

**Wits Bird Club**  
**Introduction to Atlassing – 10 September**

**Feedback and summary – birds and SABAP 1**

**Participation.**

Participants were 12 people, 5 members of the WBC, 3 members of BLNG and 2 members of President Ridge Bird Club, 2 participants are not members of BirdLife.

After an initial briefing, the group was divided into 2 and 6 people did grid 4 and 6 did grid 1. After 2 and half hours, everyone met up in grid 4, and those not leaving early (10 people) proceeded to cover grid 6. We thus covered 3 Pentad blocks within the QDS, (bearing in mind that the aim was to learn about grid-bashing)

The attached document (Feedback on Pentad Atlassing) is an initial summary of things that came up with regard to the actual logistics and technical side of atlasing by Pentad (5x5 minute grid squares).

Here follows some analysis of what we did, and some sort of comparison with the data from SABAP 1 for the QDS we worked in (2528DB)

**Summary analysis of “Grid-bashing” – 10 September**

<b>Grid Recording Summaries</b>				
Grid 1			All =	9 23%
<b>2528DB(1)</b>	08:20		Shared 1 =	17 44%
<b>25302845</b>	10:30		Unique =	13 33%
	<b>2hrs 10 mins</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>39</b>
Grid 4			All =	9 12%
<b>2528DB(4)</b>	07:10		Shared 1 =	23 30%
<b>25352845</b>	11:15		Unique =	45 58%
	<b>4hrs 5 min</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>77</b>
Grid 6			All =	9 17%
<b>2528DB(6)</b>	12:00		Shared 1 =	14 26%
<b>25302845</b>	14:45		Unique =	30 57%
	<b>2 hrs 45 min</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>Total Species Recorded =</b>		<b>124</b>		
All 3 grids	9	7%		
2 Grids only	27	22%		
1 Grid only	75	60%		
Average Species recorded per grid =		56		
Average time spent per grid =		180 minutes		
Average Species for QDS Lists (SABAP 1) =		55 (2528DB)		

## Birds

124 species were recorded, of which only 9 were recorded in all three grid squares. This reflects the varied habitat in the three squares.

### “COMMON” BIRDS MISSED ON THE DAY

Species “common” in the area which were not recorded (The RR in percent is given next to the bird species. Those marked with an asterisk are migrants, and in most cases either have not returned, or are only present in very low densities, or migratory congregations at this point. Lesser Striped Swallow not seen in any of the grid squares was present in a large flock (200+) just outside the area.

<i>English</i>	<i>Afrikaans</i>	<b>RR</b>
Red-knobbed Coot	Bleshoender	<b>60</b>
Yellow-crowned Bishop	Goudgeelvink	<b>50</b>
Barn Swallow	Europese Swael	<b>45</b>
Yellow-fronted Tinkerbird	Geelblestinker	<b>38</b>
Yellow-fronted Canary	Geeloogkanarie	<b>35</b>
Arrow-marked Babbler	Pylvlekkatlagter	<b>33</b>
Cape Glossy Starling	Kleinglansspreeu	<b>33</b>
Northern Black Korhaan	Witvlerkkorhaan	<b>30</b>
Greater Striped Swallow	Grootstreepswael	<b>28</b>
Lesser Striped Swallow	Kleinstreepswael	<b>28</b>
Red-winged Starling	Rooivlerkspreu	<b>28</b>
Red-headed Finch	Rooikopvink	<b>28</b>
African Darter	Slanghalsvoël	<b>25</b>
White-faced Duck	Nonnetjie-eend	<b>25</b>
Diderick Cuckoo	Diederikkie	<b>25</b>
White-rumped Swift	Witkruiswindswael	<b>25</b>
Black-crowned Tchagra	Swartkroontjagra	<b>25</b>
Red-billed Teal	Rooibekeend	<b>23</b>
Red-chested Cuckoo	Piet-my-vrou	<b>23</b>
Mocking Cliff-Chat	Dassievoël	<b>23</b>
Chin-spot Batis	Witliesbosbontrokkie	<b>23</b>
Bokmakierie	Bokmakierie	<b>23</b>
Great Crested Grebe	Kuifkopdobbertjie	<b>20</b>
Purple Heron	Rooiereier	<b>20</b>
Spotted Thick-knee	Gewone Dikkop	<b>20</b>
Fiscal Flycatcher	Fiskaalvlieëvanger	<b>20</b>
African Paradise-Flycatcher	Paradysvlieëvanger	<b>20</b>

## **NOT RECORDED DURING SABAP 1**

12 Species were recorded which were not recorded at all for 2528DB during SABAP 1 (40 Checklists). Many of these occupy specialized habitat, which may not have been covered during SABAP 1 (marked \*\*) (Buffy Pipit is the only species (in my opinion) which requires vetting, as it is rare in this area and very often confused with the much more common Plain-backed Pipit)

Grey Go-away-bird	Kwêvoël
Alpine Swift **	Witpenswindswael
Melodious Lark	Spotlewerik
Eastern Clapper Lark	Hoefeldklappertjie
Fawn-coloured Lark	Vaalbruinlewerik
Sentinel Rock-Thrush **	Langtoonkliplyster
Buff-streaked Chat **	Bergklipwagter
White-throated Robin-Chat	Witkeeljanfrederik
Wing-snapping Cisticola **	Kleinste Klopkloppie
Buffy Pipit	Vaalkoester
Orange-breasted Bush-Shrike	Oranjeborsboslaksman
Red-headed Weaver **	Rooikopwewer

**Etienne Marais**

**WBC**

**22 September 2006**