



# ROCKJUMPER

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## Cameroon

### Rockfowl, Rainforests & Sahel

*1<sup>st</sup> to 23<sup>rd</sup> March 2012*



Sjöstedt's Barred Owlet in Korup National Park by Lars Petersson

**Trip report compiled by Tour Leader David Hoddinott**

#### **Tour Summary**

Our trip total of 584 species in 23 days reflects the immense birding potential of this fantastic central African destination. Participants were treated to an amazing 90 families of birds, including a staggering array of rare, elusive, localized and stunning species. These included Hartlaub's Duck, Scissor-tailed

Kite, African Finfoot, Black Crowned Crane, Egyptian Plover, Grey Pratincole, African Skimmer, Adamawa Turtle Dove, Bannerman's Turaco, Black-throated Coucal, Pel's Fishing Owl, Sjöstedt's Owllet, Standard-winged Nightjar, Bates's Swift, Bare-cheeked Trogon, Blue-moustached Bee-eater,



**Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye by Lars Petersson**

both Wattled Hornbills, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Spotted and Lyre-tailed Honeyguides, Rufous-sided Broadbill, White-spotted and Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, Bamenda Apalis, Spotted Thrush-Babbler, Spotted Creeper, Grey-chested Babbler, White-collared Starling, Orange-tufted Sunbird, Rachel's Malimbe, Woodhouse's Antpecker, all three Pytilia's and Rock Firefinch, amongst many others. Some of the mammalian highlights included fantastic views of Guereza Colobus, Patas Monkeys, Golden Jackal, Hippopotamus, Tsessebe and Roan Antelope. For more highlights and a detailed trip report, read on...

started off in the coastal city of Douala, from where we made our way towards the Sanaga River. A few shortcuts enabled us to avoid most of the traffic and, after winding our way through the hustle and bustle of the suburbs and entering some open country, we stopped at our first birding site. To our delight we found a magnificent pair of Hartlaub's Duck that gave outstanding scope views for all, as well as our only African Darter of the trip.

Our time around the impressive Sanaga River was very fruitful as we amassed an impressive number of species. Some of the highlights included Western Osprey, a pair of African Cuckoo-Hawk displaying, splendid Red-necked Buzzard, Ayres's Hawk-Eagle, elusive African Finfoot (which gave superb views), Senegal Thick-knee, a fabulous fifty Grey Pratincoles and even more African Skimmers, resplendent male African Emerald Cuckoo, Sabine's and Cassin's Spinetails winging their way through the treetops, White-thighed Hornbill



**Cassin's Malimbe by Lars Petersson**

Our fabulous birding adventure through Cameroon



**African Piculet by Lars Petersson**

peering curiously at us through the forest canopy, Grey-throated and Bristle-nosed Barbets (the latter at a nesting colony), confiding Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Yellow-billed Barbet at his nest hole, unobtrusive Cassin's Honeybird, incredible views of African Piculet, Brown-eared and Yellow-crested Woodpeckers, the smart and gregarious Spotted Greenbul, magnificent White-bibbed Swallow perched by the roadside, a superb colony of Preuss's Cliff Swallows, Tit Hylia (the smallest bird in Africa), cracking Cassin's Malimbe, Red-headed Quelea and, after a concerted effort, the handsome Black-bellied Seedcracker. An added bonus on one of our walks through the remaining forest patches was

finding a wonderful troop of Northern Talapoin monkeys.

Thereafter excitement grew, as we headed to the airport to catch our flight to Garoua in the north. This year the flights were on time and we enjoyed a comfortable night's sleep in Garoua. The following morning whilst enjoying breakfast, we were surprised to find a fabulous pair of Northern White-faced Owls in the garden of our hotel!

From our base in Ngaoundere, we enjoyed a wonderful two days at Ngaoundaba Ranch. The birding is always fantastic in this area and we were not to be disappointed! Highlights included sightings of a whirling flock of Abdim's Stork, the majestic Bateleur, exceptional views of Fox Kestrel, Red-necked Falcon, stunning Allen's Gallinule, tiny Red-headed Lovebird, beautiful White-crested and Ross's Turaco, Greyish Eagle-Owl on a day roost, Blue-breasted Kingfisher, a splendid nesting colony of Red-throated Bee-eater, Double-toothed and Bearded Barbet, White-breasted Cuckooshrike, beautiful black and white morph African Paradise Flycatchers, Sun Lark, reclusive Leaflove, localized Bamenda Apalis and smart Thrush-Babbler, Yellow-bellied Hyliota, Spotted Creeper, White-collared Starling carrying nesting material, stunning Grey-winged and White-crowned Robin-Chats, Heuglin's Wheatear, tricky Gambaga Flycatcher, Western Violet-backed Sunbird, Brown Twinspot, Cameroon Indigobird and Cabanis's Bunting. As if this wasn't enough, we also enjoyed fabulous views of several Standard-winged Nightjars, surely one of the most impressive species on the planet! It's no surprise that



**Fox Kestrel by Lars Petersson**



**Heuglin's Wheatear by Lars Petersson**

this beauty often features in the top 50, must-see-birds of the World!

Thereafter, we made our way to Benoue National Park. Traversing the network of roads and exploring the trails along the Benoue River was very pleasant and extremely rewarding. This mixed broad-leaved woodland produced a splendid array of great birds including coveys of very confiding Stone Partridge, cryptic White-throated Francolin, Black Stork (rarely recorded in Cameroon), sexually dimorphic White-headed Vulture, hunting African Hobby, White-crowned Lapwing, the utterly exquisite Egyptian Plover, rare Adamawa Turtle Dove, beautiful Senegal Parrots and Violet Turacos feeding in fruiting fig trees, Pel's Fishing Owl, lovely Blue-bellied Roller, impressive Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Fine-spotted and tiny Brown-backed Woodpeckers, Black-headed Gonolek, restless African Blue Flycatcher, Red-winged Grey Warbler, unusual Oriole Warbler,



**Egyptian Plover by Lars Petersson**

Heuglin's Masked Weaver, Yellow-winged Pytilia and Black-faced Firefinch. We also enjoyed some wonderful mammal sightings including Guereza Colobus, a pod of Hippopotamus, Giraffe and numerous Kob.



Scissor-tailed Kite by Lars Petersson

From Benoue we then travelled to Maroua and explored the Mora area. Some of the magnificent sightings we enjoyed in here included seeing numerous Scissor-tailed Kites (at one time we enjoyed watching five of these elegant birds catching locusts all around us!), the bizarre Quail-plover, Blue-naped Mousebird, exquisite Abyssinian Roller, migrant Eurasian Wryneck, localized specialty Cricket Warbler, lovely Black Scrub Robin, a superb male Sahel Paradise Whydah in virtually full breeding plumage, and colonies of White-billed Buffalo Weaver.

Moving further north to the arid Waza National Park, we enjoyed two days in this interesting area. Some of the highlights included Common Ostrich, coveys of Clapperton's Francolin, a magical experience with a Common Quail as it walked along the track in front of us, juvenile Saddle-billed Stork, Short-toed Eagle, migrant Pallid and Montagu's Harriers quartering over the grasslands, Grasshopper Buzzard, Arabian and highly sought-after Savile's Bustard, flocks of smart Black-crowned Cranes, Black-headed Lapwing, Spotted Redshank, Ruff, Chestnut-bellied and Four-banded Sandgrouse, over one hundred European Turtle Doves, African Collared Dove, Rose-ringed Parakeet, Western Barn Owl, Long-tailed Nightjar, Green and Northern Carmine Bee-eater, Black Scimitarbill, striking Masked Shrike, Singing Bush Lark, River Prinia, fabulous Long-tailed and Chestnut-bellied Starling, Speckle-fronted Weaver, thousands of Red-billed Quelea around the waterholes, Black-rumped Waxbill, African Silverbill and Lesser Whitethroat. We also enjoyed some



Chestnut-bellied Starling by Lars Petersson

superb mammals including the predominantly terrestrial Patas Monkey, cute Sand Fox, Golden Jackal, Marsh Mongoose, Giraffe, Tsessebe and herds of Roan Antelope.



Cricket Warbler by Lars Petersson

From Waza we travelled back south to Maroua, birding the unusual rocky hillsides en route. A nice selection of species were seen here and included White-headed Barbet, Rock-loving Cisticola bounding his way amongst the boulders, smart White-crowned Cliff Chat, highly localized Rock Firefinch, lovely Lavender Waxbill, and singing Cinnamon-breasted Buntings.

Leaving the North we took a flight back to Douala, from where we made our way to Mount Cameroon. The nearby, lush Botanical Gardens produced some wonderful sightings in the form of a dark morph Western Reef Heron, Chestnut-winged Starling, sallying Cassin's Flycatcher, Reichenbach's and Carmelite Sunbirds, and superb views of our three most sought-after targets: Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher, elusive Pale-fronted Nigrita and stunning Western Bluebill!

Birding the lower forested slopes of the impressive Mount Cameroon, the highest mountain in West Africa, just topping 4000 metres, was extremely rewarding. We racked up a massive species count for the day and enjoyed numerous fabulous sightings. Some of these included a confiding pair of Red-chested Flufftail, which showed well for the entire group (a very rare occurrence for this secretive species!), endemic Cameroon Olive Pigeon, Naked-faced Barbets at their nest, Elliot's Woodpecker, Mountain Sooty Boubou, brilliant Yellow-breasted Boubou, Petit's Cuckooshrike, Mackinnon's Shrike scouting from exposed perches, restless White-bellied



**Mt Cameroon Spierops by Lars Petersson**

Crested Flycatcher, Cameroon Greenbul, Black-capped Woodland Warbler, Great Reed Warbler, beautiful Banded Prinia, Green Longtail, three cracking White-tailed Warblers, the much desired Mount Cameroon Speirops, shy Grey-chested Babbler, Mountain Robin-Chat, cute Shelley's Oliveback (including a pair nest building), and Red-faced Crimsonwing. Whew! What a day!!!



**Bare-cheeked Trogon by Lars Petersson**

From the mountains we next travelled into the humid lowlands of the Mundemba area and Korup National Park. This fabulous national park bordering Nigeria hosts a remarkable number of specialty birds, many of which are difficult to see elsewhere. During our

extensive coverage of the network of trails in the park we found a wonderful selection of birds, and these included European Honey Buzzard, Rock Pratincole, dapper Blue-headed Wood Dove, flocks of Grey Parrot, massive Great Blue Turaco, highly elusive Black-throated Coucal (which for once showed very well!), the striking rufous-throated *gabonensis* race of Black Cuckoo, rare Sjöstedt's Owlet, tricky to see Bare-cheeked Trogon, a host of dazzling kingfishers including African Dwarf, Shining-blue and Chocolate-backed, a pair of beautiful Blue-moustached Bee-eaters, Red-billed Dwarf and White-crested Hornbill, both Black-casqued and Yellow-casqued Wattled Hornbills, Spotted and rare Lyre-tailed Honeyguide, displaying Rufous-sided Broadbill, White-spotted and Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, Blue Cuckooshrike, Blue-headed



**Shining-blue Kingfisher by Lars Peterson**

Crested Flycatcher, Red-bellied Paradise Flycatchers feeding two tiny chicks in their nest, elusive Sjöstedt's Greenbul, Grey Longbill, Yellow-lored Bristlebill and Fire-crested Alethe attending antswarms, Forest Swallow, Blackcap Illadopsis, handsome Forest Robin, White-browed Forest Flycatcher, Johanna's Sunbird, fabulous Rachel's Malimbe and Woodhouse's Antpecker.



**Grey-headed Broadbill by Lars Petersson**

Moving back up into the highlands we enjoyed a superb two full days in the Mount Kupe and Bokassi areas. Some of the highlights during our time here included a juvenile African Cuckoo-Hawk, splendid Cassin's Hawk-Eagle, Guinea Turaco, secretive Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo, Bar-tailed Trogon, superb Black Bee-eater, Tullberg's and Gabon Woodpecker, magical African and Grey-headed Broadbill displaying, Fernando Po Batis, highly sought after Green-breasted and stunning Many-coloured Bushshrike, low density Purple-throated Cuckooshrike, Black-winged Oriole, Bates's Paradise Flycatcher, Golden and Grey-headed Greenbul, Wood

Warbler in full song, Fan-tailed Grassbird, Lowland Masked and Black-capped Apalis, smart Black-faced Rufous Warbler, social White-throated Mountain Babbler, Southern and Violet-backed Hyliota, Yellow-footed Flycatcher and nuthatch-like Preuss's Weaver.

Thereafter we travelled to Bamenda, where we recorded all our key targets. Some of the species seen here included African Black Duck, confiding Bannerman's Turaco, Black-shouldered Nightjar, striking Banded Wattle-eye, White-bellied Tit, Bangwa Forest Warbler, Black-collared Apalis, Neumann's Starling, Orange-tufted Sunbird, Bannerman's and Black-billed Weaver, Cameroon Pipit and Eurasian Blackcap.

Making our way back to Douala we stopped off at La Digue to search for Royal Tern and Mangrove Sunbird. It wasn't long before we had achieved our goal, and so ended another great tour though this incredible birding nation as we headed off to the airport for our flights back home. Many thanks to all participants for making this such a thoroughly successful and enjoyable experience, and a very special thank you to Lars Pietersson for allowing us to utilize some of his absolutely stunning photographs for this trip report!



**Bannerman's Turaco by Lars Petersson**

### **Annotated List of Bird and Mammal species recorded**

**Birds:** Gill, F. and M. Wright. 2006. Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. Version 2.1 generated on 2009-05-13. When the taxonomy differs from that of Clement's, the Clement's name will be written in brackets or differences will be explained in a note below the species.

**BIRDS (total: a fabulous 584 species!)****Ostrich Struthionidae****Common Ostrich***Struthio camelus*

Recorded one female in Waza National Park.

*NOTE: The subspecies S. c. molybdophanes of dry East Africa is regarded by some authorities as a distinct species; Somali Ostrich. The form we observed would remain with the nominate Common Ostrich S. camelus. Clements does not as yet recognize this split.*

**Guineafowl Numididae****Helmeted Guineafowl***Numida meleagris*

Commonly observed in Benoue and Waza NP's with a peak count of 400 on one day in Waza NP.

*NOTE: The nominate N. m. meleagris (Helmeted Guineafowl) of East Africa, is sometimes regarded as distinct from the western N. m. galeata (West African Guineafowl – the form we recorded in Cameroon) and the southern N. m. mitrata (Tufted Guineafowl.) Few authorities recognize these splits.*

**New World Quail Odontophoridae****Stone Partridge***Ptilopachus petrosus*

This species was encountered first in Benoue NP which included excellent sightings at the roadside. We also observed at least ten at a rocky outcrop near Mora.

**Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Phasianidae****White-throated Francolin***Peliperdix albogularus*

We had magnificent views of a family group of four in the woodland at Benoue NP.

**Scaly Francolin***Pternistis squamatus*

A family group of seven was seen by some on the lower slopes of Mount Cameroon. We had one further sighting of three flying off the escarpment near Bamenda.

**Double-spurred Francolin***Pternistis bicalcaratus*

This francolin was commonly encountered at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Clapperton's Francolin***Pternistis clappertoni*

First seen near Mora with further sightings at Waza NP where they were regularly encountered with up to 30 seen daily.

**Common Quail***Coturnix coturnix*

We had great views of one in Waza National Park.

**Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae****White-faced Whistling-Duck***Dendrocygna viduata*

We had good views of 10 at Dang Lake and several more en route from Bamenda to Douala.

**Spur-winged Goose***Plectropterus gambensis*

Our first sighting was of 400 at Dang Lake and finally a flock of 50 birds was seen at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Knob-billed Duck***Sarkidiornis melanotos*

One was seen at waterhole in Waza NP.

*NOTE: Comb Duck, S. sylvicola which occurs in South America has been split from Knob-billed Duck, S. melanotos which occurs in Africa and Asia.*

**Hartlaub's Duck***Pteronetta hartlaubii*

This highly sought-after species was seen at a site near the Sanaga River, where we observed a superb pair. A further pair was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Black Duck** *Anas sparsa*

We had good scope views of two birds in the Bamenda highlands.

**Yellow-billed Duck** *Anas undulata*

We recorded 20 at Dang Lake near Ngaoundere. This is a very range restricted bird in West Africa, only occurring in this area in Cameroon and marginally in neighboring Nigeria. A further 40 were seen at a roadside pan en route from Bamenda to Douala.

**Garganey** *Anas querquedula*

A flock of eight was seen at Dang Lake, several males were in stunning breeding plumage.

### Grebes Podicipedidae

**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Ten were seen at Dang Lake and a further two at Lake Awing in the Bamenda highlands.

### Storks Ciconiidae

**Yellow-billed Stork** *Mycteria ibis*

Up to 45 were seen at a waterhole in Waza National Park.

**African Openbill** *Anastomus lamelligerus*

Up to 60 were seen in Waza NP.

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra*

We had great views of one as it flew along the Benoue River in Benoue NP. This was the first time that Rockjumper Birding Tours have recorded this species in Cameroon during our 14<sup>th</sup> tour to the country.

**Abdim's Stork** *Ciconia abdimii*

A flock of 60 of these intra-African migrants was seen at Ngaoundaba and a further 4 in Benoue NP.

**Saddle-billed Stork** *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*

One of the great storks of the World! A juvenile was seen in Waza NP.

**Marabou Stork** *Leptoptilos crumeniferus*

Up to 20 were seen in Waza NP.

### Ibises & Spoonbills Threskiornithidae

**[African] Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis aethiopicus*

Two were seen at a waterhole in Waza NP.

*NOTE: The Malagasy T. e. bernieri and Aldabran T. e. abbotti are sometimes split off as Malagasy Sacred Ibis T. bernieri*

**Hadada Ibis** *Bostrychia hagedash*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

### Hérons & Bitterns Ardeidae

**Black-crowned Night Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax*

Six were seen at dusk at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Striated Heron** *Butorides striata*

Our first sighting was of one at a wetland en route from Douala to the Sanaga River with a further sighting of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

*NOTE: This species group is often treated as 3 species, the nominate Striated Heron, B. striata, Green Heron, B. virescens of North America and Lava Heron, B. sundevalli of the Galapagos.*

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides*

Seen at Dang Lake where at least 2 birds were present. We had a further 10 at a waterhole in Waza NP.



**Western Cattle Egret***Bubulcus ibis*

Ubiquitous, conspicuous and regularly seen throughout, especially in association with herds of cattle

*NOTE: This group is split by some authorities into 2 species, the nominate Western Cattle Egret, B.ibis and the Asian/Australasian Eastern Cattle Egret E. coromandus.*

**Grey Heron***Ardea cinerea*

A well-known, widespread heron, recorded in small numbers in the Bamenda highlands.

**Black-headed Heron***Ardea melanocephala*

A fairly common species in the north, noted in small numbers in Waza NP. An estimate of 20 was seen on our full day in this special park.

**Purple Heron***Ardea purpurea*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and five at Dang Lake.

*NOTE: The Cape Verde Islands A. p. bournei is sometimes split off as Cape Verde Purple Heron or Bourne's Heron.*

**Great Egret***Ardea alba*

This familiar species was seen (singletons) at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Dang Lake.

*NOTE: This species is sometimes split into Western Great Egret, A.alba of the Americas, Africa & Europe and Eastern Great Egret, A.modesta of East Asia and Australasia. This split is as yet not recognized by Clements.*

**Little Egret***Egretta garzetta*

Up to 50 were seen at a river crossing during the drive from Douala to Buea.

*NOTE: Clements lumps Little, Western Reef E. gularis and Madagascar's Dimorphic Egret E. dimorpha into a single species. This treatment is not widely accepted.*

**Western Reef Heron***Egretta gularis*

One was seen at the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Hamerkop Scopidae****Hamerkop***Scopus umbretta*

This unique species was easily seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Cormorants & Shags Phalacrocoracidae****Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant***Microcarbo africanus*

Seen at wetlands throughout the country. The largest group was of six at Dang Lake.

**Anhingas & Darters Anhingidae****African Darter***Anhinga rufa*

One was seen at a pond en route to the Sanaga River.

*NOTE: Darter is sometimes split into three species, African Darter, A.rufa, Oriental Darter, A.melanogaster and Australasian Darter, A.novaehollandiae. Clements does not yet accept these splits.*

**Ospreys Pandionidae****[Western] Osprey***Pandion haliaetus*

We had great views of one along the Sanaga River.

**Hawks, Kites, Eagles & Vultures Accipitridae****African Cuckoo-Hawk***Aviceda cuculoides*

We had great views of two displaying near the Sanaga River and a further juvenile at Bokassi.

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- European Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*  
Five were seen near Mundemba.
- Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*  
Small numbers were seen south of Maroua and near Ngaoundaba Ranch.  
*NOTE: This species is sometimes split into Black-winged Kite, E.caeruleus of Africa and Asia and Black-shouldered Kite, E.axillaris of Australasia.*
- Scissor-tailed Kite** *Chelictinia riocourii*  
First seen near the town of Mora, much to the delight of all. We saw a peak count of 12 on one day. A highlight was watching several catching locusts right in front of us.
- Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*  
One was seen en route from Mora to Waza NP.  
*NOTE: Most authorities treat the resident African subspecies of this raptor as a separate species, Yellow-billed Kite M. aegyptius.*
- Yellow-billed Kite** *Milvus aegyptius*  
This ubiquitous, fork-tailed raptor was found in good numbers throughout the country and recorded on most days.
- African Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus vocifer*  
Not a very common bird in West Africa, two were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Palm-nut Vulture** *Gypohierax angolensis*  
Recorded in the wetter south with regularity. First seen south of the Sanaga.
- Hooded Vulture** *Necrosyrtes monachus*  
Small numbers were seen at scattered sites including one in Waza NP.
- White-backed Vulture** *Gyps africanus*  
A small flock of six was seen in Waza NP.
- Rüppell's Vulture (Griffon)** *Gyps rueppellii*  
A flock of twenty was seen in Waza NP.
- Lappet-faced Vulture** *Torgos tracheliotus*  
A whopping 14 of these globally threatened vultures were observed in Waza NP. This is Africa's largest vulture, an impressive animal indeed!
- Short-toed Snake Eagle** *Circaetus gallicus*  
We enjoyed good sightings of four in Waza NP.
- Brown Snake Eagle** *Circaetus cinereus*  
We had great sightings of three during the drive from Garoua to Ngaoundere.
- Bateleur** *Terathopius ecaudatus*  
The "tightrope-walker" of the raptor world is a handsome species that we first saw in the woodland belt in Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in Benoue NP.
- Western Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*  
Small numbers were seen at scattered sites including two at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further one at Dang Lake.
- Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus*  
We had wonderful sightings of two stunning males in Waza NP.
- Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus*  
One male near Mora and several males and females in Waza NP, smart birds indeed!
- African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene)** *Polyboroides typus*  
A distinctive raptor recorded most regularly in the south with peak numbers of 6 seen near the Sanaga River.
- Dark Chanting Goshawk** *Melierax metabates*  
Up to three recorded daily in the Mora and Waza areas

**Gabar Goshawk***Micronisus gabar*

We found three melanistic individuals and one normal grey form in Waza NP.

**Red-chested Goshawk***Accipiter toussenelii*

This forest *Accipiter* was seen briefly by the leader at forest edge in the Mt. Kupe area.

*NOTE: Some authorities consider this species to be a West African form of African Goshawk A. tachiro.*

**Shikra (Little Banded Goshawk)***Accipiter badius*

Seen in the woodlands of Ngaoundaba Ranch.

*NOTE: We recorded the Northern Shikra A. b. sphenurus that some authorities consider distinct from the southern African Southern Shikra A. b. polyzonoides. These forms may also be split from the Asian nominate A. b. badius and other Asian forms. Clements does not as yet recognize any of these splits.*

**Black Sparrowhawk (Goshawk)***Accipiter melanoleucus*

First seen near the Sanaga River with scattered sightings elsewhere

**Lizard Buzzard***Kaupifalco monogrammicus*

We enjoyed good views of one near the Sanaga River with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Grasshopper Buzzard***Butastur rufipennis*

We enjoyed a number of sightings of this species especially in Benoue and Waza NP's.

**Red-necked Buzzard***Buteo auguralis*

This handsome buzzard was noted at a number of localities on the tour, we had magnificent sightings near the Sanaga River with further sightings in the Bamenda highlands.

**Tawny Eagle***Aquila rapax*

We enjoyed good views of at least 3 birds on our day in Waza NP.

**Cassin's Hawk-Eagle***Aquila africana*

We had superb views of one in the Bokassi Mountains and another at Mount Kupe.

**Wahlberg's Eagle***Hieraaetus wahlbergi*

We had good views of 2 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Booted Eagle***Hieraaetus pennatus*

We had good sightings of several in Waza NP.

**Ayres's Hawk-Eagle***Hieraaetus ayresii*

We had good views of one at the Sanaga River.

**Long-crested Eagle***Lophaetus occipitalis*

We enjoyed scattered sightings of this impressive raptor throughout with great sightings of two in Waza NP.

**Falcons & Caracaras Falconidae****Lesser Kestrel***Falco naumanni*

We had good views of three in the Waza area, another Cameroon first for Rockjumper.

**Common (Eurasian/Rock) Kestrel***Falco tinnunculus*

This widespread, familiar raptor was first seen en route to the Sanaga River with further sightings in the Bamenda highlands.

*NOTE: Some authorities split this species into Common Kestrel, F. tinnunculus which we observed and occurs in East and West Africa and Rock Kestrel, F. rupicolus, which occurs in Southern Africa. Clements does not as yet recognize these splits.*

**Fox Kestrel***Falco alopex*

We had superb views of three south of Garoua.

**Grey Kestrel***Falco ardosiaceus*

We had great views of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch and another in Benoue NP.

**Red-necked Falcon***Falco chicquera*

Two were seen during the drive from Garoua to Ngaoundere and another in Waza NP.

**Eurasian Hobby** *Falco subbuteo*

One was seen in Waza NP.

**African Hobby** *Falco cuvierii*

One was seen at a nest in Ngaoundaba Ranch and another hunting over the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus*

We had several sightings, one near Maroua and another en route from Bamenda to Douala.

### Bustards Otididae

**Arabian Bustard** *Ardeotis arabs*

We were fortunate to encounter 2 of these large Bustards in Waza NP.

**White-bellied Bustard** *Eupodotis senegalensis*

We had great views of six near Mora.

*NOTE: Some authorities split the Southern African form into Barrow's Korhaan, E.barrowii. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

**Savile's Bustard** *Lophotis savilei*

We had great views of one near Waza NP.

**Black-bellied Bustard** *Lissotis melanogaster*

Several birds were found in Waza NP.

### Flufftails Sarothruridae

**White-spotted Flufftail** *Sarothrura pulchra*

This secretive, forest rallids hooting call was heard in several forests and a few members of the group had views of a male and female in Korup NP.

**Red-chested Flufftail** *Sarothrura rufa*

This marsh dwelling rallid was oddly enough heard in some rank vegetation at the base of Mount Cameroon where we were afforded fantastic views of a pair.

### Finfoots Turnicidae

**African Finfoot** *Podica senegalensis*

We had magnificent views of a female near the Sanaga River and later enjoyed a male near Mundemba.

### Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae

**African Rail** *Rallus caerulescens*

Although widespread on the continent this can be a tough species to see. We heard several at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Black Crake** *Amaurornis flavirostra*

Several were seen at the Crater Lake at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Swamphen** *Porphyrio madagascariensis*

We had good views of 6 birds at Dang Lake and a further two en route from Bamenda to Douala.

*NOTE: This cosmopolitan species is currently in taxonomic review and several forms are expected to be recognized as distinct species. The form we recorded would then become African Swamphen (P. madagascariensis.) Other forms to be recognized may include Indian Swamphen (P. poliocephalus,) Philippine Swamphen (P. pulverulentus) and Eastern Swamphen (P. melanotus). Clements does not as yet accept these splits.*

**Allen's Gallinule** *Porphyrio alleni*

We enjoyed wonderful scope views of two at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

We observed three at a wetland near Bamenda.

**Cranes Gruidae****Black Crowned Crane** *Balearica pavonina*

This very handsome bird is delightfully common in Waza NP with peak numbers of 150 seen on one day.

**Buttonquail Turnicidae****Quail-plover** *Ortyxelos meiffrenii*

This rare and incredible bird was one of the highlights of the trip for many. After a lengthy search in the hot dry savannah south of Waza we finally located one.

**Stone-curlews & Thick-knees Burhinidae****Senegal Thick-knee** *Burhinus senegalensis*

Our only sighting was of one at the Sanaga River.

**Spotted Thick-knee** *Burhinus capensis*

We had good views of three near Mora.

**Stilts & Avocets Recurvirostridae****Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

We had wonderful views of fifteen at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Plovers & Lapwings Charadriidae****Spur-winged Lapwing (Plover)** *Vanellus spinosus*

The northern counterpart of the familiar Blacksmith Plover, these vociferous birds were first seen at Dang Lake and later encountered in small numbers in Waza NP.

**Black-headed Lapwing** *Vanellus tectus*

We enjoyed many sightings of this bird in the arid areas near Mora and in Waza NP. A very attractive species.

**White-crowned Lapwing** *Vanellus albiceps*

First seen at the Sanaga River and later a further four were found in Benoue NP.

**[African] Wattled Lapwing** *Vanellus senegallus*

We found a pair near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Three-banded Plover** *Charadrius tricollaris*

We found 4 on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**White-fronted Plover** *Charadrius marginatus*

Only encountered on the Sanaga River where we found one.

**Egyptian Plover Pluvianidae****Egyptian Plover** *Pluvianus aegyptus*

This remarkably beautiful bird was encountered with regularity on the Benoue River in front of Camp in Benoue NP. We managed a total of 5 birds.

**Jacanas Jacanidae****African Jacana** *Actophilornis africanus*

A widespread and characteristic wader, conspicuous in wetlands at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Dang Lake

Sandpipers & Snipes Scolopacidae

- Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus*  
We had good views of one at La Digue
- Spotted Redshank** *Tringa erythropus*  
We enjoyed a wonderful sighting of 7 at a waterhole in Waza NP.
- Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia*  
One at the Sanaga River and two in Benoue NP.
- Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus*  
Up to twelve were seen at waterholes in Waza NP with scattered sightings elsewhere.
- Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola*  
Seen at Dang Lake and Waza NP
- Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos*  
A common migrant, seen at La Digue with scattered sightings elsewhere
- Little Stint** *Calidris minuta*  
One bird was seen at the Sanaga River.
- Ruff** *Philomachus pugnax*  
We had good views of a flock of 3 at a waterhole in Waza NP.

Coursers & Pratincoles Glareolidae

- Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola*  
Two of these birds were found at the Sanaga River.
- Rock Pratincole** *Glareola nuchalis*  
A total of 6 birds were seen on the Mana River on our way into and out of Korup NP.
- Grey Pratincole** *Glareola cinerea*  
50 of these beautiful pratincoles were scoped on sandbars on the Sanaga River.

Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae

- African Skimmer** *Rynchops flavirostris*  
We encountered a fantastic 127+ birds on the Sanaga River.
- Royal Tern** *Thalasseus maximus*  
One was seen flying in the bay at La Digue

Sandgrouse Pteroclididae

- Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** *Pterocles exustus*  
A day drinker, this bird was easy to observe in Waza NP and surrounds with at least 50 birds being seen on our full day in the reserve
- Four-banded Sandgrouse** *Pterocles quadricinctus*  
We had good views of several in Waza NP.

Pigeons & Doves Collumbidae

- Common (Rock) Pigeon** *Columba livia*  
Common in Douala and other large towns
- Speckled Pigeon** *Columba guinea*  
A common species in the north, first encountered at Garoua and seen at all localities north of there
- Cameroon Olive Pigeon** *Columba sjostedti*  
We had one of these birds on our day on Mount Cameroon.
- European (Eurasian) Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*  
We encountered 100+ of these birds in *Acacia* woodland next to a waterhole in Waza NP.

- Adamawa Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia hypopyrrha*  
We enjoyed fantastic views of three in Benoue NP. A rare species.
- African Collared Dove** *Streptopelia roseogrisea*  
This rather pale *Streptopelia* was encountered in Waza NP where we had good views of twenty.
- Mourning [Collared] Dove** *Streptopelia decipiens*  
Seen only in the Waza area where we recorded a total of 20 birds.
- Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata*  
A fairly common widespread species, especially notable in more wooded areas and around towns
- Vinaceous Dove** *Streptopelia vinacea*  
This richly marked dove was common in the Ngaoundaba and Benoue areas with peak numbers in Benoue NP.
- Laughing (Palm) Dove** *Stigmatopelia senegalensis*  
A familiar species and in Cameroon recorded regularly only from Ngaoundaba north
- Black-billed Wood Dove** *Turtur abyssinicus*  
The common wood dove of the dry, northern savanna, found in small numbers in Benoue NP
- Blue-spotted Wood Dove** *Turtur afer*  
Not uncommon in secondary growth in the moister south.
- Tambourine Dove** *Turtur tympanistria*  
A forest equivalent of the wood doves, we encountered one bird at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Blue-headed Wood Dove** *Turtur brehmeri*  
A deep forest species restricted to West Africa. We found three in Korup NP.
- Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis*  
A fairly common species in the dry north, especially in Waza NP where 40+ were seen in a day
- Bruce's Green Pigeon** *Treron waalia*  
Small numbers were seen en route from Garoua to Ngaoundere. We were treated to great views of a small flock feeding in a large fruiting fig tree.
- African Green Pigeon** *Treron calvus*  
Commoner in the south of the country, where good numbers were noted throughout

### Parrots Psittacidae

- Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri*  
We had great views of three birds in woodland south of Waza.
- Red-headed Lovebird** *Agapornis pullarius*  
We observed a pair at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- (African) Grey Parrot** *Psittacus erithacus*  
So much better to see them in the wild than as the usual cage bird! Small groups were seen near the Sanaga River and up to 40 seen near Mundemba.
- Senegal Parrot** *Poicephalus senegalus*  
A parrot of drier savanna and woodland, we found up to six a number in Benoue NP.

### Turacos Musophagidae

- Great Blue Turaco** *Corythaeola cristata*  
Arguably one of Africa's most spectacular birds, this huge frugivore was first seen near the Sanaga River where we enjoyed excellent views of 2 birds feeding in a fruiting tree. Several more were seen near Mundemba.
- Guinea (Green) Turaco** *Tauraco persa*  
A few were seen on Mt.Kupe.

*Note: This species used to be lumped under the Green Turaco (T. persa), now split into four full species the others being Knysna Turaco T. corythaix, Livingstone's Turaco (T. livingstonii) and Schalow's Turaco (T. schalowi).*

**Yellow-billed (Verreaux's) Turaco** *Tauraco macrorhynchus*

A commonly heard turaco of the interior forests, our first sightings were brief views of several on Mount Cameroon. Thereafter we encountered cracking views of one on the Mundemba road.

**White-crested Turaco** *Tauraco leucolophus*

A few birds were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch. However our best sighting was of one drinking in Benoue NP. A spectacular bird!

**Bannerman's Turaco** *Tauraco bannermani*

One of these stunning endemics was seen in the Bamenda Highlands where we enjoyed superb scope views of a particularly confiding individual.

**Violet Turaco** *Musophaga violacea*

Another stellar turaco, we had superb views of 3 birds at Benoue NP.

**Ross's Turaco** *Musophaga rossae*

We encountered at least three of these beautiful birds in the gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Western (Grey) Plantain-eater** *Crinifer piscator*

Seen in small numbers daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP

### Cuckoos Cuculidae

**Black-throated Coucal** *Centropus leucogaster*

A huge, elusive West African coucal. A single bird was seen exceptionally well near Mundemba.

*Note: Some authorities split this species into Black-throated Coucal, C. leucogaster that we heard and occurs in West Africa and Neumann's Coucal, C. neumanni that occurs in Central Africa. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

**Senegal Coucal** *Centropus senegalensis*

The most commonly encountered coucal throughout with peak numbers of six seen during the drive in Waza NP.

**Blue-headed Coucal** *Centropus monachus*

We had good views of a pair in Douala and heard others at Mount Kupe.

**Blue Malkoha (Yellowbill)** *Ceuthmochares aereus*

We had good views of one near the Sanaga River and several more in Korup NP.

*Note: Some authorities split this species into Green Malkoha, C. australis that occurs in East and Southern Africa and Blue Malkoha, C. aereus that we observed and occurs in West and Central Africa. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

**Levaillant's Cuckoo** *Clamator levaillantii*

A calling bird was seen very well at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Dideric Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx caprius*

One was heard calling near the Sanaga River.

**Klaas's Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx klaas*

This brood parasite, favoring the cup nests of woodland birds, was heard at several locations and seen well at Sanaga River, Ngaoundaba Ranch and again at Mount Kupe.

**African Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx cupreus*

Generally more shy and less common than its congeners, we saw a resplendent male at the Sanaga River and a further one at Mount Kupe.

**Dusky Long-tailed Cuckoo** *Cercococcyx mechowi*

We had superb scope views of a calling individual at Bokassi.

**Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo** *Cercococcyx olivinus*



A very shy and elusive species, far more often heard than seen, we heard one calling at Mount Cameroon.

**Black Cuckoo** *Cuculus clamosus*

We had great scope views of one in Korup NP, of the distinctive *gabonensis* race.

**Red-chested Cuckoo** *Cuculus solitarius*

We heard this species at Bokassi.

**African Cuckoo** *Cuculus gularis*

We enjoyed superb views of one en route from Ngaoundere to Benoue NP.

### Barn Owls Tytonidae

**Western Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

We were greeted by one flying over the airport on arrival. Several more birds were seen near our camp in Waza NP.

*NOTE: Some authorities split this into Western Barn Owl, T.alba which is widespread and the one we observed and Eastern Barn Owl, T.javanica of SE Asia and Australasia. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

### Typical Owls Strigidae

**African Scops Owl** *Otus senegalensis*

We enjoyed great views of two of these tiny owls in Benoue NP.

**Greyish Eagle-Owl** *Bubo cinerascens*

We enjoyed good views of this species at Ngaoundere.

**Fraser's Eagle-Owl** *Bubo poensis*

One was heard calling near Mount Kupe by the leader.

**Pel's Fishing Owl** *Scotopelia peli*

We had magnificent views of two adults and a juvenile in Benoue NP.

**Pearl-spotted Owlet** *Glaucidium perlatum*

We found this vocal species during the day in Benoue NP.

**Sjöstedt's [Barred] Owlet** *Glaucidium sjostedti*

We enjoyed magnificent scope views of one in Korup NP.

### Nightjars & Allies Caprimulgidae

**Black-shouldered Nightjar** *Caprimulgus nigriscapularis*

Some of us had good but brief views of one in the Bamenda highlands.

**Long-tailed Nightjar** *Caprimulgus climacurus*

We had a fantastic sighting of fifteen of these beautiful birds near Waza NP.

**Standard-winged Nightjar** *Macrodipteryx longipennis*

One of the world's most bizarre birds. We obtained views of many males with full standards during the day and on our night drives at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Swifts Apodidae

**Sabine's Spinetail** *Rhaphidura sabini*

We enjoyed great views of several near the Sanaga River.

**Cassin's Spinetail** *Neafrapus cassini*

We had good views of two near the Sanaga River.

**African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus*

Plentiful throughout most of the tour, especially in the north

**Common Swift** *Apus apus*

Small numbers were seen flying over Korup NP.

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis*

The common urban swift throughout the country, seen on many days

**Bates's Swift** *Apus batesi*

A swift of the forest zone of the south, we saw up to 15 birds during the drive from Mundemba.

### Mousebirds Coliidae

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus*

Not as common as elsewhere in Africa but nonetheless encountered regularly in open and secondary habitat from Benoue NP south.

**Blue-naped Mousebird** *Urocolius macrourus*

Seemingly replacing the Speckled Mousebird in the far north, we began to encounter small numbers of this species between Maroua and Waza NP. Day counts never exceeded 10 of this fast flying and oddly marked bird.

### Trogons Trogonidae

**Bare-cheeked Trogon** *Apaloderma aequatoriale*

One of these spectacular birds was seen exceptionally well on a walk in Korup NP. Much time and effort was put into trying to get good views of this species for everyone in the group and after patience and persistence we managed great views for all.

**Bar-tailed Trogon** *Apaloderma vittatum*

We enjoyed fabulous scope views of this beautiful bird in the Bokassi mountains.

### Rollers Coraciidae

**Purple (Rufous-crowned) Roller** *Coracias naevius*

We had great views of one during the drive from Ngaoundere to Benoue NP.

**Abyssinian Roller** *Coracias abyssinicus*

A common roller recorded throughout the dry north of the country. Another spectacular species!

**Blue-bellied Roller** *Coracias cyanogaster*

One bird was seen in open woodland in Benoue NP.

**Blue-throated Roller** *Eurystomus gularis*

One was seen during our time in Korup NP

**Broad-billed Roller** *Eurystomus glaucurus*

We enjoyed great scope views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Kingfishers Alcedinidae

**Chocolate-backed Kingfisher** *Halcyon badia*

We had cracking scope views of one on the Mundemba road.

**Grey-headed Kingfisher** *Halcyon leucocephala*

We had our highest total of 5 birds in Benoue NP and had further sightings in the north of the country.

**Striped Kingfisher** *Halcyon chelicuti*

Rather drabber than its spectacular cousins, this small, savannah kingfisher was found in woodland in Benoue NP.

**Blue-breasted Kingfisher** *Halcyon malimbica*

This forest equivalent of the Woodland Kingfisher was first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings on the Mundemba Road.

**Woodland Kingfisher** *Halcyon senegalensis*

Not uncommon in open habitat in the south often perching on telephone wires next to the road.

**African Dwarf Kingfisher** *Ispidina lecontei*

We enjoyed cracking scope views of one in Korup NP.

**African Pygmy Kingfisher** *Ispidina picta*

This beautiful little bird was first seen near the Sanaga River, we recorded them again at various widely scattered localities. This must be the best country to see this species, we observed a total of 17 during the trip.

**White-bellied Kingfisher** *Alcedo leucogaster*

This species was heard on a few occasions as it went cruising down the various small streams in Korup NP and seen briefly by some.

**Malachite Kingfisher** *Alcedo cristata*

We recorded this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Shining-blue Kingfisher** *Alcedo quadribrachys*

We had splendid views of one in Korup NP and another on the Mana River.

**Giant Kingfisher** *Megaceryle maxima*

The Goliath of the kingfisher world. Seen at Benoue NP and again at a couple of the large rivers near Mundemba

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis*

The world's commonest kingfisher was first seen at the Sanaga River and small numbers at Benoue NP.

**Bee-eaters Meropidae****Blue-moustached Bee-eater** *Merops mentalis*

We found a beautiful pair of these rare and highly sought after bee-eaters in Korup NP.

*NOTE: Some authorities split the Upper Guinea M. muelleri from the Lower Guinea to East Africa M. mentalis. This is a recent split accepted by IOC.*

**Black Bee-eater** *Merops gularis*

We had superb views of an adult and juvenile on Mount Kupe and a further pair at Bokassi.

**Little Bee-eater** *Merops pusillus*

Small numbers were seen at the Sanaga River and further sightings of several in Benoue NP.

**Red-throated Bee-eater** *Merops bulocki*

The northern equivalent of the more familiar White-fronted Bee-eater and every bit as beautiful. We had great views of many daily in Benoue NP and near Ngaoundere.

**White-throated Bee-eater** *Merops albicollis*

This species which breeds in the Sahelian savanna and winters in the Equatorial forest belt was first recorded near the Sanaga River. A flock of twenty was also seen at Bokassi.

**Green Bee-eater** *Merops orientalis*

This lovely lime green bird was recorded daily in the Mora and Waza areas.

**Northern Carmine Bee-eater** *Merops nubicus*

Another magnificent bee-eater, we were fortunate to see 20 on our drive from Benoue to Maroua.

*NOTE: Some authorities lump this form with Southern Carmine Bee-eater M. nubicoides and use the name Carmine Bee-eater M. nubicus.*

**Hoopoes Upupidae****Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

Ten were sighted during our full day in Waza NP.

*NOTE: The Hoopoe complex has had a confusing taxonomic history, with one to four species being recognised by various authorities. Clements splits the group into two forms, Madagascar U. marginalis and Eurasian U. epops. The most generally accepted treatment is that of three species,*

Madagascar, Eurasian and African. Further confusion arises in the placement of the *senegalensis* form within this grouping with most authorities placing it with the dark-winged *africana* group, however, Stevenson & Fanshawe place it with the white-winged Eurasian nominate grouping.

### Woodhoopoes Phoeniculidae

#### **Green Woodhoopoe**

*Phoeniculus purpureus*

A pair was recorded in Waza NP.

#### **Black Scimitarbill**

*Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

One was heard at Ngaoundaba Ranch with a further sighting of a three in the Waza area.

### Hornbills Bucerotidae

#### **African Pied Hornbill**

*Tockus fasciatus*

Common throughout forested areas in Cameroon

#### **African Grey Hornbill**

*Tockus nasutus*

The common savanna hornbill in Cameroon, with small numbers (20 daily) being seen in the drier northern part of the country. First recorded en route from Garoua to Ngaoundaba Ranch

#### **Northern Red-billed Hornbill**

*Tockus erythrorhynchus*

A common hornbill of dry woodlands in the Waza area where we recorded up to ten daily

*NOTE: This species is sometimes split into five species, Northern Red-billed Hornbill, T.erythrorhynchus which we observed, Damara Red-billed Hornbill, Tdamarensis of N.Namibia, Southern Red-billed Hornbill, T.rufirostris of Southern Africa, Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill, T.ruahae – endemic to Tanzania and Western Red-billed Hornbill, T.kempi of Senegambia. Clements does not as yet accept these splits.*

#### **Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill**

*Tockus camurus*

This normally scarce species was sighted on several occasions in Korup NP.

#### **White-crested Hornbill**

*Tropicranus albocristatus*

We enjoyed magnificent views of one in secondary forest on the Mundemba road.

#### **Piping Hornbill**

*Bycanistes fistulator*

Small numbers were seen daily at the Sanaga River and near Mundemba.

#### **White-thighed Hornbill**

*Bycanistes albotibialis*

A total of 3 were seen at the Sanaga River with further sightings near Mundemba.

#### **Black-casqued Wattled Hornbill**

*Ceratogymna atrata*

We had magnificent views of a male flying over the Mundemba road.

#### **Yellow-casqued Hornbill**

*Ceratogymna elata*

We had brief views of several during our stay in Korup NP, including a couple of them perched.

### Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae

#### **Abyssinian Ground Hornbill**

*Bucorvus abyssinicus*

We were extremely fortunate to find a pair walking through tall woodland in Benoue NP. This is a scarce species in Cameroon.

### African Barbets Lybiidae

#### **Grey-throated Barbet**

*Gymnobucco bonapartei*

We had wonderful views of up to eight birds at a nesting colony near the Sanaga River.

#### **Bristle-nosed Barbet**

*Gymnobucco peli*

A small group of three was seen near the Sanaga River.

#### **Naked-faced Barbet**

*Gymnobucco calvus*

A common forest species, we saw at least 10 on Mount Cameroon, and several more in Korup NP and on Mt Kupe.

**Speckled Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus scolopaceus*

This scruffy bird was seen in forests and forest edge. We found 3 at the Sanaga River and several near Mundemba and in Korup NP.

**Western Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus coryphaeus*

After frustratingly only hearing this species at Mount Cameroon and Mount Kupe, we finally managed wonderful scope views of one in the Bamenda highlands.

**Red-rumped Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus atroflavus*

We enjoyed cracking views of one near the Sanaga River.

**Yellow-throated Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus subsulphureus*

This species is similar to its more familiar yellow-rumped cousin but with a more rapid tempo to its “tinking” call. This species was often heard and we had good views of 5 near the Sanaga River.

**Yellow-rumped Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus bilineatus*

A common forest-edge species. Small numbers were seen in the Bamenda highlands and at Mt. Cameroon.

**Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus chrysoconus*

A savanna species first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and we obtained great views of several during the drive from Maroua to Waza.

**Yellow-spotted Barbet** *Buccanodon duchaillui*

A rather beautiful Barbet, heard at several forested sites in the south. We obtained great views of one in Korup NP.

**Hairy-breasted Barbet** *Tricholaema hirsuta*

This forest barbet was heard on Mount Kupe and in Korup NP.

**Vieillot’s Barbet** *Lybius vieilloti*

A bird of more open woodland, our first sighting was of one in Benoue NP with further sightings near Mora.

**White-headed Barbet** *Lybius leucocephalus*

This localized and often elusive barbet was seen very well at a rocky outcrop north of Maroua.

**Double-toothed Barbet** *Lybius bidentatus*

A total of 3 birds were seen during our stay at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Bearded Barbet** *Lybius dubius*

This species was sighted near Ngaoundere and in Benoue NP.

**Yellow-billed Barbet** *Trachyphonus purpuratus*

This elusive forest barbet was seen exceptionally well near the Sanaga River and at Mount Kupe and Bokassi.

### Honeyguides Indicatoridae

**Cassin’s Honeybird** *Prodotiscus insignis*

We had good views of one near the Sanaga River.

**Willcock’s Honeyguide** *Indicator willcocksi*

We had superb views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Lesser Honeyguide** *Indicator minor*

One was seen in Benoue NP

**Spotted Honeyguide** *Indicator maculatus*

We had cracking scope views of one in Korup NP.

**Greater Honeyguide** *Indicator indicator*

We obtained good views of a single bird in Benoue NP.

**Lyre-tailed Honeyguide** *Melichneutes robustus*  
We were very fortunate to hear and then see one flying over Korup NP.

### Woodpeckers & Allies Picidae

**Eurasian Wryneck** *Jynx torquilla*  
We enjoyed fantastic views of one near Mora.

**African Piculet** *Sasia africana*  
This diminutive and endearing species was first seen near the Sanaga River where one was seen excavating its nest. A further one was seen in Korup NP.

**Fine-spotted Woodpecker** *Campethera punctuligera*  
This lovely woodpecker was seen very well in Benoue NP.

**Green-backed Woodpecker** *Campethera cailliautii*  
We had superb views of one at Mt. Kupe.

**Tullberg's Woodpecker** *Campethera tullbergi*  
We had great views of three at Bokassi and a further one in the Bamenda highlands.

**Buff-spotted Woodpecker** *Campethera nivosa*  
This diminutive and rather dark woodpecker was seen in a mixed species flock in Korup NP.

**Brown-eared Woodpecker** *Campethera caroli*  
We had good but brief views of one near the Sanaga River.

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicus fuscescens*  
Our first sighting was at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings on Mount Cameroon.

**Gabon Woodpecker** *Dendropicus gabonensis*  
We had superb scope views of one at Bokassi.

**Yellow-crested Woodpecker** *Dendropicus xantholophus*  
We had superb scope views of a pair near the Sanaga River and several more in Korup NP.

**Elliot's Woodpecker** *Dendropicus elliotii*  
We found a fabulous 4 birds on Mount Cameroon and one female in the Bamenda highlands.

**African Grey Woodpecker** *Dendropicus goertae*  
Several individuals located in Benoue NP and near Maroua.

**Brown-backed Woodpecker** *Dendropicus obsoletus*  
We enjoyed fabulous views of one in Benoue NP. A scarce, dry country species.

### Broadbills Eurylaimidae

**African Broadbill** *Smithornis capensis*  
We had fantastic views of a male displaying in secondary growth in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Grey-headed Broadbill** *Smithornis sharpei*  
We put in a great deal of effort for this scarce species and eventually had outstanding views of a male displaying on Mt. Kupe.

**Rufous-sided Broadbill** *Smithornis rufolateralis*  
A magnificent male was seen displaying in Korup NP

### Wattle-eyes & Batises Platysteiridae

**Black-and-white Shrike-flycatcher** *Bias musicus*  
This characterful, hammer-headed flycatchers was observed on several occasions in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Senegal Batis** *Batis senegalensis*  
This species was seen on the tour at both Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Western Black-headed Batis** *Batis erlangeri*  
We found this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further pair in the Bamenda highlands.

**Fernando Po Batis***Batis poensis*

We had great scope views of a pair at their nest on Mt. Kupe, a seldom seen canopy species.

**Brown-throated (Common) Wattle-eye** *Platysteira cyanea*

The most frequently encountered Wattle-eye on our trip and seen throughout the country.

**Banded Wattle-eye** *Platysteira laticincta*

One of Cameroon's most threatened endemics. We found a superb pair in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Chestnut Wattle-eye** *Platysteira castanea*

A stunning male was seen on the Mundemba road and several more during our stay in Korup NP.

**White-spotted Wattle-eye** *Platysteira tonsa*

We had great views of two males and a female in Korup NP.

**Black-necked Wattle-eye** *Platysteira chalybea*

This beautiful little bird was seen briefly in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye** *Platysteira concreta*

Another stunning and restless bird, we had a mind-blowing encounter with one in Korup NP. A stunning species!

**Helmetshrikes Prionopidae****White-crested Helmetshrike***Prionops plumatus*

We had great views of several flocks at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

*NOTE: This species is being considered for a 3-way split. P. p. cristatus would become Curly-crested Helmetshrike, P. p. poliocephalus would become Southern Helmetshrike and the nominate P. p. plumatus, the form we recorded would become Straight-crested Helmetshrike. Clements does not as yet recognize these splits.*

**Bushshrikes Malaconotidae****Grey-headed Bushshrike***Malaconotus blanchoti*

We had superb views of one during the drive from Ngaoundaba to Benoue NP.

**Green-breasted Bushshrike** *Malaconotus gladiator*

We had fantastic views of this huge bushshrike at Bokassi.

**Mount Kupe Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus kupeensis*

We heard this endangered species at Bokassi.

**Many-coloured Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus multicolor*

We had splendid views of a stunning adult at Mount Kupe.

**Bocage's (Gray-green) Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus bocagei*

We had good views of three at Bokassi including one on a nest.

**Orange-breasted Bushshrike** *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus*

A widespread African savanna species that was seen at Benoue NP

**Brown-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra australis*

Two birds were sighted at Bokassi.

**Black-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra senegala*

The most widely distributed tchagra that was seen well at Ngaoundaba Ranch and near Mora.

**Pink-footed Puffback** *Dryoscopus angolensis*

We were treated to good views of a female in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Red-eyed Puffback** *Dryoscopus senegalensis*

This bird was heard initially and then later seen at Mt. Kupe.

**Northern Puffback** *Dryoscopus gambensis*

Restricted to the north, we found five in Benoue NP.

**Mountain Sooty Boubou** *Laniarius poensis*

Two were seen exceptionally well on Mt. Cameroon

*This is a fairly recent Clements split from Fuelleborn's Boubou, L.fuelleborni*

**Lühder's Bushshrike** *Laniarius luehderi*

We heard this species on many occasions at Mount Kupe and in the Bokassi Mountains. Our intensive search was finally rewarded with great views of one en route from Mount Kupe to Bamenda.

**Tropical Boubou** *Laniarius aethiopicus*

We found two at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further one in Benoue NP.

*NOTE: Some authorities have split this into 3 species, Tropical Boubou, L.aethiopicus the one we observed, Somali Boubou, L.erlangeri of Somalia and Zanzibar Boubou, L.sublacteus of NE Tanzania and Zanzibar*

**Yellow-crowned Gonolek** *Laniarius barbarous*

We had superb views of this magnificent species in woodland south of Waza NP.

**Black-headed Gonolek** *Laniarius erythrogaster*

One of these beautiful birds was seen in the gallery forest on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**Yellow-breasted Boubou** *Laniarius atroflavus*

A total of 4 of these stunning and confiding shrikes were seen well on Mount Cameroon and a further 5 in the Bamenda highlands.

**Brubru** *Nilaus afer*

A single bird was sighted in Benoue NP.

### Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae

**Grey Cuckooshrike** *Coracina caesia*

We recorded two of these smart birds at Bokassi.

**White-breasted Cuckoo-shrike** *Coracina pectoralis*

Two were seen very well at Ngaoundaba Ranch, a beautiful and uncommon broad-leafed woodland species.

**Blue Cuckooshrike** *Coracina azurea*

We had wonderful scope views of one in Korup NP.

**Petit's Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga petiti*

We found one at Mount Cameroon and another at Mount Kupe.

**Purple-throated Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga quiscalina*

We had great views of a pair at Mount Kupe.

### Shrikes Laniidae

**Yellow-billed Shrike** *Corvinella corvina*

Surprisingly we only observed one bird at Ngaoundaba Ranch. An unusual, gregarious species.

**Mackinnon's Shrike (Fiscal)** *Lanius mackinnoni*

We encountered a total of six on Mount Cameroon. Small numbers were also seen daily in the Mt.Kupe/Bokassi areas.

**Southern Grey Shrike** *Lanius meridionalis*

We saw one of these palearctic migrants in dry scrub North of Maroua.

**Common Fiscal** *Lanius collaris*

A widespread species but not encountered often on our tour, we encountered small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in the Bamenda highlands.

**Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*

This smart shrike was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Masked Shrike** *Lanius nubicus*

We enjoyed a superb sighting of an adult male in full breeding plumage near Waza NP.



**Figbirds & Orioles Oriolidae**

- African Golden Oriole** *Oriolus auratus*  
Seen easily in the tall woodlands at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Western (Black-headed) Oriole** *Oriolus brachyrhynchus*  
One was heard in Korup NP.
- Black-winged Oriole** *Oriolus nigripennis*  
We recorded four in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Drongos Dicruridae**

- Square-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus ludwigii*  
We located one in gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Shining Drongo** *Dicrurus atripennis*  
This forest interior drongo was seen well in Korup NP.
- Fork-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus adsimilis*  
A familiar, ubiquitous bird. Good numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Velvet-mantled Drongo** *Dicrurus modestus*  
This recently split forest equivalent of the Fork-tailed Drongo was found along the Mundemba road.  
*NOTE: Some authorities split this species from Fork-tailed Drongo D. adsimilis.*

**Monarchs Monarchidae**

- Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher** *Trochocercus nitens*  
We enjoyed great views of a pair in Korup NP.
- Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone rufocinerea*  
We had fantastic sightings of several birds in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.
- Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone rufiventer*  
We had daily sightings of this striking speices in Korup NP. We also observed two well grown chicks on a nest.
- Bates's Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone batesi*  
We had a good sighting of one at Bokassi and a further two at Mt.Kupe.
- African Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone viridis*  
We enjoyed good views of six at Ngaoundaba Ranch including several of the black-and-white morph.

**Crows & Jays Corvidae**

- Piapiac** *Ptilostomus afer*  
Small numbers were seen near Ngaoundere.
- Pied Crow** *Corvus albus*  
A common and familiar crow, recorded in good numbers throughout.

**Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae**

- African Blue Flycatcher** *Elminia longicauda*  
A wonderfully common and beautiful bird, which constantly fans and wags its tail, we had sightings in many localities in the south with our highest day total of 3 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Dusky Crested Flycatcher** *Elminia nigromitratus*  
We had superb views of one in the understory in Korup NP.
- White-bellied Crested Flycatcher** *Elminia albiventris*  
We had good views of 6 birds on Mount Cameroon and one at Bokassi.

**Tits & Chickadees Paridae****White-shouldered Black Tit***Parus guineensis*

We found two in Benoue NP.

*NOTE: Most authorities split this complex into 2 full species. The nominate dark-eyed M. l. leucomelas remains White-winged Black-Tit and the more northern and western yellow-eyed M. l. guineensis (the form we recorded in Cameroon) becomes White-shouldered Black-Tit. Clements has recently recognized this split*

**White-bellied Tit***Parus albiventris*

We had superb views of three in the Bamenda highlands.

**Nicator Nicatoridae****Western Nicator***Nicator chloris*

This vociferous songster was first seen in Korup NP with a further sighting at Mt.Kupe.

**Larks Alaudidae****Singing Bush Lark***Mirafra cantillans*

We had superb views of one in Waza NP.

**Crested Lark***Galerida cristata*

We had great views of one near the Benoue River with a further four seen near Mora.

**Sun Lark***Galerida modesta*

We found 2 birds in burnt grassland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark***Eremopterix leucotis*

A fairly common species of the dry north, at least 20 birds were seen on outings from Maroua to Waza NP.

**Bulbuls Pycnonotidae****Common Bulbul***Pycnonotus barbatus*

A ubiquitous species and recorded on most days of the trip, with high daily tallies.

*NOTE: Another very confusing polytypic species complex. Several Asian and African forms have already been recognized as distinct species within the super-species.*

**Dark-capped Bulbul***Pycnonotus tricolor*

Commonly encountered at Ngaoundaba Ranch where we saw at least twenty.

**Cameroon (Mountain) Greenbul***Andropadus montanus*

Two were seen during our decent on Mount Cameroon.

**Western (Mountain) Greenbul***Andropadus tephrolaemus*

This common, although range restricted species was quite common on Mount Cameroon where we saw a total of 40 birds. We enjoyed further sightings at Mt.Kupe and in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Slender-billed Greenbul***Stelgidillas gracilirostris*

The common greenbul of forest canopy, we had good views of one near the Sanaga River.

**Little Greenbul***Eurillas virens*

This, the commonest forest edge greenbul was heard at all forest sites and seen on several occasions at the Sanaga River, near Mundemba and at Mt. Kupe.

**Ansorge's Greenbul***Eurillas ansorgei*

We enjoyed good views of three near the Sanaga River.

**Yellow-whiskered Greenbul***Eurillas latirostris*

A greenbul of forest undergrowth and mid-storey, we had a good sighting of one at Mt. Kupe.

**Golden Greenbul***Calyptocichla serina*

We had great scope views of two at Mount Kupe.

- Honeyguide Greenbul** *Baeopogon indicator*  
This species was seen once on the Mundemba road.
- Sjostedt's Greenbul** *Baeopogon clamans*  
A low density and rather shy species. We managed reasonable views of two in Korup NP.
- Spotted Greenbul** *Ixonotus guttatus*  
We secured excellent views of 15 birds in secondary forest south of the Sanaga River and later had more sightings on the Mundemba road.
- Simple Greenbul** *Chlorocichla simplex*  
We had good views of three near the Sanaga River.
- Yellow-throated Leaflove (Greenbul)** *Chlorocichla flavicollis*  
Small numbers were seen daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Swamp Palm Bulbul** *Thescelocichla leucopleura*  
We had brief views of one at Bokassi.
- Red-tailed Leaflove** *Phyllastrephus scandens*  
One was seen well but briefly in gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Cameroon Olive Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus poensis*  
We found one on Mount Cameroon and several more in the undergrowth in the Bokassi Mountains.
- Icterine Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus icterinus*  
Fairly commonly encountered in Korup NP
- Xavier's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus xavieri*  
Very similar to the previous species but with a different call, we had great views in Korup NP.
- Grey-headed Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus poliocephalus*  
We enjoyed great sightings of 8 in the Bokassi Mountains.
- Red-tailed (Common) Bristlebill** *Bleda syndactylus*  
We had good views of two in Korup NP.
- Yellow-lored (Lesser) Bristlebill** *Bleda notatus*  
Commoner than it's congener in Cameroon, we encountered several daily in Korup NP, often in association with ant swarms.  
*NOTE: The Green-tailed Bristlebill complex is often split into 3 species, Yellow-lored Bristlebill, Bleda notatus which occurs in West Africa and is the one we observed, Green-tailed Bristlebill, B.eximius which occurs in the Upper Guinea area and Yellow-eyed Bristlebill, B.ugandae which occurs in Uganda and the DRC.*
- Eastern Bearded Greenbul** *Criniger chloronotus*  
Korup NP is arguably the best site in the world to bag this Congo forest endemic. We managed a couple of fantastic sightings during our stay.
- Red-tailed Greenbul** *Criniger calurus*  
We found one near the Sanaga River.
- White-bearded Greenbul** *Criniger ndussumensis*  
Another Congo forest special, we saw up to six daily during our stay in Korup NP.

### Swallows & Martins Hirundinidae

- Mountain Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne fuliginosa*  
A total of 6 of this range-restricted species, a near endemic to Cameroon, were seen on our day on Mt Cameroon.
- Black Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne pristoptera*  
First seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings at Mt.Kupe, Bokassi and the Bamenda highlands
- Grey-rumped Swallow** *Pseudhirundo griseopyga*

One was seen in Benoue NP.

**Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*

We found good numbers of up to fifty in Waza NP.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

Small numbers seen throughout Cameroon with our first sightings near the Sanaga River.

*NOTE: This cosmopolitan species complex may be split based on the Old World nominate form and its congeners which would become Eurasian Swallow *H. rustica* and the New World Barn Swallow *H. erythrogaster*. Further splitting within the group may also be done e.g. the distinctive *H. r. savignii*, which breeds in the Nile Valley and would be named Egyptian Swallow. We only recorded representatives of the Palaearctic migrant Barn/Eurasian Swallow. Clements does not as yet recognize any of these splits.*

**Ethiopian Swallow** *Hirundo aethiopica*

Good numbers were observed in the Waza area.

**Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii*

Small numbers were seen in Benoue NP.

*NOTE: This species complex is likely to be split based on the African nominate form which would become African Wire-tailed Swallow and the Asian Wire-tailed Swallow which would be *H. filifera*. Clements does not as yet recognize this split.*

**White-bibbed Swallow** *Hirundo nigrita*

We enjoyed wonderful views of one at the Sanaga River.

**Rock Martin** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula*

Two of this dark hirundine were seen in the Bamenda highlands.

**Common House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

Six were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch by some participants.

**Lesser Striped Swallow** *Cecropis abyssinica*

A widespread African swallow that is fairly common in Cameroon. We found small numbers throughout the country.

**Red-breasted (Rufous-chested) Swallow** *Cecropis semirufa*

We had wonderful views of six near the Sanaga River.

**West African (Red-rumped) Swallow** *Cecropis domicella*

We enjoyed good views of two at Dang Lake.

**Preuss's [Cliff] Swallow** *Petrochelidon preussi*

Commonly encountered at the Sanaga River and Mundemba

**Forest Swallow** *Petrochelidon fuliginosa*

We recorded a total of 5 birds in Korup NP.

### Crombecs, African warblers *Macrosphenidae*

**Moustached Grass Warbler** *Melocichla mentalis*

This attractive warbler, a denizen of rank grass, was seen near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Yellow Longbill** *Macrosphenus flavicans*

A real skulker, however we were treated to superb views of two in Korup NP.

**Grey Longbill** *Macrosphenus concolor*

Our first sighting was of two on the Mundemba road with further sightings at Mount Kupe.

**Northern Crombec** *Sylvietta brachyura*

The crombec of dry *Acacia* woodland, our first one was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings near Mora.

**Green Crombec** *Sylvietta virens*

The commonest and most widespread forest crombec, though small and inconspicuous (except by call). We found one near the Sanaga River.

**Cettia bush warblers & allies Cettiidae****Chestnut-capped Flycatcher** *Erythrocerus mccallii*

We had wonderful views of two in Korup NP and a further five on the Mundemba road.

**Green Hylia** *Hylia prasina*

Its "HEE-lia!" call was one of the common background sounds at all the forest sites on the tour. We had good views of one near the Sanaga River.

**Tit Hylia** *Pholidornis rushiae*

We had superb views of one near the Sanaga River and another in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Leaf warblers & allies Phylloscopidae****Black-capped Woodland Warbler** *Phylloscopus herberti*

Our first sighting of this little gem was of 2 on Mount Cameroon with further sightings of one in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Several were seen in Benoue NP with further sightings on Mount Cameroon.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Our first sighting was of one in full song on the Mundemba road with good numbers seen daily at Mount Kupe.

**Reed warblers & allies Acrocephalidae****Greater Swamp Warbler** *Acrocephalus rufescens*

We had a good but brief sighting of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch and several others were heard near Mount Kupe.

**Great Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

We enjoyed superb views of one on Mount Cameroon.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

We found one near Garoua and another in Benoue NP.

**Eurasian Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

We had good views of one along the Benoue River in Benoue NP. Initially we thought this may be a Marsh Warbler however there are very few records of the latter species from Western Africa and so it is far more likely to have been a Eurasian Reed Warbler.

**Dark-capped Yellow Warbler** *Chloropeta natalensis*

We had great views of one in the Bamenda highlands.

**Eastern Olivaceous Warbler** *Iduna pallida*

Another Palearctic migrant, we found one in our hotel garden in Garoua.

*NOTE: Clements has recently split this species into Western Olivaceous Warbler, H. opaca and Eastern Olivaceous Warbler, H pallida.*

**Grassbirds & allies Locustellidae****Fan-tailed Grassbird** *Schoenicola brevirostris*

We had great views of one displaying at Bokassi.

**Little Rush (African Bush) Warbler** *Bradypterus baboecala*

We heard one near Mount Kupe.

**Evergreen Forest (Scrub) Warbler** *Bradypterus lopezi*

This can be a difficult species to see. On Mt Cameroon we eventually managed to get views of one.

**Bangwa Forest (Scrub) Warbler** *Bradypterus bangwaensis*

We managed to get great views of this rather confiding and handsome *Bradypterus* in the Bamenda highlands. A range restricted species endemic to western Cameroon and neighboring eastern Nigeria.

### Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae

**Red-faced Cisticola** *Cisticola erythropus*

This moist grassland and swamp dwelling cisticola was seen at Benoue NP.

**Whistling Cisticola** *Cisticola lateralis*

We enjoyed good views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Chattering Cisticola** *Cisticola anonymus*

A secondary growth and scrub species, we encountered them regularly in the south.

**Chubb's (Brown-backed) Cisticola** *Cisticola chubbi*

We encountered this noisy and conspicuous bird in small groups on the forest edge on Mt Cameroon, Bokassi and in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Rock-loving Cisticola** *Cisticola emini*

We had great views of one on a rocky hillsides north of Maroua.

*NOTE: Some authorities split Rock-loving Cisticola, C. emini that we observed and occurs in West and East Africa from Lazy Cisticola, C. aberrans that occurs in Southern Africa. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

**Winding Cisticola** *Cisticola marginatus*

We found a single bird at Dang Lake.

**Red-pate Cisticola** *Cisticola ruficeps*

A total of 10 birds, were seen in arid scrub between Maroua and Waza NP.

**Rufous Cisticola** *Cisticola rufus*

We found 2 of these rather uncommon and localized cisticolas in woodland in Benoue NP.

**Pectoral-patch Cisticola** *Cisticola brunnescens*

Two birds were seen in anthropogenic grassland in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Tawny-flanked Prinia** *Prinia subflava*

Another noisy and familiar African warbler, we recorded this species in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Benoue NP and near Maroua.

**River Prinia** *Prinia fluviatilis*

In plumage almost identical to the previous species but different in call. We had at least 3 in the Waza area.

**Banded Prinia** *Prinia bairdii*

This snappy looking bird showed very well on Mt. Cameroon.

**White-chinned Prinia** *Schistolais leucopogon*

This confiding, gregarious species was observed at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Red-winged Warbler** *Heliolais erythropterus*

We enjoyed brief views of one in Benoue NP.

**Green Longtail** *Urolais epichlorus*

Our first encounter with this species was at Mount Cameroon with others heard at Mount Kupe and Bokassi.

**Black-collared Apalis** *Oreolais pulchra*

A beautiful apalis that we had stunning views of in the Bamenda highlands. We saw at least 6 birds during our time there.

**Red-winged Grey Warbler** *Drymocichla incana*

Five of this smart species were observed at Benoue NP.

- Cricket Longtail** *Spiloptila clamans*  
We found one of these charismatic and highly sought-after birds North of Maroua.
- Yellow-breasted Apalis** *Apalis flavida*  
This widespread, woodland apalis is not very common in Cameroon. We observed one in Benoue NP.
- [Lowland] Masked Apalis** *Apalis binotata*  
We had good views of one at Bokassi.
- Black-throated Apalis** *Apalis jacksoni*  
This is one of the most beautiful apalises. We observed at least 3 birds during our walks in the Bokassi Mountains.
- Black-capped Apalis** *Apalis nigriceps*  
A canopy apalis, we had good views of a pair on Mt. Kupe and another pair on the Mundemba road.
- Bamenda Apalis** *Apalis bamendae*  
A gallery forest species and an endemic to Cameroon, we found one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Grey Apalis** *Apalis cinerea*  
We had sightings of 2 on Mount Cameroon and a further two in the Bamenda highlands.
- Oriole Warbler** *Hypergerus atriceps*  
Three of these unusual creatures were located in riverine vegetation at Benoue NP.
- Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brevicaudata*  
The bleating calls of this common bird were heard in wooded habitat at many localities on the tour. We had almost daily sightings.  
*NOTE: Most authorities now recognize the nominate green-backed forms of this widespread African warbler as distinct from the grey-backed forms C. brevicaudata. We encountered the grey-backed form in Cameroon. Clements lumps these two groups.*
- Yellow-browed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera superciliaris*  
This handsome warbler was first seen at the Sanaga River where we had great views of one and later another was seen on the Mundemba road.
- Olive-green Camaroptera** *Camaroptera chloronota*  
This species was seen well but briefly on the Mundemba road.
- Black-faced Rufous Warbler** *Bathmocercus rufus*  
This species was seen well on two occasions on Mt. Kupe.
- White-tailed Warbler** *Poliolais lopezi*  
We had superb views of a male and two females on Mount Cameroon.
- Senegal Eremomela** *Eremomela pusilla*  
A common species recorded in woodlands from Ngaoundaba Ranch north where we enjoyed a day total of 10 birds.  
*NOTE: This species is sometimes lumped into the East African E. pusilla (Green-backed Eremomela.) The enlarged species is called Green-backed Eremomela.*
- Rufous-crowned Eremomela** *Eremomela badiceps*  
Our only sighting was of a flock of five near the Sanaga River.

### Ground Babblers Pellorneidae

- [Spotted] Thrush-Babbler** *Ptyrticus turdinus*  
A noisy and restless species that is very tough to see well. We all managed to get great views of a single bird in a patch of gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Blackcap Illadopsis** *Illadopsis cleaveri*  
Two birds were seen in Korup NP.
- Brown Illadopsis** *Illadopsis fulvescens*  
Two were seen briefly in Korup NP.

Laughingthrushes Leiothrichidae**White-throated Mountain Babbler** *Kupeornis gilberti*

We saw several groups of this wonderful and unique bird at Bokassi.

**Blackcap Babbler** *Turdoides reinwardtii*

Another tricky species to see well, we found a couple in the gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Brown Babbler** *Turdoides plebejus*

We enjoyed superb views of many groups at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

Sylviid Babblers, Parrotbills Sylviidae**Ruwenzori (African) Hill Babbler** *Pseudoalcippe atriceps*

We had good views of 6 on Mount Cameroon and a further two in the Bamenda highlands.

*Note: This species is sometimes split from African Hill Babbler, P.abysinica. Clements does not as yet accept this split.***Eurasian Blackcap** *Sylvia atricapilla*

A female was seen in Benoue NP and we observed at least four in the Bamenda highlands.

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*

We had superb views of two on Mount Kupe.

**Lesser Whitethroat** *Sylvia curruca*

We had good views of one in woodland south of Waza.

**Common (Greater) Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*

Up to fifteen were seen in the arid plains north of Maroua.

White-eyes Zosteropidae**[Mount] Cameroon Spierops** *Spierops melanocephalus*

This Mount Cameroon endemic showed particularly well once we reached the treeline. A total of 6 birds were seen. We were really lucky as this can be a very tricky species to find.

**African Yellow White-eye** *Zosterops senegalensis*

Not uncommon in moist habitat we found good numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

*NOTE: The birds we saw in the forests of Mt.Kupe and Bokassi are sometimes split off as Forest White-eye, Z.stenocricotus.*Sugarbirds & allies Promeropidae**Grey-chested Babbler (Illadopsis)** *Kakamega poliothorax*

Some of us were fortunate to see one on Mount Cameroon and another was heard in the Bamenda highlands.

Hyliotas Hyliotidae**Yellow-bellied Hyliota** *Hyliota flavigaster*

We recorded a pair of these stunning birds, in woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Southern Hyliota** *Hyliota australis*We had cracking views of a pair on Mount Kupe. Further research into this isolated population in Cameroon may reveal a cryptic new species. (These "Southern Hyliotas" have now been seen a number of times on Mount Kupe and at Bokassi, favoring the large *Albizia* like flatcrowns)**Violet-backed Hyliota** *Hyliota violacea*

We had good scope views of two at Mount Kupe.



**Treecreepers Certhiidae****Spotted Creeper***Salpornis spilonotus*

We had fantastic views of one bird while birding in woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch and further sightings in Benoue NP.

**Starlings Sturnidae****Purple-headed Starling***Lamprotornis purpureiceps*

We saw two flying over Korup NP.

**Greater Blue-eared (Glossy) Starling** *Lamprotornis chalybaeus*

This was the common starling species seen in the far north near Waza NP. Up to forty were seen daily.

**Lesser Blue-eared (Glossy) Starling** *Lamprotornis chloropterus*

We found small numbers around Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Bronze-tailed (Glossy) Starling** *Lamprotornis chalcurus*

We had superb views of twenty en route from Ngaoundere to Benoue NP.

**Splendid (Glossy) Starling** *Lamprotornis splendidus*

This spectacular, large starling was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Mundemba.

**Purple (Glossy) Starling** *Lamprotornis purpureus*

Another stunning starling, small numbers were seen en route to and in Benoue NP.

**Long-tailed Glossy Starling** *Lamprotornis caudatus*

Good numbers of this impressive species were seen in our wanderings in the woodlands of Benoue and south of Waza NP.

**Chestnut-bellied Starling** *Lamprotornis pulcher*

Up to 40 of these beauties were seen daily in the dry scrubland north of Maroua.

**Violet-backed Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*

This stunning bird was seen in woodlands around Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Chestnut-winged Starling** *Onychognathus fulgidus*

One was seen in the Limbe Botanical Gardens and another in the Mundemba area.

**Waller's Starling** *Onychognathus walleri*

Our first sighting was of very brief views of a pair flying overhead at Mount Cameroon. Later we enjoyed good views of 3 at Bokassi.

**Neumann's Starling** *Onychognathus neumanni*

One of the giants of the starling world, this impressive bird was seen only in the Bamenda Highlands where we enjoyed great views of six.

**Narrow-tailed Starling** *Poeoptera lugubris*

A total of sixteen were seen at Mount Kupe.

**White-collared Starling** *Grafisia torquata*

This is a real special to the Ngaoundaba Ranch area where we enjoyed great scope views of a striking pair which were nest building. A total of five birds were seen during our time at the ranch.

**Oxpeckers Buphagidae****Yellow-billed Oxpecker***Buphagus africanus*

Eights birds were found in Waza NP and one in the Bamenda highlands.

**Thrushes Turdidae****White-tailed Rufous (Ant-) Thrush** *Neocossyphus poensis*

We had good but brief views of two at an antswarm in Korup NP.

**[Fraser's] Rufous (Flycatcher-) Thrush** *Stizorhina fraseri*

We had fantastic views of three at Mt.Kupe.

**Crossley's Ground Thrush***Zoothera crossleyi*

We heard this shy species at Bokassi.

**African Thrush***Turdus pelios*

This is a fairly common bird in Cameroon. We obtained views at many sites often in anthropogenic habitat.

**Fire-crested Alethe***Alethe castanea*

We had great views in Korup NP especially around ant swarms. At least 12 were seen here.

*NOTE: The Lower Guinea form is sometimes split from the nominate White-tailed Alethe of West Africa, becoming A. castanea.*

**Brown-chested Alethe***Alethe poliocephala*

We had brief views of one on Mount Cameroon and another in Korup NP.

**Chats & Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae****Forest Robin***Stiphornis gabonensis*

This is a shy species and we enjoyed stunning views of 2 in Korup NP.

*NOTE: Forest Robin is sometimes split into 5 species. Western Forest Robin, S.erythrothorax of West Africa, Olive-backed Forest Robin, L.pyrrholaemus of SW Gabon, Gabon Forest Robin, S.gabonensis of Gabon & Cameroon – the one we observed, Eastern Forest Robin, S.xanthogaster of Central Africa and Sangha Forest Robin, S.sanghensis of Central African Republic. Most authorities lump these species at the moment.*

**White-bellied Robin-Chat***Cossyphicula roberti*

One was seen very well in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Mountain Robin-Chat***Cossypha isabellae*

We had excellent views of this endemic in the Bamenda highlands and on Mount Cameroon with at least 10 birds being found.

**Grey-winged Robin-Chat***Cossypha polioptera*

This shy and beautiful bird was seen very well at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat***Cossypha niveicapilla*

Seen in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in the Bamenda highlands

**White-crowned Robin-Chat***Cossypha albicapilla*

A very large and showy *Cossypha*, much enjoyed by all. We had a total of 8 birds in riverine bush at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Rufous-tailed Scrub Robin***Erythropygia galactotes*

Up to four were seen daily in dry scrub north of Maroua.

**Black Scrub Robin***Cercotrichas podobe*

A wonderfully common and beautiful bird, we encountered at least 20 during our birding north of Maroua.

**Whinchat***Saxicola rubetra*

We had good views of up to 6 at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in the Waza area.

**[African] Stonechat***Saxicola torquatus*

This widespread species was seen very well on Mount Cameroon and in the Bamenda highlands where we recorded 20.

**Heuglin's Wheatear***Oenanthe heuglini*

We encountered two of these uncommon intra-African migrants en route from Garoua to Ngaoundere and a further three en route from Benoue to Maroua.

**Northern Wheatear***Oenanthe oenanthe*

We saw up to six of this species in the Waza area.

**Familiar Chat***Cercomela familiaris*

We encountered two birds in the rocky areas in Benoue NP and another near Mora.

**(Northern) Anteater Chat** *Myrmecocichla aethops*

We encountered a family group of 3 birds near Waza NP.

**White-crowned (Mocking) Cliff Chat** *Thamnolaea coronata*

We had wonderful views of two en route from Ngaoundere to Benoue NP and a further two near Mora.

**White-browed Forest Flycatcher** *Fraseria cinerascens*

We were very lucky to encounter an adult and juvenile near a stream in Korup NP. A rare and seldom encountered bird.

**Northern Black Flycatcher** *Melaenornis edolioides*

Small numbers were seen daily in Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Pale Flycatcher** *Bradornis pallidus*

We found two at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Gambaga Flycatcher** *Muscicapa gambagae*

We had great views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Swamp Flycatcher** *Muscicapa aquatica*

Two birds were seen in Benoue NP.

**Cassin's Flycatcher** *Muscicapa cassini*

A sprightly bird restricted to the vicinity of water, often hawking insects directly above it. Our sightings were of 2 in Limbe Botanical Gardens and another near Mundemba village.

**African Dusky Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta*

A common forest-edge species with 4 from Mount Cameroon and a further 6 from Bamenda highlands

**Yellow-footed Flycatcher** *Muscicapa sethsmithi*

We obtained superb views of a pair on Mt. Kupe.

**Dusky-blue Flycatcher** *Muscicapa comitata*

A quiet, inconspicuous bird, we enjoyed good sightings in the Bokassi and Mount Kupe areas.

**Grey Tit-Flycatcher** *Myioparus plumbeus*

We had good views of two in Benoue NP.

**European Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

We saw up to six birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch and another in the Bamenda highlands.

#### Sunbirds Nectariniidae

**Fraser's (Scarlet-tufted) Sunbird** *Deleornis fraseri*

A confusing species that often looks more like a greenbul than a sunbird, our first sighting was near the Sanaga River with further sightings in Korup NP.

*NOTE: The species is sometimes lumped with the East African Grey-headed Sunbird D. axillarus.*

**Mangrove (Mouse-brown) Sunbird** *Anthreptes gabonicus*

We had stunning views of one at La Digue.

**Western Violet-backed Sunbird** *Anthreptes longuemarei*

A beautiful and very short-billed Sunbird, we found 4 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Grey-chinned (Green) Sunbird** *Anthreptes rectirostris*

This species was first seen near the Sanaga River and later at Mount Cameroon.

*NOTE: This species is sometimes split into two forms, the Eastern Grey-chinned Sunbird A. tephrolaemus and the nominate Western Yellow-chinned Sunbird.*

**Collared Sunbird** *Hedydipna collaris*

This is a very widespread species on the continent. We saw a male south of the Sanaga and two at Mt. Kupe.

**Pygmy Sunbird** *Hedydipna platura*

We saw good numbers of these beautiful, long-tailed sunbirds at all destinations from Benoue NP north.

**Reichenbach's Sunbird** *Anabathmis reichenbachii*

We saw this species at two sites. First sightings were at Limbe Botanical Gardens and another at La Digue.

**Green-headed Sunbird** *Cyanomitra verticalis*

We had superb sightings at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Limbe Botanical Gardens and one at Mt. Kupe.

**Blue-throated Brown Sunbird** *Cyanomitra cyanoaema*

This forest sunbird was heard in Korup NP.

**Cameroon Sunbird** *Cyanomitra oritis*

Our first sighting was of 2 birds on Mt. Cameroon with further sightings in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Olive Sunbird** *Cyanomitra olivacea*

This bird's call is a common forest sound in the south. First seen at the Sanaga River with daily sightings in Korup NP.

*NOTE: The Olive-Sunbird species complex is sometimes split into two full species, namely the nominate Eastern Olive-Sunbird C. olivacea and the form which we recorded in Cameroon, Western Olive-Sunbird. There has been a review of this split and several authorities are in doubt of the validity, which is based upon the presence, or lack there-of, of pectoral tufts in the females of the various subspecies within the complex.*

**Carmelite Sunbird** *Chalcomitra fuliginosa*

This rather striking sunbird, restricted to coastal areas, was seen very well in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Green-throated Sunbird** *Chalcomitra rubescens*

We enjoyed several sightings including good views near the Sanaga River, in Korup NP and along the Mundemba road.

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis*

Seen daily in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP

**Olive-bellied Sunbird** *Cinnyris chloropygius*

This is a typical forest edge species, seen at the Sanaga River, La Digue and near Mundemba.

**Northern Double-collared Sunbird** *Cinnyris reichenowi*

We found one at Ngaoundaba Ranch, a further two on Mt. Cameroon and three in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Beautiful Sunbird** *Cinnyris pulchellus*

This exquisite sunbird is found only in the drier northern savanna, we enjoyed sightings in Benoue NP.

**Orange-tufted Sunbird** *Cinnyris bouvieri*

We were fortunate to find one of these rare birds near Ngaoundaba Ranch and several more including a stunning male in the Bamenda highlands.

**Splendid Sunbird** *Cinnyris coccinigastrus*

Up to four stunning males were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Johanna's Sunbird** *Cinnyris johannae*

A single female was sighted in Korup NP, a scarce species.

**Superb Sunbird** *Cinnyris superbus*

We found a superb male near the Sanaga River and a further two at Mt. Kupe.

**Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustus*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Ursula's Sunbird** *Cinnyris ursulae*

This can be a tough bird to find and is a near endemic to the country; we had marvelous views of a pair at Bokassi.

**Copper Sunbird** *Cinnyris cupreus*

Several were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Old World Sparrows Passeridae****Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver** *Plocepasser superciliosus*

Our first sighting was of two in Benoue NP. We found a further one in dry scrub north of Maroua.

**Northern Grey-headed Sparrow** *Passer griseus*

Cameroon's commonest sparrow was plentiful throughout the country even in Urban areas.

*NOTE: The Grey-headed Sparrow complex P. griseus has been split into five full species with the Cameroonian form being retaining in the nominate grouping with the same nomenclature.*

**Bush Petronia** *Gymnoris dentata*

Common in the north of the country, with up to 50+ birds recorded daily from Ngaoundaba Ranch north.

**Weavers & Widowbirds Ploceidae****White-billed Buffalo Weaver** *Bubalornis albirostris*

This massive weaver was seen in dry scrub north of Maroua where we also observed several nesting colonies.

**Speckle-fronted Weaver** *Sporopipes frontalis*

This is an attractive Sahelian species, at the edge of its range in Northern Cameroon. It was seen very well and in good number from Maroua north.

**Baglafaecht Weaver** *Ploceus baglafaecht*

One superb male was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and another at Bokassi.

**Bannerman's Weaver** *Ploceus bannermani*

This range restricted and endangered bird was seen only in the Bamenda Highlands. We counted a total of 6 birds in the area.

**Slender-billed Weaver** *Ploceus pelzelni*

We had good scope views of three at the Sanaga River.

**Little Weaver** *Ploceus luteolus*

This is a diminutive dry-country weaver and was seen in small numbers in Benoue NP.

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis*

A pair was seen very well at Mt. Kupe.

**Black-necked Weaver** *Ploceus nigricollis*

This snappy-looking weaver of forest edge was first seen near the Sanaga River with further sightings at Mt. Kupe.

**Black-billed Weaver** *Ploceus melanogaster*

This dapper bird of forest fringes was first seen at Bokassi and later very well in the Bamenda highlands.

**Heuglin's Masked Weaver** *Ploceus heuglini*

We were fortunate to have good looks at six in Benoue NP.

**Vitelline Masked Weaver** *Ploceus vitellinus*

Up to forty were seen around our accommodations near Waza NP.

This is one of Cameroon's most conspicuous birds, with large colonies found in many towns.

*NOTE: This widespread African complex is also a candidate for multi-species splitting and the nominate subspecies which we recorded in Cameroon will remain within the nominate Village Weaver P. cucullatus group. These splits are not as yet recognized by Clements.*

**Vieillot's Black Weaver** *Ploceus nigerrimus*

Flocks of this beautiful species were noted at all localities in the southern lowlands of Cameroon.

**Black-headed Weaver** *Ploceus melanocephalus*

We found a flock of six non-breeding birds in Benoue NP.

**Yellow-mantled Weaver** *Ploceus tricolor*

We had superb views of one male on the Mundemba road.

**Dark-backed Weaver** *Ploceus bicolor*

This pretty, bicolored bird was seen in the Bokassi area.

**Preuss's Weaver** *Ploceus preussi*

We had incredible views of two on Mt. Kupe.

**Brown-capped Weaver** *Ploceus insignis*

This smart bird was first seen at Bokassi with a further 2 in the Bamenda highlands.

**Cassin's (Black-throated) Malimbe** *Malimbus cassini*

We had superb views of 4 near the Sanaga River. There are few accessible sites to see this species and we were lucky to find this rare bird.

**Rachel's Malimbe** *Malimbus racheliae*

A rare and seldom recorded species of lowland forest, we were fortunate to find a pair in Korup NP.

**Red-vented Malimbe** *Malimbus scutatus*

This is another uncommon species. We found 12 on the Mundemba road.

**Blue-billed (Gray's) Malimbe** *Malimbus nitens*

A secretive species that forages in thick tangles, we found one near the Sanaga River, several along the Mundemba road and small numbers in Korup NP.

**Red-headed Malimbe** *Malimbus rubricollis*

We were fortunate to find two in a mixed species flock along the Mundemba road.

**Crested Malimbe** *Malimbus malimbicus*

This is a fairly common species and was seen in small numbers in Korup NP.

**Red-headed Quelea** *Quelea erythrops*

Small flocks were seen near the Sanaga River.

**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea*

We found the "African avian locust" in big numbers in Waza NP.

**Black-winged [Red] Bishop** *Euplectes hordeaceus*

We had good views of twenty just north of Maroua.

**Yellow Bishop** *Euplectes capensis*

Five were seen at Mt. Cameroon and a further fifteen in the Bamenda highlands.

**Yellow-mantled Widowbird** *Euplectes macrourus*

We had good views of 6 near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Marsh Widowbird** *Euplectes hartlaubi*

We found 3 birds in non-breeding plumage at Dang Lake.

### Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae

**Woodhouse's Antpecker** *Parmoptila woodhousei*

We had fantastic views of this elusive species in Korup NP.

**White-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita fusconotus*

We had good views of one at the Sanaga River.

**Chestnut-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita bicolor*

This attractive seedeater was first seen in Korup NP with further sightings on the Mundemba road and at Mt.Kupe.

**Pale-fronted Nigrita** *Nigrita luteifrons*

We found two in the Limbe Botanical Gardens. A low density species

**Grey-headed Nigrita** *Nigrita canicapillus*

The commonest nigrita. It was seen at Limbe BG and in the Bokassi and Mt.Kupe areas.

**Shelley's (Fernando Po) Oliveback** *Nesocharis shelleyi*

This beautiful little bird was refreshingly common on Mt Cameroon where we saw at least 4 individuals on our day there.

**Grey-headed Oliveback** *Nesocharis capistrata*

Tougher to see than it's congener although it enjoys a wider distribution in Cameroon. We had good views of one in Benoue NP.

**Red-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia phoenicoptera*

We found a pair in Benoue NP.

**Yellow-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia hypogrammica*

We had good scope views of five in Benoue NP.

**Green-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia melba*

A total of 20 birds were seen on our day from Maroua to Waza NP. A widespread and beautifully marked finch.

**Cut-throat (Finch)** *Amadina fasciata*

We found several en route from Waza to Maroua.

**Red-faced Crimsonwing** *Cryptospiza reichenovii*

We found one female at Mt. Cameroon another at Bokassi and a final sighting of a splendid male in the Bamenda highlands. Typically shy and rather uncommon.

**Black-bellied Seedcracker** *Pyrenestes ostrinus*

We had superb views of a male and juvenile near the Sanaga River.

**Western Bluebill** *Spermophaga haematina*

A remarkably beautiful bird. We were treated to great views of a pair in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Brown Twinspot** *Clytospiza monteiri*

A total of 6 birds were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch. A beautifully patterned finch.

**Black-bellied Firefinch** *Lagonosticta rara*

This large firefinch was first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch. Our highest total was of 4 birds on a single day in Benoue NP.

**Bar-breasted Firefinch** *Lagonosticta rufopicta*

We had a superb sighting of 6 birds in Benoue NP.

**Red-billed Firefinch** *Lagonosticta senegala*

Small numbers encountered in Benoue NP.

**Rock Firefinch** *Lagonosticta sanguinodorsalis*

We found 6 on our visit to a rocky slope north of Maroua. A rare species that was thought to be endemic to Nigeria. It was only discovered in the Maroua area in 2005.

**Black-faced Firefinch** *Lagonosticta vinacea*

A rare Firefinch, we had great views of 4 in Benoue NP.

**Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu** *Uraeginthus bengalus*

This is a common and delightful bird of savanna and was seen regularly throughout northern Cameroon.

**Lavender Waxbill** *Estrilda caerulescens*

Two of these beautiful birds were seen near Mora.

**Orange-cheeked Waxbill** *Estrilda melpoda*

This was a common species of forest edge and scrub throughout.

**Black-rumped Waxbill** *Estrilda troglodytes*

This species was only seen in the Waza area where there were good numbers present.

**Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild*

A group of three was seen during the drive from Mt. Kupe to Bamenda.

**Black-crowned Waxbill** *Estrilda nonnula*

This is an attractive species that was found to be common from the Ngaoundere area southwards.

**Black-headed Waxbill** *Estrilda atricapilla*

This is very similar to the previous species but with a dark vent and greyer underparts. We found a small flock on Mt. Kupe.

**Black-faced Quail-Finch** *Ortygospiza atricollis*

We found 5 drinking near Garoua.

**African Silverbill** *Euodice cantans*

Up to 20 were seen daily in and around Waza NP.

**Bronze Mannikin** *Lonchura cucullata*

We found this to be a ubiquitous species in scrub in most areas except in the extreme north province.

**Black-and-white Mannikin** *Lonchura bicolor*

First seen near the Sanaga River with further sightings near Mundemba and in Limbe Botanical Gardens

*NOTE: This complex may be split two-ways, the southern and eastern Brown-backed Mannikin L. nigriceps and the northern and western nominate group, which would remain as Black-and-white Mannikin. The latter is the form we recorded in Cameroon. Clements does not as yet recognize this split.*

### Indigobirds & Whydahs Viduidae

**Cameroon Indigobird** *Vidua camerunensis*

One male was seen near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura*

This familiar bird, which parasitises small seedeaters, was seen near Nyasoso.

**Sahel (Northern) Paradise Whydah** *Vidua orientalis*

We had good views of two in non-breeding plumage in Waza NP and a stunning male in full breeding plumage near Mora.

### Wagtails & Pipits Motacillidae

**Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*

Small numbers were seen almost daily with peak numbers of 10 near Waza NP.

**Mountain Wagtail** *Motacilla clara*

We enjoyed scope views of one in the Bamenda Highlands.

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp*

A common and familiar African bird, we saw one at the Sanaga River and another in Benoue NP.

**Yellow-throated Longclaw** *Macronyx croceus*

We found 3 at Dang Lake.

**Cameroon (African) Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus*

We had good views of one near Mt. Cameroon and several more in the Bamenda highlands.

*NOTE: Cameroon Pipit, A. cameroonensis is sometimes split from African Pipit.*

**Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*

We had good views of one near Mora.

**Long-legged Pipit** *Anthus pallidiventris*



We had great views of 1 in Douala.

**Tree Pipit***Anthus trivialis*

We found at least 6 at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further 10 in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Finches Fringillidae****White-rumped Seedeater***Crithagra leucopygia*

We found one near Garoua and up to 20 near Waza NP.

**Yellow-fronted Canary***Crithagra mozambica*

This species was seen in small numbers daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Thick-billed Seed-eater***Crithagra burtoni*

Small numbers of this odd seedeater were seen on Mt. Cameroon and in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Oriole Finch***Linurgus olivaceus*

This beautiful and endearing critter was seen exceptionally well on Mt Cameroon where we found 10 birds. A further 3 were seen in the Bamenda highlands.

**Buntings & Allies Emberizidae****Cinnamon-breasted Bunting***Emberiza tahapisi*

We found several just north of Maroua.

**Cabanis's Bunting***Emberiza cabanisi*

One of these beautiful broad-leafed woodland birds was seen in Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded**

**Mammals:** nomenclature and taxonomy follows J. Kingdon *The Kingdon Fieldguide to African Mammals* (1997) Academic Press.

**MAMMALS****Colobid Monkeys Colobidae****Guereza Colobus***Colobus guereza*

This beautiful primate was seen on several occasions in gallery forest in Benoue NP.

**Preuss's Red Colobus***Piliocolobus preussi*

We had brief views of a group of six in Korup National Park.

**Cheek-Pouch Monkeys Cercopithecidae****Olive Baboon***Papio anubis*

We saw up to ten daily in Benoue NP.

**Northern Talapoin***Miopithecus ogouensis*

We saw a wonderful troop of twenty near the Sanaga River.

**Patas Monkey***Cercopithecus patas*

We recorded up to 40 daily whilst in the Waza area. This colourful monkey is largely terrestrial.

**Tantulus Monkey***Cercopithecus tantalus*

We observed 6 in Benoue NP.

**Putty-nosed Monkey***Cercopithecus nictitans*

We observed 8 in Korup NP.

**Galagos Galagonidae**

**Senegal Galago** *Galago senegalensis*  
One was seen in Benoue National Park.

### Fruit Bats Pteropodidae

**Straw-coloured Fruit Bat** *Eidolon helvum*

We had great views of three in Douala.

**Epauletted Fruit Bat** *Epomophorus sp.*

We had superb views of ten in the hotel grounds in Garoua. Small numbers were also seen in Benoue National Park.

**Yellow-winged Bat** *Lavia frons*

We had great views of one in Benoue NP.

### Hares & Rabbits Leporidae

**Scrub Hare** *Lepus saxatilis*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in the Waza area.

### Squirrels Sciuridae

**Striped Ground Squirrel** *Euxerus erythropus*

Up to two were seen daily in Waza NP.

**African Pygmy Squirrel** *Myosciurus pumilio*

Some participants observed one at Mount Kupe.

**Green Squirrel** *Paraxerus poensis*

Two were seen at Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Cooper's Mountain Squirrel** *Heliosciurus gambianus*

We had good views of 3 at Bokassi.

**Red-legged Sun Squirrel** *Heliosciurus rufobrachium*

We found 3 near the Sanaga River.

### Dogs & Allies Canidae

**Common (Golden) Jackal** *Canis aureus*

A beautiful *Canid* that was seen very well in Waza NP, we found a total of 4 during our time there.

**Sand Fox** *Vulpes pallida*

This is a scarce and localized species and we were treated to fantastic views of 3 in the Waza area.

### Mongoose Herpestidae

**Banded Mongoose** *Mungos mungo*

We had great views of a group of five in Waza NP.

**Marsh Mongoose** *Atilax paludinosus*

We found one in Waza NP.

### Genets & Civet Viverridae

**Common (Small-spotted) Genet** *Genetta genetta*

We had wonderful sighting of several in Benoue NP and Waza NP.

### Hyraxes Procaviidae

**Black-necked Rock Hyrax** *Procavia johstoni*

Some participants saw 2 on a rocky outcrop north of Maroua.

**Western Tree Hyrax** *Dendrohyrax dorsalis*

We heard this species at Mundemba and Bokassi.

### Hippopotamuses Hippopotamidae

**Hippopotamus** *Hippopotamus amphibius*  
At least 12 were observed in Benoue NP.

### Pigs Suidae

**Common Warthog** *Phacochoerus africanus*  
A familiar savanna animal, three were found in Waza NP.

### Giraffes Giraffidae

**Giraffe** *Giraffe camelopardus*  
We had great sightings of 3 in Benoue NP and up to 10 daily in Waza NP.

### Bovids & Horned Ungulates Bovidae

**Bushbuck** *Tragelaphus scriptus*  
At least 3 of these striking antelope were seen in Benoue NP.

**Bush Duiker** *Sylvicapra grimmia*  
Small numbers were seen in Benoue NP.

**Red-flanked Duiker** *Cephalophus rufilatus*  
Up to 4 daily were seen in Benoue NP.

**Bohor Reedbuck** *Redunca redunca*  
We had good views of two in Waza NP.

**Kob** *Kobus kob*  
This was a particularly common mammal in Benoue NP where daily totals exceed 30. We observed only six in Waza NP.

**Thomson's (Red-fronted) Gazelle** *Gazella rufifrons*  
This dainty and incredibly quick creature was seen only in Waza NP where we observed up to 4 daily.

**Tsessebe** *Damaliscus lunatus*  
We observed up to 20 of these speedsters on our full day in Waza NP.

**Roan Antelope** *Hippotragus equinus*  
This graceful and large antelope was much appreciated by the group. We saw a total of 30 during our full day in Waza NP.

### **REPTILES**

**Red-headed Rock Agama** *Agama agama*  
We had good views of ten in the Mora area.

**Nile Monitor** *Varanus niloticus*  
One was seen in Benoue National Park.

**Nile Crocodile** *Crocodylus niloticus*  
We had good views of four in Benoue National Park.

**Rhombic Night Adder** *Causus rhombeatus*  
We had great views of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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