OMAN TRIP---- 26 January to 13 February 1998.
(General notes and species localities)

27/01    Ras As Sawadi (23° 45.36'N; 57° 44.47'E- WGS84)

Low coastal sand-dunes, *Salvadora persica* thicket with scattered trees.
Birds:
Indian house crows *Corvus splendens*
Grey francolin *Francolinus pondicerianus*
Arabian babbler *Turdoides squamiceps*
Yellow-vented bulbul *Pycnonotus xanthopygos*

In flight at twilight *Pipistrellus*-type bats.

28/01    Dibaab (23° 04.18'N; 59° 03.70'E- WGS84)

Open pebble beach, narrow coastal plain with low scrub cover with backdrop rocky, broken foothills; *Acacia tortilis* clumps- area heavily overgrazed & browsed.

Birds:
Little green heron *Butorides striatus*
Sooty gulls *Larus hemprichii*
Arabian partridge *Alectoris melanocephala*
Arabian babbler *Turdoides squamiceps*
Lichtenstein’s sandgrouse *Pterocles lichtensteinii*
Graceful warbler *Prinia gracilis*
House sparrow *Passer domesticus*
Palm dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*
Yellow-vented bulbul *Pycnonotus xanthopygos*

Reptiles:

*Pristurus carteri* (voucher photographs)
*Pristurus rupestris*
*Coluber rhodorachis* (littoral zone at low tide hunting small fish)

Near Fans (22° 55.03'N; 59° 12.95’N) towards Bimnah (Wadi Ras Ash Shajari)

Mammals:
Male & female Arabian gazelle *Gazella gazella* (tracks also at several points along coastal plain)

Birds:
Egyptian vultures (x6) *Neophron percnopterus*
Reptiles:  
*Pristurus carteri*  
*Pristurus rupestris*

29/01  
Nr Tiwi (22° 52.70'N; 59° 13.70'E - WGS84)

Mammals:  
Arabian gazelle  
*Gazella gazella* (numerous tracks and dung pellet middens on narrow coastal step)

Birds:  
Egyptian vulture  
*Neophron percnopterus*  
Osprey  
*Pandion haliaetus*  
Brown-necked raven  
*Corvus ruficollis*  
Palm dove  
*Streptopelia senegalensis*  
Arabian partridge  
*Alectoris melanocephala*  
Sand partridge  
*Ammoperdix heyi*  
Isabelline wheatear  
*Oenanthe isabellina*

Reptiles:  
Green turtles  
*Pristurus rupestris*

29/01  
Tiwi village area

Mammals:  
Leopard  
*Panthera pardus* (dropping about 2km into wadi)

Birds:  
Egyptian vulture (6)  
*Neophron percnopterus* (at rubbish dump)  
Indian roller  
*Coracias behghalensis*  
Grey heron  
*Ardea cinerea*  
Little egret  
*Egretta garzetta*  
Coot (2)  
*Fulica atra*  
Moorhen  
*Gallinula chloropus*  
Yellow-vented bulbul  
*Pycnonotus xanthopygos*

South-west of Sur (22° 18.92"N; 59° 17.65'E - WGS84)

Low hill country and plains; lightly wooded & shrubbed wadis.  
Birds:  
Egyptian vultures (5)  
*Neophron percnopterus*  
Griffon vulture (2)  
*Gyps fulvus*  
(As group circling low and within 100 metres but then rising and moving to the east)
30/01 Edge of Wahiba (21° 47.09'N; 58° 19.33'E- WGS84)

Birds:
Hoopoe lark Alaemon alaudipes

Reptiles:
“Sandfish” Scincus mitranus
Stenodactylus arabica (dead & partly eaten by ants but webbing between front toes distinctive.)

Side-winding tracks, probably Cerastes gasperetti

Low, eroded rock ridge surrounded by broad plains wadi at 21° 46.36'N; 58° 19.91E.
Mammals:
Red fox Vulpes vulpes (tracks)
Cape hare Lepus capensis (tracks)
Lesser jerboa Jaculus jaculus (tracks)

Birds:
Eagle owl Bubo bubo (amongst some pellet contents examined were remains of Lepus capensis.)
Black-crowned finch-lark Eremopterix nigriceps
Desert lark Ammomanes deserti
Desert wheatear Oenanthe deserti

Salt flats & associated shrubs, low salt/sandstone cliffs at 20° 38.64'N; 58° 13.20'E.
Mammals:
Red fox Vulpes vulpes (tracks)
Cape hare Lepus capensis (tracks)

Reptiles:
Pristurus minimus (voucher photographs; common)

Near Flim at 20° 38.08'N; 58° 11.25'E; edge of extensive sabkha flats.
Mammals:
Red fox Vulpes vulpes (tracks)

Birds:
Brown-necked raven Corvus ruficollis

Fish:
Aphanius dispar (small numbers in seepage pools from under low salt cliff)
Ras Abaana (20° 27.05'N; 58° 02.86'E – WGS84)

Low rocky sea cliff, extensive coastal sand flats and low dune-hummocks.

**Mammals:**
- Red fox *Vulpes vulpes* (tracks)
- Cape hare *Lepus capensis* (tracks)
- House rat *Rattus rattus*
- Lesser jerboa *Jaculus jaculus* (tracks)

**Birds:**
- Sooty gulls *Larus hemprichii*
- “Armenian” gulls
- Lesser black-backed gulls *Larus fuscus*
- Yellow-legged gulls *Larus “heuglini”*
- Western reef heron *Egretta gularis*
- Cattle egret (x1) *Bubulcus ibis*
- Little green heron *Butorides striatus*
- Grey heron *Ardea cinerea*
- Oystercatcher *Haematopus ostralegus*
- Turnstone *Arenaria interpres*

**Reptiles:**
- Acanthodactylus cf. schmidtii
- Messalina cf. adramitana
- Pristurus carteri (voucher photographs)
- Pristurus minimus (voucher photographs)
- Phrynocephalus arabicus (voucher photographs)

Oasis- pools in water course; fairly high salinity; rock steps; date palms, *Salvadora* & tall grass thicket.

**Mammal:**
- Red fox *Vulpes vulpes* (tracks)
- Lesser jerboa *Jaculus jaculus* (tracks)

**Bird:**
- Grey heron (I dead) *Ardea cinerea*
- Palm dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*

**Amphibian:**
- Dhofar toad (?) *Bufo dhufarensis (?)* (Although no specimen seen, distinctive toad tracks everywhere & this most likely species.)

**Fish:**
- *Aphanius dispar*

19° 53.97'N; 57° 40.99'E
Mammal:
Red fox  Vulpes vulpes (tracks)

Birds:
Chestnut-bellied sandgrouse Pterocles exustus
Desert lark Ammomanes deserti

Ras Sidral
Mammals:
Red fox  Vulpes vulpes (tracks)

Birds:
Western reef heron Egretta gularis
Grey heron Ardea cinerea
Lesser black-backed gull Larus fuscus
Great black-headed gull Larus ichthyaeus
Black-headed gull Larus ridibundus
Slender-billed gull Larus genei
Sooty gull Larus hemprichii
Curlew Numenius arquata
Oystercatcher Haematopus ostralegus

Reptiles:
Pristurus carteri (voucher photographs)
Pristurus minimus (voucher photographs)
Pristurus cf. ornithocephalus (?)
Messalina sp.

An Nafun  (19° 49.69’N; 57° 44.74’E WGS84)

Mammals:
Red fox  Vulpes vulpes (tracks)

Birds:
Lesser black-backed gull Larus fuscus
Herring gull-types Larus argentatus
Grey heron Ardea cinerea
Western reef heron Egretta gularis

Reptiles:
Pristurus carteri (voucher photographs)

02/02  19° 51.67’N; 57° 40.28’E
Mammals:
Red fox  Vulpes vulpes (dead on road)
Mammals:
Red fox \textit{Vulpes vulpes} (dead on road)
Arabian gazelle \textit{Gazella gazella} (horns of male under bush)

Reptiles:
\textit{Pristurus minimus}
\textit{Messalina cf. adramitana} (voucher photographs)
\textit{Messalina sp.} (Distinct striping; voucher photos)
Sand snake \textit{Psammophis schokeri} (hunting \textit{Messalina’s})

Khor Dhirif (Al Jawarah) 18° 56.26’N; 57° 20.60’E

Mammals:
Arabian gazelle \textit{Gazella gazella} (tracks & droppings)
Striped hyaena \textit{Hyaena hyaena}
Red fox \textit{Vulpes vulpes} (freshly dead specimen-poisoned?; numerous tracks, incl. on beach)
Honey badger \textit{Mellivora capensis} (clear tracks)
White-tailed mongoose \textit{Ichneumia albicauda} (tracks)
Caracal \textit{Felis caracal}

Birds:
Curlew \textit{Numenius arquata}
Greater flamingo \textit{Phoenicopterus ruber}
Grey heron \textit{Ardea cinerea}
Western reef heron \textit{Egretta gularis}
Shoveler \textit{Anas clypeata}
Black-bellied sandgrouse \textit{Pterocles orientalis}
Osprey \textit{Pandion haliaetus}
Sooty gull \textit{Larus hemprichii}
Lesser black-backed gull \textit{Larus fuscus}
Avocet \textit{Recurvirostra avosetta}
Greenshank \textit{Tringa nebularia}

Reptiles:
\textit{Pristurus rupestris} (voucher photographs)
\textit{Pseudotrapelus sinaitus} (voucher photographs)

18° 48.86’N; 56° 51.53’E

Mammals:
Arabian gazelle \textit{Gazella gazella} (1 male; 2 females)

18° 47.72’N; 56° 50.49’E - Grassy coastal plain, north of Kahl
Mammals:
Arabian gazelle  
*Gazella gazella* (1 male)

Reptiles:
Desert monitor  
*Varanus griseus* (two seen)

18° 29.48’N; 56° 37.76’E. Coastal plain, overlooking reef.

Mammals:
Red fox  
*Vulpes vulpes*

Birds:
Western reef heron  
*Egretta gularis*
Great white heron  
*Egretta alba*
Grey heron  
*Ardea cinerea*
Curlew  
*Numenius arquata*
Crab plover  
*Dromas ardeola*
Crested lark  
*Galerida cristata*

Reptiles:  
*Stenodactylus* sp. (voucher photographs)

03/02 Escarpment about 100m a.s.l.  18° 09.05’N; 56° 25.59’E

Mammals:
Arabian gazelle  
*Gazella gazella* (numerous tracks)
Red fox  
*Vulpes vulpes* (tracks)

Reptiles:  
*Pristurus cf. ornithocephalus* (voucher photos)
*Messalina* sp.

Wadi Hadyul  
17° 51.54’N; 54° 45.31’E & 17° 47.12N; 54° 48.52’E
Wide wadi system, gravel, surrounding plateaux; trees, bushes & shrubs along wadi edges.

Mammals:
Arabian gazelle  
*Gazella gazella* (1 male; 2 females seen; tracks throughout)
Red fox  
*Vulpes vulpes* (tracks)
Porcupine  
*Hystrix indica* (tracks, droppings- wadi edge & overhang)
Cape hare  
*Lepus capensis* (tracks)

Birds:
Chestnut-bellied sandgrouse  
*Pterocles exustus*
Little owl (x2)  
*Athene noctua*
Palm dove  
*Streptopelia senegalensis*

Brown-necked raven  
*Corvus ruficollis*

White-crowned black wheatear  
*Oenanthe leucopyga*

Reptiles:  
*Pristurus rupestris*

17° 08.86'N; 54° 31.96'E; hill country with sparse woodland; open & heavily grazed grassland.

(Cattle)

Birds:
Fan-tailed raven  
*Corvus rhipidurus*
Tristram’s grackle  
*Onychognathus tristramii*

**Khor Rawri**  
17° 02.70'N; 54° 25.77'E

Mammals:
Striped hyaena  
*Hyaena hyaena* (tracks-photos)
Red fox  
*Vulpes vulpes* (tracks)
White-tailed mongoose  
*Ichneumia albicauda* (tracks)
Genet  
*Genetta (felina) genetta* (tracks)
Porcupine  
*Hystrix indica* (tracks & droppings)

Birds:
Greater flamingo (c.40)  
*Phoenicopterus ruber*
Squacco heron (x3)  
*Ardeola ralloides*
Grey heron  
*Ardea cinerea*
Western reef heron  
*Egretta gularis*
Glossy ibis  
*Plegadis falcinellus*
Little grebe  
*Tachybaptus ruficollis*
Ferruginous duck  
*Aythya nyroca*
Goldeneye  
*Bucephala clangula*
Tufted duck  
*Aythya fuligula*
Pochard  
*Aythya ferina*
Wigeon  
*Anas penelope*
Garganey  
*Anas querquedula*
Pintail  
*Anas acuta*
Mallard  
*Anas platyrhynchos*
Coot  
*Fulica atra*
Moorhen  
*Gallinula chloropus*
Marsh sandpiper  
*Tringa stagnatilis*
Barn swallow  
*Hirundo rustica*
Little ringed plover  
*Charadrius dubius*
Curlew sandpiper  
*Calidris ferruginea*
Isabelline shrike  
*Lanius isabellinus*
Blackstart  
*Cercomela melanura*
Yellow wagtail  
*Motacilla flava*
Citrine wagtail  
Yellow-vented bulbul

Reptiles:

Pseudotrapelus sinaitus (voucher photographs)
Pristurus carteri (voucher photographs)
Pristurus cf. rupestris

Wadi Darbaat 17° 05’N; 54° 27’E
Numerous large fig & other trees; Commiphora's on steep surrounding slopes/

Birds:
Little green bee-eater  
Palm dove  
Yellow-vented bulbuls  
Blackstart  
Paradise flycatcher  
Rueppell’s weaver  
Bruce’s green pigeon  
Fan-tailed raven  
White-breasted white-eye

6-8/02. Rakhyut In deeply-walled, well wooded wadi- Commiphora dominated.

Mammals:
Rock hyrax  
Striped hyaena  
Wolf  
Genet  
Porcupine  
Egyptian spiny mouse  
Golden spiny mouse  
Nile grass rat

Note: this is the first record of this rodent for Oman.

Egyptian slit-faced bat

Birds:
Fan-tailed raven  
Tristram’s grackle  
Yellow-vented bulbul  
Cinnamon-breasted rock bunting  
Paradise flycatcher  
South Arabian wheatear  
Rufous bush-robin  
African rock martin  
Rock kestrel  
Senegal scops owl

Note: this is the first record of this rodent for Oman.
Palm dove *Streptopelia senegalensis*
Bruce’s green pigeon *Treron waalia*
Blackstart *Cercomela melanura*
Rock dove *Columba livia*
Black-headed bush-shrike *Tchagra senegala*
Lesser whitethroat *Sylvia curruca*
Arabian partridge *Alectoris melanocephala*
White-breasted white-eye *Zosterops abyssinica*
Shining sunbird *Nectarinia habessinica*

Reptiles:
Arabian chamaeleon *Chamaeleo arabica* (dried out carcass-photo)
Agama adramitana (voucher photograph)
*Pseudotrapelus sinaitus* (voucher photograph)
*Mabuya tesselata* (voucher photograph)
*Pristurus rupestris*

10/02 Near Qmafa 17° 59.43’N; 53° 09.80’E

Mammals:
Red fox *Vulpes vulpes* (tracks)
Cape hare *Lepus capensis* (tracks)
Lesser jerboa *Jaculus jaculus* (tracks)

Dawka irrigation scheme 18° 40.64’N; 54° 03.58’E

Birds:
Kestrel *Falco tinnunculus*
Hoopoe lark *Alaemon alaudipes*
Kentish plover *Charadrius alexandrinus*
Brown-necked raven *Corvus ruficollis*
Black-crowned finch-lark *Eremopterix nigriceps*
Desert wheatear *Oenanthe deserti*

11/02 20° 34.25’N; 56° 00.23’E
Open gravel flats; with road working earth mounds

Little owl *Athene noctua* (Birds seen and 16 pellets sampled)

Ramlat bin Anaws 20° 45.73’N; 56° 23.64’E
Sand dunes, adjacent gravel/sand flats/inter-dune valleys.

Mammals:
Cape hare *Lepus capensis* (tracks)
Rueppell’s fox *Vulpes rueppelli* (tracks)
Arabian gazelle *Gazella gazella* (tracks)
Numerous tracks of unidentified gerbils and jirds.
Birds:
Brown-necked raven       Corvus ruficollis
Spotted sandgrouse       Pterocles senegallus
Desert wheatear          Oenanthe deserti

Reptiles:
      Phrynocephalus arabica (voucher photographs)
      Scincus mitranus

12/02     Hanar ad Durn          22° 38.70'N; 56° 54.14'E

Birds:
Lichtenstein’s sandgrouse       Pterocles lichtensteinii
Purple sunbird                  Nectarinia asiatica
Little owl                      Athene noctua
Palm dove                       Streptopelia senegalensis