

## The avifauna of Cangandala National Park, Angola

Michael S. L. Mills<sup>a,b</sup>, Pedro vaz Pinto<sup>c</sup> and W. Richard J. Dean<sup>b</sup>

**L'avifaune du Parc National de Cangandala, Angola.** Le Parc National de Cangandala, au centre-nord de l'Angola, couvre 60,000 ha et consiste principalement de forêt claire à *Brachystegia–Julbernardia*. En 1972 et 1973, 161 espèces ont été observées sur ce site, qui par la suite a été identifié comme Zone d'Importance pour la Conservation des Oiseaux. Suite à des visites entre 2003 et janvier 2008, le nombre d'espèces observées a atteint 231, dont 20 espèces confinées au biome Zambézien. Le site comporte plusieurs espèces d'intérêt pour les ornithologues, parmi lesquelles divers spécialistes du Miombo, comme le Francolin de Finsch *Francolinus (Scleroptila) finschi*, l'Éremomèle à cou noir *Eremomela atricollis* et le Gobemouche de Böhm *Muscicapa boehmi*. Le parc, dont l'accès est à présent limité, deviendra probablement un site important pour l'observation des oiseaux une fois qu'il sera ouvert aux visiteurs.

**Summary.** Cangandala National Park, in north-central Angola, covers 60,000 ha and consists mainly of broad-leaved *Brachystegia–Julbernardia* woodland. In 1972 and 1973, 161 species were recorded at this site, which was subsequently identified as an Important Bird Area. Visits between 2003 and January 2008 have raised this total to 231, including 20 species restricted to the Zambezi biome. The site supports several species of interest to birdwatchers, including a high diversity of Miombo specialists, such as Finsch's Francolin *Francolinus (Scleroptila) finschi*, Black-necked Eremomela *Eremomela atricollis* and Böhm's Flycatcher *Muscicapa boehmi*. Although access is currently restricted, it is likely to become an important birdwatching site in the future.

Cangandala National Park (CNP), Angola's smallest national park (60,000 ha; Fig. 1) and now perhaps best known as the site where Giant Sable Antelope *Hippotragus niger variani* was rediscovered in 2005 by PVP and co-workers (Pitra *et al.* 2006; Fig. 2), is recognised as an Important Bird Area (IBA: Dean 2001). It is situated on the Angolan plateau at c.1,000 m in north-central part of the country (09°47'S 16°41'E), near the town of Malanje, capital of Malanje province. It is largely covered by broad-leaved woodland dominated by *Brachystegia* and *Julbernardia* species (Fig. 1), and harbours a significant component of those birds confined to the Zambezi biome (Fishpool & Evans 2001), with 13 of the 48 species that occur in Angola reported from this site (Dean 2001). Other habitats include papyrus swamps, broad-grassy drainage lines/dambos and gallery forest (see Dean 2001 for further details).

As is the case with most sites in Angola, the avifauna of CNP is poorly known. All previously published records are from August 1972 and September 1973, when WRJD visited the park for a total of two weeks, and some records from Merle & Brian Huntley (see Dean *et al.* 1988, Dean 2000). Nonetheless, these few observations were

sufficient for CNP to be recognised as an IBA (Dean 2001).

Our aim here is to update knowledge of the birds of this IBA and provide information on access to the park. New records include: (i) species recorded by PVP during c.20 visits between September 2003 and January 2008, (ii) species mist-netted along the Ombe River in gallery forest and adjacent woodland by PVP in October 2005, and (iii) species recorded on 7–9 August 2006 by MSLM and PVP.

### Results and Discussion

A list of all bird species recorded in CNP is presented in Table 1. Dean (2001) states that 170 species have been recorded, but several of these records could not be verified and have been omitted here. Since the park's identification as an IBA, the list has grown from 161 to 231 species—an increase of 43%, further validating its ornithological importance. Dean (2001) lists 13 species restricted to the Zambezi biome (species having 70% or more of their range within this biome: Fishpool & Evans 2001; see Table 1). We report on an additional seven species (Table 2), bringing the total to a minimum of 20 species. Other species that may be found in the future include

**Table 1.** List of the birds of Cangandala National Park, Angola.

1 = species recorded by WRJD in August 1972 (110 species); 2 = species recorded by WRJD in September 1973 (153 species); 3 = species recorded during c.25 visits by PVP between September 2003 and January 2008 (126 species); 4 = species mist-netted by PVP in October 2005 (16 species; numbers of individuals indicated); 5 = species recorded by MSLM during c.12 hours of daylight observations in August 2006 (113 species; approximate numbers indicated). Species restricted to the Zambezi biome (Fishpool & Evans 2001) are indicated by an asterisk.

**Tableau 1.** Liste des oiseaux du Parc National de Cangandala, Angola.

1 = espèces observées par WRJD en août 1972 (110 espèces); 2 = espèces observées par WRJD en septembre 1973 (153 espèces); 3 = espèces observées lors d'environ 25 visites de PVP entre septembre 2003 et janvier 2008 (126 espèces); 4 = espèces capturées au filet japonais par PVP en octobre 2005 (16 espèces; le nombre d'individus est indiqué); 5 = espèces observées par MSLM sur un total d'environ 12 heures en août 2006 (113 espèces; les nombres approximatifs sont indiqués). Les espèces confinées au biome Zambézien (Fishpool & Evans 2001) sont marquées d'un astérisque.

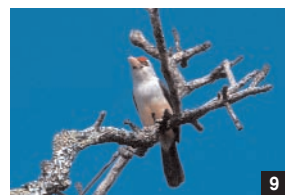
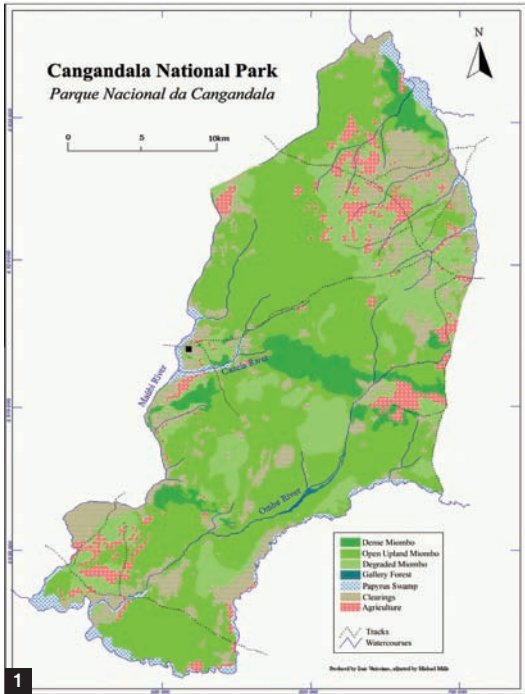
Common name	Scientific name	1	2	3	4	5
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>		x			
Green-backed Heron	<i>Butorides striata</i>			x		
Goliath Heron	<i>Ardea goliath</i>			x		
Hamerkop	<i>Scopus umbretta</i>		x			
African Openbill	<i>Anastomus lamelligerus</i>	x	x			
Abdim's Stork	<i>Ciconia abdimii</i>		x			
Woolly-necked Stork	<i>Ciconia episcopus</i>			x		
Marabou Stork	<i>Leptoptilos crumeniferus</i>			x		
Spur-winged Goose	<i>Plectropterus gambensis</i>			x		
Knob-billed Duck	<i>Sarkidiornis melanotos</i>			x		
African Pygmy Goose	<i>Nettapus auritus</i>			x		
Bat Hawk	<i>Macheiramphus alcinus</i>			x		
Black-shouldered Kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus</i>			x		
Yellow-billed Kite	<i>Milvus [migrans] parasitus</i>	x	x			2
Palm-nut Vulture	<i>Gypohierax angolensis</i>	x	x			
White-headed Vulture	<i>Trigonoceps occipitalis</i>	x	x			
Black-breasted Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus pectoralis</i>	x	x			1
Brown Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinereus</i>	x	x	x		
Western Banded Snake Eagle	<i>Circaetus cinerascens</i>	x	x			
Bateleur	<i>Terathopius ecaudatus</i>	x	x	x		5
African Harrier Hawk	<i>Polyboroides typus</i>	x	x	x		
African Marsh Harrier	<i>Circus ranivorus</i>		x			
Gabar Goshawk	<i>Micronisus gabar</i>	x	x	x		
Dark Chanting Goshawk	<i>Melierax metabates</i>	x	x	x		1
African Goshawk	<i>Accipiter tachiro</i>	x	x			
Shikra	<i>Accipiter badius</i>		x			1
Black Sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>	x	x			
Lizard Buzzard	<i>Kaupifalco monogrammicus</i>		x	x		4
Wahlberg's Eagle	<i>Aquila wahlbergi</i>		x	x		
African Hawk Eagle	<i>Hieraaetus spilogaster</i>	x	x			
Long-crested Eagle	<i>Lophaetus occipitalis</i>	x	x			
Martial Eagle	<i>Polemaetus bellicosus</i>			x		
Grey Kestrel	<i>Falco ardosiaceus</i>					2
Eurasian Hobby	<i>Falco subbuteo</i>			x		
African Hobby	<i>Falco cuvierii</i>			x		?
Peregrine Falcon	<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	x	x			
African Blue Quail	<i>Coturnix adansonii</i>		x			
Coqui Francolin	<i>Francolinus (Peliperdix) coqui</i>	x	x			
Finsch's Francolin	<i>Francolinus (Scleroptila) finschi</i>	x	x	x		
Red-necked Francolin	<i>Francolinus (Pternistis) afer</i>	x	x	x		2
Helmeted Guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>	x	x			
Kurrichane Buttonquail	<i>Turnix sylvaticus</i>	x	x			
Red-chested Flufftail	<i>Sarothrura rufa</i>		x			1
African Water Rail	<i>Rallus caerulescens</i>		x			
Black Crane	<i>Amauromis flavirostra</i>		x			
Black-bellied Bustard	<i>Lissotis melanogaster</i>		x			
Bronze-winged Courser	<i>Rhinoptilus chalcopterus</i>		x			4

Lesser Black-winged Lapwing	<i>Vanellus lugubris</i>		x				
African Green Pigeon	<i>Treron calvus</i>	x	x	x			20
Tambourine Dove	<i>Turtur tympanistria</i>					2	
Emerald-spotted Wood Dove	<i>Turtur chalcospilos</i>	x	x	x			8
Red-eyed Dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>	x	x	x			4
Cape Turtle Dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>			x	x		12
Meyer's Parrot	<i>Poicephalus meyeri</i>	x	x	x			16
Schalow's Turaco	<i>Tauraco schalowi</i>	x	x	x			6
Ross's Turaco	<i>Musophaga rossae</i>				x		2
Jacobin Cuckoo	<i>Clamator jacobinus</i>	x			x		
Levaillant's Cuckoo	<i>Clamator levaillantii</i>				x		
Thick-billed Cuckoo	<i>Pachycoccyx audeberti</i>				x		6
Red-chested Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus solitarius</i>	x	x	x			1
Black Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus clamosus</i>	x	x				1
African Cuckoo	<i>Cuculus gularis</i>	x	x				9
Klaas's Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx klaas</i>	x	x	x			
Didric Cuckoo	<i>Chrysococcyx caprius</i>	x	x	x			
Yellowbill	<i>Ceuthmochares aereus</i>				x		1
Coppery-tailed Coucal*	<i>Centropus cupreicaudus</i>			x			?1
White-browed Coucal	<i>Centropus superciliosus</i>	x	x	x			6
Black Coucal	<i>Centropus grillii</i>				x		
Senegal Coucal	<i>Centropus senegalensis</i>	x	x	x			
African Scops Owl	<i>Otus senegalensis</i>	x	x				2
Pearl-spotted Owlet	<i>Glaucidium perlatum</i>				x		
African Wood Owl	<i>Strix woodfordii</i>				x		
Marsh Owl	<i>Asio capensis</i>	x	x				
Swamp Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus natalensis</i>						4
Fiery-necked Nightjar	<i>Caprimulgus pectoralis</i>	x	x	x			11
Pennant-winged Nightjar	<i>Macrodipteryx vexillarius</i>	x	x				6
African Palm Swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>				x		
Little Swift	<i>Apus affinis</i>	x	x				
Narina's Trogon	<i>Apaloderma narina</i>						1
Brown-hooded Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon albiventris</i>	x					4
Grey-headed Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>	x	x	x			8
Woodland Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon senegalensis</i>	x					
Striped Kingfisher	<i>Halcyon chelicuti</i>	x	x				14
Malachite Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo cristata</i>				x		
Half-collared Kingfisher	<i>Alcedo semitorquata</i>				x		
Giant Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle maxima</i>				x		
Pied Kingfisher	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	x	x	x			
Little Bee-eater	<i>Merops pusillus</i>				x	x	4
Swallow-tailed Bee-eater	<i>Merops hirundineus</i>				x		
White-fronted Bee-eater	<i>Merops bullockoides</i>					x	
Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	<i>Merops persicus</i>					x	
European Bee-eater	<i>Merops apiaster</i>					x	
Southern Carmine Bee-eater	<i>Merops nubicoides</i>					x	
Rufous-crowned (Purple) Roller	<i>Coracias naevius</i>					x	
European Roller	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>					x	
Lilac-breasted Roller	<i>Coracias caudatus</i>	x	x				1
Broad-billed Roller	<i>Eurystomus glaucurus</i>	x	x	x			2
Green Wood-hoopoe	<i>Phoeniculus purpureus</i>	x	x				5
Black Scimitarbill	<i>Rhinopomastus aterrimus</i>	x	x				
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops africana</i>	x	x	x			8
Southern Ground Hornbill	<i>Bucorvus leadbeateri</i>	x	x				2
Crowned Hornbill	<i>Tockus alboterminatus</i>	x	x	x			8
Pale-billed Hornbill*	<i>Tockus pallidirostris</i>			x	x		12
Anchieta's Barbet*	<i>Stactolaema anchietae</i>	x	x	x			8
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	<i>Pogoniulus chrysoconus</i>	x	x	x			1
Black-collared Barbet	<i>Lybius torquatus</i>	x	x	x			2
Black-backed Barbet*	<i>Lybius minor</i>					x	
Green-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus zambesiae</i>	x	x				?
Brown-backed Honeybird	<i>Prodotiscus regulus</i>						2
Scaly-throated Honeyguide	<i>Indicator variegatus</i>				x		

Greater Honeyguide	<i>Indicator indicator</i>		x	x		1
Lesser Honeyguide	<i>Indicator minor</i>	x	x			1
Bennett's Woodpecker	<i>Campethera bennettii</i>		x			
Golden-tailed Woodpecker	<i>Campethera abingoni</i>	x	x	x		4
Cardinal Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos fuscescens</i>	x	x			4
Bearded Woodpecker	<i>Dendropicos namaquus</i>		x			2
African Broadbill	<i>Smithornis capensis</i>		x	x	2	6
Flappet Lark	<i>Mirafr rufocinnamomea</i>	x	x	x		1
Dusky Lark	<i>Pinarocorys nigricans</i>	x	x			7
Black Saw-wing	<i>Psalidoprocne pristopectera</i>	x	x			
Grey-rumped Swallow	<i>Pseudhirundo griseopyga</i>	x	x			
Mosque Swallow	<i>Cecropis senegalensis</i>			x		
Lesser Striped Swallow	<i>Cecropis abyssinica</i>	x	x	x		30
Red-throated Cliff Swallow*	<i>Petrochelidon rufigula</i>			x		
Angola Swallow	<i>Hirundo angolensis</i>	x	x			
Long-billed Pipit	<i>Anthus similis</i>	x	x			
Plain-backed Pipit	<i>Anthus leucophrys</i>		x			1
Black Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Campephaga flava</i>	x	x	x		6
White-breasted Cuckoo-shrike	<i>Coracina pectoralis</i>	x	x	x		8
Yellow-bellied Greenbul	<i>Chlorocichla flaviventris</i>		x			
Cabanis's Greenbul	<i>Phyllastrephus cabanisi</i>				13	
Common (Dark-capped) Bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus barbatus tricolor</i>	x	x	x	6	40
Black-collared Bulbul	<i>Neolestes torquatus</i>					2
Grey-winged Robin Chat	<i>Cossypha polioptera</i>				3	
White-browed Robin Chat	<i>Cossypha heuglini</i>	x	x	x	4	2
Red-capped Robin Chat	<i>Cossypha natalensis</i>				17	
Miombo Scrub Robin*	<i>Cercotrichas barbata</i>	x	x	x	1	16
White-browed Scrub Robin	<i>Cercotrichas leucophrys</i>	x	x			1
African Stonechat	<i>Saxicola torquatus</i>	x	x	x		4
Sooty Chat	<i>Myrmecocichla nigra</i>	x	x			
Arnot's Chat*	<i>Myrmecocichla amotti</i>	x	x			
Kurrihane Thrush*	<i>Turdus libonyana</i>	x	x			
Little Rush Warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>		x			4
African Moustached Warbler	<i>Melocichla mentalis</i>	x	x	x		
Broad-tailed Warbler	<i>Schoenicola brevirostris</i>	x	x	x		
Sedge Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i>			x		
Greater Swamp Warbler	<i>Acrocephalus rufescens</i>		x			4
African Yellow Warbler	<i>Chloropeta natalensis</i>	x				1
Green-capped Eremomela	<i>Eremomela scotops</i>	x	x			20
Black-necked Eremomela*	<i>Eremomela atricollis</i>					16
Red-capped Crombec*	<i>Sylvietta ruficapilla</i>	x	x			2
Willow Warbler	<i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>			x		
Yellow-bellied Hylia	<i>Hylia flavigaster</i>		x	x		15
Red-faced Cisticola	<i>Cisticola erythropus</i>					12
Rattling Cisticola	<i>Cisticola chiniana</i>		x			
Chirping Cisticola*	<i>Cisticola pipiens</i>			x		10
Croaking Cisticola	<i>Cisticola natalensis</i>		x			1
Piping Cisticola	<i>Cisticola fulvicapilla</i>	x	x			60
Slender-tailed (Black-tailed) Cisticola*	<i>Cisticola melanurus</i>		x			
Tawny-flanked Prinia	<i>Prinia subflava</i>		x			30
Yellow-breasted Apalis	<i>Apalis flavida</i>	x	x	x		4
Grey-backed Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera brevicaudata</i>		x	x	1	1
Hartert's Camaroptera	<i>Camaroptera (brevicaudata) harterti</i>				1	
Miombo Wren Warbler*	<i>Calamonastes undosus</i>					6
Southern Black Flycatcher	<i>Melaenornis pammelaina</i>	x	x			4
Pale Flycatcher	<i>Bradornis pallidus</i>		x	x		
Spotted Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa striata</i>			x		
Ashy Flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa caerulescens</i>	x	x			
Böhm's Flycatcher*	<i>Muscicapa boehmi</i>			x		2
Grey Tit Flycatcher	<i>Myioparus plumbeus</i>		x			10
African Paradise Flycatcher	<i>Terpsiphone viridis</i>	x	x	x	6	20
Black-throated Wattle-eye	<i>Platysteira peltata</i>				4	
Chinspot Batis	<i>Batis molitor</i>	x	x	x		2

Arrow-marked Babbler	<i>Turdoides jardineii</i>	x	x			10
Hartlaub's Babbler*	<i>Turdoides hartlaubii</i>	x	x	x		
Miombo Grey Tit*	<i>Parus griseiventris</i>	x	x			
Rufous-bellied Tit*	<i>Parus rufiventris</i>				x	6
White-winged Black Tit	<i>Parus leucomelas</i>		x	x		1
Grey (African) Penduline Tit	<i>Anthoscopus caroli</i>					8
Western Violet-backed Sunbird	<i>Anthreptes longuemarei</i>				x	8
Amethyst Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra amethystina</i>	x	x	x		1
Scarlet-chested Sunbird	<i>Chalcomitra senegalensis</i>					4
Variable Sunbird	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>	x			x	
Yellow White-eye	<i>Zosterops senegalensis</i>				x	8
Common Fiscal	<i>Lanius collaris</i>		x	x		4
Souza's Shrike*	<i>Lanius souzae</i>			x	x	
Grey-headed Bush-shrike	<i>Malaconotus blanchoti</i>	x	x	x		5
Sulphur-breasted Bush-shrike	<i>Telophorus sulfureopectus</i>	x	x			2
Brubru	<i>Nilaus afer</i>			x		1
Black-backed Puffback	<i>Dryoscopus cubla</i>	x	x	x		20
Marsh (Anchieta's) Tchagra	<i>Tchagra minutus anchietae</i>				x	2
Brown-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra australis</i>	x	x	x		1
Black-crowned Tchagra	<i>Tchagra senegalus</i>			x	x	8
Tropical Boubou	<i>Laniarius aethiopicus</i>	x	x	x		6
White-crested Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops plumatus</i>	x	x	x		30
Retz's Helmetshrike	<i>Prionops retzii</i>	x	x	x		3
Black-headed Oriole	<i>Oriolus larvatus</i>	x	x	x		20
African Golden Oriole	<i>Oriolus auratus</i>	x	x	x		20
Square-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus ludwigii</i>			x	x	
Fork-tailed Drongo	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis</i>			x	x	30
Pied Crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>				x	
Cape Glossy Starling	<i>Lamprotornis nitens</i>	x				
Sharp-tailed Glossy Starling*	<i>Lamprotornis acuticaudus</i>	x	x	x		20
Violet-backed Starling	<i>Cinnyricinclus leucogaster</i>	x	x	x		50
Wattled Starling	<i>Creatophora cinerea</i>					1
Yellow-throated Petronia	<i>Petronia supercilii</i>			x	x	30
Red-headed Weaver	<i>Anaplectes rubriceps</i>			x		1
Spectacled Weaver	<i>Ploceus ocularis</i>				x	
Golden Weaver	<i>Ploceus xanthops</i>	x	x	x		
Lesser Masked Weaver	<i>Ploceus intermedius</i>				x	
Dark-backed Weaver	<i>Ploceus bicolor</i>					1
Red-billed Quelea	<i>Quelea quelea</i>				x	
Yellow Bishop	<i>Euplectes capensis</i>	x	x	x		10
Yellow-mantled Widowbird	<i>Euplectes macroura</i>			x	x	
Marsh Widowbird	<i>Euplectes hartlaubi</i>				x	
Red-collared Widowbird	<i>Euplectes ardens</i>				x	
Fan-tailed Widowbird	<i>Euplectes axillaris</i>				x	
Grey Waxbill	<i>Estrilda perreini</i>					1
Fawn-breasted Waxbill	<i>Estrilda paludicola</i>			x	x	
Common Waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>	x	x	x		
Black-bellied Seedcracker	<i>Pyrenestes ostrinus</i>					3
Landana (Pale-billed) Firefinch	<i>Lagonosticta landanae</i>					1
Locust Finch	<i>Paludipasser locustella</i>			x		
Orange-breasted Waxbill	<i>Sporaeginthus subflavus</i>	x				
Bronze Mannikin	<i>Spermestes cucullatus</i>			x	x	20
Pin-tailed Whydah	<i>Vidua macroura</i>				x	
Broad-tailed Paradise Whydah*	<i>Vidua obtusa</i>	x			x	
Yellow-fronted Canary	<i>Serinus (Crithagra) mozambicus</i>	x	x			2
Cabanis's Bunting	<i>Emberiza cabanisi</i>	x	x			?2
Golden-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>					10
Cinnamon-breasted Bunting	<i>Emberiza tahapisi</i>			x		
<b>Totals</b>		<b>110</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>126</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>113</b>





**Table 2.** Species restricted to the Zambezi biome (Fishpool & Evans 2001) new to the Cangandala National Park bird list since Dean (2001). Observer initials in parentheses.

**Tableau 2.** Espèces confinées au biome Zambésien (Fishpool & Evans 2001) qui sont nouvelles pour le Parc National de Cangandala depuis Dean (2001). Entre parenthèses les initiales des observateurs.

Black-backed Barbet <i>Lybius minor</i>	uncommon in some gallery forests (PVP)
Red-throated Cliff Swallow <i>Hirundo rufigula</i>	several records, including a flock of a few hundred (PVP)
Chirping Cisticola <i>Cisticola pipiens</i>	c.10 individuals recorded in papyrus beds (MSLM)
Miombo Wren Warbler <i>Calamonastes undosus</i>	six individuals, recorded in most mixed-species flocks (MSLM)
Black-necked Eremomela <i>Eremomela atricollis</i>	present in almost every mixed-species flock (MSLM)
Böhm's Flycatcher <i>Muscicapa boehmi</i>	two seen in separate mixed-species flocks (PVP & MSLM)
Rufous-bellied Tit <i>Parus rufiventris</i>	present in most mixed-species flocks (PVP & MSLM)

Fülleborn's Longclaw *Macronyx fuellebornii*,  
Miombo Rock Thrush *Monticola angolensis* and  
Bannerman's Sunbird *Cyanomitra bannermani*.

Two species restricted to the Guinea-Congo  
Forests biome, Finsch's Francolin *Francolinus finschi*  
and Green Turaco *Tauraco persa*, have also

been reported (Dean 2001). However, the turaco  
is in fact the *schalowi* taxon, treated by Fishpool &  
Evans (2001) as a separate species, Schalow's  
Turaco *Tauraco schalowi*, which is not biome-  
restricted. The francolin is incorrectly considered  
as being restricted to the Guinea-Congo Forest

#### Captions to plates on opposite page

**Figure 1.** Map of Cangandala National Park, Angola (Luis Verissimo). The park is largely covered in Miombo woodland, with pockets of gallery forest, grass-lined watercourses and papyrus swamp.

Carte du Parc National de Cangandala, Angola (Luis Verissimo). Le parc consiste principalement de forêt claire à *Brachystegia-Julbernardia*, avec quelques forêts galeries, des cours d'eau bordés de prairies humides et des marais de papyrus.

**Figure 2.** Giant Sable Antelope *Hippotragus niger variani*, undated [1970s] (Brian Huntley). Although Cangandala National Park is most important for the conservation of Giant Sable Antelope, Angola's national mammal, it also holds a diverse array of bird species, including several species restricted to the Zambezi biome.

Hippotrague noir géant *Hippotragus niger variani*, sans date (Brian Huntley). Le Parc National de Cangandala est crucial pour la conservation de cette espèce, le mammifère national de l'Angola, mais héberge également une avifaune diverse, dont plusieurs espèces confinées au biome Zambésien.

**Figure 3.** Dark-backed Weaver *Ploceus bicolor*, October 2005 (Pedro vaz Pinto). This weaver appears to be confined to gallery forest along the Ombe River.

Tisserin bicolore *Ploceus bicolor*, octobre 2005 (Pedro vaz Pinto). Ce Plocéidé semble être inféodée à la forêt galerie le long de la rivière Ombe.

**Figure 4.** Pennant-winged Nightjar / Engoulevent porte-étendard *Macrodipteryx vexillarius* (Phil Palmer / [www.BirdHolidays.co.uk](http://www.BirdHolidays.co.uk))

**Figure 5.** Black-bellied Seedcracker *Pyrenestes ostrinus*, October 2005 (Pedro vaz Pinto). This species appears to favour moister conditions along the Ombe River.

Pyréneste ponceau *Pyrenestes ostrinus*, octobre 2005 (Pedro vaz Pinto). Cette espèce semble préférer les zones humides le long de la rivière Ombe.

**Figure 6.** African Broadbill / Eurylaime du Cap *Smithornis capensis* (Hugh Chittenden)

**Figure 7.** Bronze-winged Courser / Courvite à ailes bronzées *Rhinoptilus chalcopterus* (Mark Anderson)

**Figure 8.** Pale-billed Hornbill / Calao à bec pale *Tockus pallidirostris* (Jon Hornbuckle)

**Figure 9.** Black-backed Barbet / Barbican de Levaillant *Lybius minor* (Jon Hornbuckle)

biome, as most of its range lies in the Zambezi biome, and the species occurs only in woodland and open grassland. Thus CNP hosts no species restricted to the Guinea-Congo Forest biome.

### Information for visiting birders

This site holds great potential for birders, permitting safe (land-mine free) access to some pristine and diverse Miombo woodlands. Miombo species difficult to observe elsewhere include Pale-billed Hornbill *Tockus pallidirostris*, Anchieta's Barbet *Stactolaema anchietae*, Miombo Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas barbata*, Black-necked Eremomela *Eremomela atricollis*, Red-capped Crombec *Sylvietta ruficapilla*, Böhm's Flycatcher *Muscicapa boehmi*, Rufous-bellied Tit *Parus rufiventris* and Souza's Shrike *Lanius souzae*. Other sought-after species reliably found at the site include Finsch's Francolin *Francolinus (Scleroptila) finschi*, Bronze-winged Courser *Rhinoptilus chalcopterus*, Pennant-winged Nightjar *Macrodipteryx vexillarius*, Black-backed Barbet *Lybius minor*, African Broadbill *Smithornis capensis*, Red-throated Cliff Swallow *Petrochelidon rufigula*, Black-collared Bulbul *Neolestes torquatus*, Grey-winged Robin Chat *Cossypha polioptera*, Chirping Cisticola *Cisticola pipiens*, Hartlaub's Babbler *Turdoides hartlaubii*, Marsh (Anchieta's) Tchagra *Tchagra minutus anchietae*, Sharp-tailed Glossy Starling *Lamprolornis acuticaudus* and Landana (Pale-billed) Firefinch *Lagonosticta landanae*. The status of the poorly known Slender-tailed (Black-tailed) Cisticola *Cisticola melanurus* is uncertain.

However, access to CNP is currently only possible by special invitation and, as some of the side roads are still mined, it is not advised to attempt to reach the park alone. Some of the infrastructure, including accommodation, has recently been restored, but there are no general tourist facilities yet. (This is set to change: for updates, please visit [www.birdsangola.org](http://www.birdsangola.org).)

Although only 52 km by road south-east of Malanje town, current road conditions mean it is a four-hour drive. The road is tarred, although very badly potholed, for the first 27 km, as far as

Cangandala village. The remaining 25 km is along narrow, eroded tracks, with many side roads making it likely that unaccompanied first-time visitors will become lost. Still, the woodland of CNP is largely undisturbed, and once access is possible it will be well worth the drive.

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- <sup>a</sup>*Birding Africa, 21 Newlands Road, Claremont 7708, Cape Town, South Africa.*
- <sup>b</sup>*DST/NRF Centre of Excellence at the Percy FitzPatrick Institute, University of Cape Town, Rondebosch 7701, South Africa.*
- <sup>c</sup>*Centro de Estudos e Investigação Científica UCAN, Rua Nossa Senhora da Muxima 29, CP 2064 Luanda, Angola.*
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