

## BOTSWANA BIRD LIST: CATEGORY B RARITIES

BirdLife Botswana's Category B rarities list is intended to fill the gap between the Category A rarities list and common birds for which it is not practical to keep records. The Category A list comprises species for which there are ten or few records for Botswana. The Category B list comprises species, which, though uncommon, have more than ten records, and for which BirdLife Botswana wishes to receive more records in order to learn more about their status. Category B records do not need a description to substantiate the sighting.

The majority of species on the list occur sparsely over much of the country, often in numbers that vary from year to year. A few of the species on the list, such as Lesser Kestrel and Wattled Crane, are vulnerable or endangered either worldwide or in southern Africa; BirdLife Botswana would like to monitor the populations of these species. A few species are either localised residents for which the full extent of their ranges is not known, or are ones that undertake movements that are not clear.

BirdLife Botswana wishes to receive records of all species on the following list. It is important that when records are submitted that details of numbers seen, as well as location and date(s) should be included. Records will be accredited with the observers' names.

The last Category B list appeared in *Babbler* 40 (Brewster, C.A. pp 57-58). The list below updates that one. In addition to the species that have been removed from Category A to Category B, a number of other species have been added to the list, namely European Roller, *Coracias garrulous*, Kori Bustard, *Ardeotis kori*, Bateleur, *Terathopius ecaudatus* and Martial Eagle, *Polemaetus bellicosus*. These four species are all species of conservation concern.

Some species have been removed from the list, namely Giant Kingfisher, *Megaceryle maxima*, Montagu's Harrier, *Circus pygargus*, Great Crested Grebe, *Podiceps cristatus*, Southern Boubou, *Laniarius ferrugineus*, Common Mynah *Acridotheres tristis*, Long-tailed Widowbird, *Euplectes progne*, Bronze Mannikin, *Lonchura cucullata* and Yellow Wagtail, *Motacilla flava*. The few records of Giant Kingfisher, Long-tailed Widowbird, Bronze Mannikin and Yellow Wagtail received concur with their known range in Botswana. Montagu's Harrier has been shown to be a locally fairly common migrant migrant, particularly in the northern Kalahari and Makgadikgadi Pans. Great Crested Grebe and Southern Boubou have been both shown to be fairly common in southeastern Botswana. Both the range and numbers of Common Mynah have expanded greatly in the past six years and it is now a common bird in Gaborone and in towns and larger villages in southeastern Botswana. While Common Mynah has been removed from the category B list any records of this species colonising areas of Botswana where it was previously unrecorded are of interest.

Species	Latin name	Remarks
Fulvous Duck	<i>Dendrocygna biclor</i>	
White-backed Duck	<i>Thalassornis leuconotus</i>	
Maccoa Duck	<i>Oxyura maccoa</i>	
African Black Duck	<i>Anas sparsa</i>	
Brown-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>	
Narina Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>	
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	
Racket-tailed Roller	<i>Coracias spatulata</i>	
African Pygmy-Kingfisher	<i>Ispidina picta</i>	

Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>	
Thick-billed Cuckoo	<i>Pachycoccyx audeberti</i>	
Common Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus canorus</i>	
Black Coucal	<i>Centropus grillii</i>	
Alpine Swift	<i>Tachymarptis melba</i>	
African Black Swift	<i>Apus barbatus</i>	
Horus Swift	<i>Apus horus</i>	
Swamp Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus natalensis</i>	
Pennant-winged Nightjar	<i>Macrodipteryx vexillarius</i>	
Denham's Bustard	<i>Neotis denhami</i>	
Kori Bustard	<i>Ardeotis kori</i>	
Grey Crowned Crane	<b><i>Balearica regulorum</i></b>	
Wattled Crane	<b><i>Grus carunculatus</i></b>	
African Finfoot	<b><i>Podica senegalensis</i></b>	
Red-chested Flufftail	<b><i>Sarothrura rufa</i></b>	
African Rail	<b><i>Rallus caerulescens</i></b>	Except Gaborone
African Crake	<i>Crecopsis egregia</i>	
Spotted Crake	<b><i>Porzana porzana</i></b>	
Striped Crake	<i>Aenigmatolimnas marginalis</i>	
Allen's Gallinule	<i>Porphyrio alleni</i>	
Black-tailed Godwit	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	
Common Whimbrel	<i>Numenius phaeopus</i>	
Eurasian Curlew	<i>Numenius arquata</i>	
Common Redshank	<i>Tringa tetanus</i>	
Green Sandpiper	<i>Tringa ochropus</i>	
Ruddy Turnstone	<i>Arenaria interpres</i>	
Sanderling	<i>Calidris alba</i>	
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>	
Chestnut-banded Plover	<i>Charadrius pallidus</i>	
White-fronted Plover	<i>Charadrius marginatus</i>	
White-crowned Lapwing	<i>Vanellus albiceps</i>	
Three-banded Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus cinctus</i>	
Black-winged Pratincole	<i>Glareola nordmanni</i>	
African Skimmer	<i>Rhynchops flavirostris</i>	
Lesser Black-backed Gull	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	
Caspian Tern	<i>Sterna caspia</i>	
Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	
European Honey-Buzzard	<i>Pernis apivorus</i>	
Bat Hawk	<b><i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i></b>	
Hooded Vulture	<b><i>Necrosyrtes monachus</i></b>	
Cape Vulture	<b><i>Gyps coprotheres</i></b>	
Lappet-faced Vulture	<b><i>Torgos tracheliotus</i></b>	
White-headed Vulture	<b><i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i></b>	
Bateleur	<b><i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i></b>	
Eurasian Marsh-Harrier	<b><i>Circus aeruginosus</i></b>	
African Marsh-Harrier	<b><i>Circus ranivorus</i></b>	Except northern wetlands
Pallid Harrier	<b><i>Circus macrourus</i></b>	

Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>	Except Kasane area
Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipter melanoleucus</i>	
Jackal Buzzard	<i>Buteorufofuscus</i>	
Steppe Eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis</i>	
Lesser Spotted Eagle	<i>Aquila pomarina</i>	
Ayre's Hawk-Eagle	<i>Aquila ayresii</i>	
Booted Eagle	<i>Aquila pennatus</i>	
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>	
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	
Lesser Kestrel	<i>Falco naumanni</i>	
Red-footed Falcon	<i>Falco vespertinus</i>	
Amur Falcon	<i>Falco amurensis</i>	
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>	
African Hobby	<i>Falco curvierii</i>	
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	
Black-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	
Slaty Egret	<i>Egretta vinaceigula</i>	
Black Heron	<i>Egretta ardesiaca</i>	Except northern wetlands
Yellow-billed Egret	<i>Egretta intermedia</i>	
White-backed Night-Heron	<i>Gorsachius leuconotus</i>	
Little Bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus</i>	Except northern wetlands
Lesser Flamingo	<i>Phoenicopterus minor</i>	
Black Stork	<i>Ciconia nigra</i>	
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>	
Saddle-billed Stork	<i>Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis</i>	Except northern wetlands
Bokmakerie	<i>Telephorus zeylonus</i>	
Brown-throated Martin	<i>Riparia paludicola</i>	
Pearl-breasted Swallow	<i>Hirundo dimidiata</i>	
Mosque Swallow	<i>Hirundo senegalensis</i>	
South African Cliff-Swallow	<i>Hirundo spilodera</i>	
Fairy Flycatcher	<i>Stenostira scita</i>	
River Warbler	<i>Locustella fluviatillis</i>	
Eurasian Reed-Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus scirpaceus</i>	
Olive-tree Warbler	<i>Hippolais ilivetorum</i>	
Garden Warbler	<i>Sylvia borin</i>	
Stark's Lark	<i>Eremalauda starki</i>	
Thrush Nightingale	<i>Luscinia luscinia</i>	
Dusky Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris fusca</i>	
Village Weaver	<i>Ploceus cucullatus</i>	Except northern wetlands
Chestnut Weaver	<i>Ploceus rufiginosus</i>	
Orange-breasted Waxbill	<i>Amandava subflava</i>	Except Gaborone/Kasane areas
Orange-winged Pytilia	<i>Pytilia afra</i>	
Broad-tailed Paradise-Whydah	<i>Vidua obtuse</i>	
Cuckoo Finch	<i>Anomalospiza imberbis</i>	
Striped Pipit	<i>Anthus lineiventris</i>	
Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similes</i>	
Bushveld Pipit	<i>Anthus caffer</i>	

Streaky-headed Seedeater	<i>Serinus gularis</i>	
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The northern wetlands are considered as the Chobe and Okavango river systems

**Chris A.Brewster, Records Subcommittee, BirdLife Botswana**