

Project Update: May 2015

January to April 2015

The following activities were carried out between January and April 2015

1. Waterfowl census-The team undertook a waterfowl census activity where we counted all waterbirds in the swamp. Below is the total number of waterfowl recorded. Data was submitted to the Nairobi National Museum Ornithology Section.

Wetland: Sawaiti (Barina) Swamp **Date:** 9th January 2015 **Start:** 0822hrs **Stop:** 1148hrs
Weather Condition: *Sunny, warm* **Number of Counters:** 4

The following uncommon / rare species were recorded

Species	Total
Lesser moorhen	1
Collared pratincole	1
African marsh harrier	4
Black-crowned night heron	13

Waterfowl species	Total
Little grebe	2
Reed cormorant	3
Cattle egret	49
Common squacco heron	12
Yellow-billed or intermediate egret	15
Grey heron	1
Purple heron	2
Black-headed heron	23
Saddle-billed stork	1
Yellow-billed stork	5
Sacred ibis	26
Hadada ibis	37
Glossy ibis	44
African spoonbill	22
White-faced whistling duck	33
Spur-winged goose	45
Egyptian goose	422
Yellow-billed duck	85
Red-billed teal	2
Hottentot teal	19
Osprey	1
Eurasian marsh harrier	1
Grey crowned crane	27
Black crane	3
Common moorhen	5

Red-knobbed Coot	5
African jacana	9
Purple swamphen	5
Long-toed plover	20
Three-banded plover	3
Blacksmith plover	25
Little stint	31
Ruff	80
Common snipe	2
Marsh sandpiper	1
Common redshank	1
Wood sandpiper	8
Common sandpiper	3
Malachite kingfisher	6
Pied kingfisher	2
Woodland kingfisher	2

2. Monitoring and surveys: The team continues to carry out monthly monitoring and survey activities at the wetland. During these we've added new biodiversity on ongoing biodiversity checklist development for instance the osprey, (*Pandion haliaetus*), added on bird checklist.

3. Ecotourism: One team member guided both local and international tourists, including ornithologists and photographers at the project site. We appreciate that the wetland is slowly gaining public recognition for ecotourism and research work.

4. Contribution to Science: A Pocket Guide to the Insects of East Africa by Dr. Dino J. Martins (<http://www.randomstruik.co.za/books/pocket-guide-to-insects-of-east-africa/5700>) has been recently published. Team Leader (Martha), was able to contribute to some invertebrate images, some of which were photographed at the project site.

5. Wetland Action Plan: The team is still working on the Wetland Action Plan for the swamp. After completion, it will be submitted as a separate report.



Left: Globe skimmer dragonfly (*Pantala flavescens*) at Sawaiti Swamp April 2015. Middle: long-tailed widowbird (*Euplectes progne*) at Sawaiti Swamp April 2015. Right: Waterfowl Census-Sawaiti Wetland January 2015.