

A REVISED LIST OF THE BIRDS OF THE BONTEBOK NATIONAL PARK, SWELLENDAM

By

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In Koedoe, 5, 1962, pp. 183-8, I published a preliminary list of the birds of the Bontebok National Park, based on visits in August, 1961, and January, 1962. Since then visits have been made in April and August, 1965 and in September, 1966. The main purpose of these later visits has been to assess the bird population of the Coastal Renosterbosveld which covers most of the Park; but this work is still very incomplete. However, a number of records of additional species was obtained and these, together with new records made by the Ranger, Mr. J. Marais, add up to 40 additional species, and bring the total for the Park to 144. It therefore seemed desirable to present a new and up-to-date list.

In my previous paper, I classified the habitats in the Park in four divisions: the Breede River; the riverine bush; the Aloe-clad hillside at Lang Elsie's Kraal; and the Coastal Renosterbosveld. To these, it seems desirable to add a fifth, flooded veld, for after heavy rains (notably in September, 1966), the temporary inundations on the veld may reach considerable proportions and are the resort of ducks and waders virtually absent from the Park at other times.

In the first list, I ventured on prophecy, suggesting that the Black-headed Heron, *Ardea melanocephala*, Cattle Egret *Ardeola ibis*, Blue Crane *Anthropoides paradisea*, Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius*, Rock Martin *Hirundo ruprestris* and Red Bishop *Euplectes orix* would be found in the Park. As the present list shows, five of the six (the first three and the last two) are now known from the Park. I also said "the development of Proteas and other growth in some of the kloofs could lead to the colonisation of the Reserve by the Sugarbird *Promerops cafer*, Grassbird *Sphenoeacus afer* and, perhaps, Victorin's Warbler *Bradypterus victorini*, as well as to the permanent establishment of the Orange-breasted Sunbird and Yellow Bishop at present recorded merely as 'casuals'." There is still no record of Victorin's Warbler, but the rest of this prediction has been fulfilled.

Finally, I should like to place on record my appreciation of the co-operation I have received from Mr. J. Marais, who is a keen and competent observer; and the many kindnesses I have had both from him and from his wife.

SPSTEMATIC LIST

(Note — the numbering is that of "Roberts Birds of South Africa", revised by McLachlan and Liversidge, 1957).

1. Ostrich, *Struthio camelus australis* Gurney — Volstruis.
Introduced.
47. White-breasted Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax carbo lucidus* (Licht.) — Witbors-duiker.
Occasional on the Breede River.
50. Reed Cormorant, *Phalacrocorax africanus africanus* (Gmel.)—Rietduiker.
Uncommon; Breede River.
52. African Darter, *Anhinga anhinga rufa* (Lacép. & Daud.) — Slanghalsvoël.
As for the preceding but more often seen.
54. Grey Heron, *Ardea cinerea cinerea* L. — Blou Reier.
Recorded several times by Mr. Marais.
55. Black-headed Heron, *Ardea melanocephala* Vig. & Childr. — Swartkopreier.
Singles recorded in August, 1965, and September, 1966.
61. Cattle Egret, *Ardeola ibis ibis* (L.) — Bosluisvoël.
Pretty regular since the introduction of Buffalo. Has also been seen accompanying Eland.
72. Hamerkop, *Scopus umbretta umbretta* Gmel. — Hamerkop.
I have not seen this species in the Park but it has been noted by Mr. Barnard and Mr. Marais.
80. White Stork, *Ciconia ciconia ciconia* (L.) — Groot Wit Sprinkaanvoël.
Recorded by Mr. Marais.
88. Spur-winged Goose, *Plectropterus gambensis* (L.) — Wilde-makou.
A frequent bird in flooded veld.
89. Egyption Goose, *Alopochen aegyptiacus* (L.) — Kolgans.
Apparently two pairs resident along the Park's stretch of river. They come on to the veld too, especially when it is flooded.
90. African Shelduck, *Tadorna cana* (Gmel.) — Bergeend.
Recorded in August, 1965.
96. Yellow-billed Duck, *Anas undulata undulata* Dub. — Geelbekeend.
Occurs both on the river and on the flooded veld.
95. African Black Duck, *Anas sparsa sparsa* Eyton — Swarteend.
At least one pair resident along the river.
97. Red-billed Teal, *Anas erythroryncha* Gmel. — Rooibek-eendjie.
Two on flooded veld, September, 1966.
105. Secretary-bird, *Sagittarius serpentarius* (Miller) — Sekretarisvoël.
One pair includes the Park in its territory. Open veld. Breeds.

106. Cape Vulture, *Gyps coprotheres* (Forst.) — Gewone Asvoël.
Two seen by Mr. Marais, soaring over the Park, 3rd August, 1966.
130. Black-shouldered Kite, *Elanus caeruleus caeruleus* (Daud.) — Blouvalkie.
At least one pair resident and breeding.
143. Martial Eagle, *Spizaetus bellicosus* (Daud.) — Breëkop-arend.
An immature recorded in the Park by Mr. John Martin, Sept. 1966.
Adult seen by Mr. Marais and author, February 1967.
149. African Sea Eagle, *Haliaeetus vocifer vocifer* (Daud.) — Visarend.
Fairly often noted along the river.
155. Steppe Buzzard, *Buteo buteo vulpinus* (Gloger) — Bruin Jakkalsvoël.
Occasional in open veld and riverside bush in summer.
160. African Goshawk, *Accipiter tachiro tachiro* (Daud.) — Afrikaanse Sperwer.
Probably only a straggler from the mountain forest but seen both Mr. Marais and by me.
169. Black Harrier, *Circus maurus* (Temm.) — Witkruis-valk.
First recorded, 5th September, 1964 (*Ostrich*, 36, 1965, p. 90).
Not frequently seen in open veld.
114. Lanner, *Falco biarmicus* Temm. — Slegvalk.
Seen over the Park several times in January, 1962. No subsequent records.
123. Rock Kestrel, *Falco tinnunculus rupicolus* Daud. — Rooivalkie.
A pair, probably resident. Open veld.
125. Lesser Kestrel, *Falco naumanni naumanni* Fleischer — Klein Rooivalkie.
A single bird, January, 1962. Flocks seen, November, 1966, and February, 1967.
176. Grey-winged Francolin, *Francolinus africanus* Stephens—Bergpatrys.
Not uncommon in open veld, especially on the slopes.
181. Cape Francolin, *Francolinus capensis* (Gmel.) — Kaapse Fisant.
Abundant in riverside scrub, including aloe-growth, and foraging into the nearby veld.
189. Quail, *Coturnix coturnix africana* Temm. & Schleg. — Kwartel.
I first saw it in September, 1966, when there were several in one particular stretch of rather low Renosterbosveld; but Mr. Marais had noted it the previous year and found young chicks.
192. Crowned Guineafowl, *Numida mitrata coronata* Gurney — Tarantal.
At least one covey of genuine wild birds, chiefly found in dense riverside cover but foraging into the more open veld.
210. Moorhen, *Gallinula chloropus meridionalis* (Brehm) — Waterhonder.
One on a backwater at Outuin, February and March, 1967.
216. Stanley Crane, *Anthropoides paradisea* (Licht.) — Bloukraanvoël.
Recorded by Mr. P. Lockhart, October, 1966.

219. Stanley Bustard, *Otis denhami stanleyi* (Gray) — Veldpou.
Probably a migrant, which may breed. Numbers fluctuate considerably and at times it leaves the Park altogether.
225. Black Korhaan, *Afrotis afra afra* (Gmel.) — Swart Korhaan.
I now consider my original estimate of half-a-dozen pairs was a good deal too low and might be doubled.
Essentially a bird of the Coastal Renosterbosveld.
238. Three-banded Plover, *Charadrius tricollaris tricollaris* Vieill — Drieband-Strandlopertjie.
Several pairs along the river; and also occurs on the flooded veld.
242. Crowned Plover, *Vanellus coronatus coronatus* (Bodd.) — Kiewiet.
Up to four visit the grassy area at Lang Elsie's Kraal and that around the house but apparently not resident, though it breeds in the Park.
245. Blacksmith Plover, *Vanellus armatus* (Burch.) — Bontkiewiet.
First seen by Mr. Marais; flooded veld.
250. Ethiopian Snipe, *Capella nigripennis nigripennis* (Bp.) — Afrikaanse Snip.
Noted on flooded veld.
258. Common Sandpiper, *Tringa hypoleucos* L. — Gewone Ruiter.
One on the Breede River, 22nd August, 1961. Probably regular there in summer.
263. Greenshank, *Tringa nebularia* (Gunner.) — Groenpootruiter.
Noted along the Breede River and in flooded veld, between August and January.
270. Black-winged Stilt, *Himantopus himantopus himantopus* (L.) — Rooipoot-elsie.
Two on flooded veld, September, 1966.
274. Water Dikkop, *Burhinus vermiculatus vermiculatus* (Cab.)—Waterdikkop.
At least one pair along the river.
275. Cape Dikkop, *Burhinus capensis capensis* (Licht.) — Dikkop.
Frequently recorded by Mr. Marais; and by me in August, 1965.
276. Burchell's Courser, *Cursorius rufus* Gould — Bloukop-Drawertjie.
One on veld burnt the previous summer, 9th November, 1966.
194. Hottentot Button-Quail, *Turnix hottentotta hottentotta* (Temm.) — Kaapse Kwartel.
Noted three times in open veld.
307. Namaqua Sandgrouse, *Pterocles namaqua furva* Clancey — Kelkiewyn.
Identified in August, 1961 and September, 1966.
311. Rock Pigeon, *Columba guinea phaenota* Gray — Bosduif.
Apparently only a visitor to open veld and cliffs along the river.
312. Rameron Pigeon, *Colmba arquatrix arquatrix* Temm. & Knip — Geelbek-bosduif.
Comes down from the mountain forests in January when the yellow-wood berries are ripe.

314. Red-eyed Dove, *Streptopelia semitorquata semitorquata* (Rüpp.) — Groot Ringduif.
Abundant in riverine bush.
316. Cape Turtle Dove, *Streptopelia capicola capicola* (Sund.) — Tortelduif.
Abundant in riverine bush, foraging also in the open veld.
317. Laughing Dove, *Streptopelia senegalensis senegalensis* (L.) — Rooibosduifie.
Common in riverine bush.
318. Namaqua Dove, *Oena capensis capensis* (L.) — Namaqua-duifie.
Once recorded by Mr. Marais.
321. Emerald-spotted Wood Dove, *Turtur chalcospilos chalcospilos* (Wag!.)— Groenvlekduifie.
I first noted it in November, 1966, but Mr. Marais has heard it not infrequently. Riverine bush.
322. Cinnamon Dove, *Aplopelia larvata larvata* (Temm. & Knip) — Kanelduifie.
Once, in dense riverine cover, August, 1961.
351. Klaas's Cuckoo, *Chrysococcyx klaas klaas* (Steph.) — Meitjie.
One or two males in riverine bush, August and September.
356. White-browed Coucal, *Centropus superciliosus burchelli* Swains. Vleiloerie.
Resident in palmiet and riverside bush.
368. Spotted Eagle Owl, *Bubo africanus* (Temm.) — Gevelte Ooruil.
Found nesting among the rocks on a hillside by Mr. Barnard.
373. Fiery-necked Nightjar, *Caprimulgus pectoralis pectoralis* Cuv. — Suid-Afrikaanse Naguil.
Common, lying up in riverside scrub during the day and hunting over the open veld at night. Found nesting by Mr. Marais.
380. Black Swift, *Apus barbatus barbatus* (P.L. Sclater) — Swart Windswawel.
Parties in August and January.
383. White-rumped Swift, *Apus caffer caffer* (Licht.) — Witkruis Windswawel.
One over the river, January, 1962.
386. Alpine Swift, *Apus melba africanus* (Temm.) — Grootste Windswawel.
Parties noted in August and April.
390. Speckled Coly, *Colius striatus striatus* Gmel. — Gevlekte Muisvoël.
Common in riverside scrub and aloes.
391. Red-faced Coly, *Colius indicus indicus* Lath. — Rooiwang Muisvoël.
As for the preceding.
394. Pied Kingfisher, *Ceryle rudis rudis* (L.) — Bontvisvanger.
Singles on the Breede River, August, 1961, and January, 1962.
395. Giant Kingfisher, *Ceryle maxima maxima* (Pall.) — Reuse Visvanger.
Two or three pairs resident along the Breede River.

397. Malachite Kingfisher, *Alcedo cristata cristata* (Pall.) — Kuifkopvisvanger.
One on a pool near the river, January, 1962.
402. Brown-hooded Kingfisher, *Halcyon albiventris albiventris* (Scop.) —
Bruinkop Visvanger.
In riverine bush, January, 1962 and September, 1966.
418. Hoopoe, *Upupa epops africana* (Bechst.) — Hoephoep.
In riverine bush, August, September and January.
432. Pied Barbet, *Lybius leucomelas namaqua* (W. L. Sclater)—Bonthout-
kapper. Resident, but not numerous, in riverine bush.
445. Ground Woodpecker, *Geocolaptes olivaceus olivaceus* (Gmel.)—Grond-
spegt.
Occasional visitor to rocky areas.
450. Cardinal Woodpecker, *Dendropicos fuscescens fuscescens* (Vieill.) —
Kardinalspegt.
Fairly common in riverside bush.
466. Clapper Lark, *Mirafra apiata algoensis* (Roberts) — Klappertjie.
Common in open veld.
463. Thick-billed Lark, *Calendula magnirostris magnirostris* (Steph.) — Dik-
beklewerkie.
Fairly common in open veld.
475. Long-billed Lark, *Certhilauda curvirostris curvirostris* Roberts — Longbek-
lewerkie.
Identified in August, 1965.
488. Red-capped Lark, *Calandrella cinerea cinerea* (Gmel.) — Rooikoplewer-
kie.
Common where the vegetation is really short, as after veld burning.
493. European Swallow, *Hirundo rustica rustica* L. — Europese Swawel.
Occasional over open veld in summer.
495. White-throated Swallow, *Hirundo albigularis albigularis* Strickl. — Wit-
keel Swawel.
One or two pairs near the river, January, 1962.
498. Pearl-breasted Swallow, *Hirundo dimidiata dimidiata* Sund. — Perelbors-
swaweltjie.
One, with White-throated Swallows, January, 1962.
502. Greater Striped Swallow, *Hirundo cucullata* Sund. — Groot Streep-
swawel.
Noted over the river, January, 1962; nest-building in lavatory at Resting
Place, September, 1966.
506. Rock Martin, *Hirundo rupestris andersonii* Sharpe & Wyatt — Kraan-
swawel.
One over veld, September, 1966.

509. African Sand Martin, *Riparia paludicola paludicola* (Vieill.) — Oewerswawel.
Common along the Breede River; sometimes hunts over the veld away from the river too.
510. Banded Martin, *Riparia cincta cincta* (Bodd.) — Gebande Oewerswawel
One over open veld, September, 1966.
511. Black Roughwing, *Psalidoprocne pristoptera holomelas* (Sund.) — Saagvlerkswawel.
One over the river, January, 1962.
517. Fork-tailed Drongo, *Dicrurus adsimilis adsimilis* (Bechst.) — Mikstert-byevanger.
Rare; riverine bush.
522. Pied Crow, *Corvus albus* Müll. — Bontkraai.
Once noted by Mr. Marais.
523. Black Crow, *Corvus capensis capensis* Licht. — Swartkraai.
At least one pair resident, nesting in eucalyptus trees near the Ranger's house; but flocks also visit the open veld in the Park.
524. White-necked Raven, *Corvus albicollis* Lath. — Ringhalskraai.
A pair visit the Park, chiefly near the river.
525. Grey Tit, *Parus afer afer*, Gmel. — Pietjougou.
Noted in riverine bush, January, 1962 and August, 1965.
543. Cape Bulbul, *Pycnonotus capensis* (L.) — Kaapsetiptol.
Abundant in riverine bush and aloes.
551. Sombre Bulbul, *Andropadus importunus importunus* (Vieill.) — Willie.
As for the preceding.
553. Olive Thrush, *Turdus olivaceus olivaceus* L. — Kaapse Lyster.
Rare; riverine bush.
570. Familiar Chat, *Cercomela familiaris familiaris* (Steph.) — Spekvreter.
One or two pairs on hill slopes.
572. Sickie-winged Chat, *Cercomela sinuata sinuata* (Sund.) — Vlaktelyster.
Found breeding in the open veld, September, 1966.
576. Stonechat, *Saxicola torquata torquata* (L.) — Bontrokkie.
Common in open veld.
581. Cape Robin, *Cossypha caffra caffra* (L.) — Janfrederik.
Abundant in riverine bush and aloes.
583. Karoo Robin, *Erythropygia corphaeus corphaeus* (Less.) — Slangverklikker.
Sparingly distributed in open veld where the vegetation is not too short.
606. African Marsh Warbler, *Acrocephalus baeticatus baeticatus* (Vieill.) — Klein Rietsanger.
Once in reeds by the Breede River, August, 1961.

599. Willow Warbler, *Phylloscopus trochilus* (L.) — Hofsvanger.
Noted at the Rest Place on two days in November.
609. Swamp Warbler, *Bradypterus babaeculus babaeculus* (Vieill.) — Kaapse Vleisanger.
Fairly common in reeds beside the river.
618. Grassbird, *Sphenoeacus afer afer* (Gmel.) — Grasvoël.
Several in long grass and Proteas in kloofs, September, 1966.
621. Long-billed Crombec, *Sylvietta rufescens diverga* Clancey — Krombek.
Fairly common in riverine bush.
622. Bar-throated Apalis, *Apalis thoracica capensis* Roberts — Bandkeel-Klein-jantjie.
Abundant in riverine bush.
631. Spotted Cloudscraper, *Cisticola textrix textrix* (Vieill.) — Gevlekte Klop-kloppie.
Common in open veld, especially where the vegetation is short.
637. Neddicky, *Cisticola fulvicapilla silberbaueri* (Roberts) — Neddikkie.
Common in the better grown Renosterbosveld and on the outskirts of the riverine bush and aloes.
638. Grey-backed Cisticola, *Cisticola subruficapilla subruficapilla* (Smith) — Gysrug-tingtingkie.
Abundant in open veld and probably the most numerous bird in the Park.
646. Levillant's Cisticola, *Cisticola tinniens tinniens* (Licht.) — Vleitingtingkie.
Fairly common in swampy ground near the river.
651. Karoo Prinia, *Prinia maculosa maculosa* (Bodd.) — Karoo langstert-tingtingkie.
Fairly common in open places in riverine bush and in the better grown parts of the Renosterbosveld.
655. Dusky Flycatcher, *Muscicapa adusta adusta* (Boie)—Donker Vlieëvanger.
Noted in riverine bush, February, 1967.
First noted in August, 1965 and September, 1966; quite common in one
658. Tit-babbler, *Parisoma subcaeruleum subcaeruleum* (Vieill.) — Tjeriktik.
Rare; riverine bush.
665. Fiscal Flycatcher, *Sigelus silens silens* (Shaw) — Fiskaalvlieëvanger.
Common in riverine bush.
672. Cape Batis, *Batis capensis capensis* (L.) — Bosbontrokkies.
As for the preceding.
682. Paradise Flycatcher, *Terpsiphone viridis granti* Roberts — Paradys-vlieëvanger.
Several in riverine bush, January, 1962. Probably a breeding summer visitor.

686. Cape Wagtail, *Motacilla capensis capensis* L. — Kwikkie.
Several pairs along the river.
692. Tawny Pipit, *Anthus novaeseelandiae rufuloides* Roberts — Koester.
Common in open veld, especially where the grass is short.
694. Plain-backed Pipit, *Anthus leucophrys leucophrys* Vieill.—Donker-koester.
Fairly common in open veld, August and September, but rare in January and not identified at all in April.
703. Orange-throated Longclaw, *Macronyx capensis capensis* (L.) — Kalkoentjie.
Two or three pairs in open veld.
707. Fiscal, *Lanius collaris collaris* L. — Laksman.
Sparingly distributed in open veld and the opener parts of the riverine bush and aloes.
709. Boubou, *Laniarius ferrugineus ferrugineus* (Gmel.) — Waterfiskaal.
Common in riverine bush and aloes.
713. Tchagra, *Tchagra tchagra tchagra* (Vieill.) — Tjagralaksman.
Common in riverine bush and aloes.
722. Bokmakierie, *Malaconotus zeylonus zeylonus* (L.) — Bokmakierie.
Common in Renosterbosveld, less so in riverine bush and aloes.
733. European Starling, *Sturnus vulgaris vulgaris* L. — Europese Spreeu.
Identified in August, 1965, and September, 1966.
735. Wattled Starling, *Creatophora cinerea cinerea* Mensch. — Sprinkaanvoël.
A single seen by Mr. Marais with Pied Starlings.
745. Red-winged Starling, *Onychognathus morio morio* (L.) — Rooivlerkspreeu.
Flocks visit the Park to feed on the aloe blossoms in August.
746. Pied Starling, *Spreo bicolor* (Gmel.) — Witgatspreeu.
Breeds in a sandy donga at Lang Elsie's Kraal, and present near the river in flocks.
749. Long-tailed Sugarbird, *Promerops cafer* (L.) — Suikervoël.
First noted in August, 1965 and September, 1966, quite common in one Protea-grown kloof.
751. Malachite Sunbird, *Nectarinia famosa famosa* (L.) — Jangroentjie.
Common and widespread in all types of bush but especially where there are Proteas or Ericas in flower.
753. Orange-breasted Sunbird, *Nectarinia violacea* (L.) — Oranjebors-suikerbekkie.
Now established in strength in the Protea and Erica areas.
760. Lesser Double-collared Sunbird, *Nectarinia chalybea chalybea* (L.) — Klein Rooibors-suikerbekkie.
Abundant in riverine bush and aloes; occasional in open veld.
775. Cape White-eye, *Zosterops virens capensis* Sund. — Kaapse Glasogie.
Abundant in riverine bush.

786. Mossie, *Passer melanurus melanurus* (Müller) — Mossie.
Fairly common in riverine bush.
799. Cape Weaver, *Ploceus capensis capensis* (L.) — Kaapse Wewer.
Abundant in riverine bush and aloes.
808. Red Bishop, *Euplectes orix orix* (L.) — Rooi Keffervink.
A single seen by Mr. Marais.
810. Yellow Bishop, *Euplectes capensis capensis* (L.) — Kaapse Kaffervink.
Well established in the Protea-clad kloofs.
835. Swee Waxbill, *Estrilda melanotis melanotis* (Temm.) — Swie.
Common in riverine bush in August, 1961, but not seen again until two identified in September, 1966. It should be added that the dense area of bush favoured by these birds in 1961 could not be investigated in 1966 owing to the presence of Buffalo cows with calves; but no trace of the birds was found there in August, 1965.
843. Common Waxbill, *Estrilda astrild astrild* (L.) — Rooibekkie.
Common in reeds and riverine bush.
844. Quail Finch, *Ortygospiza fuscocrissa digressa* Clancey — Kwartelvinkie.
Heard passing over in April, 1965 and September, 1966.
846. Pin-tailed Whydah, *Vidua macroura* (Pall.) — Koningrooibekkie.
A full-plumaged male by the river, August, 1961, and others seen, September, 1966.
857. Cape Canary, *Serinus canicollis canicollis* (Swains.) — Kaapse Kanarie.
Evidently a seasonal visitor; fairly common in riverine bush and well-grown open veld in August, 1961, and September, 1966, but not recorded on other visits.
863. Bully Canary, *Serinus sulphuratus sulphuratus* (L.) — Geel-dukbeksysie.
Rather rare inhabitant of riverine bush.
865. White-throated Seed-eater, *Serinus albogularis albogularis* (Smith) — Witkeel-dikbeksysie.
Sparingly distributed in riverine bush and aloes.
866. Yellow Canary, *Serinus flaviventris quintoni* Winterbottom — Geelsysie.
A few in Renosterbosveld on all visits from April, 1965.
967. Streaky-headed, Seed-eater, *Serinus gularis humilis* (Bp.)—Streepkopsysie.
Common in riverine bush and aloes.
873. Cape Bunting, *Emberiza capensis cinnamomea* (Licht.) — Streepkoppie.
Widely distributed and fairly common.
871. Lark-like Bunting, *Emberiza tahapisi slogetti* (Macd.) — Vaal Streepkoppie.
A party of six or seven on bare ground, 10th November, 1966.