

# Tanzania Wildlife & Birding Safari Species List | February 11-25, 2025 with Naturalist Journeys



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and ten participants: Andrew, Tamara, Dick, Jenny, Karen, Lisa, Ted, Cathy,  
Larry and Amy  
Kenya Scouting Extension: Peg, Tamara, Larry and Amy**

**Compiled by Peg Abbott**

## **Summary:**

**TANZANIA BIRDS (420 species)** including seen on the Lark Plains of TANZ, Feb. 26 (extension, seen in Tanzania in the Lark Plains before crossing the border into Kenya)

**KENYA BIRDS ON EXTENSION (137 species)** total (3 days)

The eBird link below details the 420 species of birds our group observed during the main tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

Link to eBird Tanzania Trip List: <https://ebird.org/tripreport/335462>

Link to eBird Kenya Extension Trip List: <https://ebird.org/tripreport/378935>

*Note: Species seen only on the extension to Amboseli NP in Kenya are included in the list below but indented.*

## **KEY**

(HO)= Distinctive enough to be counted as heard only

(I)= Introduced

(E)= Endemic

## **BIRDS:**

### **OSTRICHES: Struthionidae (1)**

**Common Ostrich** *Struthio camelus* – (7) Universally a bird that our travelers new to Africa wanted to see, they did not disappoint us. We started out seeing pairs, then groups, and in time a group of 20+. We watched a male display and two run quickly – impressive behaviors to see.

### **DUCKS, GEESE, AND SWANS: Anatidae (8)**

**White-faced Whistling-Duck** *Dendrocygna viduata* – (1) Seen in the vicinity of Lake Burungi.

**Egyptian Goose** *Alopochen aegyptiaca* – (12) Widespread wetland species that would venture away from water to feed. We saw a few pair with broods, but mostly just large groups of individuals.

**Spur-winged Goose** *Plectropterus gambensis* – (1) This massive goose was seen in Ngorongoro Crater, feeding.

**Blue-billed Teal** *Spatula hottentota* – (1) Seen in the lake area of Ngorongoro Crater, one of our top days of bird sightings.

**African Black Duck** *Anas sparsa* – (1) Seen in the pond at our starting lodge in Arusha, Ngare Sero.

**Cape Teal** *Anas capensis* – (3) Our best views were on the alkaline lakes of Ndutu, where we saw numerous individuals feeding and swimming, in good light all their details were stunning.

**Red-billed Duck** *Anas erythrorhyncha* – (1) Seen in the lake area of Ngorongoro Crater, one of our top days of bird sightings.

**Southern Pochard** *Netta erythrophthalma* – (1) Seen in the lake area of Ngorongoro Crater, one of our top days of bird sightings.

### **GUINEAFOWL: Numididae (1)**

**Helmeted Guineafowl** *Numida meleagris* – (9) Common throughout our trip, we saw groups quite often along the roads we drove while exploring.

### **PARTRIDGES AND PHEASANTS: Phasianidae (6) + 1 Kenya**

**Crested Francolin** *Dendroperdix sephaena* – (3) Seen regularly on our days at the end of the journey in Serengeti.

**Coqui Francolin** *Peliperdix coqui* – (3) Seen and heard fairly frequently in the short grass areas of Ndutu.

**Harlequin Quail** *Coturnix delegorguei* – (1) Seen only by one vehicle in Ndutu, a lucky find while driving through the short grass plains.

**Hildebrandt's Spurfowl** *Pternistis hildebrandti* – (4) Seen regularly in the highlands around the Crater, but then another sighting at Lake Manyara was a surprise, showing us this was a versatile species.

**Yellow-necked Spurfowl** *Pternistis leucoscepus* – (1) Seen daily when in Amboseli NP in Kenya.

**Gray-breasted Spurfowl** *Pternistis rufopictus* – (7) Common and widespread.

**Red-necked Francolin** *Pternistis afer* – (2) Seen only in the Serengeti grasslands.

### **PIGEONS AND DOVES: Columbidae (12)**

**Rock Pigeon (I)** *Columba livia* – (4) Seen mainly around Arusha, and on travel days.

**Speckled Pigeon** *Columba guinea* – (10) Seen around lodges, park Visitor Centers at watering holes, a large and very showy species.

**Rameron Pigeon** *Columba delegorguei* – (2) A highland species, seen in Ngorongoro Crater from the rim.

**Dusky Turtle-Dove** *Streptopelia lugens* – (2) Great find in a fruiting tree within Ngorongoro Crater.

**Mourning Collared-Dove** *Streptopelia decipiens* – (10) Heard often in the mornings as we got ready to go out from our camps, we saw them a few at a time, and mostly in camp areas.

**Red-eyed Dove** *Streptopelia semitorquata* – (5) Common, distinctive vocalizations.

**Ring-necked Dove** *Streptopelia capicola* – (12) Common and widespread.

**Laughing Dove** *Streptopelia senegalensis* – (8) Common.

**Emerald-spotted Wood-Dove** *Turtur chalcospilos* – (6) Common but always a treat to see, we found them down in the wheel tracks of the road collecting seeds.

**Tambourine Dove** *Turtur tympanistria* – (3) Mostly heard, a secretive species, Arusha NP, our lodge near there and Gibb's Farm.

**Namaqua Dove** *Oena capensis* – (3) A very pretty, long-tailed dove of more open, arid areas visited.

**African Green-Pigeon** *Treron calvus* – (2) Seen in a fruiting fig tree above the dining area at Gibbs Farm on two days. We'd see them coming and going, and with searching find a few devouring figs.

### **SANDGROUSE: Pteroclididae (3)**

**Chestnut-bellied Sandgrouse** *Pterocles exustus* – (2) Shorter grass areas coming and going to Ndutu.

**Yellow-throated Sandgrouse** *Pterocles gutturalis* – (2) Seen well as we followed massive herds of Zebra, Wildebeest and Eland in the Ndutu area.

**Black-faced Sandgrouse** *Pterocles decoratus* – (2) Nice to catch up with this species fairly common in Tarangire NP.

### **BUSTARDS: Otididae (5)**

**Kori Bustard** *Ardeotis kori* – (5) A massive and most impressive bird, regal in movement and surprisingly common in grassland areas.

**White-bellied Bustard** *Eupodotis senegalensis* – (5) Seen in Ndotu and Tarangire.

**Buff-crested Bustard** *Lophotis indiana* – (2) Seen in the Little Serengeti portion of Tarangire NP, and heard there a second day when we returned.

**Black-bellied Bustard** *Lissotis melanogaster* – (4) Seen well in the Ndotu area.

**Hartlaub's Bustard** *Lissotis hartlaubii* – (1) Seen in the Little Serengeti portion of Tarangire NP.

### **TURACOS: Musophagidae (4)**

**Bare-faced Go-away-bird** *Crinifer personatus* – (4) A group favorite, often perched out in the open and quite striking.

**White-bellied Go-away-bird** *Crinifer leucogaster* – (2) Good views, repeatedly, in Tarangire.

**Schalow's Turaco** *Tauraco schalowi* – (HO-1) Heard while walking at Gibb's Farm but it stayed uphill in native forest, out of reach.

**Hartlaub's Turaco (E)** *Tauraco hartlaubi* – (1) Great views of several seen in higher stretches of forest in Arusha NP.

### **CUCKOOS: Cuculidae (10)**

**White-browed Coucal** *Centropus superciliosus* – (7) Widespread and fairly common.

**Black Coucal** *Centropus grillii* – (2) Seen in grassy areas of Serengeti.

**Great Spotted Cuckoo** *Clamator glarius* – (5) A very impressive species, a favorite of our photographers. Seen mainly in the Ndotu area.

**Pied (Jacobin) Cuckoo** *Clamator jacobinus* – (4) Seen on four days, mainly in and around Serengeti.

**Dideric Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx caprius* – (9) Very common, often seen or heard in trees around our various camps and lodgings.

**Klaas's Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx klaas* – (2) Widespread, we encountered this beauty on two occasions.

**African Emerald Cuckoo** *Chrysococcyx cupreus* – (2) Called frequently and was seen on the grounds of Ngare Sero Lodge near Arusha.

**Red-chested Cuckoo** *Cuculus solitarius* – (7) This bird's distinct call was soon recognized, at Lake Burungi one came in well to playback for particularly good views.

**African Cuckoo** *Cuculus gularis* – (7) Seen in wooded grassland, one one occasion we had one right above the vehicles for super close inspection. They call frequently.

**Common Cuckoo** *Cuculus canorus* – (3) We took our time to sort this one out, in Ndotu and at the final day in Tarangire NP.

### **NIGHTJARS: Caprimulgidae (3)**

**Abyssinian (Montane) Nightjar** *Caprimulgus poliocephalus* – (HO-1) Heard from the rim of Ngorongoro Crater from our hotel balconies.

**Eurasian Nightjar** *Caprimulgus europaeus* – (1) Peg spotted one on a roost just off her porch at the tented camp at Lake Burungi. It was quite settled for the day so everyone could come over for a good view.

**Slender-tailed Nightjar** *Caprimulgus clarus* – (2) Seen on the night drive at Tarangire, and calling in the morning, heard from our tents there.

### **SWIFTS: Apodidae (7)**

**Mottled Spinetail** *Telacanthura ussheri* – (1) Seen flying above the north entrance gate to Tarangire NP as we exited the park.

**Common Swift** *Apus apus* – (3) Seen randomly, often with other swifts, picked up by difference in size.

**Nyanza Swift** *Apus niansae* – (1) Ngorongoro Crater.

**African Swift** *Apus barbatus* – (1) Seen on the day we went to Oldapai Gorge.

**Little Swift** *Apus affinis* – (11) Numerous and common.

**White-rumped Swift** *Apus caffer* – (3) Seen while in Serengeti, from Kubu Kubu with its long stretching view.  
**African Palm-Swift** *Cypsiurus parvus* – (7) Present wherever there were large palms, we were often alerted by hearing their chatter.

#### **RAILS, CRAKES, AND ALLIES: Rallidae (5)**

**African Rail** *Rallus caerulescens* – (HO-1) Heard only, in the marsh area going into Hippo Pool in Ngorongoro Crater, we tried to entice one out but then got distracted by other species, particularly the more obliging swamphen.

**Eurasian Moorhen** *Gallinula chloropus* – (4) Best seen from our boat rides on the small pond at Ngare Sero but present in other wetlands throughout the region.

**Red-knobbed Coot** *Fulica cristata* – (1) Seen only in the lake at Ngorongoro Crater on this trip.

**African Swamphen** *Porphyrio madagascariensis* – (1) Seen well by the extensive reed bed area back by Hippo Pool in Ngorongoro Crater.

**Black Crane** *Zapornia flavirostra* – (5) First seen in the pool at Ngare Sero Lodge in Arusha, we then found them in most wetlands visited where at times they were right out in the open, feeding. Much bolder than crakes in other parts of the world.

#### **CRANES: Gruidae (1)**

**Gray Crowned-Crane** *Balearica regulorum* – (3) Elegant and beautiful, we stopped to admire them whenever seen. Highest numbers were in Ngorongoro Crater. We saw them perched in trees at dawn, but most often feeding. In flight they were most impressive, flashing white in the wing, their calls loud and melancholy in tone.

#### **THICK-KNEES: Burhinidae (2)**

**Spotted Thick-knee** *Burhinus capensis* – (3) We encountered over a dozen alongside the road into Serengeti, and then a few scattered individuals.

**Water Thick-knee** *Burhinus vermiculatus* – (2) Seen less frequently than Spotted, always near wetland areas.

#### **STILTS AND AVOCETS: Recurvirostridae (2)**

**Black-winged Stilt** *Himantopus himantopus* – (6) Very common, widespread in wetland areas.

**Pied Avocet** *Recurvirostra avosetta* – (3) More local than stilts which were also present when we found this species, which in alkaline lakes gathered in large number. At both Lake Ndutu and Lake Burungi we saw several hundred together – impressive.

#### **PLOVERS AND LAPWINGS: Charadriidae (8) + 1 Kenya**

**Common Ringed Plover** *Charadrius hiaticula* – (2) Uncommon, but present when we had large numbers of shorebirds at Lake Ndutu and Lake Burungi.

**Three-banded Plover** *Charadrius tricollaris* – (8) Quite common, often at very small freshwater features.

**Long-toed Lapwing** *Vanellus crissirostris* – (EXT AMBKY) Common in wetland areas.

**Blacksmith Lapwing** *Vanellus armatus* – (8) Common and widespread, vocal and visible throughout our journey.

**Spur-winged Lapwing** *Vanellus spinosus* – (1) Seen near one of the Hippo pools going into Serengeti.

**Black-winged Lapwing** *Vanellus spinosus* – (2) Not common, but present in more open grassland areas, we encountered them coming and going to Ndutu.

**Crowned Lapwing** *Vanellus coronatus* – (8) Very common, seen away from water in upland areas, often loud and creating drama by divebombing intruders. We saw a few with small chicks but not many.

**Kittlitz's Plover** *Charadrius pecuarius* – (4) Seen at Ngorongoro, Ndutu and around Lake Burungi, in both upland and lakeshore settings. We had a good study of various plumages associated with age, some adults held on to their rich caramel colors.

**Chestnut-banded Plover** *Charadrius pallidus* – (2) Found only on shorelines of the large alkaline lakes, we looked for them and were pleased to find them in high numbers. This is a bird with a scattered distribution inland and along the coast mainly in southern Africa, with a population in East Africa in several of the Rift Valley lakes.

### **JACANAS: Jacanidae (0) + 1 Kenya**

**African Jacana** *Actophilornis africanus* – (EXT AMBKY) Seen in good number in Amboseli NP in Kenya where extensive freshwater marshes occur. Washington feels there is likely a movement within African at this season to concentrate them there as we did not see them despite visiting appropriate habitat on the main safari and they are widespread across Africa south of the Sahara.

### **SANDPIPERS AND ALLIES: Scolopacidae (9)**

**Eurasian Curlew** *Numenius arquata* – (1) Two years in a row, eagle-eyed Peter spotted this large shorebird at Lake Ndutu. It has a scattered winter range in Africa, India and Indonesia, but is not commonly found along our route so a nice pickup. Jennie and Dick were good with shorebirds, and enjoyed comparing this large billed, large species to possible Whimbrel possibly wintering in the Rift Valley region.

**Common Sandpiper** *Actitis hypoleucos* – (5) Widespread in low numbers.

**Green Sandpiper** *Tringa ochropus* – (2) This species prefers moving fresh water, we found one at Ngorongoro Crater and another late in the trip at Tarangire NP.

**Marsh Sandpiper** *Tringa stagnatilis* – (5) Common and widespread.

**Wood Sandpiper** *Tringa glareola* – (10) The most common and widespread shorebird encountered.

**Common Greenshank** *Tringa nebularia* – (7) Common and widespread but seen in small numbers.

**Ruff** *Calidris pugnax* – (7) Very common, often seen in good numbers, at numerous wetland locations.

**Curlew Sandpiper** *Calidris ferruginea* – (3) Seen in larger lake systems, Ngorongoro, Ndutu and Burungi.

**Little Stint** *Calidris minuta* – (8) Very common and widespread.

### **PRATINCOLES AND COURSERS: Glareolidae (3)**

**Double-banded Courser** *Smutsornis africanus* – (5) We first saw this upright little beauty in Ndutu, where they could be surprisingly cryptic among the sand and rocks. They were abundant along the sandy margin of the lakeshore at Lake Burungi and present in less arid habitat as well at Tarangire NP. This is a resident species.

**Bronze-winged Courser** *Rhinoptilus chalcopterus* – (1) A handsome nocturnal bird with a large eye. Our chance to see them was on the night drive at Tarangire NP.

**Collared Pratincole** *Glareola pratincola* – (2) Seen around herds of big animals, resting in muddy sandbank riverine areas of Tarangire NP. These birds are wintering here, with breeding populations in both northern and southern hemisphere

### **GULLS AND TERNS: Laridae (4)**

**Gray-hooded Gull** *Chroicocephalus cirrocephalus* – (1) Seen only in Ngorongoro Crater, a few individuals.

**Gull-billed Tern** *Gelochelidon nilotica* – (5) Seen at Ngorongoro Crater, Ndutu and Serengeti. Highest numbers were at Ndutu where they were numerous hunting over the open shortgrass plains.

**Whiskered Tern** *Chlidonias hybrida* – (1) Seen over the marshy areas of Ngorongoro Crater. A wintering species here, a few individuals still carried their dark belly colors.

**White-winged Tern** *Chlidonias leucopterus* – (1) Seen in Ngorongoro Crater, a widespread wintering species in Africa.

### **FLAMINGOS: Phoenicopteridae (2)**

**Greater Flamingo** *Phoenicopterus roseus* – (7) Often intermingled with Lesser Flamingo, still in good numbers and very showy in flight with intense pink and black coloration. We enjoyed parking by lakeshores and watching them feed, fling their heads high in honking displays, and interact with each other. From the distance, several lakes we visited looked solidly rimmed with pink, with numbers in the thousands.

**Lesser Flamingo** *Phoeniconaias minor* – (7) Seen in incomprehensible numbers at Lake Ndutu and Burungi, also at Arushu NP and other locations. This species filter feeds on microscopic blue-green algae so is less flexible than Greater Flamingo in habitat needs. Where present numbers were astounding.

### **GREBES: Podicipedidae (1)**



**Little Grebe** *Tachybaptus ruficollis* – (2) We were delighted to find them at Ngare Sero where one pair was on a nest and we could get a peek at eye level from the small boat paddle there. We also saw them at the reed area back by Hippo Pool in Ngorongoro Crater.

#### **STORKS: Ciconiidae (5) +1 Kenya**

**Black Stork** *Ciconia nigra* – (2) Not common, we found a few in rice fields around Arusha.

**Abdim's Stork** *Ciconia abdimii* – (7) Abundant, huge numbers in the fields outside of Arusha, then scattered across Ndotu and Serengeti.

**White Stork** *Ciconia ciconia* – (7) Quite common in Ndotu and Serengeti, mostly seen as lone individuals (though often not far from each other) strutting through the grass as they fed. We saw one being devoured by a Tawny Eagle.

**Saddle-billed Stork** *Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis* – (EXT AMBKY) We missed this show species on the main safari this year, but found several pair in well-watered Amboseli NP in Kenya.

**Marabou Stork** *Leptoptilos crumenifer* – (9) Common and widespread, most memorable were those that roosted nightly in a prominent dead tree at Gnu Camp in Ndotu.

**Yellow-billed Stork** *Mycteria ibis* – (4) Seen in wetland areas, not common but present.

#### **CORMORANTS: Phalacrocoracidae (2)**

**Reed (Long-tailed) Cormorant** *Microcarbo africanus* – (1) Seen on the pond at Ngare Sero Lodge.

**Great Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax carbo* – (1) Seen in flight over the standing dead trees along the lakeshore at Lake Manyara NP.

#### **IBIS AND SPOONBILLS: Threskiornithidae (4)**

**Glossy Ibis** *Plegadis falcinellus* – (1) Seen at Ngorongoro Crater, a species with a wide global distribution and one of the few we could say we knew from home.

**African Sacred Ibis** *Threskiornis aethiopicus* – (4) Common in wetland areas.

**Hadada Ibis** *Bostrychia hagedash* – (3) Noisy and in good number on the grounds of Ngare Sero Lodge in Arusha,

**African Spoonbill** *Platalea alba* – (1) Seen “spooning” as a feeding style in wetlands at Ngorongoro Crater, the only location on the main safari.

#### **HERONS AND EGRETS: Ardeidae (9)**

**Black-crowned Night-Heron** *Nycticorax nycticorax* – (1) Seen in lakes around Arusha.

**Little Egret** *Egretta garzetta* – (3) Seen in Arusha, and in travel at small wetlands associated with farm ponds near Gibbs Farm and going to Lake Burungi.

**Little (Striated) Heron** *Butorides striata* – (1) Seen only at Lake Diluti in Arusha.

**Squacco Heron** *Ardeola ralloides* – (2) Seen at Lake Diluti in Arusha and fairly common in Ngorongoro Crater.

**Western Cattle Egret** *Bubulcus ibis* – (15) Very common and widespread, we saw them associated with livestock and wild animals, numerous especially around buffalo, hippos, and elephants.

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* – (2) Seen in Arusha and Ngorongoro Crater.

**Yellow-billed (Intermediate) Egret** *Ardea intermedia* – (4)

**Gray Heron** *Ardea cinerea* – (3) Associated with wetlands, seen in Ngorongoro Crater and Ndotu.

**Black-headed Heron** *Ardea melanocephala* – (11) Very common and widespread.

#### **HAMERKOP: Scopidae (1)**

**Hamerkop** *Scopus umbretta* – (10) Seen in small numbers but widespread along rivers and streams. We saw them near their huge stick nests and never tired of seeing them, watching them hunt while raising their queer head feathers up and down in alert postures.

#### **PELICANS: Pelecanidae (1)**

**Great White Pelican** *Pelecanus onocrotalus* – (4) Massive birds, we could see them at great distance, an iconic species of the Rift Valley lakes.

### **SECRETARYBIRD: Sagittariidae (1)**

**Secretarybird** *Sagittarius serpentarius* – (6) This was one several of our groups had on their wish list and this year we had ample sightings. We watched them strut across shorter grass areas, hunting intently. We often saw them in pairs, and several times one would cross the road quite close to us, never veering from their focus on feeding. We saw a few in flight – huge wingspans and really impressive.

### **HAWKS, KITES, AND EAGLES: Accipitridae (29)**

**Black-winged Kite** *Elanus caeruleus* – (11) Common and widespread.

**African Harrier-Hawk** *Polyboroides typus* – (1) We saw only one, at the end of our trip in wooded Tarangire NP.

**Egyptian Vulture** *Neophron percnopterus* – (1) We saw two together with other vultures while driving into Ndutu in the shortgrass plains. Even our guides were thrilled, this is not a common species in East Africa now, a wintering species and like other vultures, populations are in serious decline. We got great looks on the ground and in flight. Amin, one of our driver's, trip highlight.

**Lappet-faced Vulture** *Torgos tracheliotos* – (9) We were pleased to see so many of this regal species this year. They were starting to nest, but were present at carcasses throughout Ndutu and Serengeti in good number, seen more regularly than in previous years.

**Hooded Vulture** *Necrosyrtes monachus* – (3) Seen in Ndutu and Serengeti, mainly at carcasses encountered.

**White-backed Vulture** *Gyps africanus* – (11) Common and widespread, the most regularly spotted vulture along our route. This is a tree-nesting vulture and we saw several that could have been on nests.

**Ruppell's Griffon** *Gyps rueppelli* – (9) This is a cliff nesting vulture, and we learned to ID them from the similar-looking White-backed when we found them at close range on carcasses. We saw them in fewer number than White-backed but quite regularly on our journey.

**Bateleur** *Terathopius ecaudatus* – (9) Easy to spot with their short tails and odd shape, we saw males and females (quite distinct) mainly in flight, often above us as we venture out on safari drives.

**Black-chested Snake-Eagle** *Circaetus pectoralis* – (2) Individuals seen in Ndutu and Tarangire, a distinct and impressive raptor.

**Brown Snake-Eagle** *Circaetus cinereus* – (2) Seen in Arusha NP and Tarangire NP, not common.

**Crowned Eagle** *Stephanoaetus coronatus* – (2) This species was on several of the group's wish list and we had a magnificent sighting when Washington spotted one perched in Arusha NP. It had a full crop and was not about to move so we had plenty of time to admire its immense size and talons. Later in the trip we had a look at one in flight.

**Martial Eagle** *Polemaetus bellicosus* – (4) We saw this impressive raptor perched and in flight, clearly one of the mega raptors of the world.

**Long-crested Eagle** *Lophaetus occipitalis* – (4) We found this distinctive raptor perched several times, often below the canopy. One was feeding on a recently killed bird, plucking it with gusto.

**Steppe Eagle** *Aquila nipalensis* – (4) We saw this massive raptor mainly in flight where we could study the wing pattern well to separate it from similar Tawny. This is a wintering eagle that overlaps range with resident Tawny and is likely often overlooked.

**Tawny Eagle** *Aquila rapax* – (9) Common and widespread, several individuals seen in a day and often present around carcasses alongside vultures.

**African Hawk Eagle** *Aquila spilogaster* – (2) Seen in Arusha and then seen very well when we encountered a pair both morning and afternoon in Tarangire NP flying over the river area we drove alongside. We parked to watch a long line of elephants with many babies so had ample time to study this highly-patterned raptor.

**Gabar Goshawk** *Micronisus gabar* – (3) Swift and quick looks are typical for this agile raptor, often we were tipped off by small birds alarm calling and scattering.

**Dark Chanting-Goshawk** *Melierax metabates* – (1) Seen only once, in Ndutu.

**Eastern Chanting-Goshawk** *Melierax poliopterus* – (5) Seen along the road as we drove west from Arusha, then while in open areas of Ndutu and daily in Tarangire NP.

**African Goshawk** *Aerospiza tachiro* – (1) We stopped for a leg stretch and some birding at a ranger station in Arusha NP and one flew through, then perched where Peg could get a scope on it for great looks!

**Levant Sparrowhawk** *Tachyspiza brevipes* – (1) We had one fly at eye-level and go beyond us to perch on a prominent flat-topped acacia on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater as we waited to do the paperwork to enter the park. Its flight was very falcon-like and swift, with contrasty dark wingtips and orange barring on the breast.

**Western Marsh-Harrier** *Circus aeruginosus* – (3) Seen coursing over the more extensive wetlands visited on our trip.

**Pallid Harrier** *Circus macrourus* – (3) Seen flying low over grassy areas of Ndutu and Serengeti.

**Montagu's Harrier** *Circus pygargus* – (3) Seen in Ngorongoro Crater and again in Ndutu, where we had a couple of chances to see them on the ground as well as in the air.

**Black Kite** *Milvus migrans* – (5) A naughty individual tried to steal Peter's sandwich at one of our picnic stops, this common raptor gets to be a pest where food is present, in cities and in parks. Common and widespread.

**African Fish-Eagle** *Haliaeetus vocifer* – (4) The bell-like call of this impressive raptor is for many the sound of Africa, found readily around big rivers and lakes.

**Grasshopper Buzzard** *Butor rufipennis* – (1) Andrew had spotted one coming from the airport to join the group so we all went back to the site ahead of going up to Arusha NP. The area was being plowed and there were Common Buzzards on site as well, nice to compare them. This was a first even for Peg, a wintering species possible but not common here and a species with a narrow range across the middle of Africa.

**Augur Buzzard** *Buteo augur* – (10) Common and widespread.

**Common Buzzard** *Buteo* – (4) Seen occasionally, most notable was a kettle of them over the cliffs outside our lodge in Serengeti. We had close views in the agricultural area we visited to find the Grasshopper Buzzard.

#### **OWLS: Strigidae (4)**

**Western Barn Owl** *Tyto alba* (1) A great find as we wound our way around one of the kopjes as we left Serengeti, a couple of them perched in a large fig tree at the base of the granite rocks.

**African Scops-Owl** *Otus senegalensis* – (3) So cute, this species perched outside our tents at Tarangire Safari Lodge and called much of the night.

**Verreaux's Eagle-Owl** *Bubo lacteus* – (2) We found a young bird roosting in a tree astride the road in Serengeti, then later found an adult, a most impressive, huge owl.

**Pearl-spotted Owlet** *Glaucidium perlatus* – (7) Quite common, we enjoyed seeing them and several times when we used its call to attract smaller birds one would fly in.

#### **MOUSEBIRDS: Coliidae (2)**

**Speckled Mousebird** *Colius striatus* – (12) Common and widespread.

**Blue-naped Mousebird** *Urocolius macrourus* – (4) Best seen in Tarangire NP.

#### **TROGONS: Trogonidae (1)**

**Bar-tailed Trogon** *Apaloderma vittatum* – (1) Seen in the higher forested area of Arusha NP.

#### **HOOPOES: Upupidae (1)**

**Eurasian Hoopoe** *Upupa epops* – (2) A group favorite, so showy – seen feeding on the ground and calling from tree perches.

#### **WOODHOOPES: Phoeniculidae (2)**

**Green Woodhoopoe** *Phoeniculus purpureus* – (3) The “gigling ladies” announced their presence, always in wooded areas, in groups.

**Abyssinian Scimitarbill** *Rhinopomastus minor* – (3) Seen in pairs, best views on our travel day Ndutu to Serengeti, probing park of a massive tree.

#### **GROUND HORN BILLS: Bucorvidae (1)**

**Southern Ground-Hornbill** *Bucorvus leadbeateri* – (2) Finally seen along rivers from a viewpoint in Tarangire NP, the unusually tall grass probably blocked sightings in Serengeti as it was seen there with regularity in previous years.



### **HORNBILLS: Bucerotidae (6)**

**Crowned Hornbill** *Lophoceros alboterminatus* – (1) Seen well in the riverine tree corridor of Lake Manyara NP.

**African Gray Hornbill** *Lophoceros nasutus* – (3) Fairly common, best seen coming and going to Kubu Kubu in Serengeti.

**Von der Decken's Hornbill** *Tockus deckeni* – (4) Great views at our lunch stop on the Rift Valley overlook, then seen in Serengeti and Tarangire.

**Tanzanian Red-billed Hornbill** *Tockus ruahae* – (1) Range limited, seen only in Serengeti.

**Northern Red-billed Hornbill** *Tockus erythrorhynchus* – (3) Less commonly seen this year than season's past. Mainly in Tarangire.

**Silvery-cheeked Hornbill** *Bycanistes brevis* – (3) A most impressive bird, they posed for us one breakfast at Ngare Sero Lodge. Seen also at Lake Manyara and Gibb's Farm.

### **BEE-EATERS: Meropidae (5)**

**White-fronted Bee-eater** *Merops bullockoides* – (1) Seen only in Arusha NP at the start of our journey.

**Little Bee-eater** *Merops pusillus* – (7) Common and widespread, but always a delight to watch feeding. Seen as one to a few, agile flyers that often return to the same perch.

**Cinnamon-chested Bee-eater** *Merops oreobates* – (1) Seen only in Arusha NP at the start of our journey.

**Blue-cheeked Bee-eater** *Merops persicus* – (4) Seen in and around Burungi Tented Camp and Tarangire, the first were seen on high tension utility wires over agricultural fields ten or more at a time.

**European Bee-eater** *Merops apiaster* – (4) Seen often out in the open, perching low to the ground on elephant dung, in open grass areas with herds of large grazing animals. A wintering species.

### **KINGFISHERS: Alcedinidae (7)**

**Malachite Kingfisher** *Corythornis cristatus* – (4) Our first and perhaps most memorable was one back by the hippo pools in Ngorongoro Crater, perched low in marsh grasses near the road. Also Lake Burungi and Tarangire.

**Gray-headed Kingfisher** *Halcyon leucocephala* – (5) Serengeti and Tarangire.

**Woodland Kingfisher** *Halcyon senegalensis* – (3) Serengeti and Tarangire. Their electric coloration drew our eyes like magnets.

**Brown-hooded Kingfisher** *Halcyon albiventris* – (1) Ngare Sero Lodge, Arusha.

**Striped Kingfisher** *Halcyon chelicuti* – (3) A terrestrial kingfisher seen repeatedly in Serengeti NP.

**Giant Kingfisher** *Megaceryle maxima* – (2) What a monster kingfisher! There was one commanding the pond at Ngare Sero Lodge so we got repeated wonderful views and photos.

**Pied Kingfisher** *Ceryle rudis* – (1) Seen at the lake several of us visited near Arusha.

### **ROLLERS: Coraciidae (2)**

**European Roller** *Coracias garrulus* – (9) Seen frequently in the grasslands, often around the large herds of ungulates.

**Lilac-breasted Roller** *Coracias caudatus* – (11) Though common and widespread, we never tired of them and took many a roller stop for views and photos.

### **AFRICAN BARBETS: Lybiidae (7)**

**Red-and-yellow Barbet** *Trachyphonus erythrocephalus* – (3) Fairly common, a very showy species in Tarangire.

**D'Arnaud's Barbet** *Trachyphonus darnaudi* – (Usambiro 5, darnaudi 4) Common and widespread.

**White-eared Barbet** *Stactolaia leucotis* – (2) Seen at Ngare Sero Lodge and in Arusha NP, a large barbet with distinct markings.

**Northern Red-fronted Tinkerbird** *Pogoniulus uropygialis* – (2) Seen in trees of more open areas, Oldapai Gorge and Burungi Tented Camp, calling almost continuously.

**Red-fronted Barbet** *Tricholaema diademata* – (3) A striking bird, seen at first near Lake Masek in Ndutu, then at a few locations in Serengeti.

**Spot-flanked Barbet** *Tricholaema lacrymosa* – (1) Seen by one vehicle in Arusha NP as we drove between the crater and the ranger-led walk.

**White-headed Barbet** *Lybius leucocephalus* – (1) Only one individual, seen atop a large acacia going into Leraï Picnic Area in Ngorongoro Crater.

### **HONEYGUIDES: Indicatoridae (3)**

**Green-backed Honeybird** *Prodotiscus zambesiae* – (1) Seen only at Gibb's Farm.

**Scaly-throated Honeyguide** *Indicator variegatus* – (3) Seen in three locations, with good views.

**Greater Honeyguide** *Indicator indicator* – (1) Seen in Tarangire NP, feeding by probing into limbs of trees.

### **WOODPECKERS: Picidae (5)**

**Bearded Woodpecker** *Chloropicus namaquus* – (4) Very widespread, we saw showy individuals on two days near Lake Masek in Ndutu, then Gibb's Farm, Lake Manyara, Burungi and Tarangire.

**Cardinal Woodpecker** *Dendropicos fuscescens* – (4) Seen as lone individuals, the smallest of the woodpeckers, widespread.

**Mountain Gray Woodpecker** *Picus canus* – (2) Seen in Ndutu and Tarangire.

**Nubian Woodpecker** *Campethera nubica* – (6) Widespread, our most commonly encountered woodpecker.

**Golden-tailed Woodpecker** *Campethera abingoni* – (1) seen at Lake Duluti several of us visited near Arusha.

### **FALCONS AND CARACARAS: Falconidae (8) +1 LP-TZ**

**Pygmy Falcon** *Polihierax semitorquatus* – (5) Seen in Ngorongoro Crater, Ndutu, and later in Tarangire, alert and perched for hunting.

**Lesser Kestrel** *Falco naumanni* – (5) A species that is often found in groups, our first was 15 birds perched on small shrubs in short grass areas of Ndutu, we then saw them in an open grass area with scattered trees in Serengeti.

**Eurasian Kestrel** *Falco tinnunculus* – (2)

**Rock Kestrel** *rupicolus* – (EXT LPTZ) Seen on the Engikaret Lark Plains, an arid area due to the rain shadow of Mt. Meru, we visited en route to Amboseli NP in Kenya.

**Greater Kestrel** *Falco rupicoloides* – (2) Seen on two days in Serengeti.

**Gray Kestrel** *Falco ardosiaceus* – (3) Ndutu and Serengeti.

**African Hobby** *Falco curvierii* – (1) One individual seen near Lake Masek, Ndutu.

**Lanner Falcon** *Falco biarmicus* – (2) Seen while in the shortgrass plains portion of Ndutu on two days.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* – (1) Seen on our travel day to Ngorongoro Crater.

### **OLD WORLD PARROTS: Psittaculidae (2)**

**Fischer's Lovebird** *Agapornis fischeri* – (6) a showy small parrot, common and widespread on our route (except in Tarangire). In Ndutu, we had a high count of thirty one day!

**(E to TANZ) Yellow-collared Lovebird** *Agapornis personatus* – (3) Great views all around our lodge in Tarangire and other areas of the park. All of our sightings were in this park.

### **AMERICAN AND AFRICAN PARROTS: Psittacidae (2)**

**Meyer's Parrot** *Poicephalus meyeri* – (2) Seen first at the Visitor Center in Serengeti, we saw them there and in Tarangire NP.

**Red-bellied Parrot** *Poicephalus rufiventris* – (3) Seen or heard all three days in Tarangire.

### **OLD WORLD ORIOLES: Oriolidae (1)**

**African Black-headed Oriole** *Oriolus larvatus* – (3) A loud and large oriole, we had sightings at Ngorongoro Crater, Gibb's Farm and Tarangire NP.

### **WATTLE-EYES AND BATISES: Platysteiridae (2)**

**Black-throated Wattle-eye** *Platysteira peltata* – (1) Seen on our walk at Ngare Sero Lodge our first day.

**Chinspot Batis** *Batis molitor* – (4) Alerting us by call, our best views were near Lake Burungi.

### **BUSHSHRIKES AND ALLIES: Malaconotidae (8)**

**Brubru** *Nilaus afer* – (7) A fairly common bird of acacia woodland areas. Seen around our camps.

**Black-backed Puffback** *Dryoscopus cubla* – (9) Common and widespread. Often with mixed flocks in treed areas.

**Black-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra senegalus* – (1) Serengeti NP.

**Brown-crowned Tchagra** *Tchagra australis* – (7) Fairly common this year, we saw them low to the ground in shrubs, best views going in and out of Kubu Kubu Lodge.

**Tropical Boubou** *Laniarius major* – (7) A loud songster, it is hard to miss this species! First seen in and around Arusha NP, Ngorongoro Crater.

**Slate-colored Boubou** *Laniarius funebris* – (9) Common and widespread in the grassland settings.

**Sulphur-breasted Bushshrike** *Telophorus sulfureopectus* – (HO-1) Arusha NP.

**Rosy-patched Bushshrike** *Rhodophoneus cruentus* – (1) Tarangire NP.

### **DRONGOS: Dicruridae (1)**

**Fork-tailed Drongo** *Dicrurus adsimilis* – (11) Common and widespread.

### **MONARCH FLYCATCHERS: Monarchidae (1)**

**African Paradise-Flycatcher** *Terpsiphone viridis* – (6) Seen well near our lodges, flying from tree to tree, dipping down to the ground to feed. Best views, Gibb's Farm.

### **SHRIKES: Laniidae (8)**

**Magpie Shrike** *Corvinella melanoleuca* – (6) Our best views were in and around Kubu Kubu and in tree and shrub areas of Serengeti. Social, we had as many as six in a group, three and in Tarangire.

**Red-backed Shrike** *Lanius collurio* – (3) Ndotu, Serengeti and Burungi.

**Red-tailed Shrike** *Lanius phoenicuroides* – (4) Open country, often perched at eye-level on small shrubs, Ndotu and Serengeti.

**Gray-backed Fiscal** *Lanius excubitoroides* – (4) Ndotu and Serengeti.

**Long-tailed Fiscal** *Lanius cabanisi* – (3) a flexible species, seen along roadsides and in parks.

**Taita Fiscal** *Lanius dorsalis* – (5) Favors open country, Ndotu seen daily, also Serengeti, Oldapai, and the Engikarat Lark Plains.

**Northern Fiscal** *Lanius humeralis* – (7) Common and widespread.

**White-rumped Shrike** *Eurocephalus ruppelli* – (10) Common and widespread, at times seen in groups.

### **CROWS AND JAYS: Corvidae (4)**

**House Crow (I)** *Corvus splendens* – (2) Seen in small villages leaving Arusha, to the west.

**Cape Crow** *Corvus capensis* – (1) Seen in an area we often find them, near the entrance out in the grassland, to Serengeti NP.

**Pied Crow** *Corvus albus* – (6) Common in Arusha, wooded areas, around towns.

**White-necked Raven** *Corvus albicollis* – (1) Seen from the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

### **TITS AND CHICKADEES: Paridae (1)**

**Red-throated Tit** *Melaniparus fringillinus* – (2) Best seen in mixed flock on the road into Kubu Kubu Lodge.

### **LARKS: Alaudidae (5) + 3 LPTZ**

**Beezley's Lark** *Chersomanes beesleyi* – (EXT, LPTZ) Local guides met us to help scan for this arid zone endemic, we had excellent views of several individuals.

**Fischer's Sparrow-Lark** *Eremopterix leucopareia* – (10) Common and widespread, often in road tracks and shorter grass.

**Fawn-breasted (Foxy) Lark** *Calendulauda alopex* – (EXT, LPTZ) Seen in the same area as Beezley's Lark.

**Rufous-naped Lark** *Mirafra africana* – (7) Widespread in grasslands, a ready songster and one of the sweetest sounds of the plains.

**Sentinal Lark** *Mirafra Corypha athi* – (EXT, LPTZ) Seen in the same area as Beezley's Lark. A split from Rufous-naped Lark.

**Flappet Lark** *Mirafra rufocinnamomea* – (2) Seen doing flight songs above our vehicles in Serengeti.

**Red-capped Lark** *Calandrella cinerea* – (4) Nduu and Serengeti.

**Somali Short-toed Lark** *Alaudala athensis* – (2) Seen in short grass areas of Nduu.

**Short-tailed Lark** *Spizocorys fremantlii* – (EXT, AMBKY) Seen in Amboseli NP, thanks to Washington's sharp eyes to pick them up.

#### **AFRICAN WARBLERS: Macrosphenidae (2)**

**Red-faced Crombec** *Sylvietta whytii* – (7) Very nuthatch like in form but often feeding on flowers, common.

**Moustached Grass Warbler** *Melocichla mentalis* – (1) Washington brought this one out in a known location, not always easy to find, but quite vocal once encountered.

#### **CISTICOLAS AND ALLIES: Cisticolidae (17) + 2 Kenya**

**Gray Wren-Warbler** *Calamonastes simplex* – (EXT, AMBKY) Seen only in Amboseli NP on extension.

**Green-backed Camaroptera** *Camaroptera brachyura* – (10) Very common, especially visible around our camps.

**Buff-bellied Warbler** *Phyllolais pulchella* – (5) Nduu and Serengeti.

**Yellow-breasted Apalis** *Apalis flavida* – (7) Widespread.

**Black-headed Apalis** *Apalis melanocephala* – (1) Seen only in lush forest area of Arusha NP.

**Brown-headed Apalis** *Apalis alticola* – (1) Seen only at Gibb's Farm.

**Tawny-flanked Prinia** *Prinia subflava* – (6) Widespread, common.

**Red-fronted Prinia** *Prinia rufifrons* – (1) Another speciality of arid country, the Lark Plains, five were seen.

**Gray-capped Warbler** *Eminia lepida* – (2) Ngorongoro and Gibbs Farm.

**Red-faced Cisticola** *Cisticola erythrops* – (3) Ngorongoro and Gibbs Farm.

**Singing Cisticola** *Cisticola cantans* – (2) Arusha NP and Ngorongoro Crater, cooperative enough for photos!

**Trilling Cisticola** *Cisticola woosnami* – (1) seen well in Arusha NP, singing, one of our first encounters with this clan.

**Hunter's Cisticola** *Cisticola hunteri* – (2) Very loud and almost jarring, continuous song on the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.

**Rattling Cisticola** *Cisticola chiniana* – (11) The most common and widespread cisticola encountered.

**Winding Cisticola** *Cisticola marginatus* – (6) Widespread.

**Croaking Cisticola** *Cisticola natalensis* – (3) Best seen in Serengeti in taller grasses, also encountered in Tarangire.

**Zitting Cisticola** *Cisticola juncidis* – (1) Seen only on one day in Serengeti, a cisticola with a very broad geographic range.

**Desert Cisticola** *Cisticola aridulus* – (4) Nduu and Serengeti.

**Pectoral-patch Cisticola** *Cisticola brunnescens* – (5) Seen in groups, they flutter up from the grass calling, quite distinct.

**Ashy Cisticola** *Cistiola cinereolus* – (EXT, AMBKY) Fairly common in Amboseli.

#### **REED WARBLERS: Acrocephalidae (3)**

**Highland Rush Warbler** *Bradypterus centralis* – (1) Ngorongoro Crater.

**Cinnamon Bracken-Warbler** *Bradypterus cinnamomeus* – (1) Ngorongoro Crater.

**Lesser Swamp-Warbler** *Acrocephalus gracilirostris* – (1) Seen down in Ngorongoro Crater, back by the hippo pools where we saw swamphens and kingfishers.

#### **SWALLOWS AND MARTINS: Hirundinidae (10)**

**Black Sawwing** *Psolidoprocne pristoptera* – (3) Seen in and around Ngorongoro Crater, very acrobatic flight.

**Banded Martin** *Neophedina cincta* – (1) Seen by the restrooms under big yellow acacias and cliffs in Ngorongoro Crater.

**Plain Martin** *Riparia paludicola* – (1) Noted on the Ngorongoro Crater day, not as plentiful as some years.

**Red-throated Crag (Rock) Martin** *Ptyonoprogne fuligula* – (6) Widespread in appropriate habitat.

**Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* – (2) Ngorongoro and Ndutu.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* – (12) widespread, incredibly numerous.

**Wire-tailed Swallow** *Hirundo smithii* – (5) A lovely swallow, we got close looks in roadside puddles and around buildings.

**Western House Martin** *Delichon urbicum* – (1) Seen on one of our most bird-rich days in Ngorongoro Crater.

**African Red-rumped Swallow** *Cecropis daurica* – (8) Widespread. Graceful distinctive flyer.

**Lesser Striped Swallow** *Cecropis abyssinica* – (9) Very striking, another photographer favorite, common and widespread.

#### **BULBULS: Pycnonotidae (6)**

**Sombre Greenbul** – (1) Seen in lush vegetation at the smaller crater rim of Arusha NP, Ngurdoto Crater.

**Yellow-bellied Greenbul** – (2) Seen at our lunchstop at Escarpment Lodge on the Rift Valley Rim, and on the southern route into Tarangire.

**Olive-headed Greenbul** – (1) Seen in lush vegetation at the smaller crater rim of Arusha NP, Ngurdoto Crater.

**Common (Dark-capped) Bulbul** *Pycnonotus barbatus* – (9) Common and widespread.

**Little Greenbul** *Eurillas virens* – (1) Seen by those that visited Lake Duluti near Arusha.

**Gray-olive Greenbul** (*Phyllastrephus cerviniventris*) – (1) Seen by those that visited Lake Duluti near Arusha.

#### **LEAF WARBLERS: Phylloscopidae (1)**

**Willow Warbler** *Phylloscopus trochilus* – (6) Widespread, often with other songbirds in a flock.

#### **SYLVIID WARBLERS: Sylviidae (1)**

**Banded Parisoma** *Sylvia boehmi* – (7) Common and widespread in shrub habitat. Often vocal.

#### **WHITE-EYES AND YUHINAS: Zosteropidae (3)**

**Pale White-eye** *Zosterops flavilateralis* – (2) Our first was seen on the road down from the Crater, in an arid section we encountered a mixed flock mobbing a snake in a tree. Seen again in Serengeti.

**Kilimanjaro White-eye** *Zosterops eurycricotus* – (1) Seen at the Ngorongoro Crater viewpoint, in dense vegetation.

**Mbulu White-eye** *Zosterops mbuluensis* – (1) Seen down in Ngorongoro Crater.

#### **LAUGHINGTHRUSHES AND ALLIES: Leiothrichidae (4)**

**Rufous Chatterer** *Turdoides rubiginosa* – (2) Seen coming and going to Ndutu, in shrubby, short grass habitat.

**Arrow-marked Babbler** *Turdoides jardineii* – (1) Seen well on our walk around the property at Gibb's Farm.

**Black-lored Babbler** *Turdoides sharpei* – (4) Common in Ndutu, including around our tented camp.

**Northern Pied Babbler** *Turdoides hypoleuca* – (2) Seen only in Tarangire NP, on the day we drove in through the western gate and on our final day while watching Elephants.

#### **OXPECKERS: Buphagidae (2)**

**Red-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus erythrorhynchus* – (7) Common, widespread.

**Yellow-billed Oxpecker** *Buphagus africanus* – (4) Seen in the dominantly grassland areas of Ndutu and Serengeti, sometimes mixed in with the more abundant Red-billed Oxpeckers.

#### **STARLINGS AND MYNAS: Sturnidae (9)**

**Wattled Starling** *Creatophora cinerea* – (8) Huge flocks around the abundant herds of grazing mammals.

**Violet-backed Starling** *Cinnyricinclus leucogaster* – (1) Seen at Lake Duluti near Arusha, in large trees overhanging the lake

**Red-winged Starling** *Onychognathus morio* – (5) Widespread but not as common as other starlings, localized.

**Waller's Starling** *Onychognathus walleri* – (2) Seen only at the start, best views in Arusha NP.

**Kennrick's Starling** *Poeoptera kenricki* – (1) Highlands, Ngorongoro Crater.

**Hildebrandt's Starling** *Lamprotornis hildebrandti* – (10) Very common and widespread.



**Ruppell's Starling** *Lamprotornis purpuroptera* – (4) Grasslands, long glossy tails were impressive.  
**Ashy Starling** *Lamprotornis unicolor* – (4) Endemic, quite common once in Serengeti.  
**Superb Starling** *Lamprotornis superbus* – (13) Very common and widespread.  
**Greater Blue-eared Starling** *Lamprotornis chalybaeus* – (1) Seen at the Ngorongoro Picnic Area.

#### **OLD WORLD FLYCATCHERS: Muscicapidae (21)**

**African Dusky Flycatcher** *Muscicapa adusta* – (2) Arusha NP and Gibb's Farm.  
**Spotted Flycatcher** *Muscicapa striata* – (6) Seen well, on six days of the journey.  
**African Gray Flycatcher** *Bradornis microrhynchus* – (10) Common and widespread.  
**Silverbird** *Melaenornis semipartitus* – (7) A very pretty songbird, Ndutu and Serengeti.  
**White-eyed Slaty-Flycatcher** *Melaenornis fischeri* – (5) Highlands, best seen by our lodge at Ngorongoro Crater.  
**White-browed (Red-backed) Scrub-Robin** *Cercotrichas leucophrys* – (7) Widespread.  
**Cape Robin-Chat** *Cossypha caffra* – (2) Seen on two days from the rim of Ngorongoro Crater.  
**Ruppell's Robin-Chat** *Cossypha semirufa* – (3) Seen at our lodge near and in Arusha NP.  
**White-browed Robin-Chat** *Cossypha heuglini* – (2) Ngorongoro Crater and Gibb's Farm.  
**Spotted Morning-Thrush** *Cichladusa guttata* – (4) A cheerful mimic easy to hear, best seen in Lake Burungi Tented Camp.  
**Thrush Nightingale** *Luscinia luscinia* – (HO-1) Heard at Lake Manyara on our safari drive there.  
**Rufous-tailed Rock Thrush** *Monticola saxatilis* – (1) Seen driving north from Arusha on the Engikaret Lark Plains  
**Whinchat** *Saxicola rubetra* – (5) First seen at Lerai Picnic Area of the Crater, then fairly common in Serengeti.  
**African Stonechat** *Saxicola torquatus* – (4) Seen at higher elevations, good views.  
**Northern Anteater-Chat** *Myrmecocichla aethiops* – (3) Best seen in Ngorongoro Crater where the startle pattern in the wing caught our eye. Also seen one day in Serengeti.  
**Northern Wheatear** *Oenanthe* – (5) Widespread, good views.  
**Capped Wheatear** *Oenanthe pileata* – (4) A very striking bird, favors short grass area, we saw it perched on road margins and elephant dung.  
**Isabelline Wheatear** *Oenanthe isabellina* – (2) Seen in our most arid areas around Oldapai Gorge. Also at the Engikaret Lark Plains.  
**Pied Wheatear** *Oenanthe pleschanka* – (2) Seen best on the cut-over road we took from the Crater to Ndutu at lower elevations.  
**Familiar Chat** *Oenanthe familiaris* – (1) Seen on one day in the Seronera area of Serengeti.  
**Abyssinian Wheatear** *Oenanthe lugubris* – (1) Just one sighting, while having our picnic on the Ngorongoro Crater day at Lerai Picnic Area.

#### **SUNBIRDS: Nectariniidae (12)**

**Eastern Violet-backed Sunbird** *Anthreptes reichenowi* – (3) Great views at Burungi Tented Camp.  
**Collared Sunbird** *Hedydipna collaris* – (6) The second-most common and widespread sunbird encountered.  
**Olive Sunbird** *Cyanomitra olivacea* – (1) Seen only at our arrival lodge, Ngare Sero in Arusha.  
**Amethyst Sunbird** *Chalcomitra amethystina* – (2) Tree-loving, we saw it in Arusha and Ngorongoro NP.  
**Scarlet-chested Sunbird** *Chalcomitra senegalensis* – (4) Our best views were at a roadside rest stop in a lone tree, quite close, and then with a mixed flock mobbing a Pearl-spotted Owlet at Naabi Hill Gate, Serengeti.  
**Tacazze Sunbird** *Nectarinia tacazze* – (1) Stunning sunbird of the highlands, seen on the Crater rim near our rooms.  
**Bronze Sunbird** *Nectarinia kilimensis* – (3) Best seen on our two days at Gibbs Farm, also on the cut-off road to Ndutu from the Crater Rim  
**Malachite Sunbird** *Nectarinia johnstoni* – (1) Seen in rural lands of the Maasai en route to Ndutu, brilliant views along a roadside hedge.  
**Eastern Double-collared Sunbird** *Cinnyris mediocris* – (1) Ngorongoro Crater.  
**Golden-winged Sunbird** *Drepanorhynchus reichenowi* – (1) Seen at the upper entry gate to Ngorongoro Crater as we waited for the paperwork to be completed, nice!

**Gorgeous (Beautiful) Sunbird** *Cinnyris pulchellus* – (5) Ngorongoro Crater multiple stops, and then seen again in Serengeti.

**Marico Sunbird** (*Cinnyris mariquensis*) – Two were seen as we left Kubu Kubu for an optional afternoon safari

**Variable Sunbird** *Cinnyris venustu* – (9) The most common and widespread, expected sunbird of our journey.

### **WEAVERS: Ploceidae (30)**

**Red-billed Buffalo-Weaver** *Bubalornis niger* – (9) Common and widespread, we saw them in huge feeding flocks and coming and going from their big stick nests.

**White-headed Buffalo-Weaver** *Bubalornis dinemlli* – (7) A very showy species, often ground feeding around herds of large mammals.

**Speckle-fronted Weaver** *Sporopipes frontalis* – (5) An intricately patterned small weaver, present in flocks.

**White-browed Sparrow-Weaver** *Plocepasser mahali* – (1) Seen going into the lunch we had at Escarpment Lodge, overlooking the Rift Valley.

**Rufous-tailed Weaver** *Histurgops ruficauda* – (11) An endemic, very common. Good example of locally common, globally rare.

**Gray-headed Social-Weaver** *Pseudonigrita arnaudi* – (5) Widespread in open areas, often in groups of 6-10.

**Red-headed Weaver** *Anaplectes rubriceps* – (3) The bright red coloration of the male is a real show stopper. Best seen around our lodge in Tarangire, but widespread.

**Baglafaecht Weaver** *Ploceus baglafaecht* – (6) Common, widespread.

**Little Weaver** *Ploceus luteolus* – (2) Ngorongoro and Serengeti.

**Black-necked Weaver** *Ploceus nigricollis* – (3) Washington spotted this species at the Serengeti Visitor Center, then we found them again at Lake Burungi.

**Spectacled Weaver** *Ploceus ocularis* – (1) Four seen in a small group at Lake Duluti.

**Holub's Golden-Weaver** *Ploceus xanthops* – (1) Seen nest-building at Lerai Picnic Area.

**Taveta Golden Weaver** *Ploceus castaneiceps* – (2) Seen working on their nests at the pond, over water, Ngare Sero Lodge.

**Lesser Masked-Weaver** *Ploceus intermedius* – (5) Serengeti and Ngorongoro.

**Vitelline Masked-Weaver** *Ploceus vitellinus* – (8) Common, widespread. High counts of ten individuals, often at reststops.

**Speke's Weaver** *Ploceus spekei* – (5) Widespread at lower elevations, high count 12.

**Village Weaver** *Ploceus cucullatus* – (4) Highest numbers seen in Serengeti with 40 seen at a time.

**Golden-backed Weaver** *Ploceus jacksoni* – (1) Gorgeous, seen just once at a roadside rest stop.

**Chestnut Weaver** *Ploceus rubiginosus* – (1) Lake Burunge, and the southern route into Tarangire.

**Cardinal Quelea** *Quelea cardinalis* – (1) This little beauty was seen by the small group that ventured out from Kubu Kubu one afternoon.

**Red-billed Quelea** *Quelea quelea* – (7) Common and widespread, some HUGE flocks.

**Southern Red Bishop** *Euplectes orix* – (4) Locally common, seen in Ngorongoro Crater, then in agricultural lands driving in to Lake Burungi.

**Black-winged Bishop** *Euplectes hordeaceus* – (1) Seen roadside in lush grass in Serengeti.

**Black Bishop** *Euplectes gierowii* – (5) Widespread, a good year for them after good rains. Bright males.

**Yellow Bishop** *Euplectes capensis* – (2) Encountered first at the Lerai Picnic Area in Ngorongoro Crater, lovely!

**Yellow-crowned Bishop** *Euplectes afer* – (1) Seen on the drive into Lake Burungi.

**White-winged Widowbird** *Euplectes albonotatus* – (2) Seen in lush, wetter grassland areas, Serengeti.

**Red-cowled Widowbird** *Euplectes laticuada* – (2) Seen near Maasai Villages leaving Ngorongoro Crater. Coloration stunning!

**Fan-tailed Widowbird** *Euplectes axillaris* – (3) Ngorongoro and Serengeti.

**Jackson's Widowbird** *Euplectes jacksoni* – (1) Seen near Maasai Villages leaving Ngorongoro Crater. Fantastic long tails on males chasing females.

**Grosbeak Weaver** *Amblyospiza albifrons* – (4) First seen at our lodge near Arusha, then active nest building at Gibb's Farm.

### **WAXBILLS AND ALLIES: Estrildidae (10)**

**Gray-headed Silverbill** *Odontospiza griseicapilla* – (1) For us, quite local in the seronera area of Serengeti.

**Bronze Manakin** *Spermestes cucullata* – (2) Seen at two more lush locations, Ngare Sero Lodge and Gibb's Farm.

**Black-and-white Manakin** *Spermestes bicolor* – (1) Seen on the Arusha NP day by those in Washington's vehicle.

**Black-faced Waxbill** *Estrilda erythronotos* – (3) Nduu and Serengeti.

**Crimson-rumped Waxbill** *Estrilda rhodopyga* – (1) We had best views of this species feeding in a flock at the Serengeti NP Visitor Center, they like seeding grasses.

**Quailfinch** *Ortygospiza atricollis* – (1) a wonderful find, so tiny! In serengeti NP.

**Cut-throat** *Amadina fasciata* – (3) First seen at Arusha NP, then good views at a roadside rest and the route into Tarangire from Burungi.

**Purple Grenadier** *Granatina ianthinogaster* – (6) A beautiful bird, often in mixed seed-eating flocks, seen on the ground or in small shrubs.

**Red-cheeked Cordonbleu** *Uraeginthus bengalus* – (2) Serengeti and Burungi.

**Blue-capped Cordonbleu** *Uraeginthus cyanocephalus* – (9) Common, widespread. But a gorgeous mixed flock member.

**Green-winged Pytilia** *Pytilia melba* – (3) Very intricate patterns and colors, seen in mixed songbird flocks but not common.

**Red-throated Twinspot** *Hypargos niveoguttatus paradisaea* – (1) Seen at the lake several of us visited from Arusha.

**Red-billed Firefinch** *Lagonosticta senegala* – (4) Another showy mixed flock member, common.

**African Firefinch** *Lagonosticta rubricata* – (1) Seen only in Arusha NP.

### **WHYDAHs AND WIDOWBIRDS: Viduidae (5)**

**Pin-tailed Whydah** *Vidua macroura* – (4) Males were very showy this year after all the rains, perched atop tall grasses and launching up into fancy display flight. Fairly common.

**Eastern Paradise-Whydah** *Vidua paradisaea* – (4) Gorgeous males with long showy tails after abundant rains. Widespread!

**Steel-blue Whydah** *Vidua hypocherina* – (5) Seen in small number, but regularly in Nduu and Serengeti, often males in flight showing off long tails.

**Straw-tailed Whydah** *Vidua fischeri* – (3) Nduu and Manyara, and near Kubu Kubu, males in flight, wow...

**Village Indigobird** *Vidua chalybeata* – (5) Often near human habitation, fairly common.

### **OLD WORLD SPARROWS: Passeridae (6)**

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* – (7) Common and widespread.

**Kenya Rufous Sparrow** *Passer rufocinctus* – (4) Open areas, Nduu, Serengeti, Lark Plains.

**Northern Gray-headed Sparrow** *Passer griseus* – (7) Widespread, seen in groups of 2-6 frequently.

**Swahili Sparrow** *Passer suahelicus* – (4) High count of ten was in Lake Manyara.

**Chestnut Sparrow** *Passer eminibey* – (4) Roadside, Nduu and Burungi, in groups, high count was 50.

**\*Yellow-spotted Bush Sparrow** *Gymnoris pyrgita* – (2) Seen in Serengeti and Lake Manyara.

### **PIPITS AND WAGTAILS: Motacilidae (8)**

**Mountain Wagtail** *Motacilla clara* – (3) Seen best bobbing on the lawn at Ngare Sero Lodge near Arusha.

**Western Yellow Wagtail** *Motacilla flava* – (1) Ngorongoro Crater and roadside near Burungi.

**African Pied Wagtail** *Motacilla aguimp* – (5) Very tame, we saw them around ponds but as often or not, around swimming pools at the lodges, fun!

**African Pipit** *Anthus cinnamomeus* – (5) Common in grasslands.

**Long-billed Pipit** *Anthus similis* – (1) Seen near Kubu Kubu lodge on an afternoon optional safari.

**Plain-backed Pipit** *Anthus leucophrys* – (3) Common in Nduu.

**Tree Pipit** *Anthus trivialis* – (1) Seen on the cut-off road to Nduu from the Crater.

**Yellow-throated Longclaw** *Macronyx croceus* – (2) We got good looks at this meadowlark look-alike in Serengeti.

**Pangani Longclaw** *Macronyx aurantiigula*– (3) Wonderful views of this species in Ngorongoro Crater, and in Serengeti.

**Rosy-throated Longclaw** *Macronyx ameliae*– (2) seen well in Ngorongoro Crater to everyone's delight, then on one more day in Serengeti.

#### **FINCHES AND EUPHONIAS: Fringillidae (7)**

**Southern Citril** *Crithagra hyposticta* — (3) Gibb's Farm, common in that lush location.

**Reichenow's Seedeater** *Crithagra reichenowi* – (4) Seen on the cut-off road to Ndutu and later near Seronera, Serengeti.

**White-bellied Canary** *Crithagra dorsostrata* – (9) Common and widespread.

**Southern Grosbeak Canary** – (1) seen in arid habitat of the Lark Plains.

**Streaky Seedeater** *Crithagra striolata* – (7) Common in more wooded areas, rim of Ngorongoro Crater, Manyara, Gibbs Farm.

**Thick-billed Seedeater** *Crithagra burtoni* – (1) Ngorongoro Crater, Gibb's Farm and Lake Manyara.

**Yellow-crowned Canary** *Serinus flavivertex* – (1) Seen at a quick meal stop driving back, at the Rift Valley Rim lodge of Serena.

#### **OLD WORLD BUNTINGS: Emberizidae (1)**

**Golden-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza flaviventris* – (1) Seen on our first full day in Arusha NP.

**Cinnamon-breasted Bunting** *Emberiza tahapisi* – (1) Serengeti and Lake Burungi.

#### **TANZANIA MAMMALS (50: 47 species recorded in Tanzania + 3 additional in Kenya, where noted subspecies are differentiated and slightly indented):**

##### **PROCAVLIVIDAE: (1)**

**Bush Hyrax** *Heterohyrax brucei* – (2) Seen around the shrubs outside the bathrooms at the Serengeti Visitor Center complex, where they seemed quite tolerant of human activity. Seen again on a drive in Tarangire NP. The big eyes of this relative of the Elephant were engaging.

##### **ELEPHANTIDAE: (1)**

**African Bush Elephant** *Loxodonta africana*– (11) A signature species of our trip, our best views of family groups were at Lake Manyara and Tarangire. A massive bull was one of the first mammals we saw as we got to the crater floor at Ngorongoro. In all we saw many elephants, and spent time watching their behaviors, listening to their rumbles, and observing their interactions with one and other.

##### **CERCOPITHECIDAE: (4)**

###### **Guereza Colobus**

**Mount Kilimanjaro Guereza** *Colobus guereza caudata*– (4) This dazzling black and white, long tailed primate was particularly visible at the start of our journey, with several playful groups around the huge trees of Ngare Sero Lodge. We heard their vocalizations particularly in the mornings, and one troop had a big roost near our dining area. A large troop was present at the crater rim we visited at Arusha NP. We found them again at our final lunch near the Usa River, where massive shade trees gave our final lunch the feeling of being in a secluded oasis. They lounged on tree branches, then would erupt with some spectacular leaps between trees.

**Olive Baboon** *Papio anubis*– (7) Widespread, we even saw troops along the road between Manyara and Karatu, likely creating havoc with merchants selling produce. They were in most of the areas we visited with the exception of Ndutu where we had a five day gap in sightings. They were most numerous in Manyara NP, and there we watched a lot of behavior within the troop.

**Yellow Baboon** *Papio cynocephalus* – (EXT, AMBKY) Numerous in Amboseli NP, where Massai guards kept slingshots at hand to scare them away from buffet meals and cabin doors, there were dozens of them around the lodge grounds.

**Vervet Monkey** *Chlorocebus pygerythrus*

**Hilgert's Vervet Monkey** *Chlorocebus pygerythrus hlgerti*– (5) Common, very active and fun to watch.

**Gentle (Blue) Monkey** *Cercopithecus mitis*

**Zanzibar Sykes Monkey** *Cercopithecus mitis albogularis*– (3) Ngare Sero and Aruha NP.

**Manyara Monkey** *Cercopithecus mitis manyaraensis*– (1) Big groups at Lake Manyara NP.

#### **GALAGIDAE: (2)**

**Northern Lesser Galago** *Euoticus senegalensis* – (1)

**Senegal Lesser Galago** *Euoticus s. senegalensis* – (1) Tarangire night drive

#### **SCIURIDAE: (2)**

**Ochre Bush Squirrel** *Paraxerus ochraceous*– (4) Seen in forested areas, at Ngare Sero Lodge in Arusha, and then again Gibbs Farm and Tarangire NP.

**Unstriped Ground Squirrel** *Xerus rutilus*– (2) Seen on both days in Tarangire NP, around our lodge and on safari drives.

#### **MURIDAE: (1)**

**Nairobi Grass Rat**– (5) With so much rain and so much grass this rodent was particularly numerous this year, we saw them on drives in Serengeti, and at the entry gate they were quite bold near the picnic areas.

#### **PEDETIDAE: (1)**

**Eastern African Springhare** *Pedetes surdaster* – (1) One of our vehicles on the night drive at Tarangire NP got to see this odd mammal with its kangaroo like quality of movement. The grass was so long this year they were harder to see than in other years.

#### **LEPORIDAE: (1)**

**African Savanna Hare**: *Lepus microtis* – (3) First seen in Ngorongoro Crater where we watched one try to hide, pinning its long ears back to look like a rock, but a young Zebra was not having it, and just had to check it out, Peg got a comical video. We saw them on two days while in Ndutu as well.

#### **MEGADERMATIDAE: (1)**

**Yellow-winged Bat**– *Lavia frons* (1) Day roost, Oldapai Gorge.

#### **Pteropodidae: Fruit Bats (1)**

**Wahlberg's Epauletted Fruit Bat** *Epomophorus wahlbergi* – (5) We could hear them calling at night at several locations, but at Lake Burungi Lodge they roosted in the lodge rafters under the thatched roof and we could see and photograph them there. We heard them first at Ngare Sero where Ted described the sharp repetitive call the first night but we could not place it, then we figured it out as we saw a few flying around large trees up by the rooms.

#### **CANIDAE: Canids (3)**

**African Wolf (Golden Jackal)** *Canis lupaster* – (2) Seen quite well, tolerant of vehicle approach, in Ndutu.

**Black-backed Jackal** *Lupulella mesomelas* – (6) Tamara remarked that she was not prepared for such beautiful markings in this species. We saw several healthy pair with lush coats and patterned dark markings. Some of our sightings were distant, in general numbers were down this year, but memorable was one curious about the vehicle as the group stopped for a bush break – its intent stare enough to head a few back into the vehicle.

**Bat-eared Fox** *Otocyon megalotis* – (2) We had the good fortune of seeing a family group one early morning in Ndutu as we headed out at dawn to the short grass areas. They were on the move, and once vehicles were around, they picked up the pace. We had good views they retraced their steps and headed our way and then watched them go a long way off, learning they could move fast and cover ground.



## **MUSTELIDAE: WEASELS (1)**

**Ratel / Honey Badger** *Mellivora capensis* – (1) A great find by Amin, but wary, it ran quickly through grassy areas of Ndutu and disappeared into a hole, luckily, we got good views before it went underground.

## **FELIDAE: (5)**

**Lion** *Panthera leo* – (7) This iconic mammal of Africa did not disappoint us, as we had sightings on several days. We saw a variety of ages and groupings of females, males and both sexes together. Several times they were sleeping shade, but often trading places, greeting each other, grooming. One young male stretched, groomed, and got up to scratch on a tree and pull down fibers it ran through its teeth like a toothbrush. For all our sightings, it is probably the grunts and roars in the night that were most memorable, we heard them close at several of our tented camps – unforgettable!

**Leopard** *Panthera pardus* – (1) We had a very memorable afternoon sighting, finding one that we knew was active in the area up a tree. We stayed parked as other vehicles gathered, and watched it settle in to nap, occasionally opening an eye or moving a bit. It then got up and did a great cat stretch, yawned, and walked down the massive tree limb to descend the tree – wow!

**Serval** *Leptailurus serval* – (1) We watched one individual hunting and moving through the grass at the edge of the forest on a loop drive through Ngorongoro Crater.

**Cheetah** *Acinonyx jubatus* – (2) Seen in Ndutu, on an amazing 3 cat day, Cheetah, Lion and Leopard. Our first sighting was a group of three, a mother with two almost grown youngsters, resting in the shade. They moved around a bit but were done for the morning, settling in to sleep as only cats can do. We had quite a bit of company there for our cat sightings in Ndutu, so finding two brothers with just a few of us to watch them driving back from our afternoon drive in Tarangire was most memorable. They were on the move and going to cross the road, so we had them coming right for us, one crossing ahead of the other. We watched one scent mark a small bush then roll, and marveled as the other jumped right up in a tree, proceeding to scent mark there and then poop on a prominent limb, quite a ways up the tree! The second in time found the same tree and repeated this same behavior, so unusual to see this cat make arboreal markings, even our guides had not seen that before.

**Wildcat** *Felis silvestris* – (3) We saw this species several times, once for a brief time before it disappeared in an area of shrubs and grass between Oldapai and Ndutu, again as we left Ndutu, and then we had particularly good looks on the night drive from Tarangire with a local guide.

## **VIVERIDAE: (2)**

**Common (Small-spotted) Genet** *Genetta genetta* – (1) Tamara was up early to meet the driver for the balloon ride, and right on the front porch of the room at Kubu she got great looks at this inquisitive creature.

**Large-spotted Genet** *Genetta maculata* – (1) Seen by one vehicle well, on the night drive in Tarangire NP.

## **HYAENIDAE: (1)**

**Spotted Hyena** *Crocuta crocuta* – (9) We saw this species often, and learned a lot about its lifestyle and interactions. We also heard it a lot at night from our tented camps and lodges. Most memorable was finding an active den, early one morning out on the short grass plains of Ndutu. There were several adult females there and several youngsters, one intently nursing, and two others playing. One was so small it was still jet black in color, but it was the cheekiest of them all. What a privilege to watch them at close range in such an intimate setting. On another occasion, driving out of Serengeti, we watched them interact with vultures, trying to drive them off the remains of a small carcass.

## **HERPESTIDAE: (3)**

**Slender Mongoose** *Herpestes sanguineus* – (1) Seen at the entry to Arusha NP, when we walked out to see the view of Kilimanjaro.

**Banded Mongoose** *Mungos mungo* – (3) Great to see bands of this impressive mongoose, so like meerkats in some of their behaviors. Social, we saw big groups and enjoyed their antics.

**Common Dwarf Mongoose** *Helogale parvula* – (4) This was our most frequently encountered mongoose and we had good views, often interrupting them coming out of their termite mound burrows to feed. They were challenging to photograph and fun to watch.

#### **EQUIDAE: (1)**

**Plains (Common) Zebra** *Equus burchelli* – (12) Amy said several times how much she had underestimated the impact of seeing these dazzling creatures. Used to a lethargic few at a zoo, she could not take in the huge numbers we encountered (thousands) and all the interactions, scenic views of herds with mountains, with rivers, with other species. We got very close to them, listening to the braying of stallions and squealing of young ones. We saw rough-coated brown youngsters, and marveled at the variations of stripes, some with shadow stripes and some clean, some faces and legs with broad bands, others narrow. We watched young males kick fight and nip, watched grooming partners go carefully down each other's full spines, and saw nursing young. Zebras were almost a daily sighting but we never tired of them.

#### **RHINOCEROTIDAE: (1)**

**Black Rhinoceros** *Diceros bicornis* – (3) With binocs and scopes, both times we stopped at the Ngorongoro overlook we found Black Rhinos, the second time a group of 5, three mothers and two young. Down in the crater we stopped several times to view a couple, but always at a distance. We would have liked closer views, but understood how rare they are and that at this point in time they can only be seen in protected, mostly fenced parks to have a chance at all. They are massive and impressive and the rich green grass and shrublands of the crater seemed a near-perfect home.

#### **SUIDAE: (1)**

**Warthog** *Phacochoerus aethiopicus* – (7) Widespread, and common, we had close up views while on our walking safari in Arusha NP, but also saw them well in Ngorongoro Crater where they had little fear of vehicles. Farther afield our stopping often put them into flight and we'd see a line of "pigs and piglets" disappear into the grass, tails aloft. A few times we saw them mud-bathing, coming up coated like chocolate warthogs.

#### **HIPPOPOTAMIDAE: (1)**

**Hippopotamus** *Hippopotamus amphibius* – (4) We saw them where wetlands held deep enough water to cover them and keep them cool and protected from sun on hot days. Early mornings we had luck to catch a few out of the water for full body looks. At times they seemed to revel in piling on each other, a mix of huge males, females and young ones. As soon as they looked comfortable, the pile would erupt and one on the downside would want up, very entertaining to watch. We heard them "chortle" and saw their feeding trails that radiated out from each pond – they feed at night when the sun is down.

#### **GIRAFFIDAE: (1)**

**Common Giraffe** *Giraffa camelopardalis* – (11) A species high on everyone's favorite list, so unique in build, so graceful in motion. We saw them in a variety of habitats. They do not go down into the crater, but leaving the crater for lower elevations and more shrubs of varieties they enjoy we saw dozens. We found lone individuals, and groups of three to a dozen. We stopped to watch them, several quite close, but none as impressive as those we saw on our walking safari in Arusha NP, where we had them maybe 50 feet away, towering over us as they fed, eyeing us but not running away. That experience was very meaningful.

#### **BOVIDAE: (19)**

**African (Cape) Buffalo** *Syncerus caffer* – (6) Common, seen in large herds in lush, greener areas.

**Bushbuck** *Tragelaphus scriptus* – (2) Seen in Arusha and then again near our tents at Lake Burungi.

**Common Eland** *Taurotragus oryx* – (5) Such a massive and elegant eland, our most memorable sighting was a herd of 300 or more, with several large males, with other grazing mammals in Ndutu.

**Suni** *Neotragus moschatus* – (1) Just the quickest peek for a few of the group, several individuals at road's edge after our ranger walk in Arusha NP as we drove out.

**Harvey's Duiker** *Cephalophus harveyi* – (1) Quick looks for some from the road in Arusha NP.

**Steenbok** *Raphicerus campestris* – (1) Seen on one day in Tarangire.

**Kirk's Dik-dik** *Madoqua kirkii*

**Thomas's Ugogo Dik-dik** *Madoqua kirkii thomasi*– (3) Seen on all days in Tarangire.

**Naivasha Dik-dik** *Madoqua kirkii caendishi*– (5) Common in Ndutu and Serengeti.

**Thomson's Gazelle** *Gazella thomsoni*– (5) One of the most abundant of the small grazing mammals of Serengeti. First seen in Ngorongoro Crater. A few had young.

**Grant's Gazelle** *Gazella granti* – (8) The species seen in Ngorongoro, Ndutu and Serengeti

**Grant's Gazelle** *Gazella granti granti* – (3) Seen all three days in Tarangire, a sub species.

**Gerenuk** *Litocranius walleri* – (1) Seen in arid areas going into Amboseli, some up on their hind legs feeding in that giraffe-style.

**Bohor Reedbuck** *Redunca redunca* – (2) Seen in wet marshes of Amboseli NP

**Waterbuck** *Kobus ellipsiprymnus*

**Common Waterbuck** *Kobus ellipsiprymnus* – (3) Manyara and Tarangire NPs

**Defassa Waterbuck** *Kobus defassa* – (2) Serengeti.

**Impala** *Aepyceros malampus* – (10) Abundant and widespread.

**Topi** *Damaliscus lunatus* – (3) Gorgeous color, as if polished, seen only in Serengeti, not common.

**Hartebeest (Kongoni)** *Acelaphus buselaphus*

**Coke's Hartebeest (Kongoni)** *Acelaphus buselaphus cokii* – (5) Ndutu and Serengeti.

**White-bearded Wildebeest** *Connochaetes taurinus*

**Eastern White-bearded Wildebeest** *Connochaetes taurinus albojubatus* – (1) Seen from the main road returning to Arusha, a different subspecies

**Western White-bearded Wildebeest** *Connochaetes taurinus mearnsi* – (7) Abundant beyond imagination, incredibly memorable to see vast herds with young, some giving birth, constantly on the move. A signature of our journey for sure.

#### **REPTILES AND AMPHIBIANS (14 species recorded):**

**Leopard Tortoise** *Stigmochelys pardalis* – (1) Tamara spied one as we drove along, less common this year but with taller grass hard to see.

**African Helmeted (Marsh) Terrapin** *Pelomedusa subrufa* – (1) Sunning at a big pool we visited.

**Nile Crocodile** *Crocodylus niloticus* – (2) Seen in big Hippo pools

**Tropical House Gecko** *Hemidactylus mabouia* (4) Present in our camps, lodgings

**Striped Skink** *Trachylepsis striata* – (2) rocky areas

**Nile Monitor Lizard** *Varanus niloticus* – (1) Seen at Lake Diluti

**Red-headed Agama** *Agama lionotus* – (3) Fairly common

**Blue-headed Tree Agama** – *Acanthocercus* sp. (3) Fairly common

**Flap-necked Chameleon** *Chamaeleo dilepis* – (2) Seen crossing the road a few times, great finds.

**Guttural Toad** *Sclerophrys gutturalis* – (2) Heard at night near Arusha

**Common Reed Frog** *Hyperolius viridiflavus* – (2) Seen and heard at Ngare Sero Lodge

**Boomslang Snake** – *Dispholidus typus* – (1) Incredible sighting in an acacia tree alongside the road not far from Oldapai Gorge. Being mobbed by songbirds. Gorgeous color and pattern.

**Olive Marsh Snake** – *Natriciteres olivacea* – (1) Amboseli NP.