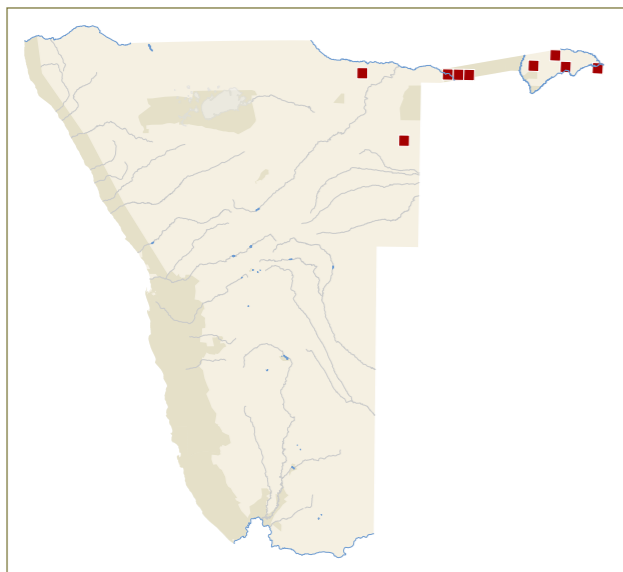


anywhere. In Namibia, it was only recorded in four quarter-degree squares in woodland associated with the Okavango River and Linyanti Swamps (Hanmer & Chadder 1997). It occupies an area of only 2,100 km<sup>2</sup> in Namibia, of which 26% occurs in the protected areas of Mahango in the Bwabwata National Park (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). Little is known of the biology of this naturally rare species, but it is not thought to be a conservation priority in Namibia or elsewhere.

**Brown-backed Honeybird  
(Sharp-billed Honeyguide) |  
*Prodotiscus regulus***



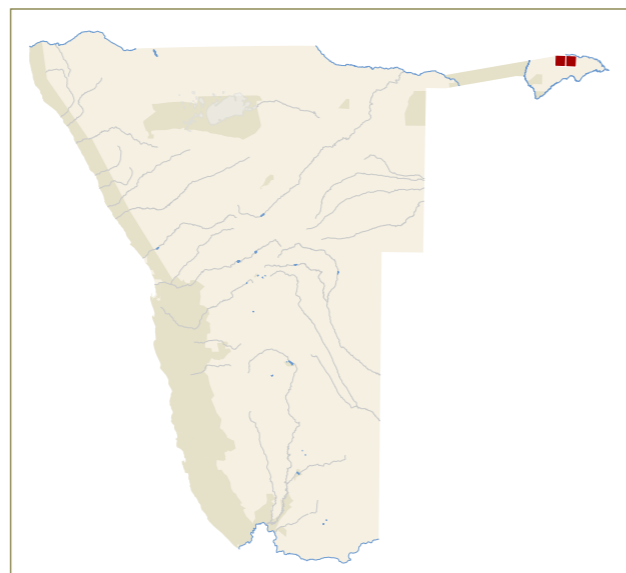
This species has a fragmented distribution from Cameroon and Ethiopia southwards to the eastern side of southern Africa. Its distribution just grazes north-eastern Namibia, with birds occurring in a variety of broad-leaved woodlands, often associated with rivers such as the Okavango (Vernon



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& Underhill 1997b). Reporting rates during the SABAP1 atlas period were low in all areas, averaging 2.6% (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). This bird may be overlooked because of its drab plumage and quiet perching habits. This species parasitises several cisticolas, prinias and warblers (Vernon & Dean 2005d). It occupies an area of 5,000 km<sup>2</sup> in Namibia, of which 26% occurs in the protected Mahango area of the Bwabwata National Park (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). It is resident and of no conservation concern anywhere in southern Africa.

**Olive Woodpecker |  
*Dendropicos griseocephalus*  
(*Mesopicos griseocephalus*)**



Among the rarest of the Namibian *Rare and Peripheral* species, it was recorded only twice during the 24-year SABAP1 atlas period, with both sightings from the Zambezi



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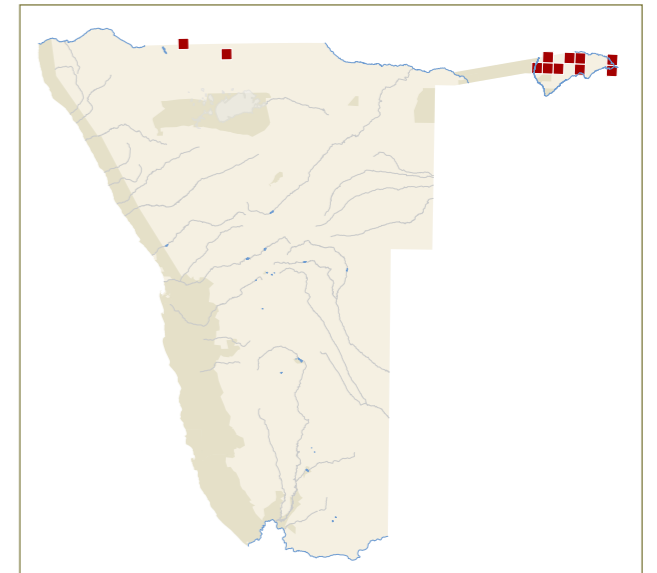
River (Tarboton 1997). The subspecies *D. g. ruwenzori* originates in central Africa; the southern tail of its distribution just touches Namibia and western Zimbabwe. It occupies an area of only 1,500 km<sup>2</sup> in Namibia, none of which occurs in any protected areas (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). A pair of Olive Woodpeckers was collected in October 1970 by Kemp (1971) from an island two kilometres downstream of Katima Mulilo. These were the first records of this subspecies for southern Africa. Olive Woodpeckers are resident and breeding on islands in isolated clumps of thick riparian forest along the Zambezi River (CJ Brown pers. obs.). The wide distribution of this subspecies from Angola up to Rwanda makes it unlikely to be a conservation priority, but its loss from the Zambezi River (through deforestation of the islands, for example) would reduce southern Africa's biodiversity. This species would benefit from further investigation.

**Crowned Hornbill |  
*Tockus alboterminatus***

This is one of two large tree-dwelling hornbills in the Zambezi region. It closely resembles, and is said to be sister to, the Bradfield's Hornbill *T. bradfieldi* (del Hoyo *et al.* 2001), with which it is sympatric in the Zambezi region (Oatley 1997c). The Crowned Hornbill is endemic to mature montane, riverine and coastal forests, overlapping extensively with the Trumpeter Hornbill *Bycanistes bucinator*. The area occupied in the eastern Zambezi region is very small at 6,200 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 4% lies within the protected areas of the Nkasa Rupara (Mamili) National Park (Jarvis *et al.* 2001). It is rarer (or perhaps less obvious) in Namibia than the Trumpeter Hornbill, with a reporting rate of 8% (from 11 quarter-degree squares) – half that of the Trumpeter Hornbill. It is not so closely associated with riparian woodland in Caprivi, preferring instead the mature sandveld woodlands in the central regions. There



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are no breeding records from Namibia, possibly because it is a visitor, as evidenced by nomadic flocking habits in deciduous woodlands elsewhere (del Hoyo *et al.* 2001). Records of its presence in Namibia are also limited to July and January to February (Oatley 1997c). There is less concern for this species than for the Trumpeter Hornbill because its diet consists of fruits and arthropods, which it captures away from the highly pressurised rivers.

**Trumpeter Hornbill |  
*Bycanistes bucinator***

This large, conspicuous, tree-living hornbill just touches the eastern edge of Namibia's Zambezi region. It is endemic to tropical forests from equatorial Kenya southwards to the Eastern Cape Province in South Africa (Oatley 1997d). The area occupied in Namibia is very small at 5,200 km<sup>2</sup>, of which 8% lies within the protected areas of the Nkasa