



SUNDAY OUTING - APRIL 26th

- NORTHERN FARM – 07h00

Northern Farm is a working cattle farm and also a proclaimed nature reserve, approximately 2500ha in size and about a 1/2 hour drive from Sandton. There are several dams on the property, which has a bird list of over 200 species. Although the reserve is a popular cycling venue and usually has a large number of cyclists present over weekends, there is still good birding to be had.

It is not a pristine area by any means, but the mixture of cattle pastures and pens, grassland, dams and wetland areas produce interesting birding with a number of specials. The bird list includes Red-chested Flufftail, Cape Grassbird, Yellow Wagtail, Orange-breasted Waxbill and Northern Black Korhaan. On a recent visit there I saw a Marsh Owl hunting over the grassland - the Marsh Owl is apparently a regular resident and breeding bird at Northern Farm.

The outing will be a mixture of driving and walking, and we should be out for about 3 - 4 hours. The roads are dirt and probably best negotiated in high-clearance vehicles. When we meet in the parking lot, we can consolidate into fewer vehicles.

We will meet at the bottom end of the parking lot at 07h00, where we can consolidate into fewer vehicles before we set off by 07h15. There is an entrance fee of R50.00 per person.

(Payable to me - I have a multi-entrance ticket which reduces the entry fee per person, and means we don't all have to queue to buy tickets). Bring along some tea/coffee, rusks/sandwiches etc.

Directions from Jhb:

- Head north along the R511 towards Fourways Shopping Centre.
- Turn left onto the R564 Witkoppen Road and take the first right into Cedar Road.
- Travel approximately 11 kilometers until you reach a T-junction.
- Turn right at the junction onto the R114 and travel for approximately 6 to 8 km.



• Turn left onto a dirt road (Falkirk Road) and immediately left again to the entrance of Northern Farm.

• The entrance is on the right. As you go through the gate, there is a boom ahead and a road angling off to the right before the boom. Take the road to the right; it will curve back. At the T-junction (now past the boom), turn right and then veer right again into the parking lot. We will meet at the bottom end of the parking lot.

GPS co-ordinates : -25.936878, 27.988022

Please let Bev Williams know if you will be attending Email Bev, bevjwil@gmail.com