



ZIMBABWE AND MOZAMBIQUE TRIP REPORT

22 NOVEMBER – 6 DECEMBER 2016

By Dylan Vasapolli



Chestnut-fronted Helmetshrike – one of the range-restricted species found on this trip

Overview

This exciting tour takes us into the heart of Zimbabwe and Mozambique. While these countries possess very few truly endemic species, they provide relatively easy access to a number of species that are very difficult elsewhere in their range while remaining 'easy' here. Species such as **Boulder Chat**, **Green-backed Honeybird**, **Cinnamon-breasted Tit**, **White-chested Alethe**, **East Coast Akalat**, **Lowland Tiny Greenbul**, **Chestnut-fronted Helmetshrike**, and **African Pitta**, among others, are all prime examples. The tour begins in Harare, the capital of Zimbabwe, and takes us from the Mashonaland Plateau around the capital down into the Honde Valley before we re-ascend into the famous Eastern Highlands. Following this we drop off the escarpment and into the lowlands of central Mozambique, where we concentrate on the woodlands around Gorongosa National Park, the dry lowland forests of the Zambezi River basin, and the seasonal floodplains near Beira, which brings the tour to an end. With 360 species and an additional 13 species heard only, and with the vast majority of the target species being found and thoroughly enjoyed by the group, the 2016 tour was highly successful.

Day 1, November 22. Arrival in Harare

The tour began with the group's midday arrival at Harare International Airport. After meeting and collecting them we dropped our things off at our hotel and headed to a few sites around the town to begin birding. First off was Monovale Vlei, which was relatively slow, almost certainly due to the incredibly dry nature of the area. Regardless, we enjoyed our first looks at a small party of **Orange-breasted Waxbills**, while a vocal **African Yellow Warbler** sang from the remaining grass and a **Long-crested Eagle** flew noisily overhead. We also worked our way through the numerous *Euplectes* present and were able to turn up the sought-after **Yellow-mantled Widowbird** among many **Red-collared Widowbirds** and **Yellow Bishops**. The only drawback was that the birds were not yet in full breeding plumage, with the males only just beginning to molt into their full colors. We soon moved onward to Marlborough Vlei, where we spent the remainder of the afternoon. The vlei, sadly, is deteriorating, with more and more of it being converted to agricultural use. We were still able to eke out a few more species and enjoyed some good views of **Marsh Owl**, while a number of **Abdim's Storks** moved overhead with a single **Marabou Stork** among them, and a **Swainson's Spurfowl** was seen scampering through some of the agricultural land. **Senegal Coucal** and **Little Rush Warbler** taunted us with their calls but remained out of sight. As the sun set we transferred back to our hotel, where we enjoyed a good dinner.

Day 2, November 23. Harare Birding

We set off early for Christon Bank, just to the north of the city, where we would have our introduction to miombo birding – a notoriously tricky habitat to bird. We were off to a great start with **Boulder Chat** calling as soon as we got out of the car. It wasn't long before we were enjoying a small family group of these highly sought-after birds bouncing around. With the main target for the morning out of the way we set off to explore the rest of the miombo. It was a relatively quiet morning, and we had to work hard for the birds. We were able to get onto a pair of **Cabanis's Buntings**, while **Holub's Golden Weaver**, **Red-faced Cisticola**, and **Little Bee-eater** moved about an open clearing, with **Grey-backed Camaroptera**, **Jameson's Firefinch**, and **Green-winged Pytilia** sticking to the denser edges. We enjoyed a number of different **Sunbirds** around some flowering trees, with **Miombo Double-collared**, **White-bellied**, **Amethyst**, and **Scarlet-chested** all being present. We picked up on the excited calls of **Green-capped Eremomela**, a good sign that a 'bird party' was in the area. There was a bit of life around, and we were able to get onto the eremomelas, along with **Chinspot Batis**, **Lesser Honeyguide**, **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird**, **Ashy Flycatcher**,

Willow Warbler, Black Cuckooshrike, Violet-backed Starling, Black-backed Puffback, Golden-tailed Woodpecker, Bar-throated Apalis, Black-crowned Tchagra, Yellow-throated Petronia, African Yellow White-eye, and the stunning African Paradise-Flycatcher. Some frustrating moments were had when we could hear **Whyte's Barbet** calling but just couldn't locate it. But turning our eyes skyward we were rewarded with a couple of **Wahlberg's Eagles, Common Buzzard,** and a stunning **African Cuckoo-Hawk.** A pair of **Mocking Cliff Chats** greeted us when we arrived back at the car. We made our way back to the hotel for a good brunch, after which we tackled the nearby Haka Game Park for the remainder of the day.



Boulder Chat

This reserve is centered on a large dam, surrounded with excellent miombo woodland, on the outskirts of Harare. We began at the dam with **Squacco** and **Purple Herons, Black Crake, African Jacana, Hamerkop, African Swamphen, Pied Kingfisher, and African Fish Eagle.** We then tackled the surrounding grassy areas and were rewarded with **Croaking, Levillant's, and Zitting Cisticolas, African Wattled Lapwing, Yellow-throated Longclaw, and African Stonechat.** Soon we flushed a bird resembling a pipit and quickly realized that it was a stunning **Rosy-throated Longclaw.** We tried to get some views on the ground, but, try as we might, we were only able to see the bird in flight – despite this we still enjoyed some good views of this sought-after species. Following the longclaw we moved into the miombo. To bird in this habitat one relies almost entirely on locating 'bird parties' and then working those parties for the various specials of the area – always a tricky and difficult prospect. It seemed that luck was on our side, as not long after we entered the miombo I heard the characteristic call of **Southern Hyliota** – another typical party member. We immediately piled out of the car and set off into the woodland after the call. It didn't take long before we were onto the hyliota, and, true enough, the woodland in the vicinity seemed to come alive with birds. A bird flicked in with lots of white in the tail, bearing the typical honeybird shape as well, and as it alighted we reveled in the glory of the incredibly difficult **Green-backed Honeybird.** This is another highly-prized species that is difficult everywhere in its range and always a highlight to come across. Things kept on improving, as a high-pitched whistle revealed the presence of **African Spotted Creeper** – which is probably the

most sought-after miombo special. It was not long before we were enjoying incredible views of this cryptic species as it sat perched on a branch, motionless, just above our heads. The rush of miombo birding simply continued as we followed the party, adding **Miombo Tit**, **Grey Penduline Tit**, **African Golden Oriole**, **Stierling's Wren-Warbler**, **Cardinal Woodpecker**, **Red-headed Weaver**, **White-crested Helmetshrike**, **White-breasted Cuckooshrike**, and **Brubru**, among others. It was a surreal experience and certainly one of the finest bits of miombo birding I've experienced. After our fill of creepers, honeybirds, and the like we headed back to the car and into another section of the reserve. The remainder of the afternoon waned a bit in comparison, but the mammals were probably the main focus, and we enjoyed the likes of impala, blue wildebeest, plains zebra, common eland, and the rather bizarre giraffe. On the birding side, **Senegal Coucal** was heard calling in some rank growth, and the more open areas gave us **Cape Longclaw**, **Purple-crested Turaco**, **Streaky-headed Seedeater**, **African Hoopoe**, **African Grey Hornbill**, and a small group of hirundines and apodids, including **Black Saw-wing**, **Wire-tailed Swallow**, and **Little** and **African Palm Swifts**. A few side-striped jackals greeted us as we left the park after a great visit. Following dinner we enjoyed great looks at an **African Wood Owl** in the hotel grounds.



Green-backed Honeybird

Day 3, November 24. Harare to Aberfoyle

Today was mainly a driving day, transferring to Aberfoyle Lodge, situated in the Honde Valley, via Nyanga. We departed Harare early and made quick progress to Goshu Park, our first stop. Here we were looking for a few of our outstanding miombo specials, and following a quick breakfast we began our search. It was slow initially but soon picked up as we ran into our first party. Among others, **Miombo Rock Thrush** and **Red-faced Crombec** were the first of our target birds to fall, and following a bit of a search we eventually managed to locate **Black-eared Seedeater** and **Whyte's Barbet**. Our time was running out quite rapidly, and we soon had to move onward. Other highlights for the morning included **White-breasted Cuckooshrike**, **Cinnamon-breasted** and **Golden-breasted Buntings**, **Pale Flycatcher**, and **Miombo Tit**, along with **Lizard Buzzard** and **African Cuckoo-Hawk**. We also enjoyed a number of different mammal species, and new species included greater kudu and the impressive sable antelope. Despite some roadside stops for **Black-chested Snake Eagle** and

a stunning male **Pallid Harrier** we made quick progress to Nyanga, arriving shortly after midday. Our main target here was Blue Swallow, with this area being one of the last remaining strongholds for this species. A stop to check a large aerial feeding group of swallows and swifts gave us **Mottled Swift** along with **Greater Striped Swallow** and **Common House Martin**. We soon arrived at the first site for our target, and, after quickly having lunch, began scanning. We were onto a few **Blue Swallows** pretty quickly, although they remained distant; therefore a few of us walked down the valley to get a bit closer. We spent some time with the birds as they worked up and down the valleys in the area, and in the end we had all enjoyed great looks at this enigmatic species. **Roberts's Warbler** played with us, affording us only brief views, while **Wailing Cisticolas** were far less skulking. **Augur** and **Common Buzzard** and **African Pipit** were seen in the area as well, before we headed onwards to Aberfoyle Lodge. The road into the Honde Valley is pretty scenic as it rapidly drops off the escarpment into the lowlands. A quick stop for some scenery shots gave us a number of **White-necked Ravens** and a family of **Lanner Falcons**, one of which put on quite a show. The falcons were soaring above the hillside before one bird closed its wings and entered into a stoop. The bird sped down and moved in between houses in hot pursuit of a **Barn Swallow** but finally gave up and disappeared out of sight. We made one last stop at the Pungwe River, where we had **Mountain** and **African Pied Wagtails** and our first **Olive Sunbird** before arriving at Aberfoyle just at dusk.



Blue Swallow

Day 4, November 25. Honde Valley birding

We started the morning bright and early with a walk around the grounds of the lodge and around parts of the golf course with the local guide, Morgan. An **African Goshawk** began proceedings, displaying over the lodge, and as we set out a side-striped jackal bolted across one of the greens, while a pair of **Half-collared Kingfishers** worked up and down one of the quiet mountain streams. We worked the edge of the forest and enjoyed some good birds, including **Square-tailed Drongo**, **Grey Cuckooshrike**, **Narina Trogon**, **Red-capped Robin-Chat**, **Yellow-bellied Greenbul**, **Black-throated Wattle-eye**, **Dark-backed Weaver**, and our first **Red-throated Twinspot**. We headed further and connected with the resident **Palm-nut Vulture** before moving into another forest patch. First up was **Green**

Twinspot, and we enjoyed some good, but brief looks of a pair of these dainty birds before we rounded a corner, only to be greeted by at least three **African Broadbills** displaying. We got ourselves into a good position, and after a short round of playback we were rewarded with some good views of this prized species. Continuing further we were rewarded with **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird**, **White-eared Barbet**, **Red-backed Mannikin**, **Singing Cisticola**, and a brief **Green-backed Woodpecker** that only a few managed to get onto before it disappeared, while **Scaly-throated Honeyguide** and **Black-fronted Bushshrike** taunted us by staying out of sight. The last notable bird before we arrived back at the lodge was a **Pallid Honeyguide** calling from the top of a massive tree – another very difficult species. Samango monkeys and chacma baboons were noted on the mammalian side as well. Following breakfast we decided to stake out the feeders for a while and enjoyed numbers of **Red-throated Twinspots** and **Red-faced Crimsonwings** after a bit of a wait. During this time a group of **Scarce Swifts** moved overhead.

We resumed birding in the afternoon after a brief spell of rain and headed to the famous Wamba Marsh. We enjoyed **Black-winged Red Bishops** on the way and quickly headed towards the marsh. **Fan-tailed Grassbird** showed well, albeit not for very long, before we managed to get onto a male **Marsh Tchagra** – the “Wamba Bird” as the locals know it and the main special of the marsh. We watched the bird as it moved between the reeds before it vanished from sight, almost as quickly as it had appeared. Then we positioned ourselves to try for the resident **Red-chested Flufftail**. However, try as we might, we just couldn’t lure the bird into the open, but a quick walk down the channel resulted in some good flushed views of a male. At the edges of some nearby forest the good birding continued with first a pair of **Silvery-cheeked Hornbills** putting on a great display for us, followed by good views of the sought-after **Blue-spotted Wood Dove**, **Variable Sunbird**, **African Firefinch**, and **Spectacled Weaver**. At another clearing in the forest a short distance away we managed to eke out **Livingstone’s Turaco**, while a vocal **Buff-spotted Flufftail** called from deep within a thicket. Finally we transferred back to the lodge after another good, successful day.



Half-collared Kingfisher

Day 5, November 26. Honde Valley to Bvumba

We set off to bird the Katiyo Tea Estates area in the morning and made good progress getting there. We were planning on trying to get some of the more typical Mozambique specials out

of the way, leaving us more time to try for the more difficult species while in Mozambique. We arrived at our first birding stop, with some intermittent drizzle not deterring us. Here we enjoyed the likes of **Brown-crowned Tchagra**, **Red-faced** and **Singing Cisticolas**, **Red-billed** and **Jameson's Firefinches**, and **Red-throated Twinspot**, along with **Red-backed** and **Magpie Mannikins**, before deciding to move onward. But, sadly, we were met by a few locals, and after a long discussion, with us being advised not to continue onward, we decided not to continue and began working our way back to the lodge – rather disappointed. A few birding stops were made en route with a couple of **Blue-spotted Wood Doves**, **Tambourine Dove**, and **African Pygmy Kingfisher** being the highlights. Following breakfast we started our trip to the Bvumba, where we would be for the next three nights. A last stop was made on the way, and here we had a large flock of **Mottled Swifts** along with **African Harrier-Hawk**. After a quick supply run in Mutare, along with lunch, we headed into the mist-clad Bvumba. We arrived at the legendary Seldomseen Cottages in the early afternoon and after checking in set out on a walk around the grounds. The weather was not great, with bits of drizzle moving through every now and again. We did quite well, however, despite the challenging conditions, and enjoyed a good introduction to the forest birds of the area, along with a few of the specials. **Cape Batis**, **White-tailed Crested Flycatcher**, **Chirinda Apalis**, **Livingstone's Turaco**, **Stripe-cheeked Greenbul**, **Cape Robin-Chat**, **Olive Thrush**, and **African Dusky Flycatcher** showed well, while **Orange Ground Thrush**, **White-starred Robin**, and **Yellow-bellied Waxbill** showed briefly, with only a few folks getting onto them. **Barratt's Warbler** and **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon** remained unseen despite their incessant calling. With the rain seemingly settling in we called it quits for the afternoon.

Day 6, November 27. Bvumba birding.

We woke to challenging conditions, and after a brief wait for the weather to open up we resumed our forest birding, this time accompanied by Bulawesi, the local guide of the area. We spent a few hours slowly working our way through the area and were well rewarded. **Swynnerton's Robin**, **Bronzy Sunbird**, **Roberts's Warbler**, **Olive Bushshrike**, **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon**, **Yellow-streaked Greenbul**, **Orange Ground Thrush**, and **Yellow-bellied Waxbill**, among others, were all seen well. **Barratt's Warbler** showed itself ever so briefly but left us all wanting more. The bad weather persisted into the afternoon, and to get a respite we headed off to bird in the miombo woodland of Cecil Kop Nature Reserve, just outside Mutare, much lower in altitude than where we were currently. Although we had been very successful in the miombo so far, we had a few species we could still try for. The weather had indeed cleared further below, and we just had to brave the wet grass as we set off. We enjoyed some excellent birding over the course of the afternoon, running into a few different parties. **Southern Black Tit**, **Green-capped Eremomela**, **Lazy Cisticola**, **African Spotted Creeper**, **Cabanis's Bunting**, **Common Scimitarbill**, **Garden Warbler**, and **Southern Hyliota** all showed well early on. As we observed a group of **Miombo Tits** a very different bird flew in and joined them, and as soon as we got our bins on it we revelled in the glory of a **Collared Flycatcher**. This is a difficult species in the area, with it being on the very southern limit of its range, and is always a highlight to find. **Striped Pipit**, calling from the rocky hillside, sadly refused to show. As we progressed higher up we ran into another **Collared Flycatcher** (!) before we finally heard the highly sought-after **Cinnamon-breasted Tit**. A few frustrating moments ensued as we just couldn't find the bird. We didn't have to wait long, however, as an individual flew in and gave us some good views before disappearing just as quickly. We spent a little while trying to locate it but sadly had no joy. A small family group of **Yellow-bellied Waxbills** showed well on our way out.



Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon

Day 7, November 28. Bvumba birding

We woke to another ‘grey morning’ and spent the day working the area for our outstanding targets, along with trying for some photos of the various specials. We enjoyed incredible views of **Swynnerton’s Robin** again, along with **Orange Ground Thrush**, **Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler**, **Red-faced Crimsonwing**, and **White-starred Robin** early on, before resuming the birding after breakfast and finally getting some great views of the skulking **Barratt’s Warbler**. We spent some time in a clearing between forest patches and were rewarded with great views of **Singing Cisticola**, **African Yellow Warbler**, **Cape Canary**, **African Firefinch**, **Bronzy Sunbird**, **Roberts’s Warbler**, **Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon**, and nesting **Livingstone’s Turaco**. Numerous samango monkeys along with a few mutable sun squirrels were noted. While I headed into town for the afternoon to get our car key repaired, the group explored the nearby Vumba Botanical Gardens with Bulawesi. After being mostly successful on my front I headed back to collect the group just as they were walking out of the gardens. The trip into the gardens had been productive, with the group managing to get onto **Grey Cuckooshrike**, **Narina Trogon**, **Black-fronted** and **Olive Bushshrikes**, **Tree Pipit**, **Bronzy Sunbird**, **Stripe-cheeked Greenbul**, **Yellow-bellied Waxbill**, and **Orange Ground Thrush**.

Day 8, November 29. Bvumba to Gorongosa

As it typically happens, our final morning in the area was a spectacular one – warm and sunny after a few days of clouds and rain. We made the most of the brief period we had available to bird the Bvumba area and enjoyed our last looks at the many specials of the area: **Chirinda Apalis**, **White-starred Robin**, **White-tailed Crested Flycatcher**, **Roberts’s Warbler**, **Stripe-cheeked Greenbul**, **Olive Bushshrike**, and **Yellow-bellied Waxbill**, along with others such as **Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird**, **White-eared Barbet**, **African Goshawk**, **African Yellow Warbler**, and **African Black Swift**. Then we headed to the nearby border post, and after minimal issues we were on Mozambique and on the road toward our rustic camp in the Gorongosa area. We grabbed supplies for our lunch in Chimoio, but roadworks after this halted us to some degree before we eventually ‘lunched’ on the Pungwe River Bridge. Notable species seen en route and while on the bridge included **Malachite**

Kingfisher, Palm-nut Vulture, European Honey Buzzard, and a very probable **Dickinson's Kestrel** that sadly just flew overhead and directly into the sun. We arrived on the Gorongosa access road and immediately set out birding the rich woodlands. It was quite a startling change, coming from the cool Eastern Highlands and now being in the humid lowlands of central Mozambique. The birding was spectacular, and we enjoyed a number of localized and sought-after species such as **Red-winged Warbler, Green-backed Woodpecker, Arnott's Chat,** and **Pale Batis,** but also other, more widespread species such as **Brown-headed Parrot, Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Black and Klaas's Cuckoos, Broad-billed Roller, Purple-banded Sunbird, Striped and Woodland Kingfishers, Violet-backed Starling, Emerald-spotted Wood Dove,** and a **European Nightjar** that we flushed from its day roost. Numbers of **Common Swift** were moving about overhead, and keeping an eye skyward also produced **African Hawk-Eagle, Wahlberg's Eagle, Yellow-billed Kite,** and **Common Buzzard.** We checked into Gorongosa Adventures Camp just as the sun was setting and, following a great home-cooked dinner, set off on a night drive, during which we enjoyed good looks at a few **Spotted Eagle-Owls** along with excellent and prolonged looks at both **European** and **Fiery-necked Nightjars.** Thick-tailed greater galago was noted on the mammalian side.



Arnott's Chat

Day 9, November 30. Gorongosa birding

Up bright and early we set off into the woodlands of the area. We worked the area for a while until breakfast called us back. The birding was good, and we enjoyed working through a number of parties. Some of the highlights included **African Cuckoo, Narina Trogon, Broad-billed Roller, Grey-headed Kingfisher, Swallow-tailed and Little Bee-eaters, Bearded Woodpecker, Pale Batis, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, Stierling's Wren-Warbler, African Golden, Eurasian Golden, and Black-headed Orioles, Red-faced Crombec, Red-winged Warbler, Green-capped Eremomela, Miombo Blue-eared Starling, Bearded Scrub Robin, Arnott's Chat, and Cabanis's Bunting.** Raptors were well represented, and we enjoyed **Amur Falcon, White-headed and White-backed Vultures, Bateleur, Martial and Wahlberg's Eagles, Lizard Buzzard, and Shikra.** We took it easy over the midday period with rather intense heat and only resumed birding later in the

afternoon. We went to explore a nearby 'farm' with large tracts of woodland. It was a quiet afternoon, and we had to work hard for any species. We had an **Eastern Nicator** show itself very briefly, while the river produced **Striated Heron**, **African Pied Wagtail**, and **Reed Cormorant** along with an **African Harrier-Hawk** moving along its course. On the way out we struck gold and managed to turn up a pair of the highly sought-after **Racket-tailed Roller**. We spent a bit of time with the birds and enjoyed excellent views of the pair. Following another good meal we set off on another night drive. It was a little slower than the previous day, but we enjoyed excellent views of two **Southern White-faced Owls** along with a number of **Spotted Eagle-Owls**.



Racket-tailed Roller

Day 10, December 1. Gorongosa to Catapu

With today being a travel day we only had a small window to bird before having to depart. Most of the group opted out, and with just Paul joining we set off on a quick morning walk. We started well with a bird party containing **Purple-banded Sunbird**, **Pale Batis**, **Red-faced Crombec**, **Red-winged Warbler**, **Dark-backed Weaver**, **Yellow-breasted Apalis**, **Ashy Flycatcher**, **Golden-tailed** and **Green-backed Woodpeckers**, and **Yellow-bellied Greenbul**. A few **Crowned Hornbills** followed suit shortly after, along with far improved views of **Eastern Nicator**. Before long we had to head back for breakfast and then continue to M'phingwe Lodge in the Catapu Forestry Concession. We were heading via some back roads toward Vila de Sena to look for the recently discovered Böhm's Bee-eater colony near there, and travel was slow. We eventually arrived on site in the mid afternoon and set out on a walk-around to try and get the bee-eaters. Sadly, it had taken us a bit longer to get here than anticipated, and we didn't have too much time available before having to head onward. **Western Yellow Wagtails** roamed around the grassy lawns, while a flowering tree held good numbers of **Sunbirds**, including **Copper**, **Variable**, **Purple-banded**, and **Scarlet-chested**. A few **White-fronted Bee-eaters** were present and gave us a bit of a go initially, until I got onto a single **Böhm's Bee-eater**; unfortunately, the bird disappeared before the group could get onto it. We worked the area for a while longer, with no sign of any other bee-eaters, but just as we were about to give up I managed to locate another **Böhm's Bee-eater** that stuck around for a while longer and gave the group good views. After collecting a few much-

needed refreshments in town we continued onwards to M'phingwe, where we arrived just as it started getting dark and settled in for the evening.

Day 11, December 2. Birding Catapu

We took it slightly easier this morning and birded the large Catapu Forestry Concession. We had a good morning and enjoyed a number of sought-after species. The lively **Livingstone's Flycatcher** was first and gave us some incredible views. **Mangrove Kingfisher** and **Narina Trogon** showed well after a bit of work. We eventually ran into some calling **Green Malkohas**, and they too showed well, although being a typical malkoha never sitting still for long. Numbers of **Tambourine Doves** were present in the area, flushing up from the roadside at regular intervals. Other species present included **Black-bellied Starling**, **Swallow-tailed Bee-eater**, **Terrestrial Brownbul**, **Square-tailed Drongo**, **Bearded Scrub Robin**, and **Red-backed Mannikin**. Raptors were well represented again, and we enjoyed the sought-after **Southern Banded Snake Eagle** along with the likes of **Hooded Vulture**, **African Cuckoo-Hawk**, **Bateleur**, **Wahlberg's Eagle**, **Lizard Buzzard**, **African Fish Eagle**, **African Harrier-Hawk**, and a vocal **Crowned Eagle** that we sadly couldn't see. The afternoon saw us heading out to bird the rich lowland forests near Inhamitanga. It was another quiet afternoon, and we had to work hard for any birds. Calls of **Red-chested** and **African Emerald Cuckoos** rang out throughout the area, as did the haunting call of **Grey-headed Bushshrike**. After taking a walk through a patch of forest we eventually heard the soft call of **East Coast Akalat** – a small, shy, forest robin. We got into a good position and started working the bird. Try as we might, though, the bird just wouldn't come into the open. We repositioned, and fortunately now the bird did come into the open, but only one of the group was able to get onto it. We worked this bird for a while longer before eventually giving up. Shortly thereafter we found a stunning **Plain-backed Sunbird**, which somewhat compensated for the uncooperative akalats. We also picked up an **African Barred Owlet** calling, but, try as we might, we just couldn't see it. Mammals seen during the day included Natal red duiker, suni, samango monkey, and chacma baboon, along with slender and banded mongooses. We called it an evening and had dinner, with the resident **African Wood Owls** regularly calling.

Day 12, December 3. Birding Catapu

We set off pre-dawn to spend our morning birding the Inhamitanga area and arrived on site just before sunrise. We spent the morning birding our way through these mature lowland forests, and we had to put in time to get the birds. **Crested Guineafowl**, **Woodward's Batis**, **Green Malkoha**, **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**, **Red-capped Robin Chat**, **Grey Tit-Flycatcher**, **Green-backed Woodpecker**, another **Plain-backed Sunbird**, and groups of overflying **Brown-necked Parrots** were the first to show. After enjoying a male **Narina Trogon** we eventually heard our first **Lowland Tiny Greenbuls**. These birds typically stick to thick tangles, and after a few brief glimpses we were eventually rewarded with some good views, but, naturally, they didn't hang around in the open for too long. We then heard one of the main targets of this area, **White-chested Alethe** – affectionately known as the 'Ghost Bird', a name that reflects its habit of remaining unseen. We began working the bird but were only given a few brief views of the bird flying past us through the forest during the time we spent with it – allowing us to see why it is called the 'Ghost Bird'. After this bird having frustrated us for some time we moved on and worked another area for the alethe, but we had to walk away empty-handed. So we made our way back to the lodge for brunch. Sadly, there was no sign of African Pitta at all – the main target of the trip. Taking it easy over the midday period we managed a bit of raptor watching, which proved to be good but sadly did not provide any different species to the previous day.



Narina Trogon

Our afternoon was spent birding around the wetlands at Caia, which proved productive. The open water only held **White-faced Whistling Ducks**, while the edges and lily-clad patches proved far more productive. Here we enjoyed numbers of **African Openbills**, along with **Squacco** and **Purple Herons**, **Great** and **Intermediate Egrets**, **Black Crake**, and **African Jacana**. Waders included **Common Greenshank**, **Wood** and **Common Sandpipers**, and a few of the attractive **Collared Pratincoles**. A few **Western Yellow Wagtails** patrolled the drier regions. **Malachite** and **Pied Kingfishers** were regular sightings, constantly moving around, as were numbers of **Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters**. The grassy regions between the water produced **Burchell's Coucal**, **Yellow-throated Longclaw**, **Rufous-winged Cisticola**, **Brimstone Canary**, and **Fan-tailed Widowbird**. Our main target for the area was **Moustached Grass Warbler**, but, try as we might, the closest we could get to it was hearing it happily calling away in the distance. Eventually, while admiring some **Collared Pratincoles**, it started calling from much closer to us, and we quickly headed up for it, but the bird seemed to vanish when we arrived. Just as we were about to give up I picked up the bird, a short distance away, sitting on a grass stalk. It fortunately stuck around long enough for everyone to see it well through the scope, but our attempt to get a bit closer was met with defeat. The reedbeds held **Lesser Swamp Warbler**, **Southern Brown-throated Weaver**, and a number of **Little Bee-eaters**. **Blue-spotted Wood Dove** and **Mourning Collared Dove** were also seen in the area, while glancing an eye skyward revealed numbers of hirundines, most exciting of which were the many **Grey-rumped Swallows** present. A **Western Osprey** moving overhead greeted us as we set off back to the lodge after a productive day. We also enjoyed the 'normal' array of mammals here, Natal red duiker, suni, chacma baboon, and samango monkey, along with mutable sun squirrel.

Day 13, December 4. Birding Catapu

We set off pre-dawn, bound once more for the Inhamitanga area in search of our outstanding target species, including African Pitta. We arrived at sunrise and began with a stunning **Dickinson's Kestrel** perched near to the road. A **Lesser Kestrel** in the area was an odd sighting. We began our search once more through the lowland forests and struck gold early

on when an **African Pitta** started up and called a few times. It sadly fell silent shortly after starting, and we began searching through the dense understory. After quite some time slowly walking through and quietly listening, the closest we came was a possible sighting of a bird that we flushed in front of us while walking that gave us the briefest of views before it disappeared. We were just about to give up and head on to another area when I again saw something flush just in front of me. The bird didn't appear to go far, and we headed to the nearest 'clearing' in the forest, more like a tiny gap in the dense understory, and got ourselves in a good position to see all around us. After a brief burst of playback a bird flew in to a branch just in front of us. It was indeed the bird we were after, a stunning **African Pitta**. We watched it for some time as it displayed on the branch, hopping up and down and emitting its strange frog-like call before it moved to the forest floor. We were able to keep track of it through the dense understory and enjoyed good views as it went about foraging on the forest floor, before we eventually left it and resumed our search for other species.



African Pitta

Just after heading out of the forest we picked up an **African Broadbill** displaying, and although we had had good views earlier on in the trip we had some room for improving our photos and set out after it. We didn't have to work as hard for the broadbill as for the pitta, and within a few minutes we had enjoyed incredible views of the bird displaying just above our heads! Then we headed into some nearby mixed woodland and struck gold with a **Speckle-throated Woodpecker** calling just as we got out of the car. This being another highly sought-after species, we tracked it down and enjoyed some good views of a female as it moved from tree to tree. A glance skyward revealed a few of the nimble, bat-like **Böhm's Spinetails** as they wheeled about overhead. When we continued, some very agitated passerines in a clearing brought us to a stop. This particular blend of noise and agitation with smaller birds is normally an indication of a snake. We investigated and did indeed turn up a snouted night adder slowly moving about through the leaf litter – a rather scarce species. Following our snake excitement we headed back into the lowland forests and set off for another calling **White-chested Alethe**. But again, try as we might, we couldn't obtain any visuals of this individual. As a slight distraction there was a particularly vocal **East Coast Akalat**, and after positioning ourselves a short burst of playback brought the individual right

in to almost on top of us, and this time the whole group enjoyed spectacular views of this shy forest robin, sadly not for too long before it moved off. Continuing with our great streak this morning, while trying for another alethe, some bill-clapping above revealed a party of **Chestnut-fronted Helmetshrikes** moving through. We immediately changed focus and enjoyed some excellent views of these strange birds before once again resuming our alethe search. We sadly again couldn't obtain any views on the alethes, and they would taunt us for the rest of the morning by calling just out of sight.



African Broadbill

Following our lunch break another clearing in the forest produced a few **Mottled Spinetails** flitting about overhead, and we headed on one last mission for the alethe. We arrived on site and began working the area; however, the birds didn't seem to be home this time. A lively pair of **Black-headed Apalis** somewhat compensated for the lack of alethes before we called it a day and headed back to camp. A young **Ayres's Hawk-Eagle** flew over the road, and we piled out and had some good looks before it moved out of sight. We took the remainder of the afternoon off, enjoying the regular flow of birds coming by the various water baths, before Paul and I headed out on a brief late afternoon walk around the lodge. We had a pretty spectacular and highly successful day on all accounts, and some of the other highlights we had during the course of the day were **Crested Guineafowl**, **White-headed Vulture**, **African Green Pigeon**, **Green Malkoha**, **Narina Trogon**, **Broad-billed Roller**, **Mangrove** and **African Pygmy Kingfishers**, **Trumpeter** and **Silvery-cheeked Hornbills**, **Green-backed Woodpecker**, **Woodward's Batis**, **Retz's Helmetshrike**, **Eurasian Golden Oriole**, **Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher**, **Eastern Nicator**, **Terrestrial Brownbul**, **Yellow-streaked** and **Lowland Tiny Greenbuls**, **Livingstone's Flycatcher**, **Red-winged Warbler**, **Stierling's Wren-Warbler**, and **Bearded Scrub Robin**. The normal array of mammals was seen during the day, including a fine bushbuck.

Day 14, December 5. Catapu to Beira

With a long and slow road ahead and the group eager to do some birding around Beira we departed early and made good progress. The road had deteriorated from the previous year and was slow going in many places. We had limited birding on the way, but stops were made, and

here we enjoyed **Brown Snake Eagle**, **Lizard Buzzard**, **Dark Chanting Goshawk**, **Burchell's Coucal**, **Grey-headed Kingfisher**, **Peregrine Falcon**, and **Pin-tailed Whydah**. Perhaps most interesting of all was when a **Short-winged Cisticola** started calling while we were having lunch. But the wind had picked up substantially, and unfortunately we couldn't locate it. Eventually we arrived in Dondo and met up with the main tar road. A stop was made at the resident **Bat Hawk** pair, and after having our fill of the hawk we continued onward. Although we were hassled at one of the roadblocks shortly afterwards, which cost us a bit of time, we were eventually sent on our way. We immediately headed for the Rio Maria, just outside Beira, where we spent the remainder of the afternoon. A dam en route gave us **African Pygmy Goose** and a brief encounter with **Lesser Jacana**. We arrived at the Rio Maria to find the tide out and waders all over the mudflats. Spending some time working through the waders present we enjoyed seeing both **Greater** and **Lesser Sand Plovers** side by side, along with the likes of **Grey**, **White-fronted**, and **Common Ringed Plovers**, numbers of **Terek Sandpipers**, **Ruddy Turnstone**, **Curlew Sandpiper**, **Whimbrel**, **Common Greenshank**, **Sanderling**, and **Little Stint**. A small tern roost was found, but it only held **Common Terns** and **Grey-headed Gulls**. A number of **Caspian Terns** hunted over the estuary, while a lone **Pink-backed Pelican** drifted over the open water and an **African Marsh Harrier** hunting over the area bid us farewell as we left the site. We checked the dam on our way out and were rewarded with closer and more prolonged views of **Lesser Jacana** this time, along with more **African Pygmy Goose**, **Malachite Kingfisher**, and **Blue-cheeked Bee-eater**. After checking into our accommodation and freshening up we headed for our last dinner of the trip and enjoyed good seafood, cold beers, and great memories from the trip, all with the waves of the ocean breaking just behind us!



Lesser Jacana

Day 15, December 6. Departure

We began our last morning of the tour bright and early as we set out for the Rio Savane floodplains. The group wanted to concentrate on Blue Quail, and so we headed out to the first site for this species. A stop on the way for a lovely **Black-bellied Bustard** close to the road gave us a few **Red-headed Queleas**, albeit a bit distantly, along with **Spur-winged Goose**, **African Wattled Lapwing**, **Copper Sunbird**, **Lilac-breasted Roller**, and some good views

of **African Marsh Harrier**. We arrived at the first site for the quail, only to see that it was currently being cultivated with only a small patch of natural vegetation remaining. We decided to have a walk around, admittedly with not much hope of success, and just to throw our negative thoughts away we actually found a female **Blue Quail**. Due to its proximity we were treated to some good, but somewhat brief views as it flew for a bit before dropping back into the vegetation. We were unable to flush it again and headed on to try for Black-rumped Buttonquail. **Eurasian Hobby** along with **Yellow-billed Stork** showed well en route. We arrived at the 'main field' for the buttonquail, and fortunately didn't have to wait too long before we flushed two **Black-rumped Buttonquails**. They flew in the opposite direction to where we were walking, and only a few of us had good views. We were able to flush one of them a second time, but thereafter it flew into an inaccessible area. Despite having seen it a second time we were still left wanting a bit more. Then we targeted Locust Finch and thought we were on the money when we flushed a small group of finches, but as they alighted and called they gave away their ID as **Quailfinch**. We tracked where they landed and enjoyed some spectacular views on the ground before they too moved on. A displaying **Flappet Lark** was a pleasant find. Finally, with time running out, we were only able to search one more 'field' before we would have to start making our way back. The area looked good, but we were unable to find any Locust Finches. As we were making our way back to the van we flushed another **Black-rumped Buttonquail** and enjoyed a far more satisfactory view than for the earlier birds. Finally we briefly searched a nearby area unsuccessfully for Lesser Seedcracker before truly starting our way back. **Red-breasted Swallow**, **Woolly-necked Stork**, **Common Waxbill**, and **Rufous-winged Cisticola** were the only notable birds seen on our return trip toward Beira. Numbers of **House Crows** greeted us when we arrived back in town. After a late breakfast and a quick shower we loaded up and headed to the airport for the group's departure.

I would like to thank everyone in the group for the good times shared, the good fun had, and the brilliant birding we enjoyed! The highlights are too many, but some of the 'standouts' were our afternoon birding in the Harare miombo woodland, where we had among others plenty of **African Spotted Creepers** and **Green-backed Honeybirds** moving around us at one point, the pair of dazzling **Racket-tailed Rollers** that displayed around us, and the incredible views of **African Pitta** after much hard work. I look forward to the next one!

ZIMBABWE AND MOZAMBIQUE BIRD LIST 22 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER 2016		
Bold = Southern African endemic Status: NT = Near-threatened, VU = Vulnerable, EN = Endangered, CR = Critically Endangered		
Common Name (IOC 7.01)	Scientific Name (IOC 7.01)	Trip
	ANSERIFORMES	
<u>Ducks, Geese and Swans</u>	<u>Anatidae</u>	
White-faced Whistling Duck	<i>Dendrocygna viduata</i>	1
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>	1
Egyptian Goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>	1
African Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>	1
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	1

	GALLIFORMES	
<u>Guineafowl</u>	<u>Numididae</u>	
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	1
Crested Guineafowl	<i>Guttera pucherani</i>	1
<u>Pheasants and allies</u>	<u>Phasianidae</u>	
Crested Francolin	<i>Dendroperdix sephaena</i>	1
Natal Spurrow	<i>Pternistis natalensis</i>	H
Red-necked Spurrow	<i>Pternistis afer</i>	1
Swainson's Spurrow	<i>Pternistis swainsonii</i>	1
Blue Quail	<i>Excalfactoria adansonii</i>	1
	CICONIIFORMES	
<u>Storks</u>	<u>Ciconiidae</u>	
Yellow-billed Stork	<i>Mycteria ibis</i>	1
African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>	1
Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>	1
Woolly-necked Stork - VU	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	1
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumenifer</i>	1
	PELECANIFORMES	
<u>Ibises, Spoonbills</u>	<u>Threskiornithidae</u>	
African Sacred Ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>	1
Hadada Ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>	1
<u>Hérons, Bitterns</u>	<u>Ardeidae</u>	
Striated Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>	1
Squacco Heron	<i>Ardeola ralloides</i>	1
Western Cattle Egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>	1
Grey Heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>	1
Black-headed Heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>	1
Purple Heron	<i>Ardea purpurea</i>	1
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>	1
Intermediate Egret	<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	1
Little Egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	1
<u>Hamerkop</u>	<u>Scopidae</u>	
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>	1
<u>Pelicans</u>	<u>Pelecanidae</u>	
Pink-backed Pelican	<i>Pelecanus rufescens</i>	1
	SULIFORMES	
<u>Cormorants, Shags</u>	<u>Phalacrocoracidae</u>	
Reed Cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>	1
	ACCIPITRIFORMES	
<u>Ospreys</u>	<u>Pandionidae</u>	
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	1
<u>Kites, Hawks and Eagles</u>	<u>Accipitridae</u>	

Black-winged Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>	1
African Harrier-Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	1
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	1
European Honey Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	1
African Cuckoo-Hawk	<i>Aviceda cuculoides</i>	1
Hooded Vulture - CR	<i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i>	1
White-backed Vulture - CR	<i>Gyps africanus</i>	1
White-headed Vulture - CR	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>	1
Black-chested Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>	1
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	1
Southern Banded Snake Eagle - NT	<i>Circaetus fasciolatus</i>	1
Bateleur - NT	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	1
Bat Hawk	<i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i>	1
Crowned Eagle - NT	<i>Stephanoaetus coronatus</i>	H
Martial Eagle - VU	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	1
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	1
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus wahlbergi</i>	1
Ayres's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus ayresii</i>	1
African Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila spilogaster</i>	1
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>	1
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>	1
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	1
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>	1
Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	1
African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>	1
Pallid Harrier - NT	<i>Circus macrourus</i>	1
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus aegyptius</i>	1
African Fish Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus vocifer</i>	1
Common Buzzard	<i>Buteo buteo</i>	1
Augur Buzzard	<i>Buteo augur</i>	1
	OTIDIFORMES	
<u>Bustards</u>	<u>Otididae</u>	
Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>	1
	GRUIFORMES	
<u>Flufftails</u>	<u>Sarothruridae</u>	
Buff-spotted Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura elegans</i>	H
Red-chested Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura rufa</i>	1
<u>Rails, Crakes and Coots</u>	<u>Rallidae</u>	
Black Crake	<i>Amaurornis flavirostra</i>	1
African Swamphe	<i>Porphyrio madagascariensis</i>	1
Common Moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>	1
	CHARADRIIFORMES	

<u>Buttonquail</u>	<u>Turnicidae</u>	
Black-rumped Buttonquail	<i>Turnix nanus</i>	1
<u>Plovers</u>	<u>Charadriidae</u>	
African Wattled Lapwing	<i>Vanellus senegallus</i>	1
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	1
Common Ringed Plover	<i>Charadrius hiaticula</i>	1
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	1
Lesser Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius mongolus</i>	1
Greater Sand Plover	<i>Charadrius leschenaultii</i>	1
<u>Jacanas</u>	<u>Jacanidae</u>	
Lesser Jacana	<i>Microparra capensis</i>	1
African Jacana	<i>Actophilornis africanus</i>	1
<u>Sandpipers, Snipes</u>	<u>Scolopacidae</u>	
Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	1
Common Greenshank	<i>Tringa nebularia</i>	1
Wood Sandpiper	<i>Tringa glareola</i>	1
Terek Sandpiper	<i>Xenus cinereus</i>	1
Common Sandpiper	<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i>	1
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	1
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	1
Little Stint	<i>Calidris minuta</i>	1
Curlew Sandpiper - NT	<i>Calidris ferruginea</i>	1
<u>Coursers, Pratincoles</u>	<u>Glareolidae</u>	
Collared Pratincole	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	1
<u>Gulls, Terns and Skimmers</u>	<u>Laridae</u>	
Grey-headed Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus</i>	1
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>	1
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>	1
	COLUMBIFORMES	
<u>Pigeons, Doves</u>	<u>Columbidae</u>	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>	1
African Olive Pigeon	<i>Columba arquatrix</i>	1
Eastern Bronze-naped Pigeon	<i>Columba delegorguei</i>	1
Lemon Dove	<i>Columba larvata</i>	1
Mourning Collared Dove	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	1
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	1
Ring-necked Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>	1
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	1
Blue-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur afer</i>	1
Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>	1
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	1
	MUSOPHAGIFORMES	

<u>Turacos</u>	<u>Musophagidae</u>	
Livingstone's Turaco	<i>Tauraco livingstonii</i>	1
Purple-crested Turaco	<i>Tauraco porphyreolophus</i>	1
Grey Go-away-bird	<i>Corythaixoides concolor</i>	H
	CUCULIFORMES	
<u>Cuckoos</u>	<u>Cuculidae</u>	
Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	H
Burchell's Coucal	<i>Centropus burchellii</i>	1
Green Malkoha	<i>Ceuthmochares australis</i>	1
Diederik Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	1
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	1
African Emerald Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx cupreus</i>	1
Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	1
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	1
African Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus gularis</i>	1
	STRIGIFORMES	
<u>Owls</u>	<u>Strigidae</u>	
Southern White-faced Owl	<i>Ptilopsis granti</i>	1
Spotted Eagle-Owl	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	1
African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>	1
African Barred Owlet	<i>Glaucidium capense</i>	H
Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>	1
	CAPRIMULGIFORMES	
<u>Nightjars</u>	<u>Caprimulgidae</u>	
European Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus europaeus</i>	1
Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	1
	APODIFORMES	
<u>Swifts</u>	<u>Apodidae</u>	
Scarce Swift	<i>Schoutedenapus myoptilus</i>	1
Mottled Spinetail	<i>Telacanthura ussheri</i>	1
Böhm's Spinetail	<i>Neafrapus boehmi</i>	1
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	1
Mottled Swift	<i>Tachymarptis aequatorialis</i>	1
Common Swift	<i>Apus apus</i>	1
African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	1
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	1
White-rumped Swift	<i>Apus caffer</i>	1
	COLIIFORMES	
<u>Mousebirds</u>	<u>Coliidae</u>	
Speckled Mousebird	<i>Colius striatus</i>	1
	TROGONIFORMES	
<u>Trogons</u>	<u>Trogonidae</u>	

Narina Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>	1
	CORACIIFORMES	
<u>Rollers</u>	<u>Coraciidae</u>	
Racket-tailed Roller	<i>Coracias spatulatus</i>	1
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	1
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	1
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	1
<u>Kingfishers</u>	<u>Alcedinidae</u>	
Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>	1
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>	1
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>	1
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>	1
Mangrove Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegaloides</i>	1
African Pygmy Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>	1
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>	1
Half-collared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo semitorquata</i>	1
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	1
<u>Bee-eaters</u>	<u>Meropidae</u>	
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>	1
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>	1
White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>	1
Böhm's Bee-eater	<i>Merops boehmi</i>	1
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>	1
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>	1
	BUCEROTIFORMES	
<u>Hoopoes</u>	<u>Upupidae</u>	
African Hoopoe	<i>Upupa africana</i>	1
<u>Wood Hoopoes</u>	<u>Phoeniculidae</u>	
Green Wood Hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	1
Common Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus cyanomelas</i>	1
<u>Ground Hornbills</u>	<u>Bucorvidae</u>	
Southern Ground Hornbill - VU	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	H
<u>Hornbills</u>	<u>Bucerotidae</u>	
Crowned Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros alboterminatus</i>	1
African Grey Hornbill	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	1
Trumpeter Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes bucinator</i>	1
Silvery-cheeked Hornbill	<i>Bycanistes brevis</i>	1
	PICIFORMES	
<u>African Barbets</u>	<u>Lybiidae</u>	
White-eared Barbet	<i>Stactolaema leucotis</i>	1
Whyte's Barbet	<i>Stactolaema whytii</i>	1
Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus bilineatus</i>	1

Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	1
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	1
Crested Barbet	<i>Trachyphonus vaillantii</i>	1
<u>Honeyguides</u>	<u>Indicatoridae</u>	
Green-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus zambesiae</i>	1
Pallid Honeyguide	<i>Indicator meliphilus</i>	1
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	1
Scaly-throated Honeyguide	<i>Indicator variegatus</i>	H
<u>Woodpeckers</u>	<u>Picidae</u>	
Speckle-throated Woodpecker	<i>Campethera scriptoricauda</i>	1
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	1
Green-backed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera cailliautii</i>	1
Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Chloropicus namaquus</i>	1
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	1
	FALCONIFORMES	
<u>Caracaras, Falcons</u>	<u>Falconidae</u>	
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	1
Dickinson's Kestrel	<i>Falco dickinsoni</i>	1
Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	1
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	1
Lanner Falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i>	1
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	1
	PSITTACIFORMES	
<u>African & New World Parrots</u>	<u>Psittacidae</u>	
Brown-necked Parrot	<i>Poicephalus fuscicollis</i>	1
Brown-headed Parrot	<i>Poicephalus cryptoxanthus</i>	1
	PASSERIFORMES	
<u>Broadbills</u>	<u>Eurylaimidae</u>	
African Broadbill	<i>Smithornis capensis</i>	1
<u>Pittas</u>	<u>Pittidae</u>	
African Pitta	<i>Pitta angolensis</i>	1
<u>Wattle-eyes, Batises</u>	<u>Platysteiridae</u>	
Cape Batis	<i>Batis capensis</i>	1
Woodward's Batis	<i>Batis fratum</i>	1
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	1
Pale Batis	<i>Batis soror</i>	1
Black-throated Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira peltata</i>	1
<u>Helmetshrikes</u>	<u>Prionopidae</u>	
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	1
Retz's Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops retzii</i>	1
Chestnut-fronted Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops scopifrons</i>	1
<u>Bushshrikes</u>	<u>Malaconotidae</u>	

Grey-headed Bushshrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	H
Black-fronted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus nigrifrons</i>	H
Olive Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus olivaceus</i>	1
Orange-breasted Bushshrike	<i>Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus</i>	1
Marsh Tchagra	<i>Bocagia minuta</i>	1
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>	1
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>	1
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>	1
Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius major</i>	1
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>	1
<u>Cuckooshrikes</u>	<u>Campephagidae</u>	
Grey Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina caesia</i>	1
White-breasted Cuckooshrike	<i>Coracina pectoralis</i>	1
Black Cuckooshrike	<i>Campephaga flava</i>	1
<u>Shrikes</u>	<u>Laniidae</u>	
Red-backed Shrike	<i>Lanius collurio</i>	1
Southern Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>	1
<u>Figbirds, Orioles</u>	<u>Oriolidae</u>	
Eurasian Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus oriolus</i>	1
African Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus auratus</i>	1
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	1
<u>Drongos</u>	<u>Dicruridae</u>	
Square-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus ludwigii</i>	1
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>	1
<u>Monarchs</u>	<u>Monarchidae</u>	
Blue-mantled Crested Flycatcher	<i>Trochocercus cyanomelas</i>	1
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	1
<u>Crows, Jays</u>	<u>Corvidae</u>	
House Crow	<i>Corvus splendens</i>	1
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>	1
White-necked Raven	<i>Corvus albicollis</i>	1
<u>Fairy Flycatchers</u>	<u>Stenostiridae</u>	
White-tailed Crested Flycatcher	<i>Elminia albonotata</i>	1
<u>Tits, Chickadees</u>	<u>Paridae</u>	
Southern Black Tit	<i>Melaniparus niger</i>	1
Cinnamon-breasted Tit	<i>Melaniparus pallidiventris</i>	1
Miombo Tit	<i>Melaniparus griseiventris</i>	1
<u>Penduline Tits</u>	<u>Remizidae</u>	
Grey Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>	1
<u>Nicators</u>	<u>Nicatoridae</u>	
Eastern Nicator	<i>Nicator gularis</i>	1
<u>Larks</u>	<u>Alaudidae</u>	

Rufous-naped Lark	<i>Mirafrā africana</i>	1
Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafrā rufocinnamomea</i>	1
<u>Bulbuls</u>	<u>Pycnonotidae</u>	
Dark-capped Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus tricolor</i>	1
Stripe-cheeked Greenbul	<i>Arizelocichla milanjensis</i>	1
Sombre Greenbul	<i>Andropadus importunus</i>	1
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>	1
Terrestrial Brownbul	<i>Phyllastrephus terrestris</i>	1
Yellow-streaked Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus flavostriatus</i>	1
Lowland Tiny Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus debilis</i>	1
<u>Swallows, Martins</u>	<u>Hirundinidae</u>	
Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristoptera</i>	1
Grey-rumped Swallow	<i>Pseudhirundo griseopyga</i>	1
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	1
Wire-tailed Swallow	<i>Hirundo smithii</i>	1
Blue Swallow - VU	<i>Hirundo atrocaerulea</i>	1
Common House Martin	<i>Delichon urbicum</i>	1
Greater Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis cucullata</i>	1
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	1
Red-breasted Swallow	<i>Cecropis semirufa</i>	1
Mosque Swallow	<i>Cecropis senegalensis</i>	1
<u>Crombecs, African Warblers</u>	<u>Macrosphenidae</u>	
Moustached Grass Warbler	<i>Melocichla mentalis</i>	1
Red-faced Crombec	<i>Sylvietta whytii</i>	1
<u>Yellow Flycatchers</u>	<u>Erythroceridae</u>	
Livingstone's Flycatcher	<i>Erythrocerus livingstonei</i>	1
<u>Leaf Warblers and allies</u>	<u>Phylloscopidae</u>	
Yellow-throated Woodland Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus ruficapilla</i>	1
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	1
<u>Reed Warblers and allies</u>	<u>Acrocephalidae</u>	
Lesser Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus gracilirostris</i>	1
African Reed Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus baeticatus</i>	H
African Yellow Warbler	<i>Iduna natalensis</i>	1
<u>Grassbirds and allies</u>	<u>Locustellidae</u>	
Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>	1
Barratt's Warbler	<i>Bradypterus barratti</i>	1
Fan-tailed Grassbird	<i>Schoenicola brevirostris</i>	1
<u>Cisticolas and allies</u>	<u>Cisticolidae</u>	
Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythrops</i>	1
Singing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola cantans</i>	1
Lazy Cisticola	<i>Cisticola aberrans</i>	1
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>	1

Wailing Cisticola	<i>Cisticola lais</i>	1
Rufous-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola galactotes</i>	1
Levaillant's Cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>	1
Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>	1
Short-winged Cisticola	<i>Cisticola brachypterus</i>	H
Neddicky	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	1
Zitting Cisticola	<i>Cisticola juncidis</i>	1
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>	1
Roberts's Warbler	<i>Oreophilais robertsi</i>	1
Red-winged Warbler	<i>Heliosais erythropterus</i>	1
Bar-throated Apalis	<i>Apalis thoracica</i>	1
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>	1
Black-headed Apalis	<i>Apalis melanocephala</i>	1
Chirinda Apalis	<i>Apalis chirindensis</i>	1
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>	1
Stierling's Wren-Warbler	<i>Calamonastes stierlingi</i>	1
Green-capped Eremomela	<i>Eremomela scotops</i>	1
<u>Laughingthrushes</u>	<u>Leiothrichidae</u>	
Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>	1
<u>Sylviid Babblers</u>	<u>Sylviidae</u>	
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	1
<u>White-eyes</u>	<u>Zosteropidae</u>	
African Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>	1
<u>Hyliotas</u>	<u>Hylitidae</u>	
Southern Hyliota	<i>Hyliota australis</i>	1
<u>Treecreepers</u>	<u>Certhiidae</u>	
African Spotted Creeper	<i>Salpornis salvadori</i>	1
<u>Starlings, Rhabdornis</u>	<u>Sturnidae</u>	
Common Myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	1
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>	1
Black-bellied Starling	<i>Notopholia corrusca</i>	1
Miombo Blue-eared Starling	<i>Lamprotornis elisabeth</i>	1
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	1
Red-winged Starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>	1
<u>Thrushes</u>	<u>Turdidae</u>	
Orange Ground Thrush	<i>Geokichla gurneyi</i>	1
Kurrichane Thrush	<i>Turdus libonyana</i>	1
Olive Thrush	<i>Turdus olivaceus</i>	1
<u>Chats, Old World Flycatchers</u>	<u>Muscicapidae</u>	
Bearded Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas quadrivirgata</i>	1
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>	1
Grey Tit-Flycatcher	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>	1

Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>	1
Pale Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pallidus</i>	1
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>	1
Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>	1
African Dusky Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa adusta</i>	1
White-chested Alethe	<i>Pseudaethe fuelleborni</i>	1
Cape Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha caffra</i>	1
White-browed Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>	1
Red-capped Robin-Chat	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>	1
Swynnerton's Robin - VU	<i>Swynnertonia swynnertoni</i>	1
White-starred Robin	<i>Pogonocichla stellata</i>	1
East Coast Akalat - NT	<i>Sheppardia gunningi</i>	1
Collared Flycatcher	<i>Ficedula albicollis</i>	1
Miombo Rock Thrush	<i>Monticola angolensis</i>	1
African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	1
Mocking Cliff Chat	<i>Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris</i>	1
Arnott's Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla arnotti</i>	1
Boulder Chat	<i>Pinarornis plumosus</i>	1
Sunbirds	Nectariniidae	
Plain-backed Sunbird - NT	<i>Anthreptes reichenowi</i>	1
Collared Sunbird	<i>Hedydipna collaris</i>	1
Olive Sunbird	<i>Cyanomitra olivacea</i>	1
Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	1
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>	1
Bronzy Sunbird	<i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i>	1
Miombo Double-collared Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris manoensis</i>	1
Marico Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris mariquensis</i>	1
Purple-banded Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris bifasciatus</i>	1
White-bellied Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris talatala</i>	1
Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>	1
Copper Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris cupreus</i>	1
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches	Passeridae	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>	1
Southern Grey-headed Sparrow	<i>Passer diffusus</i>	1
Yellow-throated Petronia	<i>Gymnoris superciliaris</i>	1
Weavers, Widowbirds	Ploceidae	
Red-billed Buffalo Weaver	<i>Bubalornis niger</i>	1
Thick-billed Weaver	<i>Amblyospiza albifrons</i>	1
Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>	1
Holub's Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthops</i>	1
Southern Brown-throated Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthopterus</i>	1
Southern Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>	1

Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	1
Dark-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus bicolor</i>	1
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>	1
Red-headed Quelea	<i>Quelea erythrops</i>	1
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>	1
Black-winged Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes hordeaceus</i>	1
Southern Red Bishop	<i>Euplectes orix</i>	1
Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	1
Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>	1
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macroura</i>	1
Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>	1
<u>Waxbills, Munias and allies</u>	<u>Estrildidae</u>	
Green-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia melba</i>	1
Green Twinspot	<i>Mandingoa nitidula</i>	1
Red-faced Crimsonwing	<i>Cryptospiza reichenovii</i>	1
Red-throated Twinspot	<i>Hypargos niveoguttatus</i>	1
Red-billed Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta senegala</i>	1
African Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rubricata</i>	1
Jameson's Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta rhodopareia</i>	1
Blue Waxbill	<i>Uraeginthus angolensis</i>	1
Yellow-bellied Waxbill	<i>Coccygia quartinia</i>	1
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	1
Orange-breasted Waxbill	<i>Amandava subflava</i>	1
Quailfinch	<i>Ortygospiza atricollis</i>	1
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Lonchura cucullata</i>	1
Red-backed Mannikin	<i>Lonchura nigriceps</i>	1
Magpie Mannikin	<i>Lonchura fringilloides</i>	1
<u>Indigobirds, Whydahs</u>	<u>Viduidae</u>	
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>	1
<u>Wagtails, Pipits</u>	<u>Motacillidae</u>	
Western Yellow Wagtail	<i>Motacilla flava</i>	1
Mountain Wagtail	<i>Motacilla clara</i>	1
African Pied Wagtail	<i>Motacilla aguimp</i>	1
<u>Cape Longclaw</u>	<u>Macronyx capensis</u>	1
Yellow-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx croceus</i>	1
Rosy-throated Longclaw	<i>Macronyx ameliae</i>	1
African Pipit	<i>Anthus cinnamomeus</i>	1
Tree Pipit	<i>Anthus trivialis</i>	1
Striped Pipit	<i>Anthus lineiventris</i>	H
<u>Finches</u>	<u>Fringillidae</u>	
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Crithagra mozambica</i>	1
Brimstone Canary	<i>Crithagra sulphurata</i>	1

Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Crithagra gularis</i>	1
Black-eared Seedeater	<i>Crithagra mennelli</i>	1
Cape Canary	<i>Serinus canicollis</i>	1
Buntings, New World Sparrows	Emberizidae	
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>	1
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	1
Cabanis's Bunting	<i>Emberiza cabanisi</i>	1
TOTAL		360

ZIMBABWE AND MOZAMBIQUE MAMMAL LIST 22 NOVEMBER - 6 DECEMBER 2016		
Common Name (IUCN)	Scientific Name (IUCN)	Trip
	RODENTIA	
	Sciuridae	
Mutable sun squirrel	<i>Heliosciurus mutabilis</i>	1
	HYRACOIDEA	
	Procaviidae	
Rock hyrax	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	1
	PERISSODACTYLA	
	Equidae	
Plains zebra	<i>Equus quagga</i>	1
	CETARTIODACTYLA	
	Hippopotamidae	
Hippopotamus	<i>Hippopotamus amphibius</i>	1
	Suidae	
Common warthog	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	1
	Giraffidae	
Giraffe	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	1
	Bovidae	
Blue wildebeest	<i>Connochaetes taurinus taurinus</i>	1
Natal red duiker	<i>Cephalophus natalensis</i>	1
Suni	<i>Neotragus moschatus</i>	1
Impala	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	1
Sable antelope	<i>Hippotragus niger</i>	1
Greater kudu	<i>Tragelaphus strepsiceros</i>	1
Bushbuck	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>	1
Common eland	<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>	1
	CARNIVORA	
	Felidae	
Lion	<i>Panthera leo</i>	H
	Canidae	
Side-striped jackal	<i>Canis adustus</i>	1

	Herpestidae	
Common slender mongoose	<i>Herpestes sanguineus</i>	1
Banded mongoose	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	1
	PRIMATES	
	Galagidae	
Thick-tailed greater galago	<i>Otolemur crassicaudatus</i>	1
	Cercopithecidae	
Chacma baboon	<i>Papio ursinus</i>	1
Vervet monkey	<i>Chlorocebus pygerythrus</i>	1
Samango monkey	<i>Cercopithecus mitis labiatus</i>	1
TOTAL		21