Dickinson's Kestrel | Falco dickinsoni

Easily confused with the Grey Kestrel, F. ardosiacus, which also inhabits palm savannah, this small falcon has a distribution that is limited to the lowland tropical areas of Tanzania and Zambia, south through Zimbabwe, Mozambique, and northern South Africa, and west to Angola, northern Namibia and northern Botswana (Cade 1982, Mendelsohn 1997c). With a reporting rate of 9%, it is most common in the Okavango Delta (Mendelsohn 1997c). Its area of occupancy in Namibia is considerably larger than that of the Grey Kestrel at 27,200 km² (Mendelsohn 1997c, Jenkins & Brown 1997). Only two nests have been recorded in Namibia, with eggs laid in September and October (Brown et al. 1996). There is only one breeding record from the Ruacana area where a decline in sightings has been reported (Braine 2006). Given a home range size of 3.6 pairs per 100 km², the total population was estimated to be about 39 pairs (Brown et al. 1997). There is only one breeding record from Namibia, in a hole high in a palm tree (Brown et al. 1997). Elsewhere, there are records of breeding in Hamerkop Scopus umbretta nests (Brown 1970). Populations are apparently stable in Namibia, as it is not affected by clearing for agriculture, with the possible exception of the Ruacana area where a decline in sightings has been reported (Braine 2006).

African Hobby (African Hobby Falcon) | Falco cuvieri

This woodland-savannah falcon is uncommon everywhere, except for west African forests and the Lake Victoria region (del Hoyo et al. 1994). It occurs southwards through to Zimbabwe and to the northern border of South Africa (Mendelsohn 1997b). Its African population is estimated at “several thousand pairs” (Cade 1982). In Namibia, it is only found in the Caprivi Strip and the Khaudum National Park, with a few sporadic records in north-central Namibia at a reporting rate of 2.5% (Mendelsohn 1997b). It is rare in Namibia, possibly migrating there in wetter periods, with a population that probably does not exceed 100 birds; its area of occupancy is 10,100 km² (Jarvis et al. 2001). Its breeding status in Namibia is unknown, but it may be overlooked because it often hunts in the late afternoon or evening (Mendelsohn 1997b). Favoured habitat is the broad-leaved woodland of the Kalahari sand belt, where it hunts birds and insects. There are no known threats in Namibia.