



# Rockjumper Birding Tours

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## Cameroon

*Rockfowl, Rainforests & Sahel*

*29<sup>th</sup> March to 19<sup>th</sup> April 2010*



Grey-necked Rockfowl by Mathew Matthiessen

Trip report compiled by Tour Leader David Hoddinott

## Tour Summary

Our trip total of 580 species in 21 days reflects the immense birding potential of Cameroon. Whilst the focus of the tour was certainly the rich assemblage of Central African specialties, we did not neglect the interesting diversity of mammals. Participants were treated to an amazing 90 families of birds, including a staggering array of rare, elusive, localized and stunning species. These included Black Guinea fowl, Forest Francolin, Hartlaub's Duck, Scissor-tailed Kite, Congo Serpent Eagle, African Finfoot, Black Crowned Crane, Greater Painted Snipe, Egyptian Plover, Grey Pratincole, African Skimmer, Adamawa Turtle Dove, Bannerman's Turaco, Pel's Fishing Owl, Sjöstedt's Owlet, Standard-winged Nightjar, Bates's Swift, Bare-cheeked Trogon, Abyssinian Ground Hornbill, magnificent Grey-necked Rockfowl, Bamenda Apalis, Spotted Thrush-Babbler, Spotted Creeper, Grey-chested Babbler, White-collared Starling, Orange-tufted Sunbird, Woodhouse's Antpecker, all three *Pytilia*'s and Rock Firefinch amongst many others. Some of the mammalian highlights included fantastic views of Guereza Colobus, Patas Monkeys, Golden Jackal, Spot-necked Otter, African Wild Cat, Hippopotamus, Kanki, Tsessebe and Roan Antelope. For more highlights and a detailed trip report read on...

Our exciting adventure through this incredible bird rich country started off with an afternoon visit to a nearby estuary in Douala. High tide meant that we concentrated our efforts in the surrounding scrub that was particularly productive. Soon we were watching the striking Palm-nut Vulture (the first of many), a dashing Peregrine Falcon, a pair of Blue-spotted Wood Dove at their nest, dapper Blue-headed Coucal, Mottled Spinetail, dazzling Blue-breasted Kingfisher alongside his more familiar cousin, Woodland Kingfisher, Little Bee-eater, Brown-throated Wattle-eye singing their melodic song, Chattering Cisticola, Yellow-breasted Apalis, several species of sunbird, including Mangrove, Reichenbach's and the elusive Carmelite, and Long-legged Pipit. We had a surprise sighting of two Black Herons during our drive back to our comfortable hotel. We enjoyed a scrumptious dinner before retiring for a good night's sleep.

The following morning we bid farewell to the south and took a flight to Garoua, where we met our friendly local guide and driver and transferred in a comfortable air-conditioned vehicle to Ngaoundere. En route we found first the smart Black-headed Lapwing and then resplendent Northern Carmine Bee-eater hawking insects around the numerous herds of goats. Our time at Ngaoundaba Ranch was particularly rewarding, with an endless stream of lifers! Birding the interesting array of habitats, which included a crater lake and its wetland, gallery forest and broad-leafed woodland, ensured a remarkable number of species, some of which are highly sought-after. Highlights included small flocks of Abdim's Stork, Little Bittern, soaring Red-necked Buzzard, Grey Kestrel, confiding African Rail, Bruce's Green Pigeon, Red-headed Lovebird, exquisite White-crested Turaco, Greyish Eagle-Owl at our hotel, a splendid male Standard-winged Nightjar seen during the day, gorgeous Blue-bellied Roller, impressive Abyssinian Ground Hornbill strolling through the woodland, Double-toothed Barbet, scarce Willcock's Honeyguide, a family group of White-crested Helmetshrikes, White-breasted and Red-shouldered Cuckooshrikes, migrant Woodchat Shrike, Piapiac – a quaint corvid with a long tail, Sun Lark, Bamenda Apalis showing exceptionally well, musical Oriole Warbler, Spotted Thrush-Babbler, Spotted



Creepers, Wattled Starling (which is very localized in Cameroon), a pair of White-collared Starling at their nest, shy Grey-winged and showy White-crowned Robin-Chats, Heuglin's Wheatear, several migrant European Pied Flycatchers, beautiful and highly sought-after Dybowski's Twinspot, Black-bellied Firefinch, dozens of Black-faced Quail-Finch and Cameroon Indigobird. Whew what a start!!!

Heading north to Benoue National Park, we stopped en route at Dang Lake. A careful scan produced Yellow-billed Duck, Spur-winged Lapwing, Collared Pratincole, Marsh Widowbird and several Red-throated Pipits in breeding plumage. Other highlights en route included a superb pair of African Cuckoo-Hawk, a regal Martial Eagle and Red-headed Weaver. The drought in the region was evident in the park as the Benoue River had completely stopped flowing with only a few pools of water remaining. This didn't dampen our spirits or the birding, and we were soon ticking cute coveys of Stone Partridge, a pair of elusive White-throated Francolin, Fine-spotted and Brown-backed Woodpecker, tiny Yellow Penduline Tit, Yellow-bellied Hyliota, White-fronted Black Chat and Western Violet-backed Sunbird during our forays in the woodland. Along the Benoue River we were rewarded with



many wonderful sightings, including Western Banded Snake Eagle, Bateleur, African Hawk-Eagle, White-crowned Lapwing, numerous Egyptian Plover, Greater Painted Snipe, rare Adamawa Turtle Dove, Violet Turaco, Vieillot's and Bearded Barbets, Long-tailed Glossy Starling and Heuglin's Masked Weaver. On one occasion we walked along a secluded tributary where we first flushed a Pel's Fishing Owl that delightfully posed for us as it sat up in a dead tree (see photo below), seemingly unconcerned by our presence. Shortly afterwards we watched in awe as numerous seedeaters came down to drink, including a trio of highly sought-after species;

namely Red-winged and Yellow-winged Pytilia, and Black-faced Firefinch. This was quickly followed by the appearance of a striking Black-headed Gonolek. At the camp itself we enjoyed our time during the heat of the day watching the comings and goings of many species to a dripping tap. Some notable birds seen here included Red-winged Grey Warbler and Grey-headed Oliveback. Mammal highlights in the reserve included great views of Guereza Colobus Monkeys, Hippopotamus lazing in the remaining waterholes, many Kob, Giraffe, Warthog, Red-flanked Duiker, Oribi and the rare Kanki Hartebeest.

Travelling to the very hot and extremely dry north we spent some time in the Maroua and Mora areas. Frustratingly, try as we may we couldn't find Quailplover! We were consoled, however, with many great species including a superb Fox Kestrel, three delightful Northern White-faced Owls, Green Bee-eater, Southern Grey Shrike, flocks of Chestnut-backed Sparrowlark, Rock-loving and Red-pate Cisticola, a confiding Cricket Longtail, Yellow-bellied Eremomela, Chestnut-bellied Starling, Rufous-tailed and Black Scrub Robins being particularly common, male Common Redstart, several smart White-crowned Cliff Chats, White-billed Buffalo Weaver, Speckle-fronted Weaver, Green-winged Pytilia, rare Rock Firefinch, beautiful Lavender Waxbill and Tawny Pipit.

Our time in Waza National Park was rewarding with great views of Common Ostrich with chicks, numerous Clapperton's Francolin, Yellow-billed, White and Marabou Storks, elegant Scissor-tailed Kite, Rüppell's and Lappet-faced Vulture, Grasshopper Buzzard, flocks of Black Crowned Crane, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, European Turtle Dove, African and Mourning Collared Dove, Eurasian Hoopoe, Black Scimitarbill, elusive Little Grey Woodpecker, localized River Prinia and Anteater Chat,

Cut-throat Finch, Black-rumped Waxbill and White-rumped Seedeater. We also enjoyed great sightings of the mostly terrestrial Patas Monkey.

Leaving the desperately hot north, we then travelled to the pleasant cool highlands of Bamenda. Sadly, these highland forests are mere remnants of a once far more extensive forest block, and it's amazing to see how these species survive in tiny forest fragments – but for how much longer? Nonetheless, we enjoyed a most memorable day in the highlands, picking up all the specialties and a few unexpected species. Highlights included the beautiful and endangered Bannerman's Turaco, a brief African Cuckoo, Western Black-headed Batis, elusive Banded Wattle-eye, stunning Yellow-breasted Boubou, scarce White-bellied Tit, Cameroon Greenbul, scope views of Bangwa Forest Warbler, Pectoral-patch Cisticola, Black-collared Apalis, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, Neumann's Starling, Cameroon and rare Orange-tufted Sunbird, Bannerman's Weaver and beautiful Oriole Finch.



From Bamenda we travelled to Mount Kupe and Bokassi. Our time spent in these forested mountains was rewarding with many interesting forest species seen. Highlights included Scaly Francolin, a pair of Ayres's Hawk-Eagle, Afep Pigeon, Cameroon Olive Pigeon, Guinea and Yellow-billed Turacos, Blue Malkoha, Olive Long-tailed Cuckoo, hepatic Common Cuckoo, stunning male Bar-tailed Trogon, magnificent Black Bee-eater, Yellow-spotted and Hairy-breasted Barbets, several tiny African Piculet, displaying African Broadbill, striking Black-necked Wattle-eye feeding chicks at a nest, Fernando Po Batis, Bocage's and Luhder's Bushshrike, Pink-footed and Red-eyed Puffback, Grey and Petit's Cuckooshrike, Black-winged Oriole, Bates's Paradise Flycatcher, Golden Greenbul, Cameroon Olive and Grey-headed Greenbul, Square-tailed Saw-wing, Black-capped Woodland Warbler, Green Longtail, Lowland Masked and Black-capped Apalis, Black-faced Rufous Warbler, Southern Hyliota (which is particularly rare in Cameroon), Yellow Longbill, smart White-throated Mountain Babbler, Fraser's Rufous Thrush, Brown-chested Alethe, Yellow-footed Flycatcher, Johanna's and Ursula's Sunbirds, and Preuss's Weaver.

From Mount Kupe we travelled to the humid lowland rainforest of Korup National Park. En route we picked up a number of forest gems, including a magnificent Congo Serpent Eagle, Bates's Swift and Yellow-casqued Wattled Hornbill. Next we readied ourselves for the expedition into Korup. Porters kindly carried in all our provisions, including food, drinking water and cold beers. Working the network of forest trails we amassed a huge list of forest species that included many specials. Highlights were no doubt two separate sightings of the highly sought-after Black Guinea fowl, Forest Francolin, Cassin's Hawk-Eagle, a responsive White-spotted Flufftail, a confiding Blue-headed Wood Dove (after much work!), Grey and Red-fronted Parrots, monstrous Great Blue Turaco, beautiful *gabonensis* race of Black Cuckoo, shy Sjöstedt's Barred Owlet, seldom recorded Scarce Swift, Bare-cheeked Trogon, Chocolate-backed, White-bellied and Shining-blue Kingfishers, Red-billed Dwarf, elusive White-crested and White-thighed Hornbills, Red-rumped Tinkerbird, Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye, Blue Cuckooshrike, Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher, a pair of Sjöstedt's Greenbul at their nest, Yellow-lored Bristlebill, Forest Swallow, Blackcap Illadopsis, Forest Robin, White-browed Forest Flycatcher, Yellow-mantled Weaver, stunning Rachel's and Red-vented Malimbe, and Woodhouse's Antpecker. On one afternoon here we went in search of the pre-historic looking Grey-necked Rockfowl. Excitement mounted as we neared the site. We sat down and waited quietly; and, after a considerable

wait with much anticipation, suddenly in jumped two birds that gave us a great show as they sat and hopped about on the vines! In the evening we celebrated with cold beers and a delicious spaghetti and bolognese meal prepared by our good man JP.



Leaving the humid forests of Korup we made our way to the cool mountain slopes of Mount Cameroon. We took a packed lunch and enjoyed a beautiful day on the mountain where we were treated to a wonderful array of species, including many specials. Some of the highlights included scope views of Red-chested Cuckoo, confiding Western Tinkerbird, Tullberg's and Gabon Woodpeckers, Mountain Sooty Boubou, endemic Mountain Saw-wing and Mount Cameroon Speirops, for once a confiding Grey-chested Babbler, Cameroon Mountain Robin, Black-billed Weaver, Shelley's Oliveback, Red-faced Crimsonwing and brief views of Red-chested Flufftail.

Leaving the mountain we made our way to Limbe Botanical Gardens where, after some work, we wrapped up the three specials; Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher, a pair of tame Western Bluebill and, finally, three Pale-fronted Nigrita.

Our final destination was the Sanaga River that did not disappoint. We were soon enjoying great sightings of Grey Pratincole, African Skimmer and Woolly-necked Stork on the sandbars. Other notable species seen here included Hartlaub's Duck, a pair of displaying African Finfoot, Cassin's Spinetail, Black-casqued Wattled Hornbill, Bristle-nosed and Yellow-billed Barbets, Swamp Palm Bulbul, hundreds of Preuss's Cliff Swallow, Purple-headed Starling, Orange and Slender-billed Weavers, Cassin's Malimbe, Yellow-crowned Bishop in full breeding plumage, Chestnut-breasted Nigrita and Black-bellied Seedcracker. This brought an end to a wonderful bird-filled adventure of this amazing African destination, and we then made our way to the airport for our departure flights home.

**Photos: Egyptian Plover by Matthew Matthiessen, Scissor-tailed Kite by Keith Valentine, Standard-winged Nightjar by David Shackelford and Pel's Fishing Owl by Glenn Morgan**

## Annotated List of Bird and Mammal species recorded

**Birds:** Gill, F. and M. Wright. 2006. Birds of the World: Recommended English Names. Princeton NJ: Princeton University Press. Version 2.4 generated on 2010-03-07. When the taxonomy differs from that of Clement's, the Clement's name will be written in brackets or differences will be explained in a note below the species.

### BIRDS (total: 580)

#### Ostrich Struthionidae

##### Common Ostrich

*Struthio camelus*

Recorded only at Waza National Park with great sightings of six adults and three tiny chicks

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

### Guineafowl Numididae

#### **Black Guineafowl**

*Agelastes niger*

This highly sought-after species is restricted to Central African lowland primary rainforest. We were extremely fortunate to find a pair and later fantastic views of a family group of five in Korup NP. This was certainly one of the highlights of the trip.

#### **Helmeted Guineafowl**

*Numida meleagris*

Commonly observed in Benoue and Waza NP's

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

### New World Quail Odontophoridae

#### **Stone Partridge**

*Ptilopachus petrosus*

This species was encountered first in Benoue NP with our highest day count of 20 birds seen at a rocky outcrop near Mora.

### Pheasants, Fowl & Allies Phasianidae

#### **Forest Francolin**

*Peliperdix lathamii*

Some of us had great views of one as it crossed the trail in Korup NP.

#### **White-throated Francolin**

*Peliperdix albogularis*

We had magnificent scope views of a pair in the woodland at Benoue NP.

#### **Scaly Francolin**

*Pternistis squamatus*

We heard this species of several occasions and some of us saw one at Mt. Kupe.

#### **Double-spurred Francolin**

*Pternistis bicalcaratus*

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

#### **Clapperton's Francolin**

*Pternistis clappertoni*

Only seen at Waza NP where they were regularly encountered with up to 50 seen daily.

### Ducks, Geese & Swans Anatidae

#### **Spur-winged Goose**

*Plectropterus gambensis*

Our first sighting was of 30 at Dang Lake and finally two birds were seen at a waterhole in Waza NP.

#### **Hartlaub's Duck**

*Pteronetta hartlaubii*

This highly sought-after species was seen at only one site near the Sanaga River, where we observed five.

#### **Yellow-billed Duck**

*Anus undulata*

We recorded 10 at Dang Lake near Ngaoundere. This is a very range restricted bird in West Africa, only occurring in this area in Cameroon and marginally in neighboring Nigeria.

### Grebes Podicipedidae

#### **Little Grebe**

*Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Two were seen at Lake Awing in the Bamenda highlands.

### Storks Ciconiidae

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

One was seen at a waterhole in Waza National Park.

**African Openbill***Anastomus lamelligerus*

Up to 60 were seen in Waza NP.

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

A small flock of these intra-African migrants (12 birds) was seen at Ngaoundaba and a further 2 in Benoue NP.

**Woolly-necked Stork***Ciconia episcopus*

We had wonderful scope views of one and the Sanaga River.

**White Stork***Ciconia ciconia*

We had good views of four at waterholes in Waza NP.

**Marabou Stork***Leptoptilos crumeniferus*

A single bird was seen flying in Waza NP.

**Ibises & Spoonbills Threskiornithidae****African Sacred Ibis***Threskiornis aethiopicus*

A flock of six was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

**Hadada Ibis***Bostrychia hagedash*

Small numbers were seen in Benoue NP.

**Hérons & Bitterns Ardeidae****Little Bittern***Ixobrychus minutus*

We had superb scope views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

Five were seen in the early evening at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Striated Heron***Butorides striata*

Several were seen along the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

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

**Squacco Heron***Ardeola ralloides*

Seen at Dang Lake where at least 4 birds were present.

**Western Cattle Egret***Bubulcus ibis*

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

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

**Grey Heron***Ardea cinerea*

A well-known, widespread heron, recorded in small numbers in Waza NP.

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

A fairly common species in the north, noted in abundance in Waza NP. An estimate of 100 was seen on our full day in this special park.

**Purple Heron***Ardea purpurea*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and 12 at Dang Lake.

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

**Western Great Egret***Ardea alba*

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

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

**Black Heron** *Egretta ardesiaca*

We had brief views of two near La Digue.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta*

Seen at La Digue and the Sanaga River.

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

**Western Reef Heron** *Egretta gularis*

Several were seen at the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

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

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

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

Seen at wetlands throughout the country. The largest group was at La Digue.

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

We had good views of two at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

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

We had wonderful views of a pair near Ngaoundere.

**European Honey Buzzard** *Pernis apivorus*

Several were seen in Korup NP and near Mundemba.

**Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus*

Small numbers were seen south of Maroua and near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

NOTE: This species is sometimes split into Black-winged Kite, *E.caeruleus* of Africa and Asia and Black-shouldered Kite, *E.axillaris* of Australasia.

**Scissor-tailed Kite** *Chelictinia riocourii*

First seen near the town of Mora, much to the delight of all. We saw a total of 12 in Northern Cameroon.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans*

This ubiquitous, fork-tailed raptor was found in good numbers throughout the country and recorded on most days.

NOTE: Some authorities treat the resident African subspecies of this raptor as a separate species, Yellow-billed Kite *M.aegyptius*.

**African Fish Eagle** *Haliaeetus vocifer*

Not a very common bird in West Africa, one was seen in Benoue NP and a further one at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Palm-nut Vulture** *Gypohierax angolensis*

Recorded in the wetter south with regularity. First seen at La Digue.

**Hooded Vulture** *Necrosyrtes monachus*

Small numbers were seen at scattered sites except one large flock of 30 seen at Garoua.

**White-backed Vulture** *Gyps africanus*

Three were seen in Benoue NP and a further two in Waza NP.

**Rüppell's Vulture (Griffon)** *Gyps rueppellii*

A flock of fifteen was seen in Waza NP.

**Lappet-faced Vulture** *Torgos tracheliotus*

Five of these globally threatened vultures were observed in Waza NP. This is Africa's largest vulture, an impressive bird indeed!

**Brown Snake Eagle** *Circaetus cinereus*

We had great sightings of four during the drive from Ngaoundaba to Maroua.

**Western Banded Snake Eagle** *Circaetus cinerascens*

We were fortunate to find one juvenile near the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**Bateleur** *Terathopius ecaudatus*

The "tightrope-walker" of the raptor world is a handsome species that we first saw in the woodland belt in Benoue NP, further sightings of one was seen in Waza NP.

**Congo Serpent Eagle** *Dryotriorchis spectabilis*

We had great scope views of a magnificent adult during the drive to Mundemba.

**Western Marsh Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus*

Small numbers were seen at scattered sites including one at Ngaoundaba Ranch and several at Dang Lake.

**African Harrier-Hawk (Gymnogene)** *Polyboroides typus*

A distinctive raptor recorded regularly in the south.

**Dark Chanting Goshawk** *Melierax metabates*

Up to ten recorded daily in the Mora and Waza areas

**Gabar Goshawk** *Micronisus gabar*

We found small numbers in the Mora and Waza areas.

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

Seen in the woodlands of Benoue NP.

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

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

First seen at Mt.Kupe with a further sighting at Limbe Botanical Gardens

**Lizard Buzzard** *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*

We enjoyed good views of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Grasshopper Buzzard** *Butastur rufipennis*

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

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

This handsome buzzard was noted at a number of localities on the tour, our highest daily count was of 2 birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in the Bamenda highlands.

**Tawny Eagle** *Aquila rapax*

We enjoyed good views of at least 6 birds on our day in Waza NP.

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

One was seen briefly in Korup NP.

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

We had good views of 3 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Hawk-Eagle** *Hieraaetus spilogaster*

We had a good view of a pair over woodland in Benoue NP.

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

We had good views of two at Bokassi.

**Martial Eagle** *Polemaetus bellicosus*

We had great scope views of an impressive adult en route to Benoue NP.

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

Our first sighting was of one en route from Benoue NP to Garoua with further sightings of 2 in Waza NP.

**Crowned Eagle** *Stephanoaetus coronatus*

We had brief views of one during our time in Bokassi.

### Falcons & Caracaras Falconidae

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

This widespread, familiar raptor was first seen near the Sanaga River and in the Bamenda highlands.

*NOTE: Some authorities split this species into Common Kestrel, F. tinnunculus which we observed and occurs in East and West Africa and Rock Kestrel, F. rupicolus, which occurs in Southern Africa. The resident race of Common Kestrel, F. rufescens is sometimes split as Mountain Kestrel, we recorded this race near the Sanaga River. Clements does not as yet recognize these splits.*

**Fox Kestrel** *Falco alopex*

We had superb views of one south of Garoua.

**Grey Kestrel** *Falco ardosiaceus*

We had great views of one near Ngaoundere.

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

We had brief views of one as it flew past in Benoue NP.

**Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus*

We had several sightings, a pair in Waza NP and a further pair in the Bamenda highlands.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus*

We had magnificent scope views of one on a sandbar in the Sanaga River.

### Bustards Otididae

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

We had great views of a pair near Mora.

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

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

A total of seven were found in Waza NP.

### Flufftails Sarothruridae

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

This secretive, forest rallids hooting call was heard in several forests and one was seen in Korup NP.

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

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

### Finfoots Turnicidae

**African Finfoot** *Podica senegalensis*

We had magnificent views of a female near Mundemba and a fabulous calling pair at the Sanaga River.

### Rails, Crakes & Coots Rallidae

**African Rail** *Rallus caerulescens*

Although widespread on the continent this can be a tough species to see. We were fortunate to enjoy superb views of a pair at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Black Crane** *Amaurornis flavirostra*

Several were seen at the Crater Lake at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Swampphen** *Porphyrio madagascariensis*

We had good views of two at Dang Lake.

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

**Common Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus*

We enjoyed good views of fifteen at a roadside wetland en route from Bamenda to Nyassosso.

### Cranes Gruidae

**Black Crowned Crane** *Balearica pavonina*

This very handsome bird is delightfully common in Waza NP where we recorded thirty on one day.

### Stone-curlews & Thick-knees Burhinidae

**Senegal Thick-knee** *Burhinus senegalensis*

We found one at the Sanaga River and a further three on the Benoue River.

### Stilts & Avocets Recurvirostridae

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus*

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

### Plovers & Lapwings Charadriidae

**Spur-winged Lapwing (Plover)** *Vanellus spinosus*

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

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

Our first sighting was of 3 at the Garoua airport. We enjoyed many sightings of this bird in the arid areas near Mora and in Waza NP. A very attractive bird.

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

First seen at the Sanaga River where 3 were seen and later a further 6 were found in Benoue NP.

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula*

We had good views of three at the Sanaga River.

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

We found 4 on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

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

Only encountered on the Sanaga River where we found 2.

### Egyptian Plover Pluvianidae

**Egyptian Plover** *Pluvianus aegyptus*

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

### Painted Snipes Rostratulidae

**Greater Painted Snipe***Rostratula benghalensis*

This brilliant bird was sighted on the Benoue River in Benoue NP where we found three males.

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

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

**Sandpipers & Snipes Scolopacidae****Common Snipe***Gallinago gallinago*

One was seen flying over the wetland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Whimbrel***Numenius phaeopus*

We had scope views of two at Limbe Botanical Gardens

**Common Greenshank***Tringa nebularia*

Several were seen at the Sanaga River.

**Green Sandpiper***Tringa ochropus*

We found one on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**Wood Sandpiper***Tringa glareola*

At least three were seen at Dang Lake

**Common Sandpiper***Actitis hypoleucos*

A common migrant, scattered sightings throughout

**Little Stint***Calidris minuta*

Two birds were seen at the Sanaga River.

**Couriers & Pratincoles Glareolidae****Collared Pratincole***Glareola pratincola*

We had good scope views of three at Dang Lake.

**Rock Pratincole***Glareola nuchalis*

A total of 3 birds were seen on the Mana River on our way into and out of Korup NP.

**Grey Pratincole***Glareola cinerea*

50 of these beautiful pratincoles were scoped on sandbars on the Sanaga River.

**Gulls, Terns & Skimmers Laridae****African Skimmer***Rynchops flavirostris*

We encountered a fantastic 40 birds on the Sanaga River.

**Sandgrouse Pteroclididae****Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse***Pterocles exustus*

A day drinker, this bird was easy to observe in Waza NP and surrounds with at least 50 birds being seen on our full day in the reserve

**Four-banded Sandgrouse***Pterocles quadricinctus*

We had brief views of one in Benoue NP.

**Pigeons & Doves Columbidae****Common (Rock) Pigeon***Columba livia*

Common in Douala and other large towns

**Speckled Pigeon***Columba guinea*

A common species in the north, first encountered at Garoua and seen at all localities north of there

**Afep Pigeon** *Columba unicincta*

We had great views of ten near Bokassi.

**Cameroon Olive Pigeon** *Columba sjostedti*

We had 15 of these birds on our day at Bokassi.

**European (Eurasian) Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia turtur*

We had great views of six birds drinking at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Adamawa Turtle Dove** *Streptopelia hypopyrrha*

We enjoyed fantastic views of 2 in Benoue NP. A rare species.

**African Collared Dove** *Streptopelia roseogrisea*

This rather pale *Streptopelia* was encountered in Waza NP where we had good views of twenty.

**Mourning Collared Dove** *Streptopelia decipiens*

Seen only in the Waza area where we recorded a total of 4 birds.

**Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata*

A fairly common widespread species, especially notable in more wooded areas and around towns

**Vinaceous Dove** *Streptopelia vinacea*

This richly marked dove was common in the Ngaoundaba and Benoue areas with peak numbers in Waza NP.

**Laughing (Palm) Dove** *Spilopelia senegalensis*

A familiar species and in Cameroon recorded regularly only from Ngaoundaba north

**Black-billed Wood Dove** *Turtur abyssinicus*

The common wood dove of the dry, northern savanna, found in good numbers in Benoue NP

**Blue-spotted Wood Dove** *Turtur afer*

Not uncommon in secondary growth in the moister south.

**Tambourine Dove** *Turtur tympanistria*

A forest equivalent of the wood doves, we encountered this bird near the Sanaga River.

**Blue-headed Wood Dove** *Turtur brehmeri*

A deep forest species restricted to West Africa. After much patience and persistence we found several of these beautiful doves in Korup NP.

**Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis*

A fairly common species in the dry north, especially in Waza NP where 15+ were seen in a day

**Bruce's Green Pigeon** *Treron waalia*

We were treated to great views of a small flock feeding in a large fruiting fig tree during the drive to Ngaoundere.

**African Green Pigeon** *Treron calvus*

Commoner in the south of the country, where good numbers were noted throughout

### **Parrots Psittacidae**

**Rose-ringed Parakeet** *Psittacula krameri*

We had brief views of two in Benoue NP.

**Red-headed Lovebird** *Agapornis pullarius*

We observed this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch where we enjoyed scope views of one.

**(African) Grey Parrot** *Psittacus erithacus*

So much better to see them in the wild than as the usual cage bird! Small groups were seen near the Sanaga River and up to 10 seen near Mundemba.

**Red-fronted Parrot** *Poicephalus gulielmi*

A single bird was seen flying over near Mundemba.

**Senegal Parrot***Poicephalus senegalus*

A parrot of drier savanna and woodland, we found a number in Benoue NP.

**Turacos Musophagidae****Great Blue Turaco***Corythaeola cristata*

Arguably one of Africa's most spectacular birds, this huge frugivore was first seen near Mundemba.

**Guinea (Green) Turaco***Tauraco persa*

A pair was seen on Mt.Kupe.

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

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

A commonly heard turaco of the interior forests, our first sighting was of stunning views of one in the Bokassi Mountains. Thereafter we encountered several daily at Mount Kupe and Mount Cameroon. This subspecies has a wonderful red-tipped crest.

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

A few birds were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and again in Benoue NP. A spectacular bird!

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

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

**Violet Turaco***Musophaga violacea*

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

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

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

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

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

**Cuckoos Cuculidae****Black-throated Coucal***Centropus leucogaster*

A huge, elusive West African coucal. We heard one calling near Mundemba.

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

**Senegal Coucal***Centropus senegalensis*

The most commonly encountered coucal throughout and seen daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

We had a wonderful sighting of one at La Digue.

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

We had good views of two at Mount Kupe and several more in Korup NP.

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

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

We had great views of three on Mount Kupe.

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

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

**African Emerald Cuckoo***Chrysococcyx cupreus*

Generally more shy and less common than its congeners, we saw a resplendent male and female at Mt. Kupe.

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

A very shy and elusive species, far more often heard than seen however we managed to get brief views of one on Mount Kupe.

**Black Cuckoo***Cuculus clamosus*

We had fantastic scope views of an adult near Mundemba of the rufous throated race *gabonensis*.

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

We had great scope views of two on Mount Cameroon.

**African Cuckoo***Cuculus gularis*

We enjoyed brief views of one in the Bamenda highlands.

**Common Cuckoo***Cuculus canorus*

We had superb scope views of a hepatic individual on Mount Kupe.

**Typical Owls Strigidae****African Scops Owl***Otus senegalensis*

We enjoyed great views of one at Benoue NP.

**Northern White-faced Owl***Ptilopsis leucotis*

We had fantastic views of three at Maroua.

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

We enjoyed good views of a pair near Ngaoundere.

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

We heard one calling near Mount Kupe

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

We had incredible views of one in Benoue NP. One of the world's great birds!

**Vermiculated Fishing Owl***Scotopelia bowieri*

We heard a pair calling in Korup National Park.

**African Wood-Owl***Strix woodfordii*

We heard this species in Korup NP.

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

We found this vocal species during the day at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

After a lengthy search we were rewarded with fantastic views of one in Korup NP.

**Nightjars & Allies Caprimulgidae****Golden Nightjar***Caprimulgus eximius*

We heard one near Mora.

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

We had a brief sighting of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

One of the world's most bizarre birds. We obtained phenomenal views of a stunning male with full standards at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Swifts Apodidae****Scarce Swift***Schoutedenapus myoptilus*

We had great views of one near Mundemba. This is a rarely recorded species in Cameroon.

**Mottled Spinetail***Telacanthura ussheri*

We had great views of one at La Digue.

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

Our first sighting was of three in Korup NP and a further four were seen near the Sanaga River.

**Cassin's Spinetail** *Neafrapus cassinii*

We had superb views of one in Korup NP and another near the Sanaga River.

**African Palm Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus*

Plentiful throughout the tour

**Common Swift** *Apus apus*

Loose flocks of up to twenty were seen flying over Korup NP.

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis*

The common urban swift throughout the country

**White-rumped Swift** *Apus caffer*

Two were seen in the Bamenda highlands.

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

A swift of the forest zone of the south, we saw a flock of 10 birds during the drive to Mundemba.

### Mousebirds Coliidae

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus*

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

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

Seemingly replacing the Speckled Mousebird in the far north, we encountered one flock of eight near Mora.

### Trogons Trogonidae

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

More timid than its congeners and we were only rewarded with brief views of one in Korup NP.

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

We enjoyed a good sighting of this beautiful bird in the Bokassi mountains.

### Rollers Coraciidae

**Abyssinian Roller** *Coracias abyssinicus*

This common and beautiful roller was recorded throughout the dry north of the country.

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

A low density species in Cameroon, we were fortunate to find one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

Two were seen during our time in Korup NP

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

We enjoyed good views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Kingfishers Alcedinidae

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

We had cracking views of one in a mixed species flock in Korup NP.

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

We had our highest total of 3 birds in Benoue NP and had further sightings in the north of the country.

**Striped Kingfisher** *Halcyon chelicuti*

Rather drabber than its spectacular cousins, this small, savannah kingfisher was found in woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

This forest equivalent of the Woodland Kingfisher was first seen at La Digue with further sightings in the gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Woodland Kingfisher** *Halcyon senegalensis*

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

**African Pygmy Kingfisher** *Ispidina picta*

This beautiful little bird was first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch, we recorded them again at various widely scattered localities.

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

This species was seen at a small stream in Korup NP, a great find by Becky.

**Malachite Kingfisher** *Alcedo cristata*

We recorded this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

We had great views of one near Mundemba.

**Giant Kingfisher** *Megaceryle maxima*

The Goliath of the kingfisher world. First seen near Mundemba with a further sighting of one at Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis*

The world's commonest kingfisher was first seen at the Sanaga River and small numbers at several sites on the tour.

### Bee-eaters Meropidae

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

We had superb views of an adult and juvenile at Bokassi and further sightings at Mount Kupe.

**Swallow-tailed Bee-eater** *Merops hirundineus*

Jim was fortunate to see one in Benoue NP.

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

Small numbers were seen at La Digue with scattered sightings elsewhere.

**Red-throated Bee-eater** *Merops bullocki*

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

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

This species which breeds in the Sahelian savanna and winters in the Equatorial forest belt was first recorded near Bokassi. Many were found countrywide.

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

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

**European Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster*

Small numbers were heard flying over the Bamenda highlands where some of us saw one.

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

Another magnificent bee-eater, we were fortunate to see 8 on our drive from Waza to Garoua.

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

### Hoopoes Upupidae

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops*

Seven were sighted during the drive from Waza NP to Garoua.

*NOTE: The Hoopoe complex has had a confusing taxonomic history, with one to four species being recognised by various authorities. Clements splits the group into two forms, Madagascar *U. marginalis* and Eurasian *U. epops*. The most generally accepted treatment is that of three species, Madagascar, Eurasian and African. Further confusion arises in the placement of the *senegalensis* form within this grouping with most authorities placing it with the dark-winged *africana* group, however, Stevenson & Fanshawe place it with the white-winged Eurasian nominate grouping.*

### Woodhoopoes Phoeniculidae

#### **Green Woodhoopoe**

*Phoeniculus purpureus*

This bird was recorded in small numbers daily in Benoue NP.

#### **Black Scimitarbill**

*Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

A total of 2 birds were seen in the Ngaoundaba Ranch area with a further sighting of one in Waza NP.

### Hornbills Bucerotidae

#### **African Pied Hornbill**

*Tockus fasciatus*

Commonly seen throughout forested areas in Cameroon

#### **African Grey Hornbill**

*Tockus nasutus*

The common savanna hornbill in Cameroon, with small numbers (3+ daily) being seen in the drier northern part of the country. First recorded en route from Garoua to Ngaoundaba Ranch

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

*Tockus erythrorhynchus*

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

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

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

*Tockus camurus*

This normally scarce species was sighted once in Korup NP.

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

*Tropicranus albocristatus*

We enjoyed fair views of one in secondary forest near Mundemba.

#### **Piping Hornbill**

*Bycanistes fistulator*

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

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

*Bycanistes albotibialis*

A total of 3 were seen near Mundemba and a further two at the Sanaga River.

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

*Ceratogymna atrata*

We had great views of a female flying over the forest near the Sanaga River.

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

*Ceratogymna elata*

We had fantastic scope views of a female near Mundemba.

### Ground Hornbills Bucorvidae

#### **Abyssinian Ground Hornbill**

*Bucorvus abyssinicus*

We were extremely fortunate to find one walking through tall woodland in Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in Benoue NP and finally three in Waza NP. This is a scarce species in Cameroon.

### African Barbets Lybiidae

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

*Gymnobucco peli*

We had great views of eight near the Sanaga River.

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

*Gymnobucco calvus*

A common forest species, we saw at least 5 on Mount Cameroon, 10 in Korup NP and 10+ birds on Mt Kupe.

**Speckled Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus scolopaceus*

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

**Western Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus coryphaeus*

We had wonderful scope views of one on Mount Cameroon.

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

We enjoyed scope views of one in Korup NP.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

A rather beautiful Barbet, heard at several forested sites in the south. We obtained great views of two near the Sanaga River and several more in Korup NP.

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

This forest barbet was seen very well on Mount Kupe.

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

A bird of more open woodland, our first sighting was of a pair in Benoue NP.

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

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

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

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

**Bearded Barbet** *Lybius dubius*

This species was sighted en route to Ngaoundere and in Benoue NP.

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

This elusive forest barbet was first seen briefly on Mount Kupe with a further great sighting near the Sanaga River.

### Honeyguides Indicatoridae

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

We had superb views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Least Honeyguide** *Indicator exilis*

We heard one on Mount Cameroon.

**Lesser Honeyguide** *Indicator minor*

One was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Greater Honeyguide** *Indicator indicator*

We obtained good views of a single bird near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Woodpeckers & Allies Picidae

**African Piculet** *Sasia africana*

This diminutive and endearing species was seen exceptionally well on Mount Kupe and again near the Sanaga River.

**Fine-spotted Woodpecker** *Campethera punctuligera*

This lovely woodpecker was seen very well in Benoue NP.

**Golden-tailed Woodpecker** *Campethera abingoni*

This species was seen on one occasion in Benoue NP. A localized species in Cameroon

**Tullberg's Woodpecker** *Campethera tullbergi*

This species was seen once at Bokassi and a pair on Mount Cameroon.

**Buff-spotted Woodpecker** *Campethera nivosa*

This diminutive and rather dark woodpecker was seen on several occasions in mixed species flocks in Korup NP.

**Little Grey Woodpecker** *Dendropicos elachus*

We had fantastic views of a pair whilst driving from Maroua to Waza.

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens*

A common African species which we encountered on numerous occasions

**Gabon Woodpecker** *Dendropicos gabonensis*

We found one at Mt.Kupe another near Mundemba and one on Mt.Cameroon.

**Yellow-crested Woodpecker** *Dendropicos xantholophus*

We had superb scope views of three on Mt.Kupe and a pair near Mundemba.

**Elliot's Woodpecker** *Dendropicos elliotii*

We heard this species at Bokassi.

**African Grey Woodpecker** *Dendropicos goertae*

Several individuals located in Benoue NP.

**Brown-backed Woodpecker** *Picoides obsoletus*

We enjoyed wonderful sightings in Benoue NP. A scarce, dry country species.

### Broadbills Eurylaimidae

**African Broadbill** *Smithornis capensis*

We had fantastic views of a male displaying in secondary growth in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Grey-headed Broadbill** *Smithornis sharpei*

We heard one calling at Mount Kupe.

### Wattle-eyes & Batises Platysteiridae

**Black-and-white (Shrike) Flycatcher** *Bias musicus*

This characterful, hammer-headed flycatcher was observed on several occasions in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Chestnut Wattle-eye** *Dyaphorophya castanea*

Small numbers were seen at the Sanaga River and daily during our stay in Korup NP.

**Black-necked Wattle-eye** *Dyaphorophya chalybea*

This beautiful little bird was seen in the Bokassi Mountains where we found a pair feeding chicks at a nest.

**Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye** *Dyaphorophya concreta*

Another stunning and restless bird, we heard one at Bokassi and saw one in Korup NP.

**Senegal Batis** *Batis senegalensis*

This species was seen in Benoue NP.

**[Western] Black-headed Batis** *Batis erlangeri*

We found this species in the Bamenda highlands.

NOTE: Western Black-headed Batis, *B.erlangeri* is sometimes split from Eastern Black-headed Batis, *B.minor*. Clements does not accept this split.

**Fernando Po Batis** *Batis poensis*

We had brief views of one on Mt.Kupe, a seldom seen canopy species.

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

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

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

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

### Helmetsrikes Prionopidae

**White-crested Helmetshrike** *Prionops plumatus*

We had great views of several flocks at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

### Bushshrikes Malaconotidae

**Grey-headed Bushshrike** *Malaconotus blanchoti*

One was seen briefly en route from Maroua to Ngaoundere.

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

We had good views of several at Bokassi.

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

A widespread African savanna species that was heard in Benoue NP

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

The most widely distributed tchagra that was seen well at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

We were treated to great views of several on Mt. Kupe.

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

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

**Northern Puffback** *Dryoscopus gambensis*

Restricted to the north, we found a pair at Ngaoundaba Ranch and two in Benoue NP.

**Mountain Sooty Boubou** *Laniarius poensis*

A pair was seen in the Bokassi Mountains and later we enjoyed great views of one on Mt.Cameroon

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

**Lühder's Bush Shrike** *Laniarius luehderi*

A patient search produced good views of three on Mt.Kupe.

**Tropical Boubou** *Laniarius aethiopicus*

We found one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

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

Two of these beautiful birds were seen in the gallery forest on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

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

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

**Brubru** *Nilaus afer*

Several birds were sighted at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

### Cuckooshrikes Campephagidae

**Grey Cuckooshrike** *Coracina caesia*

We recorded a couple of these smart birds at Bokassi.

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

A pair was seen very well at Ngaoundaba Ranch, a beautiful and uncommon broad-leafed woodland species.

**Blue Cuckooshrike** *Coracina azurea*

We had wonderful views of one in Korup NP.

**Red-shouldered Cuckoo-shrike** *Campephaga phoenicea*

We were fortunate to see a stunning pair at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further male at Bokassi.

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

We found a pair at Mount Kupe.

### Shrikes Laniidae

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

We encountered several at Ngaoundaba Ranch during our stay there. An unusual, gregarious species.

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

We encountered small numbers daily in the Mt.Kupe/Bokassi areas and in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Southern Grey Shrike** *Lanius meridionalis*

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

**Common Fiscal** *Lanius collaris*

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

**Woodchat Shrike** *Lanius senator*

This smart shrike was seen in good numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Figbirds & Orioles Oriolidae

**Eurasian Golden Oriole** *Oriolus oriolus*

We had wonderful views of eight at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Golden Oriole** *Oriolus auratus*

Seen well in the tall woodlands at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Black-winged Oriole** *Oriolus nigripennis*

We recorded three in the Bokassi Mountains.

### Drongos Dicruridae

**Square-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus ludwigii*

We located one in gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Shining Drongo** *Dicrurus atripennis*

This forest interior drongo was seen well in Korup NP.

**Fork-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus adsimilis*

A familiar, ubiquitous bird. Good numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Velvet-mantled Drongo** *Dicrurus modestus*

This recently split forest equivalent of the Fork-tailed Drongo was found in Korup NP.

*NOTE: Some authorities split this species from Fork-tailed Drongo D. adsimilis.*

### Monarchs Monarchidae

**Blue-headed Crested Flycatcher** *Trochocercus nitens*

This species was seen on several occasions in Korup NP.

**Rufous-vented Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone rufocinerea*

We had a fantastic sighting of a single bird in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Red-bellied Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone rufiventer*

Our first sighting was of one at Bokassi with further sightings in Korup NP.

**Bates's Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone batesi*

We had a good sighting of a pair at Bokassi.

**African Paradise Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone viridis*

We enjoyed good views of several at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Crows & Jays Corvidae****Piapiac** *Ptilostomus afer*

Small numbers were seen near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Pied Crow** *Corvus albus*

A common and familiar crow, recorded in good numbers throughout.

**Rockfowl Picathartidae****Grey-necked Rockfowl** *Picathartes oreas*

For most participants this was the bird of the trip. We waited patiently at the site in Korup NP and were rewarded when two birds came in to the nesting area. They showed exceptionally well jumping up onto vines and perching on nearby rocks giving us a truly magnificent show!

**Fairy Flycatchers Stenostiridae****African Blue Flycatcher** *Elminia longicauda*

A wonderfully common and beautiful bird, which constantly fans and wags its tail, we had sightings in many localities in the south with our highest day total of four at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Dusky Crested Flycatcher** *Elminia nigromitratus*

We had superb views of one in the understory in Korup NP.

**White-bellied Crested Flycatcher** *Elminia albiventris*

We had good views of three birds at Bokassi with further sightings on Mount Cameroon.

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

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

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

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

We had superb views of one in the Bamenda highlands, a rarely recorded species in Cameroon.

**Penduline Tits Remizidae****Yellow Penduline Tit** *Anthoscopus parvulus*

We had stunning views of one in Benoue NP.

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

This vociferous songster was seen very well near Mundemba.

### Larks Alaudidae

#### **Crested Lark**

*Galerida cristata*

We had great views of four near the Benoue River and several more near Mora.

#### **Sun Lark**

*Galerida modesta*

We found four birds near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Chestnut-backed Sparrow-Lark**

*Eremopterix leucotis*

A fairly common species of the dry north, at least 30 birds were seen on outings from Maroua to Waza NP.

### Bulbuls Pycnonotidae

#### **Common Bulbul**

*Pycnonotus barbatus*

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

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

#### **Dark-capped Bulbul**

*Pycnonotus tricolor*

Commonly encountered at Ngaoundaba Ranch where we saw at least thirty daily.

#### **Cameroon (Mountain) Greenbul**

*Andropadus montanus*

We had good views of three in the Bamenda highlands.

#### **Western (Mountain) Greenbul**

*Andropadus tephrolaemus*

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

#### **Little Greenbul**

*Andropadus virens*

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

#### **Little Grey Greenbul**

*Andropadus gracilis*

We had good views of three on Mt.Kupe.

#### **Ansorge's Greenbul**

*Andropadus ansorgei*

We enjoyed good views of one near Mundemba.

#### **Plain Greenbul**

*Andropadus curvirostris*

We enjoyed good views of one near Mundemba.

#### **Slender-billed Greenbul**

*Andropadus gracilirostris*

The common greenbul of forest canopy, we found several near Mundemba.

#### **Yellow-whiskered Greenbul**

*Andropadus latirostris*

A greenbul of forest undergrowth and mid-storey, we had good sightings of several in Korup NP.

#### **Golden Greenbul**

*Calyptocichla serina*

We had wonderful views of a pair on Mt.Kupe and a further pair near the Sanaga River.

#### **Honeyguide Greenbul**

*Baeopogon indicator*

We had a wonderful sighting of three on Mt.Kupe.

#### **Sjostedt's Greenbul**

*Baeopogon clamans*

We had magnificent views of a pair at their nest in Korup NP.

#### **Spotted Greenbul**

*Ixonotus guttatus*

We secured excellent views of 8 birds in secondary forest on the Mundemba road and later enjoyed further sightings at the Sanaga River.

#### **Simple Greenbul**

*Chlorocichla simplex*

We had good views of one at Mt.Kupe and another at the Sanaga River.

- Yellow-throated Leaflove (Greenbul)** *Chlorocichla flavicollis*  
Small numbers were seen daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Swamp Palm Bulbul** *Thescelocichla leucopleura*  
We had brief views of two at the Sanaga River.
- Red-tailed Leaflove** *Pyrrhurus scandens*  
We heard several in gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Cameroon Olive Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus poensis*  
We found five in the undergrowth in the Bokassi Mountains and one on Mt. Cameroon.
- Icterine Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus icterinus*  
Fairly commonly encountered in Korup NP
- Xavier's Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus xavieri*  
Very similar to the previous species but with a different call, we had great views in Korup NP.
- Grey-headed Greenbul** *Phyllastrephus poliocephalus*  
We enjoyed great sightings of several in the Bokassi Mountains and a further eight on Mt. Kupe.
- Red-tailed (Common) Bristlebill** *Bleda syndactylus*  
We heard this species in Korup NP and one was seen by the tour leader.
- Yellow-lored (Lesser) Bristlebill** *Bleda notatus*  
Commoner than it's congener in Cameroon, we encountered several in Korup NP, often in association with ant swarms.
- NOTE: The Green-tailed Bristlebill complex is often split into 3 species, Yellow-lored Bristlebill, Bleda notatus which occurs in West Africa and is the one we observed, Green-tailed Bristlebill, B.eximius which occurs in the Upper Guinea area and Yellow-eyed Bristlebill, B.ugandae which occurs in Uganda and the DRC.*
- Eastern Bearded Greenbul** *Criniger chloronotus*  
Korup NP is arguably the best site in the world to bag this Congo forest endemic. We managed a couple of fantastic sightings during our stay.
- Red-tailed Greenbul** *Criniger calurus*  
We found three near the Sanaga River.
- White-bearded Greenbul** *Criniger ndussumensis*  
Another Congo forest special, we saw up to five daily during our stay in Korup NP.

### Swallows & Martins Hirundinidae

- Square-tailed Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne nitens*  
We had wonderful views of six at Mount Kupe.
- Mountain Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne fuliginosa*  
A total of eight of this range-restricted species, a near endemic to Cameroon, were seen on our day on Mt Cameroon.
- Black Saw-wing** *Psalidoprocne petiti*  
First seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings at Mt. Kupe, Bokassi and the Bamenda highlands
- Grey-rumped Swallow** *Pseudhirundo griseopyga*  
We had great views of six in Benoue NP.
- Sand Martin** *Riparia riparia*  
Commonly seen daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP
- Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*  
Small numbers seen throughout Cameroon with our first sightings near Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- NOTE: This cosmopolitan species complex may be split based on the Old World nominate form and its congeners which would become Eurasian Swallow H. rustica and the New World Barn Swallow H. erythrogaster. Further splitting within the group may also be done e.g. the distinctive H. r. savignii, which breeds in the Nile Valley and would be named Egyptian*

Swallow. We only recorded representatives of the Palaearctic migrant Barn/Eurasian Swallow. Clements does not as yet recognize any of these splits.

**Ethiopian Swallow** *Hirundo aethiopica*

Our first sightings were of ten at La Digue and later good numbers were observed around Maroua and in the Waza area.

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

One was seen in Benoue NP.

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

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

We had scope views of one at the Sanaga River.

**Common House Martin** *Delichon urbicum*

A flock of five was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Lesser Striped Swallow** *Cecropis abyssinica*

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

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

We found a pair during the drive from Mundemba to Buea.

**Mosque Swallow** *Cecropis senegalensis*

A pair was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica*

We enjoyed good views of two at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further two near Mount Kupe.

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

Commonly encountered at the Sanaga River and Mundemba

**Forest Swallow** *Petrochelidon fuliginosa*

We found a pair at the Sanaga River, one on Mt. Cameroon and another in Korup NP.

### Cettia bush warblers & allies Cettidae

**Chestnut-capped Flycatcher** *Erythrocerus mccallii*

We had wonderful views of two near Mundemba.

**Green Hylia** *Hylia prasina*

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

### Leaf warblers & allies Phylloscopidae

**Black-capped Woodland Warbler** *Phylloscopus herberti*

Our first sighting of this little gem was of 3 in the Bokassi Mountains with further sightings in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

Eight were sighted at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Wood Warbler** *Phylloscopus sibilatrix*

Our first sighting was of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings at Bokassi and Mount Kupe.

### Reed warblers & allies Acrocephalidae

**Greater Swamp Warbler** *Acrocephalus rufescens*

We had a good sighting of three in Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

We had great views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Eurasian Reed Warbler** *Acrocephalus scirpaceus*

We found two at Ngaoundaba Ranch and several more near Garoua.

**Western Olivaceous Warbler** *Iduna opaca*

We had good views of one in Garoua. This species does not regularly pump its tail like Eastern Olivaceous Warbler.

**Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*

We had good views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Grassbirds & allies Megaluridae

**Fan-tailed Grassbird** *Schoenicola brevirostris*

One was seen briefly at Bokassi, a leader only sighting.

**Little Rush Warbler** *Bradypterus baboecala*

We heard one calling near Mount Kupe.

**Evergreen Forest Warbler** *Bradypterus lopezi*

This can be a difficult species to see, we heard several on Mt. Cameroon

**Bangwa Forest Warbler** *Bradypterus bangwaensis*

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

### Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae

**Red-faced Cisticola** *Cisticola erythrops*

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

**Singing Cisticola** *Cisticola cantans*

We had good views of one in Benoue NP.

**Whistling Cisticola** *Cisticola lateralis*

We enjoyed good views of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Chattering Cisticola** *Cisticola anonymus*

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

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

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

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

We had great views of several on a rocky hillside north of Maroua.

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

**Winding Cisticola** *Cisticola marginatus*

We found two birds at Dang Lake.

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

A total of 3 birds, were seen in arid scrub between Maroua and Waza NP.

**Rufous Cisticola** *Cisticola rufus*

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

**Desert Cisticola** *Cisticola aridulus*

We had good views of two in Waza NP.

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

At least four birds were seen in anthropogenic grassland in the Bamenda Highlands.

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

Another noisy and familiar African warbler, we recorded this species in small numbers in Benoue NP.

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- River Prinia** *Prinia fluviatilis*  
In plumage almost identical to the previous species but different in call. We had at least two in the Waza area.
- Banded Prinia** *Prinia bairdii*  
This snappy looking bird eventually showed well on Mt. Cameroon.
- White-chinned Prinia** *Schistolais leucopogon*  
This confiding, gregarious species was observed at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Bokassi.
- Red-winged Warbler** *Heliolais erythropterus*  
We enjoyed superb views of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch and another in Benoue NP.
- Green Longtail** *Urolais epichlorus*  
Our first encounter with this species was at Bokassi with further sightings at Mount Kupe and on Mount Cameroon.
- Black-collared Apalis** *Oreolais pulchra*  
A beautiful apalis that we had stunning views of in the Bamenda highlands. We saw at least 4 birds during our time there.
- Red-winged Grey Warbler** *Drymocichla incana*  
One of these smart birds was observed at Benoue NP.
- Cricket Longtail** *Spiloptila clamans*  
We found a couple of these charismatic and highly sought-after birds North of Maroua. One of the birds was scoped and seen well by all.
- Yellow-breasted Apalis** *Apalis flavida*  
This widespread, woodland apalis is not very common in Cameroon. We observed one at La Digue.
- Lowland Masked Apalis** *Apalis binotata*  
We had good views of three at Bokassi.
- Black-throated Apalis** *Apalis jacksoni*  
This is one of the most beautiful apalises. We observed at least two on Mt. Kupe.
- Black-capped Apalis** *Apalis nigriceps*  
A canopy apalis, we had good views of a pair on Mt. Kupe.
- Buff-throated Apalis** *Apalis rufogularis*  
We found a pair at the Sanaga River.
- Bamenda Apalis** *Apalis bamendae*  
A gallery forest species and an endemic to Cameroon, we found three at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Grey Apalis** *Apalis cinerea*  
We had sightings of 2 in the Bamenda highlands and a further 2 in the Bokassi Mountains.
- Oriole Warbler** *Hypergerus atriceps*  
Several of these unusual creatures were located in riverine vegetation at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Grey-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brevicaudata*  
The bleating calls of this common bird were heard in wooded habitat at many localities on the tour. We had almost daily sightings.  
*NOTE: Most authorities now recognize the nominate green-backed forms of this widespread African warbler as distinct from the grey-backed forms C. brevicaudata. We encountered the grey-backed form in Cameroon. Clements lumps these two groups.*
- Yellow-browed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera superciliaris*  
This handsome warbler was seen very well near Mundemba.
- Olive-green Camaroptera** *Camaroptera chloronota*  
This species was heard at the Sanaga River and Mt. Kupe.
- Black-faced Rufous Warbler** *Bathmocercus rufus*

This species was heard on several occasions and seen well on Mt. Kupe.

**Yellow-bellied Eremomela** *Eremomela icteropygialis*

We had good views of a pair near Mora.

**Senegal Eremomela** *Eremomela pusilla*

A common species recorded in woodlands from Ngaoundaba Ranch north where we enjoyed a day total of 20+ birds.

*NOTE: This species is sometimes lumped into the East African E. pusilla (Green-backed Eremomela.) The enlarged species is called Green-backed Eremomela.*

**Rufous-crowned Eremomela** *Eremomela badiceps*

Our first sighting was of a flock of six at Mt. Kupe.

### Family Uncertain Incertae sedis

**Moustached Grass Warbler** *Melocichla mentalis*

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

**Yellow Longbill** *Macrosphenus flavicans*

A real skulker, however we were treated to fair views of one at Bokassi.

**Grey Longbill** *Macrosphenus concolor*

We enjoyed a wonderful sighting of three at the Sanaga River.

**Northern Crombec** *Sylvietta brachyura*

The crombec of dry *Acacia* woodland, our first one was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in the Waza area.

**Green Crombec** *Sylvietta virens*

The commonest and most widespread forest crombec, though small and inconspicuous (except by call).

We found at Limbe Botanical Gardens.

### Babblers & Parrotbills Timaliidae

**Blackcap Illadopsis** *Illadopsis cleaveri*

We had wonderful views of several in Korup NP, this is usually an extremely difficult species to observe.

**Pale-breasted Illadopsis** *Illadopsis rufipennis*

We heard this species in the forest understory in Korup NP and found a pair building a nest.

**Brown Illadopsis** *Illadopsis fulvescens*

A group of three was seen in Korup NP.

**Ruwenzori Hill Babbler** *Pseudoalcippe atriceps*

We had good views of three in the Bamenda highlands and at least eight on Mount Cameroon.

*Note: This species is sometimes split from African Hill Babbler, P. abyssinica. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

**Spotted Thrush-Babbler** *Ptyrticus turdinus*

A noisy and restless species that is very tough to see well. We all managed to get good views of a single bird in a patch of gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Blackcap Babbler** *Turdoides reinwardtii*

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

**Brown Babbler** *Turdoides plebejus*

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

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

We had a great sighting of three birds at Bokassi.

### Sylviid Babblers Sylviidae

**Garden Warbler** *Sylvia borin*

We had good views of several at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

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

### White-eyes Zosteropidae

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

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

NOTE: The birds we saw in the forests of Mt. Kupe and Bokassi are sometimes split off as Forest White-eye, *Z. stenocricotus*.

**Mount Cameroon Spierops** *Spierops melanocephalus*

This Mount Cameroon endemic showed particularly well once we reached the treeline. A total of at least 10 birds were seen and included many separate sightings. We were really lucky as this can be a very tricky species to find.

### Sugarbirds & allies Promeropidae

**Grey-chested Babbler** *Kakamega poliothorax*

Some of us had stunning views of one in the Bamenda highlands and amazingly we found another on Mount Cameroon which showed even better. This is normally a particularly shy species.

### Hyliotas Hylotiidae

**Yellow-bellied Hyliota** *Hyliota flavigaster*

We recorded a flock of three of these stunning birds, in woodland at Benoue NP.

**Southern Hyliota** *Hyliota australis*

We had fantastic views of three on Mount Kupe. This is a particularly rare species in Cameroon!

### Treecreepers Certhiidae

**Spotted Creeper** *Salpornis spilonotus*

We had fantastic views of two birds while birding in woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch and several more in Benoue NP.

### Starlings Sturnidae

**Wattled Starling** *Creatophora cinerea*

We had great views of a flock of fifteen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Purple-headed Starling** *Lamprotornis purpureiceps*

We saw two at their nest near the Sanaga River.

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

This was the common starling species seen in the far north near Waza NP where we encountered twenty.

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

We found small numbers around Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

We had superb views of several at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

This spectacular, large starling was seen near Mundemba and again at Bokassi.

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

Another stunning starling, small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

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

We had good views of two in Benoue NP and a further fifteen in Waza NP.

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

Up to forty were seen daily in the dry scrubland north of Maroua.

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

This stunning bird was seen in woodlands around Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

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

A pair of birds was located in the Mundemba area.

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

We enjoyed good views of 6 in the Bamenda highlands and two on Mount Cameroon.

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

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

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

Up to fifteen were seen at Mount Kupe.

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

This is a real special to the Ngaoundaba Ranch area where we enjoyed great scope views of a striking pair at their nest.

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

Birds were found in Benoue NP and again up at Waza NP and a pair in the Bamenda highlands.

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

We had stunning views of two attending a termite caravan in Korup NP.

**Fraser's Rufous (Rufous Flycatcher) Thrush** *Stizorhina fraseri*

We had fantastic views of one on Mt. Kupe.

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

We heard this shy species at Bokassi and Mount Kupe.

**African Thrush***Turdus pelios*

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

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

We had great views in Korup NP especially around ant swarms.

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

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

We enjoyed good views of two at Bokassi.

**Chats & Old World Flycatchers Muscicapidae****Forest Robin***Stiphrornis erythrothorax*

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

*NOTE: Forest Robin is sometimes split into 5 species. Western Forest Robin, S.erythrothorax of West Africa, Olive-backed Forest Robin, L.pyrrholaemus of SW Gabon, Gabon Forest Robin, S.gabonensis of Gabon & Cameroon – the one we observed, Eastern Forest Robin, S.xanthogaster of Central Africa and Sangha Forest Robin, S.sanghensis of Central African Republic. Clements and IOC do not accept these splits.*

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- Bocage's Akalat** *Sheppardia bocagei*  
A shy forest understory species. We had brief views of one at Bokassi.
- Common Nightingale** *Luscinia megarhynchos*  
We had brief views of one near Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Cameroon Mountain Robin** *Cossypha isabellae*  
We had excellent views of this endemic in the Bamenda highlands and on Mount Cameroon with at least a dozen birds being found.
- Grey-winged Robin-Chat** *Cossypha polioptera*  
This shy and beautiful bird was seen very well at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat** *Cossypha niveicapilla*  
We had a wonderful sighting of one at Ngaoundere and another at Mount Kupe.
- White-crowned Robin-Chat** *Cossypha albicapilla*  
A very large and showy *Cossypha*, much enjoyed by all. We had a total of 11 birds in riverine bush at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Rufous-tailed Scrub-Robin** *Erythropygia galactotes*  
Up to six were seen daily in dry scrub north of Maroua.
- Black Scrub-Robin** *Cercotrichas podobe*  
A wonderfully common and beautiful bird, we encountered at least 20 during our birding north of Maroua.
- Common Redstart** *Phoenicurus phoenicurus*  
We found a superb male in the Maroua area.
- Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*  
We had good views of 10 at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in the Waza area.
- African Stonechat** *Saxicola torquatus*  
This widespread species was seen very well in the Bamenda highlands where we recorded 20, a further one was seen on Mount Cameroon.
- Heuglin's Wheatear** *Oenanthe heuglini*  
We encountered this uncommon intra-African migrant on several occasions near Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*  
We only saw this species in the Waza area where we found several birds.
- Familiar Chat** *Cercomela familiaris*  
We encountered a total of two birds in the rocky areas in Benoue NP.
- (Northern) Anteater Chat** *Myrmecocichla aethops*  
We encountered a family group of eight birds near Waza NP.
- White-fronted Black Chat** *Pentholaea albifrons*  
We had great views of five birds in Benoue NP.
- White-crowned Cliff Chat** *Thamnolaea coronata*  
We had great views of a pair near Ngaoundere and several more near Mora.
- White-browed Forest Flycatcher** *Fraseria cinerascens*  
We were very lucky to encounter a pair next to a stream in Korup NP. A rare and seldom encountered bird.
- Northern Black Flycatcher** *Melaenornis edolioides*  
Small numbers were seen daily in Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Pale Flycatcher** *Bradornis pallidus*  
We found three at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*  
We had good views of two at Mount Kupe.

- Gambaga Flycatcher** *Muscicapa gambagae*  
We had good views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.
- Ashy Flycatcher** *Muscicapa caerulescens*  
We had good views of a pair on Mount Kupe.
- Swamp Flycatcher** *Muscicapa aquatica*  
Several birds were seen in Benoue NP.
- Cassin's Flycatcher** *Muscicapa cassini*  
A sprightly bird restricted to the vicinity of water, often hawking insects directly above it. Our sightings were of a pair near Mundemba village and a further pair at Limbe Botanical Gardens.
- African Dusky Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta*  
A common forest-edge species with 2 from Bamenda highlands, 1 at Bokassi and 3 from Mt Cameroon
- Yellow-footed Flycatcher** *Muscicapa sethsmithi*  
We obtained superb views of 6 birds at various points on Mt. Kupe.
- Dusky-blue Flycatcher** *Muscicapa comitata*  
A quiet, inconspicuous bird, we enjoyed good sightings in the Bokassi and Mount Kupe areas.
- Sooty Flycatcher** *Muscicapa infuscata*  
A swallow-like bird often seen perched on dead snags high above the forest canopy, we found several at Mount Kupe.
- Grey-throated Tit-Flycatcher** *Myioparus griseigularis*  
We heard one at Mount Kupe.
- European Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*  
We saw several birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

### Sunbirds Nectariniidae

- Fraser's (Scarlet-tufted) Sunbird** *Deleornis fraseri*  
A confusing species that often looks more like a greenbul than a sunbird, we enjoyed many sightings in Korup.  
*NOTE: The species is sometimes lumped with the East African Grey-headed Sunbird D. axillaris.*
- Mangrove (Mouse-brown) Sunbird** *Anthreptes gabonicus*  
We had stunning views of two at La Digue.
- Western Violet-backed Sunbird** *Anthreptes longuemarei*  
A beautiful and very short-billed Sunbird, we found several in Benoue NP.
- Little Green Sunbird** *Anthreptes seimundi*  
We found several in the Mt. Kupe area.
- Grey-chinned (Green) Sunbird** *Anthreptes rectirostris*  
This species was seen commonly on Mt. Kupe and at Bokassi.  
*NOTE: This species is sometimes split into two forms, the Eastern Grey-chinned Sunbird A. tephrolaemus and the nominate Western Yellow-chinned Sunbird.*
- Collared Sunbird** *Hedydipna collaris*  
This is a very widespread species on the continent. We saw pairs south of the Sanaga and at Bokassi and Mt. Kupe.
- Pygmy Sunbird** *Hedydipna platura*  
We saw good numbers of these beautiful, long-tailed sunbirds at all destinations from Benoue NP north.
- Reichenbach's Sunbird** *Anabathmis reichenbachii*  
We saw this species at two sites. First sightings were at La Digue where we saw three birds and later one was seen at Limbe Botanical Gardens.

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

We had superb sightings at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Mt. Kupe and in the Bamenda highlands.

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

This forest sunbird was seen at Mount Kupe, in Korup NP and at the Sanaga River.

**Cameroon Sunbird***Cyanomitra oritis*

Our first sighting was of 2 birds in the Bamenda Highlands with further sightings of several birds at Mt. Kupe and 3 on Mt. Cameroon.

**Olive Sunbird***Cyanomitra olivacea*

This bird's call is a common forest sound in the south. We had daily sightings in Korup NP, Mt. Cameroon, Bokassi and Mt. Kupe.

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

**Carmelite Sunbird***Chalcomitra fuliginosa*

This rather striking sunbird, restricted to coastal areas, was seen at La Digue where we had great views of a male.

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

We enjoyed several sightings including good views near Mount Kupe and Mundemba.

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

Seen daily in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP

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

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

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

We found two in the Bamenda Highlands and a further 6 on Mt. Cameroon.

**Beautiful Sunbird***Cinnyris pulchellus*

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

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

We were fortunate to find two of these rare birds including a stunning male in the Bamenda highlands.

**Splendid Sunbird***Cinnyris coccinigastrus*

One stunning male was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

A pair was sighted at the forest edge near Mount Kupe, a scarce species.

**Superb Sunbird***Cinnyris superbus*

We found a superb pair in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**Variable Sunbird***Cinnyris venustus*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

This can be a tough bird to find and is a near endemic to the country; we had good views of one on Mount Kupe.

**Bates's Sunbird***Cinnyris batesi*

We had superb scope views of two on the lower slopes of Mt. Kupe.

**Copper Sunbird***Cinnyris cupreus*

One male was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and several more at Ngaoundere.

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

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

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

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

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

**Bush Petronia** *Gymnoris dentata*

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

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

This massive weaver was seen in dry scrub north of Maroua.

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

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

**Baglafaecht Weaver** *Ploceus baglafaecht*

We found several at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

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

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

We had great views of a male at the Sanaga River.

**Little Weaver** *Ploceus luteolus*

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

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

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

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

This dapper bird of forest fringes was first seen in the Bamenda highlands with further sightings on Mt Cameroon.

**Orange Weaver** *Ploceus aurantius*

We had superb views of six at the Sanaga River.

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

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

**Village Weaver** *Ploceus cucullatus*

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

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

**Viillot's Black Weaver** *Ploceus nigerrimus*

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

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

We found several non-breeding birds in Benoue NP.

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

We had great scope views of one near Mundemba.

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

This pretty, bicolored bird was seen daily in the Bokassi and Mt. Kupe areas.

- Preuss's Weaver** *Ploceus preussi*  
We had wonderful views of an adult and juvenile on Mt. Kupe.
- Brown-capped Weaver** *Ploceus insignis*  
This smart bird was first seen at Bokassi with a further pair on Mount Cameroon.
- Cassin's (Black-throated) Malimbe** *Malimbus cassini*  
We had superb views of 3 near the Sanaga River. There are few accessible sites to see this species and we were lucky to find this rare bird.
- Rachel's Malimbe** *Malimbus racheliae*  
A rare and seldom recorded species of lowland forest, we were fortunate to find one in Korup NP.
- Red-vented Malimbe** *Malimbus scutatus*  
This is another uncommon species. We found ten on the Mundemba road.
- Blue-billed (Gray's) Malimbe** *Malimbus nitens*  
A secretive species that forages in thick tangles, we found one in Korup NP and another along the Mundemba road.
- Red-headed Malimbe** *Malimbus rubricollis*  
We were fortunate to find one in a mixed species flock in Korup NP and a further three on the Mundemba road.
- Crested Malimbe** *Malimbus malimbicus*  
This is a fairly common species and was seen in small numbers near the Sanaga River and again in Korup NP.
- Red-headed Weaver** *Anaplectes rubriceps*  
This species was encountered en route to Benoue NP.
- Red-headed Quelea** *Quelea erythrops*  
Small flocks were seen near Ngaoundaba Ranch and the Sanaga River.
- Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea*  
We found the "African avian locust" in small numbers in Waza NP.
- Yellow-crowned Bishop** *Euplectes afer*  
We had superb views of two males at the Sanaga River.
- Northern Red (Orange) Bishop** *Euplectes franciscanus*  
Small numbers of non-breeding birds (100) were seen amongst flocks of red-billed quelea in Waza NP.
- Yellow Bishop** *Euplectes capensis*  
A flock of ten was seen in the Bamenda highlands.
- Yellow-mantled Widowbird** *Euplectes macrourus*  
We had good views of thirty in Benoue NP.
- Marsh Widowbird** *Euplectes hartlaubi*  
We found fifteen birds in non-breeding plumage at Dang Lake.

### Waxbills, Munias & Allies Estrildidae

- Woodhouse's Antpecker** *Parmoptila woodhousei*  
We had fantastic views of this elusive species in Korup NP.
- White-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita fusconotus*  
Small numbers were seen on Mt Kupe.
- Chestnut-breasted Nigrita** *Nigrita bicolor*  
This attractive seedeater was seen very well near the Sanaga River.
- Pale-fronted Nigrita** *Nigrita luteifrons*  
Our first sighting was at Mount Kupe and after an extensive search we had great views of a pair at Limbe Botanical Gardens. A low density species

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

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

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

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

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

Tougher to see than it's congener although it enjoys a wider distribution in Cameroon. We first encountered two at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further one in Benoue NP.

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

We enjoyed two separate encounters with pairs in Benoue NP.

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

We had good views of several at Ngaoundaba Ranch and fantastic views of a pair in Benoue NP.

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

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

**Cut-throat Finch***Amadina fasciata*

We found three in Waza NP.

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

We found one on Mt Cameroon. Typically shy and rather uncommon.

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

Our first sighting was of a pair at the Limbe Botanical Gardens alongside the similar western bluebill and later we enjoyed superb scope views of two males near the Sanaga River.

**Western Bluebill***Spermophaga haematina*

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

**Brown Twinspot***Clytospiza monteiri*

A single bird was seen very well at Ngaoundaba Ranch. A beautifully patterned finch.

**Dybowski's Twinspot***Euschistospiza dybowskii*

This species is uncommon throughout its range and we had superb views of two birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

This large firefinch was seen near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

We had a superb sighting of eight birds in Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

Small numbers encountered in Benoue NP.

**Rock Firefinch***Lagonosticta sanguinodorsalis*

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

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

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

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

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

**Lavender Waxbill***Estrilda caerulescens*

A flock of six of these beautiful birds was seen near Mora.

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

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

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

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

**Common Waxbill** *Estrilda astrild*

A large flock of fifty was seen in the Bamenda highlands.

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

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

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

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

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

We found a large flock of forty near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Silverbill** *Euodice cantans*

Up to twenty were seen daily near Mora.

**Bronze Mannikin** *Lonchura cucullata*

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

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

Seen in small flocks near Mundemba and the Sanaga River

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

### Indigobirds & Whydahs Viduidae

**Cameroon Indigobird** *Vidua camerunensis*

We found one male near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

This familiar bird, which parasitises small seedeaters, was first seen near Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings near Mundemba.

### Wagtails & Pipits Motacillidae

**Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*

Small numbers were seen almost daily. We also observed several of the black-headed *feldegg* race.

**Mountain Wagtail** *Motacilla clara*

We enjoyed superb views of five in the Bamenda Highlands.

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp*

A common and familiar African bird, we saw small numbers daily near Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

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

We found two near Ngaoundaba Ranch and another one at Dang Lake.

**African Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus*

We had good views of one near Dang Lake.

*NOTE: Cameroon Pipit, *A. cameroonensis* is sometimes split from African Pipit. We only observed the nominate race *cinnamomeus*.*

**Tawny Pipit** *Anthus campestris*

We had good views of one near Mora.

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

We had great views of one at La Digue.

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis*

We found at least six at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further two in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Red-throated Pipit** *Anthus cervinus*

We had superb views of four at Dang Lake.

### Finches Fringillidae

**White-rumped Seedeater** *Crithagra leucopygia*

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

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

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

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

Small numbers of this odd seedeater were seen in the Bamenda highlands and a further two at Bokassi.

**Oriole Finch** *Linurgus olivaceus*

This beautiful and endearing critter was seen exceptionally well in the Bamenda highlands and on Mt Cameroon where we found a pair.

### Buntings & Allies Emberizidae

**Cinnamon-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza tahapisi*

We found twenty just north of Maroua.

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

Two of these beautiful broad-leafed woodland birds were seen in Benoue NP.

## Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded

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

## MAMMALS

### Colobid Monkeys Colobidae

**Guereza Colobus** *Colobus guereza*

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

### Cheek-Pouch Monkeys Cercopithecidae

**Olive Baboon** *Papio anubis*

We saw up to twenty daily in Benoue NP.

**Patas Monkey** *Cercopithecus patas*

We recorded up to 60 daily whilst in the Waza area. This colourful monkey is largely terrestrial.

**Tantalus Monkey** *Cercopithecus tantalus*

We observed this species first at Ngaoundaba Ranch and then again at Benoue NP.

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

This species was heard calling in Korup NP.

### Galagos Galagonidae

**Senegal Galago** *Galago senegalensis*

Two were seen in Benoue NP.

### Fruit Bats Pteropodidae

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

We found hundreds around our hotel in Douala.

### Hares & Rabbits Leporidae

**Scrub Hare** *Lepus saxatilis*

Small numbers were seen at Waza NP.

### Squirrels Sciuridae

**Striped Ground Squirrel** *Euxerus erythropus*

Two were seen near Waza NP.

**Red Cheeked Rope Squirrel** *Funisciurus leucogenys*

We had good views of one in Korup NP.

**Thomas's Rope Squirrel** *Funisciurus anerythrus*

We found one on Mount Cameroon.

**Green Squirrel** *Paraxerus poensis*

One was seen in the Bamenda highlands

**Gambian Sun Squirrel** *Heliosciurus gambianus*

We had good views of 2 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

We found two in the Limbe Botanical Gardens.

**African Giant Squirrel** *Protoxerus stangeri*

We found one near Mundemba.

### Dogs & Allies Canidae

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

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

### Mustelids Mustelidae

**Spot-necked Otter** *Lutra maculicollis*

One was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Genets & Civets Viverridae

**Common Genet** *Genetta genetta*

We had a wonderful sighting of two during our night drive near Waza NP.

**Blotched Genet** *Genetta tigrina*

We had good sightings of two in Benoue NP.

### Cats Felidae

**Wild Cat** *Felis sylvestrus*

This cat, believed to be the ancestor of all domestic tabby cats, was first tamed by the Egyptians 5000 years ago. We had an awesome sighting of one during our night drive in Waza NP.

### Hyraxes Procavidae

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

We found ten on a rocky outcrop north of Maroua.

**Hippopotamuses Hippopotamidae****Hippopotamus***Hippopotamus amphibius*

At least 12 were observed in the Benoue River near Garoua and we had further sightings of up to 20 daily in Benoue NP.

**Pigs Suidae****Common Warthog***Phacochoerus africanus*

A familiar savanna animal that we found in Benoue NP where we found 4 and later a further 2 were seen in Waza NP

**Giraffes Giraffidae****Giraffe***Giraffe cameoleopardus*

We had good sightings of 10 in Benoue NP and on our full day in Waza NP we saw 20.

**Bovids & Horned Ungulates Bovidae****Bushbuck***Tragelaphus scriptus*

At least six of these striking antelope were seen in Benoue NP.

**Bush Duiker***Sylvicapra grimmia*

Small numbers were seen in Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Red-flanked Duiker***Cephalophus rufilatus*

Up to eight daily were seen in Benoue NP.

**Oribi***Ourebia ourebia*

We had wonderful views of four in Benoue NP.

**Bohor Reedbuck***Redunca redunca*

We saw one in Waza NP.

**Kob***Kobus kob*

This was a particularly common mammal in Benoue NP where daily totals exceed 50. We observed six in Waza NP.

**Defassa Waterbuck***Kobus ellipsiprymnus*

We had good views of two in Benoue NP.

**Thomson's (Red-fronted) Gazelle***Gazella rufifrons*

This dainty and incredibly quick creature was seen only in Waza NP where we observed two.

**Tsessebe***Damaliscus lunatus*

We observed up to 80 of these speedsters on our full day in Waza NP.

**Kanki (Hartebeest)***Alcelaphus buselaphus major*

One was sighted in the tall broadleaved woodlands in Benoue NP. We were fortunate to see this rare species.

**Roan Antelope***Hippotragus equinus*

This graceful and large antelope was much appreciated by the group. We saw a large herd of 63 during our full day in Waza NP.

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