This extraordinary migratory tropical species breeds in central southern Africa (mainly from October to December) and flies in flocks to equatorial Africa from March (Maclean 1997g). Birds are occasionally sighted in Etosha National Park and in Windhoek, but these are vagrant. It occupies an area of 7,100 km². Birds were recorded from the Okavango River and Linyanti Swamps (Taylor 1997c, Jarvis et al. 2001). More recent sightings include birds 30 km east of Otavi in black turf grasslands, where three single birds were observed in February 2004, following above average rains (B Nebe pers. obs.). Remains of a bird 70 km north west of Okahandja were found on treed thornveld north west of Okahandja (E Demasius pers. obs.). Remains of a bird 70 km north west of Okahandja were found on treed thornveld north west of Okahandja (E Demasius pers. obs.).

Pennant-winged Nightjar | Macrodipteryx vexillarius (Macrodipteryx vexillaria)

This small, unobtrusive species is found scattered throughout the wetter areas of East and central Africa (Dean 2005a). In Namibia, it occurs along the margins of the northern rivers (Zambezi, Kwanza and Okavango), where it forages on the edge of reed beds and shallow water (Dean 2005a). Its area of occupancy from SABAP1 records was 10,000 km² (Jarvis et al. 2001). The bird is also recorded from the Tsumkwe Pans and northern Etosha. A recent record from SABAP2 is from further north in the north-central regions on the border with Angola. About 20% of the range is within protected areas, so it is unlikely to become a conservation priority. There are no nest records for the species in Namibia.

Red-chested Flufftail | Sarothrura rufa

This is among the commonest of Africa's flufftails, its distribution spreading westwards in finger-like projections from a predominantly easterly distribution in sub-Saharan Africa, south to Cape Town (Taylor 1997c, Delany & Scott 2002). It just touches the north-east of Namibia, where it is almost certainly under-recorded because it is heard more often than seen in wetlands comprising grasses and reeds. Its area of occupancy is therefore probably greater than the 1,600 km² recorded from the Okavango River and Linyanti Swamps (Taylor 1997c, Jarvis et al. 2001). Birds were also recorded in the Bwabwata National Park from the Okavango and Kwanza river floodplains (Brown 1990), from the Zambezi eastern floodplain (Koen 1988), the Nkasa-Lupala Island complex nearby (RE Simmons pers. obs.), from north of Kamanjab (B Demasius pers. obs.) and near Windhoek (Taylor 1997c). Like other flufftails, it may respond to local rains, and appear unexpectedly in more arid parts of Namibia. Population size is currently impossible to predict, but it probably occurs throughout the perennial river systems of the two Kavango and the Zambezi regions. It is not threatened, given that most of this habitat is inaccessible wetland penetrated only by occasional fires.

African Rail | Rallus caerulescens

This small, secretive and elusive grassland species is threatened by the massive loss of grasslands in its Eurasian breeding grounds (Stattersfield & Capper 2000). Recent conservation efforts focusing on changing the timing and methods of harvesting in the United Kingdom are proving successful; the populations are increasing again (A Balmford pers. comm.) and the species has been reclassified to Least Concern status in 2012 (IUCN 2012). The range in southern Africa where this species migrates to is poorly known, but includes the more mesic grasslands of Zimbabwe and eastern South Africa (Taylor 1997a). It is very rare in Namibia, with only one sighting recorded during the SABAPI atlas period in the Nyae Nyae region (Taylor 1997a). More recent sightings include birds 30 km east of Otavi in black turf grasslands, where three single birds were observed in February 2004, following above average rains (B Nebe pers. obs.). Remains of a bird 70 km north west of Okahandja were found on treed thornveld savannah, also following above average rains there (C Nebe pers. obs.). Understanding its status in Namibia would require a concerted research effort because it is unlikely to be recorded by the casual observer, particularly because male birds do not call. It is doubtful for two reasons whether conservation efforts in Namibia will add to this bird’s overall conservation. Firstly, its peripheral status and lack of evidence that it was ever common in Namibia suggest that conservation efforts would be futile. Secondly, the conservation problems responsible for its rarity occur in Eurasia, where harvesting practices may hold the key to recovery. It therefore seems inappropriate to assign it a threat category in Namibia.

Striped Crake | Aenigmatolimnas marginalis

This uncommon Afrotropical species is a wet-season visitor to southern Africa, and is so secretive and poorly known that only two birds were recorded in Namibia during the 24-year

Corn Crake | Crex crex

This uncommon Afrotropical species is a wet-season visitor to southern Africa, and is so secretive and poorly known that only two birds were recorded in Namibia during the 24-year
A nomatic species, that like other sandgrouse, is found in drier regions of the continent. It occurs patchily from Ethiopia to the northern parts of Botswana and Namibia, north-western South Africa and Zimbabwe. It prefers recently burned, open grasslands, fallow fields and other open areas on black clays near open water (Maclean 1999f). It is recorded sparsely from Etosha National Park (reporting rate of about 1%) and in grassland areas around the Kwando and Chobe rivers. Its area of occupancy is 11,900 km² (Jarvis et al. 2001). It is known to have declined in South Africa in historic times (Maclean 1999f), and populations there number about 500 birds (Taboron et al. 1987). Population size is unknown elsewhere in southern Africa. It breeds from March to August in Botswana (Skinner 1987), while the only breeding record for Namibia has it laying in September (Brown et al. 2015). It is classified as Near Threatened in South Africa (Barnes 2000a, Taylor et al. in press) because of the small fluctuating population and its reliance on farming practices. It is, however, not globally threatened (IUCN 2012).

This small wetland species is found throughout Africa in suitable wetland margins. In Namibia, it occurs mainly along the Okavango and Zambezi rivers and their associated backwaters and floodplains. Birds are also recorded from the Tsumkwe Pans and as a vagrant (once) from the Kaokoveld (Dean 2005b). It occupied 9,500 km² in SABAP1 atlas data, of which an area of 1,200 km² is protected (Jarvis et al. 2001). Present atlas data from SABAP2 (December 2014) show a similar pattern of occurrence with an additional record east of Etosha. It is almost certainly overlooked and under-recorded. Fourteen nests are known from the Tsumkwe Pans with clutches laid in January (four), February (five) and March (five) (Brown et al. 2015).

**Allen’s Gallinule (Lesser Gallinule) | Porphyrio alleni (Porphyryla alleni)**

This small wetland species is found throughout Africa in suitable wetland margins. In Namibia, it occurs mainly along the Okavango and Zambezi rivers and their associated backwaters and floodplains. Birds are also recorded from the Tsumkwe Pans and as a vagrant (once) from the Kaokoveld (Dean 2005b). It occupied 9,500 km² in SABAP1 atlas data, of which an area of 1,200 km² is protected (Jarvis et al. 2001). Present atlas data from SABAP2 (December 2014) show a similar pattern of occurrence with an additional record east of Etosha. It is almost certainly overlooked and under-recorded. Fourteen nests are known from the Tsumkwe Pans with clutches laid in January (four), February (five) and March (five) (Brown et al. 2015).

**Yellow-throated Sandgrouse | Pterocles gutturalis**

A nomatic species, that like other sandgrouse, is found in drier regions of the continent. It occurs patchily from Ethiopia to the northern parts of Botswana and Namibia, north-western South Africa and Zimbabwe. It prefers recently burned, open grasslands, fallow fields and other open areas on black clays near open water (Maclean 1999f). It is recorded sparsely from Etosha National Park (reporting rate of about 1%) and in grassland areas around the Kwando and Chobe rivers. Its area of occupancy is 11,900 km² (Jarvis et al. 2001). It is known to have declined in South Africa in historic times (Maclean 1999f), and populations there number about 500 birds (Taboron et al. 1987). Population size is unknown elsewhere in southern Africa. It breeds from March to August in Botswana (Skinner 1956), while the only breeding record for Namibia has it laying in September (Brown et al. 2015). It is classified as Near Threatened in South Africa (Barnes 2000a, Taylor et al. in press) because of the small fluctuating population and its reliance on farming practices. It is, however, not globally threatened (IUCN 2012).

This small wetland species is found throughout Africa in suitable wetland margins. In Namibia, it occurs mainly along the Okavango and Zambezi rivers and their associated backwaters and floodplains. Birds are also recorded from the Tsumkwe Pans and as a vagrant (once) from the Kaokoveld (Dean 2005b). It occupied 9,500 km² in SABAP1 atlas data, of which an area of 1,200 km² is protected (Jarvis et al. 2001). Present atlas data from SABAP2 (December 2014) show a similar pattern of occurrence with an additional record east of Etosha. It is almost certainly overlooked and under-recorded. Fourteen nests are known from the Tsumkwe Pans with clutches laid in January (four), February (five) and March (five) (Brown et al. 2015).

**Red-necked Phalarope | Phalaropus lobatus**

This common circumpolar species spends the non-breeding season off Peru, China and the Arabian peninsula (Hockey 2005b). In grey non-breeding plumage it is distinguished from the Red Phalarope (Grey Phalarope) *P. fulicaria* by its longer, thinner bill and darker grey back and rump. In Africa, it is found in the Rift Valley lakes of East Africa; in southern Africa it is most common in Walvis Bay, where up to 56 birds have been recorded in January (Wearne & Underhill 2005). There is one record from the Omatako Dam. Some birds over-winter in Namibia and up to nine birds have been recorded from Walvis Bay in July (Wearne & Underhill 2005). There has been a steady increase in birds seen at Walvis Bay in recent times from an average of about five (1991, 1992, 1995) to 56 (1999, 2000, 2009) and over 70 (2014) more recently (Jarvis et al. 2001, Wearne & Underhill 2005, H Kolberg unpubl. data). There are few conservation concerns for this species either worldwide or in Namibia and it may have benefited from coastal salt works that provide habitats where there were none previously. There is no evidence in Namibia for the assertion that it has decreased in southern Africa since 1980 (Hockey 2005b).

**Long-toed Lapwing (Long-toed Plover) | Vanellus crassirostris**

This species has a more restricted African range than the White-crowned Lapwing (White-crowned Plover) *V. albiceps*, occurring mainly in the central and eastern sections from southern Sudan to KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa. Its world population is estimated at 25,000 to 50,000 birds and like the White-crowned Lapwing, temporarily to be minimal.