

Ethiopia

9-21 April 2017

This trip report is compiled by Tomas Carlberg (Tomas.Carlberg@slu.se)



One of Ethiopia's star birds, the endemic Stresemann's Bushcrow. (TC)

Participants

Håkan Pohlstrand (main tour leader, guide and driver), Tomas Carlberg (co-leader), Brook Kassa (guide and driver).

Sören Lindén, Stockholm; Göran Frisk, Sollentuna; Johan Carlberg, Lidingö, Tommy Knutsson, Öland; Annika Sohlman, Öland; Torbjörn Peterson, Lidingö; Tomas Hallingbäck, Knivsta; Lena Krogh, Uppsala; Inger Marie Jaavall, Örje/Norway; Mattias Wallén, Uppsala; Katarina Nyberg, Uppsala.

Introduction

We recorded 389 species of birds and (at least) 31 species of mammals during this 11 birding days trip. We counted more bird species than we had expected, and saw lots of good stuff. It was still very dry in the southern parts of the country, but we experienced heavy rains during part of our visit in the Bale Mountains. This trip was arranged by Håkan Pohlstrand and Brook Kassa, Magic Land Tours. Contact: hpohlstrand@gmail.com.

In total we drove c. 2.300 kms. We spent seven nights in our comfortable tent camp, and two nights in different hotels.

Photographers: Tomas Carlberg (TC), Johan Carlberg (JC), Håkan Pohlstrand (HP), Inger Marie Jaavall (IMJ), and Sören Lindén (SL).



Håkan Pohlstrand at Fonan Gofa. (JC)



Acacia landscape, southern Ethiopia. (TC)



Amazing night sky at Fonan Gofa. (JC)



Our jeep on tour, Fonan Gofa. (JC)



Afternoon light in the landscape just north of Fonan Gofa. (TC)



Inger Marie searching for larks at Liben Plains, with some help from local kids... (JC)



Wonderful, bird rich forest at Hareenna. (JC)



We experienced some rain and mist in Bale Mountains. (JC)



Mattias watching a Blue-breasted Bee-eater at Bishangari. (JC)



Portraits from village Ola Wako Abo. (JC)

Itinerary

Sun 9 April 2017 Checked in 3 hrs before departure. Evening flight at 20:50 with Ethiopian Airlines from Stockholm, Arlanda to Addis Abeba.

Mon 10 April 2017 Arrived Addis Abeba at 06:40, met Håkan and Brook and then drove south. First stop was at Haile Resort, Lake Ziway, where we had lunch and time for some birding. After lunch continued to Lake Langano and Bishangari, to our tent camp, where we had some time for birding before sunset.

Tue 11 April 2017 Morning birding in Bishangari together with local guide Hakim. Then long driving to our hotel – Bekele Mola – in Arba Minch (temp here was +34 °C).

Wed 12 April 2017 Left our hotel early and drove to Yabello, where we had lunch, and then continued to Fonan Gofa, to our tent camp. Birding en route, e.g. at Lake Chamo.

Thu 13 April 2017 Morning birding in Fonan Gofa, looking for Black-fronted Francolin. Spent the rest of the day birding, e.g. between Yabello and Dubluk (N 4°12'46.51 E 38°17'50.2) and in the village Ola Wako Abo (with breeding White-tailed Swallow).

Fri 14 April 2017 Day trip from Fonan Gofa south to Didkallo Plains, including a walk around the isolated hill (kopje).

Sat 15 April 2017 Morning birding at Fonan Gofa, then long driving to Bobella Forest, where we had some time for birding before sunset. Tent camp.

Sun 16 April 2017 Morning birding in Bobella Forest, then long driving to Negelle. Stop in Melca Goba for White-winged Collared Dove. Afternoon birding at Liben Plains, looking for larks. Stayed at Hotel Turaco.

Mon 17 April 2017 Left Negelle early, breakfast and birding: N 5°29'30.54 E 39°29'21.86, then continued to Harena Forest in Bale Mountains National Park. Tent camp.

Tue 18 April 2017 Morning birding in Harena Forest, then driving to Gaysay Valley, Bale Mountains, birding en route, e.g. near Rira village, at Dinsho Lodge (N 7°05'44.53 E 39°47'24.08), and Sanetti Plateau, looking for Ethiopian Wolves. Lunch at N 6°56'34.24 E 39°57'34.98. Tent camp.

Wed 19 April 2017 Morning birding in Gaysay Valley, Bale Mountains. Lunch and vultures en route: N 6°59'56.72 E 39°16'22.26, then continued to Abiata-Shalla National Park in the Great Rift Valley, where we had some time for birding before sunset.

Thu 20 April 2017 Morning birding at lakes Shalla and Abiata and in the surrounding areas. Then driving to Addis Abeba and Ghion Hotel. After final dinner we went to the airport. Flight back to Stockholm at 22:50.

Fri 21 April 2017 Arrived Stockholm, Arlanda at 06:40.

List of birds

389 species recorded. Taxonomy follows IOC.

The subspecies (in brackets) are in most cases assigned based on the above list rather than by morphological characters noted in the field.

Somali Ostrich *Struthio molybdophanes* c 20 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and c 15 Abiata-Shalla NP 19-20/4.



Somali Ostrich in back light, Abiata-Shalla National Park. (TC)

Spur-winged Goose *Plectropterus gambensis* 4 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Knob-billed Duck *Sarkidiornis melanotos* 2 near Negelle 16/4.

Blue-winged Goose *Cyanochen cyanoptera* E. 15 Bale Mountains 18-19/4.

Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiaca* common 10-11/4, 10 12/4, 2 Bobella 15/4, 50 16/4, and 6 17/4.

Ruddy Shelduck *Tadorna ferruginea* 5 Sanetti Plateau 18/4.

African Pygmy Goose *Nettapus auritus* 6-8 Bulbula River 20/4.

Cape Teal *Anas capensis* 8 Lake Shalla 20/4.

African Black Duck *Anas sparsa* 2 Bale Mts 19/4. (*leucostigma*)



Knob-billed Duck. (JC)

Yellow-billed Duck *Anas undulata (rupPELLI)* 4 Bale Mts 18-19/4

Hottentot Teal *Anas hottentota* 2 Lake Ziway 10/4.

Helmeted Guineafowl *Numida meleagris* 5 12/4, 21 13/4, 4 16/4, 30 Abiata-Shalla NP 19-20/4. Two ssp occur (*meleagris* and *somaliensis*).

Vulturine Guineafowl *Acryllium vulturinum* 70 en route 16/4.

Crested Francolin *Dendroperdix sephaena* 5 rd 12/4, 5 Fonan Gofa 15/4, h 16/4, and common 17/4.

Clapperton's Francolin *Pternistis clappertoni* 4 Abiata-Shalla 19/4. (*nigrosquamatus*)

Chestnut-naped Francolin *Pternistis castaneicollis* 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4. (*castaneicollis*)

Black-fronted Francolin *Pternistis atrifrons*

We had great scope views of 2 our first morning at Fonan Gofa 13/4. Lena found them walking on cliffs high up on the mountain wall.

Black-fronted Francolin is recently (2017) split by IOC. This rare bird is a near endemic, occurring in S Ethiopia (around Mega, in Oromia Region), and recorded also in extreme N Kenya (Moyale).

Yellow-necked Spurfowl *Pternistis leucoscepus* 10 rd 12/4, 2 13/4, 15 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 5 rd 15/4, and 4 rd 16/4.

Little Grebe *Tachybaptus ruficollis* 3 near Negelle 16/4, 2 Bale Mts 19/4, and very common at Lake Shalla 20/4.



Black-fronted Francolin - at some distance... Note the two Rock Hyraxes to the left of the francolin. We had good scope views of this very rare bird. (HP)

Black-necked Grebe *Podiceps nigricollis* Very common ('hundreds') at Lake Shalla 20/4.

Greater Flamingo *Phoenicopterus roseus* 'Thousands' at Lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4. Approx 80/20 % Lesser vs Greater.

Lesser Flamingo *Phoeniconaias minor* 'Thousands' at Lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4. Approx 80/20 % Lesser vs Greater.

Yellow-billed Stork *Mycteria ibis* Lake Ziway: 1 10/4, and 2 20/4.

Abdim's Stork *Ciconia abdimii* 25 10/4, 50 rd 11/4, 2 13/4, and 1 rd 20/4.

Woolly-necked Stork *Ciconia episcopus* 1 Bishangari 10/4, 1 Arba Minch 11/4, and 2 12/4.

Marabou Stork *Leptoptilos crumenifer* Noted as common 10-12/4, and 20/4, and 1 rd 17/4.

African Sacred Ibis *Threskiornis aethiopicus* Common 10-11/4, 4 rd 12/4, 30 Liben Plains 16/4, and common 19-20/4.

Hadada Ibis *Bostrychia hagedash* 4 10/4, 2 Lake Chamo 12/4, 1 Bale Mts 15/4, 2 Bale + 1 rd 16/4, 2 17/4, and 3 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Wattled Ibis *Bostrychia carunculata* 10 10/4, and common Bale Mts 18-19/4.

African Spoonbill *Platalea alba* 8 Lake Chamo 12/4.

Black-crowned Night Heron *Nycticorax nycticorax* 1 Lake Chamo 12/4. (nominated)



Woolly-necked Stork near Arba Minch. (TC)

Striated Heron *Butorides striata* 1 Lake Chamo 12/4, and 1 Lake Ziway 20/4. (*atricapilla*)

Squacco Heron *Ardeola ralloides* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 3 Lake Chamo 12/4, and 1 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Western Cattle Egret *Bubulcus ibis* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 2 11/4, 3 rd 12/4, 10 rd 15/4, 5 rd 16/4, and 5 rd 20/4.

Grey Heron *Ardea cinerea* 1 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Black-headed Heron *Ardea melanocephala* 1 rd 11/4, 1 rd 12/4, 1 rd 17/4, and 1 Bale Mts 19/4.

Goliath Heron *Ardea goliath* 2 Lake Chamo 12/4.

Purple Heron *Ardea purpurea* 1 Lake Chamo 12/4.

Great Egret *Ardea alba* 1 Lake Ziway 20/4. (*melanorhynchos*)

Intermediate Egret *Egretta intermedia* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4. (*brachyrhyncha*)

Black Heron *Egretta ardesiaca* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 Lake Chamo 12/4, and 1 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Little Egret *Egretta garzetta* Lake Ziway: 1 10/4, and 1 20/4.

Hamerkop *Scopus umbretta* 10 10/4, 1 rd 16/4, 2 rd 17/4, 2 rd 19/4, and 20 rd 20/4.

Great White Pelican *Pelecanus onocrotalus* 20 Lake Ziway 10/4, common at Lake Shalla and Ziway 20/4.

Reed Cormorant *Microcarbo africanus* Lake Ziway: 2 10/4, and 1 20/4.



Reed Cormorant (or Long-tailed Cormorant) at Lake Ziway. (JC)

African Darter *Anhinga rufa* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4 and 20/4, and 2 rd 17/4.

Black-winged Kite *Elanus caeruleus* 2 rd 12/4, and 1 rd 15/4.

Egyptian Vulture *Neophron percnopterus* 1 rd 13/4.

Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus* 8 10/4, 40 rd 11/4, 10 rd 12/4, 3 13/4, 5 Fonan Gofa 14/4, 10 15/4, 20 16/4, and 20 rd 17/4.

White-backed Vulture *Gyps africanus* 10 10/4, 4 15/4, 5 rd 16/4, 2 rd 17/4, and 20 rd 19/4.

Rüppell's Vulture *Gyps rueppelli* 1 10/4, 3 13/4, 5 Fonan Gofa 15/4, and 10 rd 19/4. (*erlangeri*)

White-headed Vulture *Trigonoceps occipitalis* 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 4 rd 16/4.

Lappet-faced Vulture *Torgos tracheliotos* 4 rd 19/4.

Black-chested Snake Eagle *Circaetus pectoralis* 1 rd 17/4.

Bateleur *Terathopius ecaudatus* 1 13/4, 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 2 rd 15/4.



Rüppell's Vulture. (TC)

Long-crested Eagle *Lophaetus occipitalis* 2 rd 11/4, and 1 19/4.

Booted Eagle *Hieraaetus pennatus* 1 rd 12/4.

Ayres's Hawk-Eagle *Hieraaetus ayresii* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4.



Ayres's Hawk-Eagle at Lake Ziway. (JC)

Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax* 2 10/4, 2 13/4, 4 Fonan Gofa 14/4, 4 15/4, 2 rd 16/4, and 4 19/4.



Tawny Eagle *Aquila rapax*, Abiata-Shalla National Park. (TC)

Steppe Eagle *Aquila nipalensis* 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4. (*orientalis*)

Dark Chanting Goshawk *Melierax metabates* 4 10/4.

Eastern Chanting Goshawk *Melierax poliopterus* 1 rd 12/4, 3 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 5 15/4, and 1 rd 16/4.

Shikra *Accipiter badius* 1 rd 16/4, and 1 rd 17/4.

Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk *Accipiter rufiventris* 1 Bale Mts 18/4.

Black Sparrowhawk *Accipiter melanoleucus* 1 Bobella Forest 15/4.

Western Marsh Harrier *Circus aeruginosus* 1 Lake Ziway + 1 rd 10/4.

Pallid Harrier *Circus macrourus* 2 rd 19/4.

Yellow-billed Kite *Milvus aegyptius* Noted as common and seen almost daily.

African Fish Eagle *Haliaeetus vocifer* 3 Lake Ziway + 1 Bishangari 10/4, 2 Bishangari 11/4, 5 Lake Chamo 12/4, and 2 Lake Shalla + 2 Lake Ziway 20/4.

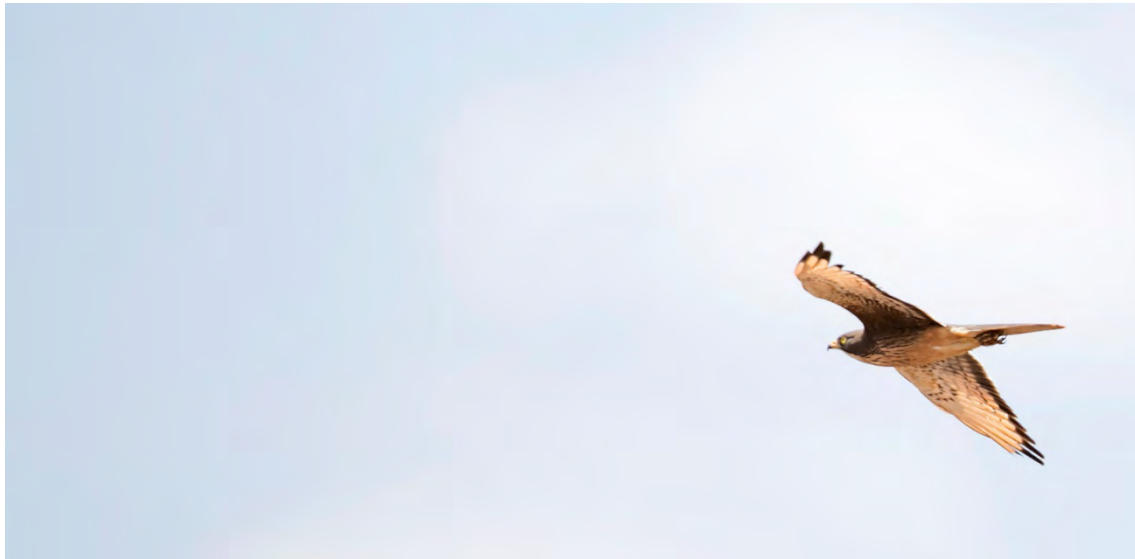


Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk. (HP)



African Fish Eagle at Lake Langano. (JC)

Grasshopper Buzzard *Butastur rufipennis* 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4.



Grasshopper Buzzard. (TC)

Mountain Buzzard *Buteo oreophilus* 4 Bale Mts 18-19/4.



Mountain Buzzard. (TC)

Augur Buzzard *Buteo augur* 1 rd 10/4, 1 13/4, 3 rd 15/4, 1 rd 17/4, 6 Bale Mts 18/4, and 2 rd 20/4.

Kori Bustard *Ardeotis kori* 8 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 2 rd 16/4. (*struthiunculus*)



Augur Buzzard, Bale Mountains. (JC)

White-bellied Bustard *Eupodotis senegalensis* 5 13/4. (*canicollis*)

Buff-crested Bustard *Lophotis gindiana* 3 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 1 rd 16/4.

Heuglin's Bustard *Neotis heuglinii* Male and female at Didkallo Plains 14/4 (male only seen by HP).



Heuglin's Bustard, female. (TC)

Rouget's Rail *Rougetius rougetii* 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4.



The endemic Rouget's Rail. (TC)

Black Crake *Amaurornis flavirostra* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4.

Common Moorhen *Gallinula chloropus* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 Lake Chamo 12/4, 1 Bale Mts 19/4, and 1 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Red-knobbed Coot *Fulica cristata* 8 Bale Mts 19/4.

Black Crowned Crane *Balearica pavonina* 2 Lake Ziway 20/4. (*ceciliae*)



Black Crowned Crane. (JC)

Senegal Thick-knee *Burhinus senegalensis* 2 Bishangari 11/4.

Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis* 1 13/4.



Spotted Thick-knee sneaking around in the bush. (TC)

Black-winged Stilt *Himantopus himantopus* 1 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Pied Avocet *Recurvirostra avosetta* Common Lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4.

Spur-winged Lapwing *Vanellus spinosus* 2 Lake Ziway 10/4, 2 Bishangari 11/4, 4 rd 16/4, and 4 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Crowned Lapwing *Vanellus coronatus* 2 rd 11/4, 10 13/4, 2 rd 16/4, and 20 Abiata-Shalla NP 20/4.

Common Ringed Plover *Charadrius hiaticula* 4 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Kittlitz's Plover *Charadrius pecuarius* 15 Abiata-Shalla 20/4.

Three-banded Plover *Charadrius tricollaris* 2 Bale Mts 19/4, and 1 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Greater Painted-snipe *Rostratula benghalensis* 1 male Gaysay Valley, Bale Mts 19/4.

African Jacana *Actophilornis africanus* Lake Ziway: 4 10/4, and 4 20/4. (*aequatorialis*)

Lesser Jacana *Microparra capensis* 1 Bulbula River near Lake Ziway 20/4.



Lesser Jacana. (TC)

Black-tailed Godwit *Limosa limosa* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4.

Marsh Sandpiper *Tringa stagnatilis* 1 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Common Greenshank *Tringa nebularia* 1 Bishangari 11/4, and 2 Lake Chamo 12/4.

Green Sandpiper *Tringa ochropus* 1 Bishangari 15/4.

Wood Sandpiper *Tringa glareola* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 Bobella 15/4, 4 rd 16/4, 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4, and 10 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Common Sandpiper *Actitis hypoleucos* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 Bishangari 11/4, 1 rd 15/4, and 2 Lake Shalla + 2 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Little Stint *Calidris minuta* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 Bobella 15/4, and common at Lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4.

Temminck's Stint *Calidris temminckii* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 3 Bale Mts 18/4, and 5 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Curlew Sandpiper *Calidris ferruginea* at least 2 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Ruff *Philomachus pugnax* 15 rd 10/4, common Lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4.

Somali Courser *Cursorius somalensis* 5 13/4, and 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Three-banded Courser *Rhinoptilus cinctus* 1 between lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4. (*mayaudi*)

Grey-headed Gull *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* 2 Lake Ziway 10/4.

Gull-billed Tern *Gelochelidon nilotica* 5 Lakes Shalla and Abiata 20/4, and 2 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Caspian Tern *Hydroprogne caspia* 2 Lake Abiata 20/4.

White-winged Tern *Chlidonias leucopterus* 5 Lake Ziway 10/4, 5 Lake Langano 11/4, common Lake Shalla + 10 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Rock Dove *Columba livia* 2 rd 10/4.

Speckled Pigeon *Columba guinea* Seen almost daily, often common.

White-collared Pigeon *Columba albitorques* c 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4. Endemic to Ethiopia and Eritrea.

African Olive Pigeon *Columba arquatrix* 10 Bishangari 10/4, and 14+20 Hareenna Forest 17-18/4.

Lemon Dove *Columba larvata* 2 Bishangari 11/4, and 2 rd 17/4.

Dusky Turtle Dove *Streptopelia lugens* 15 10/4, 2 Bishangari 11/4, 5 rd 12/4, 2 Bobella 15/4, 5 rd 16/4, 2 17/4, and fairly common 18-19/4.

White-winged Collared Dove *Streptopelia reichenowi* 1 at nest in Melca Goba 16/4. Endemic to Ethiopia and Somalia.



White-winged Collared Dove. (JC)

Mourning Collared Dove *Streptopelia decipiens* 5 10/4, common 11/4, and 1 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Red-eyed Dove *Streptopelia semitorquata* Seen, and very often heard, almost daily, common.

Ring-necked Dove *Streptopelia capicola* Common and seen almost daily, e.g. c 300 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Laughing Dove *Spilopelia senegalensis* Fairly common and noted almost daily.

Emerald-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur chalcospilos* 5 h 13/4, 1 seen + 2 h 14/4, and 3 15/4.

Blue-spotted Wood Dove *Turtur afer* 1 h Bishangari 11/4.

Tambourine Dove *Turtur tympanistria* 1 Harenna Forest 17/4.

Namaqua Dove *Oena capensis* 10 rd 10/4, common 11/4, fairly common 12/4, 10 18-19/4, and 10 rd 20/4.

Bruce's Green Pigeon *Treron waalia* 3 Bishangari 11/4.

White-cheeked Turaco *Tauraco leucotis* 1 rd + 1 Bishangari 10/4, 1 Bishangari 11/4, and 4 Harenna Forest 18/4. (*leucotis*). Endemic to Ethiopia, Eritrea and extreme E Sudan.

Ruspoli's Turaco *Tauraco ruspolii* E. 6+6 Bobella Forest 15-16/4, and 1 rd 17/4.



Ruspoli's Turaco in Bobella Forest. (TC)

Bare-faced Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides personatus* 2+2 Bishangari 10-11/4, 3 13/4, and 2+4 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4.

Note: This taxon is recently splitted by HBW into **Brown-faced Go-away-bird** *Corythaixoides personatus* (endemic to Ethiopia) and Black-faced Go-away-bird *C. leopoldi* occurring in Kenya.

White-bellied Go-away-bird *Corythaixoides leucogaster* 6 rd 12/4, 5 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 4 Bobella 16/4, 1 rd 17/4, and 5+5 18-19/4.

Blue-headed Coucal *Centropus monachus* 1 rd 18/4. (*monachus*)

Great Spotted Cuckoo *Clamator glandarius* 1 rd 12/4.

Levaillant's Cuckoo *Clamator levaillantii* 1 Bishangari 11/4, and 1 Bobella Forest 16/4.



Levaillant's Cuckoo at Bishangari. (IMJ)

Jacobin Cuckoo *Clamator jacobini* 2 seen where we had lunch 15/4 (*serratus*)

African Emerald Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx cupreus* 1 17/4, and 1 h 18/4.

Diederik Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx caprius* 2 rd 16/4, and 1 h Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4.

Klaas's Cuckoo *Chrysococcyx klaas* 1 13/4.

Black Cuckoo *Cuculus clamosus* 1 Bishangari 10/4, 1 h Bishangari 11/4, 1 rd 17/4. (nominate)

Common Cuckoo *Cuculus canorus* 1 Bobella Forest 16/4, and several rd 17/4.

Red-chested Cuckoo *Cuculus solitarius* 1 h Bishangari 11/4, 1 h Fonan Gofa 12/4, 1 h 13/4, 1 h Fonan Gofa 14/4, 2 seen 15/4, 2 16/4, com 17/4, h 19/4.

Western Barn Owl *Tyto alba* 1 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4. (*affinis*)



Western Barn Owl. (TC)

African Scops Owl *Otus senegalensis* 1 h Fonan Gofa 14-15/4.

African Wood Owl *Strix woodfordii* 1 h Harena Forest 18/4, and 1 seen at Dinsho Lodge 19/4. (*umbrina*)

Pearl-spotted Owlet *Glaucidium perlatum* 1 12/4, 1 h 13/4, 1 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4. (*licua*)

Abyssinian Owl *Asio abyssinicus* 1 heard Harena 17/4, and 1 juvenile seen Dinsho Lodge 19/4. (nominata)



African Wood Owl, juvenile. (TC)

Greyish Eagle-Owl *Bubo cinerascens* 2 ad and 3 juv Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4.



Greyish Eagle-Owl. (TC)

Slender-tailed Nightjar *Caprimulgus clarus* 2 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4.

African Palm Swift *Cypsiurus parvus* 2 Negelle 16/4.

Nyanza Swift *Apus niansae* 2 Arba Minch 11/4.

Common Swift *Apus apus* 5 rd 17/4.

White-rumped Swift *Apus caffer* 2 rd 17/4.

Speckled Mousebird *Colius striatus* Noted as common and seen almost daily.

Blue-naped Mousebird *Urocolius macrourus* 4 rd 10/4, 2 rd 12/4, and 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4. (possibly ssp *abyssinicus* in C & S, and *pulcher* in extreme S, around Fonan Gofa).

Narina Trogon *Apaloderma narina* 1 male Bishangari 10-11/4.



Narina Trogon at Bishangari. (JC)

Purple Roller *Coracias naevius* 3 rd 11/4, 8 rd 12/4, 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4, 5 rd 16/4, and 2 rd 17/4.

Lilac-breasted Roller *Coracias caudatus* 4 Bishangari 10/4, 8 rd 12/4, 10 13/4, 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4, 2 rd 15/4, 5 rd 16/4, and 1 Lake Shalla 20/4. (*lorti*)

Abyssinian Roller *Coracias abyssinicus* 1 Bishangari 10/4, 6 rd 11/4, and 1 rd 16/4.

Broad-billed Roller *Eurystomus glaucurus* 1 rd, Sagan River 12/4. (*aethiopicus*)

Grey-headed Kingfisher *Halcyon leucocephala* 3 rd 17/4.

Striped Kingfisher *Halcyon chelicuti* 2 rd 17/4.

Woodland Kingfisher *Halcyon senegalensis* 1 rd 10/4, and 1 Bishangari 11/4.

Malachite Kingfisher *Corythornis cristatus* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4 and 20/4. (*stuartkeithi*)



Malachite Kingfisher at Lake Ziway. (JC)

Pied Kingfisher *Ceryle rudis* 1 rd + 1 Bishangari 10/4, and 1 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Little Bee-eater *Merops pusillus* 8 rd 10/4, 1 rd 12/4, 2 13/4, 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 1 16/4, 1 rd 17/4, and 1 Abiata-Shalla NP 19-20/4. (*cyanostictus*)

Blue-breasted Bee-eater *Merops variegatus* 3+4 Bishangari 10-11/4. (*lafresnayii*)

Note: HBW splits this taxon into **Ethiopian Bee-eater** *Merops lafresnayii* (endemic to Ethiopia, Eritrea and E South Sudan).

European Bee-eater *Merops apiaster* 20 rd 12/4, 10 Bobella Forest 15/4, and c 40 rd 17/4.

Somali Bee-eater *Merops revoilii* 1 near Kenya border 14/4.

Blue-cheeked Bee-eater *Merops persicus* 3 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Eurasian Hoopoe *Upupa epops* 2 10/4, 2 11/4, 1 12/4, c 20 13/4, 5 14/4, common 15/4, 10 16/4, and 1 rd 20/4.

Black-billed Wood Hoopoe *Phoeniculus somaliensis* 3 rd 10/4, and 4 rd 17/4. (*neglectus*)



Blue-breasted Bee-eater at Bishangari. (JC)



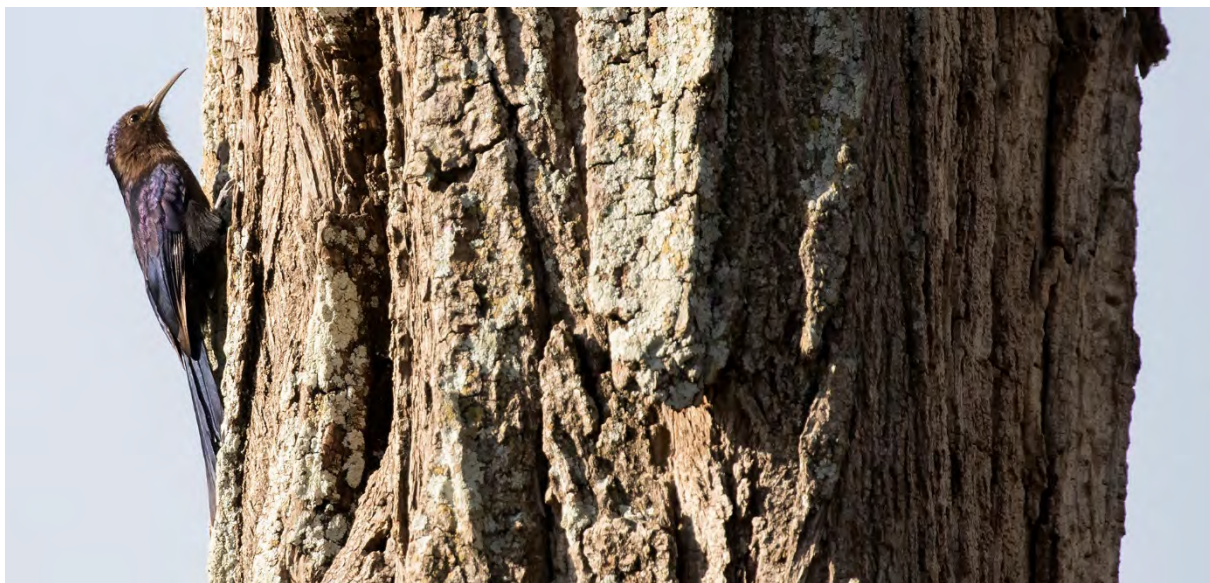
European Bee-eater. (TC)

Abyssinian Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus minor* 1 13/4. (*cabanisi*)

Black Scimitarbill *Rhinopomastus aterrimus* 2 Bishangari 11/4, and 3+1 Abiata-Shalla 19-20/4.



Black-billed Wood Hoopoe. (TC)



Black Scimitarbill, immature, at Bishangari. (JC)

Abyssinian Ground Hornbill *Bucorvus abyssinicus* 2 rd + 2 Bishangari 10-11/4, 2 rd 12/4, and 1 13/4.

Northern Red-billed Hornbill *Tockus erythrorhynchus* 1 Bishangari 11/4, 2 rd 12/4, 4 13/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4 and at lunch site 15/4, common 16/4, seen 17/4, 5 19/4, and 5 20/4.

Von der Decken's Hornbill *Tockus deckeni* 10 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 5 rd 17/4, and 1 Abiata-Shalla 19/4.

Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill *Tockus flavirostris* 10 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 10 rd 16/4.



Eastern Yellow-billed Hornbill. (TC)

Hemprich's Hornbill *Lophoceros hemprichii* 20-30 Bishangari 10-11/4, 5 13/4, 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, and 2 Bobella 15/4.

African Grey Hornbill *Lophoceros nasutus* 1 rd 11/4, 4 rd 12/4, and 1 rd 16/4.

Silvery-cheeked Hornbill *Bycanistes brevis* 10-15 Bishangari 10-11/4, 1 Bobella 15/4, and 4 Harena Forest 17/4.

Red-fronted Tinkerbird *Pogoniulus pusillus* 3 Bishangari 10-11/4 (*uropygialis*)

Red-fronted Barbet *Tricholaema diademata* 2 13/4.

Black-throated Barbet *Tricholaema melanocephala* 2 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, and 2 rd 16/4. (nominate in S & C Ethiopia, and *stigmatothorax* in S Ethiopia)

Banded Barbet *Lybius undatus* 2 Bishangari 11/4 (*undatus* in NW to C Ethiopia, and *leucogenys* in SC to SW Ethiopia)

Black-billed Barbet *Lybius guifsobalito* 1 Arba Minch 11/4, and 1 Abiata-Shalla 19/4.

Double-toothed Barbet *Lybius bidentatus* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 3 Bobella 16/4, and 1 Abiata-Shalla 20/4. (*aequatorialis*)

Red-and-yellow Barbet *Trachyphonus erythrocephalus* 1 near Mega 12/4, 1 13/4, 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4, 4 rd 17/4, and 2 rd 18/4. (*versicolor*)



Illusion of a Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Bishangari. (JC)



Silvery-cheeked Hornbill, Bishangari. (TC)



Red-and-yellow Barbet. (IMJ)

D'Arnaud's Barbet *Trachyphonus darnaudii* 4 rd 12/4, 2 13/4, and 3 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4. (*boehmi*)

Lesser Honeyguide *Indicator minor* 1 Bishangari 10/4, and 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4. (*diadematus*)

Greater Honeyguide *Indicator indicator* 1 pair + immature Bishangari 11/4.

Nubian Woodpecker *Campethera nubica* 2 Bishangari 11/4, 1 13/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 2 rd 15/4, 1 rd 16/4, and 1 Bobella 16/4.

Bearded Woodpecker *Dendropicos namaquus* 1 pair Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4. (*schoensis*)

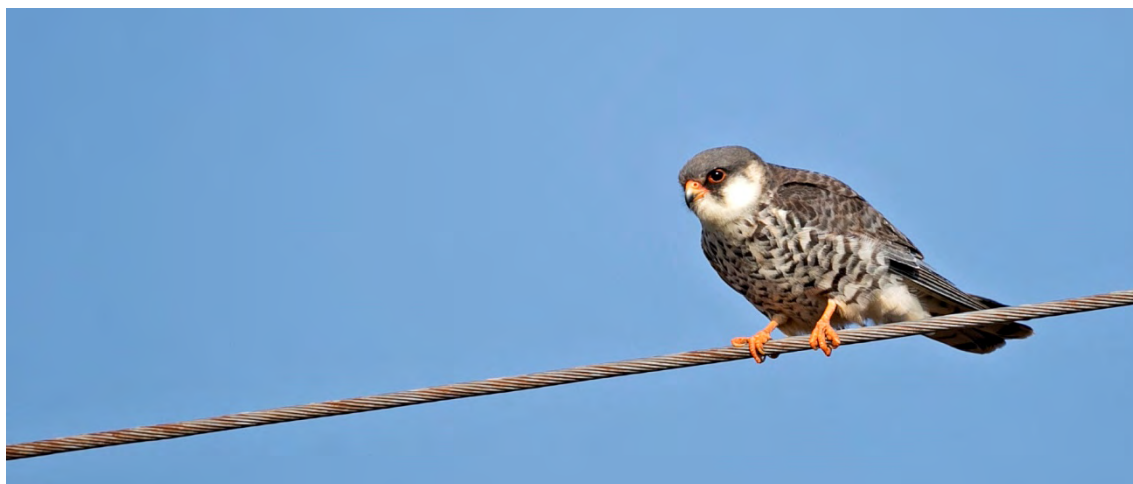
Eastern Grey Woodpecker *Dendropicos spodocephalus* 1 female Bishangari 10/4.

Pygmy Falcon *Polihierax semitorquatus* 1 rd 11/4, 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 2 at lunch site 15/4, and 1 rd 16/4.

Lesser Kestrel *Falco naumanni* 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 6 rd 16/4, and 10 rd 19/4.

Common Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus* 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4, and 5 rd 19/4.

Amur Falcon *Falco amurensis* 3 Didkallo Plains 14/4 (male, female + immature).



Amur Falcon, immature at Didkallo Plains. (TC)

Eurasian Hobby *Falco subbuteo* 1 Bishangari 10/4, 4 Bobella 15/4, at least 50 migrating rd 16/4, and 1 rd 17/4.

African Hobby *Falco cuvierii* 2 Bishangari 10-11/4, and 2-3 Fonan Gofa 15/4.



African Hobby at Lake Langano. (JC)

Grey Kestrel *Falco ardosiaceus* 1 rd 16/4.

Lanner Falcon *Falco biarmicus* 1 rd 12/4, 1 rd 16/4, and 2 Bale Mts 18/4. (*abyssinicus*)

Peregrine Falcon *Falco peregrinus* 2 Bishangari 11/4. (probably *minor*)

Black-winged Lovebird *Agapornis taranta* 1 Bishangari 10/4, and 2-3 Lake Ziway 20/4.
Endemic to highlands of Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Red-bellied Parrot *Poicephalus rufiventris* 15 rd 11/4, 3 Fonan Gofa + 2 Bobella 15/4, and 1
Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4. (nominate)

Yellow-fronted Parrot *Poicephalus flavifrons* c 20 Bishangari 10-11/4. E.

Grey-headed Batis *Batis orientalis* 1 male Fonan Gofa 14/4. (nominate)

Western Black-headed Batis *Batis erlangeri* 4 Bishangari 10-11/4, and 2 Bobella Forest 16/4.

Pygmy Batis *Batis perkeo* 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4.

Brown-throated Wattle-eye *Platysteira cyanea* 2 Bishangari 11/4. (*aethiopica*)

White-crested Helmetshrike *Prionops plumatus* 2 rd 17/4. (*crispatus*)

Grey-headed Bushshrike *Malaconotus blanchoti* 2 Bishangari 10/4. (*approximans*)

Orange-breasted Bushshrike *Chlorophoneus sulfureopectus* 4 Bishangari 10-11/4, 1 Fonan
Gofa 14/4, 6 16/4, and 2 rd 17/4. (*similis*)



Orange-breasted Bushshrike, Bishangari. (TC)

Rosy-patched Bushshrike *Telophorus cruentus* 4 rd 12/4, 6 13/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 14/4, and 1 rd
16/4. (*hilgerti*)

Three-streaked Tchagra *Tchagra jamesi* 1 13/4.

Black-crowned Tchagra *Tchagra senegalus* 1 Arba Minch 11/4. (*habessinicus*)

Northern Puffback *Dryoscopus gambensis* 4 Bishangari 10-11/4, 4 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 4 Bobella 16/4, and 2 Negelle 17/4.

Pringle's Puffback *Dryoscopus pringlii* 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4.

Slate-colored Boubou *Laniarius funebris* 2 13/4, 2 Fonan Gofa, 4 Bobella 15-16/4, and 2 Abiata-Shalla 19/4.

Red-naped Bushshrike *Laniarius ruficeps* 2 12/4. (*rufinuchalis*)

Ethiopian Boubou *Laniarius aethiopicus* 2-3 Bishangari 10-11/4, 1 13/4, 2-3 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4, and 1 Bale Mts 18/4.

Brubru *Nilaus afer* 1 h Bishangari 11/4, 1 h 17/4, and 1 Lake Shalla 20/4. (nominate)

White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Coracina pectoralis* 1 Bobella 15/4.

Black Cuckooshrike *Campephaga flava* 1 pair rd 17/4.

Red-shouldered Cuckooshrike *Campephaga phoenicea* 1 Bishangari 10/4.

Northern White-crowned Shrike *Eurocephalus ruppelli* 8 10/4, 4 13/4, 4 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 1 rd 16/4, 8 rd 17/4, 4 Harena 18/4, and 1 Lake Shalla 20/4.

Red-tailed Shrike *Lanius phoenicuroides* 1 male Fonan Gofa 12/4, 1 13/4, 2 2k+ + 2 ad 14/4.



Red-tailed Shrike, adult male. (HP)

Red-backed Shrike *Lanius collurio* 1 Fonan Gofa 12/4, 3 13/4, 4 14/4, 2 15/4, 10 16/4, very common (!) 17/4.

Grey-backed Fiscal *Lanius excubitoroides* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 rd 11/4, 4 18/4. (*intercedens*)

Taita Fiscal *Lanius dorsalis* 1 13/4.

Somali Fiscal *Lanius somalicus* 8 13/4.



Somali Fiscal. (TC)

Northern Fiscal *Lanius humeralis* 1 rd 15/4, and 1 Addis Abeba 20/4.

Lesser Grey Shrike *Lanius minor* Totally 10 seen: 1 12/4, 3 13/4, 4 14/4, 1 15/4, and 1 19/4.

Ethiopian Oriole *Oriolus monacha* 2 Bobella 16/4, and 6 Harena 18/4. Endemic to Ethiopia and Eritrea. (*meneliki*)

Eurasian Golden Oriole *Oriolus oriolus* 4 Bishangari 10/4, 1 13/4, 3-4 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4, and 2 rd 16/4.

Black-headed Oriole *Oriolus larvatus* 2 Fonan Gofa 12/4, 2 13/4, 6 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4, fairly common 17/4, and 2 19/4. (*rolleti*)

Fork-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus adsimilis* Seen daily and often common.

African Paradise Flycatcher *Terpsiphone viridis* 1 male Lake Ziway + 1 female Bishangari 10/4, 5 11/4, 2 13/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 1 Bobella 16/4, 3 rd 17/4. (*ferreti*)

Stresemann's Bushcrow *Zavattariornis stresemanni* 4 near Fonan Gofa 12/4, 12 13/4, 6 14/4, and 3 15/4. E.



Stresemann's Bushcrow. (TC)

Cape Crow *Corvus capensis* Common Bale Mts 18-19/4.

Pied Crow *Corvus albus* Common 10/4, common 11/4, and noted 18-20/4.

Somali Crow *Corvus edithae* 1 rd 10/4, 2 11/4, 2 Yabello 11/4, 10 13/4, 2 14/4, 2 rd 15/4, 5 16/4, and common 18-19/4.

Fan-tailed Raven *Corvus rhipidurus* 5 rd 10/4, common rd 12/4, 10 13/4, 6 14/4, 10 rd 15/4, 10 16/4, and 2 rd 19/4 + 20/4.

Thick-billed Raven *Corvus crassirostris* 2 Sheshemene + 1 rd 11/4, 1 Arba Minch 12/4, and 3 rd 19/4.

White-winged Black Tit *Melaniparus leucomelas* 2 Bishangari 11/4, (nominate = endemic ssp)

White-backed Black Tit *Melaniparus leuconotus* 1 Dinsho Lodge 19/4 (HP only). Endemic to Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Acacia Tit *Melaniparus thruppi* 1 rd 12/4, 1 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, and 1 rd 16/4. (nominate)

Chestnut-headed Sparrow-Lark *Eremopterix signatus* 10 Didkallo Plains 14/4. (nominate)



Acacia Tit. (JC)

Foxy Lark *Calendulauda alopex* 1 rd 12/4, 4 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 1 rd 15/4, 5 Liben Plains 16/4, and 1 Abiata-Shalla 19/4. (*intercedens*)

Short-tailed Lark *Spizocorys fremantlii* 10 13/4. (*megaensis*)

Masked Lark *Spizocorys personata* 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4. (*yavelloensis*)



Masked Lark. (TC)

Thekla Lark *Galerida theklae* Common 18-19/4. (possibly *huei* in SC Eth).

Somali Short-toed Lark *Alaudala somalica* 1 13/4, and 6 Liben Plains 16/4.

Common Bulbul *Pycnonotus barbatus* 3 Bishangari 10/4, 15 11/4, and 5 19/4. (*schoanus*)

Dodson's Bulbul *Pycnonotus dodsoni* 10 13/4, 10 14/4, 10 15/4, fairly common 16/4, and fairly common 17/4.

Northern Brownbul *Phyllastrephus strepitans* 2 13/4.

Black Saw-wing *Psalidoprocne pristoptera* 6 Bobella 15-16/4, and 1 rd 17/4. (endemic ssp *blanfordi* and *antinorii* occur in the area)

Brown-throated Martin *Riparia paludicola* Common 10-11/4, 5 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4, and very common near lake Shalla and Abiata 20/4. (*schoensis*)

Barn Swallow *Hirundo rustica* Common and seen daily.

Ethiopian Swallow *Hirundo aethiopica* 5 rd 12/4, 3 13/4, 10 rd 15/4, 10 16/4, and 10 17/4. (possibly *amadoni*)

White-tailed Swallow *Hirundo megaensis* 10 Dubluk 12/4, and totally 10 seen in three different villages 13/4, including 1 at nest in Ola Wako Abo. E.



White-tailed Swallow. (TC)

Eurasian Crag Martin *Ptyonoprogne rupestris* 2 Bobella 15/4.

Common House Martin *Delichon urbicum* 2 rd 17/4.

Lesser Striped Swallow *Cecropis abyssinica* 2 rd 15/4, 2 Bobella 16/4, and 10 rd 17/4.

Mosque Swallow *Cecropis senegalensis* 1 Bishangari 10/4, and 2 Lake Ziway 20/4.

Red-rumped Swallow *Cecropis daurica* 5 Gaysay Valley, Bale Mts 19/4.

Northern Crombec *Sylvietta brachyura* 4 Fonan Gofa/Didkallo Plains 14/4. (*leucopsis*)

Red-faced Crombec *Sylvietta whytii* 2 Bishangari 10/4, and 1 Arba Minch 11/4.

Brown Woodland Warbler *Phylloscopus umbrovirens* 1 h Bobella Forest 16/4. (nominate)

Willow Warbler *Phylloscopus trochilus* 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Common Chiffchaff *Phylloscopus collybita* 1 Bishangari 11/4, and 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4.

Great Reed Warbler *Acrocephalus arundinaceus* 1 near Genali River bridge 17/4.

Sedge Warbler *Acrocephalus schoenobaenus* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4.

Eastern Olivaceous Warbler *Iduna pallida* 1 at lunch site 16/4, and 1 rd 17/4.

Cinnamon Bracken Warbler *Bradypterus cinnamomeus* 2+2 Bale Mts 18-19/4.

Rattling Cisticola *Cisticola chiniana* 2 Lake Ziway 10/4. (*fricki*)



Rattling Cisticola at Lake Ziway. (JC)

Boran Cisticola *Cisticola bodessa* 1 h near Fonan Gofa 12/4, 2 13/4, and 2 rd 15/4.

Ashy Cisticola *Cisticola cinereolus* 1 13/4. (*schillingsi*)



Ashy Cisticola. (TC)

Ethiopian Cisticola *Cisticola lugubris* 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4. Endemic to highlands in Ethiopia and Eritrea.

Pectoral-patch Cisticola *Cisticola brunnescens* 1 Liben Plains 16/4. (nominate)

Tawny-flanked Prinia *Prinia subflava* 6 10/4, 6 11/4, 10 rd 12/4, 3 17/4, and 1 Bale Mts 19/4. (nominate)

Buff-bellied Warbler *Phyllolais pulchella* 2 Bishangari 10-11/4.

Yellow-breasted Apalis *Apalis flavida* 1 at lunch site 16/4.

Red-fronted Warbler *Urorhipis rufifrons* 2 at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4. (*smithii*)

Grey-backed Camaroptera *Camaroptera brevicaudata* 1 h 10/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 12/4, common 13/4, 6 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4, 10 16/4, and common 17/4. (*abessinica*)

Grey Wren-Warbler *Calamonastes simplex* 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Yellow-bellied Eremomela *Eremomela icteropygialis* 2 rd 12/4, and 1 at lunch site 15/4. (*griseoflava*)

Yellow-vented Eremomela *Eremomela flavicrissalis* 2 at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4.



Yellow-vented Eremomela. Note the yellow forehead (pollen?). (HP)

Rufous Chatterer *Turdoides rubiginosa* 4 Fonan Gofa 12/4, 8 13/4, 4 Fonan Gofa 14/4, and 2 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4. (nominate)

White-rumped Babbler *Turdoides leucopygia* 8 Bishangari 10-11/4 (ssp *smithii*), and 1 Bobella Forest 16/4 (*omoensis*).



White-rumped Babbler at Bishangari. (JC)

Abyssinian Catbird *Parophasma galinieri* 10 Haremma Forest/Bale Mts 18-19/4. E.

Eurasian Blackcap *Sylvia atricapilla* 10 Hareenna Forest 18/4.

Common Whitethroat *Sylvia communis* 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Banded Parisoma *Sylvia boehmi* 1 rd 12/4, and 2 Fonan Gofa 14/4. (*somalica*)

Montane White-eye *Zosterops poliogastrus* 10 Hareenna Forest 18/4. (nominate)

Wattled Starling *Creatophora cinerea* 20 rd 10/4, 20 Bishangari 11/4, fairly common rd 12/4, c 10 Abiata-Shalla NP 19-20/4.

Greater Blue-eared Starling *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* Common and seen daily.
(*cyaniventris*)

Rüppell's Starling *Lamprotornis purpuroptera* 10 rd 10/4, common 11-12/4, and 10+ 19-20/4.
(nominate)

Golden-breasted Starling *Lamprotornis regius* 2 12/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 4 rd 15/4, 15 rd 16/4, and 3 rd 17/4.

Superb Starling *Lamprotornis superbus* Common and seen daily.



Superb Starling with a feather in its bill. (JC)

Shelley's Starling *Lamprotornis shelleyi* 2 rd 12/4, 6 13/4, 2 rd 15/4, 2 Bobella Forest 16/4, and 1 rd 17/4.

White-crowned Starling *Lamprotornis albicapillus* c 50 12/4, c 20 13/4, 4 rd 15/4, c 30 rd 16/4, and 2 rd 17/4. (nominate in central parts, and *horrensis* in S).

Note: In HBW Alive this species is treated as monotypic.

Violet-backed Starling *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* 4 Bishangari 10/4, and 15 Bobella Forest 16/4.(nominate)

Red-winged Starling *Onychognathus morio* 10 rd 12/4. (*rueppellii*)



Shelley's Starling. (TC)

Slender-billed Starling *Onychognathus tenuirostris* 4 Gaysay Valley, Bale Mts 19/4.

Bristle-crowned Starling *Onychognathus salvadorii* 2 12/4, c 20 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 2 rd 15/4.

Magpie Starling *Speculipastor bicolor* 1 13/4, and 1 rd 15/4.

Red-billed Oxpecker *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* 5 Lake Ziway + 2 Bishangari 10/4, 1 13/4, 1 rd 16/4, 1 rd 17/4, 10 rd 19/4, and 10 Abiata-Shalla NP 20/4.

Abyssinian Ground Thrush *Geokichla piaggiae* 2 Dinsho Lodge 18/4.

Groundscraper Thrush *Turdus litsitsirupa* c 20 Bale Mts 18-19/4. (*simensis*)

Note: HBW splits this taxon into **Ethiopian Thrush** *Psophocichla simensis* (endemic to highlands in Ethiopia and Eritrea), and **Groundscraper Thrush** *P. litsitsirupa* (southern Africa).

African Thrush *Turdus pelios* 4 13/4, 4-6 Fonan Gofa 14-15/4, 5 Bobella Forest 16/4, and 10 rd 17/4. (nominate)

Bare-eyed Thrush *Turdus tephronotus* 2 13/4, and 2 Fonan Gofa + 1 at lunch site 15/4.

Abyssinian Thrush *Turdus abyssinicus* Common Bale Mts 18/4 (incl. 2 Harenna Forest). (nominate)

White-browed Scrub Robin *Cercotrichas leucophrys* 2 12/4, 2 13/4, 2 14/4, 2 Fonan Gofa + 2 at lunch site 15/4, and 1 rd 17/4. (*leucoptera*)



Bare-eyed Thrush. (TC)



Abyssinian Thrush, Hareenna Forest. (TC)

Abyssinian Slaty Flycatcher *Melaenornis chocolatinus* 1 rd 18/4. (nominate)

Northern Black Flycatcher *Melaenornis edolioides* 4 Bishangari 10-11/4, 4 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 4 16/4, 10 rd 17/4, and 5 19/4. (*schistaceus*)

African Grey Flycatcher *Melaenornis microrhynchus* 1 rd 12/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 2 at lunch site 15/4, and 1 Lake Shalla 20/4. (two ssp: *neumanni* in S Eth, and *pumilis* in C Eth)

Pale Flycatcher *Melaenornis pallidus* 1 at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4. (*bafirawari*)

Spotted Flycatcher *Muscicapa striata* 1 13/4, 2 at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4, and 5 rd 17/4.

African Dusky Flycatcher *Muscicapa adusta* 1 Bishangari + 1 Sheshemene 11/4, and 2 Harena Forest 18/4. (*minima*)

Rüppell's Robin-Chat *Cossypha semirufa* 6 Harena Forest 18/4. (*donaldsoni*)

Spotted Palm Thrush *Cichladusa guttata* 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4, 1 Fonan Gofa + 2 at lunch site 15/4, and 1 rd 17/4. (*intercalans*)

Common Nightingale *Luscinia megarhynchos* 1 singing at lunch site 16/4, and 1 rd 17/4.

Common Redstart *Phoenicurus phoenicurus* 1 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4. (nominate)

Common Rock Thrush *Monticola saxatilis* 1 rd 12/4, 1 13/4, and 2 14/4.

Whinchat *Saxicola rubetra* 1 13/4, 1 Bobella + 1 rd 16/4, 3 rd 17/4, and 5 Bale Mts 18/4.

African Stonechat *Saxicola torquatus* 5 Bale Mts 18-19/4. (*albofasciatus*)

Moorland Chat *Pinarochroa sordida* Common Bale Mts 18-19/4. (nominate)

Mocking Cliff Chat *Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris* 1 female rd 10/4, and 1 near Lake Shalla 20/4. (*albiscapulata*)

Northern Wheatear *Oenanthe oenanthe* 1 Lake Shalla 20/4. (nominate)

Red-breasted Wheatear *Oenanthe bottae* 2 Gaysay Valley, Bale Mts 19/4. (*frenata*)

Isabelline Wheatear *Oenanthe isabellina* 1 rd 11/4, and 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Pied Wheatear *Oenanthe pleschanka* 1 Bishangari 10/4.

Brown-tailed Rock Chat *Oenanthe scotocerca* 1 12/4, and 1 juv Fonan Gofa 14/4. (*turkana*)

Abyssinian Wheatear *Oenanthe lugubris* 1 “white-bellied” near Lake Shalla 20/4. Endemic to the Highlands of Eritrea and N & C Ethiopia.

Note: Complicated taxonomy. HBW Alive treats this taxon as ssp of Mourning Wheatear *Oenanthe lugens lugubris*. The individual we saw was white-bellied, as the ssp *vauriei* of N Somalia. We still have to sort out which ssp we saw.

Eastern Violet-backed Sunbird *Anthreptes orientalis* 2-3 Arba Minch 11-12/4, and 3 at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Collared Sunbird *Hedydipna collaris* 1 rd 17/4.

Scarlet-chested Sunbird *Chalcomitra senegalensis* 2 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 Arba Minch 11/4, and 4 Bobella Forest 15-16/4. (*proteus*)

Tacazze Sunbird *Nectarinia tacazze* 2 Harena Forest 18/4. (nominate)

Beautiful Sunbird *Cinnyris pulchellus* 1 Bishangari 10/4, and 1 Lake Chamo 12/4. (nominate)



Beautiful Sunbird. (JC)

Marico Sunbird *Cinnyris mariquensis* 1 13/4, 4 Fonan Gofa 15/4, and 5 rd 17/4. (*osiris*)

Variable Sunbird *Cinnyris venustus* 2 12/4, and 3 at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4. (*albiventris*)

White-browed Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser mahali* 10 rd 10/4, common 11/4, noted 12/4, 2 14/4, and common 19-20/4. (*melanorhynchus*)

Donaldson Smith's Sparrow-Weaver *Plocepasser donaldsoni* 10 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Grey-capped Social Weaver *Pseudonigrita arnaudi* c 30 12/4, 5 13/4, 20 14/4, and 5 Fonan Gofa 15/4. (*arnaudi*)

Black-capped Social Weaver *Pseudonigrita cabanisi* 4 rd 15/4.

Shelley's Sparrow *Passer shelleyi* 2 12/4, 3 13/4, 15 14/4, and 1 rd 15/4.



Shelley's Sparrow. (TC)

Swainson's Sparrow *Passer swainsonii* Common and seen almost daily.

Parrot-billed Sparrow *Passer gongonensis* 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Chestnut Sparrow *Passer eminibey* 2 13/4.

House Sparrow *Passer domesticus* 4 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

Yellow-spotted Petronia *Gymnoris pyrgita* 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 1 16/4, and 2 Lake Shalla 20/4. (nominate)

Red-billed Buffalo Weaver *Bubalornis niger* 2 12/4, 4 13/4, and 3 rd 15/4. (*intermedius*)

White-headed Buffalo Weaver *Dinemellia dinemelli* 1 rd 11/4, 2 12/4, 20 13/4, 20 14/4, 10 15/4, 15 16/4, 6 17/4, and 2 19/4. (nominate)

Baglafaecht Weaver *Ploceus baglafaecht* 1 Bobella Forest 16/4, and 5 Bale Mts 18/4.

Note: Rather confusing regarding occurrence of the subspecies in Ethiopia. Clearly three ssp are present: nominate, *reichenowi*, and *emini*, although according to HBW and IOC only nominate is listed for Ethiopia.

From HBW Alive: "Races sometimes separated into four groups: "nominate group" (also with *neumanni* and *eremobius*) and "*stuhmanni* group" (also with *sharpii* and *nyikae*), and two single-species groups represented by *emini* and *reichenowi*, respectively; these groups are sometimes treated as four distinct species, but the groups intergrade wherever they meet. Races show some striking plumage differences, and this has been used by some authors as primary criterion for separating populations at species level; also some degree of isolation where restricted to montane habitats, but no regional variations in song described."

Little Weaver *Ploceus luteolus* 2 rd 10/4, 4 Bishangari 11/4, 4 12/4, and 2 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4. (nominate)

Rüppell's Weaver *Ploceus galbula* 4 Lake Ziway 10/4, 1 13/4, and 2 Lake Shalla 20/4.



Rüppell's Weaver at Lake Ziway. (JC)

Northern Masked Weaver *Ploceus taeniopterus* 1 pair 13/4, 1 male + 2 females 14/4, and 10 rd 16/4. (nominate)

Speke's Weaver *Ploceus spekei* 2 Bishangari 11/4, 2 rd 15/4, and 5 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4.

Village Weaver *Ploceus cucullatus* Common 10-11/4, c 10 17/4, and noted 19/4. (*abyssinicus*)

Juba Weaver *Ploceus dichrocephalus* 4 pairs/nests near Genale River bridge 17/4.
A restricted range species, in S Ethiopia, extreme NE Kenya and SW Somalia.

Chestnut Weaver *Ploceus rubiginosus* 1 12/4, and 20 rd 16/4. (nominate)

Red-headed Weaver *Anaplectes rubriceps* 1 male + 3 females Bishangari 10/4, 2 13/4, and 2 Bobella Forest 16/4. (*leuconotus*)

Red-billed Quelea *Quelea quelea* 2 Lake Ziway 10/4, 8 12/4, and 10 Didkallo Plains 14/4.
(*aethiopia*)

Northern Red Bishop *Euplectes franciscanus* 6 rd 12/4, and 2 13/4. (nominate)

Yellow Bishop *Euplectes capensis* c 20 Bale Mts 18-19/4. (*xanthomelas*)

Cut-throat Finch *Amadina fasciata* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, 2 rd 11/4, 1 rd 12/4, 10 13/4, and 10 Didkallo Plains 14/4. (*alexanderi*)

Abyssinian Crimsonwing *Cryptospiza salvadorii* 1 Haremma Forest 18/4 (HP only).
(nominate)

Red-billed Firefinch *Lagonosticta senegala* c 20 Bishangari 10/4 (*rhodopsis*)

Red-cheeked Cordon-bleu *Uraeginthus bengalus* c 100 Bishangari 10/4, common 11/4, 10 12/4, 20 13/4, 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 5 rd 15/4, 10 rd 17/4, and 10 Abiata-Shalla NP 20/4. (nominate)

Purple Grenadier *Uraeginthus ianthinogaster* 1 13/4, and 4 Fonan Gofa 14/4.



Purple Grenadier. (JC)

Yellow-bellied Waxbill *Coccygia quartinia* 10 Harena Forest 18/4. (nominate)

Black-cheeked Waxbill *Estrilda chamosyna* 2 near Lake Shalla 20/4 (HP only). (nominate)

Pin-tailed Whydah *Vidua macroura* 1 rd + 1 Bobella Forest 15/4.

Western Yellow Wagtail *Motacilla flava* 15 10/4, 4 Bishangari 11/4, 5 13/4, 10 Liben Plains 16/4, and 5 Abiata-Shalla NP 20/4. (possibly several ssp seen, including at least some *feldegg*)

African Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4. (*vidua*)

Abyssinian Longclaw *Macronyx flavicollis* 2 Gaysay Valley, Bale Mts 19/4. E.

African Pipit *Anthus cinnamomeus* 2 12/4, 6 13/4, 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4, 4 Liben Plains 16/4, and 2 Lake Ziway 20/4. Endemic subspecies. (nominate)

Plain-backed Pipit *Anthus leucophrys* 1 Liben Plains 16/4. (*omoensis*)

Tree Pipit *Anthus trivialis* 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 4 Bobella Forest 16/4, 10 rd 17/4, and 10 Harena Forest 18/4.



African Pipit at Liben Plains. (TC)

Red-throated Pipit *Anthus cervinus* 1 Lake Ziway 10/4, and 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4.

African Citril *Crithagra citrinelloides* 4 Lake Ziway + 4 Bobella Forest 10/4, and 1 Bishangari 11/4. (nominate)

Reichenow's Seedeater *Crithagra reichenowi* 4 12/4, 2 13/4, 1 14/4, and 2 at lunch site + 2 Bobella Forest 15/4.

Salvadori's Seedeater *Crithagra xantholaema* 2 Bobella Forest 16/4. E.

Yellow-fronted Canary *Crithagra mozambica* 2 13/4. Endemic subspecies. (*gommaensis*)

White-bellied Canary *Crithagra dorsostriata* 1 N Dubluk 12/4, and 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4. (*maculicollis*)

Northern Grosbeak-Canary *Crithagra donaldsoni* 2 12/4.

Brown-rumped Seedeater *Crithagra tristriata* Common in Bale Mts 18-19/4.

Streaky Seedeater *Crithagra striolata* Common Bale Mts 18-19/4. (nominate)

Yellow-crowned Canary *Serinus flavivertex* 1 Lake Shalla 20/4. (nominate)

Ethiopian Siskin *Serinus nigriceps* Common Bale Mts 18-19/4. E.

Somali Bunting *Emberiza poliopleura* 1 male 12/4, and 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4.



Salvadori's Seedeater is one of Ethiopia's most sought after endemics. (TC)

List of mammals

c. 30 species recorded. Taxonomy mainly follows HMW (Handbook of the Mammals of the World).

The subspecies (in brackets) are in most cases assigned based on the above list rather than by morphological characters noted in the field.

African Golden Wolf *Canis anthus* 1 Didkallo Plains 14/4.

According to new research this taxon differs from Golden Jackal *Canis aureus*.

Ethiopian Wolf *Canis simensis* 5 Sanetti Plateau, Bale Mts 18/4. E. Sometimes called Simien Jackal. (*citernii*)

Serval *Leptailurus serval* 1 Gaysay Valley, Bale Mts 19/4. (*phillipsi*)

Caracal *Caracal caracal* 1 rd 12/4. (nominate)

Egyptian Mongoose *Herpestes ichneumon* 2 Bale Mts 19/4.

Common Slender Mongoose *Galerella sanguinea* 1 13/4.

White-tailed Mongoose *Ichneumia albicauda* 1 Bishangari 10/4.

Ethiopian Dwarf Mongoose *Helogale hirtula* 3 at lunch site 15/4.



Ethiopian Wolf. (JC)



This Caracal was seen along the road by some lucky ones... (SL)

Spotted Hyena *Crocuta crocuta* 1 dead rd 10/4, heard Bishangari 11/4, heard Bobella Forest 15-16/4, and heard 19/4.

[**Striped Hyena** *Hyaena hyaena*] 1 found dead (a skull) at the “kopje”, Didkallo Plains 14/4.

[**Aardwolf** *Proteles cristata*] 1 found dead on the road N Dubluk 12/4.

Southern Gerenuk *Litocranius walleri* 2-3 13/4, and 2 Didkallo Plains 14/4. (nominate)

Guenther's Dik-dik *Madoqua guentheri* 1 albino + 3 12/4, 3 13/4, 4 14/4, 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 10 rd 16/4, 1 rd 17/4, and 3 rd 18/4. (*smithii*)



Guenther's Dik-dik. (TC)

Grant's Gazelle? *Nanger granti* 1+12 Abiata-Shalla NP 19-20/4.

Note: According to *Handbook of the Mammals of the World* Grant's Gazelle does not occur in Ethiopia. We have shown experts our photos of the individuals we saw, but the answers indicate that we cannot be sure of id, and that more research is needed to sort out the taxonomy.



Grant's Gazelle at Lake Shalla. Or is this Bright's Gazelle? (JC)

Bright's Gazelle *Nanger notatus* 20 13/4, and 30 Didkallo Plains 14/4.



Bright's Gazelles between Yabello and Dubluk. (TC)



Gazelles at Didkallo Plains (Bright's...) (TC)

Ethiopian Klipspringer *Oreotragus saltatrixoides* 2 Fonan Gofa 15/4.

Bohor Reedbuck *Redunca bohor* 20 Bale Mts 18-19/4.

Bush Duiker *Sylvicapra grimmia* 1 rd 17/4, and 2 Bale Mts 19/4. (*madoqua*)

Southern Lesser Kudu *Ammelaphus australis* 4 at lunch site + 2 rd 15/4.

Ethiopian Highlands Bushbuck *Tragelaphus meneliki* 1 male (HP only) and 2 females
Dinsho Lodge 18/4. E.

Mountain Nyala (Gedemsa) *Tragelaphus buxtoni* c 50 Bale Mts 18-19/4. E.

Hippopotamus *Hippopotamus amphibious* 1 Lake Chamo 12/4.

Common Warthog *Phacochoerus africanus* 1 Arba Minch 11/4, 1 rd 17/4, 30 Bale Mts 18-19/4, and 20 Abiata-Shalla NP 19-20/4.

Ethiopian Highland Hare *Lepus starcki* 1 Bale Mts 18/4. E.

Abyssinian Hare *Lepus habessinicus* 2 13/4, 1 14/4, 1 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 2 Abiata-Shalla NP 19/4, and 3 Abiata-Shalla NP 20/4.

Grivet Monkey *Chlorocebus aethiops* 4 Bishangari 10/4.

Guereza *Colobus guereza* 2 Bishangari and 4 Arba Minch 11/4, heard Arba Minch + 1 Fonan Gofa 12/4, 3 Harena Forest 17/4, common Harena Forest 18/4, and 5 Bale Mts 19/4.
(*gallarum*)

Two ssp occur: Nominate W Ethiopia, in the forested areas of the Ethiopian highlands W of the rift valley, ssp *gallarum* EC Ethiopia, in the Ethiopian highlands E of rift valley (precise distributional boundaries are unclear, those of the Bale Mts may be distinct from those of the Arsi).

Olive Baboon *Papio anubis* 15 Bishangari 10/4, 40 Bishangari + seen en route 11/4, 50 rd 12/4, 50 13/4, 50 14/4, 20 Fonan Gofa 15/4, 10 rd 16/4, 75 Harena Forest 17/4, and common Bale Mts 19/4.

Gambian Sun Squirrel *Heliosciurus gambianus* 2 Bishangari 11/4.

Ochre Bush Squirrel *Paraxerus ochraceus* 2 12/4, 6 13/4, 2 14/4, 1 at lunch site 15/4, and 2 rd 16/4.

Blick's Grass Rat *Arvicanthis blicki* 10 Bale Mts 18-19/4, was probably this species, but id not 100 % sure. E.

Unidentified Mouse 1 at the isolated hill (kopje), Didkallo Plains 14/4 (see photo p. 59).



Ethiopian Highlands Bushbuck at Dinsho Lodge. (HP)



Abyssinian Hare. (TC)



Guereza, sometimes also called Black-and-white Colobus. Haremma Forest. (TC)



This unidentified mouse was photographed c 100 m from the isolated hill. (JC)

Rock Hyrax *Procavia capensis* c 10 Fonan Gofa 13-15/4, and 1 rd 15/4.

Unidentified Fruit Bat *Epomophorus* sp. 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4 (possibly *labiatus*).

Yellow-winged Bat *Lavia frons* 1 Fonan Gofa 14/4.



Yellow-winged Bat. (TC)

List of reptiles and frogs

Compiled by Torbjörn Peterson.

Nr	Order	Family	Species	English name	Locality	Date	Note
1	Sauria	Agamidae	<i>Acanthocercus atricollis</i>	Black-necked ridgeback agama	By the road, on tree-trunk	11/4	Adult male
2	Sauria	Scincidae	<i>Trachylepis [Mabuya] quinquetaeniata</i>	Five-lined skink	Shashemeni	11/4	Adult in heap of stones
3	Sauria	Gekkonidae	<i>Lygodactylus keniensis</i>	Kenya dwarf gecko	Arba Minch, hotel Bekele Mola	11/4	Adults on buildings
4	Sauria	Gekkonidae	<i>Hemidactylus brooki</i>	Brook's gecko	Arba Minch, hotel Bekele Mola	11/4	Adults on buildings
5	Crocodylia	Crocodylidae	<i>Crocodylus niloticus</i>	Nile Crocodile	Arba Minch, Lake Chamo	12/4	Adult observed from the beach
6	Sauria	Gekkonidae	<i>Lygodactylus gutturalis</i>	Chevron-throated dwarf gecko	Fonan Gofa, village Ola Wako Abo south of Mega	13/4	Adult on building in daylight.
7	Sauria	Lacertidae	<i>Latastia longicaudata</i>	Common long-tailed lizard	Kopje south of Fonan Gofa	14/4	Adults hiding in shrubs
8	Serpentes	Elapidae	<i>Dendroaspis polylepis</i>	Black mamba	Fonan Gofa, grazed meadow	14/4	Shed skin from specimen appr. 2 meter
9	Sauria	Agamidae	<i>Acanthocercus atricollis</i>	Black-necked ridgeback agama	Gas station by the road	15/4	Males and females in heaps of stones
10	Sauria	Lacertidae	<i>Latastia longicaudata</i>	Common long-tailed lizard	Lunch stop by the road	16/4	Adults active in savannah by the road
11	Serpentes	Boidae	<i>Eryx colubrinus</i>	Theban sand boa	Along the road	16/4	Adult, appr. 80 cm. Dead on road
12	Sauria	Agamidae	<i>Acanthocercus atricollis</i>	Black-necked ridgeback agama	Along the road	17/4	Adult male
13	Anura	Ranidae	<i>Tomopterna cryptotis</i>	Common sand frog	Along the road	17/4	Males and females breeding in rock pool
14	Testudines	Testudinidae	<i>Geochelone pardalis</i>	Leopard tortoise	Along the road	17/4	Adult, appr. 30 cm/12 kg
15	Testudines	Pelomedusidae	<i>Pelomedusa subrufa</i>	Helmeted terrapin	Along the road	17/4	Adult, crossing road to shallow water
16	Sauria	Ghamaeleonidae	<i>Chamaeleo cf gracilis</i>	Gracile chameleon	Bale NP HQ	18/4	Subadult without clear characters, all brown
17	Sauria	Scincidae	<i>Trachylepis [Mabuya] striata</i>	Striped skink	Shashemeni	19/4	Adult in heap of stones
18	Sauria	Agamidae	<i>Acanthocercus atricollis</i>	Black-necked ridgeback agama	Along the road	20/4	Adult male
19	Sauria	Varanidae	<i>Varanus niloticus</i>	Nile monitor	Lake Ziway	20/4	Adults and subadults – 5 specimens in or close to water.



Chevron-throated Dwarf Gecko. (TC) This species is formerly known from the Rift Valley in Ethiopia and from the southwestern part of the country but not from the southern part near the border with Kenya, nor is it known from northern Kenya. It is therefore an interesting find that extend the known Ethiopian distribution of the species and also indicates possible occurrence in northern Kenya.



Common Sand Frog. (JC)

List of dragonflies, Odonata

Compiled by Torbjörn Peterson.

Species, scientific name	English name	Locality	Date	Note
<i>Pseudagrion torridum</i>	Wing-tailed Sprite	Haile resort, Lake Ziway	10/4	Male
Libellulidae sp. exuvium	Chaser	Haile resort, Lake Ziway	10/4	Possibly <i>Brachythemis impartita</i> , which was seen here
<i>Ceriagrion glabrum</i>	Common Citril	Haile resort, Lake Ziway	10/4	Adult male
<i>Brachythemis impartita</i>	Northern Banded Groundling	Bishangari, savannah far from water	11/4	Female
<i>Orthetrum</i> sp-1	Skimmer	Bishangari, savannah far from water	11/4	Male, for positive id you need close examination
<i>Brachythemis impartita</i>	Northern banded groundling	Arba Minch, Lake Chamo	12/4	Numerous males and females
<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Broad Scarlet	Bobella Forest, water hole	15/4	Males
<i>Orthetrum</i> sp-2	Skimmer	Bobella Forest, water hole	15/4	Male, for positive id you need close examination
<i>Anax ephippiger</i>	Vagrant emperor	Bobella Forest, water hole	15/4	Ovipositing female
<i>Trithemis kirbyi</i>	Orange-winged dropwing	Bobella Forest, water hole	15/4	Adult male
<i>Pantala flavescens</i>	Wandering Glider	Liben Plains	16/4	Several territorial males in recent rain pools in field
<i>Brachythemis impartita</i>	Northern Banded Groundling	Lake Ziway	20/4	Several adult males and females in moist grazed meadow
<i>Brachythemis leucosticta</i>	Banded Groundling	Lake Ziway	20/4	Several adult males and females in moist grazed meadow
<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Broad Scarlet	Lake Ziway	20/4	Adult male in moist grazed meadow



Broad Scarlet *Crocothemis erythraea*. (JC)