

Ornithological Observations



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Ornithological Observations accepts papers containing faunistic information about birds. This includes descriptions of distribution, behaviour, breeding, foraging, food, movement, measurements, habitat and plumage. It will also consider for publication a variety of other interesting or relevant ornithological material: reports of projects and conferences, annotated checklists for a site or region, specialist bibliographies, and any other interesting or relevant material.

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FIRST RECORDED SIGHTING OF WHITE-BREASTED CUCKOOSHRIKE IN GAUTENG?

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FIRST RECORDED SIGHTING OF WHITE-BREASTED CUCKOOSHRIKE IN GAUTENG?

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On 7 July 2013 at 10:30 a bird was observed in close proximity of the Groenkloof Nature Reserve in Pretoria, Gauteng Province (S25°47'26.2" E28°12'50.0"). It perched on low branches of a scrubby tree (± 1.5 m above ground) flying up to take insects and then returning to its perch. We identified the bird as a White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Coracina pectoralis*.

We were fortunate enough to take a photo (Fig 1) of the bird to verify the identification, which was confirmed by Warwick Tarboton.

As far as we could ascertain this is the first recorded sighting of the species in Gauteng Province. The SABAP2 distribution map (Fig 2) indicates that this record is far from the normal distribution range of the species.

Acknowledgements

Other members of the group observing the bird: Terry and Chesney Gunter. Warwick Tarboton confirmed the identity of the bird.

References

Dean WRJ 2005. White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Coracina pectoralis*. In: Hockey PAR, Dean WRJ, Ryan PG (eds) 2005. Roberts Birds of Southern Africa. VIIIth Edn. Cape Town: John Voelcker Bird Book Fund.



Fig 1 - White-breasted Cuckooshrike *Coracina pectoralis* (male)

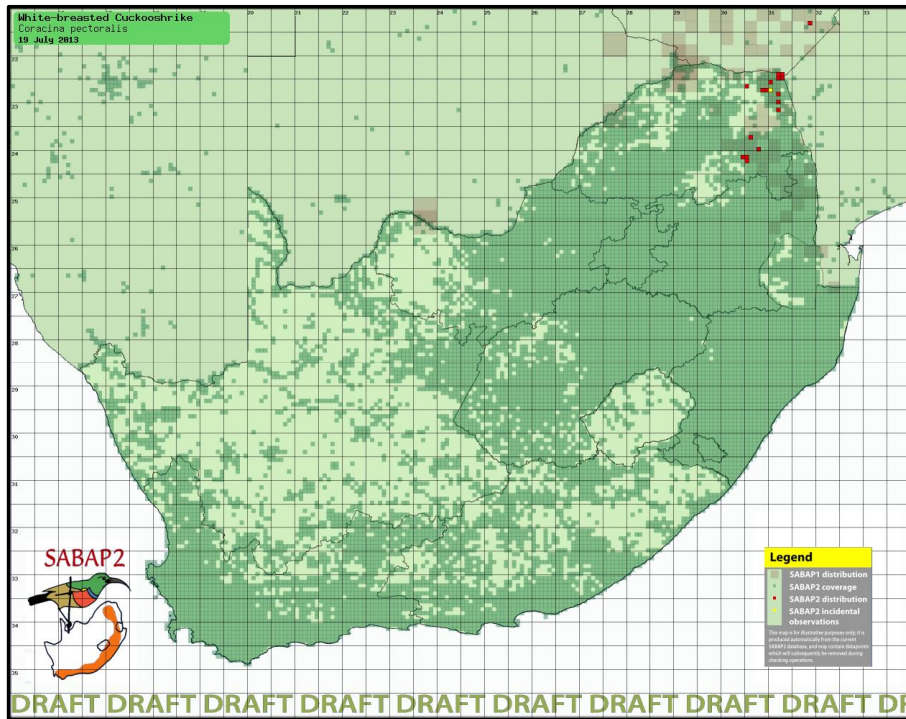


Fig 2 – Distribution map of the White-breasted Cuckooshrike indicating the SABAP2 distribution in red squares and the SABAP1 distribution in grey squares.