

**MATOBO CONSERVATION SOCIETY**  
**CHECKLIST FOR THE MAMMALS OF THE MATOBO HILLS**



**APPRECIATION**

This material was prepared by the MATOBO CONSERVATION SOCIETY  
 from chapter 14 of the book  
**“THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MATOBO HILLS” ISBN 978-0-7974-9815-0**  
 with the approval of the  
 NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM OF ZIMBABWE

The Matobo Conservation Society, a registered Welfare organisation, is committed to the conservation, appreciation and sustainable use of the natural and cultural resources within the Matobo Hills region. For more information (a) on this brochure and (b) the book “THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE MATOBO HILLS”, write to: The Matobo Conservation Society, PO Box FM 648, Famona, Bulawayo or email [matoboconservationsociety@gmail.com](mailto:matoboconservationsociety@gmail.com)

**INTRODUCTION**

Compiled by MJ FitzPatrick & FPD Cotterill  
 Sketches were done by Jenny Whalley

The most iconic species in the Matobo World Heritage Site are the white and black rhinoceros. There is rock art evidence that they existed in this area thousands of years ago. No-one knows when they moved away, but there were no rhinoceros when the national park was proclaimed. They were re-introduced in the 1950’s with stock from Natal in South Africa, and added to in the 1960’s with Rupert (named after Rupert Fothergill of Operation Noah) and Sally, an orphaned black rhinoceros from Hwange Game Reserve. Now their progeny are highly protected within the Matobo National Park. The Matobo rhino experience has been rated as second only to the gorilla experience. Other iconic species are the klipspringer, who thrives in this terrain, the difficult-to-see leopard and the dassies which form an important part of the diet of the black eagle.



Taxonomy and nomenclature of this checklist follow the *Mammals of Africa* (2013) with additions. The classification of living mammals continues to undergo major revision as species are reclassified at the genomic level and use of DNA evidence reveals hitherto unrecognised species, even large antelopes. The most radical change within the past two decades has been the recognition of SuperOrder Afrotheria (antbear, hyraxes, elephants, elephant-shrews and allies). Not only the older literature but also current field guides do not reflect many of these changes.

Family	Scientific Name	Common Name	Your Notes
<b>INSECTIVORA</b>			
Soricidae	<i>Crociodura cyanea</i>	Reddish-gray Musk Shrew	
	<i>C. silacea</i>	Lesser Gray-brown Musk Shrew	
	<i>C. hirta</i>	Lesser Red Musk Shrew	
	<i>C. maquassiensis</i>	Makwassie Musk Shrew	
	<i>C. fuscomurina</i>	Tiny Musk Shrew	
Erinacidae	<i>Atelerix frontalis</i>	Southern African Hedgehog	

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<b>CHIROPTERA</b>			
Pteropidae	<i>Epomophorus crypturus</i>	Peters's Epauletted Fruit Bat	
	<i>E. wahlbergi</i>	Wahlberg's Epauletted Fruit Bat	
	<i>Eidolon helvum</i>	Straw-coloured Fruit Bat	
	<i>Rousettus aegyptiacus</i>	Egyptian Fruit Bat	
<b>MICROCHIROPTERA</b>			
Emballonuridae	<i>Taphozous mauritanus</i>	Mauritian Tomb Bat	
	<i>T. perforatus</i>	Egyptian Tomb Bat	
Nycteridae	<i>Nycteris thebaica</i>	Egyptian Slit-faced Bat	
	<i>N. woodi</i>	Wood's Slit-faced Bat	
Rhinolophidae	<i>Rhinolophus blasii</i>	Blasius's Horseshoe Bat	
	<i>R. clivosus</i>	Geoffroy's Horseshoe Bat	
	<i>R. darlingi</i>	Darling's Horseshoe Bat	
	<i>R. lobatus</i>	Peter's Horseshoe Bat	
	<i>R. mossambicus</i>	Mozambique Horseshoe Bat	
	<i>R. smithersi</i>	Smithers's Horseshoe Bat	
Hipposideridae	<i>Hipposideros caffer</i>	Sundevall's Roundleaf Bat	
	<i>Hipposideros vittatus</i>	Striped Leaf-nosed Bat	
Vespertilionidae	<i>Miniopterus schreibersii</i>	Schreiber's Long-fingered Bat	
	<i>Myotis tricolor</i>	Temminck's Hairy Bat	
	<i>Neoromicia capensis</i>	Cape Serotine	
	<i>N. somalica</i>	Somali Serotine	
	<i>Laephotis botswanae</i>	Botswana Long-eared Bat	
	<i>Eptesicus hottentotus</i>	Long-tailed Serotine Bat	
	<i>Scotophilus dinganii</i>	African Yellow Bat	
Molossidae	<i>Nycticeinops schlieffeni</i>	Schlieffen's Bat	
	<i>Sauromys petrophilus</i>	Roberts' Flat-headed Bat	
	<i>Tadarida aegyptiaca</i>	Egyptian Free-tailed Bat	
<b>PRIMATA</b>			
Lorisidae	<i>Galago moholi</i>	Southern Lesser Bushbaby / Night ape	
	<i>Otolemur crassicaudatus</i>	Thick-tailed Bushbaby	
Cercopithecidae	<i>Papio griseipes</i>	Gray-footed (Chacma) Baboon	
	<i>Chlorocebus aethiops</i>	Green Monkey (Vervet Monkey)	
<b>CARNIVORA</b>			
Canidae	<i>Lycaon pictus</i>	African Wild Dog	
	<i>Canis adustus</i>	Side-striped Jackal	
	<i>C. mesomelas</i>	Black-backed Jackal	
Mustelidae	<i>Aonyx capensis</i>	African Clawless Otter	
	<i>Mellivora capensis</i>	Honey Badger	
	<i>Ictonyx striatus</i>	Striped Polecat	
Viverridae	<i>Civettictis civetta</i>	Civet	
	<i>Genetta genetta</i>	Small-spotted Genet	
	<i>G. maculata</i>	Common Large-spotted Genet	
Herpestidae	<i>Paracynictis selousi</i>	Selous' Mongoose	
	<i>Galerella sanguinea guinea</i>	Slender Mongoose	
	<i>Rhynchogale melleri</i>	Meller's Mongoose	
	<i>Ichneumia albicauda</i>	White-tailed Mongoose	
	<i>Mungos mungo</i>	Banded Mongoose	
	<i>Helogale parvula</i>	Common Dwarf Mongoose	
Protelidae	<i>Proteles cristata</i>	Aardwolf	
Hyaenidae	<i>Hyaena brunnea</i>	Brown Hyaena	
	<i>Crocuta crocuta</i>	Spotted Hyaena	
Felidae	<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>	Cheetah	

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	<i>Caracal caracal</i>	Caracal	
	<i>Leptailurus serval</i>	Serval	
	<i>Felis silvestris cafra</i>	Southern African Wildcat	
	<i>Panthera pardus</i>	Leopard	
<b>PERISSODACTYLA</b>			
Rhinocerotidae	<i>Ceratotherium simum</i>	White Rhinoceros	
	<i>Diceros bicornis</i>	Black Rhinoceros	
Equidae	<i>Equus quagga</i>	Burchell's Zebra	
<b>PROBOSCIDEA</b>			
Elephantidae	<i>Loxodonta africana</i>	Elephant	Rare Visitor
Macroscelididae	<i>Elephantulus brachyrhynchus</i>	Short-snouted Elephant Shrew	
	<i>Elephantulus myurus</i>	Eastern Rock Elephant Shrew	
<b>HYRADOCEA</b>			
Procaviidae	<i>Procavia capensis</i>	Rock Hyrax (Dassie)	
	<i>Heterohyrax brucei</i>	Yellow-spotted Rock Hyrax (Dassie)	
<b>TUBULIDENTATA</b>			
Orycteropodidae	<i>Orycteropus afer</i>	Antbear	
<b>ARTIODACTYLA</b>			
Suidae	<i>Potamochoerus larvatus</i>	Bushpig	
	<i>Phacochoerus africanus</i>	Common Warthog	
Hippopotamidae	<i>Hippopotamus amphibious</i>	Hippopotamus	
Giraffidae	<i>Giraffa camelopardalis</i>	Giraffe	
Bovidae	<i>Connochaetes taurinus</i>	Blue Wildebeest	
	<i>Damaliscus lunatus</i>	Common Tsessebe	
	<i>Sylvicapra grimmia</i>	Common Duiker	
	<i>Oreotragus oreotragus</i>	Klipspringer	
	<i>Raphicerus campestris</i>	Steenbok	
	<i>Aepyceros melampus</i>	Impala	
	<i>Hippotragus niger</i>	Sable Antelope	
	<i>Oryx gazella</i>	Gemsbok	Extremely Rare Visitor
	<i>Syncerus caffer</i>	African Buffalo	Removed from National Park, due to Foot & Mouth
	<i>Tragelaphus sylvaticus</i>	Bushbuck	
	<i>T. strepsiceros</i>	Greater Kudu	
	<i>Taurotragus oryx</i>	Common Eland	
	<i>Redunca arundinum</i>	Southern Reedbuck	
	<i>Kobus ellipsiprymnus</i>	Waterbuck	
<b>PHOLIDOTA</b>			
Manidae	<i>Manis temminckii</i>	Ground Pangolin	
<b>RODENTIA</b>			
Scuridae	<i>Paraxerus cepapi</i>	Smith's Bush Squirrel	
Pededitae	<i>Pedetes capensis</i>	South African Springhare	
Hystricidae	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis</i>	Porcupine	
Thryonomyidae	<i>Thrynomys swinderianus</i>	Greater Cane Rat	
Bathyergida	<i>Cryptomys nimrodi</i>	Matabele Mole-rat	
Muridae	<i>Otomys angoniensis</i>	Angoni Vlei Rat	
	<i>Gerbilliscus leucogaster</i>	Bushveld Gerbil	
	<i>Cricetomys gambianus</i>	African Giant Pouched Rat	
	<i>Saccostomus campestris</i>	South African Pouched Mouse	
	<i>Dendromus melanotis</i>	Gray Climbing Mouse	
	<i>Steatomys pratensis</i>	Fat Mouse	
	<i>Acomys spinosissimus</i>	South African Spiny Mouse	
	<i>Lemniscomys rosalia</i>	Single-striped Grass Mouse	
	<i>Dasymys incommisus</i>	African Marsh Rat	
	<i>Mus minutoides</i>	African Pygmy Mouse	
	<i>Mastomys natalensis</i>	Natal Multimammate Mouse	
	<i>coucha</i>	Southern Multimammate Mouse	

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	<i>Thallomys paedulus</i>	Acacia Rat	
	<i>Aethomys chrysophilus</i>	Red Veld Rat	
	<i>A. namaquensis</i>	Namaqua Rock Rat	
	<i>Rattus rattus</i>	House Rat	
	<i>Graphiurus platyops</i>	Rock Dormouse	
	<i>G. murinus</i>	Woodland Dormouse	
<b>LAGOMORPHA</b>			
Leporidae	<i>Lepus saxatilis</i>	Scrub Hare	
	<i>Pronolagus randensis</i>	Jameson's Red Rock Rabbit	