

Birds

The birds of the Gamtoos Estuary were recorded by Capt. E L Shewell in 1950, M Schramm in 1977 (unpublished) and the Western Cape Wader Study Group in the summer of 1978/79 (Underhill et al 1980). Table 5 summarizes the species recorded and counted by the abovementioned groups.

TABLE 5

Waders and other birds of the Gamtoos Estuary

Roberts Number	Species Common Name	Capt. E.L. Shewell*		M. Schramm 1977 (unpublished)		W.C.W.S.G.**
		Feb. 49-Jan. 50		Summer	Winter (only Waders)	Summer 1978/79 (5 Sites)
		Nov.-Jan.	May-July			
231	Black Oystercatcher	18	51	19	34	27
232	Turnstone	2	0	0	0	1
233	Ringed Plover	200	10	0	0	38
235	White-fronted Sandplover	c.100 (throughout year)		26	84	18
237	Kittlitz's Sandplover	c.100	do	1	3	5
238	Three-banded Sandplover	c.3	do	13	1	2
241	Grey Plover	75	22	141	8	152
242	Crowned Plover	0	0	0	0	2
245	Blacksmith Plover	0	0	3	3	0
251	Curlew Sandpiper	400	0	69	0	165
253	Little Stint	400	0	4	0	137
255	Sanderling	400	120	43	29	445
256	Ruff	2	0	0	0	69
257	Terek Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	78
258	Common Sandpiper	3	0	5	3	26
263	Greenshank	25	10	19	10	72
264	Wood Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	2
267	Curlew	64	16	1	4	3
268	Whimbrel	5	1	16	19	37
269	Avocet	0	0	2	4	0
270	Stilt	0	0	10	0	0
274	Water Dikkop	0	0	4	0	0
85	Spoonbill	1	0	0	0	0
86&87	Flamingo	0	2	0	0	0
231 X	European Oystercatcher	1	0	0	0	0
261	Redshank	2	0	0	0	0
262	Marsh Sandpiper	0	1	0	0	0
266	Bar-tailed Godwit	8	1	0	0	0
236	Chestnut-banded Sandplover	0	0	0	1	0
47	White-breasted Cormorant	11	3	46	-	82
48	Cape Cormorant	0	0	0	-	1
50	Reed Cormorant	0	1	10	-	7
52	Darter	0	0	3	-	0
54	Grey Heron	10	21	3	-	11
55	Black-necked Heron	0	0	0	-	13
59	Little Egret	10	6	4	-	12
81	Sacred Ibis	0	0	2	-	0
84	Hadeda	0	0	0	-	5
90	South African Shelduck	10	32	16	-	26
96	Yellow-billed Duck	30	90	2	-	17
97	Red-billed Teal	0	5	1	-	9
98	Cape Teal	0	0	2	-	0
115	Hobby	0	0	0	-	5
112	Fish Eagle	0	0	1	-	1
167	African Marsh Harrier	0	0	1	-	1

TABLE 5 (Cont.)

Roberts Number	Species Common Name	Capt. E L Shewell* Feb. 49-Jan. 50		M. Schramm 1977 (unpublished)		W.C.W.S.G.**
		Nov.-Jan.	May-July	Summer	Winter (only waders)	Summer 1978/79 (5 Sites)
287	Kelp Gull (S.B. Backed)	160	50	43	-	114
290	Caspian Tern	17	17	1	-	0
291/294	Common/Arctic Tern	2000	3	27	-	34
296	Sandwich Tern	300	12	0	-	201
298	Swift Tern	2	42	0	-	5
304	White-winged Black Tern	0	0	0	-	1
394	Pied Kingfisher	0	0	5	-	3
685	African-pied Wagtail	0	0	0	-	1
686	Cape Wagtail	0	0	0	-	20
76	Wood Ibis (Yellow-billed Stork)	75	2	0	-	0
88	Spurwing Goose	0	7	0	-	0
89	Egyptian Goose	2	50	0	-	0
98	Cape Wigeon	0	6	0	-	0
288	Grey-headed Gull	0	1	0	-	0
293	Roseate Tern	10	2	0	-	0
305	Lake (Whiskered) Tern	2	1	0	-	0

* The numbers from Capt. E L Shewell's list represent the largest no. of that species seen together at anytime during any one week, during the periods Nov. 1949 to Jan. 1950, for summer and May 1949 to July 1949 for winter.

** W.C.W.S.G. = Western Cape Wader Study Group (Underhill et al 1980).

Mammals

The only mammals seen during the ECRU survey were a troop of Vervet monkeys (*Cercopithecus pygerythrus*), however, the following mammals are recorded as being present in the areas covered by the 1:50 000 Topocadastral sheets of Hankey 3324 DD and Loerie 3325 CC which cover the Gamtoos Estuary and lower catchment (Stuart et al 1980).

Schreibers bat	-	<i>Miniopterus schreibersi</i>
Egyptian fruitbat	-	<i>Rousettus aegyptiacus</i>
Hottentot golden mole	-	<i>Amblysonius hottentotus</i>
Chacma baboon	-	<i>Papio ursinus</i>
Aardvark	-	<i>Orycteropus afer</i>
Bushbuck	-	<i>Tragelaphus scriptus</i>
Bush karoo rat	-	<i>Otomys unisulcatus</i>
Vlei rat	-	<i>Otomys irroratus</i>
Striped mouse	-	<i>Rhabdomys pumilio</i>
Namaqua rock rat	-	<i>Aethomys namaquensis</i>
Multimammate rat	-	<i>Praomys natalensis</i>
Black rat	-	<i>Rattus rattus</i>
Forest mouse	-	<i>Thamnomys dolichurus</i>
Cape porcupine	-	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>
Striped polecat (Zorilla)	-	<i>Ictonyx striatus</i>
Lynx	-	<i>Felis caracal</i>