

A SUPPLEMENTARY CHECK-LIST OF THE BIRDS RECORDED IN THE ADDO ELEPHANT NATIONAL PARK

by

B. L. PENZHORN, B.Sc. (Hon.) (Wildlife Management),

National Parks Board,

and

ALAN K. MORRIS,

National Parks and Wildlife Service,

Sydney, Australia.

In the first paper on the birdlife of the Addo Elephant National Park, Liversidge lists 120 species of birds recorded in this Park and predicts: ". . . . doubtless this number could be increased, particularly in respect to birds of the habitats in and around Ceasars dam."

During the period 3rd to 6th June, 1968 when the authors visited the park, a total of 45 species of birds was recorded. This is strikingly close to Liversidge's average figure of 44 species per visit in 23 visits over a period of two and a half years. The total of 45 species includes six species not previously recorded in the park, three of them at Ceasars dam, and five new records for the month of June.

It is interesting to note that the status of at least two species has changed considerably. The Three-banded Sand-plover (238) *Charadrius tricollaris* which was recorded only twice during the period 1959-1963, was seen both at Ceasars dam and at the new dam near the pipeline in the Buffelskop area.

The Crowned Plover (242) *Vanellus coronatus* of which Liversidge states: "Not common, odd records of pairs June to January", were regularly seen in the Antelope camp. On one occasion twelve were seen together.

The following six species are new records for the Park. The number in brackets denotes the number in *Roberts Birds of South Africa*.

SPOONBILL (85) *Platalea alba* LEPELAAR

A single bird was seen on one occasion at Ceasars dam.

BLACK DUCK (95) *Anas sparsa* SWARTEEND

Recorded regularly at the dams within the elephant camp in front of

the restaurant and rondavels. On one occasion four were seen together. Dominated Yellowbill (96) *Anas undulata*, but were in turn dominated by African Shelduck (90) *Tadorna cana*.

BLACKSMITH PLOVER (245) *Vanellus armatus* BONTKIEWIETJIE

A single bird was recorded once at Ceasars dam.

BLACK-BACKED GULL (287) *Larus dominicanus* SWARTRUGMEEU

Two were recorded at Ceasars dam.

CAPE RAVEN (524) *Corvus albicollis* WITHALSKRAAI

Three were observed, flying over the feeding area.

EUROPEAN STARLING (733) *Sturnus vulgaris* EUROPESE SPREEU

Quite common around the homestead, restaurant and rondavels. Must have colonised the area after January, 1963, when Liversidge's survey was terminated.

The following five species are new records for the month of June. The number in brackets denotes number in *Roberts Birds of South Africa*.

BLACK-HEADED HERON (55) *Ardea melanocephala* SWARTKOPREIER

Recorded in the antelope camp (open Karoooid vegetation). Previously recorded every month of the year except June.

RED-NECKED FRANCOLIN (188) *Francolinus afer* ROOIKEELFISANT

Recorded only once, on Zuurkop. No records yet for January, April, May, October and December.

MOORHEN (210) *Gallinula chloropus* WATERHOENDER

A single bird was seen daily in the reeds of the dam behind the rondavels, near the Nature Conservator's house. Previously only recorded from November to March.

DIKKOP (275) *Burhinus capensis*

A single bird was seen once in the Buffelskop area.

PIED BARBET (432) *Lybius leucomelas* BONTHOUTKAPPER

A single bird was seen near the homestead. Now recorded from February to April and June to October.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank Mr. R. Liversidge for reading through and commenting on the manuscript and Mr. M. B. Markus for checking the taxonomy.

REFERENCES

- LIVERSIDGE, R. 1965. The Birds of the Addo National Park. *Koedoe* 8: 41-67.
- McLACHLAN, G. R. and LIVERSIDGE, R. 1957. *Roberts' Birds of South Africa*. Cape Town: Trustees of the S.A. Bird Book Fund.
- WINTERBOTTOM, J. M. (ed.). *A Check-list of the Birds of South Africa* (in press).