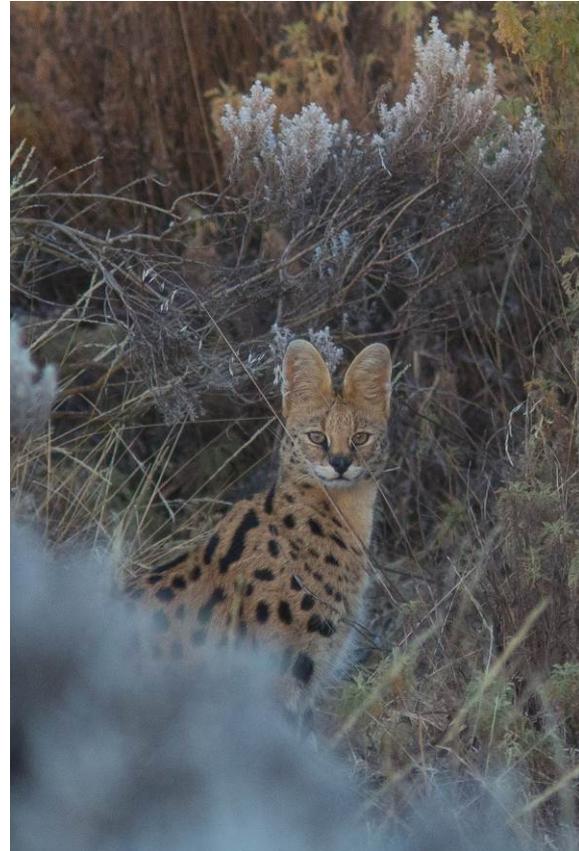
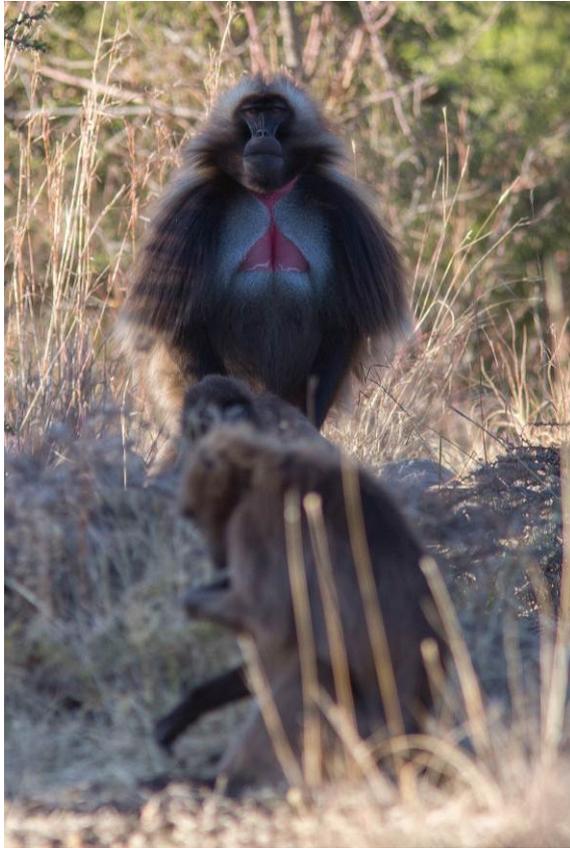


Ethiopia, 3 – 24 Jan 2015

by Remco Hofland

This report contains 385 colour photographs. A 42-page text-only version of this report is published separately.



Gelada Baboons, Debre Libanos & Serval, Dinsho (Wesley Overman)

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Introduction

Visiting Ethiopia had long been a dream, and in the winter of 2014-2015 I finally managed to go. I actually meant to go the previous winter, so when we finally went I had been emailing with designated, recommended guide Merid Gabremichael for almost two years. This meant the tour

was specifically targeting birds I wanted to see: besides all possible endemics, my targets included (African) Spotted Creeper and Abyssinian Catbird (new birdfamilies); Wattled & Black Crowned Crane; Arabian, Hartlaub's & Black-bellied Bustard (who doesn't love cranes and bustards?); Serval & Ethiopian Wolf; Abdim's Stork and Lesser Jacana (to complete birdfamilies); African bogey-bird White-headed Vulture, WP-bird Egyptian Nightjar and all-time favorites Scissor-tailed Kite and Spot-breasted Lapwing. This all worked out (more than) perfectly ...

While pre-trip-reading the Lonely Planet, I became aware of the possibility to swim with Whalesharks in neighbouring Djibouti, so a pre-trip was made by 3 of the Ethiopia crew (see separate tripreport: Djibouti Francolin, Arabian Golden & Somali Sparrow, Crab Plover).



Spot-breasted Lapwings, Dinsho & Egyptian Nightjar (Wesley Overman)

Highlights

I rarely use the phrase 'too many to mention' but here it is really applicable! For me, they included Serval, Ethiopian Wolf & Big-headed Mole Rat, Scissor-tailed Kite, African Spotted Creeper; seeing all endemics, especially Spot-breasted Lapwing, Stresemann's Bushcrow, White-tailed Swallow, Brown-faced Go-away-bird, Sidamo Lark and Thick-billed Raven; Wattled Crane, Arabian & Hartlaub's Bustard, Lesser Jacana, 1,000's of murmuring Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and Northern Carmine Bee-eaters at Bilen Lodge, Eastern Plantain-eater, summer-plumaged Caspian Plover, (small) flocks of wintering Ortolan Bunting and Red-throated Pipit, 1,000's of waders, cranes and ducks at a number of Rift Valley Lakes, walking amidst Marabou Storks at Lake Awassa, the scenery at Debre Libanos, Sof Omar & Sanetti Plateau, the endemic race 'albofasciatus' of African Stonechat, Abyssinian Wheatear, a couple of Pallid Harriers almost daily, Giant Lobelias, 8 species of francolin, Egyptian Nightjar, Buff-bellied Warbler, Foxy & Tiny Cisticola (!), 4 subspecies of Northern White-rumped Babbler, Scaly Chatterer, Red-naped Bushshrike, Three-streaked Tchagra, White-crowned Starling, Black-cheeked Waxbill, the excellent scrub birding between Negele and Yabello, (the dragonflies) Dancing Jewel, Powder-faced Sprite & Common Riverjack (we stumbled upon three new dragonflies for Ethiopia and took the first photographs ever of another!) and of course Merid's breakfasts and meeting Lucy in Addis! Like I said, too many to mention!



Dancing Jewel, Sof Omar & Thick-billed Raven, Wondo Genet (Wesley Overman)

Participants

Frank van Duivenvoorde, Vincent Hart, Remco Hofland (report), Wil van den Hoven, Guido Keijl, Wesley Overman (mammals), Chris Quispel, Wouter Teunissen, Roland van der Vliet and Casper Zuyderduyn from The Netherlands.

Trip totals

We recorded 542 species in Ethiopia, of which only 3 were heard-only (HO): Buff-crested Bustard, Common Quail and Freckled Nightjar. Three of us recorded an additional 40 species in Djibouti in the week prior to this trip (RH, WH, WO: see separate tripreport).

Of these 542 species, 37 can be considered country endemics (incl 'E(ssp)') and 7 North-East Africa endemics, 19 of which are either Vulnerable, Endangered or Critically endangered. To give an idea of personal scores, I myself recorded 531 of these 542 species (of which c 118 were lifers; I missed lifers Jameson's Firefinch (Melka Ghebdu), Orange-winged Pytilia (Sof Omar), Yellow-vented Eremomela (Wachile area) and Brown-rumped Bunting (Gibe Gorge)).

We also recorded 54 mammals (incl 1 HO), 13 reptiles, 2 amphibians, 33 dragonflies and of course saw plenty of (un)identified butterflies, plants and insects.



Ankober Serin, Gemessa Gedel & Blick's Grass Rat, Sanetti Plateau (Wesley Overman)



Jameson's Firefinch female, Melka Ghebdu & Orange-winged Pytilia, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman)

Birds not seen

As a team, we did not have any big dips as such, but as always missed out on some birds: most noticeably, Red-chested Swallow (that we all saw before, so we didn't spend more than 10 mins looking for it), Taita Fiscal (not taking sufficient time to check all fiscals in the south, not surprisingly given the number of exciting birds to look at!), (Smaller) Black-bellied Sunbird, Chestnut Sparrow, and African Crowned Eagle near its nest in Wondo Genet. Perhaps the only birds that we specifically searched for but missed, were **Somali Courser** (Liben Plains and Soda area, south of Yabello) and **White-backed Duck** (Lake Ziway and Lake Awassa).

We did not try for the most recent Ethiopian/N Kenyan (near-)endemic: Black-fronted Francolin, the (former) ssp *atrifrons* of Chestnut-naped Francolin *Pternistis castaneicollis* has been recently split, de facto becoming another target, which may be fitted in 'our' itinerary by allocating an extra day (or at least one morning).

Abyssinian Woodpecker was the endemic that gave us the runaround, but in the end we had great views of several on our last morning in Wondo Genet. Likewise, Abyssinian Waxbill was not too cooperative, but Merid's vast knowledge of back-up sites paid off at Gibe Gorge.



Pic of the trip? Egyptian Goose & Great White Pelican, Lake Ziway (Wesley Overman)

Acknowledgements

First of all, thanks to my fellow travelers, Merid and the drivers for their excellent company. I thank Michel Veldt for recommending Merid as our guide; Sander Bot, Jacob Garvelink & Lieven DeTemmerman for their hints prior to the trip, and we also greatly appreciate the fact that KD Dijkstra produced such a nice Handbook for all Odonata (dragonflies & damselflies) of the region – one week before we left (and helped with identifying a few afterwards)!

Top-10 birds

Our joint-top-10 consists of

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Arabian Bustard | 6. Thick-billed Raven |
| 2. Scissor-tailed Kite | 7. Hartlaub's Bustard |
| 3. Wattled Crane | 8. African Spotted Creeper |
| 4. Prince Ruspoli's Turaco | 9. White-tailed Swallow |
| 5. Spot-breasted Lapwing | 10. Secretarybird |

No less than 36 species were mentioned as part of our personal top-10's, including unlikely ones such as (the cute) Tiny and Pectoral-patch Cisticola (due to its mousy habits)!

My personal top-10 was

- | | | | |
|---|-------------------------|----|------------------------------|
| 1 | Scissor-tailed Kite | 6 | Stresemann's Bushcrow |
| 2 | African Spotted Creeper | 7 | Egyptian Nightjar |
| 3 | Spot-breasted Lapwing | 8 | Arabian Bustard |
| 4 | White-tailed Swallow | 9 | Thick-billed Raven |
| 5 | Red-naped Bushshrike | 10 | Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse* |

*Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse may not have been a lifer, but the sight of 15,000 murmuring sandgrouse, at early morning Bilen Lodge, was one of my most memorable ones ever!



Chestnut-bellied & Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse, Awash (Wesley Overman)



A dream come true ... a tree full of Scissor-tailed Kites, Awash NP (Wesley Overman)

Top-5 mammals

- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| 1. Serval | 4. Giant Mole Rat |
| 2. Ethiopian Wolf | 5. Aardwolf |
| 3. Yellow-winged Bat | |



Yellow-winged Bat, Wachile (Wesley Overman)



Sanetti Plateau (Guido Keijl)



Ethiopian Wolf, Sanetti Plateau (Wesley Overman)



View at Debre Libanos (Remco Hofland)

Guide: Merid Gabremichael (Birding Abyssinia)

I planned the entire tour through email with Merid Gabremichael from Birding Abyssinia, who also accompanied us throughout the trip. I can hardly describe what major part Merid played in the success of this trip. Through his years of experience, he knows exactly where to go and how long to stay and, besides his intimate knowledge of the sites described in his book (see Literature), he knows sev sites not mentioned in it, using them to complete our wanted-list (most noticeably, Juba Weaver and Wattled Crane). In the field, Merid showed great knowledge of sights and sounds of birds, and he duly showed us the birds we couldn't find ourselves.

Merid is fluent in English, and has a relaxed attitude towards birding that thoroughly suited ours. That said, he was very persistent when looking for a specific target, and this surely contributed to our long list. Merid's choice of hotels and restaurants was also excellent, and where needed or possible, we had elaborate breakfasts in the field, complete with table and chairs, omelets, porridge & sandwiches, coffee and tea, while birding.

The use of local guides at sev sites, including at Dinsho (Abyssinian Owl, African Wood Owl, Abyssinian Catbird, White-backed Black Tit), at the Sanetti Plateau in the Bale Mountains (Ethiopian Wolf den, looking for Wattled Cranes) and at Wondo Genet (Green Twinspot, Abyssinian Woodpecker, Scaly Francolin, nest of African Crowned Eagle, Scaly-throated and Green-backed Honeyguide) also greatly improved our chances of local species.

Merid guides some of the major tour companies (such as BirdQuest and Sunbird), which means his Novembers are solidly booked until 2018! Birding Abyssinia / Merid also employ other guides, as well as offering visiting birders the chance of touring the country with trusted drivers, who know the sites and what to look for, but are not birdguides as such.



Merid & Ethiopian kid (Guido Keijl)

Travel arrangements

All travel arrangements were made in advance by Merid Gabremichael of Birding Abyssinia. This meant a spacious bus (with careful, pleasant driver Tsiruy) for the leg Addis Abeba up to and including the Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mountains. Starting from Goba Jan 14th, our day trip to Sof Omar Cave, the bus was replaced by three sturdy 4WD Nissan Patrols, with equally experienced drivers; these we held on to until Jan 20th, when departing from Lake Awassa. That day, we again changed to a spacious bus, which dropped us in Addis in the early evening of Jan 23rd.

Literature

We took the following **books**:

***Birds of the Horn of Africa: Ethiopia, Eritrea, Djibouti, Somaliland and Socotra**, 2011, by Nigel Redman, John Fawcshawe and Terry Stevenson; simply indispensable;

***Birds of Africa south of the Sahara**, 2011, by Ian Sinclair and Peter Ryan;

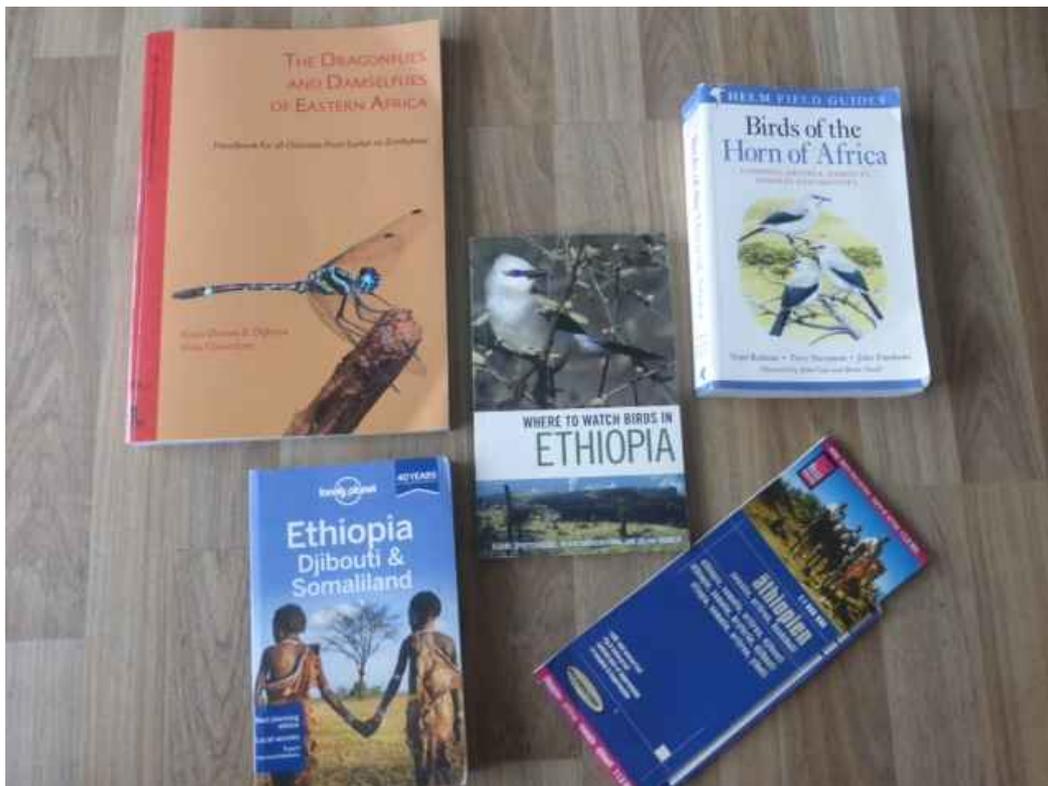
***Where to watch birds in Ethiopia**, 2010, by Claire Spottiswoode, Merid Gabremichael and Julian Francis; maps, targetlist, great pictures and very informative;

***The Kingdon field guide to African mammals**, 1997, by Jonathan Kingdon;

* DIJKSTRA, K.-D. B. & CLAUSNITZER, V. 2014. *The dragonflies and damselflies of Eastern Africa. Handbook for all Odonata from Sudan to Zimbabwe*. Studies in Afrotropical Zoology, vol. 298. Tervuren: Royal Museum for Central Africa; full of good colour photographs and identification keys, simply indispensable for anyone interested in this group;

***Lonely Planet guide to Djibouti, Ethiopia and Somaliland**, June 2013

and furthermore a self-made PDF of **possible mammals and their distribution** prepared by Wesley Overman from maps of IUCN and plates of Handbook of the Mammals of the World and the Kingdon field guide to African mammals.



We also took the following **tripreports** to get an idea what to expect where:

***Lieven DeTemmerman**, Ethiopia 8 Oct to 2 Nov 2009, with site descriptions and containing some maps; and

***Sander Bot**, Ethiopia Jan 29 – Febr 21, 2011, very informative.

Merid took along

***Amphibians and reptiles of Ethiopia and Eritrea**, Aug 2010, by Malcolm Largen and Stephen Spawls;

***Trees of Ethiopia**, A Photographic Guide and Description, by Kebede Tadesse (in Amharic and English)

and now he also owns the Handbook for all Odonata of East Africa by Dijkstra and Clausnitzer :-).

Money & cost

The international flight Amsterdam – Istanbul – Addis vice versa cost 7 of us c € 550 (Turkish Airlines, excellent B737's and ditto meals throughout). The 3 of us that flew Amsterdam – Istanbul – Djibouti City and Addis– Istanbul – Amsterdam paid c € 700 (plus € 150 for the Kenya Airways flight Djibouti City – Addis).

The tour with Birding Abyssinia cost c € 2.400 each (incl cost of money transfer) and for that we had a very successful 22-day trip during which we stayed at adequate to fine hotels (the best where possible), including the excellent Adot Tina Hotel in Addis on arrival and prior to departure, good food (with the notable, but unavoidable, exception being at the Goba Wabe Shebele Hotel), elaborate breakfasts (where possible in the field), all drinking water, a soft drink with every meal, fruit, good vehicles, excellent drivers, pick-up and drop-off at the airport and a great birding guide!

At the time of travel, 25 birr equalled € 1. For alcoholic drinks and expenditure of a personal nature (i.e. laundry), most of us took 4,000 birr from Addis Airport ATM, equalling c € 160. This was way more than we needed for 3 weeks, a beer on average costing between 17-22 birr (less than € 1).

Health & safety

We took daily Malarone (anti-malaria prophylaxis) throughout the trip. DTP and typhoid shots are recommended when traveling to Ethiopia; a yellow fever vaccination is a must. Few of us experienced mild intestinal problems (for a day at most) but it didn't interfere with birding.

To me it came as a surprise very few people smoke in Ethiopia (Merid and some of the drivers did, but cigarette breaks coincided with birding stops).

We felt completely safe everywhere and people were very friendly. In some areas taking photographs was not allowed (embassies in Addis, some bridges, incidentally people) but Merid would forewarn us where appropriate.

Food

In several tripreports I read about the lack of good food in Ethiopia, but we only had good to great food, the notable exceptions being the food served at the Ethio-German Hotel at Debre Libanos (our second meal there we ate at an excellent local restaurant) and that at the Wabe Shebele Hotel in Goba (where no other options are available unfortunately); as Merid put it: "choose the goulash". In the hotels and restaurants Merid carefully selected for us, we could usually choose between local food (such as agelgel, lamb tibes etc), spaghetti / pizza and other international fare (steak, fries, burgers, salads etc). Quite frequently we had dinner at local places where the food was just excellent.

Electricity

Throughout Ethiopia, the European pin is used, type C electrical plug. The system operates on 220 volts. In most hotel rooms, only one socket is found (unplug the tv), so taking a multiple socket might be in order when one has to charge multiple appliances (such as cell phone, camera battery, iPod, iPad etc).

Equipment

Our group of 10 took:

- **birdsounds** from xeno-canto, on our iPod and smartphones. Hardly used; where necessary (but fortunately very occasionally), Merid would play sound but we were usually able to find birds without the use of recordings;
- **six telescopes** (among which 3 Swarowskis);
- several **multi sockets**;
- two rechargeable **walkie-talkies** (Merid also brought two). Especially handy when the team split up over three cars; typically, on driving days, the cars would drive c 1 km apart; properly informing each other of good sightings through walkie-talkies proved however difficult sometimes, although nobody missed anything because of it.

Merid aided in bringing a green-light **laserpointer**, which we used mainly at Wondo Genet.

Finally, I took along 4 boxes of (typically Dutch) **bitterkoekjes** (made of apricot cores) to entice the team to look hard for my most-wanted (well, actually, to celebrate once we'd seen them). Fortunately, everybody loved them, even Merid & the drivers, so that might be why we saw (Djibouti Francolin in Djibouti) Spot-breasted Lapwing, Abyssinian Catbird and African Spotted Creeper....



Food & road conditions (between Wachile & Yabello)(Guido Keiji)

Road conditions

During our trip (Jan 2015), some roads were unsurfaced:

- Debre Libanos – Debre Birhan;
- Ali Dege plains / Awash NP;
- Goba – Sof Omar Cave;
- Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mountains;
- the entire stretch between Goba – Negele – Soda;
- between Kulito and south of Butajira

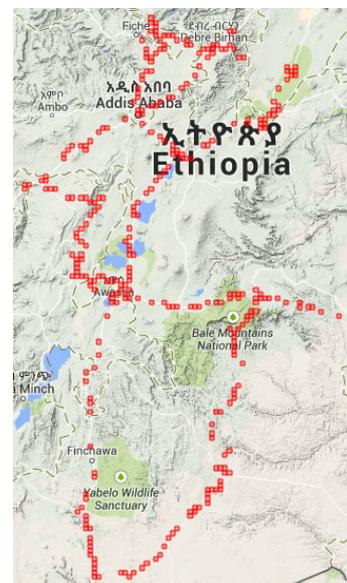
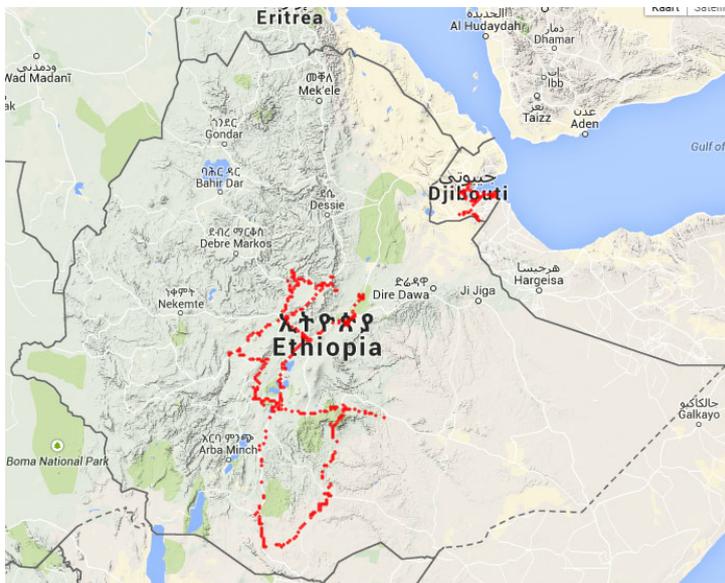
and some were under construction (meaning perhaps they're surfaced by the end of 2015):

- part of the stretch between Yabello and Awassa;
- part of the stretch between Wolliso – Addis Abeba.

ITINERARY

Stayed at

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---------------------|
| Fri 2 Jan 2015 | Arrival Addis RH, WH, WO from Djibouti 5 pm; the others arrived past midnight | Adot Tina Hotel |
| Sat 3 Jan 2015 | Addis Abeba -> Debre Libanos | Ethio-German Hotel |
| Sun 4 Jan 2015 | Jemma Valley | Ethio-German Hotel |
| Mon 5 Jan 2015 | Debre Libanos -> Debre Birhan, with afternoon visit to Gemessa Gedel (Ankober escarpment) | Eva Hotel |
| Tue 6 Jan 2015 | Melka Ghebdu | Eva Hotel |
| Wed 7 Jan 2015 | Debre Birhan -> Nazreth, with lunch stop at Bishoftu & Chelekleka Lakes | Rift Valley Hotel |
| Thu 8 Jan 2015 | Breakfast at Lake Beseka, Ali Dege plains | Bilen Lodge |
| Fri 9 Jan 2015 | Awash NP | Awash Falls Lodge |
| Sat 10 Jan 2015 | Awash NP -> Lake Langano, with lunch stop at Lake Ziway | Simbo Beach Resort |
| Sun 11 Jan 2015 | Lake Langano & Lake Abiata | Simbo Beach Resort |
| Mon 12 Jan 2015 | Lake Langano -> Goba, with stop at Dinsho | Wabe Shebele Hotel |
| Tue 13 Jan 2015 | Sanetti Plateau (Bale Mountains), with late afternoon at Dinsho grasslands | Wabe Shebele Hotel |
| Wed 14 Jan 2015 | Sof Omar Cave | Wabe Shebele Hotel |
| Thu 15 Jan 2015 | Goba -> Negele, with stops at Hareenna Forest and Ruspoli's site | Maereg Hotel |
| Fri 16 Jan 2015 | Liben Plains and Negele area | Maereg Hotel |
| Sat 17 Jan 2015 | Negele -> Yabello, with breakfast and other stops in Wachile area and Soda area | Yabello Motel |
| Sun 18 Jan 2015 | Yabello area | Yabello Motel |
| Mon 19 Jan 2015 | Yabello -> Lake Awassa | United Africa Hotel |
| Tue 20 Jan 2015 | Lake Awassa, Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve, -> Wondo Genet | Wabe Shebele Hotel |
| Wed 21 Jan 2015 | Wondo Genet | Wabe Shebele Hotel |
| Thu 22 Jan 2015 | Wondo Genet -> Wolliso | Negash Lodge |
| Fri 23 Jan 2015 | Gibe Gorge, drive to Addis | Adot Tina Hotel |
| Sat 24 Jan 2015 | Addis Abeba: National Museum (meeting Lucy!) and Natural History Museum, with lunch and a little birding at Ghion Hotel | Adot Tina Hotel |
| Sun 25 Jan 2015 | 2.10 am departure from Addis; 4-hr lay-over in Istanbul; 1.30 pm arrival Amsterdam | home |



Observation.org: the future of tripreports

Sharing one's observations directly from the field using Observation.org (formerly: Observado) becomes more and more commonplace, with birders now widely using smartphones and the improved cell phone coverage in remoter areas of the world.

In the field, WO, CZ, VH and WT recorded most birds and all mammals with accurate GPS locations by using an app (ObsMapp or iObs) on their smartphones. Whenever we had WiFi they would upload their sightings onto observation.org, a free, easy-to-use website that

- publishes all observations at once with accurate site, time and date details;
- has both standard fields (location, date & time, number of individuals, certainty of ID) and a field for extra info should one want to add;
- makes all locations easily available for others, using GoogleEarth maps;
- enables the observer to store photographs and/or sound recordings with one's sightings;
- generates the observer's (life, country, site, trip) lists and
- has the capability to generate multiple exports, such as by species, date, area etc.

I used WO, CZ, VH and WT's Observation.org data while writing this tripreport. In the near future, it might be possible to export (more or less) complete tripreports (or, while preparing, create one from multiple trips others made before) based solely on data logged in the field. The species lists would, in those exports, immediately be put in the right scientific order (with perhaps local subspecies based on location) and all details entered into the app on-site (or back home) would be mentioned. Such Observation-generated tripreports might even automatically add photographs, posted with the sighting, for example as a thumbnail next to the species.

A query on Observation allows one to see all* our data. Select our trip dates (2-25 Jan 2015) and the country (Ethiopia) to view all our Ethiopia records (including photographs). Alternatively, one could also approach just Wesley's, Casper's, Wouter's, Vincent's or my (limited) Ethiopia records by clicking 'This site', 'Users', the name and then 'Observations'. To view *all* Ethiopia data, click 'Geography' and 'Africa by country' and then 'Ethiopia' on the map displayed.

*except for data we put on 'Embargo'. This we did 3 times (mentioned in this report as 'undisclosed site'): the roost site of Egyptian Nightjars, a sensitive Juba Weaver site, and an important Wattled Crane wintering site.



Sunset, Negele (Guido Keijl)

VISITED SITES (in chronological order) & targets

Good site descriptions & maps are found in various sources, such as Where to watch birds in Ethiopia, by Claire Spottiswoode, Merid Gabremichael and Julian Francis; and in Sander Bot's and Lieven DeTemmerman's tripreports (see Literature).

Birds that we encountered frequently are usually not listed below: these include in all habitats Yellow-billed Kite, Hooded Vulture, Speckled Pigeon, Pied Crow, Greater Blue-eared Starling, Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu & Swainson's Sparrow; lowlands Red-eyed Dove, White-bellied Go-away-bird, Northern Carmine & Blue-breasted Bee-eater & Pied Wheatear; highlands White-collared Pigeon, Dusky Turtle Dove & Fan-tailed Raven.

Legend

Name of site (*chapter* in Where to watch birds in Ethiopia) [date(s) of our visit]

(<http://observation.org/gebied/info/> = site map on Observation)

Endemics and Other targets are summed up in order of (relative) rarity (in my view).

Other birds and Dragonflies are treated in scientific order.

Wintering denotes probable wintering birds.

[Clapperton's Francolin] are possible ones we missed at mentioned site.

GPS is mentioned if site is not covered separately on Observation.org.

At sites where we spent limited time (usually on driving-days), an indication of time spent birding is given. Subspecific name of sighting is given when we identified it as such (and more than one subspecies occurs in Ethiopia).

Adot Tina Hotel (Addis) Abeba (1) [2-3 Jan 2015, 2 hrs]

GPS 8.991, 38.767

Endemics: Black-winged Lovebird, Ethiopian Cisticola, Brown-rumped Seedeater, White-collared Pigeon

Other birds: Dusky Turtle-Dove, Mountain Thrush, Common Bulbul, African Dusky Flycatcher, Abyssinian White-eye, Tacazze Sunbird, Greater Blue-eared Starling, Baglafaecht Weaver (baglafaecht), Swainson's Sparrow, Streaky Seedeater



Arriving at the Ethiopian highlands from Djibouti & Speckled Mousebirds, Adot Tina Hotel (Remco Hofland)

Highlands between Addis and Debre Libanos (Sululta Plains, 8) [3 Jan 2015, 2 hrs]

(<http://observation.org/gebied/info/132795>)

Endemics: Erlanger's Lark, Abyssinian Longclaw, Thick-billed Raven, [Rouget's Rail], Ethiopian Cisticola, Blue-winged Goose, Ethiopian Siskin, Groundscraper Thrush (simensis), Wattled Ibis

Other targets: African Snipe, Red-breasted Wheatear, Black-winged Lapwing, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill

Other birds: Little Grebe, White-breasted (Great) Cormorant, Greater Flamingo, African Sacred Ibis, Hamerkop, Yellow-billed Duck, Rüppell's & African White-backed Vulture, Tawny Eagle, Augur Buzzard, Spur-winged Lapwing, Thekla Lark, Brown-throated Martin, Wire-tailed & Red-rumped Swallow, Moorland Chat, Southern Fiscal, Cape & Pied Crow, Red-billed Oxpecker, Yellow Bishop

Wintering: Glossy Ibis, Grey Heron, Western Cattle & Little Egret, Black Kite, Eurasian Griffon & Egyptian Vulture, Short-toed, Lesser Spotted & Steppe Eagle, Pallid Harrier, Common Crane, Black-winged Stilt, Little Ringed Plover, Ruff, Common Redshank, Green Sandpiper, Temminck's Stint, Barn Swallow, Black-headed (feldegg), Blue-headed (flava) & Grey-headed (thunbergi) (Yellow) Wagtail, Red-throated Pipit, Pied, Northern & Isabelline Wheatear

Mammals: Common Duiker, Harrington's Rat



Abyssinian Longclaw & Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Sululta Plains (Wesley Overman)

Debre Libanos (9) [3-5 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132796>)

Endemics: White-winged Cliff Chat, White-billed Starling, Rüppell's Black Chat, Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher; Gelada Baboon (mammal)

Other targets: Erckel's Francolin, White-headed Vulture, Long-billed Pipit, Verreaux's Eagle, Lammergeier, Northern White-rumped Babbler (leucopygia)

Other birds: Yellow-billed & African Woolly-necked Stork, Tawny Eagle, Rüppell's Griffon & Egyptian Vulture, Lanner Falcon, Common Kestrel, Hemprich's Hornbill, Mountain Wagtail, Rock Martin, Common Bulbul (schoanus), Moorland Chat, Rüppell's Robin-Chat, Little Rock Thrush, African Dusky Flycatcher, Stout & Singing Cisticola, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Brown Woodland Warbler, Scarlet-chested, Tacazze & Variable (fazoqlensis) Sunbird, Red-winged Starling, Streaky Seedeater, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting

Wintering: Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Booted Eagle, Grey Wagtail, Tree Pipit, Lesser Whitethroat, Ortolan Bunting

Mammals: Olive Baboon, Common Rock Hyrax, Rüppell's Horseshoe & Greater Long-fingered Bat

Other: Picasso Bug (insect)



White-winged Cliff Chat, Debre Libanos (Guido Keijl)

Picasso Bug, Debre Libanos (Casper Zuyderduyn)

Jemma Valley (10) [4 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132797>)

Endemics: Harwood's Francolin, Ethiopian (Red-billed) Pytilia, Yellow-rumped (White-throated) Seedeater, Abyssinian Wheatear, White-billed Starling, Rüppell's Black Chat, Common Kestrel (*rufescens*), Brown-rumped Seedeater

Other targets: Barka Indigobird, Fox Kestrel, Foxy Cisticola, Erckel's Francolin, Green-backed Eremomela, Bar-breasted Firefinch, Familiar Chat, Speckle-fronted Weaver

Other birds: Yellow-billed Stork, Black-shouldered Kite, African Fish-Eagle, Lappet-faced Vulture, Dark Chanting Goshawk, African Harrier-Hawk, Wahlberg's & Verreaux's Eagle, Three-banded Plover, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Vinaceous, Laughing, Tambourine & Namaqua Dove, Grey-headed, African Pygmy, Malachite, Half-collared & Pied Kingfisher, Hemprich's & African Grey Hornbill, Black-billed Barbet, Rock & Eurasian Crag Martin, Wire-tailed Swallow, Mountain & White Wagtail, Common Bulbul, Mocking Cliff Chat, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Northern Crombec, Tawny-flanked Prinia, African Paradise & Northern Black Flycatcher, Abyssinian White-eye, Scarlet-chested Sunbird, Ethiopian Boubou, Black-crowned Tchagra, Bush Petronia, Baglafaecht Weaver (*baglafaecht*), Black-winged Bishop, Red-collared Widowbird, Red-billed Firefinch, Crimson-rumped Waxbill, African Silverbill, Cutthroat, Pin-tailed Whydah, Village Indigobird, Yellow-fronted Canary, African Citril, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting

Wintering: Black Stork, Common Quail, Eurasian Hoopoe, Eurasian Wryneck, Common Redstart (*samamiscus*), Northern Wheatear, Blue Rock Thrush, Eastern Olivaceous Warbler, Woodchat Shrike, Ortolan Bunting

Mammals: Common Rock Hyrax, Slender Mongoose, Common Jackal, Ethiopian Highland Hare, Grivet Monkey, Harrington's Rat; **Reptile:** African Five-lined Skink; **Dragonflies:** Three-striped Skimmer *Orthetrum brevistylum* (localized Sahel specialist; first-ever photographs of a live individual!), Epaulet Skimmer *O. chryso stigma*, Julia Skimmer *O. julia*, Stonewash Dropwing *Trithemis dejouxi*, Navy Dropwing *T. furva*, Orange-winged Dropwing *T. kirbyi*



Three-banded Plover, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman); flower, Melka Ghebdu (Guido Keijl)



Orange-winged Dropwing & Navy Dropwing, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)



Jemma Valley, early morning (Remco Hofland)

Gemessa Gedel, Ankober escarpment (11) [5 Jan 2015, 2 hrs]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132800>)

Endemics: Ankober Serin, African Stonechat (*albofasciatus*), Thick-billed Raven, Ethiopian Cisticola, Wattled Ibis

Other targets: [Erckel's Francolin], Mountain Buzzard, Lammergeier, Ayres's Hawk Eagle

Other birds: Augur Buzzard, Verreaux's Eagle, Peregrine, Nyanza Swift, African Pipit, [Rüppell's Black Chat], Cinnamon Bracken Warbler, [Slender-billed Starling], Orange Bishop

Mammals: Common Duiker, Common Rock Hyrax



Gemessa Gedel (Guido Keijl)

Melka Ghebdu (13) [6 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebied/info/132794>)

Endemics: Yellow-throated Seedeater, Brown-faced Go-away-bird, Abyssinian Wheatear, Banded Barbet, Black-winged Lovebird

Other targets: Jameson's Firefinch, [Clapperton's Francolin], Eastern Grey Plantain-Eater, African Little Sparrowhawk, Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver

Other birds: Lammergeier, Brown Snake-Eagle, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Gabar Goshawk, Martial Eagle, [African Pygmy Falcon], Helmeted Guineafowl, Emerald-spotted & Blue-spotted Wood Dove, Vinaceous Dove, Speckled Mousebird, Giant Kingfisher, Little Bee-eater, Abyssinian & Purple Roller, Northern Red-billed & Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Yellow-breasted Barbet, Black Bush Robin, Grey-headed Batis, Northern White-rumped Babbler (*leucopygia*), Rufous Chatterer, Shining Sunbird, Northern Puffback, Fork-tailed Drongo, Slender-billed Starling, Red-headed & Little Weaver, Red-billed Quelea, Crimson-rumped Waxbill (common), Reichenow's Seedeater

Wintering: Eurasian Hoopoe, Common Rock Thrush, Turkestan Shrike

Other: Grivet Monkey (mammal), African Common Toad (amphibian)

Dragonflies: Upland Sprite *Pseudagrion spernatum*, Cherry-eye Sprite *P. sublacteum*



Yellow-throated Seedeater & Giant Kingfisher, Melka Ghebdu (Wesley Overman)



Melka Ghebdu (Remco Hofland)



Ethiopian highlands between Debre Birhan and Addis Abeba (Remco Hofland)

Debre Zeit Lakes [7 Jan 2015, 3 hrs incl lunch] consist of Bishoftu & Chelekleka Lake, here dealt with separately (<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132815>):

Bishoftu (crater) Lake, south of Bishoftu

GPS 8.745, 38.988

Birds: Pink-backed Pelican, White-breasted (Great) & Long-tailed Cormorant, Egyptian Goose, Southern Pochard, Red-knobbed Coot, Common Waxbill

Wintering: Little Grebe (675+), Western Marsh Harrier, Booted Eagle, Common Crane (latter three flying past), Black-winged Stilt



Debre Zeit: Bishoftu Lake & Chelekleka Lake (Remco Hofland)

Chelekleka Lake, northwest of Bishoftu

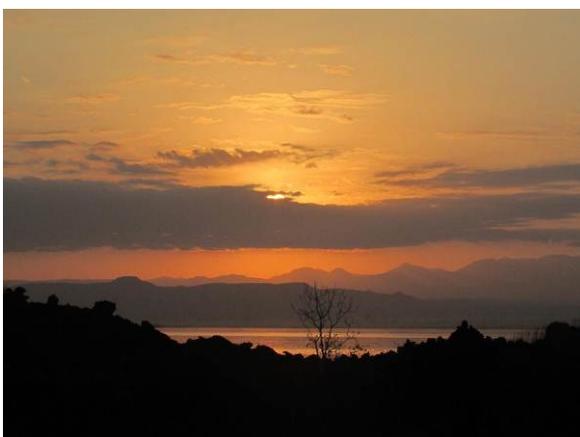
GPS 8.767, 38.974

Targets: Black Crowned Crane, [occasionally Demoiselle Crane, African Spotted Creeper]Other birds: Great White & Pink-backed Pelican, Abdim's, Marabou & White Stork, Wattled, Hadada & African Sacred Ibis, African Spoonbill, Great & Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret, Squacco Heron, Spur-winged & Egyptian Goose, Red-billed Duck, Hottentot Teal, African Fish-Eagle, Hooded, Rüppell's Griffon & African White-backed Vulture, Spur-winged Lapwing, Grey-headed Kingfisher, Red-fronted Tinkerbird, Western Black-headed Batis, Northern White-rumped Babbler (*leucopygia*), Grey-headed Bushshrike (approximans), Beautiful Sunbird, Red-billed Firefinch, African CitrilWintering: Glossy Ibis, Lesser & Greater Flamingo, Grey Heron, Common Crane (1,000+), Eurasian Teal, Garganey, Northern Pintail & Shoveler, Lesser Spotted Eagle, Black-winged Stilt, Pied Avocet, Ruff, Marsh & Wood Sandpiper, Spotted Redshank, Common Greenshank, Little & Temminck's Stint, Black-tailed Godwit, Black-headed Gull, Gull-billed Tern, Barn Swallow, Sedge Warbler

Marsh Bluetail & Northern Banded Groundling, Lake Beseka (Wesley Overman)

Lake Beseka (16) [8 Jan 2015]

GPS 8.905, 39.895

Endemic: Sombre Rock ChatOther target: Striolated BuntingOther birds: Saddle-billed, Marabou & Yellow-billed Stork, African Darter, Striated Heron, Kittlitz' Plover, African Palm Swift, Abyssinian Roller, Ethiopian Swallow, Blackstart, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Nile Valley Sunbird, African SilverbillWintering: Grey Heron, Whiskered Tern, Yellow-headed (Yellow) Wagtail (*lutea*), Sand MartinMammals: (Ethiopian) Klipspringer, Common Rock Hyrax, Slender MongooseReptile: Nile CrocodileDragonflies: Marsh Bluetail *Ischnura senegalensis*, Common Tigertail *Ictinogomphus ferox*, Northern Banded Groundling *Brachythemis impartita*, Long Skimmer *Orthetrum trinacria*, Violet Dropwing *Trithemis annulata*

Lake Beseka (Guido Keijl, Remco Hofland)

Ali Dege plains (18) [8 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132814>)

Targets: Arabian Bustard; Grevy's Zebra (mammal)

Other birds: Somali Ostrich, Secretarybird, [Rüppell's Griffon &] Lappet-faced Vulture, [Buff-crested &] White-bellied Bustard, Lichtenstein's & Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, Purple Roller, Black-headed & Crowned Lapwing, African Collared, Ring-necked & Namaqua Dove, Purple Roller, Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark, Northern White-crowned Shrike, Somali Fiscal, Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver

Wintering: Pallid & Montagu's Harrier, Short-toed Eagle, Woodchat, Southern Grey & Steppe Grey Shrike, Tawny Pipit

Other mammals: Common Jackal, Beisa Oryx, Soemmerring's Gazelle, (Southern) Gerenuk, Salt's Dikdik, Common Warthog



Beisa Oryx & Soemmerring's Gazelles, Ali Dege plains (Wesley Overman)



Arabian Bustard, Ali Dege plains (Guido Keijl)



Pair of Senegal Thick-knee, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)



White-browed Coucal, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)



Displaying pair of White-headed Buffalo Weaver, Bilen Lodge (Casper Zuyderduyn)



Displaying pair of White-headed Buffalo Weaver, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)

Bilen Lodge (Awash) (17) [8-9 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebied/info/132798>)

Targets: (1,000's of) Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse and Northern Carmine Bee-eater, Somali Bulbul

Other: Crested & Yellow-necked Francolin, Senegal Thickknee, African Mourning (Collared) Dove, White-browed Coucal, African Palm Swift, Blue-naped Mousebird, Slender-tailed Nightjar, Woodland Kingfisher, Little Bee-eater, African Grey Hornbill, Yellow-breasted, Black-throated & Black-billed Barbet, Nubian, Eastern Grey & (Eastern) Cardinal Woodpecker, Chestnut-headed Sparrowlark, Red-rumped & Ethiopian Swallow, Rufous Chatterer, Shining & Nile Valley Sunbird, Slate-colored Boubou, Superb & Rüppell's Starling, White-headed Buffalo-Weaver

Wintering: Blue-cheeked Bee-eater, Eastern Black-eared Wheatear, Turkestan Shrike

Mammals: Lion (HO), Crested Porcupine, Common Warthog, Salt's Dikdik, Unstriped Ground Squirrel, Grivet Monkey, [Naked Mole Rat], Common Jackal, (Southern) Gerenuk (walleri), Ethiopian Hare, [White-tailed Mongoose, African Civet, Common Genet]

Dragonflies: Marsh Bluetail *Ischnura senegalensis*, Broad Scarlet *Crocothemis erythraea*, Violet Dropwing *Trithemis annulata*



Northern Carmine & Blue-cheeked Bee-eaters, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)

Awash Falls Lodge (15) [9 & 10 Jan 2015, 1 hr]

GPS 8.842, 40.013

Birds: Black-crowned Night-Heron, Striated Heron, African Fish-Eagle

Other: Nile Crocodile (reptile), Violet Dropwing *Trithemis annulata* (dragonfly)



Nile Crocodile, Awash Falls (Wesley Overman, Guido Keijl)

Awash NP (15) [9 & 10 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/129451>)

Targets: Scissor-tailed Kite, Hartlaub's Bustard, Egyptian Nightjar (in winter), Three-banded Courser, Gillett's & Red-winged Lark, [Brown-faced Go-away-bird], Wahlberg's Honeyguide, Exclamatory Paradise-Whydah, Straw-tailed Whydah

Other birds: Helmeted Guineafowl, Secretarybird, Martial Eagle, Bateleur, African Pygmy Falcon, Kori Bustard, Northern White-faced Owl, Cardinal Woodpecker, Star-spotted & Sombre Nightjar, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Singing Lark, Rosy-patched Bushshrike, Northern White-crowned Shrike, Mouse-colored Penduline-Tit, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Red-fronted Warbler, Desert & Ashy Cisticola, White-browed Scrub Robin, Green-winged Pytilia, Somali Golden-breasted Bunting

Wintering: Lesser Whitethroat, Isabelline Wheatear, Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin

Mammals: Aardwolf, Common Jackal, Bat-eared Fox, Common Warthog, Beisa Oryx, Soemmering's Gazelle, Salt's Dikdik, (Northern) Lesser Kudu, Ethiopian Hare, Olive Baboon, [Leopard]



Scissor-tailed Kite, Awash NP. Surely the most beautiful raptor in the world? (Wesley Overman)

Haile Hotel, Lake Ziway (22) [10 Jan 2015, 3 hrs incl lunch]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132813>)

Targets: Lesser Jacana, [Dwarf Bittern]

Endemics: Black-winged Lovebird, Ethiopian Cisticola

Other birds: Great White Pelican, African Sacred Ibis, [Saddle-billed &] Marabou Stork (common), Long-tailed (Reed) & Great (White-breasted) Cormorant, African Darter, Hamerkop, Black Heron, White-faced Whistling-Duck, African Pygmy Goose, Hottentot Teal, [Knob-billed (African Comb) Duck], African White-backed Vulture, African Fish-Eagle, Long-crested Eagle, Black Crake, African Jacana, Grey-headed Gull, Woodland & Pied Kingfisher, Abyssinian Roller, Little Bee-eater, Brown-throated Martin, Black-headed Wagtail (feldegg), African Reed Warbler

Wintering: Glossy Ibis, Squacco Heron, Booted Eagle, Black-winged Stilt, Green & Marsh Sandpiper, Whiskered & White-winged Tern, Black-headed & Lesser Black-backed (Baltic) Gull, Eurasian Hoopoe, Barn Swallow, Sedge Warbler

Mammal: Hippopotamus



Lake Ziway (Remco Hofland)



Hippopotamus, Lake Ziway (Wesley Overman)



White-faced Whistling-duck & African Jacana, Lake Ziway (Wesley Overman)



Great White Pelican (Casper Zuyderduyn); African Darter & Malachite Kingfisher (below)(Wesley Overman)



Lake Langano (23) [10-12 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132817>)

Targets: Clapperton's Francolin, Black-cheeked Waxbill, Freckled Nightjar, Greyish Eagle-Owl

Endemic: Black-winged Lovebird

Other birds: Hadada Ibis, Tawny Eagle, Grey-headed & Heuglin's Gull, Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, [Northern White-faced Owl], Slender-tailed Nightjar, Grey-headed & Striped Kingfisher, Lilac-breasted Roller, Black-billed Wood Hoopoe, Black Scimitarbill, Hemprich's, Northern Red-billed & Von der Decken's Hornbill, Black-billed & Red-fronted Barbet, Greater Honeyguide, Red-throated Wryneck, Bearded, Eastern Grey & Cardinal Woodpecker, Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike, Rüppell's Robin-Chat, Mocking Cliff Chat, Little Rock Thrush, African Thrush, Green-backed Eremomela (first record?), Red-faced Crombec, Buff-bellied Warbler, Rattling Cisticola, Northern Black Flycatcher, African Paradise Flycatcher, Northern White-rumped Babbler (Iacuum), White-winged Black Tit, Scarlet-chested, Marico & Beautiful Sunbird, Grey-backed Fiscal, Slate-colored Boubou, Somali Crow, Violet-backed & Rüppell's Starling, Vitelline Masked, Spectacled & Little Weaver, Crimson-rumped Waxbill, Bronze Mannikin, African Citril

[Observation.org mentions for the SE shore: Goliath Heron, Scaly Francolin, White-cheeked Turaco, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Double-toothed Barbet, Black Cuckooshrike, Red-capped Robin-Chat, Abyssinian Ground Thrush, Brown-throated Wattle-eye]

Wintering: Eastern Imperial & Lesser Spotted Eagle, Pallas's Gull, Eurasian Wryneck, Eurasian Hoopoe, Masked Shrike

Mammals: Crested Porcupine, Common Rock Hyrax, Common Jackal, Common Warthog, Grivet Monkey, Olive Baboon, nocturnal rodent (long-tailed rat running through trees at night)

Reptiles: probable Blue-bellied Ridgeback Agama *Acanthocercus cyanogaster* & Kenyan Rock Agama *Agama lionotus*



Tawny Eagle, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)

Lake Abiata (25) [11 Jan 2015, 2 hrs]

GPS 7.654, 38.631

Targets: Caspian Plover, [Black Crowned Crane, Pallas's Gull]

Other birds: Lesser Flamingo (1,000+), Cape Teal, Kittlitz' Plover, Crowned Lapwing

Wintering: Northern Shoveler (1,000's), Pallid & Montagu's Harrier, Common Snipe, Pied Avocet, Dunlin, Curlew Sandpiper, Ruff (1,000's)



Lesser Flamingoes, Northern Shoveler & Ruff, Lake Abiata (Wesley Overman)

Dinsho, Bale Mountains (28) [12 (forest) & 13 (grasslands) Jan 2015, 2 hrs each]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132831>)

Endemics: Abyssinian Owl, Spot-breasted Lapwing, Abyssinian Catbird (Juniper Babbler), [Abyssinian Woodpecker], Yellow-fronted Parrot, White-backed Black Tit, [African Stonechat (albofasciatus)], Abyssinian Longclaw, Rouget's Rail, Thick-billed Raven, Blue-winged Goose, Ethiopian Cisticola, Abyssinian Slaty-Flycatcher; Mountain Nyala, (Ethiopian Highlands) Bushbuck (mammals); Ethiopian Skimmer *Orthetrum kerstense* (dragonfly); *Acraea necoda* (butterfly)

Other targets: Moorland Francolin, African Snipe, Cape Eagle-Owl, African Wood Owl, [Abyssinian Ground Thrush], Chestnut-naped Francolin

Other birds: Red-knobbed Coot, Yellow-billed Duck, Northern Puffback (greyish underparts), Mountain Thrush, Montane White-eye, Somali & Cape Crow, Yellow Bishop, Streaky Seedeater

Wintering: Black & White Stork, Pallid & Montagu's Harrier, Blackcap

Other mammals: Serval, Spotted Hyena, Common Jackal, Common Warthog, Bohor Reedbuck, Common Duiker, (Ethiopian Highlands) Bushbuck, Djaffa Mountains Guereza, Olive Baboon



Bohor Reedbuck & Common Warthog, Dinsho (Wesley Overman)



Chestnut-naped (top) & Moorland Francolins, Dinsho (Wesley Overman)

Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mountains (29), up to c 4,000m altitude [13 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132830>)

Endemics: [Spot-breasted Lapwing (easy in summer)]; Ethiopian Wolf, Big-headed Mole Rat, [Abyssinian Grass Rat, Black-clawed Brush-furred Rat] (mammals); Blue-winged Goose, Ethiopian Cisticola, Ethiopian Siskin, Wattled Ibis

Other targets: Brown Parisoma (*griseiventris*), [Wattled Crane (easier in summer), Lammergeier]
Other birds: Yellow-billed Duck, Chestnut-naped [& Moorland] Francolin, African White-backed Vulture, Augur Buzzard, [Golden Eagle], Thekla Lark, Moorland Chat, Abyssinian Ground Thrush (in eucalypt forest!), Tacazze Sunbird, Red-billed Chough, Slender-billed Starling
Wintering: Ruddy Shelduck, Northern Pintail, Northern Shoveler, Lesser Spotted & Steppe Eagle, Common Kestrel, Lanner Falcon, Marsh, Wood, Common & Green Sandpiper, Common Greenshank, Red-throated Pipit, Groundscraper (*simensis*) & Mountain Thrush, Cinnamon Bracken Warbler
Other mammals: Blick's Grass Rat (abundant), Ethiopian Highland Hare, [Klipspringer]



Big-headed Mole Rat (left) & Blick's Grass Rat (right), Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mountains (Wesley Overman)

Sof Omar Cave (31) [14 Jan 2015]

GPS 6.904, 40.852

Endemic: Salvadori's Seedeater

Other targets: Orange-winged Pytilia, Brown-tailed Rock Chat, Northern White-rumped Babbler (*smithii*), Somali Bulbul

Other birds: Abdim's Stork, Shikra, Augur Buzzard, Verreaux's Eagle, African Hawk-Eagle, Common Kestrel, Crested Francolin, African Collared, Ring-necked & Namaqua Dove, Emerald-spotted Wood Dove, African Orange-bellied (Red-bellied) Parrot, African Palm Swift, Alpine, Mottled & Nyanza Swift, Narina Trogon, Northern Red-billed & Von der Decken's Hornbill, Red-fronted Tinkerbird, Black-throated Barbet, Lesser Honeyguide, Nubian Woodpecker, Ethiopian Swallow, Rock Martin, Mountain Wagtail, Dodson's Bulbul, Northern Brownbul, Red-capped Robin-chat, White-browed Scrub-Robin, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Northern Crombec, Red-fronted Warbler, Brown-tailed (Yellow-breasted) Apalis (*flavocincta*), African Grey Flycatcher, Grey Tit-Flycatcher, African Paradise Flycatcher, Pygmy & Grey-headed Batis, Acacia Tit, Scarlet-chested, Shining, Marico, Eastern (Kenya) Violet-backed & Collared Sunbird, Northern & Somali Fiscal, Northern White-crowned Shrike, Slate-colored Boubou, Three-streaked Tchagra, Rosy-patched Shrike, White-crested Helmetshrike (*vinaceigularis*), Eastern Black-headed Oriole, Fork-tailed Drongo, Somali & Cape Crow, Red-billed Oxpecker, Bristle-crowned Starling, Yellow-spotted Petronia, White-headed Buffalo Weaver, Red-headed Weaver, Purple Grenadier, Village Indigobird, Reichenow's Seedeater, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting

Wintering: European White Stork, Northern House Martin, Isabelline Wheatear, Eastern Olivaceous Warbler, Common Chiffchaff, Turkestan Shrike

Mammals: Serval, [Naked Mole Rat] (holes found), Ethiopian Lesser Galago, Green Vervet Monkey (stealing food if you don't pay attention!), Western (Hamadryas) Baboon, Common Rock & Yellow-spotted Hyrax, Egyptian Fruit Bat, Large-eared Free-tailed Bat & Cape Hairy Bat

Dragonflies: Dancing Jewel *Platycypha caligata*, Cherry-eye Sprite *Pseudagrion sublacteam*, Darting Cruiser *Phyllomacromia picta*, Broad Scarlet *Crocothemis erythraea*, Epaulet Skimmer *Orthemum chryso stigma*, Deceptive Widow *Palpopleura deceptor*, Halfshade Dropwing *Trithemis aconita*, Navy Dropwing *T. furva*, Orange-winged Dropwing *T. kirbyi*

Interesting butterflies: Dark Blue *Junonia oenone* & Blue Spot Pansy *J. westermanni*, White-spotted Commodore *Precis limnoria*, Common Joker *Byblia anvata*, Spotted Sailor *Neptis saclava*

Interesting moth: *Amata alicia*



Sof Omar, early morning (Remco Hofland)



Broad Scarlet & Halfshade Dropwing, Sof Omar (Remco Hofland)

Hareenna Forest, btw Goba and Negele (30) [15 Jan 2015, 20 min & 10 min stops]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132829>)

Endemics: [Abyssinian Woodpecker]; [Bale Monkey](mammal); Abyssinian Oriole, Abyssinian Catbird, White-cheeked Turaco, Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher

Other targets: Abyssinian Crimsonwing, African Hill Babbler, [African Spotted Creeper]

Other birds: Mountain Buzzard, Chestnut-naped Francolin, African Olive Pigeon, Tambourine Dove, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Brown (Black) Saw-wing (*antinorii*), Grey Cuckooshrike, Abyssinian Ground Thrush, Baglafaecht Weaver (*reichenowi*)

Wintering: Steppe Buzzard, Blackcap

Mammals: Djaffa Mountains Guereza, Olive Baboon, [Spotted Hyena, (Ethiopian Highlands) Bushbuck, African Wildcat, Common Genet, Yellow-spotted Hyrax]

Dragonflies: Dancing Jewel *Platycypha caligata*, Powder-faced Sprite *Pseudagrion kersteni*, Upland Sprite *P. spernatum*, Julia Skimmer *Orthetrum julia*

Scrub south of Hareenna Forest [15 Jan 2015]

GPS 5.924, 39.550

Endemic: (Prince) Ruspoli's Turaco

Other birds: Lilac-breasted Roller, African Grey & Von der Decken's Hornbill, [White-breasted Cuckooshrike], Rattling Cisticola, White-crested Helmetshrike (*vinaceigularis*), Fork-tailed Drongo, Superb Starling, White-headed Buffalo Weaver

Wintering: Eurasian Hoopoe; Butterfly: Polka Dot *Pardopsis punctatissima*

Liben Plains (35) [16 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132821>)

Endemics: Sidamo (Liben) Lark, [White-tailed Swallow]

Other targets: Somali Short-toed Lark, Temminck's [& Somali] Courser, Shelley's Sparrow

Other birds: [Secretarybird, Martial Eagle, Black-chested Snake-Eagle] Kori Bustard, Crowned & Black-winged Lapwing, Plain-backed Pipit, Pectoral-patch Cisticola, White-crowned Starling, Cutthroat

Wintering: Lesser Kestrel, Isabelline Wheatear, Zitting Cisticola

Mammal: Common Duiker; Butterfly: Polka Dot *Pardopsis punctatissima*



Black-winged Lapwing, Liben Plains (Wesley Overman)

Scrub east of Negele [16 Jan 2015, 1.5 hr]

GPS 5.306, 39.634

Endemic: (Prince) Ruspoli's Turaco

Other birds: Yellow-necked Spurfowl, Crested Francolin, Gabar Goshawk, Cardinal Woodpecker, African Black-headed Oriole, Yellow-spotted Petronia, Grey-capped Social-Weaver, Red-headed Weaver, Reichenow's Seedeater



Ruspoli's Turaco, east of Negele (Wesley Overman)

Undisclosed site [1 hr]

Targets: Juba Weaver, Magpie Starling

Other: African Pygmy Falcon, Yellow-necked Francolin, White-bellied Bustard, African Orange-bellied Parrot, Red-fronted Barbet, Shelley's Starling, Chestnut Weaver, Streaky Seedeater

Dragonflies: Orange-winged Drogwing *T. kirbyi*, Southern Riverking *Zygonoides fuelleborni* (first record (of this genus!) for Ethiopia)



Male Juba Weaver (Wesley Overman)



First Southern Riverking for Ethiopia (Casper Zuyderduyn)

Negele -> Yabello (N part, 'Dawa-Wachile area', 38) [17 Jan 2015, 3 hrs]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132824>)

Targets: [Philippa's Crombec], African White-winged Dove, [Juba Weaver], Yellow-vented Eremomela, Abyssinian White-eye (yellow-bellied race jubaensis), [Scaly Chatterer, (Smaller) Black-bellied Sunbird], Pringle's Puffbird, Red-naped Bushshrike, Somali (Long-billed) Crombec, Vulturine Guineafowl

Other birds: Hamerkop, Shikra, Bateleur, African Harrier-Hawk, Eastern Chanting & Gabar Goshawk, Tawny Eagle, African Pygmy Falcon, Grey Kestrel, Black-faced Sandgrouse, Ring-necked & Laughing Dove, Emerald-spotted & Blue-spotted Wood Dove, Bruce's Green Pigeon, [Pearl-spotted Owllet], Purple Roller, Abyssinian Scimitarbill, [African Grey, Eastern Yellow-billed, Von der Decken's &] Northern Red-billed Hornbill, d'Arnaud's & Black-throated Barbet, Dodson's Bulbul, Northern Brownbul, White-browed Scrub-Robin, Spotted Palm-Thrush, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Grey Wren-Warbler, Buff-bellied Warbler, Pale Prinia, Brown-tailed (Yellow-breasted) Apalis (flavocincta), African Grey Flycatcher, Pygmy Batis, Acacia Tit, Mouse-colored Penduline-Tit, Hunter's, Shining, Kenya Violet-backed & Variable (albiventris) Sunbird, Northern Fiscal, Northern White-crowned Shrike, Slate-colored Boubou, Three-streaked Tchagra, Brubru, White-crested Helmetshrike (vinaceigularis), Fork-tailed Drongo, Somali Crow, Golden-breasted, Shelley's, Superb, Rüppell's, White-crowned [& Magpie] Starling, Yellow-spotted Petronia, Vitelline Masked & Speke's Weaver, Red-billed Quelea, Green-winged Pytilia, Purple Grenadier, Somali (Golden-breasted) Bunting

Wintering: Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Lesser Spotted Eagle, Isabelline & Pied Wheatear, Common Rock Thrush, Common Whitethroat, Turkestan Shrike

Mammals: Spotted Hyena, (Southern) Lesser Kudu, Bright's Gazelle, Yellow-winged Bat, Common Dwarf Mongoose, (Chanler's) Mountain Reedbuck (chanleri), Guenther's Dik-dik (common), Abyssinian Hare, Unstriped Ground Squirrel, (Ethiopia or Somali) Lesser Galago, Olive Baboon



Yellow-vented Eremomela, Wachile area (Casper Zuyderduyn)



A pair of Northern Red-billed Hornbill, Wachile area (Guido Keijl)



Birding the Wachile area (Remco Hofland)

Yabello-Mega area, near Soda (41) [17-18 Jan 2015]

GPS 4.191, 38.307

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132826>)

Endemics: White-tailed Swallow, Stresemann's Bushcrow

Other targets: Short-tailed (megaensis) & Foxy Lark, Vulturine Guineafowl, Banded Parisoma, [Somali Courser]

Other birds: [Somali Ostrich, Lappet-faced & White-headed Vulture], Black-winged Kite, Bateleur, Eastern Chanting Goshawk, Tawny Eagle, Long-crested Eagle, African Hawk-Eagle, African Pygmy Falcon, Yellow-necked Francolin, Kori, White-bellied [& Buff-crested] Bustard, Crowned & Black-

winged Lapwing, Purple Roller, Black-billed Wood Hoopoe, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Northern Red-billed & Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Grey Wren-Warbler, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Red-fronted Warbler, Acacia Tit, [Taita &] Somali Fiscal, Northern White-crowned Shrike, Three-streaked Tchagra, Grey-headed Bushshrike (approximans), Brubru, Eastern Black-headed Oriole, Fork-tailed Drongo, Somali Crow, Red-billed Oxpecker, Bristle-crowned, Rüppell's, Superb & White-crowned Starling, Shelley's Sparrow, Yellow-spotted & Bush Petronia, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, Grey-headed & Black-capped Social Weaver, White-headed & Red-billed Buffalo Weaver, Red-headed Weaver, Purple Grenadier, Black-cheeked Waxbill, Cinnamon-breasted Bunting
Wintering: Pallid Harrier, Lesser Spotted & Steppe Eagle, Peregrine Falcon, [Great Spotted Cuckoo], Eurasian Hoopoe, Isabelline Wheatear, Turkestan Shrike
Mammals: Yellow-winged Bat, (Southern) Gerenuk, Guenther's Dik-dik, Bright's Gazelle, (holes of) [Naked Mole Rat], Olive Baboon



Breakfast amidst Stresemann's Bushcrows & White-tailed Swallows, Yabello area (Merid Gabremichael).
 The team, starting left: Vincent, Roland, Wouter, Frank, Wesley, Guido, Wil (standing), Chris & author.

Scrub S of Yabello, along highway '6' (40) [18 Jan 2015] GPS 4.731, 38.196 a.o.
<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132826>

Targets: Scaly Chatterer, Northern Grosbeak-Canary, Bare-eyed Thrush, Tiny Cisticola, Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar

Other birds: Crested Francolin (spilogaster), Verreaux's Eagle-Owl, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Greater Honeyguide, Bearded Woodpecker, Red-faced Crombec, Red-naped Bushshrike, Grey-headed Silverbill, White-bellied Canary, Somali (Golden-breasted) Bunting

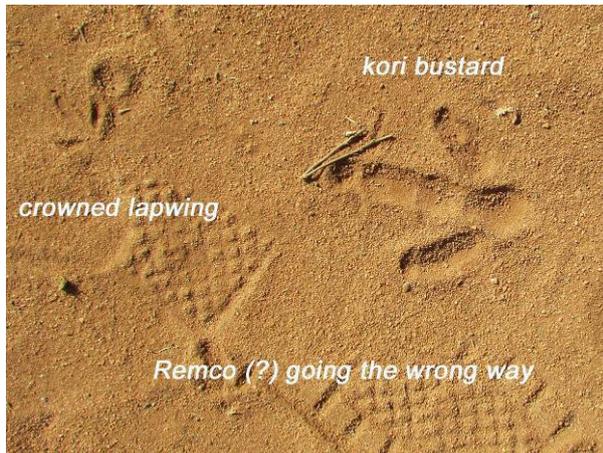
Mammals: White-tailed Mongoose (at dusk), Unstriped Ground Squirrel, (Southern) Lesser Kudu (imberbis), Guenther's Dik-dik, Abyssinian Hare, (Southern) Gerenuk, Common Duiker, Common Rock Hyrax

Lizard: Smith's Racerunner *Pseuderemias smithii*

Some of the highlights of the Yabello area



Foxy Lark & Banded Parisoma (Casper Zuyderduyn)



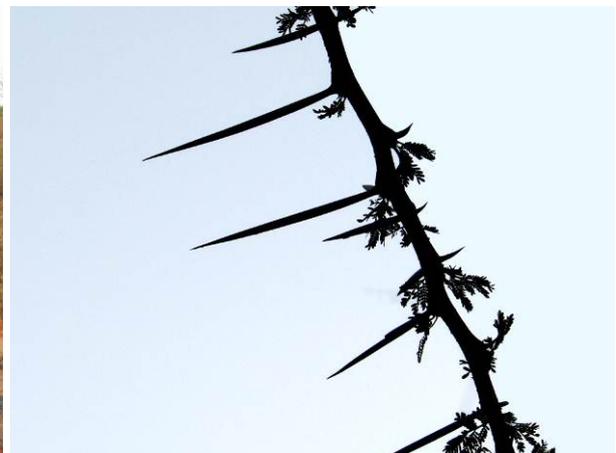
Guido displaying his tracking skills



Stresemann's Bushcrow (Guido Keijl)



Roland birding in shorts & sandals (Guido Keijl)





Immature Scaly Chatterer (Casper Zuyderduyn)



Bare-eyed Thrush (Casper Zuyderduyn)



Red-naped Bushshrike (Wesley Overman)



Stresemann's Bushcrows (Wesley Overman)



White-tailed Swallows (Wesley Overman)



Three-streaked Tchagra (Casper Zuyderduyn)

Yabello town [18 Jan 2015]

GPS 4.884, 38.140

Birds: Red-winged Starling, Speke's Weaver (breeding opposite Yabello Motel entrance)

Lake Awassa incl United Africa Hotel grounds (27) [19-20 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132818>)

Endemics: Banded Barbet, Thick-billed Raven, Ethiopian Cisticola, Black-winged Lovebird, Wattled Ibis

Main targets: African Spotted Creeper, Bat Hawk

Other birds: Little Grebe, Pink-backed & Great White Pelican, Long-tailed (Reed) & Great (White-breasted) Cormorant, African Darter, Goliath, Black-headed & Squacco Heron, Great, Yellow-billed, Little & Cattle Egret, Hamerkop, Saddle-billed & Marabou Stork, African Sacred & Hadada Ibis, Spur-winged & Egyptian Goose, White-faced Whistling-Duck, African Pygmy Goose, [White-backed Duck], Hottentot Teal, African Fish-Eagle, Long-crested Eagle, Grey Kestrel, Black Crake, Allen's Gallinule, Common Moorhen, Red-knobbed Coot, African Jacana, Spur-winged Lapwing, Grey-headed Gull, Lemon & African Mourning Dove, Blue-headed Coucal, Grey-headed, Striped, Giant, African Pygmy, Woodland, Pied & Malachite Kingfisher, Lilac-breasted & Abyssinian Roller, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Red-fronted Tinkerbird, Double-toothed & Black-billed Barbet, Lesser Honeyguide, Red-throated Wryneck, Nubian & Eastern Grey Woodpecker, Brown-throated Martin, Wire-tailed Swallow, Rüppell's Robin-Chat, Mountain & African Thrush, Little Rush (African Bush) Warbler, African Reed Warbler, Lesser Swamp Warbler, Grey-backed Camaroptera, Northern Crombec, Buff-bellied Warbler, Rattling Cisticola, Tawny-flanked Prinia, Northern Black & African Dusky Flycatcher, African Paradise Flycatcher, Grey-headed Batis, Brown-throated Wattle-eye, Abyssinian White-eye, Tacazze, Scarlet-chested, Beautiful & Shining Sunbird, Northern Puffback, Ethiopian Boubou, Fork-tailed Drongo, Rüppell's & Wattled Starling, Village, Lesser Masked, Northern Masked, Spectacled, Little & Baglafaecht Weaver (baglafaecht), Red-billed Quelea, Northern Red Bishop, Common Waxbill, [Abyssinian Waxbill], Cutthroat, Bronze Mannikin, Pin-tailed Whydah, Village Indigobird, African & Southern Citril, Streaky Seedeater

Wintering: Grey & Purple Heron, Glossy Ibis, Garganey, Common Snipe, Black-tailed Godwit, Common Greenshank, Green, Wood & Common Sandpiper, Ruff, Black-headed Gull, Gull-billed, White-winged & Whiskered Tern, Eurasian Hoopoe, Eurasian Wryneck, Sand Martin, Barn Swallow, Red-throated & Tree Pipit, White, Grey & Black-headed (feldegg) & Sykes's (Yellow) Wagtail (beema), Common Redstart (samamiscus), Sedge & probable Marsh & Eastern Olivaceous Warbler, Willow Warbler, Common Chiffchaff, Blackcap, Common & Lesser Whitethroat

Mammals: Hippopotamus, Vervet Monkey, Djaffa Mountains Guereza, Olive Baboon

Reptiles: Nile Monitor, African Striped Mabuya, *Agama sp*

Dragonflies: Highland Wisp *Agriocnemis inversa*, Common Citril *Ceriagrion glabrum*, Marsh Bluetail *Ischnura senegalensis*, Masai Sprite *Pseudagrion massaicum*, Blue-tailed (or Wing-tailed) Sprite *Pseudagrion nubicum* (or *torridum*), Southern Banded Groundling *Brachythemis leucosticta*



Lake Awassa & one of its common inhabitants: Pied Kingfisher (Remco Hofland)



Marabou Stork (and Sacred Ibis, Spur-winged Goose & Long-tailed Cormorant), Lake Awassa (Guido Keijl)



Male Highland Wisp, Lake Awassa (Casper Zuyderduyn)

Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve [20 Jan 2015, 1.5 hr]

GPS 7.157, 38.281

Target mammals: Swayne's Hartebeest, Oribi

Endemic: Thick-billed Raven

Other birds: Long-crested Eagle, [Black-bellied Bustard], Namaqua Dove, Mosque Swallow

Wintering: Eurasian Hoopoe



Wesley on top: Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve (Guido Keijl)

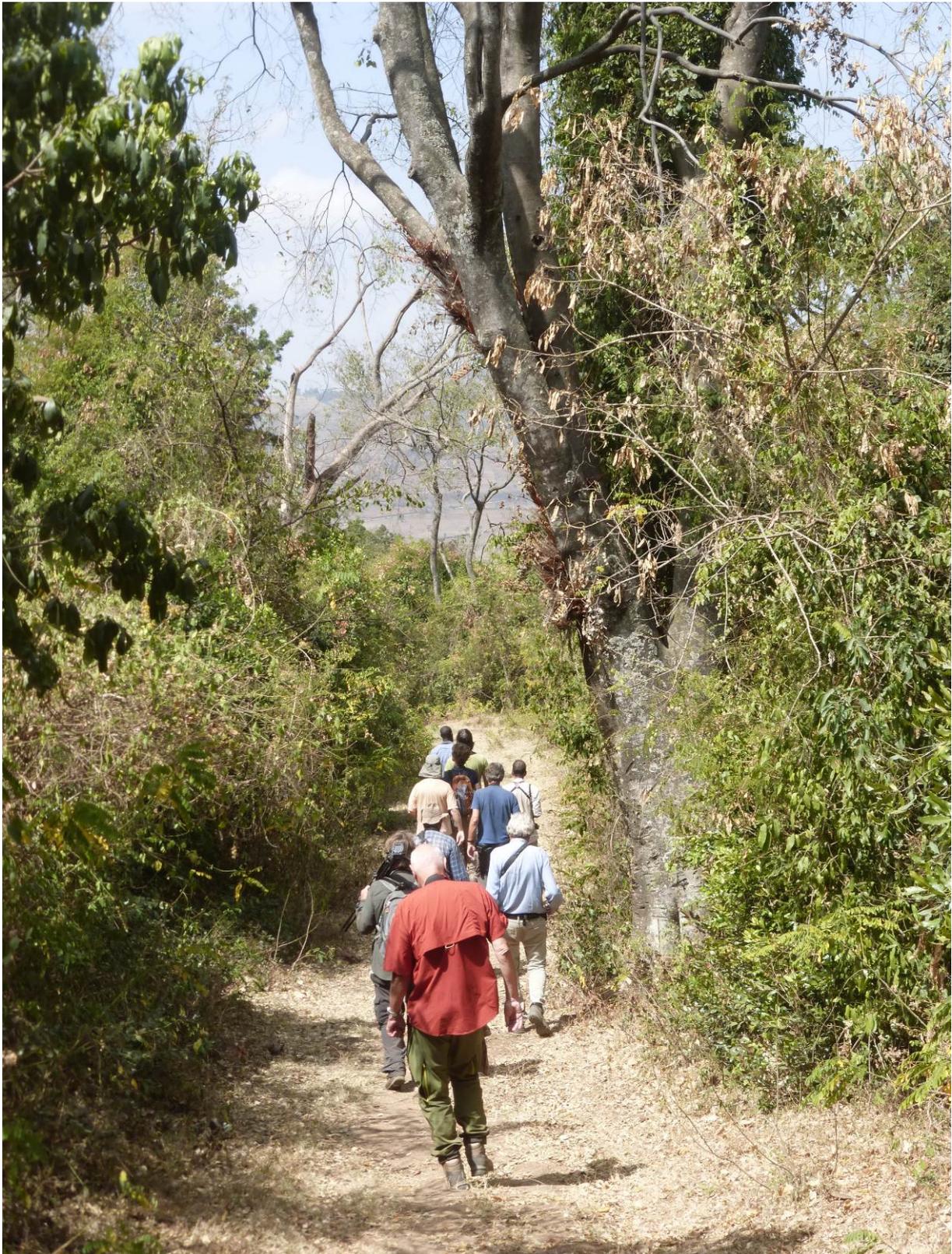


Swayne's Hartebeest & Oribi, Senkele (Wesley Overman)

Undisclosed site [0.5 hr]

Target: Wattled Crane

Other birds: Black Crowned and Common Crane, much waterfowl and many waders



Birding Wondo Genet (Remco Hofland)

Wondo Genet (26) [20-22 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132819>)

Endemics: Abyssinian Woodpecker, Yellow-fronted Parrot, Abyssinian (Montane) Nightjar, African Goshawk (unduliventer), Abyssinian Oriole, White-cheeked Turaco, Banded Barbet, Black-winged Lovebird, Thick-billed Raven, Brown-rumped Seed eater

Other targets: Green Twinspot, Sharpe's Starling, Scaly Francolin, White-headed Vulture, Western Banded Snake Eagle, [African Crowned Eagle], Brown Parisoma (lugens), African Hill Babbler, African Firefinch, [African Spotted Creeper], Dark-capped Yellow Warbler, African Wood Owl, Abyssinian Ground Thrush, Northern White-rumped Babbler (omoensis)

Other birds: Peregrine Falcon, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Tambourine, Lemon & Blue-spotted Wood Dove, Narina Trogon, Half-collared Kingfisher, Broad-billed Roller, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill (common), [Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird], Green-backed, Scaly-throated & Lesser Honeyguide, Eastern Grey Woodpecker, Brown (Black) Saw-wing (antinatorii), Mountain Wagtail, [Grey &] Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike (both types: males with yellow and with red shoulderpatches), Rüppell's Robin-Chat, African & Mountain (Abyssinian) Thrush (same altitude!), Brown Woodland Warbler, Brown-throated Wattle-eye, (Eastern) Olive & Tacazze Sunbird, Northern Fiscal, Ethiopian Boubou, Black-crowned Tchagra, Red-winged Starling, Grosbeak, Spectacled & Baglafaecht Weaver (baglafaecht), [Yellow-bellied Waxbill], Bronze & Black-and-white Mannikin, African Citril

Wintering: Western Marsh Harrier, Eurasian Sparrowhawk, Eurasian Hobby, Grey Wagtail, Blackcap

Mammals: [Giant Forest Hog] (latrines found), Gambian Sun Squirrel, Vervet Monkey, Djaffa Mountains Guereza, Olive Baboon, Long-haired Rousette (bat), Ethiopia Lesser Galago

Dragonfly: (probable) Tough Skimmer *Orthetrum brachiale*

Interesting butterflies: Forest Mother-of-pearl *Protogoniomorpha parhassus*, Mocker Swallowtail *Papilio dardanus*, *P. microps* and many more



Black-winged Lovebird & Mocker Swallowtail, Wondo Genet (Guido Keijl)



Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Wondo Genet (Wesley Overman)

Gibe Gorge (7) [23 Jan 2015]

(<http://observation.org/gebiet/info/132828>)

Endemics: Red-billed (Ethiopian) Pytilia, Yellow-rumped (White-throated) Seedeater

Other targets: [Egyptian Plover, June-Aug], Black-faced Firefinch, Brown-rumped Bunting, Northern White-rumped Babbler (*omoensis*), African Little Sparrowhawk, Foxy Cisticola, Abyssinian Waxbill

Other birds: Cattle & Little Egret, African White-backed Vulture, Gabar Goshawk, Shikra, Helmeted Guineafowl, Senegal Thickknee, African Wattled Lapwing, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Ring-necked Dove, Senegal Coucal, Little Swift, Grey-headed & Striped Kingfisher, Abyssinian & Purple Roller, Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, [Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird], Lesser Striped Swallow, African Pied Wagtail, Moustached Grass Warbler, Buff-bellied Warbler, Red-faced, Boran, Zitting & Short-winged (Siffling) Cisticola, Pale Flycatcher, Western Black-headed Batis, Black-crowned Tchagra, Bush Petronia, Red-billed Quelea, Black Bishop, Baglafaecht Weaver (*baglafaecht*), Bar-breasted Firefinch, Yellow-fronted Canary

Wintering: Whinchat, Common Rock Thrush, Lesser Whitethroat

Mammals: Oribi, [Hippopotamus]

Dragonflies: Common Riverjack *Mesocnemis singularis* (first confirmed record for Ethiopia), Swarthy Sprite *Pseudagrion hamoni*, Corkscrew Hooktail *Paragomphus elpidius* (first record for Ethiopia), Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*, Lucia Widow *Palpopleura lucia*, Violet Drowping *Trithemis annulata*



Gibe Gorge (Guido Keijl)

Ghion Hotel, Addis Abeba (1) [24 Jan 2015, 1 hr]

GPS 9.014, 38.760

Birds: probable African Goshawk (*unduliventer*) diving on passerines at leaking tap, Brown Parisoma (*lugens*), Abyssinian Slaty-Flycatcher, Tacazze Sunbird

TRIPLISTS

Legend

E = endemic; **NEAE** = Northeast Africa endemic; **Essp** = endemic subspecies; **E(ssp)** = current endemic subspecies, possible/likely future split; **VU** = Vulnerable; **EN** = Endangered; **CR** = Critically endangered; [**HO**] or **HO** = heard only; **btw** = between; **S** = south; **sev** = several; **ad** = adult; **imm** = immature; **m** = male; **f** = female; **p** = pair(s); **c** = circa (about); **Fox Kestrel** = lifer; **Short-tailed Lark** = new subspecies; (**WT**, **GK**) = initials of those who saw it.

Recorded birds

1. Somali Ostrich *Struthio molybdophanus*: c 10 Ali Dege plains



Male and female Somali Ostrich, Ali Dege plains (Wesley Overman)

2. Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis capensis*: 2 Jemma Valley, 2 east of Debre Libanos, 675 Bishoftu (crater) Lake, c 25 Lake Ziway, sev west of Goba, common Lake Awassa (at least two breeding close to shore, 4 eggs in one nest)



Breeding Little Grebe, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

3. Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus*: 10 Chelekleka Lake, 150+ Haile Resort (Lake Ziway), sev Lake Abiata, 1 Lake Awassa, 1,500+ undisclosed site
4. Pink-backed Pelican *Pelecanus rufescens*: 5 Bishoftu (crater) Lake, c 50 Chelekleka Lake, 1 Lake Abiata, 1 Lake Awassa, 1 imm over undisclosed site
5. White-breasted (Great) Cormorant *Phalacrocorax (carbo) lucidus*: 1 btw Addis Abeba & Debre Libanos, 2 Jemma Valley, 10 Bishoftu (crater) Lake, sev Lake Beseka, 4 Lake Ziway, sev Lake Langano and Lake Awassa
6. Long-tailed Cormorant *Phalacrocorax africanus*: 1 Jemma Valley, 3 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 4 Bishoftu Lake, c 15 Chelekleka Lake, sev Lake Beseka, sev Lake Ziway, fairly common Lake Awassa
7. African Darter *Anhinga melanogaster*: 1 Lake Beseka, 25+ Lake Ziway, 1 Lake Awassa
8. Grey Heron *Ardea c. cinerea*: 1 btw Addis Abeba & Debre Libanos, 3 Chelekleka Lake, 2 Lake Beseka, 1 Lake Abiata, 1 Lake Awassa, 1 undisclosed site
9. Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala*: 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 2 Chelekleka Lake, 1 daily Lake Langano, 1 Lake Awassa, 3 undisclosed site
10. Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath*: 2 singles Lake Awassa



Goliath Heron (left) & Saddle-billed Stork (right), Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

11. Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea*: 1 imm Bilen Lodge, 2 Lake Awassa
12. Great Egret *Egretta alba*: 1 Jemma Valley, c 10 Chelekleka Lake, 1 Lake Beseka, sev each at Lake Ziway, Lake Abiata, Lake Awassa, 2 undisclosed site and 1 Gibe Gorge
13. Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca*: 1 Haile Resort (Lake Ziway)(RH+)
14. Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret *Egretta (intermedia) brachyrhyncha*: c 10 Chelekleka Lake, sev Lake Awassa
15. Little Egret *Egretta garzetta*: only small numbers (almost) daily, even at larger lakes
16. (Western) Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis*: only small numbers (almost) daily; largest numbers recorded 10+ Chelekleka Lake, 15+ Gibe Gorge
17. Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides*: 4 Chelekleka Lake, sev Lake Ziway, sev Lake Langano, c 50 Lake Awassa, sev undisclosed site, 1 Gibe Gorge

18. Striated Heron *Butorides striata atricapilla*: 1 Lake Beseka (VH), 1 Awash Falls Lodge (RH, WO, WH), 1 Lake Ziway



Yellow-billed Egret & African Darter, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

19. Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax*: 1 ad Awash Falls Lodge (RH, WO, WH)
 20. Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta*: singles most days in N part of route, 6+ Chelekleka Lake, c 20 Lake Ziway, 1-3 daily in E part of route, 10-25 daily Lake Awassa, 1 Gibe Gorge



Hamerkop with prey, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

21. Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis*: singles btw Addis Abeba & Debre Libanos, Jemma Valley, over Ali Dege plains
 22. Black Stork *Ciconia nigra*: 1 ad + 1 imm in riverbed of Jemma Valley, 2 btw Dinsho & Goba
 23. **Abdim's Stork** *Ciconia abdimii*: 1 over Addis (WO), 1 over Chelekleka Lake, 16 amongst c 200 European White Storks btw Sof Omar & Goba. My last stork!
 24. African Woolly-neck(ed Stork) *Ciconia (episcopus) microscelis*: 1 flying past Ethio-German Hotel (Debre Libanos)
 25. European White Stork *Ciconia ciconia*: 20+ Chelekleka Lake, 2 Lake Abiata, c 100 in fields btw Lake Langano & Goba, c 200 thermalling btw Sof Omar & Goba
 26. Saddlebill Stork *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis*: 2 Lake Beseka, 1 Lake Awassa

27. Marabou *Leptoptilos crumeniferus*: 250+ Chelekleka Lake (many more above Bishoftu town), sev Lake Beseka and above Awash area, 350+ Haile Resort (Lake Ziway), 200+ Lake Awassa



Abdim's Stork, east of Goba (Wesley Overman)



Birding Lake Awassa (Remco Hofland)



Marabou Storks, Lake Beseka (Wesley Overman)

28. (African) Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus*: 5-20 seen most days, with higher numbers: 50+ Chelekleka Lake, 60+ btw Lake Langano & Goba, c 50 Lake Awassa, 80+ at undisclosed site; none seen in the dry south, i.e. Goba - Negele - Yabello
29. Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash*: 4 over Addis, 2 HO Awash Falls Lodge, sev Lake Ziway, sev Lake Langano, 3 Negele, sev daily at Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet & Gibe Gorge



Sacred Ibis, Lake Beseka & Hadada Ibis, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)

30. **Wattled Ibis** *Bostrychia carunculata* **E**: common in Ethiopian highlands, with our first 2 seen in Addis; largest number 200+ on Sanetti Plateau



Wattled Ibis, Gemessa Gedel (Wesley Overman)

31. Glossy Ibis *Plegadis falcinellus*: 1 btw Addis Abeba & Debre Libanos, 3 Chelekleka Lake, 15+ Lake Ziway, sev Lake Abiata, 2 Lake Awassa, 2 at undisclosed site
32. African Spoonbill *Platalea alba*: 3 Chelekleka Lake, 2 Lake Ziway, 1 Lake Abiata
33. Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus ruber*: 1 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, c 100 Chelekleka Lake, c 2,000 Lake Abiata
34. Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor*: c 200 Chelekleka Lake, c 5,000 Lake Abiata
35. White-faced Whistling-duck *Dendrocygna viduata*: c 30 Lake Ziway, 40+ Lake Awassa

36. **Blue-winged Goose** *Cyanochen cyanopterus* **E, VU**: fairly common in Ethiopian highland wetlands, recorded on 6 dates: 23 btw Addis Abeba & Debre Libanos, 20+ btw Jemma Valley & Debre Birhan, 30+ btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 25+ btw Lake Langano and Goba, 60+ on Sanetti Plateau



Blue-winged Geese (on either side of two Spot-breasted Lapwings), Dinsho (Remco Hofland)

37. Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiacus*: c 500 Chelekkeleka Lake, 3 over Negele area, 2 Yabello, sev Lake Awassa, 1,000+ at undisclosed site, sev Gibe Gorge; 5-10 recorded on most other dates
38. Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea*: c 60 Sanetti Plateau (Bale Mts)
39. Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis*: 6 Bishoftu & 1 Chelekkeleka Lake, 2 Lake Ziway, 12+ Lake Awassa, 40+ at undisclosed crane site
40. African Pygmy-goose *Nettapus auritus*: 3p Haile Resort (Lake Ziway), 20+ Lake Awassa
41. African Black Duck *Anas sparsa*: great views of 2p in a creek in southern Addis
42. Common Teal *Anas crecca*: 10 Chelekkeleka Lake
43. Cape Teal *Anas capensis*: 4 Lake Abiata
44. Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata*: 8 Jemma Valley, c 20 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 15+ btw Lake Langano & Goba, c 60 Sanetti Plateau
45. Northern Pintail *Anas acuta*: 10 Chelekkeleka Lake, c 20 Sanetti Plateau
46. Red-billed Duck *Anas erythrorhyncha*: 2 Chelekkeleka Lake
47. Hottentot Teal *Anas hottentota*: 7 Chelekkeleka Lake, 10 Lake Ziway, sev Lake Abiata, 3 Lake Awassa
48. Garganey *Anas querquedula*: 4 Chelekkeleka Lake, 2 Lake Awassa
49. Northern Shoveler *Anas clypeata*: 20+ Chelekkeleka Lake, 1m Lake Ziway, an estimated 20,000 at Lake Abiata, 25+ Sanetti Plateau
50. Southern Pochard *Netta erythrophthalma*: 5 Bishoftu Lake, 4 Chelekkeleka Lake



Pair of African Pygmy-Goose, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman); African Black Duck, Addis (Remco Hofland)

51. Bat Hawk *Macheiramphus alcinus anderssoni*: 1 past United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa) at dusk (GK)
52. Black-shouldered Kite *Elanus caeruleus*: 1 Jemma Valley, 2 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1p Melka Ghebdu, 1 btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 2 btw Sof Omar & Goba, 1 Soda
53. **African Swallow-tailed** (Scissor-tailed) **Kite** *Chelictinia riocourii*: 8, perched & preening on a dead tree, Awash NP, for c 1 hour before they flew off (prior to dusk). One individual lacked the dark line on the underwing coverts. No 2 bird in the joint-top-10 (no 1 for me!).
54. Black Kite *Milvus migrans*: few ad btw Addis & Debre Libanos



Black Kite, Sululta Plains (Guido Keijl)

55. Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus parasiticus*: common, especially in cities and towns
56. African Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer*: regularly encountered near water, c 30 seen (and heard) at Jemma Valley, Awash and at Chelekleka, Langano, Ziway & Awassa Lakes
57. Bearded Vulture (Lammergeier) *Gypaetus barbatus meridionalis*: 2-5 ad Debre Libanos, 3 ad + 2 imm btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1 imm Melka Ghebdu



Yellow-billed Kites, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)

- 58. Egyptian Vulture *Neophron p. percnopterus* **EN**: 5 ad Debre Libanos, 2 ad Jemma Valley, 1 ad Ali Dege plains, 1 imm Awash NP
- 59. Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus pileatus* **EN**: fairly common throughout



Hooded Vulture, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman); White-backed Vulture, Lake Chelekleka (Remco Hofland)

60. African White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* **EN**: 3 Debre Libanos, small numbers daily btw Debre Birhan & Liben Plains (highest 30+ at Awash NP), at Wondo Genet & Gibe Gorge; less than 70 seen in total
61. Rüppell's Griffon *Gyps rueppellii erlangeri* **EN**: 10+ Debre Libanos, c 20 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan (sev roadside just outside Debre Birhan at apparent slaughterhouse), 1 Melka Ghebdu, 2 btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 1 over Wondo Genet
62. Eurasian Griffon *Gyps fulvus*: 5 ad btw Addis & Debre Libanos
63. Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotus nubicus* **VU**: 2 ad Jemma Valley, 1 perched on a tree Ali Dege plains



Lappet-faced Vulture, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)

64. **White-headed Vulture** *Trigonoceps occipitalis* **VU**: 1 Debre Libanos (FD), 1f Wondo Genet (dusk, Jan 20), 1m Wondo Genet (Jan 21)
65. Short-toed Snake Eagle *Circaetus gallicus*: 2 Ali Dege plains
66. Brown Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinereus*: 2 Melka Ghebdu

67. Western Banded Snake Eagle *Circaetus cinerascens*: 1 ad perched in the same tree, Wondo Genet (both dates)



Western Banded Snake Eagle, Wondo Genet (Guido Keijl)

68. Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus*: 2 ad Awash NP, 1 ad + 2 imm btw Negele & Yabello, 1 ad + 1 imm Yabello area
69. Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus*: 1m Jemma Valley, 5+ Chelekleka Lake, 1 Ali Dege plains, 2 Awash, 1f Lake Ziway, 2 Lake Abiata, 1f Lake Awassa, 1m Wondo Genet
70. Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus*: 40+ seen throughout the trip, among which many gorgeous ad males. Seen on most days, practically in all habitats though mostly over highland agricultural (incl tef) fields. I.e. 5 ad m in the last 30 km south of Addis on Jan 23.
71. Montagu's Harrier *Circus pygargus*: 1m btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1m Ali Dege plains, 1f Lake Abiata (hunting next to 1f Pallid Harrier), 1f over grasslands btw Dinsho & Goba, with 3 there on Jan 13
72. African Harrier-hawk *Polyboroides typus*: 1 Jemma Valley, 2 Awash NP, singles btw Negele & Yabello and btw Yabello & Lake Awassa, 1p displaying above United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa), 2 Gibe Gorge
73. Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates*: 3 Jemma Valley, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 10+ Ali Dege plains, 3+ daily Awash NP, sev Lake Langano
74. Eastern Chanting Goshawk *Melierax poliopterus*: 1 btw Goba & Negele, 3 Wachile area, 2 Yabello area
75. Gabar Goshawk *Micronisus gabar*: 1 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Wachile, 1 Yabello, 1 Gibe Gorge
76. **Abyssinian (African) Goshawk** *Accipiter (tachiro) unduliventer E(ssp)*: 1 Wondo Genet, 1 probable Ghion Hotel (Addis Abeba)
77. Eurasian Sparrowhawk *Accipiter nisus*: 1f Debre Libanos, 2 Awash NP, 2 Wachile area, 1f Yabello, 1 Wondo Genet. Our relatively high number of this species, a rare winter visitor according to Birds of the Horn of Africa, may indicate we misidentified some *Accipiters*.

78. Shikra *Accipiter badius sphenurus*: 1 Sof Omar, 2 Wachile area, 5 Gibe Gorge
79. **African Little Sparrowhawk** *Accipiter minullus*: singles Melka Ghebdu & Gibe Gorge
- (..) Ovambo Sparrowhawk *Accipiter ovampensis*: 1 possible dark-phase, Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano). Only seen in flight: red feet & lack of white barring on uppertail noted.
80. Grasshopper Buzzard *Butastur rufipennis*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)
81. Steppe Buzzard *Buteo buteo vulpinus*: 2 Harena Forest, singles daily Wondo Genet
82. Mountain Buzzard *Buteo oreophilus*: 1 btw Melka Ghebdu & Debre Birhan, 1 Harena Forest
83. Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur*: regularly encountered in highlands incl over Addis; highest numbers 20+ btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan and 20+ Sanetti Plateau, where also had great views of sev perched on top of Giant Lobelias
84. Eastern Imperial Eagle *Aquila heliaca* **VU**: 1 imm, Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)



Immature Eastern Imperial Eagle, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn)

85. Lesser Spotted Eagle *Aquila pomarina*: 3 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 ad Melka Ghebdu, 2 Chelekleka Lake, singles Ali Dege plains & Awash, 4 Sanetti Plateau, singles btw Goba & Negele & btw Negele & Yabello, 3 Yabello area, 1 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa
86. Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax*: 3 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 2 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 5 Lake Langano, sev btw Lake Langano & Goba, singles btw Goba & Negele, Liben plains, 3 btw Negele & Yabello, 5+ Yabello area, 3 btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso
87. Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis*: 5 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 5+ Chelekleka Lake, 1 Lake Langano, 5+ Sanetti Plateau, 1 imm Yabello, 2 btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso
88. Wahlberg's Eagle *Aquila wahlbergi*: 1 Jemma Valley, 1 btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth
89. Verreaux's Eagle *Aquila verreauxii*: 1 imm Debre Libanos, 4 Jemma Valley, 2 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Sof Omar
90. African Hawk Eagle *Hieraaetus spilogaster*: 1p Sof Omar, 1 btw Goba & Negele, 1p undisclosed site
91. Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus*: single dark phases btw Addis & Debre Libanos, Melka Ghebdu, Bishoftu Lake, Sof Omar, Wondo Genet, with 2 btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso

- 92. Ayres's Hawk-eagle *Hieraaetus ayresii*: 1 btw Debre Birhan & Gemessa Gedel
- 93. Martial Eagle *Polemaetus bellicosus*: 1 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Awash NP
- 94. Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis*: 3 btw Awash NP & Lake Langano, 1 Yabello, 4 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa, 1 near Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve



Long-crested Eagle, near Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve (Remco Hofland)

- (..) Crowned Hawk Eagle *Stephanoaetus coronatus*: we were shown the nest at Wondo Genet, but it was not at home.
- 95. Secretarybird *Sagittarius serpentarius* **VU**: 3 Ali Dege plains, 3 Awash NP
- 96. African Pygmy Falcon *Polihierax semitorquatus*: 1p + 1m Awash NP, 1f undisclosed site, 3 btw Negele & Yabello, 1 Yabello
- 97. Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni*: c 7m Liben plains, c 200 S of Addis (Jan 23)

98. Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus rufescens*: 2 btw Addis & Debre Libanos and 6 Jemma Valley were of this resident ssp; furthermore, Common Kestrels (of which some/all may have been of migrant *tinnunculus*) were recorded in small numbers every day, except at Lake Awassa and Wondo Genet, where none were seen.
99. **Fox Kestrel** *Falco alopex*: 2p Jemma Valley



Secretarybird, Ali Dege plains (Wesley Overman); Fox Kestrel, Jemma Valley (Wouter Teunissen)

100. Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaceus*: 1 Wachile area, 5 btw Wachile & Yabello, 1 Lake Awassa
101. Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo*: 3 Wondo Genet
102. Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus abyssinicus*: 3 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1 Sanetti Plateau
103. Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus minor*: 2 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 Awash NP, 2 ad + 1 imm Yabello, 1-2 daily Wondo Genet, 2 Gibe Gorge
104. (Saharan) Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida m. meleagris*: 48 Melka Ghebdu, 80+ Ali Dege plains, 100+ Awash NP, 50+ btw Awash NP & Lake Langano, sev Lake Langano, 40+ Gibe Gorge. Possibly, Somali Tufted (Helmeted) Guineafowl *Numida m. somaliensis* was involved at Ali Dege plains & Awash NP.



Vulturine Guineafowl, Wachile (Wouter Teunissen); Crested Francolin, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)

105. **Vulturine Guineafowl** *Acryllium vulturinum*: flock of c 25, btw Negele & Soda; flocks of c 15 and c 35, btw Soda & Yabello; flock of c 15, btw Yabello & Soda
106. Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix sephaena grantii*: 1 Bilen Lodge access road (at dusk), 2 Bilen Lodge, 2 Lake Langano, 2 Sof Omar, 1 south of Haremma Forest, 3 east of Negele
Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix s. spilogaster*: groups of 2, 3 and 6 south of Yabello

107. **Scaly Francolin** *Pternistis squamatus*: 1 HO near Wabe Shebele Lodge, Wondo Genet (dusk); 2, 3 & 2 seen at Wondo Genet (Jan 21), with 1 HO there on Jan 22
108. **Clapperton's Francolin** *Pternistis clappertoni nigrosquamatus*: c 10, Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)
109. **Harwood's Francolin** *Pternistis harwoodi* **E, VU**: 2p, 1 HO Jemma Valley
110. Yellow-necked Spurfowl (Francolin) *Pternistis leucoscepus*: 4 Bilen Lodge, 3 Liben Plains, 2 at undisclosed Juba Weaver site, c 20 Yabello area
111. **Chestnut-naped Francolin** *Pternistis castaneicollis* **NEAE**: 2 + 2 Dinsho, 24 btw Goba and top of Sanetti Plateau (Jan 13), with 7 there (Jan 15) and 13 more (a pair with 6 tiny pulli and a pair with 3 larger pulli) on the descend from Sanetti Plateau towards Harennna Forest (Jan 15). The ssp *atrifrons* was recently split off as Black-fronted Francolin, becoming an extra S Ethiopian/N Kenyan endemic, which can be fitted in 'our' itinerary by allocating an extra day (or at the very least one morning).
112. **Erckel's Francolin** *Pternistis erckelii*: 2-4 Debre Libanos, prolonged scope views of 2p (near 2p of Harwood's Francolin), with 2 more HO, Jemma Valley
113. **Moorland Francolin** *Scleroptila p. psilolaemus*: 4 btw Dinsho & Goba (early evening)
114. **[HO]** Common Quail *Coturnix c. coturnix*: 1 Jemma Valley (at Harwood's Francolin site)
115. Common Buttonquail *Turnix sylvatica lepurana*: a single flushed, Liben plains (RV)
116. **Black Crowned Crane** *Balearica pavonina* **VU**: 2p Chelekleka Lake, 1 at undisclosed site (where we also saw 31 Wattled and c 750 Common Cranes)
117. **Wattled Crane** *Bugeranus carunculatus* **VU**: great views of 31 at an undisclosed site (where we also saw 1 Black Crowned and c 750 Common Cranes)



Wattled Cranes (Wesley Overman)

118. Common Crane *Grus grus*: c 175 scattered over highland tef fields btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, a small flock over Bishoftu Lake, c 1,150 Chelekleka Lake, c 750 at an undisclosed wintering site (where we also saw 31 Wattled and 1 Black Crowned Crane)



Common Cranes & Black Crowned Crane, Chelekleka Lake (Wesley Overman)

119. **Rouget's Rail** *Rougetius rougetii* E: 10+ btw Lake Langano & Goba, c 16 Sanetti Plateau & btw Dinsho & Goba, 2 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa



Rouget's Rail, Dinsho grasslands (Casper Zuyderduyn)

120. Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostris*: 8+ Haile Resort (Lake Ziway), 6 Lake Awassa (2 sites)
 121. Allen's Gallinule *Porphyrio alleni*: 2 Lake Awassa
 122. Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus*: 7 Lake Ziway, c 20 Lake Awassa
 123. Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata*: 77 Bishoftu Lake, c 30 Chelekleka Lake, c 15 btw Lake Langano & Goba, 2 Sanetti Plateau, 80+ Lake Awassa, 100's undisclosed crane site
 124. **Arabian Bustard** *Ardeotis arabs*: great views of 4 at Ali Dege plains (Jan 8)
 125. Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori*: 3-6 Ali Dege plains (Jan 9), 1 Liben plain (WH), 4 near Soda
 126. White-bellied Bustard *Eupodotis senegalensis canicollis*: 13 seen, as follows: 1m, 1 young m and 1f, Ali Dege plains (Jan 8); 1p near Negele; 3m & 1f, btw Soda & Yabello; 2p Yabello



Arabian Bustard, Ali Dege plains (top, Casper Zuyderduyn); Kori Bustard, Awash NP (below, Wesley Overman)



- 127. [HO] Buff-crested Bustard *Lophotis gindiana*: 1 Awash NP
- 128. **Black-bellied Bustard** *Lissotis melanogaster*: 1f south of Wolliso (prior to dusk)
- 129. **Hartlaub's Bustard** *Lissotis hartlaubii*: 1m, 1 young m and 1f, Ali Dege plains (prior to dusk, Jan 9)



White-bellied Bustards, Ali Dege plains (Wesley Overman)



Female Black-bellied Bustard, south of Wolliso; male Hartlaub's Bustard, Awash NP (Wesley Overman)

130. African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus*: c 50 Haile Resort (Lake Ziway), c 50 Lake Awassa
131. **Lesser Jacana** *Microparra capensis*: 2 Haile Resort (Lake Ziway). My last jacana, and much prettier than expected! Pale wing area easily distinguishes them from imm African Jacana.
132. Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus*: 1 Jemma Valley, 5 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 300+ Chelekleka Lake, sev Lake Ziway & Lake Abiata, singles Lake Awassa and at undisclosed crane site
133. Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta*: 207 Chelekleka Lake, c 20 Lake Abiata
134. Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis*: 2 Bilen Lodge (WO), 7 Gibe Gorge
135. Temminck's Courser *Cursorius temminckii*: 3 Liben Plains
136. Heuglin's (Three-banded) Courser *Rhinoptilus cinctus*: 1 in flight, sev HO, during spotlighting in Awash NP (after dusk); 2 HO south of Yabello (after dusk)
137. Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus*: small numbers almost daily in northern part of route (incl Lake Langano), after that only 2 Lake Awassa and 1 at undisclosed crane site. Highest number c 25 btw Addis & Debre Libanos.
138. Black-headed Lapwing *Vanellus tectus*: 10+ Ali Dege plains

139. **Black-winged Lapwing** *Vanellus melanopterus*: 10 btw Jemma Valley & Debre Libanos, 12 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 3 btw Dinsho & Goba, 4 btw Sof Omar & Goba, 35+ Liben Plains, sev Wachile & Yabello area, c 20 btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso
140. Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus*: 3 Ali Dege plains, 2 Lake Abiata, 15+ Liben Plains, 20+ btw Negele & Yabello, 20+ Yabello-Soda area
141. African Wattled Lapwing *Vanellus senegallus*: 3 Gibe Gorge
142. **Spot-breasted Lapwing** *Vanellus melanocephalus* **E**: c 210 in grasslands near Dinsho



Spot-breasted Lapwing, Dinsho (Wesley Overman)

143. Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula*: 1 Lake Abiata
144. Little Ringed Plover *Charadrius dubius*: 2 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 Chelekleka Lake
145. Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius*: 2 Lake Beseka, 20+ Lake Abiata
146. Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris*: 3 Jemma Valley, 1 Chelekleka Lake
147. Caspian Plover *Charadrius asiaticus*: 4, of which one in summer plumage, Lake Abiata
148. **African Snipe** *Gallinago nigripennis*: 5 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 btw Dinsho & Goba



Temminck's Courser & Crowned Lapwing, Liben Plains (Wesley Overman)



Spot-breasted Lapwings, Dinsho (Casper Zuyderduyn)



Spot-breasted Lapwings, Dinsho (Wesley Overman)



Kittlitz' Plover, Lake Beseka (Wesley Overman)

149. Common Snipe *Gallinago gallinago*: 1 over Chelekleka Lake, 3 Lake Ziway, 1 Lake Awassa, 5 Lake Abiata. We may have misID some snipes...

150. Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa*: c 20 Chelekleka Lake, 20+ Lake Abiata, 1 Lake Awassa

151. Spotted Redshank *Tringa erythropus*: 1 Chelekleka Lake



Marsh Sandpiper, Chelekleka Lake (Wesley Overman)

152. Common Redshank *Tringa totanus*: 3 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan
153. Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis*: 1 Bishoftu Lake, 5 Chelekleka Lake, 10+ Haile Resort (Lake Ziway), sev Lake Abiata, 2 Sanetti Plateau
154. Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia*: 2 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, c 20 Chelekleka Lake, sev Lake Abiata, singles btw Dinsho & Goba, Sanetti Plateau & Lake Awassa
155. Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus*: small numbers, usually singles, recorded on 12 dates; highest daily number 4 at Sanetti Plateau
156. Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola*: small numbers recorded on 10 dates; highest daily number 4 each at Sanetti Plateau and Lake Awassa. Sites like Lake Abiata, Chelekleka Lake & the undisclosed crane wintering site are likely to hold much bigger numbers (of most waders).
157. Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos*: small numbers, usually twos, recorded on 15 dates; highest daily number 3 at Sanetti Plateau
158. Little Stint *Calidris minuta*: 75+ Chelekleka Lake, sev Lake Abiata, 6+ at undisclosed crane site (where plenty more waders present, incl possibly 1,000's of Little Stints)
159. Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii*: 7 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 4 Chelekleka Lake, 3 Awash NP, c 12 Lake Abiata
160. Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea*: 5+ Lake Abiata
161. Dunlin *Calidris alpina*: 1 amongst Curlew Sandpipers and Little Stints, Lake Abiata
162. Ruff *Philomachus pugnax*: 45 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1,000+ Chelekleka Lake, c 20 Lake Ziway, an estimated 12,000 Lake Abiata, c 10 at undisclosed crane site (where plenty more waders present, incl possibly 1,000's of Ruff)
163. Lesser Black-backed (Baltic) Gull *Larus f. fuscus*: 2 ad + 1 imm Lake Langano, 5 Lake Abiata
164. Heuglin's Gull *Larus heuglini*: 1 ad + 1 imm Lake Langano (CZ, WT)
165. Pallas's Gull *Larus ichthyaetus*: 3 ad in winter plumage over Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano) during breakfast
166. Grey-headed Gull *Larus cirrocephalus*: c 10 Lake Ziway, few Lake Abiata, 1 ad Lake Awassa
167. Black-headed Gull *Larus ridibundus*: 100+ Chelekleka Lake, c 100 Lake Ziway, 3 Lake Awassa
168. Slender-billed Gull *Larus genei*: 1 Lake Abiata
169. Gull-billed Tern *Gelocheidon n. nilotica*: 2 Chelekleka Lake, 2 Lake Abiata, 3+ Lake Awassa



Gull-billed Tern, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

170. Whiskered Tern *Chlidonias hybridus*: 6 Chelekleka Lake, 15 Lake Beseka, 30+ Lake Ziway, few Lake Abiata, 1 Lake Awassa
171. White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus*: 1 Lake Beseka, 10+ Lake Ziway, few Lake Abiata, c 10 Lake Awassa

172. Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse *Pterocles exustus*: 250+ Ali Dege plains (late afternoon, Jan 8), c 15,000 over Bilen Lodge (Awash NP, Jan 9), in early morning, was a memorable sight and one of the highlights of the trip! 10 over Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(early morning)
173. Yellow-throated Sandgrouse *Pterocles gutturalis*: 1p flying past just south of Addis on Jan 23
174. Black-faced Sandgrouse *Pterocles decoratus*: few in flight, Wachile area (WT, CZ)
175. Lichtenstein's Sandgrouse *Pterocles lichtensteinii*: 1p on the deck and 3 in flight, Ali Dege plains (prior to dusk)
- (..) Rock Dove *Columba livia*: sev Addis - Debre Libanos etc but I can't tell whether they were proper wild birds or, given the fact that all highlands are densely populated, domesticated
176. Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea*: common throughout Ethiopia, especially near human habitation
177. **White-collared Pigeon** *Columba albitorques* **E**: (very) common in Ethiopian highlands, incl in cities such as Addis



Pair of White-collared Pigeon, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)

178. African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix*: 1 Hareenna forest
179. African Lemon Dove *Columba larvata bronzina*: 26 Wondo Genet, sev Gibe Gorge
180. Dusky Turtle Dove *Streptopelia lugens*: fairly common in Ethiopian highlands, incl in cities such as Addis
181. African Collared Dove *Streptopelia roseogrisea arabica*: Ali Dege plains, Awash NP, Sof Omar
182. African Mourning Dove *Streptopelia d. decipiens*: Ali Dege plains, Awash NP, Lake Langano, 2 Lake Awassa
183. **African White-winged Dove** *Streptopelia reichenowi* **NEAE**: 1 ad and 1 imm in village btw Negele & Yabello
184. Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata*: common in Ethiopia, recorded on most days
185. Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola*: recorded Sof Omar, Liben Plains, around Negele, Liben Plains, Wachile, Yabello, Gibe Gorge
186. Vinaceous Dove *Streptopelia vinacea*: sev Jemma Valley, Melka Ghebdu
187. Laughing Dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*: small daily numbers recorded on 13 dates



African Mourning Dove, Ali Dege plains (Casper Zuyderduyn)



African White-winged Dove, between Negele and Yabello (Remco Hofland)

188. Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos*: 1 Melka Ghebdu, few Lake Langano, sev Sof Omar, HO Negele area, 5 Wachile area, sev daily Lake Awassa & Wondo Genet
189. Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer*: 3 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Wachile area, 3+ Wondo Genet, sev Gibe Gorge
190. Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria*: 3 Jemma Valley, 5 Hareenna Forest, 3-5 daily Wondo Genet
191. Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis*: small numbers daily, though none recorded at Sanetti Plateau, Yabello (Jan 17-19) and Wondo Genet; particularly common at Awash NP



Ad Blue-spotted Wood Dove & male Tambourine Dove, Wondo Genet (Wesley Overman)

192. Bruce's Green Pigeon *Treron waalia*: 5 Jemma Valley, 6 Lake Ziway, 1 btw Lake Langano & Goba, sev Hareenna Forest, Negele, Wachile area, 1 Lake Awassa, sev Gibe Gorge
193. **Black-winged Lovebird** *Agapornis taranta* **E**: 4 perched on posts next to a busy roundabout, Addis (Jan 2), 1 perched opposite Adot Tina Hotel (Addis) (Jan 3), 2 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Haile Hotel (Lake Ziway), 30+ Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 1 Lake Awassa, 4+ (incl 1 in breeding hole) Wondo Genet



Black-winged Lovebird, Lake Ziway (Casper Zuyderduyn)

194. African Orange-bellied Parrot *Poicephalus rufiventris*: 1p Sof Omar, 1p undisclosed site, 3 Yabello area, 3 over Lake Awassa
195. **Yellow-fronted Parrot** *Poicephalus flavifrons* **E**: 1 in flight, Dinsho; 4+ perched (10+ more HO) Wondo Genet



Male African Orange-bellied Parrot, Sof Omar (WO); Yellow-faced Parrot, Wondo Genet (Wouter Teunissen)

196. **White-cheeked Turaco** *Tauraco leucotis*: 2 Hareenna Forest, great views of 3-10 daily at Wondo Genet, 2 Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
197. **(Prince) Ruspoli's Turaco** *Tauraco ruspolii* **E, VU**: 1 singing btw Hareenna Forest & Negele, great views of 1p east of Negele
198. **Brown-faced Go-away-bird** *Corythaixoides personatus* **E**: 3 Melka Ghebdu
The Bare-faced Go-away-bird was recently split into this one and the Black-faced Go-away-bird *C. leopoldi* occurring in Kenya.
199. White-bellied Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides leucogaster*: c 10 seen daily btw 9-18 Jan (starting at Bilen Lodge); most common in the dry south (Negele – Wachile – Yabello area), with 30-60 seen daily



Brown-faced Go-away-bird & Eastern Plantain-eaters, Melka Ghebdu (Guido Keijl, Wouter Teunissen)

200. **Eastern Plantain-eater** *Crinifer zonurus*: 6 Melka Ghebdu, 3 Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
201. Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus*: 3 Lake Awassa
202. Senegal Coucal *Centropus senegalensis*: 2 btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso, 2 Gibe Gorge
203. White-browed Coucal *Centropus superciliosus*: 2 Bilen Lodge (Awash NP)
204. **Abbyssinian Owl** *Asio abyssinicus* **E**: 1 Dinsho. My 6,000th bird!
205. Northern White-faced Owl *Ptilopsis leucotis*: 1 during spotlighting, Awash NP
206. **Cape Eagle Owl** *Bubo capensis dillonii* **Essp**: 1 Jemma Valley (early morning), 1 btw Dinsho & Goba (evening)



Abyssinian Owl, Dinsho (Wesley Overman)



African Wood Owls, Wondo Genet (Wesley Overman)



Northern White-faced Owl, Awash NP (Wesley Overman)

- 207. Greyish Eagle Owl *Bubo cinerascens*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), at dusk
- 208. Verreaux's Eagle Owl *Bubo lacteus*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(late afternoon); 1 roadside, south of Yabello (at dusk)
- 209. African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii*: 1 Dinsho; 1p Wabe Shebele Hotel (Wondo Genet)
- 210. Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum*: 1 south of Yabello
- 211. Dusky (Sombre) Nightjar *Caprimulgus fraenatus*: 1 Awash NP (after dusk)
- 212. **Donaldson-Smith's Nightjar** *Caprimulgus donaldsoni*: 1 south of Yabello (after dusk)
- 213. **Abyssinian (Montane) Nightjar** *Caprimulgus poliocephalus*: 1 in flight, 3 more HO, Wondo Genet (the second night of trying)
- 214. **Egyptian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus aegyptius*: great views of c 9 perched at daytime roost, Awash NP. Site undisclosed to prevent disturbance.
- 215. **Star-spotted Nightjar** *Caprimulgus stellatus*: 2 perched on track Awash NP (after dusk)

216. [HO] Freckled Nightjar *Caprimulgus tristigma*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)
 217. Slender-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus clarus*: c 5 Bilen Lodge, of which 1 in daytime; c 7 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)



Egyptian Nightjar & Slender-tailed Nightjar, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)

218. African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus*: 3 Lake Beseka, 3 Awash NP, 2 Sof Omar
 219. Alpine Swift *Tachymartia melba*: 1 south of Debre Birhan (WT), c 20 Sof Omar (RH, CZ)
 220. Mottled Swift *Tachymartia aequatorialis*: 1 Sof Omar (RH)
 221. Nyanza Swift *Apus niansae*: sev Addis, sev Melka Ghebdu, 20+ btw Lake Langano & Dinsho, common Sof Omar
 222. Little Swift *Apus affinis*: 2 Gibe Gorge
 223. Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus*: sev daily throughout the trip, except for the dry country areas mentioned below, where this species is replaced by Blue-naped Mousebird. A cute huddle of roosting Speckled Mousebirds was found in front of Adot Tina Hotel (Addis).
 224. Blue-naped Mousebird *Urocolius macrourus*: sev daily at (dry country areas of) Ali Dege plains, Awash NP, Liben Plains, btw Negele & Yabello and in the Yabello-Soda area
 225. Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina*: 5 Sof Omar, 2 Wondo Genet



Narina Trogon, Sof Omar (Casper Zuyderduyn); Blue-breasted Bee-eater, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)

- 226. Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala*: singles at Jemma Valley, Chelekleka Lake, Lake Langano & Gibe Gorge
- 227. Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon c. chelicuti*: 3 Lake Langano, 1 Lake Awassa, 1 Gibe Gorge
- 228. Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis*: 1 Awash NP, 1 Lake Ziway, 2 Lake Langano, 5 Lake Awassa, 1 Wondo Genet
- 229. African Pygmy Kingfisher *Ceyx pictus*: singles Jemma Valley, Lake Langano & United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa)
- 230. Malachite Kingfisher *Alcedo cristata*: singles Jemma Valley, Melka Chebdu, Lake Langano & Gibe Gorge, with 12+ Lake Awassa



Striped Kingfisher, Lake Langano; Pied Kingfisher, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)



Woodland Kingfisher, Lake Awassa (Casper Zuyderduyn)



Malachite Kingfisher, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

- 231. Half-collared Kingfisher *Alcedo semitorquata*: 1 Jemma Valley, 1 HO Wondo Genet
- 232. Giant Kingfisher *Megaceryle maxima*: 2 Melka Chebdu, 1 Lake Awassa
- 233. Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis*: 3 Jemma Valley, 2 Lake Langano, 15 Lake Awassa, 1 Gibe Gorge



Northern Carmine Bee-eater, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)

234. Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus*: 3 Jemma Valley, 2 Melka Chebdu, sev Lake Langano, Negele & Yabello area. Most easily separated from Blue-breasted by the lack of white on the cheek.
235. **Blue-breasted Bee-eater** *Merops variegatus*: 5+ Debre Libanos, 2 Jemma Valley, few Debre Brihan, Melka Ghebdu, Bishoftu area, Lake Langano, 5 Sof Omar, sev Wondo Genet, Gibe Gorge
236. Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus*: 5 Bilen Lodge (Awash NP)
237. Northern Carmine Bee-eater *Merops nubicus*: 1 Lake Beseka, 10+ Ali Dege plains, c 2,500 Bilen Lodge (early morning), 1 Lake Ziway, few around Negele, Wondo Genet, Gibe Gorge
238. Purple Roller *Coracias naevius*: 1 Melka Chebdu, 5 btw Negele & Yabello, 1 Gibe Gorge
239. Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus*: 1 Lake Langano, small numbers daily in the Negele - Liben Plains - Yabello area, 1 Lake Awassa
240. Abyssinian Roller *Coracias abyssinicus*: 1 Melka Chebdu, 12+ Ali Dege plains, 10+ Awash, 2-5 daily in the Liben Plains - Wachile - Yabello area, 2 Lake Awassa, 3 Gibe Gorge
241. Cinnamon (Broad-billed) Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus*: 3 Wondo Genet



Cinnamon Roller, Wondo Genet; Purple Roller, Gibe Gorge (Wesley Overman)

242. Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops*: 2 Jemma Valley, singles Melka Chebdu, Chelekleka Lake & Ali Dege plains, 2 Awash, 5 Lake Langano, 2 Liben Plains, 5 Wachile area, 10+ Yabello, 5+ Lake Awassa
243. **Black-billed Woodhoopoe** *Phoeniculus somaliensis*: groups of 3 & 5 at Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 2 btw Harena Forest & Negele, 1 east of Negele, 4 Yabello, 2 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa
- (.) Black Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus aterrimus*: 1 possible Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)
244. Abyssinian Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus minor*: 2 ad btw Wachile & Yabello
245. Abyssinian Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus abyssinicus*: 2p btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 2p Awash NP, 1p btw Awash & Lake Langano, 5 btw Goba & Negele, 1p Liben Plains, 3 btw Negele & Yabello, 5 Yabello area, 2p btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso



Von der Decken's Hornbill, Lake Langano; Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill, Melka Ghebdu (Wesley Overman)

246. Hemprich's Hornbill *Tockus hemprichii*: 2 Debre Libanos, 5 Jemma Valley, 1p daily Lake Langano, sev btw Goba & Negele
247. African Grey Hornbill *Tockus nasutus*: 1m Jemma Valley, 1 Chelekleka Lake, 1 singing male Bilen Lodge, 5+ Awash NP, 3 Lake Ziway, HO btw Goba & Negele, sev east of Negele, 2 Harena Forest, sev Gibe Gorge
248. Northern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus erythrorhynchus*: 3 Melka Chebdu, 1 Awash NP, sev Lake Langano, 25+ Sof Omar, (very) common in the dry bush of Negele - Wachile - Yabello
249. Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus flavirostris*: 2 Melka Chebdu, 4 Bilen Lodge, 1 Lake Langano, 2 daily in the Yabello area, 1 Gibe Gorge
250. Von der Decken's Hornbill *Tockus deckeni*: 5 Lake Langano, 3 Sof Omar, (fairly) common in the dry bush of Negele - Wachile - Yabello
251. Silvery-cheeked Hornbill *Bycanistes brevis*: 2p Harena Forest, 5 United Africa Hotel, 11 flying over Lake Awassa, 30+ Wabe Shebele Hotel surroundings (Wondo Genet); sev flying past, Gibe Gorge



Red-and-yellow Barbet, Negele (Guido Keijl); Black-throated Barbet, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman)

252. Red-and-yellow Barbet *Trachyphonus erythrocephalus*: 5 north of Negele, 8 Negele area
253. Yellow-breasted Barbet *Trachyphonus margaritatus* **NEAE**: 8 Melka Ghebdu, sev Lake Langano
254. d'Arnaud's Barbet *Trachyphonus darnaudii*: 5 btw Wachile and Yabello, 5 Yabello
255. Red-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus pusillus*: 1 Chelekleka Lake, 1 Lake Langano, 6+ Sof Omar, 2 (1 HO) Harena Forest, singles Yabello & Lake Awassa, 2 Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
256. Red-fronted Barbet *Tricholaema diademata*: 3+ Lake Langano, 1 east of Negele
257. Black-throated Barbet *Tricholaema m. melanocephala*: singles Bilen Lodge & Lake Langano, 5 Sof Omar
- Black-throated Barbet *Tricholaema m. stigmatothorax*: 15+ btw Negele & Yabello, 3 Yabello



Black-billed Barbet, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn); Banded Barbet, Melka Ghebdu (Wesley Overman)

258. **Banded Barbet** *Lybius undatus* **E**: 3 Melka Ghebdu, 2 United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa), 1p Wondo Genet
259. **Black-billed Barbet** *Lybius guifsobalito*: 7 Jemma Valley, 1 Melka Ghebdu, 3 Lake Langano, 2 btw Goba & Negele, 2 United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa), 1 Gibe Gorge
260. Double-toothed Barbet *Lybius bidentatus*: 3 United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa), 1 Wondo Genet
261. Green-backed Honeyguide *Prodotiscus zambesiae*: 1 Wondo Genet
262. **Wahlberg's (Brown-backed) Honeyguide** *Prodotiscus regulus*: 1 Awash NP
263. Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor*: 4 Sof Omar, 2 Lake Awassa, 1 seen daily (+ 2 HO) Wondo Genet
264. Scaly-throated Honeyguide *Indicator variegatus*: 1 seen, 1 HO Wondo Genet
265. Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator*: 1 imm Lake Langano, 1 Yabello
266. Eurasian Wryneck *Jynx torquilla*: 1 Jemma Valley, 2 just south of Addis, 1 Lake Langano, 1 east of Negele, 1 Yabello, 2 United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa)
267. Red-throated Wryneck *Jynx ruficollis*: 3 daily (1 singing) Lake Langano, 2 daily United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa)



Red-throated Wryneck, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn)

268. Nubian Woodpecker *Campethera nubica*: 1 Bilen Lodge, 1f Sof Omar, 1p Lake Awassa, 1 Wondo Genet
269. **Abyssinian Woodpecker** *Dendropicos abyssinicus* **E**: 1m, 1 imm m, 1f Wondo Genet
270. **(Eastern) Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens massaicus*: 1 Bilen Lodge, 1 Awash NP, 3 Lake Langano, 1 east of Negele, 1 btw Negele & Yabello, 2 Yabello
271. Bearded Woodpecker *Dendropicos namaquus*: 1f Lake Langano, 1p Yabello
272. Eastern Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos spodocephalus*: 2p Bilen Lodge, 2 Lake Langano, 3 Lake Awassa (nest found at United Africa Hotel), 3 Wondo Genet, 3 Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
273. **Singing Bushlark** *Mirafra cantillans marginata* **Essp**: 2 (singing) Awash NP
274. **Red-winged Lark** *Mirafra hypermetra*: 1 (singing) Awash NP
275. **Gillett's Lark** *Mirafra gilletti*: 4 (singing) Awash NP
276. **Sidamo (Liben) Lark** *Heteromirafra sidamoensis* **E, CR**: 3 Liben Plains
277. **Foxy Lark** *Calendulauda alopex*: 6 Yabello



Nubian Woodpecker, Bilen Lodge (Wesley Overman); Cardinal Woodpecker, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn)

278. Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark *Eremopterix leucotis*: common (35+) Ali Dege plains
 279. Chestnut-headed Sparrowlark *Eremopterix signatus*: c 20 Bilen Lodge
 280. **Erlanger's Lark** *Calandrella erlangeri* **E**: 2 (1 singing) btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 2 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan
 281. **Somali Short-toed Lark** *Calandrella somalica megaensis* **Essp**: c 14 Liben Plains
 282. **Short-tailed Lark** *Pseudalaemon fremantlii megaensis* **Essp**: c 20 Yabello
 283. Thekla Lark *Galerida theklae praetermissa*: 1 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 20+ btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, sev btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 1 Goba, c 20 Sanetti Plateau



Gillett's Lark, Awash NP; Liben Lark, Liben Plains (Wesley Overman)

284. **Brown (Black) Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne (pristoptera) antinorii* **E(ssp)**: 30+ Harena Forest, up to 10 daily Wondo Genet
 285. Brown-throated (Plain) Martin *Riparia paludicola*: fairly common btw Addis & Debre Libanos, sev Jemma Valley, 100+ Chelekleka Lake, fairly common Lake Ziway, Lake Langano, Lake Abiata, Lake Awassa & undisclosed crane site
 286. Sand Martin *Riparia riparia*: 1 Chelekleka Lake, 1,000+ Lake Ziway, fairly common Lake Abiata, Lake Awassa & undisclosed crane site
 287. Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica*: small numbers recorded on 13 dates, with highest numbers 50+ Jemma Valley and 50+ btw Negele & Yabello
 288. Ethiopian Swallow *Hirundo aethiopica*: 2 Lake Beseka, sev Bilen Lodge, 1 Sof Omar, fairly common Liben Plains, sev Wondo Genet
 289. Wire-tailed Swallow *Hirundo smithii*: small numbers daily btw Addis & Debre Libanos, Jemma Valley, Debre Birhan, Melka Ghebdu, Chelekleka Lake, btw Goba & Negele, btw Negele & Yabello, Wondo Genet
 290. **White-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo megaensis* **E, VU**: 3 btw Wachile & Soda area, 6+ Yabello area. A very pretty swallow, especially when perched.
 291. Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris*: 1 Jemma Valley

292. Rock Martin *Ptyonoprogne fuligula*: small numbers daily btw Addis & Debre Libanos, Jemma Valley, Debre Birhan, Melka Ghebdu, Bishoftu Lake, Lake Langano, 2 Sof Omar, sev btw Yabello & Lake Awassa and at Wondo Genet
293. Northern House Martin *Delichon urbicum*: c 50 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, sev Melka Ghebdu, 20+ Chelekлека Lake, 5+ Sof Omar, few Liben Plains & Gibe Gorge
294. Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica*: 2+ Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
295. Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis saturator* **Essp**: 3 Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
296. Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica rufula*: sev btw Addis & Debre Libanos, Jemma Valley, btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, Chelekлека Lake, Ali Dege plains, Awash NP, Lake Langano, Lake Abiata. We looked out for the E(ssp) *C. d. melanocrissus* but didn't see any.
297. Grassveld (African) Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus*: singles btw btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, Melka Ghebdu, 2 Gemessa Gedel, 2 Lake Abiata, 1 btw Dinsho & Goba
298. Long-billed Pipit *Anthus similis hararensis* **Essp**: 1 Debre Libanos
299. Tawny Pipit *Anthus campestris*: 3 Ali Dege plains, 1 Lake Abiata
300. Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys*: 25+ Liben Plains, 2 btw Negele & Yabello, 10 Yabello area, sev Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
301. Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus*: fairly common in the northern part of route, highest numbers c 20 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 15+ at Chelekлека Lake and 12+ Sanetti Plateau; after Bale Mts (only) recorded as follows: sev Liben Plains & Lake Awassa, HO at undisclosed crane site & at Gibe Gorge
302. Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis*: regularly encountered in small numbers daily in the northern part of route (though more often heard than seen), up to and including Awash NP; thereafter, 2 HO east of Negele, sev Lake Awassa, 2 Gibe Gorge
303. **Abyssinian Longclaw** *Macronyx flavicollis* **E**: 5 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 btw Jemma Valley & Debre Libanos, 1-3 daily btw Dinsho & Goba



Abyssinian Longclaw, Sululta Plains; Long-billed Pipit, Debre Libanos (Casper Zuyderduyn)

304. White Wagtail *Motacilla alba*: 2 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 2 Jemma Valley, few Debre Birhan, Gemessa Gedel, Melka Ghebdu, Lake Ziway, Lake Langano, 3 Lake Awassa
305. African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp*: 5 Gibe Gorge

306. Blue-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava flava*: 40+ btw Addis & Debre Libanos, sev Jemma Valley & Chelekleka Lake, 30+ Lake Ziway, sev Lake Langano & Lake Abiata, HO Sanetti Plateau, sev Liben Plains, undisclosed crane site & Gibe Gorge
 Black-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava feldegg*: HO btw Addis & Debre Libanos, HO Melka Ghebdu, 3+ Chelekleka Lake, 500+ Awash NP, 30+ Lake Ziway, sev Lake Abiata & Awassa
 Blue-headed x Black-headed Wagtail hybrid *M.f. 'dombrowskii'*: sev recorded at sev sites
 Grey-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava thunbergi*: 1m btw Addis & Debre Libanos
 Yellow-headed Wagtail *Motacilla flava lutea*: 1m (probably more) Lake Beseka; seen at other sites but I didn't note where
 Sykes's Wagtail *Motacilla flava beema*: 2 Jemma Valley, 2 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1,000+ in the lava fields of Lake Beseka (probably also other races involved, at least *lutea* also present), common Lake Awassa (where a pre-roost site yielded c 80 birds of sev races)
307. Grey Wagtail *Motacilla cinerea*: 2 Debre Libanos, 1 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Hareenna Forest, 2 Lake Awassa, 1 Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
308. Mountain Wagtail *Motacilla clara*: 1 Debre Libanos, 2 Jemma Valley, 1 Debre Birhan, 1 Sof Omar, 1 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa, 1 Wondo Genet
309. Grey Cuckooshrike *Coracina caesia pura*: 3 Hareenna Forest, 4 Wondo Genet
310. **Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike** *Campephaga phoenicea*: 1f Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano); 2m (of which one with yellow shoulderpatches) Wondo Genet
311. Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus schoanus*: sev daily in the northern and eastern part of the tour (Addis-Goba, Jan 3-13), and again at Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet, Gibe Gorge
312. **Dark-capped Bulbul** *Pycnonotus tricolor spurius*: 2 + 6 btw Goba & Sanetti Plateau
313. Somali Bulbul *Pycnonotus somaliensis*: 1 Bilen Lodge (RH, CZ), 3 Sof Omar (RH, WH, WO)
314. **Dodson's Bulbul** *Pycnonotus dodsoni*: 2 Sof Omar, sev daily in the dry bush of the Negele - Wachile - Yabello area
315. Northern Brownbul *Phyllastrephus strepitans*: 6+ Sof Omar, 1p E of Negele, 1 Wachile area
316. **Rüppell's Robin-chat** *Cossypha semirufa*: 1 Debre Libanos, 2 Lake Langano, 3 Yirga Chefe, 2 Lake Awassa, sev Wondo Genet



Rüppell's Robin-chat & Little Rock Thrush, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)

317. Red-capped Robin-chat *Cossypha natalensis*: 1 Sof Omar (RV, VH)
318. Common Redstart *Phoenicurus p. samamisticus*: 3 Jemma Valley, sev Melka Ghebdu, 1 Bishoftu Lake, 1m Lake Langano, 1m Sanetti Plateau, 5+ Lake Awassa, 1m + 1f Gibe Gorge. I recall seeing males of subspecies *phoenicurus* but did not note where. All pictures show clear *samamisticus*.
319. Rufous Scrub-robin *Erythropygia galactotes*: 1 Awash NP
320. White-browed Scrub-robin *Erythropygia leucophrys leucoptera*: 1 HO Melka Ghebdu, 1 Sof Omar, 6+ btw Negele & Yabello, 10+ Yabello area
321. Black Scrub-robin *Cercotrichas podobe*: 1 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Awash NP
322. Spotted Palm-thrush *Cichladusa guttata*: 1 Wachile area (RH)
- (.) Siberian Stonechat *Saxicola m. maurus*: 1 possible female btw Debre Birhan & Nazareth

323. **African Stonechat** *Saxicola (torquatus) albofasciatus* **E(ssp)**: 1 first-winter male btw Debre Birhan & Gemessa Gedel, 3m + 2f btw Melka Ghebdu & Debre Birhan, 1 btw Dinsho & Goba, 4+ Sanetti Plateau. Spectacular bird!
324. Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra*: c 10 Gibe Gorge
325. **Red-breasted Wheatear** *Oenanthe bottae frenata*: 3 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, sev btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 3 Melka Ghebdu, sev btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 5 btw Lake Langano & Goba
326. Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina*: common in Ethiopian highlands and steppe areas, particularly common in the Ali Dege plains
327. Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe*: sev btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1 btw Lake Langano & Goba, 2 Liben Plains, 1 Yabello, 2m btw Yabello & Lake Awassa
328. Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka*: recorded in small numbers almost daily (except at Sanetti Plateau and Wondo Genet, where none seen), highest daily numbers c 25 btw Addis & Debre Libanos and c 15 at Ali Dege plains
- (..) Cyprus Wheatear *Oenanthe cypriaca*: sev birds btw Addis and Debre Libanos, 1 at Lake Beseka and 1 at undisclosed Juba Weaver site showed features of this taxon. The status of Cyprus Wheatear in Ethiopia is unclear. In the Ethiopian highlands we only encountered 'male-type plumages' (a feature of Cyprus Wheatear being that all individuals resemble male-type Pied Wheatear); only in lower-lying area, i.e. in Awash NP, we started seeing proper female Pied Wheatears.
329. Eastern Black-eared Wheatear *Oenanthe hispanica*: 1m, 3f Bilen Lodge
330. **Abyssinian Wheatear** *Oenanthe l. lugubris*: 10+ Jemma Valley, 3 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Lake Langano
331. Blackstart *Oenanthe melanura*: 10+ Lake Beseka, 1 Lake Langano
332. Familiar Chat *Cercomela familiaris*: 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan
333. **Brown-tailed Rock Chat** *Cercomela scotocerca*: c 7 Sof Omar



Brown-tailed Rock Chat, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman). Compare its plain undertail coverts with those of Sombre Rock Chat (see below).

334. **Sombre Rock Chat** *Cercomela dubia* **E**: 3 Lake Beseka. After a long initial search (difficult to navigate the lava fields) we finally found that they were most easy to find near the few small fig trees scattered around the place, as they fed on insects there.



Sombre Rock Chat, Lake Beseka (Guido Keijl). Notice the dark-notched undertail coverts: a difficult fieldmark.

335. Moorland Chat *Pinarochroa s. sordida* **Essp**: common in (high altitude) Ethiopian highlands, mostly near rocky outcrops and usually away from human habitation
336. Mocking Cliff-chat *Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris*: 5+ Jemma Valley, 2 singing Melka Ghebdu, 6 btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, up to 5 daily Lake Langano
337. **White-winged Cliff Chat** *Thamnolaea semirufa* **E**: 2 Debre Libanos
338. **Rüppell's Black Chat** *Myrmecocichla melaena* **E**: 15+ Debre Libanos, c 15 Jemma Valley (escarpment), sev btw Melka Ghebdu & Debre Birhan
339. Groundscraper Thrush *Psophocichla litsitsirupa simensis* **E(ssp)**: common in open Ethiopian highlands (mostly agricultural areas), with in those areas usually 5-30 daily, the exception being 200+ between Melka Ghebdu and Debre Birhan



Common Rock Thrush, Wachile area (Wesley Overman); African Thrush, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn)

340. Blue Rock Thrush *Monticola solitarius*: 2 Jemma Valley
341. Common Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis*: 1 Debre Libanos, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Ali Dege plains, 2 Wachile area, 3 Gibe Gorge
342. Little Rock Thrush *Monticola rufocinereus*: 3 Debre Libanos, 1 Jemma Valley, 2 Awash NP, sev Lake Langano
343. **Mountain (Olive) Thrush** *Turdus (olivaceus) abyssinicus*: common in forested highlands: recorded at Adot Tina Hotel (Addis), Debre Libanos, Melka Ghebdu, Debre Birhan, Dinsho, Sanetti Plateau, Goba, Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet & Gibe Gorge
344. African Thrush *Turdus pelios*: 1 Lake Langano, 1 in scrub east of Negele, sev Lake Awassa, 1 Wondo Genet village (Mountain Thrush seen 100m away)
345. **Bare-eyed Thrush** *Turdus tephronotus*: 3 south of Yabello
346. Abyssinian Ground-thrush *Zoothera p. piaggiae*: 1 HO Dinsho, 1 in eucalypt plantation btw Goba & Sanetti Plateau, 1 Wondo Genet
347. Little Rush Warbler *Bradypterus baboecala*: 1 Lake Awassa
348. Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus*: 1 HO Gemessa Gedel (Ankober escarpment), 1 seen very well in roadside farm hedge btw Melka Ghebdu & Debre Birhan, 1 Sanetti Plateau (both dates)
349. Moustached Grass Warbler *Melocichla mentalis*: 4 Gibe Gorge (WT, CZ, GK)



Moustached Grass Warbler & Short-winged Cisticola, Gibe Gorge (Casper Zuyderduyn)

350. Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*: 3 Chelekleka Lake, 10 Lake Ziway, 2 daily Lake Awassa
351. African Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus baeticatus cinnamomeus*: 1 Lake Ziway, 1 Lake Awassa
 (..) Marsh Warbler *Acrocephalus palustris*: 1 probable Lake Awassa (WT). Pale *Acro* with pale legs and long primary projection.
352. Lesser Swamp Warbler *Acrocephalus gracilirostris*: 2 Lake Awassa
353. **Dark-capped Yellow Warbler** *Chloropeta natalensis massaica*: 1 Wondo Genet (RH)
354. Eastern Olivaceous Warbler *Hippolais pallida elaeica*: 2 seen, 6 HO Jemma Valley, 2 btw Debre Birhan & Bilen Lodge, 2 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 2 btw Goba & Negele, 5 Lake Awassa, 1 Gibe Gorge
355. Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brachyura abessinica*: 2 Jemma Valley, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 4 Chelekleka Lake, few Awash NP, 5 Lake Langano, small numbers daily in eastern

- and southern part of route (starting at Sof Omar on Jan 14), with highest number being 15+ in the Yabello area
356. Grey Wren Warbler *Calamonastes simplex*: 1 Awash NP, 15+ Yabello-Soda area
357. Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela icteropygialis griseoflava*: 2 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Ali Dege plains, 4 Awash NP, 20+ Yabello-Soda area
358. Yellow-vented Eremomela *Eremomela flavicrissalis*: 3 singles Wachile area (WT, CZ, GK)
359. Green-backed Eremomela *Eremomela canescens*: 1 Jemma Valley, 4 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(apparently first record here)
360. Northern Crombec *Sylvietta brachyura leucopsis*: 2 Jemma Valley, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 4 Ali Dege plains, 6 Sof Omar, 2 Lake Awassa, 2 Gibe Gorge
361. Red-faced Crombec *Sylvietta whytii loringi*: 4 Lake Langano, 2 daily Yabello area
362. **Somali (Long-billed) Crombec** *Sylvietta isabellina NEAE*: 2 Wachile area, 5 Yabello area
363. **Buff-bellied Warbler** *Phyllolais pulchella*: 5+ daily Lake Langano, 1 Wachile area, 10+ daily Lake Awassa, 6+ Gibe Gorge



Buff-bellied Warbler, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn). Another contender for pic of the trip!

364. Brown Woodland Warbler *Phylloscopus umbrovirens*: 1 Debre Libanos (CZ), few Dinsho, 5+ Wondo Genet (Jan 21)
365. Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus*: 1 Yabello Motel, 6+ daily (incl singing) Lake Awassa
366. Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita*: sev northern part of route, from Addis until Chelekleka Lake; furthermore, sev Lake Langano, Sof Omar, Harenna Forest, Lake Awassa (incl singing), Wondo Genet, Gibe Gorge. Most appeared to be of the ssp 'abietinus' (by call and appearance).
367. Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla*: 1f Jemma Valley, 1 Chelekleka Lake, sev Harenna Forest (incl singing), 1f + HO Lake Awassa, 1m + 2f Wondo Genet
368. Lesser Whitethroat *Sylvia c. curruca*: 2 Debre Libanos (CZ), 3 Awash NP, sev Lake Langano, 1 Lake Awassa, 1 Wondo Genet, 10+ Gibe Gorge (incl 1 found dead)
369. Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis*: 1f Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 1f Wachile

370. **Brown Parisoma** *Sylvia l. lugens*: 1 Wabe Shebele Hotel (Wondo Genet), 1 Ghion Hotel (Addis). Always in large acacias.

Brown (Bale) Parisoma *Sylvia lugens griseiventris* **E(ssp)**: c 7 in scrub south of Goba

371. **Banded Parisoma** *Sylvia boehmi*: sev in the Soda area, south of Yabello

372. Pectoral-patch Cisticola *Cisticola brunnescens*: 3 Liben Plains (RH, WT, CZ)

373. Zitting Cisticola *Cisticola juncidis uropygialis*: 1 Liben Plains (RH, GK)

374. Desert Cisticola *Cisticola aridulus*: 1 Awash NP, 1 Liben Plains

375. **Tiny Cisticola** *Cisticola nana*: 2 in scrub south of Yabello

376. **Stout Cisticola** *Cisticola (r.) robustus* **E(ssp)**: 2-3 daily Debre Libanos

377. Short-winged (Siffling) Cisticola *Cisticola brachypterus*: 1 Gibe Gorge

378. **Foxy Cisticola** *Cisticola troglodytes*: 2 Jemma Valley (VH, RH, RV), c 9 Gibe Gorge

379. **Ethiopian Cisticola** *Cisticola lugubris* **E**: 1 near Adot Tina Hotel (Addis), 1 found dead btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 3 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 3 Gemessa Gedel, sev btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 2 Lake Ziway, 1 btw Goba & Negele, 1 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa

380. Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana*: 1 Chelekleka Lake (RH, GK), 2 singing Lake Langano, 3 btw Goba & Negele, 1 Lake Awassa



Pectoral-patch Cisticola, Liben Plains (Wesley Overman); Rattling Cisticola, Lake Awassa (Casper Zuyderduyn)

381. **Boran Cisticola** *Cisticola bodessa*: 1 Gibe Gorge (VH, RH)

382. Singing Cisticola *Cisticola cantans*: 2 Debre Libanos, 1 HO Jemma Valley

383. Red-faced Cisticola *Cisticola erythroptus*: 1 Gibe Gorge

384. **Ashy Cisticola** *Cisticola cinereolus*: 2 Awash NP

385. Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava*: 2 Debre Libanos, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Ali Dege plains, sev Lake Langano, 1 south of Harenna Forest, sev Lake Awassa & Gibe Gorge

386. Pale Prinia *Prinia somalica*: 10+ daily in the Wachile - Yabello area

387. Red-fronted Warbler *Urorhipis rufifrons*: 1 Awash NP

388. **Brown-tailed (Yellow-breasted) Apalis** *Apalis flavida viridiceps*: sev between Sof Omar and Goba

Brown-tailed (Yellow-breasted) Apalis *Apalis flavida flavocincta*: sev south of Yabello

389. **Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher** *Melaenornis c. chocolatinus* **NEAE**: 7 Debre Libanos, 7 Addis, 10+ Dinsho, sev sides of Sanetti Plateau, Wondo Genet, 3+ Ghion Hotel (Addis)

390. Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides*: 2 Jemma Valley, 3+ Lake Langano, sev btw Harenna Forest & Negele, 1 Lake Awassa, few Negash Lodge (Wolliso)

391. African Grey Flycatcher *Bradornis microrhynchus*: 3 Awash NP, 1 Sof Omar, 1 south of Harenna Forest, 15+ Wachile area, 10+ Yabello area

392. Pale Flycatcher *Bradornis pallidus*: 2 Awash NP, 7 Gibe Gorge

393. African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta minima*: 1 Adot Tina Hotel (Addis), 3 Debre Libanos, 2 Chelekleka Lake, 5+ Dinsho, 1 Sanetti Plateau, sev daily Wondo Genet

394. Grey Tit-Flycatcher *Myioparus plumbeus*: 1p Sof Omar (RH, WO)

395. African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis ferreti*: 4 Jemma Valley, 2m Melka Ghebdu, 2 Chelekleka Lake, 2 Lake Langano, 1p Sof Omar, 2 Harenna Forest, 2 Lake Awassa, 8-15 daily Wondo Genet, 10 Gibe Gorge & Negash Lodge (Wolliso)

396. Pygmy Batis *Batis perkeo*: 1m Sof Omar, 20+ btw Negele & Yabello, 5 Yabello area
 397. **Grey-headed Batis** *Batis orientalis*: 1m + 1f Melka Ghebdu, 1 btw Lake Langano & Dinsho
 398. **Western Black-headed Batis** *Batis erlangeri*: 1m, 1f Chelekleka Lake, 1 HO Bilen Lodge, 10+ Gibe Gorge
 399. Brown-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea*: 1f United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa), 5 (and 2 HO) Wondo Genet



Pygmy Batis, Wachile area (Casper Zuyderduyn)

400. **African Hill-babbler** *Pseudoalcippe abyssinica*: 1 Harena Forest, 4+ Wondo Genet
 401. **Northern White-rumped Babbler** *Turdoides l. leucopygia*: 4-8 daily at Debre Libanos, Jemma Valley, Melka Ghebdu, with 1 at Chelekleka Lake
Northern White-rumped Babbler *Turdoides l. lacuum* **E(ssp)**: 1 Lake Langano
Northern White-rumped Babbler *Turdoides l. smithii* **E(ssp)**: 6 Sof Omar
Northern White-rumped Babbler *Turdoides l. omoensis* **E(ssp)**: 15+ Wondo Genet



Rufous Chatterer, Lake Langano; African Spotted Creeper, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)



Northern White-rumped Babbler, Debre Libanos (leucopygia)(Wesley Overman)



Northern White-rumped Babbler, Lake Langano (lacuum)(Casper Zuyderduyn)

402. Rufous Chatterer *Turdoides rubiginosa*: 5 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Awash NP, 5 Lake Langano

403. **Scaly** (Bare-eyed) **Chatterer** *Turdoides a. aylmeri*: a family group of 7 in scrub S of Yabello

404. **Abyssinian Catbird (Juniper Babbler)** *Parophasma galinieri* **E**: 2 seen (with difficulty), 2 HO Dinsho, 3+ (better views) Harena Forest. Nowadays placed in its own birdfamily.
405. White-winged Black Tit *Parus l. leucomelas* **Essp**: 3 daily Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)
406. **White-backed Black Tit** *Parus leuconotus* **E**: 12+ Dinsho (all in flocks of 3-4 birds)
407. Acacia (Somali) Tit *Parus thruppi*: 6 Sof Omar, 3 btw Negele & Yabello, 2 Yabello area
408. **African Spotted Creeper** *Salpornis salvadori erlangeri* **Essp**: great views of 3+ in garden of United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa)
409. Mouse-coloured Penduline-tit *Anthoscopus musculus*: 1-3 daily Awash NP, 10+ btw Negele & Yabello
410. Abyssinian White-eye *Zosterops a. abyssinicus*: 2 Adot Tina Hotel (Addis), 4 Jemma Valley, 4 Melka Ghebdu, sev Chelekleka Lake, Lake Langano, sev daily Wondo Genet
- Abyssinian White-eye** *Zosterops abyssinicus omoensis* **E(ssp)**: sev in mixed flocks in *Acacia* and *Commiphora* scrub between Negele & Yabello, southern Ethiopia. Has, unlike the nominate, a bright yellow belly and therefore looks like something entirely different.
411. Montane White-eye *Zosterops p. poliogastrus*: sev Dinsho & northern side of Sanetti Plateau
412. Tacazze Sunbird *Nectarinia tacazze*: 2 Adot Tina Hotel (Addis), c 15 Debre Libanos, Debre Birhan, 2 Melka Ghebdu, common btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 1m Sanetti Plateau, 2 Lake Awassa, few Wondo Genet, Ghion Hotel (Addis)



Tacazze Sunbird, Debre Birhan (Remco Hofland)

413. Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis*: 1m Debre Libanos, 2m + 4f Jemma Valley, 4 Melka Ghebdu, sev Lake Langano, 2 Sof Omar, 1 Lake Awassa, 1p Wondo Genet
414. Hunter's Sunbird *Chalcomitra hunteri*: 5+ in the dry thorn bush of the Wachile – Yabello area
415. Beautiful Sunbird *Cinnyris pulchellus*: 3+ Debre Libanos, sev Jemma Valley, Chelekleka Lake, 1m Awash NP, few Lake Langano, few Lake Awassa & Wondo Genet

416. **Shining Sunbird** *Cinnyris habessinicus*: 1m + 1f Melka Ghebdu, 1m + 1f Lake Beseka, 3m Awash NP, common Sof Omar, 2m Wachile area, sev Lake Awassa
417. Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis*: 10+ Lake Langano, sev Sof Omar, around Negele, btw Negele & Yabello, Yabello
418. Eastern Olive Sunbird *Cyanomitra olivacea*: 15+ Wondo Genet
419. Eastern Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes orientalis*: 1p Sof Omar, 6+ btw Negele & Yabello, 1m Yabello
420. **Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustus fazoqlensis*: sev Debre Libanos & Jemma Valley, 1m Harenna Forest
- White-bellied Variable (Somali) Sunbird** *Cinnyris v. albiventris*: 1m, 1f Wachile area
421. Collared Sunbird *Anthodiaeta collaris (djamdjamensis)*: sev Sof Omar
422. Nile Valley Sunbird *Anthodiaeta metallica*: 1f Lake Beseka, few Awash NP



Beautiful Sunbird, Chelekleka Lake (Casper Zuyderduyn)

423. Northern (Common) Fiscal *Lanius (collaris) humeralis*: sev recorded almost daily, with highest number 20+ btw Addis & Debre Libanos (which may be observer bias, since it was the first day of the trip)
424. **Somali Fiscal** *Lanius somalicus*: 20+ Ali Dege plains, sev Awash NP, 10+ Yabello
425. Grey-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitorius*: 3 Lake Abiata, 5 Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
426. Southern Grey Shrike *Lanius meridionalis aucheri*: 1 daily Awash NP
427. Steppe Grey Shrike *Lanius (m.) pallidirostris*: 1 Ali Dege plains
428. Woodchat Shrike *Lanius senator niloticus*: 2 Jemma Valley, 1m Ali Dege plains, 5 Awash
429. Masked Shrike *Lanius nubicus*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(RH)
430. Turkestan Shrike *Lanius phoenicuroides*: 2 Jemma Valley, 4 Melka Ghebdu, 6 Awash, 1 Sof Omar, 3 Liben Plains, 1 Wachile area, 1 Yabello
431. Daurian Shrike *Lanius isabellinus*: 1 Ali Dege plains, 1 Liben Plains

432. Northern White-crowned Shrike *Eurocephalus ruppelli*: up to 10 daily Ali Dege plains & Awash NP, few Lake Abiata, 1 Sof Omar, sev btw Goba & Negele, common btw Negele & Yabello and around Yabello



Turkestan Shrike, Melka Ghebdu; Somali Fiscal, Yabello area (Wesley Overman)

433. Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis erythrae* **Essp**: 1 Jemma Valley, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 4+ Dinsho (greyish underparts), 1 Hareenna Forest, 2 daily Wondo Genet, 5 Gibe Gorge
434. **Pringle's Puffback** *Dryoscopus pringlii*: 1m, 1f Wachile area
435. Ethiopian (Tropical) Boubou *Laniarius aethiopicus*: 1 Debre Libanos, 5 Jemma Valley, 3 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Lake Langano, 2 daily Lake Awassa, 2 Wondo Genet, 4 Gibe Gorge
436. **Red-naped Bush-shrike** *Laniarius ruficeps rufinuchalis*: 3 Wachile area, 5 Yabello area
437. Slate-coloured Boubou *Laniarius funebris*: 4 daily Lake Langano, 8+ Sof Omar, 3 btw Goba & Negele, sev around Negele, 3 daily btw Negele & Yabello and around Yabello
438. Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus habessinicus*: 4 Debre Libanos, 4 Jemma Valley, 2 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Awash NP, 10+ Gibe Gorge
439. **Three-streaked Tchagra** *Tchagra jamesi*: singles Sof Omar, Wachile area, Yabello
440. Rosy-patched Shrike *Rhodophoneus cruentus hilgerti*: 4, (4 more HO) Awash NP, 1 Sof Omar, 1p Yabello
441. Grey-headed Bush-shrike *Malaconotus blanchoti approximans*: singles Chelekleka Lake and btw Wachile & Yabello



A skulking Grey-headed Bush-shrike, btw Wachile & Yabello (Remco Hofland)

442. Brubru *Nilaus afer minor*: 6 Wachile area, 4 Yabello area
443. White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus vinaceigularis*: 7+ Sof Omar, 15+ Ruspoli site btw Harena Forest & Negele, 30+ in the dry thorn scrub btw Negele & Yabello
444. **Abyssinian Oriole** *Oriolus monacha* **E**: 5 + 5 HO, Harena Forest, 3 near Wabe Shebele Hotel (Wondo Genet), with 35+ in proper Wondo Genet forest
445. Eastern Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus*: 2 Sof Omar, 1 east of Negele, 1 S of Yabello
446. Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis divaricatus*: 6 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Ali Dege plains, 4 Awash NP, sev Lake Langano; small numbers daily in eastern and southern part of route (starting at Sof Omar on Jan 14), with highest number being 10+ in Harena Forest
447. **Stresemann's Bushcrow** *Zavattariornis stresemanni* **E, EN**: fairly common south of Yabello: flocks of 8 and 4 in late afternoon of Jan 17, with 40+ on Jan 18



Stresemann's Bushcrows, south of Yabello (Wesley Overman)

448. Red-billed Cough *Pyrhacorax pyrrhacorax baileyi* **Essp**: 1p Sanetti plateau
449. Pied Crow *Corvus albus*: small numbers recorded daily
450. **Somali Crow** *Corvus edithae*: 4+ Lake Langano, sev daily Goba, Sof Omar, Negele, Wachile, Yabello.
- (..) Pied x Somali Crow hybrid *Corvus albus* x *edithae*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)
451. Cape Crow *Corvus capensis*: up to two dozen recorded daily, except for the low-lying dry areas (Ali Dege plains, Awash NP, Negele-Yabello area), where none seen
452. Fan-tailed Raven *Corvus rhipidurus*: small numbers recorded daily, except in the dry thorn bush of the Wachile-Yabello areas, where none seen. Highest number: 40+ Jemma Valley
453. **Thick-billed Raven** *Corvus crassirostris* **E**: 2 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 1p (of which one with a large rodent in its bill) patrolling past Gemessa Gedel (Ankober escarpment), 1 btw Melka Ghebdu & Debre Birhan, 9 Bishoftu area, sev btw Dinsho & Goba, 2 "singing" in garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel (Goba), c 20 Sanetti Plateau, sev daily Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet & btw Wolliso & Addis, with 20+ on Jan 20 and 30+ on Jan 22. Only at Goba and Wondo Genet did we get the hoped-for prolonged close-up views.



Cape Crow, Debre Libanos; Pied Crow, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)



Thick-billed Raven, Wondo Genet (Guido Keijl). Arguably one of the most-anticipated endemics of Ethiopia. However, the jury's still out whether this bird is incredibly beautiful or incredibly ugly ..

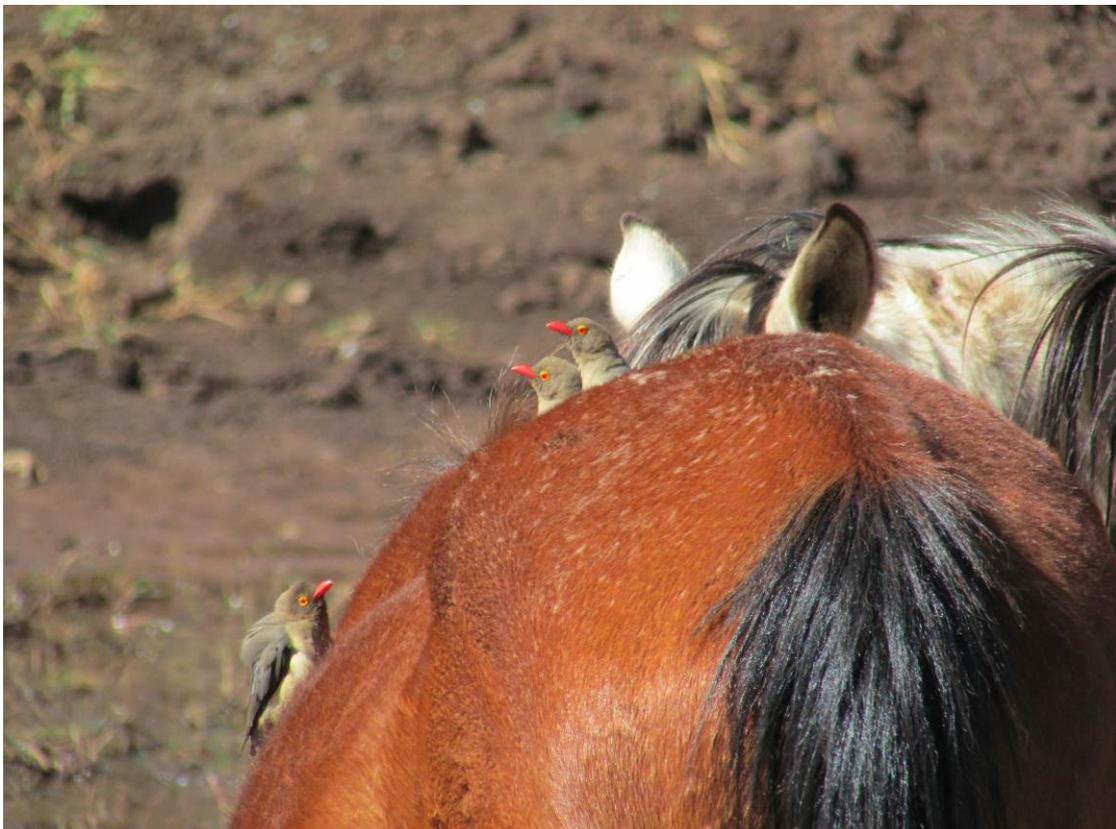


Singing Thick-billed Raven, garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (Wesley Overman). Its voice aptly described by Wouter as 'a vomiting chainsaw'.



Somali Crow, Liben Plains (Wesley Overman). It's not hard to see why this used to be a subspecies of Brown-necked Raven. I don't know whether it is singing or trying to catch the bug.

454. Red-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus erythrorhynchus*: 6 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 8 Awash NP, sev btw Lake Langano & Goba, sev Dinsho grasslands, 10+ Sof Omar, 2 Yabello



Red-billed Oxpeckers, Sululta Plains north of Addis (Guido Keijl)

455. Golden-breasted Starling *Lamprotornis regius*: 8+ btw Hareenna Forest & Negele, 1 Negele, 50+ btw Negele & Yabello
456. Red-winged Starling *Onychognathus morio rueppellii*: 3 past Debre Libanos, 2 Yabello, 1p Wondo Genet
457. **Slender-billed Starling** *Onychognathus tenuirostris*: 40+ Melka Ghebdu, 2 Sanetti Plateau, 1p Wondo Genet
458. **White-billed Starling** *Onychognathus albirostris* **E**: 6 Debre Libanos, 5 Jemma Valley, feqw btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan
459. Bristle-crowned Starling *Onychognathus salvadorii*: 30+ Sof Omar, 2 Yabello
460. Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus*: common throughout
461. Rüppell's (Glossy) Starling *Lamprotornis p. purpuroptera*: starting at Chelekleka Lake, (fairly) commonly recorded almost daily up until Gibe Gorge
462. Superb Starling *Lamprotornis superbus*: starting at Ali Dege plains, (fairly) commonly recorded daily up until Gibe Gorge



Rüppell's (Glossy) Starling & Superb Starling, Lake Langano (Casper Zuyderduyn)

463. **Shelley's Starling** *Lamprotornis shelleyi*: 7 btw Hareenna Forest & Negele, 60+ around Negele, sev btw Negele – Wachile – Yabello, few Yabello
464. Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea*: 30+ Rift Valley Hotel (Nazareth, at dusk), sev Awash NP, 30+ Lake Awassa
465. Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*: 1p + 1m Lake Langano, 2p Lake Awassa
466. **Magpie Starling** *Speculipastor bicolor*: 2p at an undisclosed Juba Weaver site
467. Sharpe's Starling *Pholia sharpii*: 50+ at a pre-roost site near Wabe Shebele Hotel (Wondo Genet), very small numbers the next two dates Wondo Genet
468. **White-crowned Starling** *Lamprotornis albicapillus*: 8 Liben plains, 20+ btw Wachile & Yabello, 15+ S of Yabello
469. **Shelley's (White Nile) Sparrow** *Passer shelleyi*: 2m Liben plains, c 20 S of Yabello
470. **Swainson's Sparrow** *Passer swainsonii*: fairly common throughout
471. Yellow-spotted Petronia *Petronia p. pyrgita*: 3 Sof Omar, 2 E of Negele, 5+ Wachile area, sev Yabello & Gibe Gorge
472. Bush Petronia *Petronia dentata*: sev Jemma Valley, Gibe Gorge
473. White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali melanorhynchus*: sev Ali Dege plains, Awash NP, Lake Langano, Yabello, Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
474. Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser superciliosus*: 10 Melka Ghebdu
475. Speckle-fronted Weaver *Sporopipes f. frontalis*: 2 Jemma Valley
476. **Grey-headed Social Weaver** *Pseudonigrita arnaudi australoabyssinicus*: 3 E of Negele, 10+ btw Wachile & Yabello, few Yabello area
477. Black-capped Social Weaver *Pseudonigrita cabanisi*: 10+ btw Wachile & Yabello, few Yabello area
478. White-headed Buffalo Weaver *Dinemellia dinemelli*: 10+ Ali Dege plains, sev Awash NP, Lake Langano, btw Goba & Negele, around Negele, btw Wachile & Yabello, Yabello, Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve (where displaying at entrance)

479. Red-billed Buffalo Weaver *Bubalornis niger*: 20 Ali Dege plains, 3 around Negele, 5+ btw Wachile & Yabello, sev Yabello, Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
480. Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus abyssinicus*: sev Jemma Valley, Awash NP, Lake Awassa
481. Lesser Masked Weaver *Ploceus i. intermedius*: 1m Lake Awassa
482. Vitelline Masked Weaver *Ploceus vitellinus uluensis*: sev Lake Ziway, Lake Langano, 10 Wachile area
483. Northern Masked Weaver *Ploceus t. taeniopterus*: 1m Lake Awassa
484. Speke's Weaver *Ploceus spekei*: 1 Yabello area, sev Yabello Motel, with sev males at colony opposite the Motel
485. Spectacled Weaver *Ploceus ocularis crocatus*: 5+ Lake Langano, few Lake Awassa, 2m btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso
486. Rüppell's Weaver *Ploceus galbula*: common Melka Ghebdu, sev Chelekleka Lake, 1m Lake Beseka, sev Lake Ziway & Lake Langano, 2 E of Negele, sev Wachile area
487. Little Weaver *Ploceus luteolus*: 1m Melka Ghebdu, 3+ Lake Langano, sev at undisclosed site
488. **Juba Weaver** *Ploceus dicrocephalus NEAE*: 3m, 7f at an undisclosed site
489. Baglafaecht Weaver *Ploceus b. baglafaecht*: sev Addis, Debre Libanos, Jemma Valley, Goba, Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet, Gibe Gorge
 Baglafaecht Weaver *Ploceus b. reichenowi*: sev Hareenna Forest
 We may have made some misIDs in assigning race. I recall seeing *emini* but can't recall where. The three races in Ethiopia are sometimes split into different species.
490. Chestnut Weaver *Ploceus r. rubiginosus*: 100+ at undisclosed site
491. Grosbeak Weaver *Amblyospiza albifrons melanota*: 2 Wondo Genet
492. Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea aethiopica*: recorded on 10 dates; highest numbers 50+ daily btw Goba & Negele, around Negele and at Gibe Gorge



Grosbeak Weaver, Wondo Genet; Spectacled Weaver, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

493. Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps*: 3m Melka Ghebdu, 1m Sof Omar, 1m S of Yabello, 1m + 1f Wondo Genet, sev Gibe gorge
494. Black Bishop *Euplectes gierowii ansorgei*: 60+ Gibe Gorge
495. Black-winged Red Bishop *Euplectes hordeaceus craspedopterus*: sev Jemma Valley
496. Northern Red Bishop *Euplectes f. franciscanus*: 40+ Awash NP, 50+ Lake Awassa
497. Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis*: 53 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, sev Melka Ghebdu, 40+ in Dinsho grasslands
 In addition, 300+ unidentified Bishops were recorded at Chelekleka Lake. All Bishops encountered were in non-breeding plumage.
498. Red-collared Widowbird *Euplectes ardens laticauda*: 2 Jemma Valley
499. White-winged Widowbird *Euplectes albonotatus eques*: 5 btw Lake Langano & Dinsho (WO, WT, CZ). All Widowbirds encountered were in non-breeding plumage but with shoulder-patches usually clearly visible.
500. Green-winged Pytilia *Pytilia melba soudanensis*: 1p Awash NP (Jan 9-10), 4 btw Negele & Yabello
501. Orange-winged Pytilia *Pytilia afra*: 1m Sof Omar (WT, CZ, WO)

502. **Ethiopian (Red-billed) Pytilia** *Pytilia lineata* E: 2p Jemma Valley, 1p Gibe Gorge
 503. **Green Twinspot** *Mandingoa nitidula chubbi*: 5 Wondo Genet
 504. Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus b. bengalus*: small numbers seen almost daily, in all habitats. Largest number 100+ Melka Ghebdu.
 505. Purple Grenadier *Granatina ianthinogaster*: 1 Awash NP, 2 Sof Omar, 2 south of Harena Forest, 2 east of Negele, 4 Wachile area, 2 Yabello



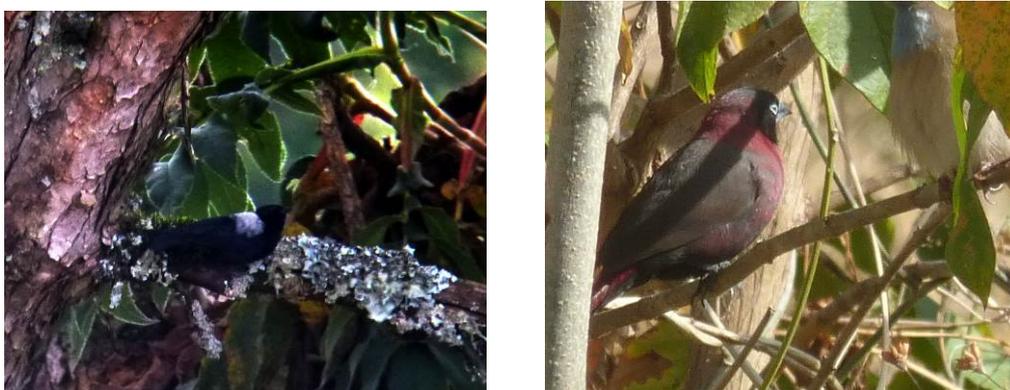
Red-billed Queleas, Melka Ghebdu; Black Bishop, Gibe Gorge (Wesley Overman)

506. Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala rhodopsis*: small numbers recorded daily throughout N and E part of the trip; not recorded btw Goba – Negele – Liben – Yabello – Wondo Genet, with small numbers again at Lake Awassa and Gibe Gorge. Possibly, few of ssp *brunneiceps* were seen at Jemma Valley.



Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu, Melka Ghebdu; Purple Grenadier, Yabello (Wesley Overman)

507. African Firefinch *Lagonosticta rubricata*: 1m Wondo Genet (CZ)
 508. Bar-breasted Firefinch *Lagonosticta rufopicta*: 1p Jemma Valley, c 20 Gibe Gorge
 509. Jameson's Firefinch *Lagonosticta rhodopareia*: 1m (RV) and 1f (WO), Jemma Valley
 510. Black-faced Firefinch *Lagonosticta l. larvata*: 2m, 1f Gibe Gorge



White-backed Black Tit, Dinsho (Wouter Teunissen)

Black-faced Firefinch, Gibe Gorge (Remco Hofland)

511. Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild*: 4 Bishoftu Lake, 7 Lake Awassa
 512. Crimson-rumped Waxbill *Estrilda rhodopyga centralis*: 20+ Jemma Valley, 50+ Melka Ghebdu, c 10 Lake Langano, c 10 Sof Omar
 513. **Abyssinian Waxbill** *Estrilda (paludicola) ochrogaster*: c 10 Gibe Gorge
 514. **Black-cheeked Waxbill** *Estrilda charmosyna*: 5 at leaking tap, Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 1 Yabello area
 515. African Silverbill *Euodice cantans orientalis*: 2 Jemma Valley, 1 Melka Ghebdu, 2 Ali Dege plains, 2 singles Awash NP
 516. Grey-headed Silverbill *Spermestes caniceps*: 2 south of Yabello
 517. Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata alexanderi*: 4 Jemma Valley, 5+ Awash NP, 4 Lake Langano, 3 btw Hareenna Forest & Goba, 5 E of Negele, 20+ Lake Awassa
 518. Bronze Mannikin *Spermestes cucullata scutata*: 5 Melka Ghebdu, 1 ad + 2 imm Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 20+ Lake Awassa, 15+ Wondo Genet
 519. Black-and-white Mannikin *Spermestes bicolor poensis*: 12+ Wondo Genet
 520. **Long-tailed Paradise-whydah** *Vidua paradisaea*: single full breeding-plumaged males on all three dates in the Ali Dege plains - Awash NP area
 521. Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura*: 100+ Jemma Valley, 1m Debre Birhan, 50+ Melka Ghebdu, few Chelekleka Lake & Lake Langano, 20+ Lake Awassa & Gibe Gorge. All encountered were in non-breeding plumage.
 522. **Straw-tailed Whydah** *Vidua fischeri*: 1m (winter plumage) Awash NP



Non-breeding males Pin-tailed & Straw-tailed Whydah, Wondo Genet & Awash NP (Casper Z, Wesley O)

523. Village Indigobird *Vidua chalybeata*: 30+ Jemma Valley, 8+ Melka Ghebdu, 2 Lake Langano, 2 Sof Omar, 5 Lake Awassa
 524. **Barka Indigobird** *Vidua larvaticola*: 2m Jemma Valley. Easily recognisable (from the more common Village Indigobirds) by their pale-grey legs and pale-grey wing-patch.
 525. Yellow-fronted Canary *Serinus mozambicus*: 10+ Jemma Valley, 20+ Gibe Gorge
 526. White-bellied Canary *Serinus dorsostriatus maculicollis*: 1f Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 4 btw Lake Langano & Goba (both a-typical locations), 1 south of Yabello
 527. **Northern Grosbeak-Canary** *Serinus donaldsoni* **NEAE**: 1 ad m, 2 imm south of Yabello



Bronze Mannikin, Lake Awassa; male Northern Grosbeak-Canary, south of Yabello (Casper Z, Wesley O)

528. Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex*: 1 Jemma Valley, 1f Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 1m btw Goba & Sanetti Plateau
529. African Citril *Serinus c. citrinelloides* **Essp**: c 20 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, sev Jemma Valley, 60+ Chelekleka Lake, 1m Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), c 45 United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa), sev btw Wondo Genet & Wolliso
- (..) Southern Citril *Serinus hyposticta*: GK videod a feeding Citril at United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa) that strongly resembles this species, however, the field guide mentions it has an uncertain status in Ethiopia so we therefore don't claim it as certain (GK). It was part of a flock of c 40.
530. **Ethiopian Siskin** *Serinus nigriceps* **E**: 6 btw Addis & Debre Libanos, 4 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, c 500 on lines along the road btw Melka Ghebdu & Debre Birhan (late afternoon), 40+ btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth, 20+ near Dinsho, 100+ Sanetti Plateau



African Citril, Chelekleka Lake; male Ethiopian Siskin, Dinsho (Casper Zuyderduyn, Wesley Overman)

531. Reichenow's Seedeater *Serinus reichenowi*: c 20 Melka Ghebdu, 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano), 2 Sof Omar, 1 btw Goba & Negele, 10 around Negele, 3 Wachile area, sev Yabello area, 2 at entrance Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
532. **Yellow-rumped** (White-throated) **Seedeater** *Serinus xanthopygius* **E**: 20+ Jemma Valley, 8 Gibe Gorge. As White-throated Seedeater is (also) a *Sporophila* species occurring in South America, one best uses the name Yellow-rumped Seedeater for this Ethiopian endemic.
533. **Yellow-throated Seedeater** *Serinus flavigula* **E, EN**: 20+ Melka Ghebdu (low in the valley and few along the road upon leaving the valley), 8 Gibe Gorge (RH)



Yellow-throated & Reichenow's Seedeater, Melka Ghebdu (Wesley Overman)

534. **Salvadori's Seedeater** *Serinus xantholaemus* **E, VU**: 5 Sof Omar, mainly on plateau right before descending into the valley

535. **Brown-rumped Seedeater** *Serinus tristriatus* **E**: common in Ethiopian highlands, very common in Addis
536. Streaky Seedeater *Serinus striolatus*: small numbers daily in Ethiopian highlands, i.e. recorded at Adot Tina Hotel (Addis), Debre Libanos, Melka Ghebdu, Debre Birhan, Dinsho, Sanetti Plateau, Lake Awassa, Wondo Genet, Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
537. **Ankober Serin** *Carduelis ankoberensis* **E, VU**: c 50 at Ankober escarpment
538. Ortolan Bunting *Emberiza hortulana*: 20+ Debre Libanos escarpment near Ethio-German Hotel, 3 Melka Ghebdu, 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 2 btw Debre Birhan & Nazreth
539. Cinnamon-breasted Bunting *Emberiza tahapisi*: 4 Jemma Valley, 5 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan, 1 Sof Omar, 1 Yabello
540. Striolated Bunting *Emberiza striolata saturator*: 1 Lake Beseka
541. **Somali Bunting** *Emberiza poliopleura*: 1p + 1 Awash, 6+ btw Negele & Yabello, 5 Yabello
542. Brown-rumped Bunting *Emberiza affinis*: 2 Gibe Gorge (WT, GK)

With birds & mammals, initials mentioned are of those who (exclusively) saw it. With all other groups (dragonflies etc), initials mentioned are of those who photographed it.

Recorded mammals (identified by Wesley Overman)

Mammals indicated with ° were not photographed; photographs of all others will be published on Observation.org. **Serval** = personal mammal highlight (RH).

- 1 Yellow-spotted Rock Hyrax *Heterohyrax brucei*: 3 sites, 9 individuals, such as at Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
- 2 Common Rock Hyrax *Procavia capensis*: recorded at 9 sites, 51 individuals, such as at Sof Omar. We observed this species in a range of colours.



Common Rock Hyraxes, Gemessa Gedel (Wesley Overman)

- 3 Long-haired Rousette *Rousettus lanosus*: 10 Wondo Genet
- 4 Egyptian Fruit Bat *Rousettus aegyptiacus*: c 200 Sof Omar Cave (WO)
- 5 Yellow-winged Bat *Lavia frons*: 1 Wachile area, 1 near Soda (Yabello area)
- 6 Rüppell's Horseshoe Bat *Rhinolophus fumigatus*: c 100 Sof Omar Cave

- (..) Rüppell's or Bushveld Horseshoe Bat *Rhinolophus fumigatus* / *simulator*: c 200 Debre Libanos' bat cave (WO)
- 7 Large-eared Free-tailed Bat *Otomops martiensseni*: c 40 Sof Omar Cave (WO)
- 8 Cape Hairy Bat *Myotis tricolor*: c 20 Sof Omar Cave (WO)
- 9 Greater Long-fingered Bat *Miniopterus inflatus*: c 50 Debre Libanos' bat cave (WO); c 20 probably at Sof Omar Cave (WO) but these were too far for a certain ID



Cape Hairy Bats, Sof Omar Cave (Wesley Overman)



Large-eared Free-tailed Bats, Sof Omar Cave (Wesley Overman)



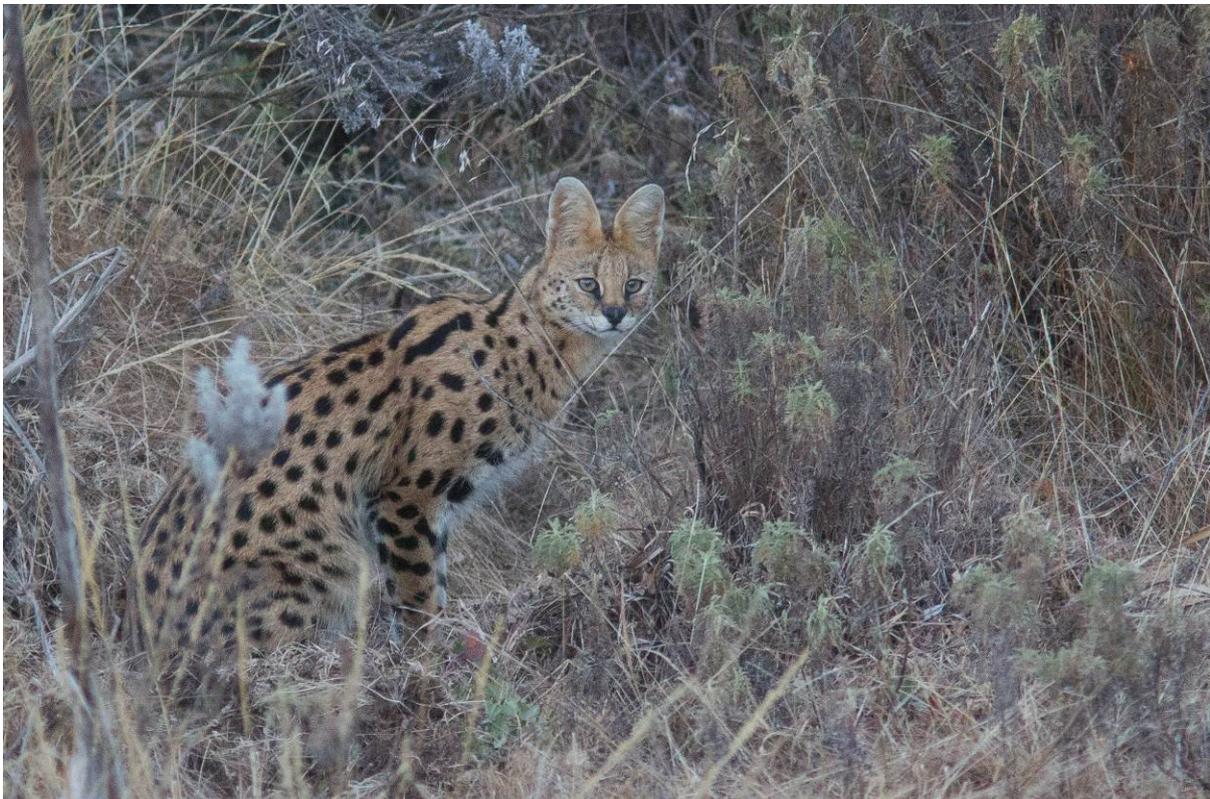
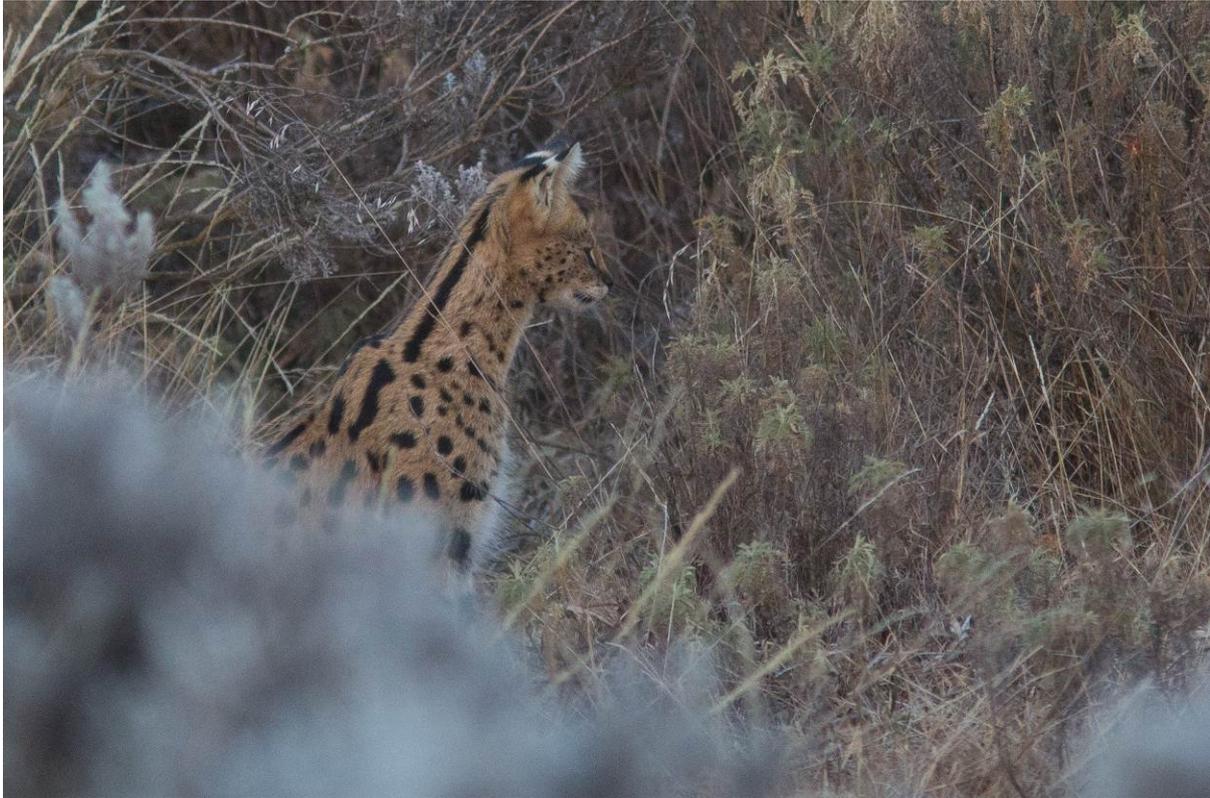
Greater Long-fingered Bat, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)



Rüppell's or Bushveld Horseshoe Bat, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)

10 [HO] Lion^o *Panthera leo*: 1m Bilen Lodge (Awash)

11 **Serval** *Leptailurus serval*: 1 btw Dinsho and Goba, 1 btw Sof Omar and Goba (both late afternoon)



Serval, Dinsho grasslands (Wesley Overman)



Serval, between Sof Omar and Goba (Wesley Overman)

- 12 Common Genet^o *Genetta genetta*: 2 btw Yabello & Lake Awassa (prior to dawn)
- 13 **White-tailed Mongoose** *Ichneumia albicauda*: 1 btw Soda area & Yabello (after dusk)
- 14 Common Dwarf Mongoose *Helogale parvula*: 3 Wachile area
- 15 Slender Mongoose *Herpestes sanguineus*: singles Jemma Valley, Lake Beseka, Awash NP



Slender Mongoose, Lake Beseka (Wesley Overman)

- 16 Spotted Hyena^o *Crocuta crocuta*: 1 crossing road btw Dinsho and Goba (while watching the roadside Serval in late afternoon), 1 btw Negele and Yabello (prior to dawn)
- 17 **Aardwolf**^o *Proteles cristata*: 1 Awash NP, prolonged (but distant) spotlit views (after dusk)
- 18 Bat-eared Fox^o *Otocyon megalotis*: 4 Ali Dege plains (after dusk)
- 19 Common Jackal *Canis aureus*: fairly common, 17 individuals in a number of places, with varying colours (one even resembling Black-backed Jackal *C. mesomelas*)



Common Jackal (& Beisa Oryx), Awash NP (Wesley Overman)

20 **Ethiopian Wolf** (Simien Jackal) *Canis simensis* **E, CR**: 11 Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mountains: 2 single adults, of which 1 along the road, and 1 (most probably the mother) near a den with 3 playing puppies (Jan 13); with 2, 1, 1 and 2 along the road, c 8.30 am (Jan 15)



Ethiopian Wolf, Sanetti Plateau (Wesley Overman)

21 **Grévy's Zebra** *Equus grevyi* **EN**: 15 Ali Dege plains (afternoon). Very localized in Ethiopia.



Grévy's Zebra, Ali Dege plains (Wesley Overman)

22 Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibius*: 1 Lake Ziway, 3 Lake Awassa

23 Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus*: fairly common, over 45 individuals at different sites (incl Dinsho)



Common Warthogs, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)

(..) Giant Forest Hog° *Hylochoerus meinertzhageni*: latrines found at Wondo Genet
24 Common Duiker *Sylvicapra grimmia*: 7 seen at different sites, incl Dinsho, Liben Plains & Yabello. One kept as a pet by a child at Liben Plains.



Pet Common Duiker, Liben Plains (Wesley Overman)

- 25 **(Ethiopian) Klipspringer**° *Oreotragus (oreotragus) saltatrixoides* **E(ssp)**: 1 repeatedly showing on top of the basalt rocks north of Lake Beseka (Jan 8)
- 26 **(Ethiopian Highlands) Bushbuck** (Kéwel) *Tragelaphus (scriptus) meneliki*: 4 single males & 1 single female, Dinsho. Kept to thick bush cover, away from the Mountain Nyalas.



Male (Ethiopian Highlands) Bushbuck (Kéwel), Dinsho (Wesley Overman)



Female (Ethiopian Highlands) Bushbuck (Kéwel), Dinsho (Wesley Overman)

27 **Mountain Nyala** *Tragelaphus buxtoni* **E, EN:** common and easily seen Dinsho



Male Mountain Nyala, Dinsho forest (Wesley Overman)



Mountain Nyalas, with calf hiding behind male in foreground, Dinsho forest (Wesley Overman)



Common Duiker, Dinsho grasslands (Wesley Overman)

28 **(Southern) Lesser Kudu** *Tragelaphus (i.) imberbis*: 1 btw Negele and Soda, 6 Yabello area
(..) **(Northern) Lesser Kudu** *Tragelaphus (i.) australis*: 4 Awash NP

Northern & Southern Lesser Kudu are split by Handbook Mammals of the World.

29 (Chanler's) Mountain Reedbuck *Redunca fulvorufula chanleri*: 1 btw Negele & Yabello



(Southern) Lesser Kudu, Yabello (Wesley Overman)



Male Bohor Reedbuck, Dinsho grasslands (Wesley Overman)

- 30 **Bohor Reedbuck** *Redunca redunca bohor*: common Dinsho grasslands
- 31 **(Southern) Gerenuk** *Litocranius (w.) walleri*: 3 with Soemmerring's Gazelles, Ali Dege plains;
31 Yabello-Soda area
- 32 Bright's Gazelle *Nanger granti notata*: 61 Yabello-Soda area



Bright's Gazelle, south of Yabello (Wesley Overman)

- 33 Soemmerring's Gazelle *Nanger soemmerringii* **NEAE, VU**: c 120 Ali Dege plains (afternoon)
- 34 **(Sudan) Oribi** *Ourebia ourebi gallarum*: 8 Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve, 1 Gibe Gorge
- 35 **Swayne's (Common) Hartebeest** *Alcelaphus buselaphus swaynei* **E, EN**: 96 Senkele Swayne's Hartebeest Reserve
- 36 Salt's Dikdik *Madoqua saltiana*: 18 Awash, incl Bilen area
- 37 Guenther's Dik-dik *Madoqua guentheri*: 103 Yabello-Soda area
- 38 **East African (Beisa) Oryx** *Oryx beisa*: c 30 Ali Dege plains (afternoon), 70+ Awash NP
- 39 Ethiopian Hare *Lepus fagani*: c 10 Awash
- 40 Abyssinian Hare^o *Lepus habessinicus*: 2 Liben Plains, 2 Yabello area
- 41 Ethiopian Highland Hare *Lepus starcki* **E**: 1 Jemma Valley, 1 Debre Birhan area, 2 Bale Mts
- 42 Crested Porcupine^o *Hystrix cristata*: 3 Bilen Lodge, 1 Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(both at garbage dumps after dusk)
- (..) Naked Mole Rat^o *Heterocephalus glaber*: holes found at undisclosed Juba Weaver site & at Yabello-Soda area
- 43 Unstriped Ground Squirrel *Xerus rutilus*: 1 Bilen Lodge, 1 Negele area, 3 S of Yabello
- 44 Gambian Sun Squirrel^o *Heliosciurus gambianus*: 5 Wondo Genet
- 45 **Big-headed Mole Rat (Giant Root Rat)** **E, EN** *Tachyoryctes macrocephalus*: 3 Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mountains (both dates). They only spend about 20 mins of each day (partly) out of their burrows, so watching them was quite a spectacle!
- 46 Blick's Grass Rat *Arvicanthis blicki*: 1,000+ Sanetti Plateau (Bale Mountains)
- 47 Harrington's Rat *Desmomys harringtoni*: 3 Jemma Valley, 1 btw Jemma Valley & Debre Libanos, 4 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan
- (..) unidentified nocturnal rodent: 1 running through the trees opposite Simbo Beach Resort restaurant (very poor videostills by RH on Observation.org)
- 48 **Ethiopia Lesser Galago**^o *Galago senegalensis dunnii*: 2 btw Goba and Sof Omar (prior to dawn), c 21 btw Negele and Soda (prior to dawn), c 6 Wabe Shebele Hotel (Wondo Genet)(after dusk)



Olive Baboon, Debre Libanos; Olive x Western Baboon hybrid, obviously a male, Awash NP (Wesley Overman)

49 Olive Baboon *Papio anubis*: common, 125 seen in a variety of sites

50 **Western** (Sacred, Hamadryas) **Baboon** *Papio hamadryas*: 1 Awash NP, 2 Sof Omar

(..) Olive x Western Baboon *Papio anubis x hamadryas*: common Awash NP



Ethiopian Hare, Awash NP (Wesley Overman)



Unstriped Ground Squirrel, south of Yabello (Wesley Overman)

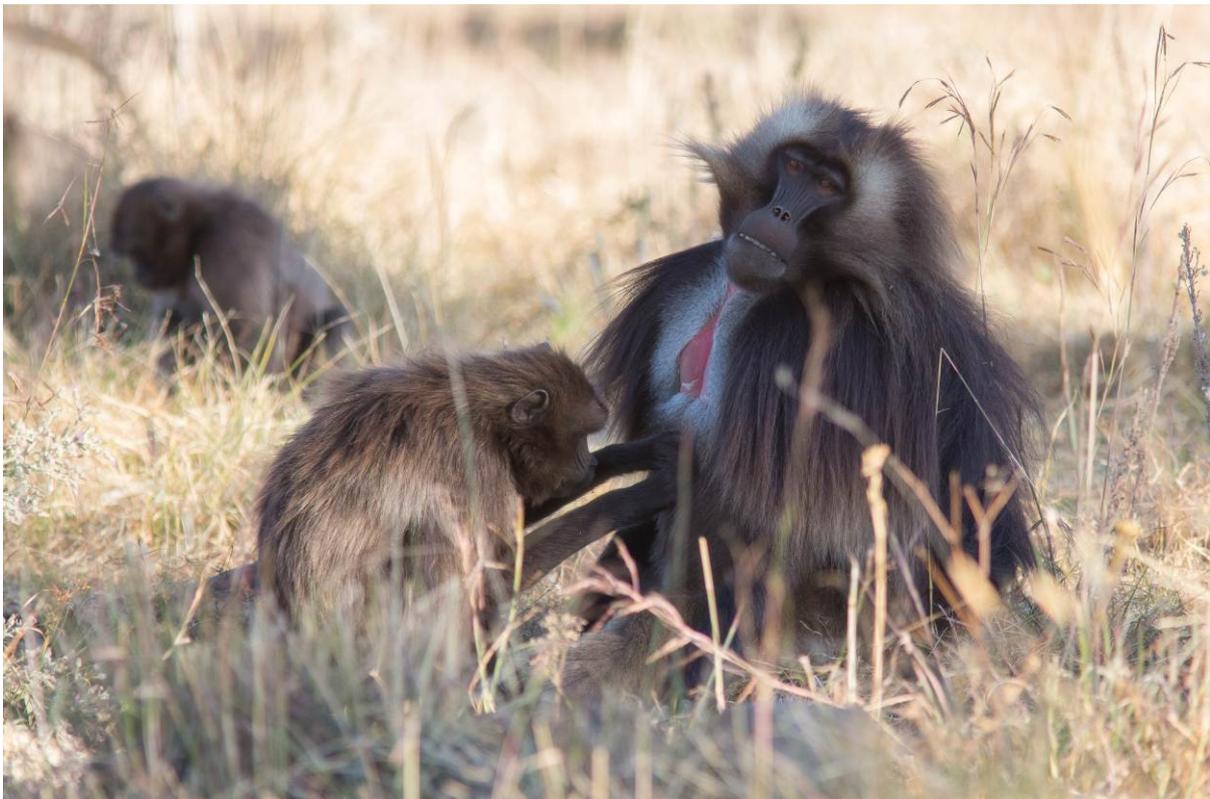
51 **Gelada Baboon** *Theropithecus gelada*: c 125 on the cliffs near the Ethio-German Hotel at Debre Libanos. We were able to observe them up close, following them to where they descended the cliffs to their roosting ledges.



Harrington's Rat, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)



Mating Gelada Baboons, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)



Fleeing Gelada Baboons, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)

52 Grivet Monkey *Chlorocebus aethiops*: common

53 Vervet Monkey *Chlorocebus pygerythrus*: 2 S of Harennna Forest

54 Djaffa Mountains Guereza *Colobus guereza gallarum*: common in C Ethiopia, recorded at Bale Mts, Harennna Forest, Lake Awassa & Wondo Genet



Male Gelada Baboon, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)



Gelada Baboons, Debre Libanos (Wesley Overman)



Grivet Monkey, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman)



Common Jackal, Awash NP (Wesley Overman)



Djaffa Mountains Guereza, Lake Awassa (Wesley Overman)

Recorded reptiles & amphibians

Photographs of all reptiles (except for Battersby's Green Snake) and amphibians are published on Observation.org.

1. Nile Crocodile *Crocodylus nyloticus*: 1 (small) Sof Omar, 2 Lake Beseka, 5 Awash Falls, 3 Gibe Gorge
- (..) Leopard Tortoise *Stigmochelys pardalis*: 1, National Museum garden (Addis)(most likely feral)
2. African Helmeted Turtle *Pelomedusa subrufa*: 3, Sof Omar pool
3. Battersby's Green Snake *Philothamnus battersbyi*: 1 small one crossing a stream in S Addis
4. Ringed Wall Gecko *Tarentola annularis*: sev Bilen Lodge
5. 'UnID small gecko' *Hemidactylus sp*: sev Bilen Lodge
6. 'UnID midsize gecko' *Gekkonidae sp*: 2 Bilen Lodge
7. Uganda Dwarf Gecko *Lygodactylus gutturalis*: 1 Negash Lodge (Wolliso)
8. Kenyan Rock Agama *Agama lionotus*: 1 possible, Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(RH)
9. Lanza's Spiny Agama *Agama spinosa*: 1 possible, Lake Awassa (RH)
10. Blue-bellied Ridgeback Agama *Acanthocercus cyanogaster*: 1 probable, Simbo Beach Resort (Lake Langano)(WO)
11. African Striped Mabuya *Trachylepis striata*: few Lake Awassa
12. African Five-lined Skink (Rainbow Mabuya) *Trachylepis quinquetaeniata*: 1 Jemma Valley
13. Smith's Racerunner *Pseuderemias smithii*: 1 south of Yabello

Amphibians

14. Small brown frog *Ptychadena sp*: 5 Sof Omar
15. African Common Toad *Amietophrynus regularis*: 1 Melka Ghebdu



African Five-lined Skink (Rainbow Mabuya), Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)



Smith's Racerunner, south of Yabello (Wesley Overman)



Blue-bellied Ridgeback Agama, Lake Langano; African Common Toad, Melka Ghebdu (Wesley Overman)

Recorded dragonflies (Odonata) (identified by KD B Dijkstra, RH, CZ)

Scientific order, English & scientific names and status after DIJKSTRA, K.-D. B. & CLAUSNITZER, V. 2014. *The dragonflies and damselflies of Eastern Africa. Handbook for all Odonata from Sudan to Zimbabwe*. Studies in Afrotropical Zoology, vol. 298. Tervuren: Royal Museum for Central Africa.

(Alternate names) are used by Observation.org. (RH, CZ) are initials of those who photographed it. Photographs of all Odonata are published on Observation.org.

Three-striped Skimmer = significant record.



Male Dancing Jewel *Platycypha caligata*, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman)



Female Dancing Jewel *Platycypha caligata*, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman)

1. Dancing Jewel *Platycypha caligata*: Sof Omar, Haremma Forest (RH, WO, CZ)
2. **Common Riverjack** *Mesocnemis singularis*: 1m Gibe Gorge, along the river west of the bridge (RH, WO, CZ). The first for Ethiopia with site details. *M. singularis* is most likely a species complex, so which species it actually is will require future research.



Male Common Riverjack *Mesocnemis singularis*, Gibe Gorge (Casper Zuyderduyn)

3. Highland Wisp *Agriocnemis inversa*: Lake Awassa (CZ)
4. Common Citril (Common Orange) *Ceriagrion glabrum*: sev United Africa Hotel (Lake Awassa)
5. Marsh Bluetail *Ischnura senegalensis*: Lake Beseka, Bilen Lodge, Lake Awassa (RH, WO, CZ)
6. Powder-faced (Kersten's) Sprite *Pseudagrion kersteni*: 2m Haremma Forest (RH, CZ)



Male Powder-faced Sprite *Pseudagrion kersteni*, Haremma Forest (Remco Hofland)

7. Upland (Powder) Sprite *Pseudagrion spernatum*: 1f Melka Ghebdu (WO), 1m Haremma (RH)
8. Swarthy Sprite *Pseudagrion hamoni*: 1m Gibe Gorge, along the river W of the bridge (WO)
9. Masai Sprite *Pseudagrion massaicum*: sev Lake Awassa (RH, CZ)
10. Cherry-eye Sprite *Pseudagrion sublacteum*: Melka Ghebdu (WO), Sof Omar (CZ)



Upland Sprite *Pseudagrion spernatum*, Harena (Casper Z); Swarthy Sprite *P. hamoni*, Gibe Gorge (Wesley O)

11. Blue-tailed (Nubian) Sprite *Pseudagrion nubicum*: 1m Lake Awassa (probably, though it could be Wing-tailed (Senegal) Sprite *P. torridum*)(RH)



Masai Sprite *P. massaicum*, Lake Awassa; Cherry-eye Sprite *P. sublacteum*, Gibe Gorge (Casper Zuyderduyn)

12. Common Tigertail *Ictinogomphus ferox*: 1m Lake Beseka (WO, CZ)
13. **Corkscrew Hooktail** *Paragomphus elpidius*: 1 Gibe Gorge (WO). First record for Ethiopia!
14. Darting Cruiser *Phyllomacromia picta*: 1m Sof Omar (WO, CZ)



Common Tigertail *Ictinogomphus ferox*, Lake Beseka (Casper Zuyderduyn)



Corkscrew Hooktail *Paragomphus elpidius*, Gibe Gorge (Wesley Overman)



Darting Cruiser *Phyllomacromia picta*, Lake Beseka (Wesley Overman)

15. Northern Banded Groundling *Brachythemis impartita*: sev Lake Beseka (RH, WO)
16. Red Groundling *Brachythemis lacustris*: 1m Sof Omar (CZ)
17. Southern Banded Groundling *Brachythemis leucosticta*: common Lake Awassa (RH, CZ)

Identification of both our Banded Groundlings is in sync with the findings of the 2009 article "Kindred spirits: '*Brachythemis leucosticta*', Africa's most familiar dragonfly, consists of two species" by Klaas-Douwe B. Dijkstra & Nataly Matushkina (freely available on the internet) in which a 'negligible' sample 'proved' that "*B. impartita* was found at Lake Beseka and *B. leucosticta* at Lake Awassa".

18. Broad Scarlet *Crocothemis erythraea*: sev Bilen Lodge (CZ), Sof Omar (RH, WO, CZ)
19. Banded (Tough) Skimmer *Orthetrum brachiale*: sev probables Wondo Genet (RH)
20. **Three-striped Skimmer** *Orthetrum brevistylum*: 1f Jemma Valley (WO). First photographs ever of a live individual of this Sahel specialist! Formerly known as *O. kollmannspergeri*.



Three-striped Skimmer *Orthetrum brevistylum* (first-ever photograph!), Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)

21. Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*: Jemma Valley, Sof Omar, Gibe Gorge (all WO)
22. Julia('s) Skimmer *Orthetrum julia*: c 7 Jemma Valley, 3m Hareenna Forest (RH, GK, CZ)



Flower, Melka Ghebdu (Guido Keijl)



Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman)



Male Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)

23. **Ethiopian Skimmer** *Orthetrum kristenseni* **E**: 1f Dinsho (Bale Mountains) (CZ)



The endemic Ethiopian Skimmer *Orthetrum kristenseni*, Dinsho (Casper Zuyderduyn)

24. Highland (Machado's) Skimmer *Orthetrum machadoi*: 1 young male Bilen Lodge (CZ); 1m caught in restaurant of Negash Lodge (Wolliso): photographed and released (RH, CZ)



Ad & immature male Machado's Skimmer *O. machadoi*, Negash Lodge & Bilen Lodge (Casper Zuyderduyn)

25. Long Skimmer *Orthetrum trinacria*: Lake Beseka (WO)

26. Deceptive Widow *Palpopleura deceptor*: 1m Sof Omar (CZ)



Male Long Skimmer *Orthetrum trinacria*, Lake Beseka (Wesley Overman)



Deceptive Widow *Palpopleura deceptor*, Sof Omar (Casper Zuyderduyn)

27. Lucia Widow *Palpopleura lucia*: 1f Gibe Gorge (RH, GK)

28. Halfshade (Monkshood) Dropwing *Trithemis aconita*: 1f Sof Omar (RH)

29. Violet Dropwing *Trithemis annulata*: Lake Beseka, Bilen Lodge, Gibe Gorge (RH, WO, CZ)

- 30. Stonewash Dropwing *Trithemis dejouxi*: 1m Jemma Valley (WO)
- 31. Navy Dropwing *Trithemis furva*: Jemma Valley (WO), Sof Omar (WO, CZ)
- 32. Orange-winged Dropwing *Trithemis kirbyi*: 1m Jemma Valley (WO), 2m Sof Omar (RH, WO), Negele area (RH)



Violet Dropwing *Trithemis annulata*, Bilen Lodge; Stonewash Dropwing, *T. dejouxi*, Jemma Valley (Wesley Overman)

- 33. **Southern Riverking** (Fuelleborn's Bottle-tail) *Zygonoides fuelleborni*: 1m at undisclosed Juba Weaver site, Negele area (RH, CZ). First record of any of this genus in Ethiopia!



Southern Riverking *Zygonoides fuelleborni* (Casper Zuyderduyn)

Recorded butterflies (Lepidoptera) (partly identified by Rienk de Jong)

According to Wikipedia, 376 species of butterfly have been recorded in Ethiopia. Photographs of all our Lepidoptera are published on Observation.org.



Pioneer White *Belenois aurota*, Sof Omar (Wesley Overman)

1. Mocker Swallowtail *Papilio dardanus*: sev Wondo Genet (RH, GK, CZ)
2. *Papilio microps* **NEAE**: 1m Sof Omar (WO), 1m found dead, Wondo Genet
3. African Migrant *Catopsilia florella*: sev Sof Omar (CZ)
4. African Clouded Yellow *Colias electo*: 1 probable male btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan (RH), 1m garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (WT, CZ)
5. Crimson Tip *Colotis danae*: 1m Yabello (GK)
6. Eastern Dotted Border *Mylothris agathina*: 1m garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (WT)
7. Pioneer White *Belenois aurota*: 350+ Sof Omar (RH, CZ)
8. Coffee Playboy *Deudorix lorisona*: Gibe Gorge (CZ)
9. *Anthene* sp: sev
10. Small Copper *Lycaena phlaeas pseudophlaeas*: 1m Debre Birhan (WT)
11. Mediterranean Pierrot *Tarucus rosacea*: 1 Melka Ghebdu (WO)



Mediterranean Pierrot *Tarucus rosacea*; *Colotis* sp (Wesley Overman)

12. African Monarch *Danaus chrysippus*: Sof Omar (WT, CZ)
 13. Bush Brown *Bicyclus sp.*: 1 (CZ)
 14. Painted Lady *Vanessa cardui*: sev Debre Libanos, 10+ Bale Mountains
 15. Abyssinian Admiral *Vanessa a. abyssinica*: 1 garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (WT, CZ)
 16. Dark Blue Pansy *Junonia oenone*: 1 Sof Omar (RH, WT)



Blue Pansy *Junonia orithya*; Blue Spot Pansy *J. westermanni* (Wesley Overman)

17. Soldier Commodore *Junonia terea*: Wondo Genet (CZ)
 18. Blue Spot Pansy *Junonia westermanni*: 3 Sof Omar (CZ)
 19. Blue Pansy *Junonia orithya*: 1 btw Debre Libanos & Debre Birhan (WO)



Unidentified blue (Guido Keijl); Forest Mother-of-pearl *Protogoniomorpha parhassus* (Wesley Overman)

20. Forest Mother-of-pearl *Protogoniomorpha parhassus*: 1 possible, Sof Omar (WO, WT), 4 Wondo Genet (RH, CZ)
 21. White-spotted Commodore *Precis limnoria*: sev Sof Omar (CZ)



White-spotted Commodore *Precis limnoria*; Soldier Commodore *Junonia terea* (Casper Zuyderduyn)

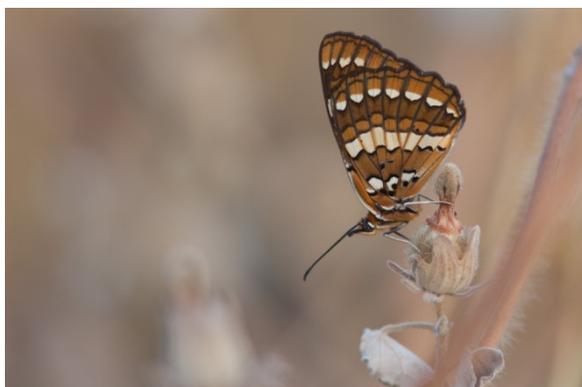
22. Common Joker *Byblia anvatarata*: 1 Bilen Lodge (WO), 3 Sof Omar (RH)
 23. Spotted Sailor *Neptis saclava*: 4 Sof Omar (RH)
 24. African Map Butterfly *Cyrestis camillus*: 1 Hareenna Forest (CZ)

African Map Butterfly *Cyrestis camillus* (Casper Z)Three Pip Policeman *Coeliades hanno* (Guido Keijl)

25. *Acraea necoda* E: 1 grasslands btw Dinsho & Goba (GK, CZ) GPS 7.124, 39.722
 26. *Acraea esebia*: Wondo Genet (GK)
 27. Polka Dot *Pardopsis punctatissima*: 1 south of Hareenna Forest (CZ), 1 Liben Plain (RH)

*Acraea necoda* (Casper Zuyderduyn)Crimson Tip *Colotis danae* (Guido Keijl)

28. Three Pip Policeman *Coeliades hanno*: 1+ Sof Omar (GK, WO)
 29. Small Elfin *Sarangesa phidyle*: 1 Bilen Lodge (CZ), 1 possible Lake Awassa (RH)
 30. Small Swift (Skipper) *Borbo perobscura*: 1 garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (CZ)
 31. Hottentot Skipper *Gegenes hottentota*: 1 garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (CZ)

*Papilio microps*, Sof Omar; unidentified butterfly (Wesley Overman)

Recorded (other) insects

Photographs of all (other) insects are published on Observation.

Picasso Bug *Sphaerocoris annulus*: 1 Debre Libanos (RH, WO, CZ)

African Hummingbird Hawkmoth *Macroglossum trochilus*: 1 garden of Wabe Shebele Hotel, Goba (WT, CZ)

Arctiidae moth *Amata alicia*: 1 copula Sof Omar (WH)

Hoverfly sp: 1 Sof Omar

Locust sp: sev large colourful nymphs btw Harena Forest & Negele (GK)

Cockroach sp *Blattidae*: 1 Simbo Beach Resort, 1 Yabello Motel (RH)



Copula *Amata alicia*, Sof Omar (Wil van den Hoven); Nymphs of Locust sp, Wachile area (Guido Keijl)

Recorded spider

Holocnemis pluchei: 1 in small village btw Wachile & Yabello (GK)



Holocnemis pluchei



unidentified flower (Guido Keijl)

Recorded plants & trees

Photographs of all plants & trees are published on Observation.

Caralluma acutangula: Bilen Lodge (GK)

Hagenia abyssinica: Dinsho area (Bale Mountains)(WT)

Hypericum revolutum: Dinsho area (Bale Mountains)(WT)

Adenium obesum: 1 Negele area (RH)

Star Lotus *Nymphaea nouchali*: plenty Lake Ziway (WT)

Mountain Acacia *Acacia abyssinica*: 3 Ghion Hotel (Addis)(RH)

Giant Lobelia *Lobelia rhynchopetalum*: common Sanetti Plateau (Bale Mountains)

Devil's Backbone *Cissus quadrangularis*: sev btw Sof Omar & Goba (WT)

Monkey Chair (bulbous low-growing tree) *Pyrenacantha* sp: Sof Omar, possibly *malvifolia*



Ethiopian construction practice; Giant Lobelias (Guido Keijl)



Vincent in Awash NP; Ethiopian kid; author slightly taller than Lucy (Remco Hofland)

Videos

During this trip, I made some brief handheld videos with my Lumix pocket camera, which I will in due time upload onto Surfbirds. These include videos of (specialties in **bold**):

Birds

Little Grebe (*capensis*), Great White Pelican, Hamerkop, Marabou & **Abdim's Stork**, Hadada & **Wattled Ibis**, Spur-winged & **Blue-winged Goose**, African Pygmy Goose, African Black Duck, **Scissor-tailed Kite**, Yellow-billed Kite, African Fish Eagle, Lammergeier, Lappet-faced & Hooded Vulture, Western Banded Snake Eagle, Dark Chanting Goshawk, Augur Buzzard, Tawny, Booted, Long-crested & **Eastern Imperial Eagle**, Crested (*spilogaster*), Yellow-necked, **Chestnut-naped & Moorland Francolin**, **Wattled Crane**, **Rouget's Rail**, Kori, White-bellied, **Arabian & Hartlaub's Bustard**, African Jacana, Spur-winged, **Black-winged & Spot-breasted Lapwing**, Caspian Plover, Marsh & Wood Sandpiper, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, **White-collared Pigeon**, African Lemon Dove, Dusky Turtle Dove, **African White-winged Dove**, Laughing Dove, Blue-spotted Wood Dove, **Black-winged Lovebird**, **White-cheeked & Ruspoli's Turaco**, White-bellied & **Brown-faced Go-away-bird**, Blue-headed Coucal, Northern White-faced, African Wood & **Abyssinian Owl**, Pearl-spotted Owlet, Slender-tailed & **Egyptian Nightjar**, Speckled Mousebird, Narina Trogon, Woodland, Malachite, Giant & Pied Kingfisher (swallowing a largish fish), Northern Carmine & **Blue-breasted Bee-eater**, Abyssinian Roller, Eurasian Hoopoe, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, Hemprich's, (displaying) African Grey, Von der Decken's & Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Red-and-yellow, Black-billed & Red-fronted Barbet, Eurasian & Red-throated Wryneck, Eastern Grey, (Eastern) Cardinal, Nubian & **Abyssinian Woodpecker**, **Foxy Lark**, Grey Wagtail, Black Scrub Robin, Pied Wheatear, **White-winged Cliff Chat**, **Rüppell's Black Chat**, Groundscraper, African, **Mountain & Bare-eyed Thrush**, Sedge Warbler, **Brown Parisoma** (*lugens*), Rattling, **Ethiopian & Stout** (*robustus*) **Cisticola**, **Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher**, African Paradise Flycatcher (*ferreti*), Northern White-rumped Babbler (*leucopygia*), **African Spotted Creeper**, Tacazze Sunbird, Turkestan Shrike, **Red-naped Bush-shrike**, Slate-colored Boubou, **Stresemann's Bushcrow**, Pied & **Somali Crow**, **Thick-billed Raven**, Superb, Golden-breasted, Shelley's & Greater Blue-eared Starling, Swainson's Sparrow, White-browed Sparrow-Weaver, White-headed Buffalo Weaver, Speke's & **Juba Weaver**, Northern Red Bishop, **Red-billed** (Ethiopian) **Pytilia**, Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu, Red-billed & **Black-faced Firefinch**, Crimson-rumped Waxbill, **Northern Grosbeak-Canary**, **Salvadori's & Brown-rumped Seedeater**.

Mammals

Serval, **Ethiopian Wolf**, **Gelada Baboon**, Olive x Western (Sacred) Baboon hybrid, Green Vervet & Grivet Monkey, **Djaffa Mountains Guereza**, Common Rock & Yellow-spotted Hyrax, Common Warthog, Beisa Oryx, **Mountain Nyala**, Bohor Reedbuck, Oribi, **Big-headed Mole Rat**, 'unidentified nocturnal rodent', Unstriped Ground Squirrel, Rüppell's Horseshoe Bat

Reptiles

Nile Crocodile, Leopard Tortoise

Dragonfly

Epaulet Skimmer *Orthetrum chrysostigma*

Butterflies

Polka Dot *Pardopsis punctatissima*, Pioneer White *Belenois aurota*, Forest Mother-of-pearl *Protogoniomorpha parhassus*

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Ethiopian street scenes (Remco Hofland)



This Yellow-billed Kite was more interested in the Ethio-German Hotel pasta than we were (Wesley Overman)



Pair of Black-winged Lovebird, Lake Langano (Wesley Overman)