

# Republikein

*Jou land. Jou mense. Jou nuus.*

- [HOMEPAGE](#)
- [ENVIRONMENT](#)
- RED-BREASTED BEE-EATERS CAUGHT WITH NETS IN THE NORTH



The Carmine Bee-eater is much admired for its carmine colour, which is set off by its blue crown and under-tail. There seems to be a criminal element in the Kabulabula Conservancy, which is trying to catch these magnificent birds in order to market its feathers. Photo: Chloe Durr



The Carmine Bee-eater is much admired for its carmine colour, which is set off by its blue crown and under-tail. There seems to be a criminal element in the Kabulabula Conservancy, which is trying to catch these magnificent birds in order to market its feathers. Photo: Private



The Carmine Bee-eater is much admired for its carmine colour, which is set off by its blue crown and under-tail. There seems to be a criminal element in the Kabulabula Conservancy, which is trying to catch these magnificent birds in order to market its feathers. The NMH-team tried to save one such bird. Photo: NMH



The Carmine Bee-eater is much admired for its carmine colour, which is set off by its blue crown and undertail. There seems to be a criminal element in the Kabulabula Conservancy, which is trying to catch these magnificent birds in order to market its feathers. The NMH-team tried to save one such bird. Photo 2: NMH



There seems to be a criminal element in the Kabulabula Conservancy, which is trying to catch Carmine Bee-eaters to sell these magnificent birds' feathers. An NMH-team discovered that an entire breeding colony had been covered by illegal nets. Photo: NMH



There seems to be a criminal element in the Kabulabula Conservancy, which is trying to catch Carmine Bee-eaters to sell these magnificent birds' feathers. An NMH-team discovered that an entire breeding colony had been covered by illegal nets, resulting in the birds getting entangled, resulting in a slow and brutal death.

Photo: NMH



The Southern Carmine Bee-Eater. Photo: Private

- [ENVIRONMENT](#)

## RED-BREASTED BEE-EATERS CAUGHT WITH NETS IN THE NORTH

**Frank Steffen**

- 14 HOURS AGO -- 2023-09-19 00:00:00

Red-breasted bee-eaters caught with nets

A media team from Namibia Media Holdings (NMH) during a visit to the area east of the road from Katima Mulilo to the border point at the Ngoma bridge and past the Nakabolelwa settlement en route to Impalila Island on the breeding area of the southern red-breasted bee-eater in the Kabulabula Conservation Area.

The breeding area is strategically covered with nylon mesh in such a way that the birds become entangled in it when leaving or entering their nests. The birds make their nests in the clay

soil. Several dead birds were found entangled in the netting. A hawk, unaware of the danger, also became entangled while trying to peck meat from the nets.

A local guide reported the incident to the relevant authorities and it will be jointly investigated by the local representatives of the Ministry of Environment, Forestry and Tourism and other conservation organizations in the area.

According to local authorities, it would appear that Chinese businessmen allegedly pay well for these birds' feathers.

The southern red-breasted bee-eater (*Merops nubicoides*) occurs in the north-eastern wetlands of Namibia, but prefers floodplains and rivers. The birds also occur in the area that stretches from KwaZulu-Natal in South Africa, past the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to Gabon and Kenya.

The NMH team was able to rescue and release a bird that had become entangled and was still alive.

– [republikein@republikein.com.na](mailto:republikein@republikein.com.na)