

References

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White-throated Swallow *Hirundo albigularis* in Tanzania

There is only one documented record of the White-throated Swallow for East Africa. Britton (1980) lists the species on the basis of “a male collected over the open waters of Lake Jipe, NE Tanzania, on 25 July 1957”. There have now been further reports from Tanzania. Two records have been accepted by the East African Rarities Committee as the second and third for Tanzania:

A bird photographed by NEB at the Kapunga rice scheme on the southern edge of the Usangu Flats (approx. 8°40' S, 34°05' E) on 10 July 1995. It was feeding along the concrete irrigation channels and perching on emergent rushes.

Six birds found by David Moyer at Ihefu Swamp on the eastern Usangu Flats (8°21' S, 34°32' E, 1016 m) on 22 September 1997, one of which was photographed.

More recently, on 20 August 2004, NEB & EMB watched at least 11 birds in three groups along a short stretch of the Manonga River, upstream from Lake Kitangire at 4°04' S, 34°14' E in the Eyasi Basin. They were perching on fish traps and feeding over the slow-moving river. Then on 31 July 2006 John Whittle and Paul Oliver watched a single bird on the Mara River, in Serengeti NP west of Kogatende Ranger Post. JW was familiar with this species from many visits to South Africa.

These new records probably reflect an increase in observer effort rather than any significant extension of the non-breeding range, but the latter cannot be ruled out. The dates suggest northward post-breeding movement as would be expected for this southern African breeding species. In Zambia it is a locally common intra-African migrant and non-breeding visitor from March to mid December, with far fewer records in northern than in central areas (Dowsett *et al.* 2008).

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