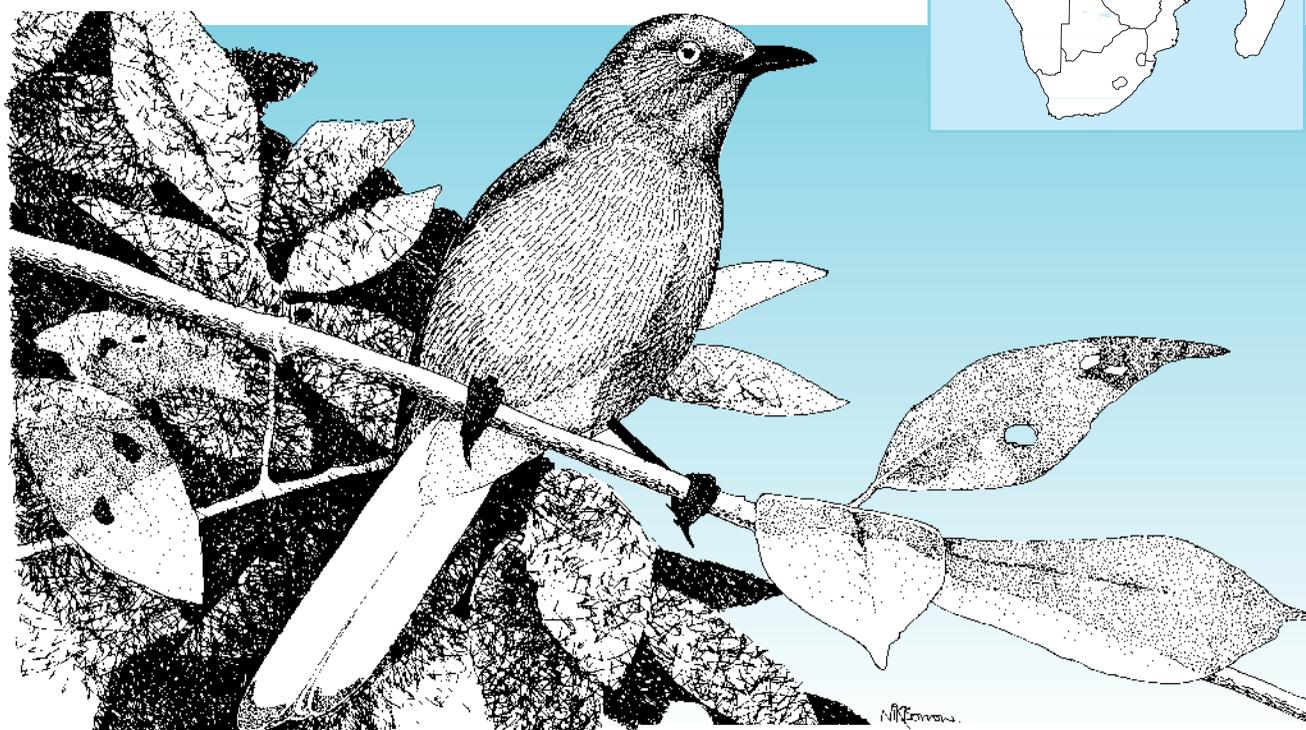
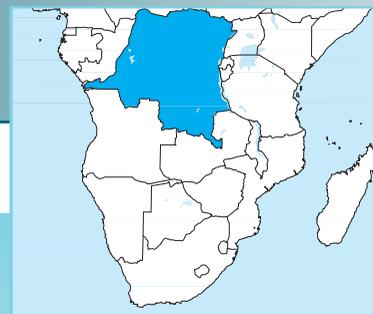


DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

RON DEMEY AND MICHEL LOUETTE



Honeyguide Greenbul *Baeopogon indicator*. (ILLUSTRATION: NIK BORROW)

GENERAL INTRODUCTION

The Democratic Republic of Congo (hereafter referred to as DR Congo) has a surface area of 2,345,410 km², making it the third-largest country in Africa. The country straddles the Equator and is bordered by the Cabinda exclave of Angola and the Republic of Congo (or Congo-Brazzaville) in the west, the Central African Republic and Sudan in the north, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania in the east and Zambia and Angola in the south. It is virtually landlocked, as its coastline on the Atlantic is limited to a 40-km stretch on the northern side of the Congo river mouth.

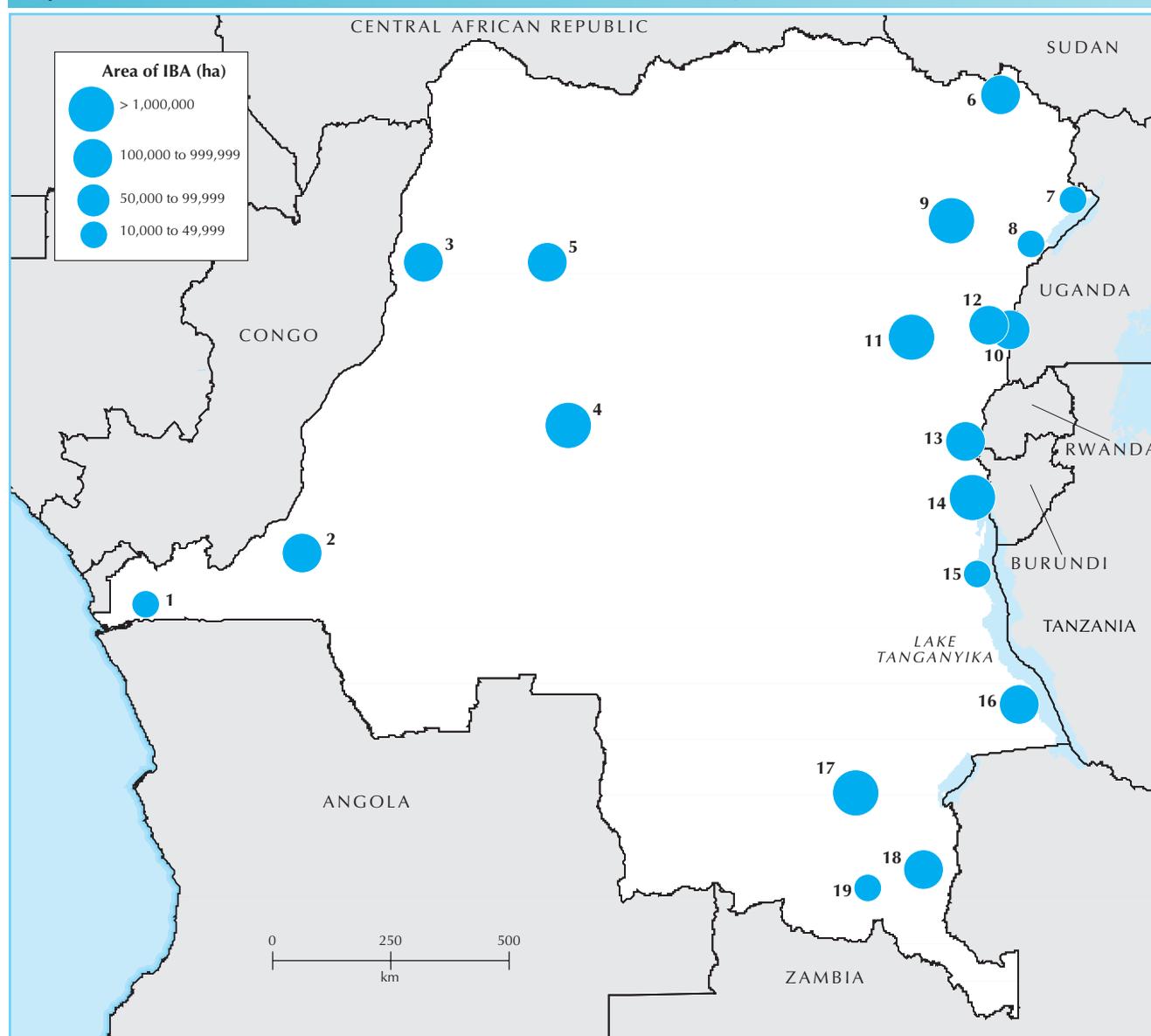
The major part of the country lies in the Congo basin, the 'cuvette centrale', a vast depression just 300 m above sea-level and by far the largest drainage basin of the continent. In the west this basin is connected with the coast by a deep gorge cut through low mountains 750–1,000 m above sea-level. These 'Crystal Mountains', which are the cause of the cataracts on the lower Congo river, extend northward from Angola across Bas-Congo and Kinshasa regions to Gabon and Cameroon in a belt c.200 km wide. They continue in the elevated rim of the Congo basin, forming plateaus of 600–800 m elevation in the north and of up to 1,000–2,000 m in the south-east, rising along the eastern frontier into the highlands of the western edge of the Albertine Rift. These highlands form a c.1,000-km-long mountain range with large areas rising above 1,500 m, reaching over 5,000 m in the Rwenzori range and culminating in Margherita Peak (5,110 m), the third-highest mountain in Africa. The range contains a chain of volcanoes, the Virunga, some of which are still active, the highest being the extinct cone of Karisimbi (4,507 m). In marked contrast with the soils in the rest of the country, those in the Virunga area are of volcanic origin and are highly fertile.

Climate is varied and ranges from humid tropical to relatively dry to frozen alpine. The central part of the country experiences a markedly moist and warm equatorial climate, with an annual rainfall of 1,500 mm to more than 2,200 mm and little variation in temperature during the day and in monthly means. The rainy seasons tend to merge such that, on the Equator, there is virtually

no dry season. On both sides of the central basin the climate is tropical with a short dry season of 3–4 months, lengthening to 6–7 months in the south-east. Here annual rainfall decreases while variations in temperature increase. The greater part of the Bas-Congo region is also characterized by relatively low rainfall, but humidity remains high. The eastern highlands experience a cooler, montane climate, but humidity is often higher than in the lowlands. Average annual rainfall may reach 3,300 mm, although varying greatly depending on location. In the Rwenzoris temperatures drop to below freezing and there is frequent snow and hail.

About half of the country, mostly north of 5°S, is covered by forest, most of it below c.800 m. These lowland Guinea–Congo forests of the central basin and Bas-Congo, which extend onto higher ground in the east, comprise moist evergreen and (mostly) semi-evergreen forest, vast areas of swamp-forest and also, where human activity has altered the primary vegetation, secondary forest and grassland. To the north and south forest gives way to savanna while, to the east, lowland forest is bordered by montane forests and grassland. The Sudan–Guinea savanna to the north of the central basin is characterized by tall grass with bushes and small trees. The original vegetation on these poor soils consisted of dry forests, which have long since been degraded by fire and now form open *Isoberlinia* woodland with such tree species as *Lophira lanceolata*, *Daniellia oliveri* and *Parkia biglobosa*, though forest patches and gallery forests remain.

To the south-east of the forest block, on the Katanga plateau (reaching 1,000–2,000 m), with a large transition zone on the Kwango and Kasai plateaus, lies the comparatively dry Zambezan biome. As with its northern counterpart, this area formerly consisted largely of dry forests. Under the effects of fire these have, to a large extent, been converted to miombo woodland, dominated by trees of *Brachystegia* spp. and *Jubernardia globiflora*. The climate is relatively temperate with a long dry season and, at Lubumbashi, mean annual temperatures of c.20°C. A relatively dry zone also exists in the Kwango–Kwilu area, in the south-western part of the country, where Angolan elements penetrate.

Map 1. Location and size of Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Table 1. Summary of Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

 19 IBAs covering c.130,500 km²

| IBA code | Site name | Administrative region | Criteria (see p. 11; for A2/A3 codes, see Tables 2/3) | | | | | | | | | | A4i | A4ii | | | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|---|-----|-----|----|------|------|------|-----|-----|----|-----|------|-----|-----|-----|---|
| | | | A1 | 106 | 107 | A2 | s044 | s053 | s054 | A04 | A05 | A3 | | | A06 | A07 | A10 | |
| CD001 | Luki Forest Reserve | Bas-Congo | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CD002 | Bombo–Lumene Game Reserve | Kinshasa | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD003 | Ngiri | Equateur | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| CD004 | Salonga National Park | Equateur, Bandundu, Kasai Oriental, Kasai Occidental | ✓ | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD005 | Lomako–Yekokora | Equateur | ✓ | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD006 | Garamba National Park | Orientale | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| CD007 | Lendu plateau | Orientale | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| CD008 | Mount Hoyo Reserve | Orientale | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD009 | Okapi Faunal Reserve | Orientale | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD010 | Virunga National Park | Orientale, Nord-Kivu | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| CD011 | Maiko National Park | Orientale, Nord-Kivu | ✓ | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD012 | Forests west of Lake Edward | Nord-Kivu | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD013 | Kahuzi-Biega National Park | Sud-Kivu | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD014 | Itombwe mountains | Sud-Kivu | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| CD015 | Mount Kabobo | Sud-Kivu, Katanga | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| CD016 | Marungu highlands | Katanga | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ |
| CD017 | Upemba National Park | Katanga | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| CD018 | Kundelungu National Park | Katanga | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| CD019 | Lufira valley | Katanga | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| Total number of IBAs qualifying: | | | 15 | 6 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 12 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 1 | 1 | | | |

The eastern borders of the country are formed by the Albertine Rift highlands, biogeographically the richest region, extending from the Lendu plateau, west of Lake Albert (620 m), southward along Lake Edward (912 m), the alluvial plain of the Rutshuru and Lake Kivu (1,460 m) to the western shore of Lake Tanganyika. The altitude of the highlands averages between 1,400 m and 1,800 m, attaining 2,700–3,000 m in places and reaching their greatest elevation in the Rwenzori range (more than 5,000 m) on the Ugandan border, where there are permanent glaciers and cold rocky peaks devoid of vegetation. The highlands just west of Lake Tanganyika (771 m) widen into the Marungu plateau, which extends to Lake Mweru (Moero) (920 m) on the Zambian border and connect with the Kundelungu and the Bianco (or Manika) plateaus in Katanga. The Virunga volcanoes form the watershed of the two river systems by which the Albertine Rift is drained. Waters from the northern section flow to the Nile, while from Lake Kivu they drain southward to Lake Tanganyika (the largest of the Rift Valley lakes) and thence, via the Lukuga river, into the Congo river. Vegetation consists mainly of grassland and montane forest. The latter exhibit an interesting pattern of altitudinal zonation. Species of *Podocarpus*, *Prunus* and *Ocotea* occur at intermediate elevations, giving way, with increasing altitude, to elfin forests and communities dominated by bamboos, giant groundsels and lobelias. At the highest altitudes, montane bogs, swamps and mires occur, with a variety of ericaceous shrubs and grasses. Much of the mid-elevation forest has suffered from human disturbance and is covered with secondary plant communities.

On the other side of the country, in the estuary of the Congo river a small area of c.22,600 ha of mangrove forest survives. Principal species include *Rhizophora racemosa* and *Avicennia nitida*.

The human population of DR Congo was 39.8 million in 1992 (c.17 inhabitants/km²), with a natural annual growth-rate of 3.3%, which is among the highest in Africa. About 40% of the population is urban. The population is unevenly distributed, with most people located at the periphery of the central basin along two main axes: west–east, from Bas-Congo to the Kasai, and north–south on the fertile lands on the eastern border, while in the centre of the cuvette densities are often below 1 inhabitant/km². The political turmoil in neighbouring Rwanda has caused massive movements of refugees and displaced persons in the eastern part of the country. The country, which was known as the Belgian Congo in colonial times, gained its independence in 1960 and adopted the name Zaïre in 1971; it returned to its former name of Congo in 1997. It is divided administratively into 10 Provinces, with Kinshasa the largest city and administrative capital. Mining generates the major part of the country's revenue, the most important minerals being copper, diamonds, gold, cobalt and tin.

DR Congo boasts an exceptional floral and faunal diversity. This is due to the size of the country and the range of climate, topography and geology it contains. It supports over 10,000 plant species, of which about 10% are thought to be endemic, 409 species of mammals (including over 30 primates, more than in any other African country), 80 species of amphibians (of which 51 are endemic) and 400 species of fish.

Thanks to a combination of low population pressure in the central basin and the inaccessibility of most of the area to commercial logging, even today about half of the country, mostly north of 5°S, is forested and, indeed, DR Congo contains over half of Africa's remaining tropical moist forests. Remoteness and the scarcity of adequate infrastructure, making the cost of transporting timber so high that only low-volume, selective logging is profitable, has constituted the forest's most effective protection to date. In Bas-Congo, however, virtually all forest has been destroyed, due to its relative accessibility and the high human population pressures. The relatively healthy state of DR Congo's forests is, however, bound to change. Deforestation, both from encroachment for cultivation and unregulated timber-felling for fuelwood and construction, especially around towns and along the eastern border, as well as from commercial logging operations, is a major threat. Some huge logging concessions threaten to rapidly destroy large areas of forest in the next 10–20 years, while the recent war and continuing anarchy in the country favour rapid, indiscriminate exploitation of timber resources, particularly in the east. Forests are further threatened by overgrazing and fire. Populations of large mammals and birds are much depleted by over-hunting.

Table 2. The occurrence of restricted-range species at Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sites that meet the A2 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**.

| 106 – Albertine Rift mountains Endemic Bird Area (37 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; six sites meet the A2 criterion) | | | | | | | | |
|--|-----|-----|---------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| IBA code: | 007 | 008 | 010 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 |
| <i>Francolinus nobilis</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Musophaga johnstoni</i> | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Phodilus prigoginei</i> | | | | | | ✓ | | |
| <i>Glaucidium albertinum</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Caprimulgus prigoginei</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| <i>Caprimulgus ruwenzorii</i> | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Indicator pumilio</i> | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Pseudoclyptomena graueri</i> | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Coracina graueri</i> | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Chlorocichla prigoginei</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Prionops alberti</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Zoothera tanganjicae</i> | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Alethe poliophrys</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Cossypha archeri</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Kupeornis rufocinctus</i> | | | | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Apalis ruwenzorii</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Apalis personata</i> | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Apalis argentea</i> | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Apalis kaboboensis</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Graueria vittata</i> | | | | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | |
| <i>Sylvietta chapini</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hemitesia neumanni</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Phylloscopus laetus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Melaenornis ardesiacus</i> | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | |
| <i>Muscicapa lendu</i> | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | |
| <i>Batis diops</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Parus fasciiventer</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Nectarinia alinae</i> | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Nectarinia stuhlmanni</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia regia</i> | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Nectarinia purpureiventris</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | |
| <i>Nectarinia rockefelleri</i> | | | [?] | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Cryptospiza jacksoni</i> | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Cryptospiza shelleyi</i> | | | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Ploceus alienus</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Number of species (confirmed): | 10 | 0 | 20 | 25 | 11 | 31 | 20 | 2 |
| Number of species (possible max.): | 10 | 6 | 23 | 28 | 26 | 31 | 20 | 2 |
| 107 – Eastern DR Congo lowlands Endemic Bird Area (six species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; five sites meet the A2 criterion) | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 012 | 013 | 014 | |
| <i>Schoutedenapus schoutedeni</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Phyllastrephus lorentzi</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Zoothera oberlaenderi</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Ploceus aureonucha</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus flavipes</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | |
| Number of species (confirmed): | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 2 | 4 | |
| Number of species (possible max.): | 1 | 3 | 5 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | |
| s044 – West DR Congo and north Angola forests Secondary Area (one site meets the A2 criterion) | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | | | | | | | | 002 |
| <i>Cossypha heinrichi</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| s053 – Upemba plains Secondary Area (one site meets the A2 criterion) | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | | | | | | | | 017 |
| <i>Estrilda nigriloris</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| s053 – Lake Lufira Secondary Area (one site meets the A2 criterion) | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | | | | | | | | 019 |
| <i>Ploceus ruweti</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| Key | ✓ | ✓ | species known to occur | | | | | |
| | [✓] | [✓] | species thought likely to occur | | | | | |
| | [?] | [?] | species possibly occurs | | | | | |

Table 3. The occurrence of biome-restricted species at Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sites that meet the A3 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**. Any other species with a restricted range are highlighted in blue.

| A04 – Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome (29 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; one site meets the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| IBA code: | 006 | 007 | 008 | 010 | | IBA code: | 006 | 007 | 008 | 010 | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Falco alopex</i> | | | | ✓ | | <i>Plocepasser superciliosus</i> | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Francolinus icterorhynchus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | <i>Nesocharis capistrata</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Vanellus superciliosus</i> | [?] | | | | | <i>Pytilia hypogrammica</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Poicephalus crassus</i> | | | | | | <i>Pytilia phoenicoptera</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Tauraco leucolophus</i> | ✓ | | | | | <i>Vidua interjecta</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Merops bulocki</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | | | <i>Euschistospiza dybowskii</i> | [✓] | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Dendropicos poecilolaemus</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | | <i>Lagonosticta rara</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Galerida modesta</i> | ✓ | | | | | <i>Lagonosticta larvata</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Lanius gubernator</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | <i>Estrilda troglodytes</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Corvinella corvina</i> | ✓ | | | | | <i>Lamprotornis chalcurus</i> | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Turdoides tenebrosus</i> | ✓ | | | | | <i>Lamprotornis purpureus</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Cisticola troglodytes</i> | [?] | | | | | <i>Grafisia torquata</i> | [?] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Drymocichla incana</i> | ✓ | | | | | <i>Ptilostomus afer</i> | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Anthoscopus parvulus</i> | [?] | | | | | Number of species (confirmed): | 15 | 6 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Emberiza affinis</i> | ✓ | | | | | Number of species (possible maximum): | 24 | 7 | 1 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus heuglini</i> | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| A05 – Guinea–Congo Forests biome (228 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; 12 sites meet the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | 001 | 002 | 003 | 004 | 005 | 006 | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 011 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 |
| <i>Tigriornis leucolophus</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Bostrychia rara</i> | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Pteronetta hartlaubii</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Dryotriorchis spectabilis</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Accipiter castanius</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Accipiter erythropus</i> | | | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Urotriorchis macrourus</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Spizaetus africanus</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | [?] | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Francolinus lathamii</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | [?] | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Francolinus finschi</i> | | [?] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Francolinus nahani</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Afropavo congensis</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Agelastes niger</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Guttera plumifera</i> | [✓] | | | | | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Sarothrura pulchra</i> | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Himantornis haematopus</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Canirallus oculus</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Columba uncinata</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Columba albinucha</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Columba iriditorques</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Turtur brehmeri</i> | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Psittacus erithacus</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Agapornis swindemianus</i> | | | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Tauraco persa</i> | [✓] | ✓ | [?] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Tauraco macrorhynchus</i> | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Cercococcyx mechowi</i> | | | [✓] | [?] | [?] | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ |
| <i>Cercococcyx olivinus</i> | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Chrysococcyx flavigularis</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Centropus leucogaster</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Centropus anelli</i> | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Otus icterorhynchus</i> | | | | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Bubo poensis</i> | [✓] | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Bubo shelleyi</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Bubo leucostictus</i> | [✓] | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Scotopelia bouvieri</i> | [?] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Jubula lettii</i> | [?] | | [?] | [✓] | | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Glaucidium tephronotum</i> | | | [✓] | [?] | [?] | | | | [?] | | [?] | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Glaucidium sjostedti</i> | | | [✓] | ✓ | [?] | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Glaucidium castaneum</i> | | | | | | | | | [?] | | | | | ✓ | | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] |
| <i>Caprimulgus binotatus</i> | | | | [?] | [?] | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Caprimulgus nigriscapularis</i> | | ✓ | | | | [✓] | [✓] | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Caprimulgus prigoginei</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Caprimulgus batesi</i> | | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | [?] | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Telacanthura melanopygia</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Rhaphidura sabini</i> | [✓] | | [?] | ✓ | [✓] | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | [?] | | ✓ | | | | | |

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|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| IBA code: | 001 | 002 | 003 | 004 | 005 | 006 | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 011 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 |
| <i>Neafrapus cassini</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Apus batesi</i> | | | | | | | | | | | [?] | | | | | | | |
| <i>Apaloderma aequatoriale</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Alcedo leucogaster</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | [?] | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ispidina lecontei</i> | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Halcyon badia</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Merops gularis</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Merops muelleri</i> | | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Merops breweri</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Merops malimbicus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Eurystomus gularis</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Phoeniculus castaneiceps</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Tockus albocristatus</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Tockus hartlaubi</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Tockus camurus</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Tockus fasciatus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Ceratogymna fistulator</i> | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Ceratogymna subcylindricus</i> | | | | | | ✓ | [✓] | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Ceratogymna albotibialis</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Ceratogymna atrata</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Gymnobucco calvus</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Gymnobucco peli</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Gymnobucco sladeni</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Pogoniulus scolopaceus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Pogoniulus atroflavus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Pogoniulus subsulphureus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Buccanodon duchailui</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Tricholaema hirsuta</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Trachyphonus purpuratus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Indicator maculatus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Indicator willcocksii</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Melichneutes robustus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Melignomon zenkeri</i> | | | [?] | | [?] | | | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Prodotiscus insignis</i> | ✓ | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Sasia africana</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Campethera nivosus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Campethera caroli</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Dendropicus gabonensis</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Dendropicus xantholophus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Smithornis rufolateralis</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Smithornis sharpei</i> | | | | | | | | | | | [?] | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Pitta reichenowi</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Pseudochelidon eurystomina</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Riparia congica</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Phedina brazzae</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Hirundo nigrita</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Psalidoprocne nitens</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Anthus pallidiventris</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Coracina azurea</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Campephaga petiti</i> | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | [?] | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Campephaga oriolina</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Andropadus gracilis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Andropadus ansorgei</i> | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Andropadus curvirostris</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Calyptocichla serina</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Baeopogon indicator</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Baeopogon clamans</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Ixonotus guttatus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Chlorocichla simplex</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Chlorocichla falkensteini</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Thescelocichla leucopleura</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Phyllastrephus scandens</i> | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | ✓ |

Table 3 ... continued. The occurrence of biome-restricted species at Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sites that meet the A3 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**. Any other species with a restricted range are highlighted in blue.

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|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| IBA code: | 001 | 002 | 003 | 004 | 005 | 006 | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 011 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 |
| <i>Phyllastrephus fulviventris</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Phyllastrephus hypochloris</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Phyllastrephus lorenzi</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Phyllastrephus albigularis</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | | | | | | |
| <i>Phyllastrephus icterinus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Phyllastrephus xavieri</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Bleda syndactyla</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Bleda notata</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nicator chloris</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Nicator vireo</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Criniger chloronotus</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Criniger calurus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Criniger ndussumensis</i> | | | ✓ | | [?] | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Dryoscopus senegalensis</i> | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Dryoscopus sabini</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Laniarius leucorhynchus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Telophorus bocagei</i> | | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Malaconotus cruentus</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | [?] | [?] | | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Prionops caniceps</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Neocossyphus fraseri</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Neocossyphus poensis</i> | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Zoothera oberlaenderi</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Zoothera camerounensis</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Zoothera princei</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Alethe diademata</i> | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Stiphornis erythrothorax</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Sheppardia cyornithopsis</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Cossypha cyanocampter</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Cossypha heinrichi</i> | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Cercotrichas leucosticta</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Illadopsis albipectus</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Illadopsis puveli</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Illadopsis fulvescens</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Phyllanthus atripennis</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Cisticola anonymus</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Cisticola bulliens</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Apalis nigriceps</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Apalis binotata</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Apalis rufofularis</i> | ✓ | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Apalis goslingi</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Cameroptera supercilialis</i> | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Cameroptera chloronota</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Eremomela badiceps</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Eremomela turneri</i> | | | | | | | | | | [?] | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sylvietta virens</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Sylvietta denti</i> | | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Macrosphenus flavicans</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Macrosphenus concolor</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Hylia prasina</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Phylloscopus budongoensis</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Hyliota violacea</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Fraseria ocreata</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Fraseria cinerascens</i> | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa infusata</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa olivascens</i> | ✓ | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa epulata</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa sethsmithi</i> | ✓ | | | [?] | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa comitata</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa tessmanni</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa cassini</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Myioparus griseigularis</i> | | | | [?] | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |

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| IBA code: | 001 | 002 | 003 | 004 | 005 | 006 | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 011 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 |
| <i>Bias flammulatus</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Batis ituriensis</i> | | | | | | | | | [?] | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Platysteira albiifrons</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Platysteira castanea</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Platysteira tonsa</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Platysteira jamesoni</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Erythrocercus mccallii</i> | ✓ | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Trochocercus nigromitratus</i> | | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Trochocercus nitens</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Terpsiphone rufiventer</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Terpsiphone rufocinerea</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Parus funereus</i> | | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Anthoscopus flavifrons</i> | [?] | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | [?] | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Anthreptes fraseri</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Anthreptes gabonicus</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Anthreptes aurantium</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | | | | | | |
| <i>Anthreptes rectirostris</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia seimundi</i> | ✓ | | | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia batesi</i> | | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | [?] | ✓ | [?] | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia reichenbachii</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia cyanolaema</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia fuliginosa</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia rubescens</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia minulla</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia congensis</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia johannae</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia superba</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Pholidornis rushiae</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Parmoptila rubrifrons</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Parmoptila woodhousei</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nigrita fusconota</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nigrita bicolor</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Nigrita luteifrons</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Spermophaga poliogenys</i> | | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Spermophaga haematina</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Lagonosticta landanae</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus subpersonatus</i> | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus aurantius</i> | | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus nigerrimus</i> | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus aureonucha</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus tricolor</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus albinucha</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus preussi</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | [?] | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus dorsomaculatus</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus flavipes</i> | | | | | | | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Malimbus coronatus</i> | | | | ✓ | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Malimbus cassini</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Malimbus erythrogaster</i> | | | [?] | [?] | [?] | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Malimbus nitens</i> | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | | |
| <i>Malimbus malimbicus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Malimbus rubricollis</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Brachycope anomala</i> | | | ✓ | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Poeoptera lugubris</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Onychognathus fulgidus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Lamprotornis purpureiceps</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Oriolus brachyrhynchus</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Oriolus nigripennis</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Dicurus atripennis</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | | |
| Number of species (confirmed): | 0 | 39 | 6 | 101 | 13 | 5 | 15 | 9 | 178 | 68 | 1 | 66 | 100 | 161 | 5 | 0 | 4 | 0 |
| Number of species (possible maximum): | 136 | 46 | 145 | 153 | 146 | 8 | 18 | 99 | 188 | 106 | 140 | 97 | 126 | 161 | 5 | 1 | 5 | 1 |

Table 3 ... continued. The occurrence of biome-restricted species at Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sites that meet the A3 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**. Any other species with a restricted range are highlighted in blue.

| A06 – Lake Victoria Basin biome (nine species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; one site meets the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| IBA code: | 006 | 007 | 010 | 012 | 014 | | | | | |
| <i>Laniarius mufumbiri</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Turdoides sharpei</i> | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Cisticola carruthersi</i> | | | ✓ | | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Bradypterus carpalis</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Chloropeta gracilirostris</i> | | | | [✓] | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia erythrocerca</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Serinus koliensis</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Nesocharis ansorgei</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus castanops</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| Number of species (confirmed): | 1 | 1 | 6 | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| Number of species (possible maximum): | 1 | 1 | 7 | 1 | 1 | | | | | |
| A07 – Afrotropical Highlands biome (93 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; seven sites meet the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 |
| <i>Buteo oreophilus</i> | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Francolinus nobilis</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Streptopelia lugens</i> | | | | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | | ✓ | |
| <i>Musophaga johnstoni</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Phodilus prigoginei</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Glaucidium albertinum</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Asio abyssinicus</i> | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Caprimulgus ruwenzorii</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Schoutedenapus myoptilus</i> | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Schoutedenapus schoutedeni</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Apus niansae</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Apaloderma vittatum</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Merops oreobates</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Pogoniulus coryphaeus</i> | | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Indicator pumilio</i> | | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Campythera tullbergi</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Pseudocalyptomena graueri</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Coracina caesia</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Coracina graueri</i> | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Andropadus masukuensis</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Andropadus nigriceps</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Chlorocichla laetissima</i> | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | | |
| <i>Chlorocichla prigoginei</i> | ✓ | | | | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Laniarius poensis</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Telophorus dohertyi</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Prionops alberti</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Zoothera piaggiae</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Zoothera tanzanicae</i> | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Zoothera gurneyi</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| <i>Alethe poliophrys</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Pogonocichla stellata</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Sheppardia aequatorialis</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Cossypha roberti</i> | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Cossypha archeri</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Illadopsis pyrrhoptera</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Pseudoalcippe abyssinica</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| <i>Kakamega poliothorax</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Kupeornis rufocinctus</i> | | | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Cisticola chubbi</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Apalis pulchra</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | ✓ | |
| <i>Apalis ruwenzorii</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Apalis personata</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Apalis argentea</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Apalis porphyrolaema</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Apalis kaboboensis</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | |
| <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Bradypterus alfredi</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| A07 – Afrotropical Highlands biome ... continued (93 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; seven sites meet the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | 007 | 008 | 009 | 010 | 012 | 013 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 |
| <i>Bradypterus cinnamomeus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | |
| <i>Chloropeta similis</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Graueria vittata</i> | | | | | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Sylvietta chapini</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Sylvietta leucophrys</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Hemitesia neumanni</i> | | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Phylloscopus laetus</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Phylloscopus umbrovirens</i> | | | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Sylvia lugens</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| <i>Dioptornis fischeri</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ |
| <i>Melaenornis ardesiacus</i> | | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Muscicapa lendu</i> | ✓ | | | | | | | ✓ | | |
| <i>Batis diops</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Trochocercus albiventris</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Trochocercus albonotatus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Parus fasciiventer</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Nectarinia alinae</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Nectarinia prigoginei</i> | | | | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Nectarinia stuhlmanni</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia graueri</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Nectarinia preussi</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | [?] | [?] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia regia</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Nectarinia rockefelleri</i> | | | | [?] | | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia purpureiventris</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia kilimensis</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Nectarinia reichenowi</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Nectarinia johnstoni</i> | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Serinus frontalis</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Serinus striolatus</i> | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Serinus burtoni</i> | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Linurgus olivaceus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Cryptospiza reichenovii</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Cryptospiza salvadorii</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Cryptospiza jacksoni</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Cryptospiza shelleyi</i> | | | | ✓ | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Euschistospiza cinereovinacea</i> | | | | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| <i>Estrilda melanotis</i> | | | | ✓ | | | | ✓ | | |
| <i>Ploceus baglafecht</i> | ✓ | | [?] | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Ploceus melanogaster</i> | ✓ | | [?] | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Ploceus alienus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Ploceus insignis</i> | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Poeoptera stuhlmanni</i> | ✓ | | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Onychognathus walleri</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | [✓] | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Onychognathus tenuirostris</i> | | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Cinnyricinclus sharpii</i> | ✓ | [✓] | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Oriolus percivali</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| Number of species (confirmed): | 34 | 0 | 3 | 60 | 62 | 21 | 82 | 48 | 15 | 3 |
| Number of species (possible max.): | 34 | 23 | 5 | 69 | 68 | 67 | 82 | 48 | 15 | 3 |
| A10 – Zambezian biome (47 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; four sites meet the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | | | | |
| IBA code: | 002 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 | 019 | | | |
| <i>Falco dickinsoni</i> | | | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | |
| <i>Centropus cupreicaudus</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Colius castanotus</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Merops boehmi</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Coracias spatulata</i> | | | | ✓ | [✓] | ✓ | | | | |
| <i>Tockus pallidirostris</i> | | | | ✓ | [✓] | | | | | |
| <i>Stactolaema anchietae</i> | | | | ✓ | [?] | | | | | |
| <i>Tricholaema frontata</i> | | | | | | | | | | |
| <i>Lybius minor</i> | | | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | | | |
| <i>Mirafra angolensis</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [?] | | | | |

Table 3 ... continued. The occurrence of biome-restricted species at Important Bird Areas in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sites that meet the A3 criterion are highlighted in **bold**. Species of global conservation concern are highlighted in **bold blue**. Any other species with a restricted range are highlighted in blue.

| A10 – Zambeian biome ... continued (47 species in the Democratic Republic of Congo; four sites meet the A3 criterion) | | | | | | | |
|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| IBA code: | 002 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 | 019 |
| <i>Hirundo nigrorufa</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Hirundo rufigula</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Macronyx fuellebornii</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Macronyx grimwoodi</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Lanius souzae</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Monticola angolensis</i> | ✓ | ✓ | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | |
| <i>Cercotrichas barbata</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | |
| <i>Myrmecocichla arnotti</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] | |
| <i>Turdoides hartlaubi</i> | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Cisticola pipiens</i> | | | | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] | |
| <i>Cisticola angusticauda</i> | | | | ✓ | | | |
| <i>Cisticola melanura</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Cisticola dambo</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Calamonastes undosus</i> | | | | ✓ | [✓] | | |
| <i>Eremomela atricollis</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Sylvietta ruficapilla</i> | ✓ | | | | ✓ | [✓] | |
| <i>Phylloscopus laurae</i> | | | | | ✓ | [✓] | |
| <i>Muscicapa boehmi</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Batis margaritae</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Parus rufiventris</i> | | | | ✓ | ✓ | | |
| <i>Parus griseiventris</i> | | | | ✓ | | ✓ | |

| IBA code: | 002 | 014 | 015 | 016 | 017 | 018 | 019 |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| <i>Anthreptes anchietae</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia bannermani</i> | | | | | ✓ | | ✓ |
| <i>Nectarinia talatala</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia manoensis</i> | | | | | ✓ | [✓] | [✓] |
| <i>Nectarinia bocagii</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Nectarinia shelleyi</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Serinus mennelli</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] |
| <i>Lagonosticta nitidula</i> | | | | | | ✓ | [✓] |
| <i>Estrilda nigriloris</i> | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Vidua obtusa</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | [✓] |
| <i>Plocepasser rufoscapulatus</i> | | | | | ✓ | ✓ | |
| <i>Ploceus temporalis</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus katangae</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Ploceus ruweti</i> | | | | | | | ✓ |
| <i>Ploceus angolensis</i> | | | | | | | |
| <i>Lamprotornis acuticaudus</i> | | | | | ✓ | [?] | [?] |
| Number of species (confirmed): | 2 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 25 | 4 | 6 |
| Number of species (possible maximum): | 2 | 1 | 1 | 23 | 29 | 23 | 6 |
| Key | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] | [✓] |
| | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] | [?] |

ORNITHOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE

A 1993 checklist for the country lists 1,094 species, of which 96 are Palearctic migrants and 88 are intra-African migrants and the remainder considered resident (Dowsett 1993). Using a slightly different taxonomic treatment and taking into account 12 genuine additions (Demey *et al.* 2000), the total currently stands at around 1,117 species, the highest of any country in Africa. Although some parts of the country have been relatively well-studied ornithologically, many others have yet to be properly explored. The within-country distribution of many species is thus still imperfectly known.

Forty-seven species of global conservation concern are known from the country (Table 4), of which four—*Falco naumanni*, *Gallinago media*, *Crex crex* and *Glareola nordmanni*—are merely rare migrants from the Palearctic. Of the remaining 43, one, *Zoothera guttata*, is considered Endangered, 23 are Vulnerable, 17 are Near Threatened, while the other two are classified as Data Deficient. Fifteen of these 47 species are endemic to DR Congo, and eight occur in only one other country. Twenty-nine of the species of global conservation concern are dependent on forest or forest-edge habitat. The greater part of two Endemic Bird Areas (EBAs) are located within the country. The eastern edge of the Lower Guinea forest is included in the Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA (EBA 107), which lies in the Oriental and Kivu provinces of eastern DR Congo and in the extreme west of Uganda. It is contiguous with the Albertine Rift mountains EBA (EBA 106), shared between DR Congo, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi. These two EBAs together constitute the Central Refugium, one of Africa's major centres of endemism and species-richness for forest animals and plants, as it is one of the places where forest is believed to have survived during the driest periods of the Pleistocene. All 36 restricted-range species that make up EBA 106 occur in DR Congo, as do all seven such species of EBA 107 (Table 2). Of these 43 restricted-range species, 23 are of global conservation concern. In addition, two Secondary Areas lie entirely within the country—namely, the Lake Lufira Secondary Area (s053), defined by the distribution of *Ploceus ruweti*, and the Upemba plains (s054) for *Estrilda nigriloris*—as do parts of two others, the Gabon–Cabinda coast (s043), for *Ploceus subpersonatus* and the West DR Congo and north Angola forests Secondary Area (s044) for *Cossypha heinrichi*.

The country holds a significant component of the following bird-species assemblages: species restricted to the Guinea–Congo Forests biome (biome A05; out of 278 such species, 228 occur in DR Congo), species restricted to the Afrotropical Highlands biome

(A07; 93 of the 228 such species occur in DR Congo), and species restricted to the Zambeian biome (A10; 47 of the 67 such species). Two other biomes are also represented in DR Congo, the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome (A04) in the extreme north-east, where 29 of the 54 biome-restricted species have been recorded, and the Lake Victoria Basin biome (A06) in the east, where nine of its 12 species occur. DR Congo has no officially designated wetlands of international importance (Ramsar Sites), but the vast swamp-forests between the confluence of the Congo and Ubangi rivers may support significant numbers of waterbirds. The restricted area of mangrove on the coast is not known to contain threatened or restricted-range species of birds, but provides a refuge for a small and highly endangered population of a mammal, the West African Manatee *Trichechus senegalensis* (VU).

CONSERVATION INFRASTRUCTURE AND PROTECTED-AREA SYSTEM

The Ministère de l'Environnement, Conservation de la Nature et Tourisme (Ministry of Environment, Nature Conservation and Tourism) is the government body responsible for nature conservation. The Ministry has delegated management of National Parks, Wildlife Reserves and Game Reserves to the Institut Congolais (formerly Zaïrois) pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN), which also manages scientific research and game domestication stations (Ordonnance 78.190, the statute under which IZCN was created). ICCN has a remarkable and internationally acknowledged conservation record. The degree of autonomy that it enjoys is unusual for an African conservation organization and has contributed to its survival despite a difficult political environment and a serious lack of resources. Even after the 1998 rebellion, which divided the country politically, ICCN continues to retain a single administrative structure. Nevertheless, effective control of protected areas in the east of the country is in the hands of rebel authorities and, as a result, the ICCN administrative units based in these areas function with a large degree of autonomy.

The nature conservation act of 1969 (Ordonnance-loi 69.041 du 22 août 1969 relative à la protection de la nature) defines National Parks, while the 1982 act (Loi 75.024 du 22 juillet 1975) establishes 'protected sectors' ('secteurs sauvegardés'). The 1982 hunting act (Loi 82.002 du 28 mai 1982) defines Faunal Reserves (Réserve de faune) and Game Reserves. The following categories of protected area are recognized:

- National Park and Faunal Reserve (Parc national and Réserve de faune)—These are totally protected. Eight sites, covering a total area of c.9,914,000 ha, have been designated.
- Biosphere Reserve—Three sites, covering c.297,700 ha, have been declared. Theoretically they are managed by a national ‘Man and the Biosphere’ (MAB) committee, but this management has never been effective. These reserves are all in a critical state.
- Game Reserve (Domaine de Chasse)—The fauna in Game Reserves is theoretically protected. Human habitation may be allowed. Some of these sites were created as buffer zones to National Parks. The amount of protection in most of these reserves is very low or non-existent: of the c.57 sites in this category (covering more than 10,000,000 ha) only 21 benefit—in theory!—from some form of protection.
- Forest Reserve—Some 117 sites, covering at least 500,000 ha, are said to have been designated as reserves of this type. Their statutes vary: some benefit from permanent habitat protection, while others have only been protected temporarily and are destined to be commercially exploited. Most of these reserves only exist on paper and have never benefited from any protection

- or management plan. Forest reserves in the Albertine Rift Highlands suffered particularly between 1970 and 1990, many having been converted to pasture or agriculture during this period.
- Other protected areas—Some small sites are protected because of their usage as zoological and botanic gardens or as areas of scientific research.

The total extent of protected areas is high (99,140 km² or 4.22% of the country), but management faces many serious problems.

INTERNATIONAL MEASURES RELEVANT TO THE CONSERVATION OF SITES

The Democratic Republic of Congo has ratified the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Convention to Combat Desertification, CITES, the Ramsar Convention, the Convention on Climate Change, the Convention on Migratory Species and the World Heritage Convention, under which five sites been designated as World Heritage Sites: Virunga, Kahuzi-Biéga, Garamba and Salonga National Parks and the Okapi Wildlife Reserve. DR Congo also participates in UNESCO’s Man and Biosphere programme, and three Biosphere Reserves have been declared, Yangambi, Luki and Lufira.

OVERVIEW OF THE INVENTORY

The inventory comprises 19 Important Bird Areas (IBAs), covering a total area of c.130,500 km², or about 5.5% of the country, and containing a wide spectrum of DR Congo’s natural habitats (Map 1, Table 1). Of these 19 sites, 12 are legally protected. Ornithological data in this inventory come from published sources and from unpublished information of the authors and their contacts. The delimitation of several sites has proved difficult, due to a lack of basic information. Some areas, however, are of such great potential for bird conservation that attention has to be drawn to them, through the designation of representative sites, to emphasize the need to identify and protect precise areas of intact habitat within them, since some have been hardly investigated.

The avifauna of this huge country is unevenly known and vast tracts remain very poorly documented ornithologically. Although the highland areas in the east, which contain some of Africa’s most spectacular scenery, have received relatively more attention from researchers, the distributions of most species remain incompletely known. Few comprehensive field surveys have been conducted and recent data are scarce. This has greatly hampered an accurate assessment of the country’s sites of ornithological importance. In view of this, the inclusion of some sites is based in part on the avifauna that is thought likely to occur at them. These inferences have been made on the basis of the location of the site and the habitat-types that occur, together with what is known of the general distributions of species, their habitat preferences and, in some cases, by their known occurrence in the vicinity of the site. Species whose occurrence at a site is inferred are clearly distinguished, in the Box for key species and in Tables 2 and 3, from those species whose presence is confirmed. Field surveys of these sites is a high priority.

Some of the most vulnerable sites may already be severely damaged. There can be no doubt, however, that many important sites remain to be discovered and documented. This is also true for the present status of ‘historical’ sites such as Idjwi, an island in Lake Kivu (where *Apalis argentea* used to occur), Kwango (where *Macronyx grimwoodi* occurs) and the coastal and adjoining areas (where *Ploceus subpersonatus* may occur).

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Table 4. The 47 species of global conservation concern that have been recorded in the Democratic Republic of Congo (Collar *et al.* 1994). The 28 globally threatened species are highlighted in **bold**.

| Name | Global threat status |
|--|----------------------|
| <i>Morus capensis</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Ardeola idae</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Balaeniceps rex</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Phoenicopterus minor</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Falco naumanni</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Francolinus nahani</i> | Data Deficient |
| <i>Afropavo congensis</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Grus carunculatus</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Crex crex</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Gallinago media</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Glareola nordmanni</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Sterna balaenarum</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Columba albinucha</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Phodilus prigoginei</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Glaucidium albertinum</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Caprimulgus prigoginei</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Schoutedenapus schoutedeni</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Indicator pumilio</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Pseudocalyptomena graueri</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Hirundo atrocaerulea</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Macronyx grimwoodi</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Coracina graueri</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Chlorocichla prigoginei</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Phyllastrephus lorenzi</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Laniarius mufumbiri</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Malaconotus lagdeni</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Prionops alberti</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Zoothera tanganjicae</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Zoothera oberlaenderi</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Zoothera guttata</i> | Endangered |
| <i>Cossypha heinrichi</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Kupeornis rufocinctus</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Apalis argentea</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Apalis kaboboensis</i> | Data Deficient |
| <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Chloropeta gracilirostris</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Eremomela turneri</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Muscicapa lendu</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> | Near Threatened |
| <i>Nectarinia rockefelleri</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Cryptospiza shelleyi</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Estrilda nigriloris</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Ploceus subpersonatus</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Ploceus ruweti</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Ploceus aureonucha</i> | Vulnerable |
| <i>Ploceus flavipes</i> | Vulnerable |

SITE ACCOUNTS

Luki Forest Reserve

Admin region Bas-Congo
Coordinates 05°35'S 13°10'E
Area 32,714 ha
Altitude 150–500 m

CD001

A3 (A05)
Forest Reserve,
Biosphere Reserve

Site description

Luki is an area of lowland forest which forms part of the Mayombe forest block near the Atlantic coast in the extreme western part of the country. The reserve lies to the north of the town of Boma and is part of the Luki river basin. Habitats include gallery forest, secondary forest (mature forest with *Terminalia superba* and *Xylopia* spp.; young secondary with *Musanga cecropioides*, *Xylopia aethiopica* and *Corynanthe paniculata*), wooded savanna (*Hyparrhenia* spp. etc.), secondary bush and areas with vegetable farming. Slopes are often very steep, especially in the centre of the reserve. There are four settlements within the reserve and in its immediate environs. There is a rainy season from October to April and annual rainfall averages between 1,155 mm and 1,818 mm.

Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. There is no detailed information on the birds of Luki, but it may be expected to contain a substantial element of the Mayombe avifauna. This fauna comprises several subspecies which are absent or rare from the central basin, e.g. *Francolinus l. lathamii* (*schubotzi* in north-eastern central basin), *Ceratogymna fistulator sharpii* (*duboisii*), *Psalidoprocne n. nitens* (*centralis*), *Bleda n. notata* (*ugandae*), *Alethe diademata castanea* (*woosnami*), *Illadopsis f. fulvescens* (*ugandae*), *Macrosphenus f. flavicans* (*hypochondriacus*) and *Erythrocerus m. mccallii* (*congius*).

Key species

A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: up to 136 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo may be expected to be found at this site; see Table 3.

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Large mammals have become scarce because of heavy hunting pressure and some (e.g. monkeys) have almost disappeared. Some 1,034 plant taxa have been recorded; the Mayombe forest is floristically very different from the forests in the central basin.

Conservation issues

The site was established as a Forest Reserve in 1937. Although designated a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve in 1979, management has remained virtually non-existent. Forest exploitation is one of the main activities in Bas-Congo and logging has taken place within the reserve. Human population pressures are high; the region's most densely populated areas are the nearby town of Boma and the villages along the Boma–Tschela and Boma–Matadi roads. Shifting agriculture, firewood-collection (especially along main roads), hunting, fishing and industrial logging have severely degraded the forest. The entire Mayombe forest is now very degraded and rapidly disappearing. Because the forest plays an important role in the region's microclimate and in preventing erosion on the heavily sloping soils, its disappearance is bound to create serious environmental problems.

Further reading

Davis *et al.* (1994), IUCN (1990).

Bombo–Lumene Game Reserve

Admin region Kinshasa
Coordinates 04°30'S 16°08'E
Area c.350,000 ha Altitude c.650 m

CD002

A1, A2 (s044), A3 (A05)
Game Reserve

Site description

Bombo–Lumene Game Reserve is situated on the Batéké plateau (650–700 m) and consists of a gently undulating forest-savanna mosaic dominated by grassland and wooded savanna, interspersed with gallery

forest. The site lies south of the main Kinshasa–Kenge road, between the Muti-Mutiene and Bombo rivers in the west and the Lufimi river in the east. Several villages are situated at the periphery of and even within the reserve, resulting in a large part of it being used for agricultural and pastoral activities. Average annual rainfall is c.1,500 mm. There is a dry season of from three to four months centred around June–July.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. The site is the only protected area where *Cossypha heinrichi* occurs. It is also the only site in the country where *Ploceus nigrimentum* has been recorded. In addition, two species of the Zambezi biome have been recorded (see Table 3).

Key species

A1 *Cossypha heinrichi*
A2 (s044) West DR Congo and north Angola forests Secondary Area: *Cossypha heinrichi* has been recorded at this site.
A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 39 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site while up to 46 may be expected; see Table 3.

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Tragelaphus spekii* (LR/nt).

Conservation issues

The area was first protected in the 1930s. In 1968 it was established as a Game Reserve while in 1976 a Fauna and Forest Reserve was established within its borders. IUCN is charged with the management of the site, but understaffing and the lack of equipment, especially vehicles, seriously reduces the effectiveness of the local team of guards and most activities within the reserve are beyond their control. Part of the reserve is run under concession by the Hans Seidel Foundation, a German NGO which attempts to rehabilitate young delinquents. The site is visited at weekends by a small number of tourists from the capital. There is a real tourism potential, but this remains undeveloped. Poaching and deforestation (for charcoal) are rampant due to the proximity of and relatively easy access from Kinshasa, 130 km away.

Further reading

Demey *et al.* (2000), Harrison (1977), IUCN (1990).

Ngiri

Admin region Equateur
Coordinates c.01°00'N 18°30'E
Area >250,000 ha Altitude c.350–400 m

CD003

A3 (A05), A4i, A4ii
Unprotected

Site description

The site is a large, remote area of swamp-forest crossed by numerous rivers and streams, situated between the Ubangi river in the west and the Congo river in the east. The whole triangular-shaped area between 02°00'N and the confluence of the two major rivers in the south is included in this site; the same habitat extends, however, further to the north, at least to 02°30'N. The Ngiri river, a tributary of the Ubangi, flows from north to south through the centre of the site and is bordered by a wide zone of marshy grassland-savanna ('ésobé'), alternating with swamp-forests and periodically flooded forests. Typical tree species include *Entandrophragma palustre*, *Coelocaryon botryoides*, *Uapaca heudelotii*, *Guibourtia demeusei* and *Oubanguia africana*. In periods of low water the savanna is burnt; when waters are high it is completely flooded. The human population density is very low and settlements are mainly concentrated around the only town in the area, Bomongo. Fishing and hunting are the main activities. Mbandaka, the regional capital, is situated to the south, at the confluence of the Congo and Ruki rivers. Rainfall averages about 1,770 mm per year, with little seasonal variation but with maxima during August–October and minima during April–May. Water-levels are highest during September–November in the Ubangi and Ngiri, and during October–December in the Congo; water-levels are low during January–May and February–August, respectively.

Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. The avifauna is inadequately known. Large numbers of waterbirds breed, especially *Ardea purpurea* (1,000s), *Phalacrocorax africanus* and *Anhinga rufa*. *Merops malimbicus* and *Pseudochelidon eurystomina* breed when water-levels are low. It is the only site in the country known to hold *Nectarinia congensis*. The savanna corridor is presumed to constitute an important migration flyway.

Key species

A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: Six of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo are thought to occur at this site while up to 145 may be expected; see Table 3.

| A4i | Breeding (pairs) | Non-breeding |
|-------------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| <i>Ardea purpurea</i> | 1,000+ | — |
| A4ii <i>Merops malimbicus</i> | 870+ | — |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

No recent information is available. Mammals of global conservation concern include *Loxodonta africana* (EN), while *Allenopithecus nigroviridis* (LR/nt) is thought to occur.

Conservation issues

No conservation measures have been taken. There is no information available on current threats.

Further reading

Herroelen (in prep.), IUCN (1990), Vrijdagh (1954).

Salonga National Park

Admin region Equateur, Bandundu, Kasai Oriental, Kasai Occidental
Coordinates 02°10'S 21°15'E
Area 3,656,000 ha Altitude 350–700 m

CD004

A1, A3 (A05)
National Park,
World Heritage Site

Site description

Salonga is a huge area almost entirely covered with tropical moist forest. This largest rainforest park in the world encompasses a significant section of the central basin of the Congo river and is composed of two sectors, the northern (c.1,700,000 ha) and southern (c.1,900,000 ha), separated by a 45 km wide corridor. The boundaries of the park are mostly formed by the major rivers of the area which flow in parallel and are aligned south-east–north-west. The site, which is extremely isolated and only accessible by water, comprises mainly lowland rainforest, swamp-forests, riverine forests, and dry-land forest. There are some grassy clearings in the northern sector and patches of savanna of man-made origin in the extreme south. The landscape consists of plateaus and terraces varying in altitude from 350 m in the west to 700 m in the east, but most of the area is low-lying, swampy ground below 500 m. In places cliffs of up to 80 m border the rivers. The northern sector and the northernmost part of the southern sector are directly linked to the Congo river basin; the central part of the southern sector only indirectly, through the drainage basin of the Mai-Ndombe lake and, in the extreme south, by the Kasai river basin. Although most of the former, scarce inhabitants have been relocated, some small settlements remain within the park. No tourist facilities are present and the development of tourism is seriously hampered by the remoteness of the site. Average annual rainfall varies between 2,000 mm in the north (Boende) to 1,700 mm in the south (Lukenie); rainfall is largely constant throughout the year, with a slight decrease in June–August.

Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. There are few data, but *Afropavo congensis* is known to occur.

Key species

A1 *Afropavo congensis*
A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 101 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site while up to 153 may be expected; see Table 3.

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

No systematic survey has been undertaken. *Pan paniscus* (EN) is known to occur. Other mammals of global conservation concern

include *Lophocebus aterrimus* (LR/nt) (probably endemic to the left bank of the Congo river), *Loxodonta africana* (EN), *Tragelaphus spekii* (LR/nt) and *Hyemoschus aquaticus* (DD).

Conservation issues

Salonga was established as a National Park in 1970 and declared a World Heritage Site in 1984. It is managed by ICCN and is one of the sites included in the regional ‘Conservation et Utilisation Rationnelle des Ecosystèmes Forestiers en Afrique Centrale’ (ECOFAC) project, financed by the European Union. Despite relatively low population pressures and difficulties of access, heavy poaching takes place. Elephant fall victim to organized groups of heavily armed poachers coming from distant locations, especially Mbandaka. There are territorial claims from local people. In the south, forest exploitation reaches the park borders and may in future threaten its integrity. Periodic grassland fires in the south also threaten the forest and there is a minor threat from firewood-collection.

Further reading

Cruickshank and Gautier (undated), Davis *et al.* (1994), d’Huart (1988), IUCN (1990), UNESCO *et al.* (1987), Van Krunkelsven *et al.* (2000).

Lomako–Yekokora

CD005

Admin region Equateur
Coordinates c.01°00'N 20°50'E
Area c.380,000 ha Altitude 350–400 m

A1, A3 (A05)
Unprotected

Site description

A large, remote area of undisturbed tropical moist forest in the middle of the Congo basin, situated between the Lomako river in the south and the Yekokora river in the north. The site, which is only accessible by water, comprises mainly mixed evergreen and semi-deciduous lowland forest and is located within a much larger block of primary forest. It is dissected by streams which, in the southern part, flow into the Lomako river and, in the northern part, into the Yekokora. Seasonally inundated swamp-forest and monodominant forest border these streams. The forest consists of a relatively open upper canopy with emergents such as *Oxystigma oxyphyllum* and *Antiaris toxicaria*, a continuous middle canopy with a relatively impoverished liana-climber-epiphyte community and a very sparse shrub layer composed of *Haumania librechtsiana* and *Palisota ambigua*. Prominent canopy species include *Polyalthia suaveolens*, *Scorodophloeus zenkeri*, *Dialium corbisieri*, *Irvingia robur*, *Celtis mildbraedii* and *Crudia laurentii*. There are a few small settlements and small-scale agricultural activities in the area. Rainfall is fairly constant throughout the year, averaging about 2,000 mm annually and rarely dropping below 60 mm in the driest month. River levels are high between October and December, low from February to August.

Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. The area supports the highest density of *Afropavo congensis* recorded to date.

Key species

A1 *Afropavo congensis*
A3 (A05) Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 13 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 146 may be expected; see Table 3.

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The area supports an important population of *Pan paniscus* (EN), a primate endemic to the country. Other primate species include *Lophocebus aterrimus* (LR/nt) (also endemic to DR Congo) and *Allenopithecus nigroviridis* (LR/nt). Other mammals include *Loxodonta africana* (EN), *Tragelaphus spekii* (LR/nt) and *Hyemoschus aquaticus* (DD).

Conservation issues

Protected-area status has been proposed for the site. A 99-year logging lease was held by a German company and the forest to the west of the site was logged in the 1980s. The company, however, agreed not to disturb 300,000 ha surrounding the study site of a *Pan paniscus* research project and abandoned the concession in 1987, offering their camp at Béongo to WWF-Germany for the establishment of a research station.

A proposal to create a reserve of 380,000 ha within the former concession was submitted to ICCN by WWF-International in 1990 and had reached ministerial level by mid-1991, but apparently no further action has been taken since. Although the current situation is unknown, the region remains an ICCN priority for protected-area status. Despite its remoteness, the area is at present threatened by farmers and hunters. In colonial times, the human population originally living in the forest was forced to settle along roads. Until recently, no permanent settlements occurred in the forest. However, the human population in the southern part of the proposed reserve is now estimated at c.0.4 persons/km² and there is growing pressure as a result of people moving away from the more densely populated border areas and establishing small settlements inside the previously undisturbed forest. In the northern part, commercial hunters are entering the forest, staying in temporary camps for several weeks and taking large amounts of bushmeat for the workers of logging companies and for markets downriver as far as Basankusu, Mbandaka and Kinshasa; *Psittacus erithacus* and *Pan paniscus* are taken to be sold as pets.

Further reading

Dupain and Van Krunkelsven (1996), Dupain and Van Krunkelsven (in prep.), IUCN (1990), Susman *et al.* (1980).

Garamba National Park

Admin region Orientale

Coordinates 04°13'N 29°24'E

Area 492,000 ha

Altitude 710–1,061 m

CD006

A3 (A04)

National Park,
World Heritage Site

Site description

Garamba is large area of mainly densely wooded savanna, with gallery forest and papyrus marshes, situated in north-eastern DR Congo, on the border with Sudan. The landscape is undulating and the park lies on the watershed between the Nile and the Congo rivers and is drained by many rivers, of which the Dungu, the Aka and the Garamba are the most important. The park has the only centre in the world for the domestication of the African Elephant *Loxodonta africana*, which started in 1901. Mean annual rainfall is around 1,500 mm with the rainy season extending from April to November.

Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. There has been no systematic survey of Garamba. *Gallinago media* has been recorded. The park contains the only protected area in the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome in the country. In addition, five species of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome and one of the Lake Victoria Basin biome have been recorded (see Table 3).

Key species

A3 (A04) Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome: 15 of the 29 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 24 may be expected; see Table 3.

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The park holds some 130 species of mammal, amongst which is the last surviving population of *Ceratotherium simum cottoni* (CR). Other species of interest include *Loxodonta africana* (EN) (unique in that it represents an intermediary form in the cline between the forest and savanna subspecies) and *Pan troglodytes* (EN).

Conservation issues

Garamba was established in 1938 to protect the populations of *Ceratotherium simum cottoni* and *Giraffa camelopardalis* and was declared a World Heritage Site in 1980. The rhino population has been brought to the brink of extinction by poaching, although heavy investment in anti-poaching operations has paid off and rhino numbers were slightly rising again (from c.3,000 in 1963 to 15 in 1984 and 31 in 1992) before the region was destabilized by war. The park has benefited from international cooperation and various sources of outside funding to assist in its rehabilitation, improvement of infrastructures and management, and anti-poaching operations. Some tourist facilities are available but the development of tourism is hampered by the difficulties of access.

Further reading

Davis *et al.* (1994), Sacchi (1996), Verschuren (1966b, 1991).

Lendu plateau

Admin region Orientale

Coordinates 02°05'N 30°50'E

Area c.22,500 ha Altitude 1,700–2,455 m

CD007

A1, A2 (106), A3 (A07)

Unprotected

Site description

The Lendu plateau is a large area of high ground on the west side of Lake Albert in north-eastern DR Congo, bordered in the north by the Ugandan frontier. The altitude of the plateau varies between 1,700 m and 2,000 m rising, along its eastern edge, to some cone-shaped mountains, the highest of which is Mount Aboro (2,455 m). The plateau is mainly grassy, with relatively few trees except *Erythrina* sp. Formerly, some patches of montane forest occurred above 1,500 m and on the higher mountains, but these have mostly been destroyed. The forest near Djugu, in the valley of the Nizi river, is perhaps the most important remaining site.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. In addition, *Crex crex* has been recorded. *Muscicapa lendu* was originally discovered in montane forest near Djugu, where it may still occur. *Sylvietta chapini* is only known from this site. Other species of interest include *Chlorocichla prigoginei* (not uncommon; known only from one other site) and *Terpsiphone bedfordi*, a restricted-range species of the Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA (see Table 2). Six species of the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome, 15 of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome and one of the Lake Victoria Basin biome have also been recorded (see Table 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|---|-----------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Columba albinucha</i> | <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> |
| | <i>Coracina graueri</i> | <i>Muscicapa lendu</i> |
| | <i>Chlorocichla prigoginei</i> | <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> |
| A2 (106) | Albertine Rift mountains EBA: 10 of the 37 species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A07) | Afrotropical Highlands biome: 34 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The highland area is densely settled and little mammal fauna remains. The lowland forest transition probably still contains some areas with important populations of primates and ungulates.

Conservation issues

There is no legal protection. The status of forests in the area is unknown. A survey is urgently needed to determine what conservation measures are needed.

Further reading

Pedersen (1997), Prigogine (1985), Vrijdagh (1949).

Mount Hoyo Reserve

Admin region Orientale

Coordinates c.01°15'N 30°00'E

Area c.15,000 ha Altitude c.1,000–1,450 m

CD008

A1, A2 (107), A3 (A05)

Strict Nature Reserve

Site description

The site comprises Mount Hoyo (1,450 m) and the surrounding, approximately circular, area of forest. The site is located at the northern end of the Rwenzori range, in north-eastern DR Congo, between the Lendu plateau (IBA CD007) to the north and Virunga National Park (CD010) to the south, some 125 km north of the town of Béni. It lies close to the border with Uganda and between the Bombu, Yaonda, Kalakala and Loya rivers. It forms the eastern part of the Ituri forest and is linked to Virunga National Park by a corridor between the Makayova and Abia rivers. The mountain is riddled with caves and there are some waterfalls. Human population densities are low.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. The site may be expected to hold a good selection of species of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome. In addition, one species of the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome has been recorded (see Table 3). Up to six species of the Albertine Rift mountains EBA and 23 of the Afrotropical Highlands biome may be expected to occur (see Tables 2 and 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| A1 | <i>Francolinus nahani</i> <i>Columba albinucha</i> <i>Phyllastrephus lorentzi</i> | <i>Zoothera oberlaenderi</i> <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> |
| A2 (107) | Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA: Three of the six species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: Nine of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 99 may be expected; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The mammal *Okapia johnstoni* (LR/nt) has been recorded. An exceptional cave-dwelling fauna occurs.

Conservation issues

The site was established as a ‘Réserve Intégrale’ in 1947 and is managed by ICCN. Its inclusion in Virunga National Park has been proposed. Mount Hoyo used to be a renowned, albeit rather sparsely visited, tourist attraction.

Further reading

Collar and Stuart (1988), IUCN (1990), Prigogine (1985).

Okapi Faunal Reserve

Admin region Orientale

Coordinates 01°45'N 28°30'E

Area 1,370,000 ha

Altitude c.700–1,200 m

CD009

A1, A2 (107), A3 (A05)

Faunal Reserve,

World Heritage Site

Site description

The Okapi Faunal Reserve is a huge tract of moist semi-evergreen lowland forest, with swamp-forest and, along roads, secondary forest, in north-eastern DR Congo. Part of the large Ituri Forest, Okapi lies between approximately 1°N in the south, 28°E in the west, the Nepoko river in the north, and the Mambassa–Andudu road in the east. The Ituri and the Epulu are the main rivers. The terrain is gently undulating with some higher hills in the north. Dominant tree species include *Cynometra alexandri*, *Julbernardia seretii* and *Gilbertiodendron dewevrei*. There are areas in which *G. dewevrei* occurs as monodominant stands, but the other forest-types are noted for their richness. The site is one of the largest tracts of intact forest remaining on the rim of the Congo basin. The forest is important as the home of the hunter-gatherer Mbuti and Efè pygmies. They live in association with indigenous Bantu and Sudanic-speaking shifting cultivators. Human population densities in the region are low and people are mostly concentrated along the few existing roads. A major part of the forest is free of permanent settlements. Rainfall averages between 1,650 mm and 1,750 mm per year.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. The rare *Ploceus flavipes* and *P. aureonucha* occur; the former is known only from the Ituri forest and all recent sightings are from the reserve, the latter has been recorded from one other site only. It is probable that *Afropavo congensis* occurs. The monodominant *Gilbertiodendron* forest appears to be important habitat for *Zoothera* thrushes, in which at least three species occur. In addition, three species of the Afrotropical Highlands biome have been recorded (see Table 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|--|---|
| A1 | <i>Francolinus nahani</i> <i>Phyllastrephus lorentzi</i> <i>Zoothera oberlaenderi</i> | <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> <i>Ploceus aureonucha</i> <i>Ploceus flavipes</i> |
| A2 (107) | Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA: Five of the six species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 178 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 188 may be expected; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The reserve contains the largest population in existence of the endemic *Okapia johnstoni* (LR/nt) (estimated at 3,900–6,350 animals in 1996) and one of the largest of forest elephant *Loxodonta africana cyclotis* (EN) (4,750–10,100 animals). Other mammals of global conservation concern include *Hyemoschus aquaticus* (DD), *Osbornictis piscivora* (DD) and *Tragelaphus euryceros* (LR/nt). Of particular interest is the presence of 13 species of primate, amongst which are *Pan troglodytes* (EN) (7,500–12,000 individuals), *Cercopithecus hamlyni* (LR/nt) and *C. lhoesti* (LR/nt), which constitutes one of the richest assemblages recorded from any African forest. The site is also particularly rich in butterfly species.

Conservation issues

The site was established as a reserve in 1992 and was named a World Heritage Site in 1996. The reserve is managed by ICCN, but due to lack of sufficient personnel, equipment and infrastructure, the capacity to manage the reserve effectively is extremely limited. In recent years, support has been provided by the World Wide Fund for Nature, Wildlife Conservation Society and Gilman International Conservation. The interest in, and protection of, the area dates from colonial times and is linked to the occurrence of Okapi. In the early 1950s, a government station was established at Epulu to capture Okapi, using indigenous capture techniques and employing local forest peoples. Moreover, a unique system of locally-controlled forest reserves was established to serve as Okapi capture zones. Although tradition has protected these reserves from agricultural incursions and excessive hunting, conditions are now changing, with growing numbers of immigrant farmers and prospectors descending on the area in search of land and gold. At least 10,000 people now live in the reserve (1.5 inhabitants/km²), including four villages with 500 to 1,700 inhabitants. Poaching has become heavy in the south of the site, with Elephant particularly targeted. The pygmies, who have traditionally exploited the forest in a sustainable manner, have become more dependent on trade with the increasing Bantu population and, in some cases, have been reported to hunt game for the Bantu for commercial exploitation. Due to logistical problems, significant portions of the reserve are rarely or never visited by ICCN guards.

A research project has been based at Epulu since the early 1980s and has been supported since 1986 by the Wildlife Conservation Society. Besides conducting the first study of Okapi in the wild, this project has included long-term studies of natural and selectively-logged forest and research into the socio-economic impact of human migration. The captive Okapi in semi-natural enclosures at the station attract a certain number of tourists; however, tourism has declined dramatically because of the very bad state of the access road. With the recently built airstrip it is hoped that number of visitors will increase once stability returns to the region.

Further reading

Blom (1990), Collar and Stuart (1988), Dejaifve (1989), Hart and Hall (1996), Hart *et al.* (1986), IUCN (1990), Plumptre (1997), Sacchi (1998), Sayer *et al.* (1992), Stephenson and Newby (1997).

Virunga National Park

Admin region Orientale, Nord-Kivu

Coordinates 00°20'S 29°35'E

Area 780,000 ha

Altitude 798–5,110 m

CD010

A1, A2 (106), A3 (A05, A06, A07)

National Park,

World Heritage Site

Site description

Virunga National Park occupies a large area encompassing a variety of habitats. It is situated in north-eastern DR Congo, and is contiguous with Semliki, Rwenzori and Queen Elizabeth National Parks and Mgahinga Gorilla Park (IBAs UG009, UG005, UG007 and UG001 respectively) in Uganda and Volcans National Park in Rwanda (RW002). It extends from the Rwenzori range, south through Lake Edward (the DR Congo part of which is entirely contained within the park) and the chain of volcanoes, just north of the town of Goma, to Lake Kivu. Some of the volcanoes are still active; Nyiragongo, the highest on the DR Congo side of the border, last erupted in 1977. Altitudes vary between 798 m in the lower plains and 3,470 m on the top of the Nyiragongo, to 5,110 m on Margherita Peak (Mount Stanley), Africa's third-highest mountain, in the Rwenzori range. Rainfall is

equally diverse, averaging between 500 mm per year at Lake Edward to more than 3,000 mm on the slopes of the Rwenzori. The variety of altitudes, soils and rainfall produces very diverse habitats, comprising lakes, marshy deltas and peatbogs, grasslands and wooded savanna, lava-plains, transition forest, montane rainforest, bamboo forest and high-altitude areas with *Hagenia*, *Lobelia*, *Dendroscenecio*, *Erica* and *Philippia* and, finally, glaciers and snow-fields. A significant portion of the Semliki Forest, shared with Uganda, occurs within the park, where it is known locally as the Watalinga forest. The steep western slopes of Rwenzori, which meet abruptly with the alluvial plain of the Semliki, are one of the wettest areas in the country, with frequent rain even during the 'dry' season and an average annual rainfall of more than 3,000 mm. Hot springs occur in the Rwindi plain. The park is known to support a greater biological diversity than any other single protected area in Africa. Agriculture and animal husbandry are the main economic activities of the region, an increasing amount of which occur within park limits. Fishing occurs on Lake Edward; several fisherman's villages, of which Vitshumbi is the largest, are situated on the lake shores.

■ Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. Species of interest known to occur include *Prionops alberti*, *Bradypterus graueri* and *Cryptospiza shelleyi*. Other species of global conservation concern that may be expected to occur are *Indicator pumilio*, *Coracina graueri*, *Malaconotus lagdeni*, *Chloropeta gracilirostris*, *Eremomela turneri* and *Nectarinia rockefelleri*. *Nectarinia stuhlmanni* is only known from the Rwenzori range. *Phoenicopterus minor* has been observed several times at Lake Edward and has once made an unsuccessful breeding attempt (c. 1,000 birds in 1974). In addition, one species of the Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA and one of the Sudan–Guinea Savanna biome have been recorded (see Tables 2 and 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|--|-----------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Balaeniceps rex</i> | <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> |
| | <i>Laniarius mufumbiri</i> | <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> |
| | <i>Prionops alberti</i> | <i>Cryptospiza shelleyi</i> |
| | <i>Zoothera tanganjicae</i> | |
| A2 (106) | Albertine Rift mountains EBA: 20 of the 37 species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 23 may be expected; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 68 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 106 may be expected; see Table 3. | |
| A3 (A06) | Lake Victoria Basin biome: Six of the nine species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while a seventh may be expected; see Table 3. | |
| A3 (A07) | Afrotropical Highlands biome: 60 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 69 may be expected; see Table 3. | |

■ Other threatened/endemic wildlife

In total, 177 mammal species have been identified and it is estimated that the actual number may approach 200, making Virunga National Park one of the richest protected areas for mammals in the world. About half of DR Congo's mammal species occur in the park which covers about 0.3 % of the country's surface. The park is renowned for its population of the endangered *Gorilla gorilla beringei* (CR). Other species include *Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii* (EN), *Cercopithecus lhoesti rutshuricus* (LR/nt), *C. hamlyni* (LR/nt), *Panthera leo* (VU), *Loxodonta africana* (EN), *Okapia johnstoni* (LR/nt) and *Tragelaphus euryceros* (LR/nt). The population density of *Hippopotamus amphibius* used to be among the highest known.

■ Conservation issues

The park was originally established in 1925 as Albert National Park. It was subsequently extended several times, became Virunga National Park in 1969 and was declared a World Heritage Site in 1979. It is managed by ICCN and has benefited from foreign aid and a long tradition of scientific research. The Virungas used to be the main tourist attraction in the country, which contributed greatly to the protection of the area. Since the start of the political turmoil in the region, however, tourism has collapsed. The region suffers from a very high population pressure; the fertile lands of Kivu have always been among the most densely populated areas of the country and this situation has been dramatically aggravated by the arrival of hundreds of thousands of refugees from

Rwanda. Deforestation and poaching have increased enormously and reached critical levels. The forest in the southern part of the park has been completely cut down for firewood by the refugees. A WWF-project that was, among other things, set up to stimulate the planting of trees, had to be discontinued for security reasons when the refugee camps were established. At the end of 1996, fighting between rebel and government forces had destroyed most of the park's infrastructure and many of the guards fled and some were killed. The International Gorilla Conservation Programme has continued to operate throughout the troubles and is working to ensure the safe return of park staff and to rebuild the infrastructure so that the park's protection and the gorilla monitoring programme can be restored. The northern sector of the park, including the Rwenzori, is highly threatened and currently inaccessible due to the presence of rebels including from neighbouring Uganda.

■ Further reading

Chapin (1932–1954), d'Huart (1977), IUCN (1990), Mertens (1986), Prigogine (1977), Schouteden (1933, 1938), Verheyen (1947), Verschuren (1966a, 1967, 1986, 1987, 1991).

Maiko National Park

Admin region Orientale, Nord-Kivu

Coordinates 00°30'S 27°45'E

Area 1,083,000 ha Altitude 700–1,300 m

CD011

A1, A3 (A05)

National Park

■ Site description

Maiko is a large, remote area of dense, humid primary tropical forest in eastern DR Congo bordered by many rivers. The northern part forms the southernmost area of the huge Ituri Forest. The eastern part, up to the Lindi river, is relatively flat (about 1,000 m); eastwards the relief increases. Several rivers rise in a few low mountains to the east, south and north. The vegetation is tall, closed, evergreen lowland rainforest, with a few patches of secondary forest where settlements have been established. Rainfall in the park is amongst the highest in the country, with maxima in October and November and a somewhat drier season in July and August. The area has few human inhabitants, but small settlements are scattered within the park. Access to the park is difficult and tourists are not allowed because of the presence of rebels.

■ Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. The park holds an important population of *Afropavo congensis*.

Key species

| | |
|----------|---|
| A1 | <i>Afropavo congensis</i> |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: One of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo has been recorded at this site, while up to 140 may be expected; see Table 3. |

■ Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Gorilla gorilla graueri* (EN) (estimated at 350–1,000 individuals in 1996), *Pan troglodytes* (EN) (4,000–5,900), *Okapia johnstoni* (LR/nt) (2,300–4,300), *Loxodonta africana* (EN) (5,500–7,500), *Cercopithecus hamlyni* (LR/nt) and *C. lhoesti* (LR/nt).

■ Conservation issues

The area was established as a National Park in 1970. It is managed by ICCN but, due to the inaccessibility of the site, no effective surveillance is possible. Despite its remoteness and the relatively low human population pressures in the surrounding area, the park suffers from heavy poaching. Subsistence hunting by the local people often acquires a commercial dimension. Poachers, gold prospectors and former anti-government rebels live in temporary or more permanent settlements within the park; they are thought to number fewer than 2,000 (less than 0.2 inhabitants/km²). The new Bukavu–Walikale–Lubutu–Kisangani road, which runs south of the site, constitutes a potential threat as it is bound to open up the region to immigrants. Gold mining is an additional threat.

■ Further reading

Colyn (1986), Davis *et al.* (1994), Hart and Hall (1996), Hart and Sikubwabo (1994), Hart and Upoki (1997), IUCN (1990).

Forests west of Lake Edward

CD012

Admin region Nord-Kivu

Coordinates 00°15'S 29°15'E A1, A2 (106, 107), A3 (A05, A07)

Area c.100,000 ha Altitude 912–3,117 m Unprotected

Site description

The sites comprises an area of forested mountains immediately west of Lake Edward and Virunga National Park (IBA CD010) in eastern DR Congo. The land rises sharply from Lake Edward (912 m) and the Semliki plain to over 2,000 m in several places; westwards, beyond the mountains, altitudes decrease only gradually towards Maiko National Park (CD011). The only part of the area currently protected are the environs of its highest peak, Mount Tshiaberimu (3,117 m) in the north, close to Lake Edward, which is included in the northern section of Virunga National Park. The area is heavily populated, especially the highlands, but in some areas of the west, population densities are low. The main population centres are Lubéro, Alimbongo and Lutunguru. Agriculture and the felling of trees for firewood and construction seriously threaten the remaining forests.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. Additional species of global conservation concern that may be expected to occur include *Kupeornis rufocinctus*, *Terpsiphone bedfordi*, *Nectarinia rockefelleri* and *Cryptospiza shelleyi*. In addition, one species of the Lake Victoria Basin biome has been recorded (see Table 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|---|--------------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Afropavo congensis</i> | <i>Phyllastrephus lorentzi</i> |
| | <i>Columba albinucha</i> | <i>Malaconotus lagdeni</i> |
| | <i>Glaucidium albertinum</i> | <i>Prionops alberti</i> |
| | <i>Indicator pumilio</i> | <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> |
| | <i>Coracina graueri</i> | <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> |
| | <i>Chlorocichla prigoginei</i> | |
| A2 (106) | Albertine Rift mountains EBA: 25 of the 37 species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 28 may be expected; see Table 2. | |
| A2 (107) | Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA: One of the six species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo has been recorded at this site, while a second may be expected; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 66 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 97 may be expected; see Table 3. | |
| A3 (A07) | Afrotropical Highlands biome: 62 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 68 may be expected; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Gorilla gorilla graueri* (EN).

Conservation issues

Population pressures are extremely high. Forest around Alimbongo has been destroyed, but large areas of forest in the Lutunguru area (including transition forest on Mount Biakiri) have been recommended for protection through the creation of a reserve east of Maiko National Park (IBA CD011). The high-altitude forest on Mount Tshiaberimu (mainly bamboo) is theoretically safeguarded in the Virunga National Park, but suffers from extensive human encroachment. The mid-elevation forests were already disappearing rapidly before 1994, but with the political turmoil in the region and the massive arrival of refugees from Rwanda the situation has worsened dramatically. A survey to determine the extent of the remaining forest and the priorities for its protection is urgently needed.

Further reading

Collar and Stuart (1988), Prigogine (1953).

Kahuzi–Biega National Park

CD013

Admin region Sud-Kivu

Coordinates 02°31'S 28°45'E A1, A2 (106, 107), A3 (A05, A07)

 Area 600,000 ha National Park,
Altitude 600–3,300 m World Heritage Site

Site description

The park is located in eastern DR Congo, beside the Albertine Rift

west of Lake Kivu and the town of Bukavu, close to the international frontiers with Rwanda and Burundi. It is composed of two distinct parts connected by a narrow corridor of forest. The original section of 60,000 ha, which is crossed by the major Bukavu–Kisangani road, has an altitudinal range of 1,800–3,300 m and is centred around Mt Kahuzi (3,300 m) and Mt Biega (2,900 m). It consists mainly of dense primary montane forest with some bamboo, with the remainder woodland, swamp and peatbog. The western extension seeks to conserve a vast undulating tract of transition and lowland forest, varying in altitude between c. 600 and 1,500 m, with only the isolated peak of Mt Kamami (1,700 m) and some parts of the corridor rising higher. Areas of old secondary forest mark former settlements, mining camps and fields predating the incorporation of this area into the park. Average annual rainfall is 1,800 mm, with wide yearly fluctuations.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. No systematic survey of the park has been undertaken. Additional species of global conservation concern that may be expected to occur include *Columba albinucha* and *Malaconotus lagdeni*.

Key species

| | | |
|----------|---|--------------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Afropavo congensis</i> | <i>Zoothera tanganjicae</i> |
| | <i>Glaucidium albertinum</i> | <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> |
| | <i>Indicator pumilio</i> | <i>Bradypterus graueri</i> |
| | <i>Pseudocalyptomena graueri</i> | <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> |
| | <i>Coracina graueri</i> | <i>Nectarinia rockefelleri</i> |
| | <i>Phyllastrephus lorentzi</i> | <i>Cryptospiza shelleyi</i> |
| | <i>Prionops alberti</i> | |
| A2 (106) | Albertine Rift mountains EBA: 11 of the 37 species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 26 may be expected to do so; see Table 2. | |
| A2 (107) | Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA: Two of the six species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 100 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 126 may be expected to do so; see Table 3. | |
| A3 (A07) | Afrotropical Highlands biome: 21 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 67 may be expected to do so; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The park is important for *Gorilla gorilla graueri* (EN) (estimated at 4,150 to 10,800 individuals during 1990–1995; as much as 70% of the global population of this taxon is thought to occur within Kahuzi–Biega and Maiko National Parks) and *Gorilla gorilla beringei* (CR). Six other primates occur, including *Pan troglodytes schweinfurthii* (EN) (1,300–4,000) and *Cercopithecus hamlyni* (LR/nt). Other mammals include *Loxodonta africana* (EN) (1,350–3,600) and *Tragelaphus euryceros* (LR/nt), while *Osbornictis piscivora* (DD) has been recorded from the vicinity.

Conservation issues

Originally established as a reserve in 1960 to protect 200–300 mountain gorillas *Gorilla gorilla graueri*, Kahuzi–Biega became a National Park in 1970, was substantially enlarged in 1975 and designated a World Heritage Site in 1980. Although most settlements were abandoned and the inhabitants relocated after the creation of the extension in 1975, some still remain within the park boundaries. The original section of the park used to benefit from gorilla-based tourism. Forest in the Kivu region is generally under great pressure from agriculture and firewood-collection by an ever-increasing population. Significant parts of the park are rarely or never visited by the understaffed team of ICCN guards because of logistical problems. In the area near Bukavu, and for up to 50 km to the north, the forest is being rapidly cleared by agriculturalists. The corridor connecting the highland sector with the lowland extension is particularly affected. The number of people living within the park boundaries may reach 4,000 (0.7 inhabitants/km²). The political turmoil in the region, causing the displacement of many thousands of persons, constitutes a very serious threat to the site's integrity. The park suffered heavily during the 1996 armed rebellion, and subsequently. Numbers of large mammals have declined drastically. Of particular concern for birds is the burning of significant areas of upland and large-scale incursions in the eastern part, which threaten the integrity of the montane sectors. Mining is a major problem in the lowland sector, where the hunting of bushmeat and habitat conversion is alleged to be taking place as a result of the many miners operating in the park.

Further reading

Collar and Stuart (1988), Hart and Hall (1996), IUCN (1990), Wilson and Catsis (1990).

Itombwe mountains

CD014

Admin region Sud-Kivu

Coordinates 03°30'S 28°55'E A1, A2 (106, 107), A3 (A05, A07)

Area c.1,190,000 ha Altitude 600–3,475 m Unprotected

Site description

The Itombwe mountains run north–south beside the Albertine Rift to the west of the northernmost stretch of Lake Tanganyika in eastern DR Congo. Several peaks rise above 3,000 m, the highest being Mt Mohi at 3,475 m. In the east there is a sharp drop in altitude towards the Ruzizi plain and Lake Tanganyika, while westwards the altitude decreases more slowly. Montane forest (above 1,500 m) is estimated to cover about 650,000 ha, including 150,000 ha of bamboo and 50,000 ha of gallery forest. On the east side of the range montane forest is only patchy or occurs as galleries below 2,300 m, whereas on the western slopes there is, with decreasing altitude, bamboo, montane forest, a grassland zone, then further montane forest that intergrades with lowland forest between 1,800 and 1,200 m. Dominant tree species of the montane forest, where the canopy reaches around 25 m, include *Parinari* sp., *Carapa* sp., *Homalium* sp., *Syzygium* sp., *Fagara* aff. *inaequalis*, *Sapium ellipticum*, *Ocotea michelsonii* and *Croton megalocarpus*, while above 2,000 m the dominants include *Hirtella* sp., *Symphonia* sp., *Olea hochstetteri*, *Chrysophyllum* sp., and *Ficalhoa laurifolia*. The site contains the largest block of montane forest in the Albertine Rift mountains and is exceptional in Africa in having an unbroken progression from lowland to montane evergreen forest. The Itombwe mountains are difficult of access and human population densities are low in some parts. Forest is being cleared for agriculture and firewood around villages and cattle graze the high plateaus. The town of Kamituga, an important mining centre, lies just to the north-west of the montane forest area.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. The site is the richest single forest area for birds in Africa, with 563 species recorded. The recently described *Caprimulgus prigoginei* is only definitely known from Itombwe. *Phodilus prigoginei* and *Schoutedenapus schoutedeni* are also known with certainty only from this site, although are probably not restricted to it. There are also records of *Ardeola idea*, *Crex crex*, *Gallinago media* and *Glareola nordmanni*. In addition, one species of the Lake Victoria Basin biome and one of the Zambeian biome have been recorded (see Tables 2 and 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Afropavo congensis</i> | <i>Prionops alberti</i> |
| | <i>Columba albinucha</i> | <i>Zoothera tanganjicae</i> |
| | <i>Phodilus prigoginei</i> | <i>Zoothera oberlaenderi</i> |
| | <i>Glaucidium albertinum</i> | <i>Kupeornis rufocinctus</i> |
| | <i>Caprimulgus prigoginei</i> | <i>Kupeornis chapini</i> |
| | <i>Schoutedenapus schoutedeni</i> | <i>Chloropeta gracilirostris</i> |
| | <i>Indicator pumilio</i> | <i>Muscicapa lendu</i> |
| | <i>Pseudocollyptomena graueri</i> | <i>Terpsiphone bedfordi</i> |
| | <i>Coracina graueri</i> | <i>Nectarinia rockefelleri</i> |
| | <i>Phyllastrephus lorenzi</i> | <i>Cryptospiza shellei</i> |
| | <i>Malaconotus lagdeni</i> | |
| A2 (106) | Albertine Rift mountains EBA: 31 of the 37 species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A2 (107) | Eastern DR Congo lowlands EBA: Four of the six species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A05) | Guinea–Congo Forests biome: 161 of the 228 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3. | |
| A3 (A07) | Afrotropical Highlands biome: 82 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Little is known. An important population of *Gorilla gorilla graueri* (EN) occurs. *Pan troglodytes* (EN) and *Loxodonta africana* (EN) are also present. Two forest shrew species are known from single specimens in the Itombwe range. At least 21 amphibian taxa have been recorded from Itombwe above 1,500 m, most of limited distribution and six endemic.

Conservation issues

The site has no legal protection. Although recent evidence suggests that large tracts of habitat remain reasonably intact, the human population bordering Itombwe is dense and the area is under increasing pressure from agriculturists, pastoralists, miners and hunters. The political instability and the massive arrival in the region of displaced persons constitute serious additional threats to the integrity of the site. All montane forest and two adjacent patches of lowland forest north and south of the upper Elila river have been proposed as forest conservation areas.

Further reading

Butynski *et al.* (1996, 1997), Collar and Stuart (1988), Ilambu *et al.* (1999), IUCN (1990), Prigogine (1971, 1978, 1980, 1984, 1985), Stubbs (1988), Wilson and Catsis (1990).

Mount Kabobo

CD015

Admin region Sud-Kivu, Katanga

Coordinates c.05°00'S 29°00'E A1, A2 (106), A3 (A07)

Area c.10,000 ha Altitude 2,100–2,701 m Unprotected

Site description

The site is part of the mountain range to the west of the northern half of Lake Tanganyika in eastern DR Congo, between the towns of Fizi and Kalemie. This mountain range, defined as the area above 1,500 m, is some 150 km in length and from about 10 km to 30 km wide. The site identified here comprises the central part of this range, lying above 2,100 m and culminating in Mt Kabobo (2,701 m) and contains virtually all the montane forest in the area. It is separated from the southernmost outliers of Itombwe (IBA CD014) by some 50 km of savanna. Average annual rainfall is estimated at c.1,500 mm, with a dry season of about five months, from May to October.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. *Apalis kaboboensis* is confined to this site. In addition, five species of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome and one of the Zambeian biome have been recorded at this site (see Table 3).

Key species

| | | |
|----------|---|----------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Prionops alberti</i> | <i>Apalis kaboboensis</i> |
| | <i>Zoothera tanganjicae</i> | <i>Cryptospiza shellei</i> |
| | <i>Kupeornis rufocinctus</i> | |
| A2 (106) | Albertine Rift mountains EBA: 20 of the 37 species of this EBA that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 2. | |
| A3 (A07) | Afrotropical Highlands biome: 48 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

No recent information is available. Mammals of global conservation concern reported in the past include *Colobus polykomos prigoginei* (endemic subspecies, LR/nt), *Cercopithecus lhoesti* (LR/nt), *Loxodonta africana* (EN) and *Tragelaphus euryceros* (LR/nt).

Conservation issues

The site has no legal protection. The region is densely populated and pressures from agriculturalists and pastoralists are severe; how much forest remains on Kabobo is unknown. Protected area status for the site has been proposed.

Further reading

Collar and Stuart (1988), IUCN (1990), Prigogine (1960, 1985).

Marungu highlands

CD016

Admin region Katanga

Coordinates 07°25'S 29°45'E A3 (A07, A10)

Area c.770,000 ha Altitude c.1,500–2,460 m Unprotected

Site description

The Marungu highlands are situated to the west of the southern half of Lake Tanganyika in eastern DR Congo. The low-lying Mulobozi

river, which flows into Lake Tanganyika just north of the town of Moba, separates the area into two main land masses, the smaller (northern) section (also called the Malimba mountains) rising to c.2,100 m and the larger (southern) section reaching c.2,460 m. The soil, derived from granitic or rhyolitic rocks, is generally poor in nutrients. The major habitats are rolling grassland (on the highest parts) and scrub (on the slopes) but there is some dense forest (including *Parinari excelsa*, *Teclea nobilis*, *Polyscias fulva*, *Ficus storthophylla* and *Turrea holstii*) in ravines and, more importantly, narrow remnants of riparian forest (with *Syzygium cordatum*, *Ficalhoa laurifolia* and *Ilex mitis*) along streams. There is a prolonged dry season; mean annual rainfall is c.1,200 mm, almost all of which falls in the period from October to April.

■ Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. *Nectarinia prigoginei* is restricted to the riparian forest of this site. *Grus carunculatus* and *Crex crex* have been recorded. In addition, two species of the Albertine Rift mountains EBA have been recorded at this site and one species of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome is likely to occur (see Table 3).

Key species

A3 (A07) Afrotropical Highlands biome: 15 of the 93 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3.

A3 (A10) Zambebian biome: 23 of the 47 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3.

■ Other threatened/endemic wildlife

The Marungu highlands are a centre of endemism for plants.

■ Conservation issues

The site is used extensively for cattle-raising. Riparian forest patches throughout the Marungus are under severe threat from timber-felling and from the erosion of stream banks by cattle; their disappearance would result not only in the extinction of the montane bird populations, but also the destabilization of the water-supply on which ranching in the Marungus is dependent. Forests bordering the Mulobozi and Lufuko rivers above 1,500 m have been proposed as conservation areas.

■ Further reading

Collar and Stuart (1988), Dowsett and Prigogine (1974), Prigogine (1985).

Upemba National Park

Admin region Katanga

Coordinates 09°10'S 26°40'E

Area 1,173,000 ha Altitude c.680–1,800 m

CD017

A1, A2 (s054), A3 (A10)

National Park

■ Site description

Upemba National Park is a large area in the south-east of the country, situated on the Kibara plateau and bordered in the west by the Lualaba (or Upper Congo) river and numerous lakes, among which Lake Upemba is the largest. The habitat of the plateau consists mainly of gently rolling grasslands at altitudes of between 1,750 m and 1,800 m. These are cut by numerous streams, which rise on the plateau and are lined with gallery forest. Rainwater accumulates in depressions of variable size, forming permanent ponds or temporary swamps, which are particularly numerous at the end of the rainy season. The grasslands are bordered by *Uapaca*-dominated woodland. On the slopes of the plateau and especially on the Lake Upemba plain, *Brachystegia* and *Isoberlinia* woodlands occur. During the dry season large areas of grassland are burnt. There are some villages in the western part of the park. Annual rainfall averages between 1,200 mm and 1,400 mm; February–March are the wettest months.

■ Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. *Estrilda nigriloris* is restricted to grassy plains around the Lualaba river and Lake Upemba. The race *lippensi* of the endangered *Zoothera guttata* has been described from a single specimen from montane forest in Upemba. *Grus carunculatus* is not uncommon on the plateau. *Balaeniceps rex* has been recorded nesting. There are also records of *Falco naumanni* and *Crex crex*. In addition, four species of the Guinea–Congo Forests

biome and three of the Afrotropical Highlands biome have been recorded (see Table 3).

Key species

A1 *Balaeniceps rex* *Zoothera guttata*
Grus carunculatus *Estrilda nigriloris*
Hirundo atrocaerulea

A2 (s054) Upemba plains Secondary Area: *Estrilda nigriloris* has been recorded at this site.

A3 (A10) Zambebian biome: 25 of the 47 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 29 may be expected; see Table 3.

■ Other threatened/endemic wildlife

No recent information is available. Mammals of global conservation concern recorded in the past include *Loxodonta africana* (EN).

■ Conservation issues

The reserve was established in 1939. In the 1970s the park was substantially enlarged to include the lakes and the wetlands of the Lualaba river. The park is managed by ICCN; in the extension, the so-called 'zone annexe', settlements are authorized, under the supervision of ICCN. Surveillance has, however, broken down in recent years. Poaching and encroachment by farmers and pastoralists may be expected to be the major threats.

■ Further reading

Chapin (1954), Clement *et al.* (1993), Collar and Stuart (1985), Davis *et al.* (1994), Prigogine and Louette (1984), Verheyen (1953).

Kundelungu National Park

Admin region Katanga

Coordinates 10°35'S 27°56'E

Area 760,000 ha Altitude c.1,200–1,700 m

CD018

A1, A3 (A10)
National Park

■ Site description

The park, located in south-eastern DR Congo, comprises two parts. The original, eastern, part (213,000 ha) is situated on a plateau between 1,200 m to 1,700 m, characteristic of the Katanga region, on which the habitat consists of grassland and open woodland, with some gallery forest along the drainage lines. The slopes are covered in dense *Brachystegia* woodland. The western limit is formed by cliffs of up to 400 m high which fall perpendicularly to the Lufira river valley. The waterfalls of the Lofoi river, a tributary of the Lufira in the north of the park, are said to be the highest in Africa, with a 342 m drop. The western section of the park, west and north-west of the Kiéngé road, encompasses a large swampy area.

■ Birds

See Box and Table 3 for key species. There is no recent information. There are old records of *Falco naumanni* and *Crex crex*. The site may be expected to contain a good selection of species of the Zambebian biome. *Grus carunculatus* is frequent. In addition, one species of the Guinea–Congo Forests biome is likely to occur (see Table 3).

Key species

A1 *Grus carunculatus*

A3 (A10) Zambebian biome: Four of the 47 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site, while up to 23 may be expected; see Table 3.

■ Other threatened/endemic wildlife

Mammals of global conservation concern include *Acinonyx jubatus* (VU), *Loxodonta africana* (EN) and *Tragelaphus derbianus* (LR/nt).

■ Conservation issues

The park was established in 1970 and is managed by ICCN. With the breakdown of surveillance in recent years, poaching and encroachment by farmers and pastoralists is occurring.

■ Further reading

Davis *et al.* (1994), Lippens and Wille (1976), Luard (1985), Verschuren (1978).

Lufira valley

Admin region Katanga

Coordinates 10°58'S 26°55'E

A1, A2 (s053), A3 (A10)

Area 14,700 ha Altitude c.1,100 m Biosphere Reserve (Unprotected)

CD019**Site description**

An area of swamp, grassland and wooded savanna and an artificial lake in the Lufira valley in south-eastern DR Congo, east of the town of Likasi. The Lufira river is a major tributary of the Congo which rises in southern Katanga. In its upper reaches the river meanders through a large swampy depression situated in the centre of vast alluvial plains. Since the building of a dam in 1926, this depression has been partly flooded and a shallow lake, Lake Lufira (or Lake Tshangalele), has formed. The area comprising the central and peripheral plains and the lake is about 95,000 ha in extent; the flooded parts cover a maximum of c.44,000 ha. The altitude of the lake is 1,100 m, while the surrounding chain of low mountains rises above 1,300 m. Vegetation-types include permanent swamps with *Typha* and *Cyperus* and various savannas (from open and wet to drier, wooded types) characterized by *Isobelinia*, *Uapaca*, *Syzygium*, *Loudeia simplex*, *Digitaria scalarum*, *Hyparrhenia rufa*, *Themeda triandra*, *Pterocarpus* and *Acacia*. Water-levels in the Lufira are highest during February–March and lowest at the end of the dry season (September–October). Average annual rainfall is c.1,200 mm, with February and March the wettest months. Human population densities vary; they used to be highest on the western side of the lake. The creation of the lake has resulted in the settlement of many fishermen.

Birds

See Box and Tables 2 and 3 for key species. *Ploceus ruwetii* is restricted to the swamps bordering Lake Lufira; there is no recent information on its status. *Balaeniceps rex* has been recorded. There are also records of *Falco naumanni* and *Crex crex*. The site may constitute a stop-over site for waterbirds migrating between the lakes and wetlands of the Upper Congo and those of the Upper Zambezi.

Key species

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------|
| A1 | <i>Balaeniceps rex</i> | <i>Ploceus ruwetii</i> |
| | <i>Grus carunculatus</i> | |
| A2 (s053) | Lake Lufira Secondary Area: <i>Ploceus ruwetii</i> has been recorded at this site. | |
| A3 (A10) | Zambezi biome: Six of the 47 species of this biome that occur in DR Congo have been recorded at this site; see Table 3. | |

Other threatened/endemic wildlife

No information is available, other than that the mammal *Loxodonta africana* (EN) occurs.

Conservation issues

Lake Lufira was declared a Biosphere Reserve in 1982. Threats are unknown.

Further reading

Louette and Benson (1982), Ruwet (1965).

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