

AVIAN MARINE VAGRANTS TO THE KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

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The Kruger National Park, Republic of South Africa, is situated within the descending plains adjoining the Mozambique coast to the east and the Drakensberg Mountain escarpment to the west. Due to its situation the Park is also periodically subjected to stormy weather conditions, with varying intensities of rainfall and winds, accompanying the summer cyclones in the Mozambique Channel.

In the wake of the cyclone Danae which passed through the Park during January 1976 an arctic skua *Stercorarius parasiticus* was collected to the north of the Orpen rest camp (Shiyanemane). During the same period at least six sooty terns *Sterna fuscata* were also reported between Satara and Skukuza. Sooty terns had also been recorded during an earlier cyclone. Near the Shingwidzi River causeway a Caspian tern *Hydroprogne caspia* was also reported though this sighting requires further verification.