

Recent Sightings

2008: Other National Parks

Intensive searching at Geelbek over the last few days has still not delivered the Dunlin again, but the **COMMON REDSHANK** has been showing well most days and was still present yesterday.



Common Redshank at Geelbek © Freddie Strauss

Mapungubwe January 2008

Mapungubwe is awesome at the moment. The hide in the western section is in flood. Pygmy Geese, Painted Snipe, Allen's Gallinule, many Dwarf Bitterns and Lesser Moorhens with chicks (Lesser Moorhen was abundant).

Speaking of DBs, I had a really weird encounter with one. When I drove back from the hide in the evening, there were several single DBs perched on isolated bushes on the grassland plain. One or two quite close to the road were still good for photographs and one that I disturbed then landed in the road in front of me. It proceeded to walk along the road at a leisurely pace, like a francolin does and kept peering into the grass. It was by now almost dark, so a photo was futile, but it was an incredible encounter.

Plenty of other groovies as well, some in large numbers - like Garmines and Quails.

Chris Patton