



# Rockjumper Birding Tours

---

Worldwide Birding Adventures

## Cameroon II

*Picathartes, Rainforests & Sahel*

*19<sup>th</sup> April – 9<sup>th</sup> May 2007*



Cricket Warbler: By Keith Valentine

**Trip report compiled by Tour Leader Keith Valentine**

### Top 10 birds of the tour as voted by participants:

- |                              |                              |
|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Gray-necked Rockfowl      | 2. Quail-plover              |
| 3. Yellow-bellied Wattle-eye | 4. Emin's Shrike             |
| 5. Bannerman's Turaco        | 6. Gray-headed Broadbill     |
| 7. Mt.Kupe Bushshrike        | 8. White-tailed Warbler      |
| 9. Bare-cheeked Trogon       | 10. Standard-winged Nightjar |

### Tour Summary

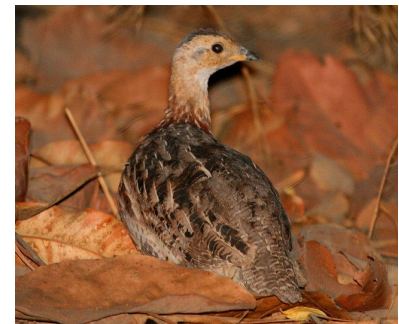
What a pleasure it was traveling in Cameroon this year. The country that is notorious for logistical problems was unusually smooth and this no doubt added to the great enjoyment experienced by everyone on the trip. Cameroon is always a birding mecca and it is undoubtedly the best destination in West Africa to see the greatest diversity of birds and this was proven again on this trip.



Our first prime birding spot was the broad Sanaga River. On our drive we made a roadside stop and located the scarce Hartlaub's Duck and Long-legged Pipit. The Sanaga River produced the fabulous Gray Pratincole, White-headed Lapwing, Preuss' and White-throated Blue Swallow and large numbers of African Skimmer. We also visited an area of logged forest on the south bank of the river where we found Black Goshawk, Great Blue Turaco, Yellowbill, Mottled and Cassin's Spinetail, Red-billed Dwarf Hornbill, Blue Cuckooshrike, Sooty Flycatcher and the rare Cassin's and Crested Malimbe.

Boarding an airplane for Garoua was more of a distant hope for us before arriving in Cameroon as we had planned to take trains because of extremely unreliable air transport. It need not be said that when we arrived in Garoua by plane we had the broadest smiles on our faces and were ready for the journey south to the amazing Ngaoundaba Ranch. Just south of Garoua we enjoyed fantastic looks at a Fox Kestrel before arriving at Ngaoundaba Ranch after dark. The ranch was once again incredible as we racked up a mind-blowing array of specials in quick time. The riverine forests produced the adorable Red-headed Lovebird, stunning White-crested and Ross's Turaco, Green-backed Woodpecker, Leaf-love, Red-winged Gray Warbler, the scarce endemic Bamenda Apalis, highly vocal Oriole Warbler, Gray-winged, Snowy-crowned and White-crowned Robin-Chat, secretive (Spotted) Thrush and Blackcap Babbler and the highly localized White-collared Starling. The surrounding tall broadleaved woodlands were buzzing with mixed flocks and some of the more interesting species included Red-necked and Red-footed Falcon, Eurasian Hobby, Standard-winged and Pennant-winged Nightjar, Blue-bellied Roller, Black Scimitarbill, Brown-backed Woodpecker, Sun Lark, White-breasted and Red-shouldered Cuckoo-Shrike, Gambaga Flycatcher, Spotted Creeper, White-winged Black Tit, Western Violet-backed Sunbird, Gray-headed Bushshrike, scarce Red-faced Pytilia, Brown and Dybowski's Twinspot, beautiful Gray-headed Oliveback and Brown-rumped Bunting.

On our drive north to Benoue National Park we encountered Black-bellied Bustard and Abdim's Stork before making a stop at Dang Lake. The lake produced African Pygmy-Goose, Comb Duck, Collared Pratincole and Lesser Jacana. Night drives at Benoue National Park gave us the highly sought after male Standard-winged Nightjar while other nightjar species included Plain, Black-shouldered. African Scops-Owl, Grayish Eagle-Owl and Verreaux's Eagle-Owl were also seen, as was three Senegal Galago. Our ideally set camp in Benoue gave us excellent access to the riverine and woodland habitats alike. Star riverine species were the unrivalled Egyptian Plover, mesmerizing Bat Hawk, African Fish-Eagle, rare Adamawa Turtle-Dove, Bruce's Green-Pigeon, Violet Turaco, Bearded Barbet, Swamp Flycatcher, Black-headed Batis, striking



Black-headed Gonolek and Black-faced Firefinch. The woodlands gave up Ayres' and African Hawk-Eagle, Gray Kestrel, White-throated Francolin, brilliant Four-banded Sandgrouse, Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill, Fine-spotted Woodpecker, Flappet Lark, Dorst's and Rufous Cisticola, Icterine Warbler, Yellow-bellied Hyliota, the rare Emin's Shrike and Cabanis' Bunting to our quest.

From Benoue we made our way into the hot and dry sahelian savannah belt. This remarkable area is punctuated with rugged mountains where we found White-headed Barbet, Rock-loving Cisticola, coveys of noisy Stone Partridge, Rufous Scrub-Robin, delicate Lavender Waxbill and the very rare and little known Rock Firefinch. The plains around Mora were extensively searched and after a couple of hours of wandering we



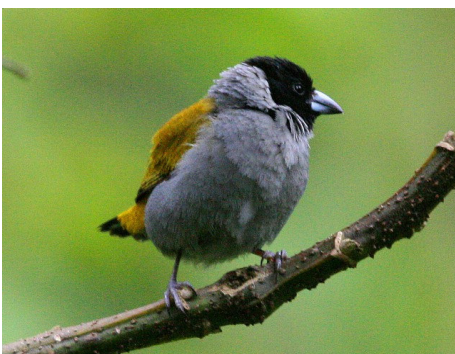
eventually came up trumps with mind-blowing views of the rare and highly nomadic Quail-Plover. A total of 4 birds were found in the area. Other species of interest included the beautiful Scissor-tailed Kite, White-bellied Bustard, Black-headed Lapwing, Long-tailed Nightjar, Green Bee-eater, Singing Bushlark, Northern and Heuglin's Wheatear, Red-pate Cisticola, intricately marked Cricket Warbler, Black Scrub-Robin, Southern Gray Shrike and Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver. Waza National Park was very, very hot and the surrounding woodland was extremely dry. There was also very little standing water present and so many species of birds and large mammals were attracted

to the last remaining ponds inside the reserve. The couple of waterholes that we visited had many herons, egrets, ducks and storks milling about and making for quite a spectacle. Other species seen in and around Waza National Park included Egyptian and Lappet-faced Vulture, Clapperton's Francolin, Grasshopper Buzzard, many graceful Black Crowned Crane, the highly sought after Arabian Bustard, Eurasian Turtle-Dove, Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse, scarce Little Gray Woodpecker, Sennar Penduline-Tit, Northern Anteater-Chat, Common Gonolek, River Prinia, White-billed Buffalo-Weaver, African Silverbill, Cut-throat and Northern Paradise-Whydah.



Next up was West Africa's highest mountain, Mount Cameroon. We took the entire day to make our assault on this volcanic massif. The weather was near to perfect throughout and we ascended all the way up to the treeline in order to have a shot at our main target, the Mt. Cameroon Spierops, which we had no trouble in locating. Highlights in the forest included Yellow-billed Turaco, Tullberg's and Elliot's Woodpecker, shy and secretive Brown-chested Alethe, Mountain Robin-Chat, restless Green Longtail, Masked Apalis, Cameroon Scrub-Warbler, Fernando Po Oliveback, White-bellied Crested-Flycatcher, African Hill Babbler, Yellow-breasted Boubou, Black-billed Weaver and Red-faced Crimson-wing. The forest edge also held a number of top birds and we enjoyed Chubb's Cisticola, Mountain Sawwing, Orange-tufted and Cameroon Sunbird, Western Bluebill, Black-headed Waxbill, Oriole Finch and Thick-billed Seed-eater. The Spierops is entirely endemic to this mountain!

Leaving this fabulous mountain we traveled to the lush Limbe Botanical Gardens where we found some fine birds that included Reichenbach's Sunbird and Rufous-vented Paradise-Flycatcher.



The magnificent lowland forests of Korup National Park were awaiting us and we were not to be disappointed. The birding can be tricky as species are generally shy and secretive however with a bit of work and luck we found a considerable number of highly desirable specials. The magical Gray-necked Rockfowl was sighted on two consecutive days as a couple of birds were brilliantly seen near a known nesting site. Other forest highlights included Blue-headed Wood-Dove, rare Bare-cheeked Trogon, Blue-headed Bee-eater, Black-casqued and Yellow-casqued Hornbill, Buff-spotted Woodpecker, a host of greenbul species including White-throated, Eastern Bearded and White-bearded, Yellow Longbill, White-browed Forest Flycatcher, Gray-throated Tit-

Flycatcher, Chestnut Wattle-eye, Dusky Crested-Flycatcher, Blackcap and Pale-breasted Illadopsis, Scarlet-

tufted and Blue-throated Brown Sunbird, the rare Rachel's Malimbe and Gray's and Crested Malimbe. We also located a couple of ant swarms that attracted Green-tailed Bristlebill, White-tailed Ant-Thrush, Fire-crested Alethe and Forest Robin, while at the Mana River crossing into Korup we found Rock Pratincole. The forest outside Korup National Park along the road to Mundemba gave us White-crested and Piping Hornbill, Black-throated Coucal, Bates' Swift, Yellow-spotted Barbet, Red-vented Malimbe and the scarce Johanna's Sunbird.

We were to enjoy a fabulous four night stay in the Mt. Kupe and Bokassi area. These two mountains are the only known locality for the very rare Mt. Kupe Bushshrike. Negotiating the steep trails in this area is tricky but well worth it and our efforts were rewarded with views of a spectacular Mt. Kupe Bushshrike at point blank range on the Bokassi range. Many other cracking birds also call these mountains home and we had brilliant looks at a number of them including near endemics such as Ursula's Sunbird, Cameroon Pigeon, Cameroon Olive and Gray-headed Greenbul and Black-capped Woodland-Warbler. The Bokassi range requires less effort to get into the higher forests where some of the high elevation specials can be located and here we found Bar-tailed Trogon, White-bellied Robin-Chat, stunning White-tailed Warbler, Yellow-footed Flycatcher, outstanding Yellow-bellied and Black-necked Wattle-eye, White-throated Mountain-Babbler, Mountain Sooty Boubou and Fiery-breasted Bushshrike.

Max's and Shrike Trails at Mt. Kupe are notoriously steep, however the climb up is well worth it when you consider that we picked up African Piculet, the scarce Gray-headed Broadbill, secretive Crossley's Ground-Thrush, Bocage's Akalat and the brilliant Many-colored Bushshrike. The 'farm bush' was as usual very productive with many great birds being found. We had great views of Red-chested Goshawk, Guinea Turaco, superb Fraser's Eagle-Owl, Black Bee-eater, Yellow-billed Barbet, Gabon Woodpecker, Forest Swallow, Rufous Flycatcher-Thrush, Banded Prinia, Petit's Cuckooshrike, Black-capped, Black-throated and Buff-throated Apalis, Rufous-crowned Eremomela, Violet-backed Hyliota, Black-and-white Shrike-Flycatcher, Chestnut-capped Flycatcher, West African Batis, Bates' Paradise-Flycatcher, diminutive Tit-Hylia, Mackinnon's Fiscal, Red-eyed and Pink-footed Puffback, Gray-green Bushshrike, Preuss' Weaver, White-breasted and Chestnut-breasted Negrofinch and Green-backed Twinspot.



The Bamenda Highlands hold some of Cameroon's most threatened birds and with so little habitat left we found the target species concentrated in a few of the remaining gullies. An afternoon and morning were spent in these highlands where the birding was phenomenal and we had great success in locating the specials. We managed to track down the highly endangered Banded Wattle-eye and enjoyed brilliant scope views of the beautiful Bannerman's Turaco late in the afternoon. Other goodies were Bannerman's and Brown-capped Weaver, skulky Bangwa Scrub-Warbler, Willcock's Honeyguide, Red-necked Buzzard, Mountain Wagtail, Cameroon Mountain Greenbul, African (Rwenzori) Hill Babbler, Pectoral-patch Cisticola and striking Black-collared Apalis, while on the escarpment above the town of Bamenda we found a pair of the localized Neumann's Starling.

Today was our final day in Cameroon. The drive to Douala gave us Blue-breasted Bee-eater and Siffling Cisticola. A short stop at La Digue produced both Mouse-brown and Carmelite Sunbird before traveling back to Douala where we enjoyed a fine dinner together before our evening flights home.

**Black-throated Wattle-eye, White-throated Francolin, Clapperton's Francolin, Scissor-tailed Kite, Fernando Po Oliveback & Yellow-breasted Boubou: By Keith Valentine**

## Annotated List of Bird Species recorded

Nomenclature and taxonomy follows J. F. Clements *Birds of the World: A Checklist 5<sup>th</sup> Edition* (2000) Ibis Publishing Company, with current updates.

**Ostrich *Struthionidae*****Ostrich***Struthio camelus*

Recorded only at Waza National Park with a total of 8 birds being seen on a day.

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.

**Grebes *Podicipedidae*****Little Grebe (Dabchick)***Tachybaptus ruficollis*

Our first sighting was of 5 at Dang Lake and later small numbers were seen at Lake Awing in the Bamenda highlands.

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

Seen at wetlands throughout the country. The largest group was at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Hérons, Egrets & Bitterns *Ardeidae*****Gray Heron***Ardea cinerea*

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

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

A fairly common species in the north, noted in abundance in Waza NP. An estimate of 30 seen on our full day in this special park.

**Purple Heron***Ardea purpurea*

Ngaoundaba Ranch and Dang Lake were the places where this species was seen.

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

**Great (White) Egret***Ardea alba*

This familiar species was seen at Dang Lake where we found 5.

NOTE: The nominate Old World Great Egret may be split from the New World *A. a. egretta* which would become American Egret. This split is as yet not recognized by Clements.

**Intermediate Egret***Egretta intermedia*

This species was found at a pond between Douala and Edea and again at Dang Lake.

**Little Egret***Egretta garzetta*

Our only sighting was on 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.

**(Common) Squacco Heron***Ardeola ralloides*

Seen at Dang Lake where at least 20 birds were present. We had another single at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Cattle Egret***Bubulcus ibis*

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

NOTE: This group may be split into 2 species, the nominate Common Cattle Egret and the Asian/Australasian Eastern Cattle Egret *E. coromanda*. This split is as yet not recognized by Clements.

**Striated (Green-backed) Heron***Butorides striatus*

We saw this species daily along the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

NOTE: This species group is treated by Clements as 3 species, the nominate Striated Heron, *B. virescens* Little Green Heron of North America and *B. sundevalli* Lava Heron of the Galapagos. Other authorities lump all three forms into a single species, called Green-backed Heron (as per Handbook of Birds of the World.)

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

Many were seen pre-dawn at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

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

Storks Ciconidae**Yellow-billed Stork***Mycteria ibis*

A single bird was sighted at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**African Openbill (~ed Stork)***Anastomus lamelligerus*

1 bird was seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further 10 in Waza NP.

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

A flock of at least 30 birds was seen near Ngaoundaba and a further flock of 8 in Benoue NP.

**White Stork***Ciconia ciconia*

A single bird was present at a waterhole in Waza NP.

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

One of the great storks of the World! 5 were seen in Waza NP.

**Marabou Stork***Leptoptilos crumeniferus*

Two were seen in Waza NP.

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

We had 6 birds at a waterhole in Waza NP.

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

**Hadada Ibis***Bostrychia hagedash*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

Our only sighting was of 5 at Dang Lake.

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

Our first sighting was of 20 at Dang Lake and finally a large flock of 40 birds was seen at a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Comb Duck***Sarkidiornis melanotos*

A single was seen at a waterhole in Waza NP.

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

Seen at two sites on the tour, first near the Sanaga River where we found 4 birds and then a vagrant bird at the Crater Lake at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Pygmy-goose***Nettapus auritus*

We enjoyed good scope views of 5 at Dang Lake.

**Yellow-billed Duck***Anus undulata*

We recorded 20 at Dang Lake near Ngaoundere. This is a very range restricted bird in West Africa, only occurring in this area in Cameroon and marginally in neighboring Nigeria.

Hawks, Kites, Eagles & Vultures Accipitridae**European Honey-buzzard***Pernis apivorus*

One was seen en route to Mundemba from Beua.

**Bat Hawk***Macheiramphus alcinus*

We had the most remarkable sighting of this scarce species at Benoue NP where a single bird came down to drink and proceeded to bath during the mid morning at the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**Black-shouldered (-winged) Kite***Elanus caeruleus*

First seen near Ngaoundere, also near Waza NP and finally in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Scissor-tailed Kite***Echelictinia riocourii*

First seen near the town of Mora, much to the delight of all. We saw a total of 6 in Northern Cameroon.

**Black [Yellow-billed] Kite***Milvus [migrans] aegyptius*

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

*NOTE: Many authorities treat the resident African subspecies of this raptor as a separate species, Yellow-billed Kite M. aegyptius. Clements does not as yet accept this split.*

**African Fish-Eagle** *Haliaeetus vocifer*

Not a very common bird in West Africa, 3 was seen in Benoue NP and 4 were seen around the waterholes in Waza NP.

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

Recorded in the wetter south with regularity. First seen south of the Sanaga.

**Hooded Vulture** *Necrosyrtes monachus*

Commonly encountered in the drier north especially near towns. Several were seen near Garoua.

**Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus*

An adult was seen on our full day in Waza NP.

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

A single bird was sighted in flight at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

A single of these globally threatened vultures was observed in Waza NP. This is Africa's largest vulture, an impressive animal indeed!

**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 1 were seen in Waza NP.

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

A distinctive raptor recorded most regularly in the south.

**Lizard Buzzard** *Kaupifalco monogrammicus*

A single bird was seen near Mt. Cameroon and again at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Dark Chanting-Goshawk** *Melierax metabates*

Recorded in small numbers in the Mora and Waza areas.

**Gabar Goshawk** *Micronisus gabar*

We had two sightings in the Waza area.

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

This forest *Accipiter* was seen twice at forest edge in the Mt. Kupe area.

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

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

Noted in the woodlands of Ngaoundaba Ranch and 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 Goshawk** *Accipiter melanoleucus*

One adult was seen near the Sanaga River with further views at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Grasshopper Buzzard** *Butastur rufipennis*

We enjoyed many sightings of this species especially near Mora and in Waza NP.

**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 and Mt. Cameroon.

**Tawny Eagle** *Aquila rapax*

We enjoyed at least 7 birds on our day in Waza NP.

**Wahlberg's Eagle** *Aquila wahlbergi*

We had good views of 2 during the drive from Ngaoundaba to Benoue NP.

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

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

**Ayres' Hawk-Eagle** *Aquila ayresii*

We had a fantastic sighting of one in Benoue NP.

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

We had sightings of singles at Benoue NP and en route to Mundemba.

**Falcons & Caracaras Falconidae****Eurasian (Common/Rock) Kestrel***Falco tinnunculus*

This widespread, familiar raptor was first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in the Bamenda highlands.

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

**Fox Kestrel***Falco alopex*

We had superb views of a single bird south of Garoua.

**Gray Kestrel***Falco ardosiaceus*

We had great views of a number in Benoue NP and again in the Waza area.

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

We were fortunate to find a single bird at Ngaoundaba Ranch. An uncommon bird in Cameroon.

**Red-footed Falcon***Falco vespertinus*

We had great views of at least 50 birds following a huge weather system at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Eurasian Hobby***Falco subbuteo*

7 were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch following a large weather system.

**Lanner Falcon***Falco biarmicus*

We had three sightings, a pair in Waza NP, one near Mora and a further 2 in the Bamenda highlands.

**Pheasants & Partridges Phasianidae****White-throated Francolin***Francolinus albogularus*

We were fortunate to find a pair in the woodland at Benoue NP.

**Scaly Francolin***Francolinus squamatus*

This species was heard on Mt. Cameroon and Bokassi.

**Double-spurred Francolin***Francolinus bicalcaratus*

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

**Clapperton's Francolin***Francolinus clappertoni*

Only seen at Waza NP where they were regularly encountered with up to 15 seen daily.

**Stone Partridge***Ptilopachus petrosus*

This species was encountered first in Benoue NP with our highest day count of 10 birds seen at a rocky outcrop near Mora.

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

Commonly observed in Benoue NP and Waza NP.

*NOTE: The nominate N. m. meleagris (Helmeted Guineafowl) of East Africa, is sometimes regarded as distinct from the western N. m. galeata (West African Guineafowl – the form we recorded in Cameroon) and the southern N. m. mitrata (Tufted Guineafowl.) Clements does not as yet recognize these splits.*

**Buttonquail Turnicidae****Quail Plover***Sortyxelos meiffrenii*

This rare and incredible bird was one of the highlights of the trip for many. After a two-hour search in the hot dry savannah south of Waza we finally located 4 individuals. The birds flushed and landed within 20 feet of the group allowing for superb prolonged views. We even observed it doing its fascinating “Chameleon” walk. Later in the taller woodland closer to Waza NP we found a further two, which provided for more great views and photographic opportunities.

**Cranes Gruidae**

**Black Crowned-Crane***Balearica regulorum*

This very handsome bird is delightfully common in Waza NP with peak numbers of 300 seen on one day.

**Rails, Gallinules & Coots Rallidae****White-spotted Flufftail***Sarothrura pulchra*

This secretive, forest rallid's hooting call was heard in several forests and a few members of the group had views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Buff-spotted Flufftail***Sarothrura elegans*

This secretive species was unfortunately only heard in a scrubby field in Nyassosso.

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

This marsh dwelling rallid was oddly enough heard in some rank vegetation at the base of Mount Cameroon.

**African Rail***Rallus caerulescens*

Although widespread on the continent this can be a tough species to see. We were very fortunate to have a pair of birds running about in the open at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Black Crake***Amaurornis flavirostra*

5 were seen at the Crater Lake at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Purple Swamphen***Porphyrio Porphyrio*

We had good views of 10 odd birds at Dang Lake.

*NOTE: This cosmopolitan species is currently in taxonomic review and several forms are expected to be recognised as distinct species. The form we recorded would then become African Swamphen (P. madagascariensis.) Other forms to be recognised may include Indian Swamphen (P. poliocephalus,) Philippine Swamphen (P. pulverulentus) and Eastern Swamphen (P. melanotus).*

**Bustards Otididae****Arabian Bustard***Ardeotis arabs*

We were fortunate to encounter 3 of these large Bustards in Waza NP and a rare sighting of a single outside the reserve.

**White-bellied Bustard***Leupodotis senegalensis*

This species was first observed during our Quail Plover trek.

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

A single bird was found on our drive out of Ngaoundaba Ranch to Ngaoundere.

**Jacanas Jacanidae****Lesser Jacana***Microparra capensis*

We had scope views of 5 birds at Dang Lake. A very localized bird in Cameroon.

**African Jacana***Actophilornis africanus*

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

**Painted Snipes Rostratulidae****Greater Painted-Snipe***Rostratula benghalensis*

This brilliant bird was sighted at Ngaoundaba ranch when 3 were seen at the Crater Lake.

**Thick-knees Burhinidae****Senegal Thick-knee***Burhinus senegalensis*

Our only sighting was of a single bird in Benoue NP.

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

Encountered in the Waza NP area with a total of 3 birds being seen.

**Couriers & Pratincoles Glareolidae**

**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 6 birds.

**Collared Pratincole***Glareola pratincola*

5 of these birds were found in the Waza area.

**Rock Pratincole***Glareola nuchalis*

A total of 5 birds were seen on the Mana River on our way into and out of Korup NP.

**Gray Pratincole***Glareola cinerea*

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

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

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

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

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

**White-headed Lapwing (Plover)***Vanellus albiceps*

First seen at the Sanaga River where a single was seen and later peak numbers of 7 were found in Benoue NP.

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

We found 5 on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

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

Only encountered on the Sanaga River where we found 3.

**Sandpipers & Allies Scolopacidae****Wood Sandpiper***Tringa glareola*

Seen at Dang Lake where at least 15 birds were present.

**Common Sandpiper***Actitis hypoleucos*

A common migrant seen at a couple of water bodies.

**Little Stint***Calidris minuta*

3 birds were seen on sandbars in the Sanaga River.

**Skimmers Rynchopidae****African Skimmer***Rynchops flavirostris*

We encountered 200+ 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 100 birds being seen on our full day in the reserve

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

At Benoue NP we were treated to awesome views of 4 birds as they flushed at our feet and landed nearby for extremely close views.

**Doves & Pigeons Columbidae****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 here.

**Cameroon Pigeon***Columba guinea*

We had 8 of these birds on our day in the Bokassi Mountains and a final 10 in the Mt. Kupe area with excellent views of a number of perched birds.

**Eurasian Turtle-Dove***Streptopelia turtur*

We encountered 3 of these birds in *Acacia* woodland next to a waterhole in Waza NP.

**Adamawa Turtle-Dove***Streptopelia hypopyrrha*

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

**African Collared-Dove***Streptopelia roseogrisea*

This rather pale *Streptopelia* was encountered in large numbers in the Waza NP area.

**African Mourning Dove***Streptopelia decipiens*

Seen only in the Waza area where we recorded a total of 7 birds.

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

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

**Vinaceous Dove***Streptopelia vinacea*

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

**Laughing (Palm) Dove***Streptopelia 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 at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Benoue NP and Waza 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 at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Mundemba.

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

A deep forest species restricted to West Africa. Some of the group found one in Korup NP.

**Namaqua Dove***Oena capensis*

A fairly common species in the dry north, especially in Waza NP where 50+ were seen in a day.

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

Small numbers were seen at Benoue NP with a day total of 3 birds noted on our first day there. We were treated to great views of a small flock feeding in a large fruiting fig tree.

**African Green-Pigeon***Treron calva*

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

### Parrots, Macaws & Allies *Psittacidae*

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

50 birds were found between Garoua and Maroua.

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

We observed this species in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch. We counted a total of 3 of these very endearing parrots.

**(African) Gray 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 20 seen near Mundemba.

**Senegal Parrot***Poicephalus senegalus*

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

### Turacos *Musophagidae*

**Great Blue Turaco***Corythaeola cristata*

Arguably one of Africa's most spectacular birds, this huge frugivore was first seen near the Sanaga River. We then managed to get excellent views of 5 birds on the Mundemba road.

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

A single bird was sighted 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*).

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

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

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

A commonly heard turaco of the interior forests, our first sighting was of stunning views of 5 on Mount Cameroon. Thereafter we encountered several daily in the Bokassi Mountains and on Mt. Kupe. This subspecies has a wonderful red-tipped crest.

**Bannerman's Turaco** *Tauraco bannermanni*

5 of these stunning endemics were seen in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Violet Turaco** *Musophaga violacea*

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

**Ross's Turaco** *Musophaga violacea*

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

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

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

### Cuckoos Cuculidae

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

We had close encounters with 1 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

We heard this species at several forest sites throughout the region.

**Black Cuckoo** *Cuculus clamosus*

We managed to see a single bird of the gabonensis race on the Mundemba road.

**Klaas' 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 in Benoue NP.

**African Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx cupreus*

Generally more shy and less common than its congeners, we saw a single bird at the Sanaga River.

**Yellowbill (Green Coucal/Malkoha)** *Ceuthmochares aereus*

This peculiar, malkoha-like cuckoo was seen at several forest sites.

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 saw and occurs in West and Central Africa. Clements does not as yet accept this split.

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

A huge, elusive West African coucal. A single bird was briefly seen flying across the road to 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.

### Barn Owls Tytonidae

**Barn Owl** *Tyto alba*

We enjoyed views of 3 birds at camp Waza.

### Typical Owls Strigidae

**African Scops-Owl** *Otus senegalensis*

We enjoyed great views of this tiny owl at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Grayish Eagle-Owl** *Bubo sinerascens*

We enjoyed brilliant views of this species at Benoue NP and again in the Waza area.

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

Some of the group enjoyed a fantastic view of a single bird at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** *Bubo lacteus*

We had a stunning look at a single juvenile on our night excursion in Benoue NP.

**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.

### Nightjars & Allies *Caprimulgidae*

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

We had great looks at 3 birds on the night drive in Benoue NP.

**Plain Nightjar** *Caprimulgus inornatus*

We enjoyed a good look at a single bird on a night excursion in Benoue NP

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

We had a fantastic sighting of this beautiful species near the town of Mora.

**Pennant-winged Nightjar** *Macrodipteryx vexillarius*

During our stay at Ngaoundaba Ranch we managed to flush 5 birds, a mixture of males (with partial pennants) and females.

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

One of the world's most bizarre birds. We obtained views of a single male with full standards on our night drive in Benoue NP. Earlier at Ngaoundaba Ranch we had good views of a female on the deck during the day.

### Swifts *Apodidae*

**Mottled Spinetail** *Telacanthura ussheri*

We found 2 at the Sanaga River.

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

We had 2 birds near the village of Mundemba.

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

A total of 10 birds were seen at the Sanaga River.

**African Palm-Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus*

Plentiful throughout most of the tour with the bird being recorded throughout.

**Common Swift** *Apus apus*

Loose flocks of up to thirty were seen at the Sanaga River, small numbers were also seen at widespread sites throughout.

**African Swift** *Apus barbatus*

A scarce bird in West Africa, we saw a flock of at least 30 birds near rocky habitat in the Bamenda Highlands close to Lake Awing.

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis*

The common urban swift throughout the country.

**Bates' Swift** *Apus batesi*

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

### Mousebirds *Coliidae*

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus*

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

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

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

### Trogon *Trogonidae*

**Bare-cheeked Trogon** *Apaloderma narina*

3 of these spectacular birds were seen on our walks in Korup NP. Much time and effort was put into trying to get good views of this species for everyone in the group.

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

We enjoyed a great sighting of this beautiful bird in the Bokassi mountains when a pair was found.

**Kingfishers Alcedinidae****Malachite Kingfisher***Alcedo cristata*

We recorded this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Dang Lake and Benoue NP.

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

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

**African Pygmy-Kingfisher***Ispidina (Ceyx) picta*

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

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

This species was only heard from high in the canopy in Korup NP.

**Gray-headed (Chestnut-bellied) Kingfisher***Halcyon leucocephala*

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

**Woodland Kingfisher***Halcyon senegalensis*

Not uncommon in open habitat in the south often perching on telephone wires next to the road. **Blue-breasted Kingfisher**

*Halcyon malimbica*

This forest equivalent of the Woodland Kingfisher was seen in the gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Striped Kingfisher***Halcyon chelicuti*

Rather drabber than its spectacular cousins, this small, savannah kingfisher was found in woodland to the south of Waza NP.

**Giant Kingfisher***Megaceryle maxima*

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

**Pied Kingfisher***Ceryle rudis*

The world's commonest kingfisher was seen in small numbers at several sites on the tour.

**Bee-eaters Meropidae****Black Bee-eater***Merops gularis*

We enjoyed fantastic views of a number at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Blue-headed Bee-eater***Merops muelleri*

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

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

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

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

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

**Blue-breasted Bee-eater***Merops variegates*

At least 20 of these beauties were seen on our drive from Nyassoso to Bamenda.

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

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

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

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

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

Another magnificent bee-eater, we were fortunate to see 5 on our drive from Garoua to Maroua.

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

### Rollers *Coraciidae*

#### **Abyssinian Roller**

*Coracias abyssinica*

A common roller recorded throughout the dry north of the country.

#### **Blue-bellied Roller**

*Coracias cyanogaster*

Two birds were seen in open woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Broad-billed Roller**

*Eurystomus glaucurus*

We enjoyed views of small numbers daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

### Hoopoes *Upupidae*

#### **Eurasian Hoopoe**

*Upupa epops*

Birds were sighted at Ngaoundaba Ranch and again in the Waza area.

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 at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Benoue NP and in the Waza area.

#### **Black Scimitar-bill (Woodhoopoe)**

*Rhinopomastus aterrimus*

A total of 2 birds were seen in the Ngaoundaba Ranch area with a further sighting of 1 bird in woodland south of Waza NP.

### Hornbills *Bucerotidae*

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

*Tockus albocristatus*

We found a single bird in secondary forest on the Mundemba road.

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

*Tockus camurus*

This normally scarce species was sighted at the Sanaga River and again in Korup NP.

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

*Tockus erythrorhynchus*

A common hornbill of dry woodlands in the Waza area.

#### **African Pied Hornbill**

*Tockus fasciatus*

Common throughout forested areas in Cameroon.

#### **African Gray Hornbill**

*Tockus nasutus*

The common savanna hornbill in Cameroon, with small numbers (5+ daily) being seen in the drier northern part of the country. First recorded en route from Garoua to Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Piping Hornbill**

*Ceratogymna fistulator*

A total of 6 birds were seen near Mundemba.

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

*Ceratogymna albotibialis*

A total of 2 were seen at the Sanaga River with a further sighting of 1 in Korup NP.

#### **Black-casqued (Wattled-) Hornbill**

*Ceratogymna atrata*

We found 2 birds in Korup NP.

#### **Yellow-casqued (Wattled-) Hornbill**

*Ceratogymna elata*

We had views of 5 birds during our stay in Korup NP, including a couple of them perched.

#### **Abyssinian Ground-Hornbill**

*Bucorvus abyssinicus*

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

### Barbets *Capitonidae*

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

*Gymnobucco calvus*

A common forest species, we saw at least 5 on Mount Cameroon, a half dozen in Korup NP and 20+ birds on Mt Kupe.

#### **Speckled Tinkerbird**

*Pogoniulus scolopaceus*

A scruffy, bird in forests and forest edge. We found 1 at the Sanaga River and saw a further 2 at the base of Mt. Kupe.

#### **Red-rumped Tinkerbird**

*Pogoniulus atroflavus*

This species was only heard in Korup NP.

#### **Yellow-throated Tinkerbird**

*Pogoniulus subsulphureus*

Similar to its more familiar yellow-rumped cousin but with a more rapid tempo to its “tinking”. This forest barbet was often heard and we had good views of 1 bird at the base of Mt. Kupe.

#### **Yellow (Golden) -rumped Tinkerbird**

*Pogoniulus bilineatus*

A common forest-edge species. Small numbers were seen and heard at the Sanaga River and Mt Cameroon.

#### **Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird**

*Pogoniulus chrysoconus*

A savanna species first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch and we obtained great views at Benoue NP.

#### **Yellow-spotted Barbet**

*Buccanodon duchaillui*

A rather beautiful Barbet, heard at several forested sites in the south. We obtained great views of several on Mt. Kupe.

#### **Hairy-breasted Barbet**

*Tricholaema hirsuta*

This forest barbet was heard in Korup NP.

#### **Viillot’s Barbet**

*Lybius vieilloti*

A bird of more open woodland, our first sighting was of a pair at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings of birds at Benoue NP and Waza 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 4 birds were seen during our stay at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Bearded Barbet**

*Lybius dubius*

This species was sighted on to separate occasions in Benoue NP.

#### **Yellow-billed Barbet**

*Trachyphonus purpuratus*

An elusive forest barbet that was seen at the base of Mt. Kupe by some of the group.

### Honeyguides *Indicatoridae*

#### **Greater Honeyguide**

*Indicator indicator*

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

#### **Lesser Honeyguide**

*Indicator minor*

Two birds were found at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Willcock’s Honeyguide**

*Indicator willcocksi*

Some of the group found a single bird in the Bamenda highlands.

### Woodpeckers & Allies *Picidae*

#### **Eurasian Wryneck**

*Jynx torquilla*

Single birds were seen by some of the group at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP. Not seen by the Leader.

#### **African Piculet**

*Sasia africana*

This diminutive and endearing species was found on Max’s Trail, Mt Kupe.

#### **Fine-spotted Woodpecker**

*Campethera punctuligera*

This lovely woodpecker was seen very well in a mixed flock in Benoue NP.

#### **Golden-tailed Woodpecker**

*Campethera abingoni*

This species was heard at Ngaoundaba Ranch..

#### **Green-backed Woodpecker**

*Campethera cailliautii*

We had superb views of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Tullberg's (Fine-banded) Woodpecker** *Campethera tullbergi*

This species was seen a total of 4 times on our days in the Bokassi Mountains and on Mt. Cameroon.

**Buff-spotted Woodpecker** *Campethera nivosus*

This diminutive and rather dark woodpecker was seen once in Korup NP when a pair was located in a mixed flock.

**Little Gray Woodpecker** *Dendropicus elachus*

This is a seldom-recorded species in Cameroon and we were fortunate to pick up a single bird in woodland to the south of Waza NP.

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens*

Our first sighting was at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings of small numbers at Bokassi and Mt. Kupe.

**Gabon Woodpecker** *Dendropicos gabonensis*

We found 3 at the base of Mt. Kupe.

*NOTE: This species is sometimes lumped in Gabon Woodpecker D. gabonensis.*

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

1 of these fine woodpeckers was seen during our day on Mount Cameroon. 2 more were also seen in the Bamenda highlands.

**Gray Woodpecker** *Dendropicos goertae*

Several individuals located in Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

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

Our first sighting was of one at Ngaoundaba Ranch with a further sighting of one in Benoue NP. A scarce, dry country species.

### Broadbills *Eurylaimidae*

**Gray-headed Broadbill** *Smithornis sharpei*

We put a fair bit of effort for this scarce species and eventually bumped into one on Max's Trail, Mt. Kupe that provided us all with excellent close up views.

### Larks *Alaudidae*

**Singing Bushlark** *Mirafraga cantillans*

We had wonderful views of 1 near Mora.

**Flappet Lark** *Mirafraga rufacinnamomea*

We found a single bird in woodland in Benoue NP.

**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.

**Crested Lark** *Galerida cristata*

We had great views of 4 near the Benoue River with further looks around Mora.

**Sun Lark** *Galerida modesta*

We found 3 birds in burnt grassland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Swallows *Hirundinidae*

**Banded Martin** *Riparia cincta*

We found this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Rock Martin** *Ptyonoprogne (Hirundo) fuligula*

This dark hirundine was seen in small numbers in Benoue NP.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica*

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

*NOTE: This cosmopolitan species complex is likely to 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 aethiops*

Good numbers were observed in the Waza area.

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

Small numbers at the Sanaga River and Mt. Cameroon.

*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-throated Blue Swallow** *Hirundo nigrita*

A couple of birds were found at the Sanaga River.

**Lesser Striped-Swallow** *Hirundo abyssinica*

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

**Rufous-chested Swallow** *Hirundo semirufa*

We found small numbers at Benoue NP and during the drive from Mundemba to Nyassosso.

**Mosque Swallow** *Cecropis (Hirundo) senegalensis*

Two were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Red-rumped Swallow** *Hirundo daurica*

A single bird was well seen in the Waza area.

**Preuss' (Cliff-) Swallow** *Hirundo preussi*

Commonly encountered at the Sanaga River and Mundemba.

**Forest Swallow** *Hirundo fuliginosa*

We recorded a total of 5 birds on Mt. Cameroon and another 9 at the base of Mt Kupe.

**House Martin** *Delichon urbica*

We had hundreds of birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch after a rain shower.

**Square-tailed Sawwing** *Psalidoprocne nitens*

2 birds were seen at the Sanaga River.

**Mountain Sawwing** *Psalidoprocne fuliginosa*

A total of 8 of this range-restricted species, a near endemic to Cameroon, were seen on our day on Mt Cameroon.

**Petit's Sawwing** *Psalidoprocne petiti*

First seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings at Mt.Kupe, Bokassi and the Bamenda highlands.

### Wagtails & Pipits *Motacillidae*

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp*

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

**Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava*

A single bird was found at Benoue NP.

**Mountain Wagtail** *Motacilla clara*

One was seen near Mundemba and a further 3 in the Bamenda Highlands.

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

We found 3 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

We had great views of 2 near Douala and another 2 near Mundemba.

### Cuckoo-shrikes *Campephagidae*

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

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

**Blue Cuckooshrike** *Coracina azurea*

We had wonderful views of one near the Sanaga River.

**Gray Cuckooshrike** *Coracina caesia*

We recorded 3 of these smart birds at Bokassi, a bunch in the Mt. Kupe area and a pair on Mt. Cameroon.

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

We found 2 birds the Mt.Kupe area.

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

We were fortunate to see a total of 3 birds, 1 during our wanderings at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further two in Benoue 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.

**Cameroon Mountain Greenbul***Andropadus montanus*

1 was seen on our ascent of Mount Cameroon with a further sighting of one on Mt. Kupe and good views for all 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.

**Slender-billed Greenbul***Andropadus gracilirostris*

The common greenbul of forest canopy, we found good numbers near Mundemba and in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Yellow-whiskered Greenbul***Andropadus latirostris*

A greenbul of forest undergrowth and mid-storey, we had good sightings of 3 birds near the Sanaga River and again on Mt. Kupe.

**Western Mountain Greenbul***Andropadus tephrolaemus*

This common, although range restricted species was quite common on Mount Cameroon where we saw a total of 50 birds. We enjoyed further sightings at Mt. Kupe and in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Honeyguide Greenbul***Baeopogon indicator*

This bird was only heard at Mt. Kupe.

**Spotted Greenbul***Ixonotus guttatus*

We secured excellent views of 2 birds in secondary forest south of the Sanaga River and later had more sightings on the Mundemba road.

**Yellow-throated Greenbul***Chlorocichla flavicollis*

Small numbers were seen daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Benoue NP and in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Leaflove***Phyllastrephus scandens*

We easily found a pair in gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Cameroon Olive Greenbul***Phyllastrephus poensis*

We found good numbers in the Bokassi/Mt. Kupe Mountains.

**Grey-headed Greenbul***Phyllastrephus poliocephalus*

We enjoyed great sightings of 7 in the Bokassi Mountains and a further 8 high up on Max's Trail, Mt. Kupe.

**White-throated Greenbul***Phyllastrephus albigularis*

We had brilliant views of 4 birds in the undergrowth near a forest stream in Korup NP.

**Icterine Greenbul***Phyllastrephus icterinus*

This was the most frequently encountered greenbul 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.

**Common (Red-tailed) Bristlebill***Bleda syndactyla*

A single bird was briefly seen in Korup NP.

**Lesser Bristlebill***Bleda notata*

Commoner than its congener in Cameroon, we encountered 4 in Korup NP, often in association with ant swarms.

NOTE: The Green-tailed Bristlebill complex is often split into 3 species, Lesser 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.

**Yellow-spotted (Western/Common) Nicator** *Nicator chloris*

This vociferous songster was seen once in Korup NP.

**Red-tailed Greenbul***Criniger calurus*

We found several in Korup NP.

**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.

**White-bearded Greenbul***Criniger ndussumensis*

Another Congo forest special, we saw a total of 3 birds during our stay at Korup NP.

**Thrushes & Allies Turdidae****Rufous Flycatcher-Thrush***Neocossyphus fraseri*

Our first sighting was of one in Korup NP, later we had fantastic views of a couple on Mt. Kupe.

**White-tailed Ant-Thrush***Neocossyphus poensis*

We had great views of 2 in Korup NP.

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

We enjoyed great views of this shy species on Bokassi and Mt. Kupe Mountains.

**African Thrush***Turdus pelios*

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

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

We had heart-stopping encounters with one on Mt. Cameroon. Later we enjoyed further excellent views of several at Bokassi.

**Fire-crested Alethe***Alethe diademata*

We had great views in Korup NP especially around ant swarms. At least 4 were seen here.

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

**Cisticolas & Allies Cisticolidae****Red-faced Cisticola***Cisticola erythrops*

This moist grassland and swamp dwelling cisticola was first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Chattering Cisticola***Cisticola anonymus*

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

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

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

**Rock-loving Cisticola***Cisticola aberrans*

2 birds were seen on rocky hillsides north of Maroua.

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

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

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

**Dorst's Cisticola***Cisticola dorsti*

Two birds were seen in Benoue NP. A recently discovered species and little known.

**Winding Cisticola***Cisticola galactotes*

We found a single bird at the Benoue River near Garoua and again at a large marshy area between Bamenda and Douala.

**Siffling Cisticola***Cisticola brachypterus*

We had great views of at least 4 birds singing from the treetops at a marshy area between Bamenda and Douala.

**Rufous Cisticola***Cisticola rufus*

We found 4 of these rather uncommon and localized cisticolas in woodland in Benoue NP.

**Desert Cisticola***Cisticola aridulus*

5 of these tiny birds were seen in Waza NP.

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

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

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

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

**River Prinia** *Prinia fluviatilis*

In plumage almost identical to the previous species but different in call. We had at least 8 in the Waza area.

**White-chinned Prinia** *Prinia (Schistolais) leucopogon*

This confiding, gregarious species was observed at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Mt Cameroon, Bokassi and Mt.Kupe.

**Banded Prinia** *Prinia bairdii*

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

**Red-winged Gray Warbler** *Drymocichla incana*

Small numbers of this smart species were observed daily during our stay at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Green Longtail** *Urolais epichlora*

Our first encounter with this species was on Mt Cameroon where we found at least 25. We encountered a further 5 in the Bokassi Mountains.

**Cricket Warbler** *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.

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

A beautiful apalis that we had stunning views of in the Bamenda highlands. We saw at least 2 birds during our time there.

**Black-capped Apalis** *Apalis nigriceps*

A canopy apalis, we found good numbers on Mt.Kupe.

**Black-throated Apalis** *Apalis jacksoni*

This is one of the most beautiful apalises. We observed at least 2 birds during our walks in the Bokassi Mountains and Mt. Kupe.

**Masked Apalis** *Apalis binotata*

We had views of 2 on Mt. Cameroon.

**Yellow-breasted Apalis** *Apalis flavida*

This widespread, woodland apalis is not very common in Cameroon. We observed a pair at La Digue.

**Buff-throated Apalis** *Apalis rufogularis*

We had a single bird on Mt. Kupe.

**Bamenda Apalis** *Apalis bamendae*

A gallery forest species and an endemic to Cameroon, we found an awesome pair on both days while we were at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Gray Apalis** *Apalis cinerea*

We had sightings of 1 bird on Mt Cameroon and a further 3 in the Bokassi Mountains and 2 in the Bamenda highlands.

**Oriole Warbler** *Hypergerus atriceps*

15 of these unusual creatures were located in riverine vegetation at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Green-backed (Gray-backed) Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brachyura*

The bleating calls of this common bird were heard in wooded habitat at many localities on the tour.

*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 still lumps these two groups.*

**Yellow-browed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera superciliaris*

This handsome warbler was heard in Korup NP.

**Olive-green Camaroptera** *Camaroptera chloronota*

This species was heard at the Sanaga River and Mt. Kupe.

### Old World Warblers Sylviidae

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

This is a difficult species to see. On Mt Cameroon we eventually managed to get good views of a couple bird.

**Bangwa Scrub-Warbler** *Bradypterus bangwaensis*

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

**Black-faced Rufous Warbler** *Bathmocercus rufus*

This species was heard throughout the moist areas in the Bokassi/Mt. Kupe areas.

**Moustached Grass-Warbler (African Moustached-Warbler)** *Melocichla mentalis*

This attractive warbler, a denizen of rank grass, was seen in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

**Sedge Warbler** *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus*

We found a couple of birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Great Reed-Warbler** *Acrocephalus arundinaceus*

A single bird was found at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Greater Swamp-Warbler** *Acrocephalus rufescens*

We had a single sighting of this species on Mt. Kupe.

**Western Olivaceous Warbler** *Hippolais opaca*

Another Palaearctic migrant, we had good numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

**Melodious Warbler** *Hippolais polyglotta*

We found a total of 3 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Icterine Warbler** *Hippolais icterina*

A single bird was sighted in woodland in Benoue NP.

**White-tailed Warbler** *Poliolais lopezi*

We had fantastic views of a pair in the Bokassi Mountains that showed exceptionally well at close range for an extended period and constantly flashing their white outer tail feathers. Our first bird was a male on Mt. Cameroon.

**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*

We found a single bird at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Green Crombec** *Sylvietta virens*

The commonest and most widespread forest crombec, though small and inconspicuous (except by call). We found a single at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Northern Crombec** *Sylvietta brachyura*

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

**Yellow Longbill** *Macrosphenus flavicans*

A real skulker, however we were treated to a couple of views of several birds including one preening in Korup NP and at the base of Mt. Kupe.

**Gray Longbill** *Macrosphenus concolor*

Another secretive species that was only heard in Korup NP.

**Green Hylia** *Hylia prasina*

Its "HEE-lia!" call was one of the common background sounds at all the forest sites on the tour.

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

Our first sighting of this little gem was of 8 in the Bokassi Mountains with further sightings in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus*

A single bird was sighted at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Yellow-bellied Hylia** *Hylia flavigaster*

We recorded a total of 2 of these stunning birds in woodland at Benoue NP.

**Violet-backed Hyliota** *Hyliota violacea*

We found a pair of birds at the base of Mt. Kupe feeding in the canopy.

**Greater Whitethroat** *Sylvia communis*

This bird was seen a couple of times in the arid plains north of Maroua.

### Old World Flycatchers *Muscicapidae*

**Pale Flycatcher** *Bradornis pallidus*

We found 5 at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further 4 in Benoue NP.

**Northern (Western) Black-Flycatcher** *Melaenornis edolioides*

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

**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.

**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata*

We found this species on numerous occasions, most were seen in Ngaoundaba Ranch with the remainder in Benoue NP.

**Gambaga Flycatcher** *Muscicapa gambagae*

A thinly distributed and uncommon bird, we were fortunate to encounter 2 in the Ngaoundaba area.

**Sooty Flycatcher** *Muscicapa infuscata*

A swallow-like bird often seen perched on dead snags high above the forest canopy, we found 2 near the Sanaga River.

**Swamp Flycatcher** *Muscicapa aquatica*

2 birds were seen on the Benoue River in Benoue NP.

**African Dusky Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta*

A common forest-edge species with 15 recorded from Mt Cameroon, 1 from Bokassi and 4 from the Bamenda highlands.

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

We obtained superb views of 7 birds at various points on Mt. Kupe and Bokassi.

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

A quiet, inconspicuous bird, we enjoyed good sightings in the Bokassi area.

**Cassin's (Gray) Flycatcher** *Muscicapa cassini*

A sprightly bird restricted to the vicinity of water, often hawking insects directly above it. Our sightings were of 3 near Mundemba village.

**Gray-throated Tit-Flycatcher** *Myioparus griseigularis*

A single bird was sighted in Korup NP.

**European Pied Flycatcher** *Ficedula hypoleuca*

We saw 2 birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Forest Robin** *Stiphornis erythrothorax*

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

**Bocage's Akalat** *Sheppardia bocagei*

A shy forest understory species. We had great views of 1 on Max's Trail, Mt. Kupe. One of the members of the group had 3 birds earlier at the base of Mt. Kupe.

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

We enjoyed a total of 5 sightings in the Bokassi and Mt Kupe areas.

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

We had excellent views of this endemic on Mount Cameroon with at least 10 birds being found.

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

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

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

Seen in small numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**White-crowned Robin-Chat** *Cossypha niveicapilla*

A very large and showy *Cossypha*, much enjoyed by all. We had 6 birds in riverine bush near Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Rufous Scrub-Robin** *Cercotrichas galactotes*

We came across 5 of these at the rocky outcrop north of Maroua.

**Black Scrub-Robin** *Cercotrichas podobe*

A wonderfully common and beautiful bird, we encountered at least 25 during our birding north of Maroua.

**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra*

We had good views of 5 at Ngaoundaba Ranch with further sightings in the Waza area.

**African (Common) Stonechat** *Saxicola torquata*

This widespread species was seen well at Mount Cameroon where we found 5 birds and on the Bamenda highlands.

**Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe oenanthe*

We only saw this species in the Waza area where we found 1 bird.

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

We encountered this uncommon intra-African migrant once in the Mora area.

**Familiar Chat** *Cercomila familiaris*

We encountered a total of 2 birds in the rocky areas next to the Benoue River.

**Northern Anteater Chat** *Mermecocichla aethops*

We encountered a pair of birds on the road to Waza NP north of Maroua.

**Mocking Cliff-Chat** *Thamnota cinnamomeiventris*

This stunning subspecies was found on a rocky outcrop north of Maroua.

NOTE: White-crowned Cliff-Chat *T. c. coronata* of West Africa is sometimes split from Mocking Cliff-Chat.

### Wattle-eyes *Platysteiridae*

**Black-and-white (Vanga) Shrike-flycatcher** *Bias musicus*

This characterful, hammer-headed flycatchers was observed in the Mt. Kupe area.

**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 least 3 in the Bamenda Highlands. **Chestnut**

**Wattle-eye** *Platysteira castanea*

Small numbers were seen daily during our stay in Korup NP and in the Bokassi Mountains.

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

This beautiful little bird was seen in the Bokassi Mountains where a single was present in a mixed feeding flock.

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

Another stunning and restless bird, we had a mind-blowing encounter with a pair on Bokassi.

**Senegal Batis** *Batis senegalensis*

This species was seen on the tour at both Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Black-headed Batis** *Batis minor*

We found this species at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**West African Batis** *Batis occulta*

We had great views of 3 on Mt. Kupe, a seldom seen canopy species.

### Monarch Flycatchers *Monarchidae*

**Chestnut-capped Flycatcher** *Erythrocerus mcallii*

We had wonderful views in Korup NP and on Mt. Kupe.

**African Blue-Flycatcher** *Elminia longicauda*

A wonderfully common and beautiful bird, which constantly fans and wags its tail, we had sightings in many locales in the south with our highest day total of 10 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Dusky-crested Flycatcher** *Elminia nigromitrata*

We had superb views of 2 in the understorey in Korup NP.

**White-bellied Crested-Flycatcher (Monarch)** *Elminia albiventris*

We had good views of 6 birds on Mount Cameroon with further sightings in the Bokassi area.

**Blue-headed Crested-Flycatcher (Monarch)** *Trochocercus nitens*

This species was heard in Korup NP.

**Black-headed (Red-bellied) Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone rufiventer*

Our first sighting was in Korup NP with further views in the Bokassi/Mt.Kupe area.

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

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

**Bates' Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone batesi*

We had good sightings on Mt.Kupe.

**African Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone viridis*

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

### Rockfowl *Picathartidae*

**Gray-necked Rockfowl (Red-headed Picathartes)** *Picathartes oreas*

For most participants this was the bird of the trip. We waited at the site in Korup NP through a huge swarm of bees and were rewarded when a single bird came in to the nesting area. The following day one of the members of the group found 2 at the nesting area, which gave excellent views. This near-mythical bird is one of the most sought after birds on the continent. This was Hugh's 8000 world bird. Fantastic stuff!!!

### Babblers *Timaliidae*

**Blackcap Illadopsis** *Illadopsis cleaveri*

2 birds were seen by some of the group in Korup NP.

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

A total of 5 birds were seen in the forest understorey in Korup NP.

**African Hill Babbler** *Pseudoalcippe abyssinica*

At least 15 of this usually shy forest babbler were seen on our day at Mt Cameroon. And a single was seen in the Bamenda highlands.

*Note: The birds we saw at Bamenda belong to the potential split, Ruwenzori Hill Babbler, P. atriceps.*

**Thrush Babbler** *Ptyrticus turdinus*

A noisy and restless species that is very tough to see well. We all managed to get great views of a single bird in a patch of gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch, one member of the group found another pair, which showed very well.

**Blackcap Babbler** *Turdoides reinwardtii*

Another tricky species to see well, we found two groups 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 saw several groups of this wonderful and unique bird in the Bokassi/Mt. Kupe Mountains totaling 21 birds.

### Chickadees & Tits *Paridae*

**White-shouldered Black Tit** *Melaniparus guineensis*

We found good numbers at Ngaoundaba Ranch and 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.*

**Creepers *Certhiidae*****Spotted Creeper***Salpornis spilonotus*

We had fantastic views of 7 birds in total while birding in woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch and in Benoue NP.

**Penduline Tits *Remizidae*****Sennar Penduline-Tit***Anthoscopus parvulus*

We were very fortunate to find 5 of these endearing and elusive birds in tall acacia woodland outside Waza NP.

**Tit-hylia***Pholidornis rushiae*

We had wonderful views of 3 at the base of Mt. Kupe. This is Africa's smallest bird.

**Sunbirds & Spiderhunters *Nectariniidae*****Scarlet-tufted (Frasers') Sunbird***Deleornis (Anthreptes) fraseri*

A confusing species that often looks more like a greenbul than a sunbird. We had many sightings in Korup NP and Mt. Kupe.

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

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

We had stunning views of 2 at La Digue near Douala on our final afternoon.

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

A beautiful and very short-billed Sunbird, we found a fair number at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Little Green Sunbird***Anthreptes seimundi*

We found many in the Mt. Kupe area.

**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 Gray-chinned Sunbird *A. tephrolaemus* and the nominate Western Yellow-chinned Sunbird.*

**Collared Sunbird***Hedydipna (Anthreptes) collaris*

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

**(Southern) Pygmy Sunbird***Hedydipna (Anthreptes) platura*

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

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

We saw this species at two sites. First sightings were at Limbe Botanical Gardens where we saw a single bird. Later we had awesome views of a bunch at La Digue.

**Green-headed Sunbird***Cyanomitra (Nectarinia) verticalis*

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

**Blue-throated Brown Sunbird***Cyanomitra (Nectarinia) cyanolaema*

This forest sunbird was seen twice in Korup NP.

**Cameroon Sunbird***Cyanomitra oritis*

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

**Western Olive Sunbird***Cyanomitra (Nectarinia) obscura*

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 has been split into two full species by Clements and other authorities, 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***Chaclomitra fuliginosa*

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

**Scarlet-chested Sunbird***Cyanomitra (Nectarinia) senegalensis*

A total of 3 birds were seen in woodland at Benoue NP.

**Olive-bellied Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) chloropygia*

This is a typical forest edge species, seen at Mt. Kupe and Bokassi.

**Northern Double-collared Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) preussi*

Good numbers were seen on Mt. Cameroon with the rest being recorded in the Bamenda Highlands.

**Beautiful Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) pulchella*

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

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

We were fortunate to find one of these rare birds, a female in the farm bush on Mt. Kupe, the male was unfortunately only heard.

**Splendid Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) coccinigaster*

First seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch with several further sightings in the Mt. Kupe area.

**Johanna's Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) johannae*

A single female was sighted at the forest edge on the Mundemba road, a scarce species.

**Superb Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) superbus*

We found a single bird at the base of Mt. Kupe.

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

This can be a tough bird to find and is a near endemic to the country; we had great scope views of 1 bird and later found another on Max's trail, Mt. Kupe.

**Copper Sunbird***Cinnyris (Nectarinia) cuprea*

A total of two birds were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**White-eyes Zosteropidae****Cameroon Spierops***Spierops melanocephalus*

This Mount Cameroon endemic showed particularly well once we reached the treeline. A total of 9 birds were seen and included three separate sightings.

**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*.

**Old World Orioles Oriolidae****Eurasian Golden Oriole***Oriolus oriolus*

We recorded 1 bird at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**African Golden Oriole***Oriolus auratus*

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

**Western Black-headed Oriole***Oriolus brachyrhynchus*

Small numbers were seen in Korup NP and at Mt. Kupe.

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

We recorded at total of 8 birds in the Bokassi/Mt Kupe areas.

**Shrikes Laniidae****Emin's Shrike***Lanius gubernator*

This cracking mega was sighted on the entrance road to Benoue NP where we enjoyed some great views of this seldom-observed species.

**Southern Grey Shrike***Lanius meridionalis*

We saw 4 of these palearctic migrants in dry scrub North of Maroua.

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

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

**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.

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

We encountered 20 birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch during our stay there and a further 6 in Benoue NP. An unusual, gregarious species.

### Bushshrikes & Allies *Malaconotidae*

#### **Brubru**

*Nilaus afer*

Single birds were sighted at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

#### **Northern Puffback**

*Dryoscopus gambensis*

Restricted to the north, we found 7 at Ngaoundaba Ranch and 3 in Benoue NP.

#### **Red-eyed Puffback**

*Dryoscopus senegalensis*

This bird was heard initially and then later seen on a couple of occasions in the Bokassi/Mt. Kupe Mountains.

#### **Pink-footed Puffback**

*Dryoscopus angolensis*

We were treated to great views of several in the Bokassi/Mt. Kupe Mountains.

#### **Black-crowned Tchagra**

*Tchagra senegala*

The most widely distributed tchagra that was seen well in Benoue NP and further north near Mora.

#### **Brown-crowned Tchagra**

*Tchagra australis*

A single bird was sighted in the Bokassi foothills.

#### **Luehder's Bush Shrike**

*Laniarius luehderi*

This species was only heard in the Mt. Kupe/Bokassi area.

#### **Tropical Boubou**

*Laniarius aethiopicus*

A total of 2 birds were seen in at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Common (Yellow-crowned) Gonolek**

*Laniarius barbarus*

This brilliantly coloured bush-shrike was seen well in woodland south of Waza NP where we found a beautiful pair.

#### **Black-headed Gonolek**

*Laniarius erythrogaster*

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

#### **Yellow-breasted Boubou**

*Laniarius atroflavus*

6 of these stunning and confiding shrikes were seen well on Mount Cameroon, we had further sightings of 6 in the Bamenda highlands.

#### **Mountain Sooty Boubou**

*Laniarius poensis*

A total of 4 birds were seen in the Bokassi Mountains.

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

#### **Grey-green Bushshrike**

*Telophorus bocagei*

We had good views of one in the 'farm bush' on Mt. Kupe.

#### **Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike**

*Telophorus sulfureopectus*

A widespread African savanna species that was heard at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Many-colored Bushshrike**

*Telophorus multicolor*

This shy bird was brilliantly seen on Max's Trail, Mt. Kupe when 2 birds responded to tape playback.

#### **Mt. Kupe Bushshrike**

*Telophorus kupeensis*

One of Africa's most sought after species. We worked hard for this mega and our efforts were rewarded for some of the group with sightings of a single bird at extremely close range only 2 meters off the ground attending an ant swarm in the Bokassi Mountains. This endemic is one of the most frequently missed species on the route and we were very fortunate with our encounters.

#### **Fiery-breasted Bushshrike**

*Malaconotus cruentus*

This is another very scarce and seldom recorded species. One of the members of the group had great looks at a single bird at close range in the Bokassi Mountains.

#### **Green-breasted Bushshrike**

*Malaconotus gladiator*

This species was only heard in the Bokassi Mountains.

#### **Gray-headed Bushshrike**

*Malaconotus blanchoti*

This is a seldom seen species in Cameroon and we were fortunate to locate a pair at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### Helmetshrikes & Allies *Prionopidae*

**White Helmetshrike***Prionops plumatus*

We had some great views of a bunch at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

**Drongos *Dicruridae*****Square-tailed Drongo***Dicrurus ludwigii*

We located 3 in gallery forest at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Shining Drongo***Dicrurus atripennis*

This forest interior drongo was seen well in the Bokassi/ Mt. Kupe area.

**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 near Mundemba.

NOTE: Older versions of Clements lump this species within Fork-tailed Drongo *D. adsimilis* but the split has been recognized in recent Clements updates.

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

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

**Pied Crow***Corvus albus*

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

**Starlings *Sturnidae*****Wattled Starling***Creatophora cinerea*

A flock of 10 odd birds were found at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

This was the common starling species seen in the far north near Waza NP.

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

We found small numbers around Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Splendid Glossy-Starling***Lamprotornis splendidus*

This spectacular, large starling was seen near Mundemba and again in the Bamenda highlands.

**Purple Glossy-Starling***Lamprotornis purpureus*

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

**(Northern) Long-tailed Glossy-Starling***Lamprotornis caudatus*

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

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

Up to 25 seen daily in the dry scrubland north of Maroua.

**Violet-backed (Plum-coloured) Starling***Cinnyricinclus leucogaster*

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

**(Forest) Chestnut-winged Starling***Onychognathus fulgidus*

A pair of birds was located in the Mt. Kupe area.

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

This is a slightly smaller bird than the previous species and we found a single bird on Mt. Cameroon and a large flock of 20 on Max's Trail, Mt. Kupe.

**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 a pair.

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

We found this species on many occasions, sites included Mt. Cameroon, Limbe BG, Mundemba and Mt. Kupe.

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

This is a real special to the Ngaoundaba Ranch area and had good views of 7 birds during our time there.

**Yellow-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus africanus*

Birds were found in Benoue NP and again up at Waza NP.

**Old World Sparrows *Passeridae*****(Northern) Gray-headed Sparrow** *Passer griseus*

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

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

**Bush Petronia** *Petronia dentata*

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

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

This massive weaver was seen on numerous occasions 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.

**Chestnut-crowned Sparrow-Weaver** *Plocepasser superciliosus*

Our first sighting of one was 10 at Benoue NP. We found a further 15 in dry scrub north of Maroua.

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

This range restricted and endangered bird was seen only in the Bamenda Highlands. We counted a total of 3 birds in the area.

**Baglafaecht Weaver** *Ploceus baglafaecht*

Small numbers of this species were seen in the Bamenda Highlands and at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Little Weaver** *Ploceus luteolus*

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

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis*

Small numbers were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Mt. Cameroon and Benoue NP.

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

This snappy-looking weaver of forest edge was seen at Mt. Kupe.

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

This dapper bird of forest fringes was first seen at Mt Cameroon where we found a total of 3. Further sightings were had at Bokassi and in the Bamenda highlands.

**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.*

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

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

**Forest Weaver** *Ploceus bicolor*

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

**Preuss' Weaver** *Ploceus preussi*

This is an awesome weaver and a scarce bird throughout its range. We had magic views of two at the base of Mt. Kupe.

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

We had superb views of a pair 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** *Maimbus racheliae*

A rare and seldom recorded species of lowland forest, we were fortunate to find a single female during

our time there.

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

Another uncommon bird. We found a pair on the Mundemba road.

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

A secretive species that forages in thick tangles, we found a total of 3 in Korup NP, an uncommon interior species.

**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 on a number of occasions in woodland at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

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

**Black-winged Bishop** *Euplectes afer*

A group of 10 birds were sighted in non-breeding dress in Benoue NP.

**Orange Bishop** *Euplectes franciscanus*

Small numbers of non-breeding birds (20) were seen amongst flocks of red-billed quelea in Waza NP.

**Yellow Bishop (Yellow-rumped Widow)** *Euplectes capensis*

We found 5 on the upper slopes of Mount Cameroon.

**Fan-tailed Widowbird** *Euplectes axillaries*

A single bird coming into breeding plumage was seen at the base of Mt. Cameroon.

**Yellow-shouldered Widowbird** *Euplectes macrourus*

We had good views at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

**Marsh Widowbird** *Euplectes hartlaubi*

We found 8 birds in non-breeding plumage at Dang Lake.

### Waxbills & Allies *Estrildidae*

**White-breasted Negrofinch** *Nigrita fusconota*

Small numbers were seen on Mt Kupe.

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

This attractive seedeater was seen on Mt.Kupe.

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

2 birds were seen at Limbe BG where we had amazing views of a single scoped bird. We also found 2 at Mt. Kupe.

**Gray-headed (-crowned) Negrofinch** *Nigrita canicapilla*

The commonest negrofinch. It was seen at Limbe BG and in the Bokassi and Mt.Kupe areas. **Fernando Po**

**(Little/Shelly's) Oliveback** *Nesocharis shelleyi*

This beautiful little bird was refreshingly common on Mt Cameroon where we saw at least 25 individuals on our day there.

**Gray-headed Oliveback** *Nesocharis capistrata*

Tougher to see than it's congener although it enjoys a wider distribution in Cameroon. We first encountered 5 at Ngaoundaba Ranch and a further 3 in Benoue NP.

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

A total of 8 birds were seen on our day from Maroua to Waza NP. A widespread and beautifully marked finch.

**Red-faced Pytilia** *Pytilia hypogrammica*

We had some good views of 14 birds in woodland near Ngaoundaba Ranch. A rare and seldom recorded species although seen here in almost unprecedented numbers.

**Green-backed Twinspot** *Mandingoa nitidula*

We enjoyed superb views of one in the 'farm bush' on Mt.Kupe.

**Red-faced Crimson-wing** *Cryptospiza reichenovii*

We found 3 birds on Mt Cameroon. Typically shy and rather uncommon.

**Western Bluebill** *Spermophaga haematina*

A remarkably beautiful bird. We were treated to great views on Mt. Cameroon and also on the Mundemba road.

**Brown Twinspot** *Clytospiza monteiri*

A total of 12 birds were seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch. A beautifully patterned finch.

**Dybowski's Twinspot** *Clytospiza dybowskii*

This species is uncommon throughout its range and picked up 5 birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

We had a superb sighting of 4 birds at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

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

Commonly encountered at Benoue NP where we found up to 10 birds.

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

This large firefinch was first seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch. Our highest total was of 10 birds on a single day in Benoue NP.

**African Firefinch** *Lagonosticta rubricata*

This species was encountered at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.

**Black-faced Firefinch** *Lagonosticta larvata*

A rare Firefinch, we had great views of 5 in Benoue NP.

**Rock Firefinch** *Lagonosticta sanguinodorsalis*

We found just 2 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.

**Red-cheeked Cordonbleu** *Uraeginthus bengalus*

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

**Orange-cheeked Waxbill** *Estrilda melpada*

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*

Africa's most widespread waxbill was observed only on Bokassi and 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 nonnula*

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

**African Quailfinch** *Ortygospiza fuscocrissa*

We found a large flock of 20 near the Benoue River outside Garoua.

**African Silverbill** *Lonchura cantans*

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

**Bronze Mannikin** *Lonchura cucullata*

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

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

A small flock was seen in Limbe BG.

*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.*

**Magpie Mannikin** *Spermestes fringilloides*

A flock of 12 birds were found at Ngaoundaba Ranch. Not seen by the leader.

**Cut-throat** *Amadina fasciata*

Singles were found at water points in the Waza area.

### Indigobirds Viduidae

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

This familiar bird, which parasitises small seedeaters, was seen in Mundemba.

**Northern Paradise Whydah** *Vidua orientalis*

2 birds in non-breeding plumage were seen in Waza NP.

### Siskins, Crossbills & Allies *Fringillidae*

- Oriole Finch** *Linurgus olivaceus*  
This beautiful and endearing critter was seen exceptionally well on Mt Cameroon where we found 15 birds.
- White-rumped Seedeater** *Serinus leucopygius*  
We found 3 near the Benoue River and a couple in Waza NP.
- Yellow-fronted Canary** *Serinus mozambicus*  
This species was seen in small numbers daily at Ngaoundaba Ranch and Benoue NP.
- Thick-billed Seed-eater** *Serinus burtoni*  
Small numbers of this odd seedeater were seen on Mt. Cameroon.

### Buntings *Emberizidae*

- Brown-rumped Bunting** *Emberiza tahapisi*  
One bird was seen in Benoue NP and another at a rocky outcrop north of Maroua.
- Golden-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza flaviventris*  
This is a rare bird in Cameroon. We found a single bird on the flats north of Mora.
- Cabanis' Bunting** *Emberiza cabanisi*  
3 of these beautiful broad-leafed woodland birds were seen in Benoue NP.

## Annotated List of Mammal Species recorded

Taxonomy and nomenclature follows that of 'The Kingdon Field Guide to African Mammals' by Jonathan Kingdon, Academic Press, 1997.

### Colobid Monkeys *Colobidae*

- Guereza Colobus** *Colobus guereza*  
This beautiful primate was seen once in gallery forest in Benoue NP.

### Cheek-Pouch Monkeys *Cercopithecidae*

- Olive Baboon** *Papio anubis*  
We saw at least 30 in Benoue NP.
- Northern Talapoin** *Miopithecus ogouensis*  
This brilliant species was found in forest south of the Sanaga River, 7 were seen in total.
- Patas Monkey** *Erythrocebus patas*  
Our first sighting was of 3 during the drive from Ngaoundaba Ranch to Benoue NP. We recorded up to 15 daily whilst in the Waza area. This colourful monkey is largely terrestrial.
- Tantalus Monkey** *Cercopithecus tantalus*  
We observed this species first at Ngaoundaba Ranch where we recorded 20 and then again at Benoue NP where we found 5.
- Mona Monkey** *Cercopithecus mona*  
This species was heard calling in Korup NP.
- Putty-nosed Monkey** *Cercopithecus nictitans*  
A single was seen in Korup NP.
- Red-eared Monkey** *Cercopithecus erythrotis*  
We had great views of this range restricted species in Korup NP when 3 were found.

### Lorisids *Loridae*

- Senegal Galago** *Galago senegalensis*

We had good views of 3 during our night drive in Benoue NP.

### Fruit Bats *Pteropodidae*

#### **Straw-colored Fruit Bat**

*Eidolon helvum*

Many were seen outside our hotel in Douala.

### Hares & Rabbits *Leporidae*

#### **Scrub Hare**

*Lepus saxatilis*

Small numbers seen at Ngaoundaba Ranch, Benoue NP and Waza.

### Squirrels *Sciuridae*

#### **Striped Ground Squirrel**

*Euxerus erythropus*

Good numbers were seen near Waza NP.

#### **African Pygmy Squirrel**

*Myosciurus pumilio*

We found two on Mt. Cameroon.

#### **Fire-footed Rope Squirrel**

*Funisciurus pyrrops*

A single was found in Korup NP.

#### **Gambian Sun Squirrel**

*Heliosciurus gambianus*

We had good views of 2 at Ngaoundaba Ranch.

#### **Red-legged Sun Squirrel**

*Heliosciurus rufobrachium*

We found 1 at Limbe BG.

#### **Cooper's Mountain Squirrel**

*Paraxerus cooperi*

2 of these rather range restricted squirrels were found on Mt. Cameroon.

#### **African Giant Squirrel**

*Protoxerus stangeri*

We found one at the Sanaga River.

### Dogs & Allies *Canidae*

#### **Common (Golden) Jackal**

*Canis aureus*

A beautiful *Canid* that was seen very well in Waza NP, we found a total of 6 during our time there.

#### **Sand Fox**

*Vulpes pallida*

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

### Mongoose *Herpestidae*

#### **White-tailed Mongoose**

*Ichneumia albicauda*

We found a single on our night drive into Ngaoundaba Ranch.

### 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 found it once during our night drive near Waza NP.

### Hyraxes *Procaviidae*

#### **Black-necked Rock Hyrax**

*Procavia johstoni*

We found 2 on a rocky outcrop north of Maroua.

### Hippopotamuses *Hippopotamidae*

#### **Hippopotamus**

*Hippopotamus amphibius*

At least 10 were observed in the Benoue River near Garoua and we had further sightings of up to 10 daily in Benoue NP.

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

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

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

We had good sightings in Benoue NP and on our full day in Waza NP.

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

At least 2 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 14 were seen in Benoue NP.

**Ogilby's Duiker***Cephalophus ogilbyi*

Two were seen by some participants in Korup NP.

**Oribi***Ourebia ourebia*

We had wonderful views of 5 in Benoue NP.

**Kob***Kobus kob*

This was a particularly common mammal in Benoue NP where daily totals exceed 30. We observed smaller numbers in Waza NP.

**Defassa Waterbuck***Kobus ellipsiprymnus*

We found 13 in Benoue NP.

**Red-fronted Gazelle***Gazella rufifrons*

This dainty and incredibly quick creature was seen only in Waza NP where we observed 5.

**Kanki***Alcelaphus major*

At least 20 were sighted in the tall broadleaved woodlands in Benoue NP.

**Tsessebe***Damaliscus lunatus*

We observed at last 25 of these on our full day in Waza NP.

**Roan Antelope***Hippotragus equinus*

This graceful and large antelope was much appreciated by the group. We saw a total of 15 during our full day in Waza NP and 7 earlier in Benoue NP.

**Rockjumper Birding Tours****Worldwide Birding Adventures****PO Box 13972, Cascades, 3202, South Africa****Tel: +27 33 394 0225****Fax: +27 88 033 394 0225****Email: [info@rockjumper.co.za](mailto:info@rockjumper.co.za)****Website: [www.rockjumper.co.za](http://www.rockjumper.co.za)**