

## CAPE SHOVELERS *ANAS SMITHII* AT SEA IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

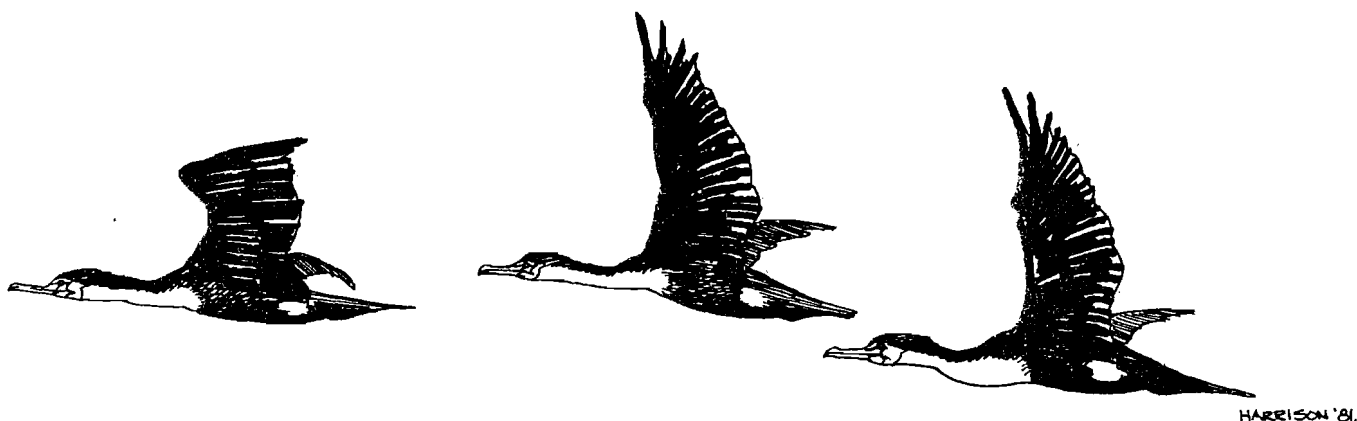
Egyptian Goose *Alopochen aegyptiacus*, Redbilled Teal *Anas erythrorhyncha*, Yellowbilled Duck *A. undulata* and South African Shelduck *Tadorna cana* have all been recorded at sea in southern Africa (Baron 1977, Cooper 1977, Hall & Every 1979). On 19 March 1981 I observed a flock of 30 Cape Shovelers *Anas smithii* at sea about 20 m from the shore in Radford Bay, Lüderitz (26 40S, 15 09E). The birds were not observed foraging but there was abundant algal growth present at the time. These birds were almost certainly from the population associated with the nearby Lüderitz Sewage Works, where 28 were present later on the same day. It is interesting to note that the Yellowbilled Ducks observed at sea were also close inshore near a coastal sewage works (Hall & Every 1979). So far, among the Anseriformes only the South African Shelduck has been recorded foraging at sea in southern Africa (Ryan 1980).

### REFERENCES

- BARON, S. 1977. South African Shelduck at sea. *Cormorant* 3: 19.  
COOPER, J. 1977. Redbilled Teal at sea. *Cormorant* 2: 24.  
HALL, P.R. & EVERY, B. 1979. Yellowbilled Duck at sea. *Cormorant* 7: 33.  
RYAN, P. 1980. South African Shelduck *Tadorna cana* feeding at sea in South Africa. *Cormorant* 8: 27.

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White-breasted Cormorants ~ Cape Point