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THE AVIFAUNA OF THE SOUTHERN SECTOR OF THE GASHAKA-GUMTI  
GAME RESERVE, NIGERIA

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INTRODUCTION

Gashaka-Gumti Game Reserve, covering nearly 7000 km<sup>2</sup>, in southeastern Gongola State, is Nigeria's largest wildlife reserve. With its spectacular mountain scenery, abundant water, and varied savanna and forest fauna, the reserve has great potential for tourism and has been recommended for national park status.

Development of the reserve began in the early 1970's, but slackened after 1980, and the area was never officially gazetted. Recently the State Government has taken a renewed interest in the reserve. While working for the Nigerian Conservation Foundation (NCF), I conducted reconnaissance surveys of the reserve in March 1986 and during October 1987 to April 1988. I made observations on the avifauna while conducting these surveys.

This paper concerns the birds of the southern portion of the reserve, which lies in the Southern Guinea Savanna Zone. At high elevations there are montane forests containing birds of restricted range in West Africa (Stuart 1986).

STUDY AREA

The study area of about 4500 km<sup>2</sup> (Fig. 1) covers the reserve southwest of the Yim River. To the north the climate is drier, mountains and forests diminish in size, and differences in the avifauna become apparent, with the presence of several Sudan Savanna Zone species.

The Southwestern Plains (300-400 m elevation) are relatively flat. The remainder of the study area is very mountainous. The Hendu Highlands (including Chappals Hendu, Shirgu, Tale and Yumti) in the centre of the area reach 2020 m on Chappal Hendu. At 2419 m, Gangirwal is Nigeria's highest mountain. It is located in the Gotel Mountains, which are strung along the Cameroon border.

Climate varies considerably with altitude. Annual rainfall may exceed 2500 mm on the western escarpment of Gangirwal, owing to the high altitude and exposure to prevailing wet season winds (Tuley & Jackson 1971). At 1500 m elevation on the Mambilla Plateau, annual rainfall is about 2000 mm. Between 1966 and 1987 in the lowlands at Serti, rainfall averaged 1653 mm per year (Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources records). The wet season is from mid-March to mid-November and the dry season lasts four months, during which the Harmattan wind blows from the northeast. Night-time temperatures may fall below 5°C in the highlands in December. Day-time highs in the lowland areas reach 40°C in March.

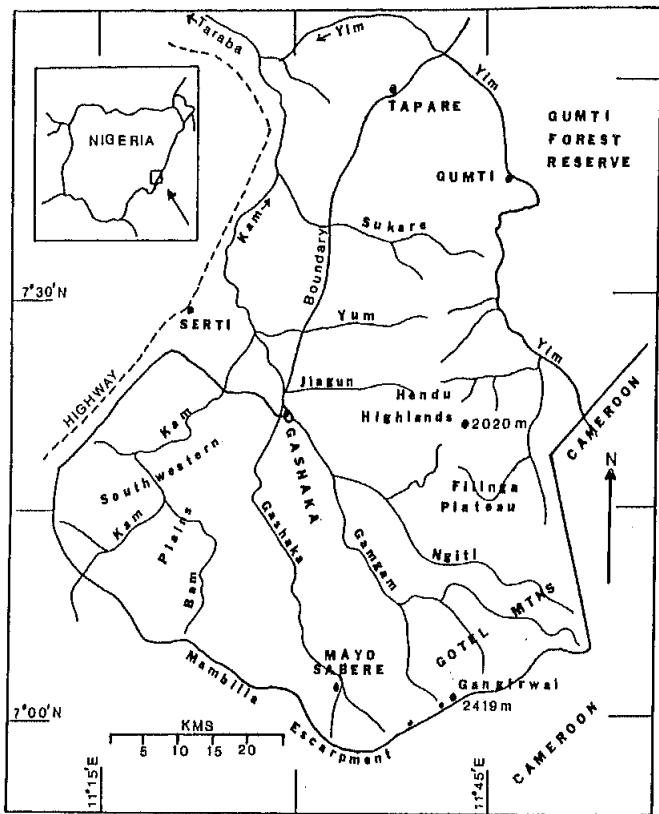


Figure 1. The southern sector of Gashaka-Gumti Game Reserve, Gongola State, Nigeria.

Most of the study area is underlain by gneiss, migmatite and granite. Basalt is found on the Filinga Plateau, and volcanic plugs occur near Gangirwal and Chappal Waddi. Broad river valleys such as the Yim, Gamgam and Kam are covered with alluvium. Ferruginous soils occur in the lowlands; lithosols and humic ferrisols are found in the highlands.

Based on differences in vegetation and bird-life, the study area is divided into two altitudinal regions. The lowland region encompasses the area up to an elevation of 1350 m. The highlands above this elevation include the Filinga Plateau (1350-1450 m), the escarpment of the Mambilla Plateau south of Mayo Sabere sub-plateau (generally up to 1500 m, but to 1700 m at Leinde Fadali), Chappal Waddi and its flanks (1400-1800 m), Gangirwal, and the Hendu Highlands (generally above 1500 m) as well as many other mountains not visited during this study. In this highland region occur montane grasslands and montane forests of considerable ornithological interest (Stuart 1986).

Characteristic savanna trees of lowland areas include Lophira lanceolata, Uapaca togoensis, Hymenocardia acida and Crossopteryx febrifuga. Dense gallery forests occur along the smaller streams. Common trees along the larger rivers include Brachyategia eurycoma, Erythrophileum africanum and Syzygium guineense. Montane forests occur on steep slopes of the Gotel and Golorde mountains, the Hendu Highland block and the Mambilla escarpment. Montane grasslands occur on level places at these high elevations. The grasslands on the Filinga Plateau differ from those at higher altitude in having a wide scattering of shrubs. Tuley & Jackson (1971) and Dowsett-Lemaire (1989) have described the vegetation of montane forests and grasslands of Gangirwal, Chappal Waddi and the Mambilla escarpment at Leinde Fadali.

The mammalian fauna is typical of the Guinea Savanna Zone, except that Giant Eland, Elephant and Black Rhinoceros are extinct in the region. The Adamawa Mountain Reedbuck is found in highlands above 1350 m. Forest mammals include Crested Mona, Chimpanzee, Yellow-backed Duiker and Giant Forest Hog.

## RESULTS

The Appendix contains an annotated list of the birds of Gashaka-Gumti Game Reserve southwest of the Yim River. Rainy season observations are lacking for May to August. Migratory status is indicated where known. Thirty-four Palearctic migrants are listed, and there are 63 species exhibiting local movements or which are intra-African migrants. Twenty-nine montane forest species from Stuart's (1986) list of 53 montane forest bird species of the Cameroon Highlands occur in the reserve (indicated by an asterisk in the Appendix). Six species on the list occur in Nigeria only on montane grasslands (indicated by a double asterisk in the Appendix).

I recognize five bird habitats in the Appendix. Human habitation sites (V) include villages, farmlands and cattle camps. Grasslands (G) include floodplain prairies, upland grasslands with shrubs on the Filinga Plateau, and montane grasslands without shrubs. Forests (F) include forest-edge, gallery forest, escarpment forest and montane forest. Wetlands (W) include rivers, ponds and marshes. Savanna Woodland (S) comprises the rest of the study area.

Hall (1977) listed 171 species of bird from lowland areas near Serti. His observations were made September-December 1974, and he included a few records made by Gray (1971) for April 1971. during a month-long expedition to Gangirwal and Mambilla Plateau in March 1988, Ash et al. (1989) listed 48 bird species from the highlands and two from the lowlands of the study area. During my study, 256 species were recorded in the reserve, 110 of them for the first time. The reserve list stands at 331 species.

## DISCUSSION

Chappal Waddi, Gangirwal and Chappal Delam stretch along the southeast border of the reserve for over 20 km with unbroken elevation over 1600 m. The Mambilla Plateau to the southwest seldom exceeds 1600 m in height. Chappals Hendu and Shirgu in the centre of the reserve also cover a large area above 1600 m. Gangirwal and Hendu are separated by 33 km and by the basin of the Gamgam River. There is another high peak (2460 m) 60 km to the northeast of Gangirwal in Cameroon, and Mt Oku (3011 m) is 165 km to the southwest. These high peaks bear isolated montane forests where several bird species of restricted range in West Africa are found.

Stuart (1986) listed 53 montane forest birds found in the Cameroon Highlands. Only four of these were previously known from the Mambilla Plateau and Chappal Waddi. In March 1986 I found four montane forest birds on Chappal Hendu: Yellow-breasted Boubou Laniarius atroflavus, Cameroon Mountain Robin-chat Cossypha isabellae, Brown-backed Cisticola Cisticola hunteri and Northern Double-collared Sunbird Nectarinia preussi. This last species occurs down to 1400 m on Filinga Plateau. The Orange-tufted Sunbird Nectarinia bouvieri is another montane forest species (not included by Stuart) which is widespread in the Hendu Highlands. These and several other montane forest birds were found on Gangirwal in December 1987. Following the expedition of Ash et al. (1989) the list of montane forest birds from Gangirwal and Chappal Waddi stands at 29 species (30 with Orange-tufted Sunbird).

Six species listed are montane grassland birds in Nigeria, although they have races living at lower altitudes elsewhere in Africa. Stonechat Saxicola torquata, Yellow Bishop Euplectes capensis and Black-crowned Waxbill Estrilda nonnula are widespread from Filinga Plateau and the Hendu Highlands to Gangirwal and the Mambilla escarpment. Blue-breasted Bee-eater Merops variegatus and Baglafaecht Weaver Ploceus baglafaecht are known from the Mambilla escarpment to Gangirwal. The Stout Cisticola Cisticola robusta is presently known in the region only from Gangirwal (Ash et al. 1989).

Fox Kestrel Falco alopex, Freckled Nightjar Caprimulgus tristigma, White-crowned Cliff-chat Myrmecocichla coronata and Red-winged Starling Onychognathus morio are all frequently found in rocky areas of montane grasslands. Elgood (1982) had not recorded the Red-winged Starling south of the Benue River.

Seven Rüppell's Griffons Gyps rueppellii were at cliffs on the north spur of Gangirwal during Marsh 1988. A Marsh Harrier Circus aeruginosus was seen over the Mambilla escarpment 17 Apr 1988. I saw a Common Buzzard Buteo buteo soaring at 2000 m along Gangirwal's north escarpment on 1 Dec 1987. Four Secretary birds Sagittarius serpentarius were seen on Chappal Hendu 20 Feb 1973 (Menefy 1973).

There were over 200 Common Swifts Apus apus soaring over the western cliffs of Gangirwal late November and early December 1987. A flock of five European Bee-eaters Merops aplaster was recorded on Gangirwal in mid-April 1975 (Barnwell 1975). I found four Verreaux's Turacos Tauraco macrorhynchus verreauxi at 1500 m elevation in gallery forest on Chappal Tale (west of Shirgu) in March 1986. I found them at similar elevations on Chappals Shirgu and Hendu in February 1987. They have not yet been recorded from lowland areas in the reserve. I flushed a pair of White-throated Francolins Francolinus albogularis from a grassy knoll on Filinga Plateau in mid-March 1986.

Flocks of Red-winged Grey Warblers Dryocichla incana in company with other small birds were feeding in Brachystegia eurycoma trees along the Yim River near Gumti village in February 1988. Not listed by Elgood (1982), this appears to be a new record for Nigeria. A Brown-crowned Tchagra Tchagra australis in tree savanna along the Upper Yim River in mid-February 1988 appears to be a northward extension of range from the Obudu area. Several sightings of Bearded Barbat Lybius dubius in the reserve show a southward extension of range from the Benue River (Elgood 1982). Many of the birds reported by Ash et al. (1989) were new records for Nigeria, extensions of range westward from the Cameroon Highlands.

Perhaps owing to lack of sufficient suitable habitat, few bird species in families Ardeidae, Ciconiidae, Anatidae, Rallidae and Charadriidae occur within the study area. The African Black Duck Anas sparsa, previously known in Nigeria only from the Mambilla Plateau (Hall 1976), was seen several times on the Kam, Gashaka and Yim rivers and on a small stream on the flanks of Chappal Waddi at 1400 m.

Some raptors reported by Hall (1977) as being frequent or common, seemed to be much less common in 1986-88. A case in point is the Bateleur Terathopius scaudatus, reportedly seen regularly in 1974, but distinctly uncommon during my study.

Hall (1977) listed Swainson's Spectacled Weaver Ploceus nigricollis brachypterus as being uncommon in the Serti area, and I observed a pair on the Yim River in February 1987. Ash et al. (1989) report the Uganda Spectacled Weaver Ploceus ocularis as being quite common in the Serti area and on the flanks of Chappal Waddi. One wonders if both species occur side by side, or if there has been a misidentification?

#### CONSERVATION RECOMMENDATIONS

The border survey of the reserve should be completed, and the area gazetted initially as a State Game Reserve. Although it has been proposed to create a National Park here, there are many problems related to the village enclaves and livestock raising being carried out on the

montane grasslands. Another alternative might be to create a Biosphere Reserve in which the needs of the human population in the area could be met at the same time that the flora, fauna, soils, etc were being protected. It is essential that this reserve receive protection soon, to ensure that the environment is not further degraded and that bird (and other wildlife) habitats are conserved. I would also recommend that a qualified ornithologist spend a rainy season in the reserve to develop a more complete list of birds and a more comprehensive understanding of local migrations.

#### SUMMARY

A list of 331 bird species has been compiled for the southern sector of Gashaka-Gumti Game Reserve in eastern Nigeria. This includes a number of species not previously recorded in Nigeria. Most of the observations were made in the dry season. Bird habitats in the reserve include lowland Guinea savanna and gallery forest, escarpment forest, montane forest and grassland, and wetlands. Twenty-nine montane forest bird species having limited distributions in West Africa are now known from Gangirwal (2419 m), Nigeria's highest mountain.

#### RÉSUMÉ

Une liste de 331 espèces d'oiseaux a été compilée pour le secteur sud de la Réserve de Faune de Gashaka-Gumti au Nigéria oriental. La plupart des observations a été fait en saison sèche. Les habitats de la réserve dont disposent les oiseaux comprennent: savane guinéenne et galerie forestière à basse altitude, escarpements boisés, forêt et prairies de montagne, et zones humides. Vingt-neuf espèces d'oiseaux de forêt de montagne (de distribution limitée en Afrique de l'Ouest) sont désormais connues du Gangirwal (2419 m), la montagne la plus haute du Nigeria.

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

My work in the Gashaka region was carried out while I was serving as Research Officer for the Nigerian Conservation Foundation. I am also indebted to the wildlife officers of Gongola State with whom I worked during the Gashaka reconnaissance. For their criticisms, comments and numerous suggestions for improvements of this paper, I would express my appreciation to Drs John Ash and Frank Walsh.

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APPENDIX. Annotated list of birds recorded in the Gashaka-Gumti Game Reserve, Nigeria, south of the Yim River

Montane forest species as recognized by Stuart (1986) are indicated by an asterisk (\*) following the species name. Bird species inhabiting montane grasslands in Nigeria, but having races living at lower elevations elsewhere in Africa, are indicated by a double asterisk (\*\*).

- Status: R = resident  
 AM = intra-African migrant  
 LM = local migrant  
 PM = Palaearctic migrant.
- Elevation: 1 = lowland - below 1350 m  
 2 = montane - above 1350 m.
- Habitat: V = human habitation (farm, homestead, village)  
 W = wetland (river, pond, marsh)  
 S = savanna (woodland, tree)  
 G = grassland (floodplain prairie, montane)  
 F = forest (gallery, escarpment, montane, forest-edge).
- Abundance: r = rare (one record per several years)  
 u = uncommon (several records per year)  
 f = frequent (seen often but not every day)  
 c = common (1-10 may be seen/heard per day)  
 a = abundant (11-100 may be seen/heard per day)  
 v = very abundant (>100 may be seen/heard per day).
- Remarks: H = recorded by Hall (1977)  
 A = reported by Ash *et al.* (1989)  
 X = reported by this study  
 Filinga = Filinga Plateau (1350-1450 m)  
 Sabere = Mayo Sabere sub-plateau (1200-1350 m)  
 Mambilla = Mambilla escarpment (1350-1500 m) and Leinde  
 Fadali (1350-1700 m)  
 Hendu = Chappals Hendu, Shirgu, Tale & Yumti (1400-  
 2020 m)  
 Waddi = Chappal Waddi (1500-1800 m and flanks down to  
 1400 m)  
 Gangirwal = Gangirwal (1900-2419 m and flanks down to  
 1400 m).



Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks	
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4
<i>Accipiter badius</i>	LM	12	SF			f	f	u	u			HX, after late Nov
<i>Accipiter ovampensis</i>	LM	1	S						u			H
<i>Melierax metabates</i>	LM	2	SF									X, Gangirwal 87
<i>Melierax gabar</i>	LM	12	SG					u	u			HX
<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>	R	1	FS									X
<i>Buteo rufipennis</i>	LM	2	S									X, Mambilla 87
<i>Buteo auguralis</i>	LM	12	SG									HX, after mid-Nov
<i>Buteo buteo</i>	PM	2	G									X, Waddi 87
<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	R/LM	1	S	f								HX
<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	-	1	S									H
<i>Hieraaetus spilogaster</i>	-	1	S									X, Ngiti Valley 86
<i>Hieraaetus (dubius) ayresii</i>	-	2	FS									A, Mambilla 88
<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	R	2	F									A, Gangirwal, Waddi 88
<i>Aquila rapax</i>	LM	1	S									H, after early Dec
<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>	-	2	G									X, Filinga 86
<i>Milvus migrans</i>	AM	12	VSG									X, dry season visitor
<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	-	1	S									X, Gangam Valley 86
<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	LM	2	G									X, male Gangirwal 88
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	PM	2	G									X, pair Filinga 86
<i>Falco tinnunculus</i>	-	12	SG									X, perhaps visitor?
<i>Falco alopex</i>	R	2	G			f	f	f	f			X, Yumti, Gangirwal 88
<i>Sagittarius serpentarius</i>	-	2	G									X, 4 Hendu 73 (text)
<i>Francolinus albogularis</i>	R	2	G									X, pair Filinga 86
<i>Francolinus bicalcaratus</i>	R	12	S									X, up to 2100 m
<i>Francolinus squamatus</i>	R	12	F									X
<i>Numida meleagris</i>	R	1	F									X
<i>Guttera edouardii</i>	R	1	F									X, Gangam and Ngiti

Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks		
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4	
<i>Crex egregia</i>	IM	1	W		r								X, pair Gashaka 87
<i>Limnocolax flavirostra</i>	R	1	W							r			X, pair Gashaka 88
<i>Sarothrura rufa</i>	-	1	W								r		A, pair Serti 88
<i>Actophilornis africana</i>	R	1	W								u		X, few, lower Yim 88
<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>	LM	1	W		f	f							X, Yim, Kam, Gashaka
<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	-	1	W		C	C							X, Mayo Sabere 87
<i>Tringa glareola</i>	PM	1	W							u			X
<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	PM	1	W							u			X, Kam, Gashaka 88
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	PM	1	W		C					f			X
<i>Cursorius temminckii</i>	-	2	G							f			X, Hendu, Mambilla
<i>Glareola cinerea</i>	LM	1	W								f		X, Yim 88
<i>Turnix sylvatica</i>	LM	1	SV							r			X, pair Tapare 88
<i>Columba guinea</i>	R	12	VSE		C					C			X
<i>Columba (arquatrix) sjostedti*</i>	R	2	F							C			A, Gangirwal 88
<i>Columba (Alopelia) larvata*</i>	R	2	F							C			A, Gangirwal 88
<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	R	12	FS		a	a				a			X, up to 1800 m
<i>Streptopelia vinacea</i>	LM	1	S		f	C				C			HX, after early Oct
<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>	R/LM	12	V		C	C				C			HX
<i>Turtur tympanistris</i>	R	12	V		C	C				C			X, Kam, Shirgu, Waddi
<i>Turtur afer</i>	R	1	S		a	a				a			HX, up to 1200 m
<i>Treron australis</i>	R	12	F							a			HX, Shirgu, Mambilla
<i>Treron waalia</i>	R	12	S		f	f				r			HX, up to 1600 m
<i>Poicephalus senegalus</i>	R	1	VSE		u	u				u			HX
<i>Agapornis pullaria</i>	R	1	S		u	u				u			HX, Flock 40 Gumti 88
<i>Tauraco persa</i>	R	12	F		u	u				f			X
<i>Tauraco macrohynchus verreauxi</i>	R	2	F		u	u				f			X, Tale, Shirgu 1500 m
<i>Tauraco leucolophus</i>	R	12	F		u	u				f			HX

Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks	
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4
<i>Musophaga violacea</i>	R	12	F	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	X
<i>Crimifer piscator</i>	R	1	FS	f	f	c	c	c	c	c	c	HX
<i>Clamator glandarius</i>	-	1	S									H
<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	AM	12	F									X, Hendu, Kam, Yim
<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	AM	1	F	f	f							HX, absent Nov-Jan?
<i>Cuculus gularis</i>	AM	12	S	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	HX, after mid-Nov
<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	IM	12	FS	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	HX, wet season visitor
<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	IM	1	S	f	f							H, wet, depart mid-Oct
<i>Ceuthochores aereus</i>	R	2	F	f	f							X, 1400 m Waddi 88
<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	R	12	SWV	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	HX
<i>Tyto alba</i>	R	1	VS	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	X, nest Serti Nov 87
<i>Ciccaba woodfordii</i>	R	1	F									X, Jiagun 86
<i>Otus leucotis</i>	R	1	F									X, Ngiti Valley 86
<i>Bubo africanus</i>	R	1	SG									X, prefers highlands
<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	R	1	F	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	X, Jiagun 86, Yim 88
<i>Caprimulgus tristigma</i>	R	2	G	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	X, Yumti, Gangirwal
<i>Macrodipteryx longipennis</i>	IM	12	S	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	HX
<i>Apus apus</i>	PM	12	GSFW	a	f	c	c	c	c	c	c	HX, passage Sep 74
<i>Apus aequatorialis</i>	-	12										AX, uncommon lowlands
<i>Apus caffer</i>	R	12	GWSF	c	c	c	a	a	a	a	a	HX, highlands, Serti R
<i>Apus affinis</i>	R	1	V	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	HX
<i>Apus horus</i>	-	2	F	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	A, Mambilla 88
<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	R	12	VFS	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	HX, near palms
<i>Colinus striatus</i>	R	12	VSS	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	a	HX, prefers cultivation
<i>Apaloderma narina</i>	R	1	F									X, Jiagun 86, Yum 88
<i>Apaloderma vittatum*</i>	R	2	F									A, Waddi, Gangirwal 88



Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks		
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4	
<i>Buccanodon duchaillui</i>	R	2	F					f					A, Waddi, Gangirwal 88
<i>Pogoniulus coryphaeus*</i>	R	2	F					c					A, widespread Gotel Mtn
<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	R	12	FS					u					HX, up to 1400 m
<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>	R	12	F					c					X, up to 2000 m
<i>Indicator maculatus</i>	-	1	F					e					H, netted 74
<i>Indicator indicator</i>	R	12	S					c					HX, up to 1500 m
<i>Indicator minor</i>	R	1	S					i					HX
<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	PM	1	S					u					H
<i>Jynx ruficollis</i>	-	1	S					r					H
<i>Campepthera punctuligera</i>	R	1	FS					f					HX
<i>Campepthera nivosa</i>	R	1	F					u					HX, Yim 88, (Gray) 71
<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	R	12	FS					u					HX, up to 1700 m
<i>Dendropicos poecilolaemus</i>	-	1	S					r					H, netted 74
<i>Dendropicos obsoletus</i>	R	1	S					u					HX
<i>Mesopicos goertae</i>	R	12	S					r					HX, up to 1500 m
<i>Mesopicos Ellioti*</i>	R	2	F					c					AX, Waddi, Gangirwal
<i>Smithornis capensis</i>	-	2	F					r					A, Leinde Fadali 88
<i>Mirafra africana</i>	-	2	G					f					A, Waddi, Gangirwal
<i>Mirafra rufocinnamomea</i>	R	2	G					c					X, widespread
<i>Mirafra nigricans</i>	-	2	G					u					X, Filinga 86
<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	PM	12	SGW					f					HX, after late Sep
<i>Hirundo smithi</i>	R	1	W					f					HX, Sabere, Gashaka
<i>Hirundo aethiopia</i>	R	12	VG					c					HX, small villages
<i>Hirundo semirufa</i>	LM	2	SG					c					X, escarpment tops
<i>Hirundo senegalensis</i>	-	12	SG					u					HX, to 1700 m Shirgu
<i>Hirundo daurica</i>	LM	2	S					r					X, Mambilla, Hendu
<i>Hirundo abyssinica</i>	LM	1	SW					f					HX, after late Nov

Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks		
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4	
<i>Hirundo griseopyga</i>	LM	2	G			I							X, flock Mambilla 87
<i>Hirundo (spilodera) preussi</i>	-	1	WS										A, colony bridge Serti
<i>Hirundo fuligula</i>	R	2	G		f								X, widespread
<i>Delichon urbica</i>	PM	1	S		u								H, passage 74
<i>Psalidoprocne pristopectera petiti</i>	R/LM	12	SG			a							HX, lowland wet season
<i>Psalidoprocne obscura</i>	R/LM	12	SG			a							X
<i>Motacilla flava</i>	PM	12	GS			a							
<i>Motacilla alba vidua</i>	R	1	W		f	a							HX, absent Feb Hendu
<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	-	2	G			f							HX, rocky streams
<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>	R	2	G			u							X, (Barnwell Apr 75)
<i>Anthus similis</i>	R	2	G			u							X, Mambilla, Filinga
<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	R	2	G			c							AX, widespread
<i>Anthus cervinus</i>	PM	12	G			c							HX, frequent lowlands
<i>Macronyx croceus</i>	PM	1	G			c							A, Gangirwal 88
<i>Prionops plumata</i>	R	2	GS			f							X, widespread
<i>Nilaus afer</i>	R	12	S		f	f							HX, up to 1500 m
<i>Dryoscopus gambensis</i>	LM	1	S			u							H, after mid-Nov
<i>Tchagra australis</i>	LM	1	S		u	u							HX, after mid-Oct
<i>Tchagra senegala</i>	R	1	S			u							X, upper yim 88
<i>Laniarius ferrugineus</i>	R	12	S		f	f							
<i>aethiopicus</i>													
<i>Laniarius barbarus</i>	R	12	P		f	c							HX, up to 1600 m
<i>Laniarius atroflavus*</i>	R	12	P		c	c							X, up to 1400 m
<i>Laniarius fulleborni*</i>	R	2	P		c	c							X, widespread
<i>Malaconotus multicolor</i>	R	2	P		c	c							AX, Gangirwal, Waddi
<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	R	1	SF		I	I							X
<i>Lanius gubernator</i>	R	12	S		f	f							X
	-	1	S		I	I							H, one regularly 74



Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance												Remarks
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3	4					
<i>Lanius collaris</i>	R	12	SV		u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	X, Sabere, Mambilla	
<i>Lanius senator</i>	PM	2	G		f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	X, Waddi 87	
<i>Oriolus auratus</i>	LM	1	S		u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	HX, after mid-Nov	
<i>Dicrurus ludwigii</i>	R	2	F												X, Filinga 86	
<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	R	12	S		f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	HX	
<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	R	2	SS												X, upland rocky areas	
<i>Lamprotornis splendidus</i>	R	12	SF												X, Gashaka, Hendu	
<i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i>	R	1	S												H <sub>r</sub> (Gray) 71	
<i>Lamprotornis chloropterus</i>	-	1	S												H, netted 74	
<i>Lamprotornis chalcurus</i>	LM	1	S		u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	HX, dry season visitor	
<i>Lamprotornis chalcurus</i>	LM	12	S		c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	HX, dry season visitor	
<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	LM	12	SF		f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	HX, uplands on cattle	
<i>Buphagus africanus</i>	R	12	SG												HX, dry season lowlands	
<i>Corvus albus</i>	R	12	SGV												X, near Gashaka 86	
<i>Coracina pectoralis</i>	R	1	S												X	
<i>Campephaga phoenicea</i>	LM	12	F												A, three sightings Waddi	
<i>Campephaga petiti</i>	-	2	F												HX	
<i>Pycnonotus barbatus</i>	R	12	FV		c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	c	X, widespread	
<i>Andropadus virens</i>	R	2	F												A, Waddi 88, netted	
<i>Andropadus montanus</i>	R	2	F												AX, widespread Gotel Mtn	
<i>Andropadus tephrolaemus</i> *	R	2	F												HX	
<i>Chlorocichla flavicollis</i>	R	1	F		f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	f	HX	
<i>Chlorocichla simplex</i>	R	1	F		u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	HX	
<i>Phyllastrephus scandens</i>	R	1	F												X	
<i>Phyllastrephus scandens</i>	R	2	F												A, widespread Gotel Mtn	
<i>Saxicola rubetra</i>	PM	12	S		u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	u	HX, after mid-Sep	
<i>Saxicola torquata salax</i> **	R	2	GS												X, widespread	
<i>Oenanthe oenanthe</i>	PM	12	GS												X, more common uplands	

Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks		
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4	
<i>Oenanthe bottae</i>	LM	2	G		f								X, dry season visitor
<i>Cercomela familiaris</i>	R	2	S										X
<i>Myrmecocichla nigra</i>	R	2	GS										X, widespread
<i>Myrmecocichla coronata</i>	R	2	G										X, Hendu to Tale
<i>Myrmecocichla albifrons</i>	R	12	S										HX, common Hendu
<i>Alethe poliocephala</i>	R	12	F	u									HX, netted 74
<i>Cossypha isabellae*</i>	R	2	F										AX, nest Mar, widespread
<i>Cossypha polioptera</i>	R	2	F										A, netted Isinde F.
<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>	R	2	F										A, Waddi above 1400 m
<i>Cossypha albicapilla</i>	R	12	F										HX, up to 2100 m
<i>Cossypha niveicapilla</i>	R	12	F	u									X, up to 1500 m
<i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i>	PM	1	S										H
<i>Turdus pelios</i>	R	12	F										HX
<i>Turdus gurneyi*</i>	R	2	F										A, widespread Gotal Mtn
<i>Trichastoma (Kakamega) poliothorax*</i>	R	2	F										AX, Gangirwal 87 and 88
<i>Alicippe abyssinica*</i>	R	3	F										A, nesting, netted
<i>Turdoides plebejus</i>	R	12	F										HX
<i>Turdoides reinwardii</i>	R	12	F										HX
<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>	PM	1	W										H, marsh
<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	PM	1	W										HX, passage Oct 74
<i>Acrocephalus arundinaceus</i>	PM	1	W										HX, after late Oct
<i>Acrocephalus boerhavi</i>	-	1	W										H, netted Oct and Nov
<i>Acrocephalus rufescens</i>	R	1	W										H, netted 74, marsh
<i>Bradypterus cinnamomeus*</i>	R	2	FG										A, netted, widespread
<i>Sphenocacus mentalis</i>	R	12	G										HX, Yim, Tale, Fillinga
<i>Hippolais polyglotta</i>	PM	1	S										H, passage, netted







Species	Status	Elev.	Hab.	Month and Abundance							Remarks		
				9	10	11	12	1	2	3		4	
<i>Estrilda nonnulla</i> **	R	12	GS			a	a						X, uncommon lowlands
<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	R	2	G										X, Hendu, Gangirwal
<i>Estrilda bengala</i>	R	12	SV			c	c						HX, lowlands wet
<i>Estrilda larvata</i>	LM	1	V										HX, lowlands wet
<i>Lagonosticta rufopicta</i>	R	12	WS			c	c						HX, marshes, Waddi
<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	R	12	S			c	c						HX
<i>Lagonosticta rubricata</i>	LM	1	S			f	f						H, wet season visitor
<i>Lagonosticta rara</i>	R	1	SW			f	f			u			HX
<i>Lonchura fringilloides</i>	R	1	SV			f	f						H
<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	R	1	SV			f	f						HX