



North Elevation
188°S (T) ● 33°58'4"S, 22°31'3"E ±4

Avifauna Compliance Statement

REMOVAL AND REPLACEMENT OF VARIOUS
EXISTING CULVERTS AND PIPES IN THE GARDEN
ROUTE, WESTERN CAPE

1 REPORT INFORMATION

PROJECT TITLE: PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AT CULVERTS AND PIPES
PRECINCT, BITOU LOCAL MUNICIPALITY, WESTERN CAPE
PROVINCE

STUDY NAME: Garden Route Avifauna- Bitou

COMPILED BY: MORA Ecological Services (Pty) Ltd
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SACNASP Reg. No.: 009509

DATE OF REPORT: 13 November 2023

REPORT STATUS: Draft Report

REPORT NUMBER: GRAV/MORA_002

2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Background

Enviroworks has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed removal and replacement of the existing culvert and pipes on site five, (DR 1791).

Following the results of the screening tool report obtained from the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment, about three bird species were identified as being of high sensitivity. This triggered the need for an avifaunal assessment.

However, due to the existing infrastructure and proposed infrastructure, an avifaunal compliance statement was deemed necessary for this project.

MORA Ecological Services (Pty) Ltd was appointed as the independent specialist to conduct the avifauna assessment.

Fieldwork was conducted on 29th of October 2023.

Findings

- No sensitive avifaunal species were observed.
- No severe avifaunal impacts are expected from the proposed project.

Conclusions

- The proposed removal and replacement of culverts and pipes will be located on already disturbed areas, and anticipated avifaunal impacts are predicted to be Low.
- None of the identified sensitive bird species from DFFE screening tool report were observed on site.
- No habitats within the proposed culverts upgrade footprint are considered sensitive.

Recommendations

- Contractors should adhere to the recommendations provided within the EMPr.
- Construction activities should be restricted to the project area.
- No fires should be made around the site.
- It is the opinion of the specialist that this application be considered.

3 REVIEW & APPROVAL

Name	Title	Signature	Date
Mokgatla Molepo	Avifaunal Specialist & Author (MORA Ecological Services)		13/11/2023
Megan Smith	Environmental Assessment Practitioner (EnviroWorks)		

4 ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The authors would like to acknowledge and thank Enviroworks and other role players for their assistance with project information.

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5 BACKGROUND

5.1 Project overview

Envioworks has been appointed as the Environmental Assessment Practitioner to conduct the Environmental Impact Assessment process for the proposed removal and replacement of the existing culvert and pipes on site five. Three bird species which are considered highly sensitive were identified by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) Screening Tool Report.

MORA Ecological Services (Pty) Ltd was then appointed as the independent specialist to conduct a brief avifauna survey and compile a compliance statement.

Fieldwork was conducted on the 29th of October 2023.

5.2 Purpose of the Study

The purpose of the study was to determine any sensitive bird species and their habitats around the proposed removal and replacement of culverts and pipes.

5.2 Assumptions and Limitations

The assumptions and limitations for the assessment are as follows:

- All information regarding the proposed project and related activities as provided by the Client are taken to be accurate.
- Fieldwork was limited to the proposed project footprint.

6 Desktop Assessment

All previous specialist studies, DFFE Screening Tool Report and SABAP2 data related to the project were utilised as background information for the study, prior to conducting the fieldwork.

Sensitive avifaunal species that are likely to occur around the site (DFFE Screening Tool, 2023).

Table 1: Highly Sensitive Species

Species	Common Name	Red Data	Likelihood of occurrence
<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	Crowned Eagle	Vulnerable	Low
<i>Neotis denhami</i>	Denham's Bustard	Vulnerable	Very Low
<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	African Marsh Harrier	Endangered	Low

6.1 Study Site Location

The site is located on Stofpad road, within Bitou Local Municipality in the Western Cape (Figure 1). In terms of conservation plan the site falls within Critical Biodiversity Area, (CBA).

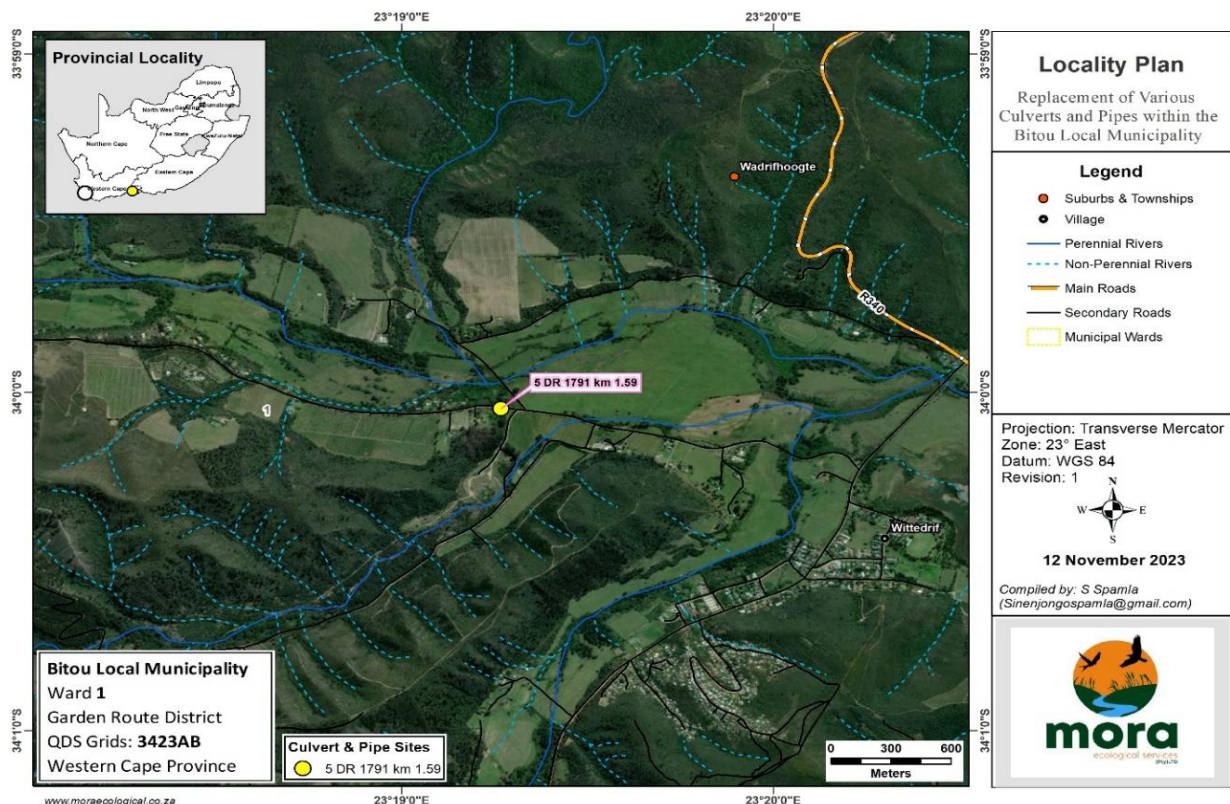


Figure 1: Study Site.

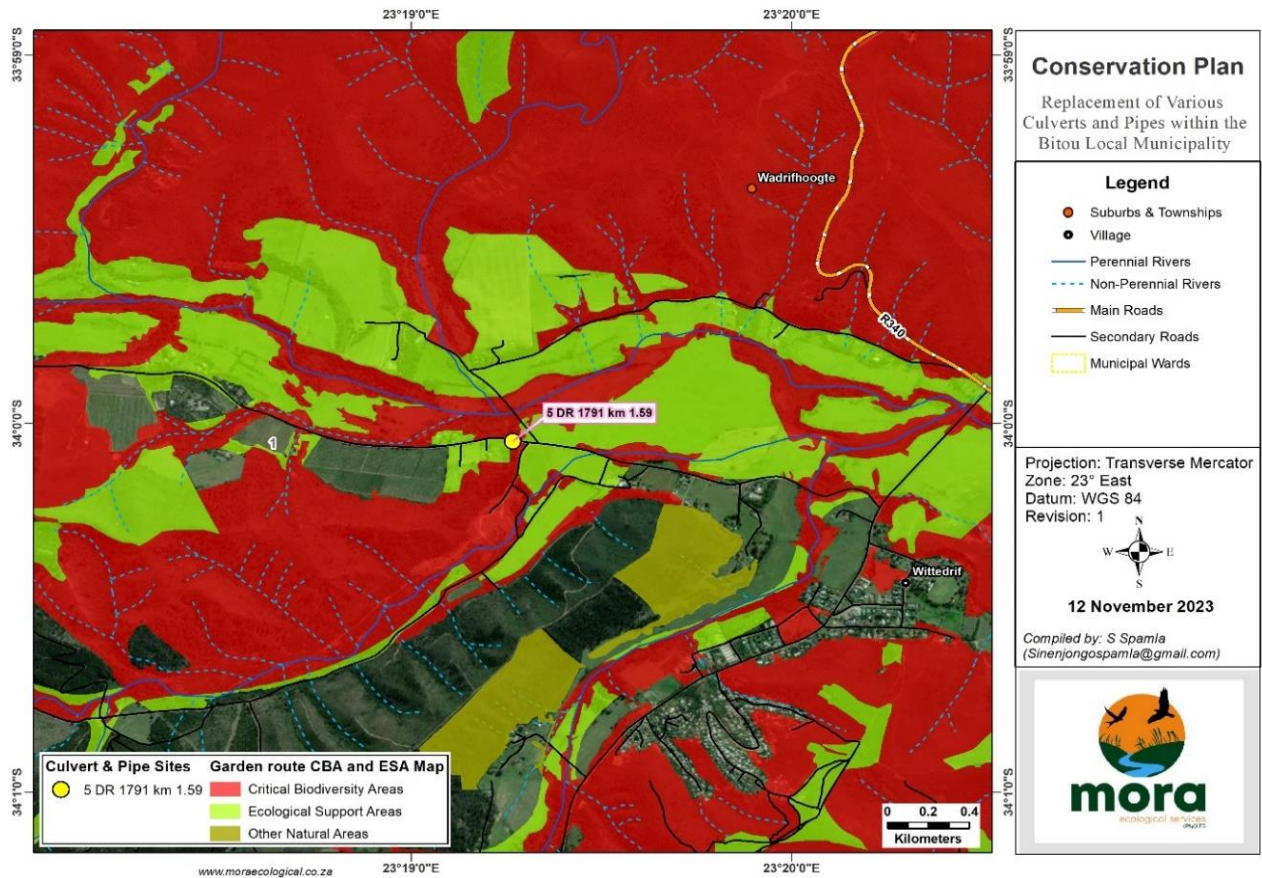


Figure 2: Conservation plan map.

6.2 Fieldwork

On site fieldwork was conducted in October 2023. Random walk through was undertaken around the existing and proposed culvert and pipes.

Duration: 01 hour

Season: Late Spring

The site falls within pentad 3400_2315 of SABAP2.

During the fieldwork, several bird species were observed and recorded (Table 2).

Table 2. Recorded species on site.

Common group	Common species	Genus	Species
Boubou	Southern	<i>Laniarius</i>	<i>ferrugineus</i>
Goose	Egyptian	<i>Alopochen</i>	<i>aegyptiaca</i>
Bulbul	Cape	<i>Pycnonotus</i>	<i>capensis</i>
Crow	Pied	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>albus</i>

Dove	Cape Turtle	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>capicola</i>
Dove	Laughing	<i>Spilopelia</i>	<i>senegalensis</i>
Dove	Red-eyed	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>semitorquata</i>
Dove	Rock	<i>Columba</i>	<i>livia</i>
Cuckoo	Black	<i>Cuculus</i>	<i>clamosus</i>
Cuckoo	Red-chested	<i>Cuculus</i>	<i>solitarius</i>
Ibis	African Sacred	<i>Threskiornis</i>	<i>aethiopicus</i>
Ibis	Hadada	<i>Bostrychia</i>	<i>hagedash</i>
Flycatcher	Blue-mantled Crested	<i>Trochocercus</i>	<i>cyanomelas</i>

7 CONCLUSIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

The conclusions of the study and fieldwork are as follows:

7.1 Conclusions

- The proposed culverts and pipes upgrades will be located on already disturbed areas, and anticipated avifaunal impacts are predicted to be Very Low.
- None of the identified sensitive bird species from DFFE screening tool report were observed on site.
- No habitats within the proposed culverts and pipes upgrade footprint are considered sensitive.

7.2 Recommendations

- The proposed Culverts and pipes upgrades will be in already disturbed areas, and anticipated avifaunal impacts are predicted to be Very Low.
- None of the identified sensitive bird species from DFFE screening tool report were observed on site.
- No habitats within the proposed Culverts and pipes upgrade footprint are considered sensitive.
- Contractor should adhere to the recommendations provided within the EMPr.
- Construction activities should be restricted to the project area.
- No fires should be made around the site.
- It is the opinion of the specialist that this application be considered.

8 REFERENCES

- Low, A.B. & G. Rebelo (eds). 1998. Vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. Dept. Environmental Affairs and Tourism, Pretoria.
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- Mucina, L. & M.C. Rutherford (eds). 2006. The vegetation of South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland. SANBI, Pretoria.
- Raimondo D., L. von Staden, W. Fonden, JE Victor, NA. Helme, RC. Turner, DA. Kamundi, PA. Manyama (eds). 2009. Red List of South African Plants. Strelitzia 25. SANBI. Pretoria.
- van Wyk, A-E. & S. Malan. 1988. Field guide to the wild flowers of the Witwatersrand and Pretoria region. Struik, Cape Town.

9 EXPERTISE OF THE SPECIALIST

9.1 Expertise of Author

Qualifications & Expertise in: Avifauna, Terrestrial Ecology, Aquatic Ecology.

- MSc); BSc Hons, BSc.
- Registered with South African Council for Natural Scientific Professions (SACNASP) since 1991. Registration number: 009509
- Deputy Chairperson for SACNASP Professional Advisory Committee.
- Member of Birds and Renewable Energy Specialist Group
- Has conducted hundreds of field investigations and compiled over 50 of technical specialist reports for EIAs,
- Projects involved in include power lines, roads, quarries, housing developments, mines, solar and wind farms.

9.2 Declaration

In terms of the National Environmental Management Act, 1998 (Act No. 107 of 1998) (NEMA) and the 2014 NEMA Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (as amended on 7 April 2017).

I, **Mokgatla Molepo**, do hereby declare that I:

- Act as an independent specialist in compiling this report;
- Do not have any financial interests, or stand to gain in any way in the undertaking of this activity, other than remuneration for work performed;
- Do not have, nor will have, any vested interest in the proceeding activity or project;
- Have no, neither will engage in, conflicting interests in the undertaking of this activity;
- Undertake to disclose, to the competent authority, any material information that has, or may have, the potential to influence the decision of the competent authority or the objectivity of any report, plan or document required; and
- Will provide competent authority access to my information regarding the report and investigations, whether such information is favorable to the applicant or not.

10 APPENDICES

10.1 SABAP2

Ref	Common_group	Common_species	Genus	Species
722		Bokmakierie	<i>Telophorus</i>	<i>zeylonus</i>
72		Hamerkop	<i>Scopus</i>	<i>umbretta</i>
637		Neddicky	<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>fulvicapilla</i>
105		Secretarybird	<i>Sagittarius</i>	<i>serpentarius</i>
622	Apalis	Bar-throated	<i>Apalis</i>	<i>thoracica</i>
431	Barbet	Black-collared	<i>Lybius</i>	<i>torquatus</i>
672	Batis	Cape	<i>Batis</i>	<i>capensis</i>
808	Bishop	Southern Red	<i>Euplectes</i>	<i>orix</i>
810	Bishop	Yellow	<i>Euplectes</i>	<i>capensis</i>
709	Boubou	Southern	<i>Laniarius</i>	<i>ferrugineus</i>
546	Brownbul	Terrestrial	<i>Phyllastrephus</i>	<i>terrestris</i>
543	Bulbul	Cape	<i>Pycnonotus</i>	<i>capensis</i>
717	Bushshrike	Olive	<i>Chlorophoneus</i>	<i>olivaceus</i>
219	Bustard	Denham's	<i>Neotis</i>	<i>denhami</i>
154	Buzzard	Common	<i>Buteo</i>	<i>buteo</i>
155	Buzzard	Forest	<i>Buteo</i>	<i>trizonatus</i>
152	Buzzard	Jackal	<i>Buteo</i>	<i>rufofuscus</i>
627	Camaroptera	Green-backed	<i>Camaroptera</i>	<i>brachyura</i>
863	Canary	Brimstone	<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>sulphurata</i>
857	Canary	Cape	<i>Serinus</i>	<i>canicollis</i>
858	Canary	Forest	<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>scotops</i>
866	Canary	Yellow	<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>flaviventris</i>
570	Chat	Familiar	<i>Oenanthe</i>	<i>familiaris</i>
638	Cisticola	Grey-backed	<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>subruficapilla</i>
646	Cisticola	Levaillant's	<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>tinniens</i>
634	Cisticola	Wing-snapping	<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>ayresii</i>
629	Cisticola	Zitting	<i>Cisticola</i>	<i>juncidis</i>
212	Coot	Red-knobbed	<i>Fulica</i>	<i>cristata</i>
50	Cormorant	Reed	<i>Microcarbo</i>	<i>africanus</i>
47	Cormorant	White-breasted	<i>Phalacrocorax</i>	<i>lucidus</i>
4131	Coucal	Burchell's	<i>Centropus</i>	<i>burchellii</i>
203	Crake	Black	<i>Zapornia</i>	<i>flavirostra</i>
216	Crane	Blue	<i>Grus</i>	<i>paradisea</i>
523	Crow	Cape	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>capensis</i>
522	Crow	Pied	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>albus</i>
350	Cuckoo	African Emerald	<i>Chrysococcyx</i>	<i>cupreus</i>
344	Cuckoo	Black	<i>Cuculus</i>	<i>clamosus</i>
352	Cuckoo	Diederik	<i>Chrysococcyx</i>	<i>caprius</i>
351	Cuckoo	Klaas's	<i>Chrysococcyx</i>	<i>klaas</i>

343	Cuckoo	Red-chested	<i>Cuculus</i>	<i>solitarius</i>
516	Cuckooshrike	Grey	<i>Cebilepyris</i>	<i>caesius</i>
52	Darter	African	<i>Anhinga</i>	<i>rufa</i>
316	Dove	Cape Turtle	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>capicola</i>
317	Dove	Laughing	<i>Spilopelia</i>	<i>senegalensis</i>
314	Dove	Red-eyed	<i>Streptopelia</i>	<i>semitorquata</i>
940	Dove	Rock	<i>Columba</i>	<i>livia</i>
517	Drongo	Fork-tailed	<i>Dicrurus</i>	<i>adsimilis</i>
95	Duck	African Black	<i>Anas</i>	<i>sparsa</i>
103	Duck	Maccoa	<i>Oxyura</i>	<i>maccoa</i>
104	Duck	White-backed	<i>Thalassornis</i>	<i>leuconotus</i>
100	Duck	White-faced Whistling	<i>Dendrocygna</i>	<i>viduata</i>
96	Duck	Yellow-billed	<i>Anas</i>	<i>undulata</i>
149	Eagle	African Fish	<i>Haliaeetus</i>	<i>vocifer</i>
139	Eagle	Booted	<i>Hieraaetus</i>	<i>pennatus</i>
138	Eagle	Long-crested	<i>Lophaetus</i>	<i>occipitalis</i>
368	Eagle-Owl	Spotted	<i>Bubo</i>	<i>africanus</i>
58	Egret	Great	<i>Ardea</i>	<i>alba</i>
59	Egret	Little	<i>Egretta</i>	<i>garzetta</i>
61	Egret	Western Cattle	<i>Bubulcus</i>	<i>ibis</i>
114	Falcon	Lanner	<i>Falco</i>	<i>biarmicus</i>
113	Falcon	Peregrine	<i>Falco</i>	<i>peregrinus</i>
707	Fiscal	Southern	<i>Lanius</i>	<i>collaris</i>
655	Flycatcher	African Dusky	<i>Muscicapa</i>	<i>adusta</i>
682	Flycatcher	African Paradise	<i>Terpsiphone</i>	<i>viridis</i>
680	Flycatcher	Blue-mantled Crested	<i>Trochocercus</i>	<i>cyanomelas</i>
665	Flycatcher	Fiscal	<i>Melaenornis</i>	<i>silens</i>
10004	Goose	Domestic	<i>Anser</i>	<i>anser</i>
89	Goose	Egyptian	<i>Alopochen</i>	<i>aegyptiaca</i>
88	Goose	Spur-winged	<i>Plectropterus</i>	<i>gambensis</i>
160	Goshawk	African	<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>tachiro</i>
618	Grassbird	Cape	<i>Sphenoeacus</i>	<i>afer</i>
6	Grebe	Little	<i>Tachybaptus</i>	<i>ruficollis</i>
551	Greenbul	Sombre	<i>Andropadus</i>	<i>importunus</i>
192	Guineafowl	Helmeted	<i>Numida</i>	<i>meleagris</i>
287	Gull	Kelp	<i>Larus</i>	<i>dominicanus</i>
171	Harrier-Hawk	African	<i>Polyboroides</i>	<i>typus</i>
69	Heron	Black-crowned Night	<i>Nycticorax</i>	<i>nycticorax</i>
55	Heron	Black-headed	<i>Ardea</i>	<i>melanocephala</i>
54	Heron	Grey	<i>Ardea</i>	<i>cinerea</i>
57	Heron	Purple	<i>Ardea</i>	<i>purpurea</i>
441	Honeyguide	Scaly-throated	<i>Indicator</i>	<i>variegatus</i>
418	Hoopoe	African	<i>Upupa</i>	<i>africana</i>

81	Ibis	African Sacred	<i>Threskiornis</i>	<i>aethiopicus</i>
83	Ibis	Glossy	<i>Plegadis</i>	<i>falcinellus</i>
84	Ibis	Hadada	<i>Bostrychia</i>	<i>hagedash</i>
228	Jacana	African	<i>Actophilornis</i>	<i>africanus</i>
123	Kestrel	Rock	<i>Falco</i>	<i>rupicolus</i>
402	Kingfisher	Brown-hooded	<i>Halcyon</i>	<i>albiventris</i>
395	Kingfisher	Giant	<i>Megaceryle</i>	<i>maxima</i>
394	Kingfisher	Pied	<i>Ceryle</i>	<i>rudis</i>
130	Kite	Black-winged	<i>Elanus</i>	<i>caeruleus</i>
129	Kite	Yellow-billed	<i>Milvus</i>	<i>aegyptius</i>
243	Lapwing	Black-winged	<i>Vanellus</i>	<i>melanopterus</i>
245	Lapwing	Blacksmith	<i>Vanellus</i>	<i>armatus</i>
242	Lapwing	Crowned	<i>Vanellus</i>	<i>coronatus</i>
488	Lark	Red-capped	<i>Calandrella</i>	<i>cinerea</i>
703	Longclaw	Cape	<i>Macronyx</i>	<i>capensis</i>
509	Martin	Brown-throated	<i>Riparia</i>	<i>paludicola</i>
506	Martin	Rock	<i>Ptyonoprogne</i>	<i>fuligula</i>
210	Moorhen	Common	<i>Gallinula</i>	<i>chloropus</i>
392	Mousebird	Red-faced	<i>Urocolius</i>	<i>indicus</i>
390	Mousebird	Speckled	<i>Colius</i>	<i>striatus</i>
373	Nightjar	Fiery-necked	<i>Caprimulgus</i>	<i>pectoralis</i>
521	Oriole	Black-headed	<i>Oriolus</i>	<i>larvatus</i>
172	Osprey	Western	<i>Pandion</i>	<i>haliaetus</i>
312	Pigeon	African Olive	<i>Columba</i>	<i>arquatrix</i>
311	Pigeon	Speckled	<i>Columba</i>	<i>guinea</i>
692	Pipit	African	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>cinnamomeus</i>
10877	Pipit	Nicholson's	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>nicholsoni</i>
694	Pipit	Plain-backed	<i>Anthus</i>	<i>leucophrys</i>
237	Plover	Kittlitz's	<i>Charadrius</i>	<i>pecuarius</i>
238	Plover	Three-banded	<i>Charadrius</i>	<i>tricollaris</i>
102	Pochard	Southern	<i>Netta</i>	<i>erythrophthalma</i>
4139	Prinia	Karoo	<i>Prinia</i>	<i>maculosa</i>
712	Puffback	Black-backed	<i>Dryoscopus</i>	<i>cubla</i>
189	Quail	Common	<i>Coturnix</i>	<i>coturnix</i>
524	Raven	White-necked	<i>Corvus</i>	<i>albicollis</i>
589	Robin	White-starred	<i>Pogonocichla</i>	<i>stellata</i>
581	Robin-Chat	Cape	<i>Cossypha</i>	<i>cafra</i>
578	Robin-Chat	Chorister Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha</i>	<i>dichroa</i>
412	Roller	European	<i>Coracias</i>	<i>garrulus</i>
511	Saw-wing	Black (Southern Africa)	<i>Psolidoprocne</i>	<i>pristoptera</i>
867	Seedeater	Streaky-headed	<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>gularis</i>
90	Shelduck	South African	<i>Tadorna</i>	<i>cana</i>

94	Shoveler	Cape	<i>Spatula</i>	<i>smithii</i>
855	Siskin	Cape	<i>Crithagra</i>	<i>totta</i>
250	Snipe	African	<i>Gallinago</i>	<i>nigripennis</i>
786	Sparrow	Cape	<i>Passer</i>	<i>melanurus</i>
784	Sparrow	House	<i>Passer</i>	<i>domesticus</i>
4142	Sparrow	Southern Grey-headed	<i>Passer</i>	<i>diffusus</i>
159	Sparrowhawk	Black	<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>melanoleucus</i>
158	Sparrowhawk	Little	<i>Accipiter</i>	<i>minullus</i>
85	Spoonbill	African	<i>Platalea</i>	<i>alba</i>
181	Spurfowl	Cape	<i>Pternistis</i>	<i>capensis</i>
188	Spurfowl	Red-necked	<i>Pternistis</i>	<i>afer</i>
740	Starling	Black-bellied	<i>Notopholia</i>	<i>corusca</i>
733	Starling	Common	<i>Sturnus</i>	<i>vulgaris</i>
745	Starling	Red-winged	<i>Onychognathus</i>	<i>morio</i>
576	Stonechat	African	<i>Saxicola</i>	<i>torquatus</i>
80	Stork	White	<i>Ciconia</i>	<i>ciconia</i>
749	Sugarbird	Cape	<i>Promerops</i>	<i>cafer</i>
772	Sunbird	Amethyst	<i>Chalcomitra</i>	<i>amethystina</i>
771	Sunbird	Collared	<i>Hedydipna</i>	<i>collaris</i>
758	Sunbird	Greater Double-collared	<i>Cinnyris</i>	<i>afer</i>
765	Sunbird	Grey	<i>Cyanomitra</i>	<i>veroxii</i>
751	Sunbird	Malachite	<i>Nectarinia</i>	<i>famosa</i>
760	Sunbird	Southern Double-collared	<i>Cinnyris</i>	<i>chalybeus</i>
493	Swallow	Barn	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>rustica</i>
502	Swallow	Greater Striped	<i>Cecropis</i>	<i>cucullata</i>
503	Swallow	Lesser Striped	<i>Cecropis</i>	<i>abyssinica</i>
498	Swallow	Pearl-breasted	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>dimidiata</i>
495	Swallow	White-throated	<i>Hirundo</i>	<i>albigularis</i>
380	Swift	African Black	<i>Apus</i>	<i>barbatus</i>
387	Swift	African Palm	<i>Cypsiurus</i>	<i>parvus</i>
386	Swift	Alpine	<i>Tachymarptis</i>	<i>melba</i>
378	Swift	Common	<i>Apus</i>	<i>apus</i>
385	Swift	Little	<i>Apus</i>	<i>affinis</i>
383	Swift	White-rumped	<i>Apus</i>	<i>caffer</i>
97	Teal	Red-billed	<i>Anas</i>	<i>erythrorhyncha</i>
275	Thick-knee	Spotted	<i>Burhinus</i>	<i>capensis</i>
1105	Thrush	Olive	<i>Turdus</i>	<i>olivaceus</i>
4133	Turaco	Knysna	<i>Tauraco</i>	<i>corythaix</i>
686	Wagtail	Cape	<i>Motacilla</i>	<i>capensis</i>
611	Warbler	Knysna	<i>Bradypterus</i>	<i>sylvaticus</i>
604	Warbler	Lesser Swamp	<i>Acrocephalus</i>	<i>gracilirostris</i>
609	Warbler	Little Rush	<i>Bradypterus</i>	<i>baboecala</i>

612	Warbler	Victorin's	<i>Cryptillas</i>	<i>victorini</i>
671	Warbler	Yellow-throated Woodland	<i>Phylloscopus</i>	<i>ruficapilla</i>
843	Waxbill	Common	<i>Estrilda</i>	<i>astrild</i>
825	Waxbill	Swee	<i>Coccoxygia</i>	<i>melanotis</i>
799	Weaver	Cape	<i>Ploceus</i>	<i>capensis</i>
803	Weaver	Southern Masked	<i>Ploceus</i>	<i>velatus</i>
1172	White-eye	Cape	<i>Zosterops</i>	<i>virens</i>
846	Whydah	Pin-tailed	<i>Vidua</i>	<i>macroura</i>
419	Wood Hoopoe	Green	<i>Phoeniculus</i>	<i>purpureus</i>
448	Woodpecker	Knysna	<i>Campethera</i>	<i>notata</i>
452	Woodpecker	Olive	<i>Dendropicos</i>	<i>griseocephalus</i>