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BIRDS OF THE GAM RESETTLEMENT AREA

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Introduction

The Gam Resettlement Area lies in the South-eastern corner of the Otjozondjupa Region, on the boundary of former Bushmanland and Eastern Hereroland. The area was the focus of a baseline environmental study in late 1993 and early 1994. This was done before the start of a major resettlement programme involving several thousand Botswana Hereros and their livestock. I was resident in the area near Gam for about 7 weeks during this period and collected most of the data during this time.

The climate of the area is typical of North-east Namibia. Mean annual rainfall is around 400 mm annually and this is highly variable in both time and space. Rainfall is markedly seasonal with 90% falling between October and April. Most rainfall is the result of convective thunderstorms. Exceptional rainfall events occurred in late January 1994 and these resulted in the extensive flooding of pans and omarimba in the area and large numbers of waterbirds were recorded. Temperatures are generally high in summer (>30 °C average daily maximum) and cool in winter (<10 °C minimum daily temperature).

Two hundred and seventeen species of birds were identified of which 13 are Red Data Species. Most of the Red Data species were vagrants (7). Of the remaining Red Data Species 5 are raptors which can be expected to decline following the completion of the resettlement programme.

Habitats and Vegetation

The Gam Area falls within the broadly defined "Forest savanna and woodland" of Giess (1971) and is transitional between the so-called "wet" and "dry" savannas. At the time of doing the survey few people had settled in the area and it was largely undisturbed. The distribution of the habitats and vegetation types is heavily influenced by the relative depth of the Kalahari Sands which are a major feature of the landscape in the area.

Habitats and vegetation types can be broadly divided into two groups:

- Those habitats and vegetation types associated with heavier, shallower soils and exposed rock usually occurring in interdune slack, along omarimba, around pans and other depressions. These habitats and vegetation types are the richest bird habitats in the area.
- Those habitats and vegetation types occurring on deep Kalahari sands, such as dunes, sand plains and hummocks. Relatively few species of birds occur only on Kalahari sand habitats.

Terminalia pruinosus woodland and thickets are widely distributed on shallow soils in the the area. Trees are usually 6-10 m high and can form very dense stands with sparse shrub understories. In areas with wetter soils and on the boundaries of pans Acacia erubescens and Acacia mellifera woodlands and thickets are characteristic. Pans are usually open water systems where there are calcite bottoms or are grassy pans where soils are deeper. In certain areas there are large exposures of hardpan calcrites which are normally covered by extensive, dense stands of Catephractus alexandri. Grasslands are extensive in the central part of the area around Gam.

The Kalahari Sand areas are dominated by a relatively small number of species of plants including Terminalia sericea, Combretum collinum, Pierocarpus angolensis and Batimbia petersiana. The relative mix of the species changes with the depth of the sand and position on the dune slope but the species remain largely constant. Grasses occurring in the area are generally, hard woody species. Kalahari sand areas are generally nutrient poor systems and this is reflected in the relatively paucity of both bird species and numbers in the area.

Methodology

The species list has been compiled from observations made during December 1993 (06-17) and February/March 1994 (02/02-04/03). Other information was obtained from the Namibian Bird Atlas Project (NBAP). Observations were made during the course of other field work and only generalised information regarding habitat preferences were made. Species nomenclature follows Roberts' Birds of Southern Africa (Maclean 1993). Species not recorded but expected to occur are given in parentheses. Species listed in the Namibian Red Data Book - Birds (Williams & Brown, in prep) are marked with an asterisk.

No records were kept of total numbers of birds except in the case of certain waterfowl and rare species (e.g. Wattled Crane). For this reason ratings of abundance are somewhat subjective and are defined as follows:

Common - seen daily in right habitat, large numbers
Uncommon - seen daily/weekly in small numbers
Scarce - seen only a few times in a month
Rare - seen only a few times in a year
Vagrant - accidental occurrence in the area; outside normal range

The status of the listed species is categorised as follows:

Resident - are those which are found in the study area throughout the year and are assumed to breed in the area.

Migrant - are those with regular seasonal movements. These may be Palaeartic or intra-African, and usually leave the area according to season, even though specific habitat requirements are met (e.g. Lesser Moorhen Gallinula angulata). These species may or may not breed in the area.

Visitor Nomadic - are those without regular seasonal movements, tending to be opportunistic in their utilisation of available habitat (e.g. Red-billed Teal). These species may or may not breed in the area.

Systematic list.

OSTRICH Struthio camelus
Common resident seen throughout the study area. Chicks seen in both 12/93 and 02/94.

*BLACKNECKED GREBE Podiceps nigricollis
Uncommon wet season visitor. Several birds seen on small pans east of Gam, on the Daneib and in the
Quarantine area in 02/94.

PARCHICK Tachybaptus ruficollis
Uncommon wet season visitor. Seen on small pans in the Quarantine area and near Gam. 02/94.

*WHITE PELICAN Pelecanus onocrotalus
Rare wet season visitor. Three birds seen flying overhead near the Daneib, early 02/94.

GREY HERON Ardea cinerea
Rare wet season visitor. Single bird seen near Hammanskloof, late 02/94.

PURPLE HERON Ardea purpurea
Unconfirmed sighting of a bird thought to be this species on a well vegetated pan in Daneib, near
Hammanskloof. 02/94.

GREAT WHITE EGRET Egretta alba
Scarce wet season visitor. Seen on a number of occasions on small pans east of Gam. 02/94.

LITTLE EGRET Egretta garzetta
Rare wet season visitor. Single bird seen on pan east of Gam. 02/94.

YELLOWBILLED EGRET Egretta intermedia
Uncommon wet season visitor. A small flock of 4 birds seen on a small pan east of Gam. 02/94.

CATTLE EGRET Bubulcus ibis
Seasonally common. A single bird recorded 12/93, with flocks of more than 20 birds regularly recorded
around Gam in 02/94.

SQUACCO HERON Ardeola ralloides
Rare wet season visitor. Single bird seen at Hammanskloof in 02/94.

BLACKCROWNED NIGHT HERON Nyctanassa nycticorax
Rare wet season visitor. Single bird seen on a densely wooded stretch of water in the Daneib, near

Hammanskloof. 02/94.

LITTLE BITTERNIxobrychus minutus
Uncommon wet season visitor. Several birds seen on small pans east of Gam and in the Quarantine area, as well as in Daneib. Breeding (n=3) recorded in Daneib. 02/94.

HAMERKOP Scopus umbretta
Rare wet season visitor. Single bird seen on a pan in the central Quarantine area. 02/94.

WHITE STORK Ciconia ciconia
Rare palaeartic migrant. Single bird found dead in the Eiseb Omnamba near Theronsvallei. 02/94.

WHITEBILLED STORK Ciconia abdimii
Uncommon intra-African migrant. Small flocks were seen throughout the area during 02/94.

WOOLLYNECKED STORK Ciconia episcopus
Rare wet-season visitor. Three birds regularly seen on a small pan in the Daneib and two other birds seen
on a pan near Gam. 02/94.

OPENBILLSTORK Anastomus lamelligerus
Rare wet-season visitor. Small numbers seen on large pan in the Daneib during early 02/94.

*SADDLED BILLED STORK Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis
Rare wet-season visitor. Only immature birds recorded. Regularly seen along the Daneib in flooded
grasslands. 02/94.

MARABOU STORK Leptoptilos crumeniferus
Uncommon visitor. Two groups of birds seen soaring over the Daneib. 02/94.

**GLOSSY IBIS Plegadis falcinellus
Rare wet-season visitor. Recorded on pans east of Gam on several occasions. 02/94.

RED BILLED TEAL Anas erythrorhyncha
Common wet-season visitor. Recorded on virtually any open water throughout the area, during rains in
early 02/94. Also recorded on pans in the Eiseb during 12/93.

KNOBBILLED DUCK Sarkidornis melanotos
Common wet-season visitor. Found on large pans in the Daneib, east of Gam and at Tottala during 02/94.
Small numbers present on pans in the Eiseb during 12/93.

SECRETARY BIRD Sagittarius serpentarius
Uncommon resident. Single birds seen in grasslands throughout the study area, 12/93 and 02/94. Found
breeding near the Lusimand borderland 12/93.

WHITEBACKED VULTURE Gyps africanus
Common resident. Recorded throughout the Gam area. 12/93, 02/94.

*APPETTACED VULTURE Torgos tracheliotes
Uncommon resident. Recorded mainly in the east of the study area. 12/93, 02/94.

*WHITE-BACKED VULTURE Trigoneus occipitalis
Scarce resident. Only recorded near Gam, Tottala and along the Bushmanland boundary. 02/94.

YELLOW-BILLED KITE Milvus migrans parasitus
Common intra-African migrant. Small numbers recorded during 12/93 at termite emergences. Much
larger numbers (> 100) recorded during rains in early 02/94.

BLACK KITE Milvus migrans migrans
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded in small numbers in 02/94.

BLACKSHOULDERED KITE Elanus caeruleus
Uncommon nomadic visitor. A single bird was recorded during 12/93. Numbers increased markedly
during 02/94 with an influx of birds during early 02/94. Numbers declined rapidly by early 03/94.

*AWNY EAGLE Aquila rapax
Uncommon resident. Found throughout the study area. 12/93. 02/93.

STEPPE EAGLE Aquila nipalensis
Scarce palaeartic migrant. A single bird seen in the Eiseb in 12/93, with isolated birds seen during 02/94.
None recorded at termite emergences.

LESSER SPOTTED EAGLE Aquila pomarina
Scarce palaeartic migrant. Several birds recorded soaring in the Eiseb in 12/93. Single birds seen at
termite emergences and soaring during 02/94.

WAHLBERG'S EAGLE Aquila wahlbergi
Scarce intra-African migrant. Only recorded in Terminalia prunioides woodland along the Bushmanland

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border. 12/93, 02/94. There is little suitable breeding habitat for this species.

**AFRICAN HAWK EAGLE** *Polemaetus bellicosus*  
Scarce resident. Recorded on a number of occasions on the western boundary of the Quarantine area during 02/94.

**MARTIAL EAGLE** *Polemaetus bellicosus*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area. 12/93, 02/94.

**BROWN SNAKE EAGLE** *Circaetus cinereus*  
Scarce resident. Only recorded once in 02/94. This species occurs commonly in Bushland and may have been overlooked during the current study.

**BLACK BREASTED SNAKE EAGLE** *Circaetus galliiceps*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area. 12/93, 02/94.

**BATELEUR** *Terathopius ecaudatus*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area with a marked increase in numbers in the north beyond the Bushland boundary. 12/93, 02/94.

**AFRICAN FISH EAGLE** *Haliaeetus vocifer*  
Vagrant. *Single juvenile bird was seen at a pan near Hammanskop, 02/94.

**STEPPE BUZZARD** *Buteo bubo*  
Uncommon palaearctic migrant. Recorded in most wooded habitats throughout the study area. Numbers were higher in 12/93 compared with 02/94.

**OVAMBO SPARROWHAWK** *Accipiter ovangomensis*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded in woodland on the Bushland boundary, and near Totlana in 02/94.

**LITTLE SPARROWHAWK** *Accipiter mineus*  
Scarce resident. Recorded once in a dense stand of *Terminalia prunoides* on the Bushland boundary.

**LITTLE BANDED GOSHAWK** *Accipiter brevipes*  
Common resident. The commonest accipiter in the area. Recorded in all wooded habitats. 12/93, 02/94.

**GARAB GOSHAWK** *Micronisus gabor*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded most often in *Acacia* woodlands and often near water. 12/93, 02/94.

**PALE CHANTING GOSHAWK** *Melaenura caerulescens*  
Common resident. The commonest raptor in the study area. Recorded throughout the area. 12/93, 02/94.

**LANNER FALCON** *Falco biarmicus*  
Scarce resident nomad. *Single bird seen hunting along the Eiseh 12/93.

**HOBBY FALCON** *Falco subbuteo*  
Common palaearctic migrant. Particularly abundant during early rains in 12/93, with up to 12 being recorded at termite emergences. Single birds recorded during 02/94.

**WESTERN REDFOOTED KESTREL** *Falco vespertinus*  
Common palaearctic migrant. Large flocks on passage and at termite emergences during 12/93. One small flock of about 8 birds recorded at Gami during 02/94.

**EASTERN REDFOOTED KESTREL** *Falco amurensis*  
Scarce palaearctic migrant. Several females and one male recorded in a large flock of Western Redfooted Kestrels at a termite emergence on the Bushland boundary during 12/93.

**ROCK KESTREL** *Falco rupicolous*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded on rocky outcrops in the Eiseh 0mramba 12/93. *Single bird seen hunting over grassland near the Bushland boundary in 02/94.

**GREATER KESTREL** *Falco rupicolous*  
Uncommon resident. A pair was recorded in the Eiseh during 12/93 and again in 02/94. Not recorded in the Danieb or over grasslands further North.

**CRESTED FRANCOLIN** *Francolinus sephaera*  
Not recorded during this study. This species is common in Bushland and is expected to occur along the omnimba.

**ORANGE RIVER FRANCOLIN** *Francolinus leucolantilus*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded from the Danieb and a variety of shrub and grassland habitats throughout the area. 12/93, 02/94.

**REDBILLED FRANCOLIN** *Francolinus adpersus*  
Common resident. This species seems to be restricted to shrub habitats along the Danieb, and *Acacia* and *Terminalia prunoides* woodlands. 12/93, 02/94. Very small chicks recorded early 02/94.

**COMMON QUAIL** *Coturnix coturnix*  
Not recorded. This species is common further north in grassland and pan margin habitats very similar to those occurring in the Gami area.

**HARLEQUIN QUAIL** *Coturnix delineograci*  
Common winter visitor. Large numbers recorded in the Eiseh, Danieb and areas of short grass, 02/94. Recorded breeding 02/94 (n = 1).

**HELMETED GUINEAFOWL** *Numida meleagris*  
Common resident. Found throughout the study area, generally favouring areas of heavier soils associated with *Acacia*. Young chicks present early 02/94.

**KURICHANE BUTTONQUAIL** *Tetrao gigassius*  
Common summer visitor. Found in all grassland habitats, but scarce in *Terminalia seirea* shrubland, 12/93, 02/94. Breeding recorded 02/94 (n = 4).

**BAILLON'S CRANE** *Porzana pratincola*  
Scarce winter visitor. A single bird flushed from rank grass on the edge of the Danieb, 02/94.

**PURPLE GALLINULE** *Porphyrio porphyrio*  
Scarce winter visitor. Two birds recorded on a single pan south of Gam, 02/94.

**LESSER GALLINULE** *Porphyrio albofanes*  
Scarce winter visitor. Several birds recorded on a single pan south of Gam, 02/94. Recorded breeding (n = 1).

**MOORHEN** *Gallinula chloropus*  
Uncommon winter/spring visitor. This species was abundant on the Danieb near Hammanskop for a short period during early 02/94.

**LESSER MOORHEN** *Gallinula angulata*  
Uncommon winter/spring visitor. Absent for a short period during early 02/94. Several birds still present late 02/94. Recorded breeding (n = 1).

**REDKNOBBED COOT** *Fulica cristata*  
Scarce winter visitor. Two birds recorded on large pan east of Gam, 02/94.

**KORI BUSTARD** *Ardeotis korii*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area in grasslands and areas of open ground (e.g. omramba bottoms and pans), 12/93, 02/94. A very young chick recorded at Totlana, 02/94.

**REDCRESTED KORHAAN** *Eupodotis ruficircus*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area 12/93, 02/94. Recorded breeding 12/93 (n = 2) and chicks recorded 02/94.

**BLACK KORHAAN** *Eupodotis alfa*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, but particularly common in grasslands north of Gam 12/93, 02/94. Chicks recorded 02/94.

**AFRICAN JACANA** *Actophilornis africanus*  
Scarce winter visitor. Single birds recorded on pans in the Danieb 02/94.

**PAINTED SNIPE** *Rostratula benghalensis*  
Uncommon winter visitor. Recorded on pans and flooded grasslands in the Danieb and on pans in the Quarantine area, 02/94.

**THREEBANDED PLOVER** *Charadrius tricolor*  
Scarce winter visitor. Single birds recorded on a pan near Hammanskop and on a pan near Gam, 02/94.

**CROWNED PLOVER** *Vanellus coronatus*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded along the Eiseh and Danieb omramba, at Totlana and around Gam in areas of bare ground. Recorded breeding 12/93 (n = 3) and 02/94 (n = 1).

**BLACKSMITH PLOVER** *Vanellus armatus*  
Common winter visitor. Small groups recorded on virtually all pans and areas of open water 02/94.

**WOOD SANDPIPER** *Tringa glareola*  
Common palaearctic migrant. Small numbers recorded on pans along the Eiseh and at Gam. 12/93. The commonest small wader on pans and flooded grasslands in 02/94.

**GREENSHANK** *Tringa nebularia*  
Scarce palaearctic migrant. Single birds recorded at a number of different sites in the Danieb, Eiseh and on pans in the Quarantine area 02/94.
LITTLE STINT Calidris minuta
Scarse palaeartic migrant. A group of birds recorded on a pan in Quarantine area, 02/94.

RUFOUS PHILAECHUS robinsoni
Scarse palaeartic migrant. Small groups of birds recorded in the Eiseb near Hammanskip and on a pan in the Quarantine area, 02/94.

ETHIOPIAN SNIPE Gallinago nigripennis
Scarse wet-season visitor. A single bird recorded in the Dainhe, 02/94.

AVOCET Recurvirostra avosetta
Scarse intra-African migrant. A small flock of birds recorded at a pan in the Quarantine area on one occasion, 02/94.

BLACKWINGED STILT Himantopus himantopus
Uncommon wet-season visitor. Small numbers recorded on pans and in flooded grasslands in the Dainhe and near Gam, 02/94.

SPOTTED DRIKKOP Burhinus capensis
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the area on areas of heavier soils (i.e. absent from areas of Kalahari sands), 12/93, 02/94.

DOUBLEDANDED COURSER Rhinoptilus africanaus
Uncommon resident. Recorded in areas of open calcarete at Tolofana, along the Karakapi and in the Eiseb, 12/93, 02/94.

BREWSWINGED COURSER Rhinoptilus chalcopterus
Scarse summer visitor? A single bird recorded in a Catephractus thicket near Gam, 02/94.

*WHISPERED TERN Chlidonias hybridus
Scarse wet-season visitor. Several birds in full breeding plumage were recorded on large pans in the Dainhe and in the Quarantine area east of Gam, 02/94.

WHITEWINGED TERN Chlidonias leucophrus
Scarse palaeartic migrant. Only recorded over a large pan in the Dainhe in early 02/94.

BUCHELLES SANDGROUSE Pterocles buchelli
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

DOUBLEDANDED SANDGROUSE Pterocles bicinctus
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

CAPE TURTLE DOVE Streptopelia capicola
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

LAUGHING DOVE Streptopelia senegalensis
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, but seemingly more common in Acacia belts, 12/93, 02/94.

NAMARO DOVE Oena capensis
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

GREENSPOTTED DOVE Turtur chlorops
Rare.Scars. Only recorded once on the Bushmanland boundary, 02/94. This species is common in Bushmanland.

MEYERS PARROT Forpus philippinus
Uncommon resident. Recorded in woody habitats throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

GREY LOURIE Corythaixoides concolor
Common resident. Recorded in Acacia belts and Terminalia prunoides woodland, 12/93, 02/94.

EUROPEAN CUCKOO Cuculus canorus
Unrecorded. This species is common throughout Bushmanland and Kavango during the summer.

AFRICAN CUCKOO Cuculus gularis
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

BLACK CUCKOO Cuculus clamator
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94. Less vocal during 02/94.

GREAT SPOTTED CUCKOO Cuculus glaucorhynchos
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

STRIPED CUCKOO Cuculus leucolophus
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area in Acacia belts, 02/94.

JACOBIN CUCKOO Clamator jacobinus
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area, 02/94.

KLAAS CUCKOO Chrysococcyx rufus
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded largely in woodland areas and in Acacia belts, 12/93, 02/94.

DEDERIK CUCKOO Chrysococcyx derderikii
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area, particularly in association with large Marabou stork colonies, 12/93, 02/94.

BARN OWL Tyto alba
Uncommon resident. Recorded at Hammanskip, Gam and in Quarantine area, 02/94.

MARSH OWL Asio capensis
Common resident. 22 recorded in a 18 km stretch of road north of Gam in 12/93. Fewer birds recorded in 02/94.

SCOPS OWL Otus scops
Scarse resident. Only recorded in Terminalia prunoides woodland in the Quarantine area, 02/94.

WHITEFACED OWL Otus leucotis
Uncommon resident. Recorded in wooded habitat throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

PEARLSPOTTED OWL Glareola pratincola
Uncommon resident. Only recorded in Acacia belts south of Gam, along the Dainhe and in the Quarantine area, 12/93, 02/94.

SPOTTED EAGLE OWL Bubo africanus
Uncommon resident. Recorded at several locations throughout the study area, but nowhere abundant, 12/93, 02/94. Downy young recorded on western boundary of quarantine area, 02/94.

GIANT EAGLE OWL Bubo africanus
Scarse resident. Only recorded at a camp near the western boundary of the Quarantine area, 02/94.

EUROPEAN NIGHTJAR Caprimulgus europaeus
Rare palaeartic migrant. A single roadkill north of Gam on the Tsunkmwe road, 02/94.

RUFUSCHEEKED NIGHTJAR Caprimulgus rufilatus
Common intra-African migrant. Recorded throughout the study area. 12/93, 02/94.

EUROPEAN SWIFT Apus apus
Common palaeartic migrant. Found throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94. Very large flocks recorded following storm fronts. Still present in the area after rains in early 03/94.

REDFACED MOUSEBIRD Colius indicus
Uncommon resident. Small flocks were recorded throughout the study area, commoner in Acacia belts, 12/93, 02/94.

GREY HOODED KINGFISHER Halcyon leucocephala
Scarse summer visitor? A single bird was seen in the Dainhe near the Botswana border, 02/94.

STRIPE KINGFISHER Halcyon chilensis
Uncommon resident. Single birds recorded in tall woodland habitats along Bushmanland boundary and in tall Terminalia sericea shrubland near the Okjombejou, 12/93, 02/94.

EUROPEAN BEE-EATER Merops granarius
Common palaeartic migrant. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

BLUECHEEKED BEE-EATER Merops persicus
Uncommon intra-African migrant. Generally found in association with water, particularly common along the Dainhe, 12/93, 02/94.

*CARMIN E BEE-EATER Merops nubicoides
Common intra-African migrant. Found throughout the study area usually in grassland and Acacia belts, 12/93, 02/94.

SWALLOWTAILED BEE-EATER Merops hirundineus
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

EUROPEAN ROLLER Coracias garrulus
Uncommon palaeartic migrant. Present in small numbers in taller woodland habitats throughout the study area, 02/94.

LILACBREASTED ROLLER Coracias caudata
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

PURPLE ROLLER Coracias naevia

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Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area where tall Acacia and Terminalia prunioides provided nesting habitat, 12/93, 02/94. Absent in shrubland.

HOPOPO. *Upupa epops*
Uncommon summer visitor. Recorded only in areas of short grassland and bare ground (e.g. Totiana, pan margins, umarumba bottoms). 12/93, 02/94.

SCIMITARBILLED WOODHOPOPO. *Psycoscopus cyanomelas*
Uncommon resident. Restricted to Acacia and Terminalia prunioides woodland habitats. 12/93, 02/94.

GREY HORNBILL. *Tockus nasutus*
Common resident. Found throughout the study area, often in large loosely formed flocks. Especially abundant in stands of flowering Terminalia prunioides. 12/93, 02/94.

REDHIBLED HORNBILL. *Tockus erythrorhynchos*
Uncommon resident. Only recorded in Acacia erubescens and Terminalia prunioides woodland, 12/93, 02/94.

YELLOWBILLEED HORNBILL. *Tockus flavovestris*
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area in Acacia woodland, 12/93, 02/94.

BRADFIELDS HORNBILL. *Tockus bradfieldi*
Scarce resident. A single bird recorded in tall Acacia erubescens Terminalia prunioides woodland on the Bushmanland boundary, 02/94.

PIED BARMET. *Lysia leucognatha*
Common resident. Recorded in Acacia and Terminalia prunioides woodland throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

BENNETTS WOODPECKER. *Campethera bennettii*
Scarce resident. Only recorded once in Acacia woodland south of Gam, 02/94.

GOLDENHAILED WOODPECKER. *Campethera abergoni*
Uncommon resident. Recorded in tall woodland in the north of the study area along the Bushmanland boundary, 12/93, 02/94.

CARDINAL WOODPECKER. *Dendroicos fuscegenus*
Uncommon resident. Recorded in tall woodland habitats throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

BEARDED WOODPECKER. *Thylogale rufatermes*
Scarce resident. Recorded in Terminalia prunioides woodlands in the central part of the Quarantine area and along the Bushmanland boundary, 02/94.

MONOTONOUS LARK. *Mirafra pauserina*
Scarce resident. Surprisingly few birds recorded in the study area. This species is on occasion very common in grasslands in Bushmanland, 12/93, 02/94.

RUFOUSNAPPED LARK. *Mirafra africana*
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area in grasslands and areas of sparse shrubland, 12/93, 02/94.

CLAPPER LARK. *Mirafra quinquennata*
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area particularly in areas of sparse shrubs on heavier soils and in grasslands. 12/93, 02/94.

EARTHWORMLINED LARK. *Mirafra africanaida*
Common resident. Found in all habitats except dense woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

SABOTA LARK. *Mirafra sabota*
Uncommon resident. Recorded most often on the margins of umarumba and other areas where calcite is exposed. Particularly common in Catephractes thomsonii on umarumba margins, 12/93, 02/94.

REDCAAPPED LARK. *Calandrella cinerea*
Uncommon nomad resident. Recorded in areas of bare ground at Gam and in short grass habitats at Totiana and along the side of the Danbei, 12/93, 02/94.

CHUSTINUTBACKED FINCHLARK. *Eremopterex leucopsis*
Common nomad resident. Fairly large flocks (c. 20) recorded in areas of short grass and rocky exposures throughout the area, 02/94. Breeding in 02/94 (n=2).

GREYBACKED FINCHLARK. *Eremopterex verticalis*
Uncommon Scarce resident. Only recorded on calcifer exposures along the Danbei, Karakapi and at Totiana, 02/94. Breeding in 02/94 (n=1).

EUROPEAN SWALLOW. *Hirundo rustica*
Common palaearctic migrant. Recorded throughout the area, 12/93, 02/94.

BANDED MARTIN. *Rhiparia crista*
Scarce intra-African migrant. Only recorded in grasslands in north of study area, 02/94.

BLACK CUCKOOSHRIKE. *Campephaga flavina*
Rare/Scarce visitor. A single female recorded in Terminalia prunioides woodland east of Gam, 02/94.

FORKTAILED DRONGO. *Dicrurus adsimilis*
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

AFRICAN GOLDEN ORIOLE. *Oriolus auratus*
Scarce intra-African migrant. Only recorded in tall Ricinodendron woodland in south of the study area, 02/94.

ASHY TIT. *Parus coronatus*
Uncommon resident. Only recorded in woodlands dominated by Acacia and Terminalia prunioides, 12/93, 02/94.

CAPE PENDULINE TIT. *Anthoscopus minimus*
Uncommon resident. Recorded in Catephractes shrubland and in dense stands of Acacia, 02/94.

PIED BABBADER. *Turdoides bicolor*
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area in Acacia and Terminalia prunioides woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

REDEYED BULBUL. *Pycnonotus nigricans*
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

KURICHJANE THRUSH. *Turdus llbonitza*
Scarce resident. A single bird recorded in dense Acacia erubescens Terminalia prunioides woodland on the Bushmanland boundary, 02/94.

GROUNDSCRAPER THRUSH. *Turdus lititisinsupa*
Uncommon resident. Only recorded around cattle kraals at Gam, 12/93, 02/94.

CAPPED WHEATEAR. *Oenanthe plebea*
Uncommon resident. Recorded from the Danbei, Karakapi and east umarumba and short grasslands at Totiana, 12/93, 02/94.

ANTEATING CHAT. *Myrmecocichla formicivora*
Common resident. Found in grassy areas throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

THRUSH NIGHTINGALE. *Luscinia luscinia*
Rare palaearctic migrant. A single bird found in thick bush at Hammarskip, 02/94.

KALAHARI ROBIN. *Erythropyga poena*
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area, generally in Acacia dominated habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

GARDEN WARBLER. *Sylvia borin*
Uncommon palaearctic migrant. Only recorded in Acacia thickets and Terminalia prunioides woodland, 02/94.

WHITETHROAT. *Sylvia communis*
Common palaearctic migrant. Recorded throughout the study area in all wooded habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

TITBABBADER. *Pratoma subcaecus*
Common resident. Generally associated with Acacia belts, 12/93, 02/94.

ICTERINE WARBLER. *Hippolais icterina*
Common palaearctic migrant. Found in any wooded habitat throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

EUROPEAN SEDGE WARBLER. *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*
Scarce palaearctic migrant. A small number of birds recorded in the Danbei, 02/94.

WILLOW WARBLER. *Phylloscopus trochilus*
Common palaearctic migrant. Found throughout the study area in wooded habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

LONGBILLED CROMBEC. *Sylvestris rufescens*
Common resident. Seemingly restricted to Acacia and Terminalia prunioides woodland habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

YELLOWBILLEED EREMODELA. *Eremomela ceteropygia*
Uncommon resident. Only recorded in Acacia and Terminalia prunioides woodland habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

BURNTEYED EREMODELA. *Eremomela sustellida*
Scarce. This species is well known from Bushmanland in habitats similar to those in the study area.
HILEATING WARBLER Camaroptera brachyura brevicaudata
Common resident. Found throughout the study area in any dense wooded habitats with the exception of Terminalia sericea habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

BARRIED WARBLER Camaroptera fasciata
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area in Acacia and Terminalia prunoides habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

DESERT CISTICOLA Cisticola arundina
Common resident. Recorded in grassland and shrubland habitats throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

TINKLING CISTICOLA Cisticola inflata
Common resident. Most often recorded in Terminalia sericea shrubland and associated grasslands, 12/93, 02/94.

RATTING CISTICOLA Cisticola cheniana
Common resident. Recorded throughout the area in Acacia dominated habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

BLACKCHESTED PRINIA Prinia flaviceps
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

SPOTTED FLYCATCHER Muscicapa strata
Common palaeartic migrant. Recorded throughout the study area in Acacia and Terminalia prunoides woodlands. 12/93, 02/94.

MARCO FLYCATCHER Malacopteryx margaritensis
Common resident. Restricted to the margins of oromarina, Acacia belts and Terminalia prunoides woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

CHAT FLYCATCHER Malacopteryx infuscata
Uncommon resident. Recorded in Catophracis thickets along the Eiseb and similar habitat along the Karaskei, 12/93, 02/94.

CHINSPOT BATIS Batis molitor
Scarce resident. Only recorded in Acacia erubescens and Terminalia prunoides woodlands along the Bushmanland boundary. Not recorded further south, 02/94.

PRIRIT BATIS Batis priri
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the southern part of the study area in Acacia and Terminalia prunoides woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

CAPE WAGTAIL Motacilla capensis
Scarce winter visitor. A single bird recorded at Gam, 02/94.

RICHARD'S PIPIT Anthus novaeseelandiae
Common resident. Found in short grassland habitats and areas of calcere exposure throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

PLAIN-BACKED PIPIT Anthus lineatus
Uncommon resident. Recorded in grassland habitats in the north of the study area only, 02/94.

LESSER GREY SHRIKE Lanius minor
Uncommon palaeartic migrant. Recorded throughout the study area in grasslands and open shrubland habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

REDBACKED SHRIKE Lanius collurio
Recorded in woody habitats throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

LONGTAILED SHRIKE Corvinkella melanoleuca
Scarce resident. Recorded once in Acacia woodland in the north of the study area, 02/94.

CRIMSON-BREASTED SHRIKE Lamarius atrococcineus
Common resident. Recorded throughout the area in Acacia and Terminalia prunoides woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

PUFFBACK Dryoscopus cuba
Uncommon resident. Recorded only in Terminalia prunoides woodlands in the north of the study area, 02/94.

BRUBRU Niladia afer
Uncommon resident. Recorded in Acacia and Terminalia prunoides woodlands, 02/94.

THREE-STREAKED TCHAGRA Tchagra australis
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area in Acacia belts and on the margins of grasslands, 12/93, 02/94.

BLACKCROWNEC TCHAGRA Tchagra senegalensis

Uncommon resident. Recorded mainly in broadleaf woodland habitats (e.g. Terminalia sericea woodland), 12/93, 02/94.

(WHITE HEMLET SHRIKE Pisonops cristatus)
Unrecorded. This species is common in Bushmanland and should have been recorded as plenty of suitable habitat exists in the study area.

WHITECROWNED SHRIKE Eurocephalus angustirostris
Uncommon resident. Widely distributed throughout the study area, generally on the margin of woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

WATTLED STARLING Cretopha ronivora
Uncommon resident. Small flocks recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

PLUMCOLOURED STARLING Lamprotornis australis
Uncommon resident. Recorded in woodland habitats throughout the study area, but with a very patchy distribution, 12/93, 02/94.

GLOSSY STARLING Lamprotornis nitens
Common resident. Only recorded 02/94, seemingly absent during 12/93.

GREATER BLUE-EARED STARLING Lamprotornis chalybaeus
Common resident. The commonest starling in the area during the study period. Recorded in all woodland habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

MARCO SUNBIRD Nectarinia marquettensis
Uncommon resident. Only recorded in Acacia woodland habitats, 12/93, 02/94.

WHITEBELTED SUNBIRD Nectarinia talatala
Scarce resident. Recorded on a few occasions in Acacia woodlands in the north of the study area, 02/94.

SCARLETCHESTED SUNBIRD Nectarinia senegalensis
Scarce resident. Recorded once feeding on tree parasites in an Acacia erubescens thicket on the Bushmanland boundary, 02/94.

REDBILLED BUFFALO WEAVER Bubalornis niger
Uncommon resident. Restricted to the edge of oromarina and pans where Combretum imberbe are common, 12/93, 02/94.

WHITEBROWED SPARROWWEAVER Plocepasser mahali
Common resident. Recorded throughout the area in Acacia and Terminalia prunoides woodlands, 12/93, 02/94.

GREAT SPARROW Passer montanus
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the area, usually in Acacia thickets and grasslands, 12/93, 02/94.

GREYHEADED SPARROW Passer griseus
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

SCALYFEATHERED FINCH Spermannus squamifrons
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12/93, 02/94.

SPOTTEDBACKED WEAVER Ploceus cucullatus
Uncommon wet-season visitor. Recorded in the Danieb and at several small pans east of Gam, 02/94.

CHESTNUT WEAVER Ploceus rufipennis
Scarce wet-season visitor. A small flock (~15) recorded near Gam, 02/94.

MASKED WEAVER Ploceus velatus
Common resident. Recorded throughout the area 12/93, 02/94. Breeding recorded 12/93, 02/94.

REDBILLED QUILFA Speleostoma quillota
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, but particularly common in grassland/Acacia shrubland in north of study area, 12/93, 02/94.

GOLDEN BISHOP Euplectes afer
Scarce wet-season visitor. A few birds recorded on a well vegetated pan in the Danieb, 02/94.

MELBA FINCH Pytilia melba
Common resident. Recorded throughout the area, 12/93, 02/94. Breeding 02/94 (n=1).
BLUEx WAXBILL  *Uraeginthus angolensis*  
Uncommon resident. Only recorded in *Acacia* woodland habitat in the northern part of the study area, 02.94.

VIOLEATED WAXBILL  *Uraeginthus granatensis*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12.93, 02.94.

BLACKCHEEKED WAXBILL  *Estrilda cristata*  
Scarce resident. Recorded only once in *Acacia erubescens* woodland near the Bushmanland boundary, 02.94.

QUAL FINCH  *Orthopsalis atricapilla*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area on pans and flooded grasslands, 02.94.

REDHEADED FINCH  *Amadina erythraccephala*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12.93, 02.94.

SHAFTTAILED WHYDAH  *Vidua regia*  
Uncommon resident. Seemingly restricted to *Acacia* woodlands and along omarimba in the north of the study area, 12.93, 02.94.

PARADISE WHYDAH  *Vidua paradisaea*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area, usually on the margins of grasslands, 12.93, 02.94.

BLACKTHROATED CANARY  *Serinus atrorubens*  
Common resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12.93, 02.94.

YELLOW CANARY  *Serinus flaviventris*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded in short *Acacia* shrub and *Catophractus* thickets along the edge of omarimba, 02.94.

GOLDENBREASTED BUNTING  *Emberiza flavigaster*  
Uncommon resident. Recorded throughout the study area, 12.93, 02.94.

ROCK BUNTING  *Emberiza bataiensis*  
Scarce resident. Recorded in areas of extensive surficial calcrites at Tremontville in the Eiseb and at Hartmannvlp in the Danieib, 02.94.

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**DIE WEIßSTIRNREGENPFEIFER.**

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Das Brutgeschäft eines Weiβstirnregenpfeifers (Charadrius marginatus) am südwestlichen Rande der Gossow'schen Salzfelder, nördlich von Swakopmund wurde mit 23 Besuchen zwischen dem 1.2. und 4.9.33 begleitet. Ein Ei war im Nest, als es am 1.2.93 entdeckt wurde. Am 3.2. war ein zweites Ei vorhanden. Im Ganzen fand ich zwischen dem 23.12.92 und dem 1.2.93 vier Gelege von je zwei Eiern in diesem Gebiet von etwa 200 m Uferlänge -- beide Küken schlüpften am 2.3.93 aus dem Ei (Brutzeit: 28-30 Tage). Das überlebende Küken flog zum ersten Mal, als es 33 Tage alt war (4.4.93). Das andere war am 9.3. nicht mehr da.

Die Eltern wechseln sich ab beim Brutgeschäft, was 1x direkt beobachtet wurde. Der brütende Vogel verleitet während der Brutzeit selten, läuft vielmehr schweigend weg und versteckt sich, beobachtet den Störtenfried und wiederholt dieses Manöver, wenn man in seine Richtung geht. (Verleiten: lähmendes Fortbewegen mit gespreiztem Flügel und Schwanz; wurde in diesem Fall nur ein einziges Mal vor dem Schlüpfen der Küken beobachtet.) Daß der Regenpfeifer seine Eier bei Störungen mit Sand bedeckt, wie in Vogelbächen angegeben, konnte hier nicht bestätigt werden.


Die Aufzucht des Küken fand im dazugehörigen begrenzten Gebiet am Wasser des Salzsees statt. In einem Bereich von 50m auf- und abwärts von diesem Gebiet befand sich zu dieser Zeit keine anderen brütenden Regenpfeifer; daher waren die drei Vögel immer wiederzufinden.

Eigensinne Küken, die sich nicht sofort, beim Eröffen des Warnrußes an das nächste Objekt kauern, sondern laufen, werden manchmal vom Elternvogel im Tiefflug umgeworfen und zum Niederkaufen "bewogen" (2x beobachtet).