

Kirstenhof and Environs Residents' Association

E-mail Address: info@kera.org.za

LOWER WESTLAKE & KEYSERS RIVER GREENBELTS SPECIES LIST

Contributors:

- 1 Tim Kirsten (local resident), March 2022
- 2 Cape Bird Club, annual visits during 2023-2026
- 3 KERA-facilitated Bird Walks

RESIDENTS AND VISITORS TO THE GREENBELTS: Please note that this list will be regularly updated. We would, therefore, appreciate any sightings of species not included herein being communicated via Info@kera.org.za * so that we can include new species sighted in our catchment environment.

NOTE: The greenbelts extend from the culvert at the M3 highway downstream to where the river meets the Keyzers River and enters the Zandvlei water body at Frogmore Estate. It also includes the duck pond located at the Katie Martin Road cul de sac.

The following Friends groups are actively involved in the stewardship of these river courses and the duck pond – The Friends of Kirstenhof Wetland, the Friends of Orchard Village Waterways, and the Friends of Frogmore Wetlands.

*KERA is maintaining the list on behalf of all the river stake-holders.

1. Mammals, reptiles, amphibians and fish

Common name	Scientific name
Mammals	
Southern porcupine	<i>Hystrix africaeaustralis ssp. africaeaustralis</i>
Cape dune mole rat	<i>Bathyergus suillus</i>
Eastern grey squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
Rat	<i>Rattus sp.</i>
Reptiles	
Cape dwarf chameleon	<i>Bradypodion pumilum</i>
Amphibians	
Western leopard toad	<i>Sclerophrys pantherina</i>
Cape river frog	<i>Amietia fuscigula</i>
Painted reed frog	<i>Hyperolius marmoratus</i>
Fish	
Mozambique tilapia	

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Galaxia
Carp species
Bass?
Total species: 11

Galaxia sp.?
Subfamily Cyprininae
?

2. Birds

Common name	Scientific name
Egyptian goose	<i>Alopochen aegyptiaca</i>
Haded ibis	<i>Bostrychia hagedash</i>
African sacred ibis	<i>Threskiornis aethiopicus</i>
Yellow-billed duck	<i>Anas undulata</i>
Common moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus</i>
Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis</i>
Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta</i>
Reed cormorant	<i>Microcarbo africanus</i>
African darter	<i>Anhinga rufa</i>
Grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea</i>
Black-headed heron	<i>Ardea melanocephala</i>
Helmeted guineafowl	<i>Numida meleagris</i>
African spoonbill	<i>Platalea alba</i>
Southern masked weaver	<i>Ploceus velatus</i>
Cape weaver	<i>Ploceus capensis</i>
Southern fiscal shrike/ butcher bird	<i>Lanius collaris</i>
Levaillant's cisticola	<i>Cisticola tinniens</i>
White-throated swallow	<i>Hirundo albigularis</i>
Cape bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus capensis</i>
Common starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Red-winged starling	<i>Onychognathus morio</i>
White-backed mousebird	<i>Colius colius</i>
Common waxbill	<i>Estrilda astrild</i>
Little rush warbler	<i>Bradypterus baboecala</i>
Laughing dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis</i>
Red-eyed dove	<i>Streptopelia semitorquata</i>
Cape turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia capicola</i>
Malachite kingfisher	<i>Corythornis cristatus</i>
Black sparrowhawk	<i>Accipiter melanoleucus</i>
Pied crow	<i>Corvus albus</i>
Total species: 30	

3. Invertebrates

Common name	Scientific name	Native or introduced
Insects (Insecta)		
<u>Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies)</u>		
Marsh bluetail	<i>Ischnura senegalensis</i>	Native
Common citril	<i>Ceragrion glabrum</i>	Native

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Cape Julia skimmer	<i>Orthetrum Julia capicola</i>	Native
Broad scarlet	<i>Crocothemis erythraea</i>	Native
Nomad	<i>Sympetrum fonscolombii</i>	Native
Friendly hawk	<i>Zosterateschna minuscula</i>	Native
Blue emperor	<i>Anax imperator</i>	Native
<u>Beetles (Coleoptera)</u>		
White-spotted fruit chafer	<i>Mausoleopsis amabilis</i>	Native
Common dotted fruit chafer	<i>Oxythyrea marginalis</i>	Native
Orange small fruit chafer	<i>Leucocelis rubra</i>	Native
Sulfurous lady beetle	<i>Cheilomenes sulphurea</i>	Native
Variegated fungus-eating lady beetle	<i>Psyllobora variegata</i>	Native
Cape flatface rhino beetle	<i>Temnorhynchus retusus</i>	Native
Parrot's feather leaf beetle	<i>Lysathia</i> sp.	Native
Monkey beetles	Tribe Hopliini	Native
Checkered beetles	Family Cleridae	Unknown
N/A	<i>Lema chalcopetra</i>	Native
[Ladybird species]	<i>Lioadalia flavomaculata</i>	Native
[Tortoise and hispine beetle species]	<i>Aspidimorpha quadriremis</i>	Native
<u>True bugs (Hemiptera)</u>		
Red bug	<i>Cenaesus carnifex</i>	Native
Spotted red spittlebug*	<i>Locris arithmetica</i>	Native
Green stinkbug	<i>Nezara viridula</i>	Introduced
Grass stinkbug	<i>Veterna</i> sp.	Native
Variegated coffee bug	<i>Antestiopsis</i> sp.	Native
Giant water bug	Family Belostomatidae	Unknown
[Shieldbug species]	Tribe Halyini	Unknown
[Water boatman species]	Family Corixoidea	Unknown
<u>Butterflies and moths (Lepidoptera)</u>		
Christmas butterfly	<i>Papilio demodocus demodocus</i>	Native
Heady maiden	<i>Amata cerbera</i>	Native
Garden Acraea	<i>Acraea horta</i>	Native
Painted lady	<i>Vanessa cardui</i>	Native
Crimson speckle footman	<i>Utetheisa pulchella</i>	Native
Sooty blue	<i>Zizeeria knysna</i>	Native
Clouded yellow	<i>Colias</i> sp.	Native
Cape lappet moth	<i>Eutricha capensis</i>	Native
<u>Bees, wasps, ants and sawflies Hymenoptera)</u>		
Western honey bee	<i>Apis mellifera</i>	Native
European beewolf	<i>Philanthus triangulum</i>	Native
Common harvester ant	<i>Messor capensis</i>	Native
[Bee species]	<i>Allodape</i> sp.	Unknown
[Solitary wasp species]	Subfamily Astatinae	Unknown
<u>Grasshoppers, crickets and katydids (Orthoptera)</u>		
[Short-horned grasshopper species]	Family Acrididae	Unknown
<u>Diptera (flies)</u>		
[Lagoon fly species]	<i>Eristalinus</i> sp.	Unknown
[Drone fly species]	<i>Syrphia</i> sp.	Unknown
[House fly species]	Family Muscidae	Unknown
[Robber fly species]	<i>Ancylorhynchus</i> sp.	Unknown
<u>Spiders and ticks (Arachnida)</u>		
Vlieëvanger	<i>Menemerus bivittatus</i>	Native

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Bandyleg fisheating spider**	<i>Nilus curtus</i>	Native
[Other fisheating spider species]	<i>Nilus</i>	Native
Banded garden orbweaver	<i>Argiope trifasciata</i>	Introduced
[Golden orbweaver species]	Subfamily Nephilinae	Native
[Tick species]	Order Ixodida	Unknown
Crustaceans (Crustacea)		
Western Cape river crab	<i>Potamonautes perlatus</i>	Native
Snails (Gastropoda)		
[Helicoid land snail species]	Superfamily Helicoidea	Unknown

Total species: 53

*Only other observations of this species in Cape Town on iNaturalist are in Keurboom Park, Rondebosch

**Only observed location in Cape Town on iNaturalist

4. Flora

Common name	Scientific name	Status
Trees		
Weeping willow	<i>Salix babylonica</i>	Acceptable non-native
Waterberry	<i>Syzygium cordatum</i>	Native
Sagewood	<i>Buddleja salviifolia</i>	Native
Madagascar buddleia	<i>Buddleja madagascariensis</i>	Introduced
Coast silver oak	<i>Brachylaena discolor</i>	Native
Milkwood	<i>Sideroxylon inerme inerme</i>	Native
Cape beech	<i>Rapanea melanophloeos</i>	Native
Coastal camphorbrush	<i>Tarchonanthus littoralis</i>	Native
African plum	<i>Harpephyllum caffrum</i>	Native
Balloon plant	<i>Gomphocarpus physocarpus</i>	Native
Eastern cottonwood	<i>Populus deltoides</i>	Acceptable non-native
Grey poplar	<i>Populus × Canescens</i>	Acceptable non-native
Port Jackson wattle	<i>Acacia saligna</i>	Invasive
Longleaf wattle	<i>Acacia longifolia</i>	Invasive
Stinkbean	<i>Paraserianthes lophantha</i>	Invasive
Scarlet sesbane	<i>Sesbania punicea</i>	Invasive
European black elderberry	<i>Sambucus nigra</i>	Invasive
Brazilian pepper	<i>Schinus terebinthifolia</i>	Invasive
Bottlebrush	<i>Melaleuca</i> (formerly <i>Callistemon</i>)	Invasive
Inkberry	<i>Cestrum laevigatum</i>	Invasive
Common fig	<i>Ficus carica</i>	Invasive
Syringa	<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Invasive
Castor bean	<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Invasive
Silver dollar gum	<i>Eucalyptus cinerea</i>	Introduced
Bottlebrush	<i>Callistemon</i> sp.	Introduced
Beefwood	<i>Casuarina cunninghamiana</i>	Introduced
Red Pear	<i>Scolopia mundii</i>	
Cape Ash	<i>Ekebergia capensis</i>	
Shrubs, herbs, forbs and bulbs		
Pinnate fountainbush	<i>Psoralea pinnata</i>	Native

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September falsepea	<i>Polygala myrtifolia</i>	Native
Common arum lily	<i>Zantedeschia aethiopica</i>	Native
Blombos	<i>Metalsia</i> sp.	Native
Tobacco ragwort	<i>Senecio halimifolius</i>	Native
Bietou	<i>Osteospermum moniliferum</i>	Native
Dagga plant/ common lionspaw	<i>Leonotis leonuris</i>	Native
Common storksbill	<i>Pelargonium capitatum</i>	Native
Hooded storksbill	<i>Pelargonium cucullatum</i>	Native
Rocket butterfly lily	<i>Wachendorfia thyrsiflora</i>	Native
Divided kanniedood	<i>Athanasia crithmifolia</i>	Native
Gardenroute ragwort	<i>Senecio pterophorus</i>	Native
Longleaf river caperose	<i>Cliffortia longifolia</i>	Native
Edible sourfig	<i>Carpobrotus edulis</i>	Native
Everlasting species	<i>Helichrysum</i>	Native
Brown sage	<i>Salvia aurea</i>	Native
Rough blue sage	<i>Salvia chamelaeagnea</i>	Native
Golden true-eye	<i>Euryops chrysanthemoides</i>	Native
Common Cape spinach	<i>Trachyandra ciliata</i>	Native
Hard ragwort	<i>Senecio rigidus</i>	Native
Heath hardleaf	<i>Phyllica ericoides</i>	Native
Kill ragwort	<i>Senecio burchellii</i>	
Paterson's curse	<i>Echium plantagineum</i>	Introduced *
Brambles	<i>Rubus</i> sp.	Unknown
Climbing dayflower	<i>Commelina diffusa</i>	Native
Jointed charlock	<i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i>	Introduced
Capweed	<i>Arctotheca calendula</i>	Native
Bristle oxtongue	<i>Helminthotheca echioides</i>	Introduced
Bull thistle	<i>Cirsium vulgare</i>	Introduced
Ribwort plantain	<i>Plantago lanceolata</i>	Introduced
Greater plantain	<i>Plantago major</i>	
Nasturtium	<i>Tropaeolum majus</i>	Introduced
Purple morning glory	<i>Ipomoea indica</i>	Introduced
Tomato	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	Introduced
Virginia creeper	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i>	Introduced
Common vetch	<i>Vicia sativa</i>	Unknown
Hairy vetch	<i>Vicia hirsuta</i>	
Woolly pod vetch	<i>Vicia eriocarpa</i>	
Yellow vetch	<i>Vicia lutea</i>	
White clover	<i>Trifolium repens</i>	Introduced
Geraldton carnation weed	<i>Euphorbia terracina</i>	Introduced
Slender knotweed	<i>Persicaria decipiens</i>	Native
Pale smartweed	<i>Persicaria lapathifolia</i>	Introduced
Hairy wild lettuce	<i>Hypochaeris radicata</i>	Introduced
Perennial wall-rocket	<i>Diplotaxis tenuifolia</i>	Introduced
Madeira vine	<i>Anredera cordifolia</i>	Introduced
Curled dock	<i>Rumex crispus</i>	Unknown
Swamp dock	<i>Rumex verticillatus</i>	
Common thornapple	<i>Datura stramonium</i>	Introduced
Greater periwinkle	<i>Vinca major</i>	
Small melilot	<i>Melilotus indicus</i>	Introduced
Cheeseweed mallow	<i>Malva parviflora</i>	



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White turban buttons	<i>Cotula turbinata</i>	Native
Krantz aloe	<i>Aloe arborescens</i>	Native
Wall flume	<i>Fumaria muralis</i>	
India shot	<i>Canna indica</i>	Introduced
Fennel	<i>Foeniculum vulgare</i>	Introduced
Prickly lettuce	<i>Lactuca serriola</i>	
Cabbage/mustard species	<i>Brassica</i> sp.	
Common chickweed	<i>Stellaria media</i>	
Mint species	<i>Mentha</i> sp.	Unknown
Wild radish	<i>Raphanus sativus</i>	
European yellow lupine	<i>Lupinus luteus</i>	Introduced
Narrow-leaved lupine	<i>Lupinus angustifolius</i>	Introduced
Summer snowflake	<i>Leucojum aestivum</i>	Introduced
African flag	<i>Chasmanthe floribunda</i>	Native
Cobra lily	<i>Chasmanthe aethiopica</i>	Native
White mulberry	<i>Morus alba</i>	Introduced
Common mallow	<i>Malva sylvestris</i>	
Square-stemmed willow herb	<i>Epilobium tetragonum</i>	
Black medick	<i>Medicago lupulina</i>	
Little robin	<i>Geranium purpureum</i>	
Carrot species	<i>Apium</i> sp.	Unknown
Brightfig	<i>Lampranthus</i> sp.	Native
Felicia	<i>Felicia</i> sp.	Native
March lily	<i>Amaryllis belladonna</i>	Native
Common evening primrose	<i>Oenothera biennis</i>	
Clockweed	<i>Oenothera lindheimeri</i>	
Devil's thorn	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i>	
Changing forget-me-not	<i>Myosotis discolor</i>	
Rain daisy	<i>Dimorphotheca</i> sp.	Native
Tropical horseweed	<i>Erigeron sumatrensis</i>	Introduced
Prostrate knotweed	<i>Polygonum aviculare</i>	
Black nightshade	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	
Dainty tamarak	<i>Albuca cooperi</i>	Native
Hairy bird's foot trefoil	<i>Lotus subbiflorus</i>	Introduced
White goosefoot	<i>Chenopodium album</i>	Introduced
Common slangbush	<i>Seriphium plumosum</i>	Native
Common cape spinach	<i>Trachyandra ciliata</i>	Native
Grasses, sedges and restios		
Perennial ryegrass	<i>Lolium perenne</i>	Introduced
Yorkshire fog	<i>Holcus lanatus</i>	Unknown
Kikuyu grass	<i>Cenchrus clandestinus</i>	Introduced
Quick grass	<i>Cynodon dactylon</i>	Native
Paspalum grass	<i>Paspalum</i> sp.	Unknown
Wild oat	<i>Avena fatua</i>	Introduced
Great brome	<i>Bromus diandrus</i>	
Rabbitfoot grass	<i>Polypogon monspeliensis</i>	
Antelope grass	<i>Echinochloa pyramidalis</i>	
Fountain grass	<i>Pennisetum setaceum/ villosum</i>	
Mat sedge	<i>Cyperus textilis</i>	Native
Sea clubrush	<i>Bolboschoenus maritimus</i>	Native
Sweet galingale	<i>Cyperus longus</i>	Native

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Papyrus	<i>Cyperus papyrus</i>	Native
[Sedge species]	<i>Cyperus dives</i>	Native
[Sedge species]	<i>Cyperus nitidus</i>	Native
[Rush species]	<i>Juncus sp.</i>	
Slender club rush	<i>Isolepis cernua</i>	
Budding club rush	<i>Isolepis prolifera</i>	
Stembract clubrush	<i>Ficinia nodosa</i>	
Goldreed restio	<i>Elegia sp.</i>	Native
Reeds		
Cape bulrush	<i>Typhus capensis</i>	Native
Giant reed	<i>Arundo donax</i>	Introduced
Common reed	<i>Phragmites australis</i>	Native
Aquatic		
Watercress	<i>Nasturtium officinale</i>	Invasive
Pickeralweed	<i>Pontederia cordata</i>	Introduced
Parrot's feather	<i>Myriophyllum aquaticum</i>	Invasive
European water plantain	<i>Alisma plantago-aquatica</i>	Introduced
Yellow waterlily	<i>Nymphaea mexicana</i>	Introduced
Yellow iris	<i>Iris pseudacorus</i>	Invasive
Duckweed	<i>Lemna sp.</i>	
Common waterweed	<i>Elodea canadensis</i>	Invasive
Coontail	<i>Ceratophyllum demersum</i>	Native
Utricularia floridana (2026)		
Water Lettuce 2026		
Ferns		
Bread fern	<i>Hypolepis sp.</i>	Unknown
Brake fern	<i>Pteris sp.</i>	
Australian tree fern	<i>Cyathea cooperi</i>	
Fungus and lichen		
Wolhaar inkmus	<i>Coprinus comatus</i>	Unknown
Common ink cap	<i>Coprinopsis atramentaria</i>	Unknown
Magpie ink cap	<i>Coprinopsis picacea</i>	Unknown
Chicken of the woods	<i>Laetiporus sulphureus</i>	Unknown
Splitgill Mushroom	<i>Schizophyllum commune</i>	Unknown
Common sunburst lichen	<i>Xanthoria parietina</i>	Unknown
Total of all plants, fungus and lichen: 159		

Total of all animal, plant and fungus species so far observed on the wetlands: 253

*Introduced means it is not native but is not necessarily invasive, as far as I can tell, i.e. they are weedy, but they don't have to be removed; a lot of them still provide flowers for native pollinators.

In recent years, the **Cape Bird Club (CBC)** has included Kirstenhof's Greenbelt as a venue for their monthly bird-sighting walks. The sightings are tabulated below to reveal regular bird sightings versus

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infrequent bird visitors. These sightings include birds seen in the trees, reed beds, duck pond, river, and flying overhead, as well as birds heard but not sighted.

The bird walk convened by KERA was kindly guided by Keith Valentine, a bird guide, who lives locally.

SPECIES		Jan 2023 CBC	March 2024 KERA	May 2025 CBC	May 2026 CBC
1	Pied Crow	✓	✓	✓	✓
2	Hadada Ibis	✓	✓	✓	✓
3	African Sacred Ibis	✓	✓	✓	✓
4	Greater Striped Swallow		✓		
5	White-throated Swallow	✓			
6	Barn swallow		✓		
7	Little Swift		✓		
8	Cape Wagtail			✓	
9	Olive Thrush		✓	✓	✓
10	Levaillant's Cisticola	✓	✓	✓	✓
11	Pin-tailed Whydah		✓		
12	Speckled Mousebird		✓		
13	White-backed Mousebird	✓		✓	✓
14	Red-faced Mousebird	✓	✓	✓	✓
15	Brimstone Canary	✓			
16	Cape Canary	✓		✓	✓
17	Cape Bulbul	✓	✓	✓	✓
18	Sombre Greenbul		✓		
19	Southern Fiscal Shrike	✓	✓	✓	✓
20	Common Waxbill	✓	✓	✓	✓
21	Southern Masked Weaver	✓		✓	✓
22	Cape Weaver			✓	✓
23	Cape White-eye	✓		✓	
24	Common Starling	✓	✓	✓	✓
25	Red-winged Starling	✓	✓	✓	✓
26	Speckled Pigeon			✓	✓
27	Ring-necked Dove	✓			
28	Laughing Dove	✓	✓	✓	✓
29	Red-eyed Dove		✓	✓	✓
30	Rock Dove			✓	
31	Cape Sparrow	✓	✓	✓	✓
32	Cape Robin-Chat	✓	✓	✓	✓
33	Cape White-eye		✓		✓
34	Karoo Prinia			✓	✓
35	Southern Double-collared Sunbird		✓	✓	✓
36	Malachite Sunbird			✓	
37	Amethyst Sunbird			✓	
38	African Harrier-Hawk	✓			
39	Black Sparrowhawk		✓		✓



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40	Rufous-breasted Sparrowhawk		✓			
41	Jackal Buzzard		✓			
42	Malachite Kingfisher		✓			
43	African Darter	✓	✓	✓	✓	
44	Egyptian Goose		✓	✓	✓	
45	Spur-wing Goose		✓	✓	✓	
46	Common Moorhen	✓		✓	✓	
47	Cape Moorhen		✓			
48	Yellow-billed Duck	✓	✓	✓	✓	
49	Reed Cormorant	✓		✓		
50	White-breasted Cormorant		✓	✓		
51	Red knobbed Coot		✓	✓	✓	
52	Lesser Swamp Warbler	✓	✓	✓		
53	Little Rush Warbler	✓		✓		
54	Western Cattle Egret			✓		
55	Purple Heron			✓		
56	Black-headed Heron			✓		
57	Grey Heron					✓