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Giving Conservation Wings

The Animal Demography Unit conducts the Coordinated Avifaunal Roadcounts in partnership with BirdLife South Africa.



COORDINATED AVIFAUNAL ROADCOUNTS (CAR)

Route Description Form

A detailed description of a route can be helpful in interpreting the data collected on that route. It is also a useful aid to anyone doing a route for the first time. CAR would like to have a full set of route descriptions on file for these purposes. If you are the person who knows a particular route best, please fill in this form and return it with your roadcount form.

Note: We suggest that you fill in this form while driving the route, so that you don't forget anything that is relevant.

Precinct: _____ **Route number:** _____ **Accurate route length:** _____

Starting point (please give a precise description using clear landmarks):

Ending point (please give a precise description using clear landmarks):

Directions

Describe, in the correct sequence, the turn-offs that one has to take to follow the route correctly. Also give approximate distances to these points.

Warnings

Mention any parts of the route which are hazardous in any way, and suggest ways of dealing with them safely.

Bird-rich areas

Describe which parts of the route usually produce the most birds, particularly cranes and bustards. If possible, relate these areas to easily recognized habitat features e.g. *"Between km 10 and km 15 Blue Crane are often seen in wheat stubble fields on right of road."*

Bird-poor areas

Mention which parts of the route, if any, are particularly unproductive. If possible, relate these to easily recognized habitat features e.g. *“Between km 40 and km 44 there is a dense wattle plantation and birds are very seldom observed”*.

Agriculture

List types of agriculture practised along the route, if possible in this form: *“From km 10 to km 14: wheat fields”*. Use CAR habitat and crop categories and mention which types of livestock, if applicable. Mention which CAR species are most often associated with which forms of agriculture.

Changes

Mention any changes, particularly in habitat or agriculture, which have occurred along the route since the January 2005 CAR count. Give your opinion on how these changes may have affected the CAR species.

Other features

Mention other features of the route which are relevant or interesting, e.g. wetlands, dams or feedlots where birds can be spotted, good spots to stop for tea, etc., particularly if they have a bearing on the method and effectiveness of counting.

Date: _____ **Information provided by:** _____



Thank you!