WITZANDS AQUIFER NATURE RESERVE

BIRDS

Over 400 of South Africa's 856 bird species have been recorded from the Cape Town area. Eighteen of these are endemic to South Africa and 28 have been assigned Red Data status. The very high number of bird species recorded in the city is due to a large diversity of habitats being present. This includes wetlands, coastline, mountains, agricultural areas and suburban gardens. Wetlands are particularly species rich with many migratory species augmenting the numbers during summer. Some of our most threatened species can be seen along our spectacular coastline. These include African Penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*), Cape Gannet (*Morus capensis*) and Bank Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax neglectus*), which are all classified as Endangered and are endemic to the southern African coast. Of special interest to bird enthusiasts are the six fynbos endemic birds, all of which are found within the city boundaries. These are Protea Canary (*Crithagra leucoptera*), Cape Siskin (*Crithagra totta*), Victorin's Warbler (*Cryptillas victorini*), Cape Rockjumper (*Chaetops frenatus*) and the nectar-feeding Orange-breasted Sunbird (*Anthobaphes violacea*) and Cape Sugarbird (*Promerops cafer*).



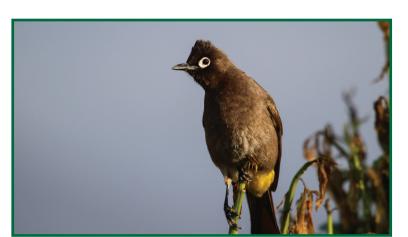
Spotted Thick-knee *Burhinus capensis*



Blacksmith Lapwing Vanellus armatus



Bokmakierie Telophorus zeylonus



Cape BulbulPycnonotus capensis



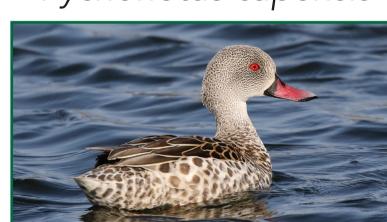
Cape Canary
Serinus canicollis



Cape Robin-chat Cossypha caffra



Cape Sugarbird
Promerops cafer



Cape Teal
Anas capensis



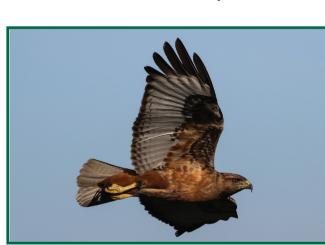
Cape Wagtail
Motacilla capensis



Cape Weaver
Placeus capensis



Cape White-eye
Zosterops capensis



Jackal Buzzard
Buteo rufofuscus



Southern
Double-collared Sunbird
Cinnyris chalybeus



Southern Masked Weaver Ploceus velatus



Southern Red Bishop
Euplectes orix



Rock KestrelFalco rupicolus



Acknowledgements: Clifford and Suretha Dorse

