
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	1
Eland	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	1
Southern reedbuck	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	1
Oribi	<i>Ourebia ourebi</i>	1
Waterbuck	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	1
	CARNIVORA	
<u>Hyaenas and aardwolf</u>	<u>Hyaenidae</u>	
Spotted hyaena	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	1
<u>Cats</u>	<u>Felidae</u>	
Cheetah	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	1
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	1
<u>Mustelids</u>	<u>Mustelidae</u>	
African clawless otter	<i>Aonyx capensis</i>	1
<u>Civets, genets, linsangs and relatives</u>	<u>Viverridae</u>	
South African large-spotted genet	<i>Genetta tigrina</i>	1
<u>Mongoose</u>	<u>Herpestidae</u>	
Meerkat	<i>Suricata suricatta</i>	1
Yellow mongoose	<i>Cynictis penicillata</i>	1
Banded mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	1
Common dwarf mongoose	<i>Helogale parvula</i>	1
	PRIMATES	
<u>Old World monkeys</u>	<u>Cercopithecidae</u>	
Chacma baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	1
Vervet	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	1
Samango monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis labiatus</i>	1
TOTAL		42