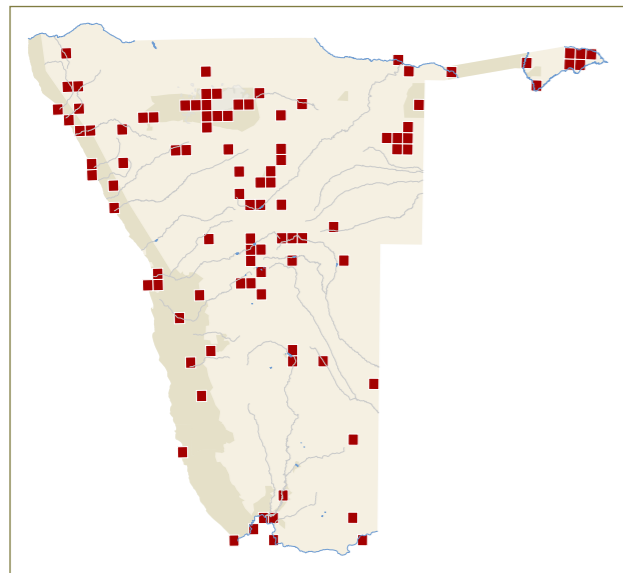


north-eastern rivers. The maximum (non-resident) number of birds in Namibia is estimated at fewer than 200 birds, with birds generally present after summer rains and absent by winter (Berruti 1997a). Namibia's population contributes less than 1% to the world population, which is estimated at 25,000 birds (Dodman 2002). It is not globally threatened, and its listing as *Near Threatened* in South Africa (Barnes 2000a) has been down-graded recently to that of *Least Concern* (Taylor *et al.* in press).

White Stork | *Ciconia ciconia*



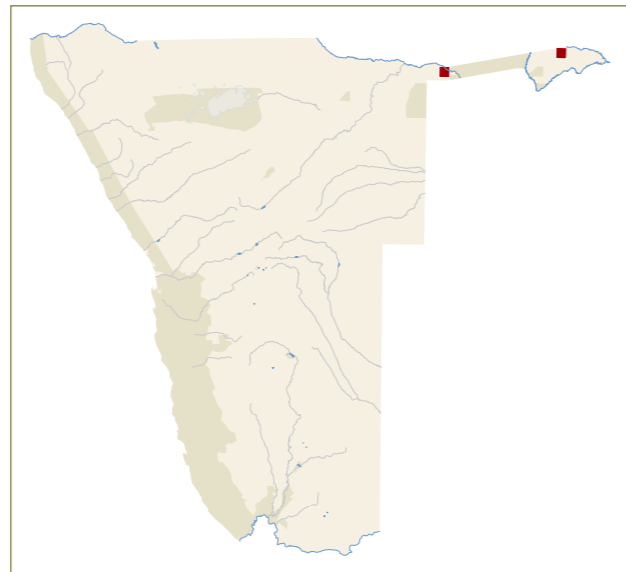
This species is a rare palaeartic migrant to Namibia, but large numbers may occur in the eastern parts of southern Africa (Allan 1997c). It breeds in increasing numbers, estimated at 170,000 pairs in Europe in the mid 1990s (Schultz 1999). Up to 25,000 birds are estimated to visit South Africa in summer (Allan 1997c). A small breeding population occurs in South Africa (Brooke 1984). Birds are found unpredictably across Namibia, with concentrations known at Nyae Nyae Pan (64 birds), Etosha Pan (50 birds), Omatako Dam (50 birds) and Tsumkwe Pans (fewer than 20 birds); birds also concentrate at some of the northern rivers, including the floodplains of the Zambezi-Chobe system (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). Numbers probably do not exceed 500 birds in Namibia, about 0.1% of global populations.

African Broadbill | *Smithornis capensis*

This species occurs from west Africa, through central Africa, to the south-eastern regions of southern Africa. It is often localised in its distribution in suitable deciduous thickets and the understorey of riparian forests (Keith *et al.*



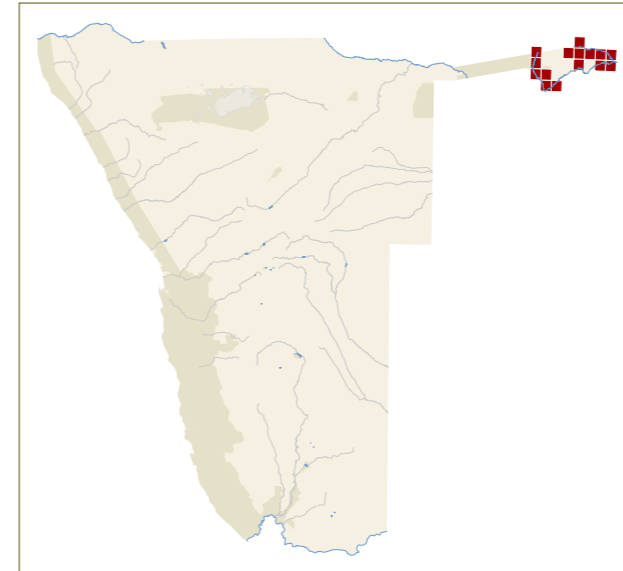
© Dayne Braine, Batis Birding Safaris



1992). There are only two Namibian records from SABAP1, both from Katima Mulilo and occupy an area of 720 km². A more recent record is from dense riparian woodland on the Okavango River near Divundu (CJ Brown pers. obs.). Although it may be overlooked, its occurrence in north-east Namibia may be limited by woodland cutting and burning (Mendelsohn & Roberts 1997), as has been recorded elsewhere in southern Africa (Allan 2000c). Population size and occurrence in Namibia requires further examination, but its small numbers preclude the inclusion of the African Broadbill as a conservation priority. Its designation as *Near Threatened* in South Africa (Allan 2000c) has recently been elevated to *Vulnerable* (Taylor *et al.* in press), based on a declining population due to habitat destruction.

Tropical Boubou | *Laniarius aethiopicus*

This boubou occurs widely throughout the Afrotropics; in southern Africa it is found commonly in Zimbabwe and eastern Botswana. It just enters Namibia in the eastern



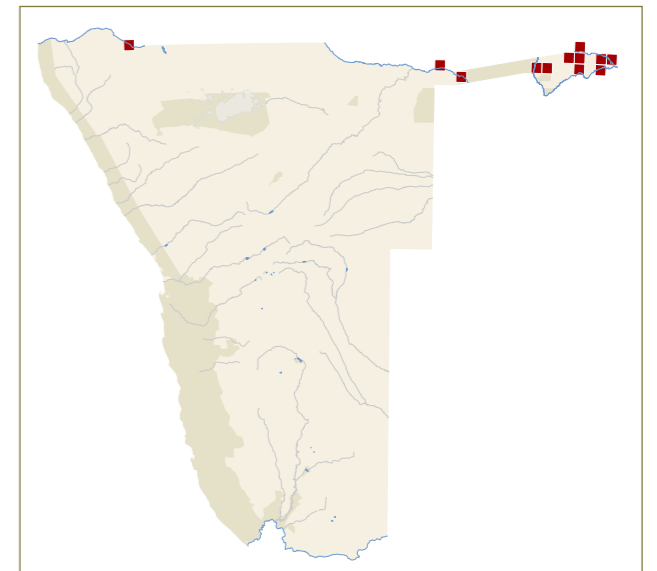
Zambezi region where it occurs on the Zambezi floodplain and the Kwando River (Bowie 2005). It occupies an area of 6,900 km², of which 1,100 km² occurs within protected areas. Recent SABAP2 records (December 2014) indicate a greater presence along the Chobe River than that recorded in the 1980s. It may be under-recorded, given that it is a skulking species, foraging low in dense undergrowth. Its call gives it away, although it may be confused with the Swamp Boubou *L. ferrugineus* with which it overlaps in range and appearance. However, the Tropical Boubou is a bird of woodland, not swamp. There is only one nest record for this species in Namibia, a two-egg clutch laid in December in riparian vegetation upstream of Katima Mulilo (Brown *et al.* 2015).

Grey-headed Bush-Shrike | *Malaconotus blanchoti*

This, the largest shrike in southern Africa, is one of a handful of species that occurs in both the Zambezi and Kavango East mesic woodlands, as well as in riverine bush near the Kunene River in north-west Namibia (Parker 1997). On the Kunene River it is very rare, whereas it is more common in the Chobe, Zambezi and Okavango river woodlands. It occupies an area of 6,100 km² of which 12% occurs in protected areas (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). Elsewhere, it occurs commonly through Zimbabwe, eastern Botswana and northern and south-eastern South Africa. It is recorded all year in Namibia but at a low rate of 7%. It is not found in areas with rainfall below 500 mm or at altitudes above 1,500 m. It is a summer breeder elsewhere (Tarboton 2011), but there are no nest records for Namibia (Brown *et al.* 2015). It is not a conservation priority in Namibia because it is a common and widespread resident in other tropical areas of southern Africa.



© Dr Ursula Franke-Bryson



Souza's Shrike | *Lanius souzae*

This extremely rare true shrike is endemic to the miombo woodlands of Angola and Tanzania (Harris & Arnott 1988) and only touches southern Africa in the north-eastern region's Kalahari sandveld *Baikiaea* woodlands and sporadically in Zambezi woodlands (Spottiswoode 1997b). Birds may be resident, but are easily overlooked for a variety of reasons (Paxton 2008); they also resemble pale-brown Red-Backed Shrikes *L. collurio*, and may be mistaken for juveniles of this species. Individuals have been recorded at Mpacha, near Katima Mulilo, at Nkasa Island on the Kwando River, in the Kavango woodlands at the neck of West Caprivi, and on the Chobe River. In addition, two birds have been reported from the Mahango area of the Bwabwata National Park (Harris & Arnott 1988, Spottiswoode 1997b, Jarvis *et al.* 2001). More