



Universiteit
Leiden

The Netherlands

Raptors in changing West African savannas : the impact of anthropogenic land transformation on populations of Palearctic and Afrotropical raptors in northern Cameroon

Buij, R.

Citation

Buij, R. (2013, January 24). *Raptors in changing West African savannas : the impact of anthropogenic land transformation on populations of Palearctic and Afrotropical raptors in northern Cameroon*. Retrieved from <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/20446>

Version: Not Applicable (or Unknown)

License: [Leiden University Non-exclusive license](#)

Downloaded from: <https://hdl.handle.net/1887/20446>

Note: To cite this publication please use the final published version (if applicable).

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/20446> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

Author: Buij, Ralph

Title: Raptors in changing West African savannas : the impact of anthropogenic land transformation on populations of Palearctic and Afrotropical raptors in northern Cameroon

Issue Date: 2013-01-24

Raptors in changing West African savannas

© 2012, Ralph Buij, Leiden University

ralph.buij@gmail.com

Cover photos (front: Grasshopper Buzzard, back: Pallid Harrier): Ralph Buij

Photos: Ralph Buij

ISBN: 978-90-6464-626-3

Raptors in changing West African savannas

The impact of anthropogenic land transformation on populations of Palearctic and Afrotropical raptors in northern Cameroon

PROEFSCHRIFT

ter verkrijging van de graad van Doctor aan de Universiteit Leiden,
op gezag van de Rector Magnificus Prof. mr. P.F. van der Heijden,
volgens het besluit van het College voor Promoties
te verdedigen op donderdag 24 januari 2013
klokke 16.15 uur

Ralph Buij

geboren te Eindhoven
in 1976

Promotiecommissie:

Promotores: Prof. dr. G.R. de Snoo (Leiden University)
Prof. dr. ir. J. Komdeur (University of Groningen)

Copromotor: Prof. dr. ir. H.H. de Iongh (Leiden University)

Overige leden: Prof. dr. C.J. ten Cate (Leiden University)
Prof. dr. H. Leirs (University of Antwerp, Belgium)
Prof. dr. W.J. Sutherland (University of Cambridge, United Kingdom)

Table of Contents

Chapter 1	Introduction	7
Chapter 2	Inter- and intraspecific differences in habitat use and conservation implications for Palearctic harriers on the core Sahelian wintering grounds	19
Box A	Pallid Harrier bird hunting behaviour and capture success in northern Cameroon	41
Chapter 3	Breeding biology and nestling development of the Grasshopper Buzzard	53
Chapter 4	Effects of land use change in Sudano-Sahelian West Africa on the diet and growth of an avian predator	71
Chapter 5	Breeding performance of Grasshopper Buzzards in a natural and human-modified West African savanna	89
Chapter 6	Breeding biology and diet of the African Swallow-tailed Kite in Senegal and Cameroon	109
Chapter 7	Response to habitat modification by foraging Dark Chanting Goshawks in a West African savanna	125
Chapter 8	Effects of land transformation on raptors in West African savannas: the role of breeding range, migratory behaviour, and body size	143
Chapter 9	Raptor habitat use in the Lake Chad Basin: insights into the effect of floodplain transformation on Afrotropical and Palearctic raptors	165
Chapter 10	Biogeographical and anthropogenic determinants of landscape-scale patterns in a raptor assemblage in Cameroon	183
Box B	Sightings of Sooty Falcon in the far north of Cameroon	207
Chapter 11	Synthesis	213
	References	223
	Summary	245
	Samenvatting	251
	Acknowledgements	257
	Curriculum vitae	260

