



VULTURE PROGRAMME MONTHLY REPORT

JUNE 2017

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Met with	Representing	Purpose	Project title/reference/purpose
06/06/2017	Les Faber and Sandy	Skeerpoort and the Cradle community	Site visit and discussion around her 2-week community service needs	Community service
07/06/2017	John Werth	PAAZA	Meeting around Cape Vulture modelling and a habitat population viability assessment	CV Modelling (PHVA)
08/06/2017	Ryan Sobey	Different.org	Sponsorship site visit	Sponsorship meeting
12/06/2017	Tim and Tamsyn	Volunteers	Introduction and discussion around fieldwork	Fieldwork
13/06/2017	VulPro staff	Staff meeting	Monthly staff meeting	Staff meeting
20/06/2017	Charne Wilhelmi	Staff	Discussed gala dinner	Gala dinner
20/06/2017	Hendrik	ZK Teco	Sponsorship site visit	Sponsorship meeting
21/06/2017	Rick Matthews	Big Banana Films	Possible filming at VulPro	Media
22/06/2017	Hendrik	ZK Teco	Follow up meeting	Sponsorship meeting
23/06/2017	Louise van den Berg-Nicolai	Boikarabalo	PhD project discussion involving tree nesting data	Research

Date	Met with	Representing	Purpose	Project title/reference/purpose
29/06/2017	Lydia Cape	CSIR	Wind Farm Strategic Environmental Assessment	Conservation

Media

Ongoing media, awareness and exposure through Facebook and Twitter, as well as other social media throughout June; with 5000 followers on Kerri Wolter's profile and 7599 on the VulPro Facebook page. We have 899 followers on Twitter and now 307 followers on Instagram.

Date	Media	Publisher	Purpose	Comment
01/06/2017	"Extravagance for vultures"	Komorant	Awareness and exposure	Exposure on our up and coming fundraising gala dinner
01/06/2017	"VulPro"	Dossier – French magazine	Awareness and exposure	Features VulPro and our conservation efforts
19/06/2017	Magda Naude, freelance journalist	SA Hunters and Game	Interview for article on VulPro	

CONSERVATION

A. DIRECT ACTIVITIES

Rehabilitation

Date	MR Ref	Activity	Follow up	Comment
02/06/2017		Released a young AWB vulture at Nooitgedacht	Monitoring via the tracking device and for visual re-sightings	The AWBV initially came from the Free State, collected by Kate Webster and then transported to VulPro as part of his rehab process. After a few days of captivity and feeding with a large group of captive birds, he was fitted with a tracking device and released successfully at the Nooitgedacht breeding colony and vulture restaurant.
02/06/2017	01.06	Collected an adult CV from next door to VulPro	Monitoring release	The bird flew into the electric fence surrounding our neighbours and thus damaged and broke many of his primary feathers on one wing, rendering this bird flightless until the feathers moult and grow back.
10/06.2017	02.06	Collected young AWB from Boons in Magaliesberg	Remains in captivity	Flew into powerline and broke a wing. Bone was exposed and so amputation was necessary.
24/06/2017	03.06	Collect African Fish Eagle from Northern Cape	Euthanised	Powerline collision. Tendons exposed so no chance to save the wing. Euthanasia indicated for this type of injury in hunting birds.

Vulture breeding statistics: Captive and wild

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
June 2017	Captive breeding	VulPro	We have had several more eggs throughout this month and have thus reached 29 eggs for this breeding season. Unfortunately, we have had some losses of eggs, developing chicks and hatching chicks and thus our total stands at: 3 chicks which are now one week old and another 5 eggs still to hatch from the incubator. We also have another 3 eggs on the artificial breeding cliff at VulPro. Of the total, we are now only expecting 2 White-backed chicks to hatch and the rest are CVs
June 2017	Captive bred vultures moved to their release site	Nooitgedacht	Finally, after many months, our release enclosure destined to house VulPro's captive bred chicks was completed and the vultures were moved in. The enclosure now holds 26 CVs and 2 AWB vultures and of this number 13 are captive bred vultures and the rest rehabilitated vultures from several different provinces. All these birds will be released within the next few months as part of our population supplementation programme into the Magaliesberg.
09-11/06/2017	Soutpansberg Cape Vulture monitoring	Soutpansberg, Limpopo Province	Undertook first monitoring of the season for this site, counting breeding pairs. Slight increase from last year with 223 pairs counted.
13/06/2017	White-backed tree nesting surveys	Hoedspruit, Limpopo	Nests surveyed at Khaya Ndlovu with local resident Jill Ovens. 21 nests found of which 13 were active.
15-17/06/2017	Vulture nest surveys	Olifants Nature Reserve, Limpopo Province	Nests surveyed in Olifants River Nature Reserve North and South. 43 active nests of which 41 were AWB and 2 were HV. Too early to confirm HV breeding activity.
18-21/06/2017	Manutsa Cape Vulture monitoring	Manutsa, Limpopo Province	Undertook first monitoring of the season for this site, counting breeding pairs. Stable from last year with 644 pairs counted.

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
23-25/06/2017	Botswana Cape Vulture monitoring	Mannyelanong, Gabarone, Botswana	Undertook first monitoring of the season for this site, counting breeding pairs. Up from 2014 (62) with 81 pairs counted.
27-30/06/2017	Kransberg Cape Vulture monitoring	Kransberg, Thabazimbi, Limpopo	Undertook first monitoring of the season for this site, counting breeding pairs. Stable from last year with 690 pairs counted.

Research

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
07-08/06/2017	Power line survey	Bela Bela: Roodekuil	A total distance of 18.5 kilometres was surveyed, including a total of 113 structures. 3 Cape vulture mortalities within 500m of one another were found. A full report has been submitted to Eskom
12/06/2017	Powerline survey	Nylsvlei, Limpopo	6.8km surveyed with 132 structures. Three CV carcasses found. Report submitted to Eskom. We await their response.

Education & Training

Date	Activity	Project title	Location	Comment
June 2017	Education / awareness	Vulture Rehabilitation Manual	VulPro	The Vulture Rehabilitation Manual was completed and uploaded onto the website for distribution.
04/06/2017	Community service	Community service	VulPro	One Grade 9 student from St Stithians undertook a few hours of community service at VulPro.
09/06/2017	Education / awareness	Education / awareness	VulPro	A group of 23 mentally disabled residents from Pathways toured the centre
10/06/2017	Tour	Education / awareness	VulPro	Two adults and a child shown around the facility by staff.

Date	Activity	Project title	Location	Comment
16/06/2017	Tour	Education / awareness	VulPro	Three adults shown around the facility by staff.
17/06/2017	Tour	Education / awareness	VulPro	Eight adults and eleven children shown around the facility by staff.
25/06/2017	Tour	Education / awareness	VulPro	30 adults and several children from Honorary Rangers shown around the facility by staff.
26/06/2017	Community service	Education / awareness	VulPro	Two teenage boys from St Stithians.
25/06/2017	Community service	Education / awareness	VulPro	Three teenage girls from St Stithians.
25/06/2017	Tour	Education / awareness	VulPro	13 adults from Women Agricultural Union shown around the facility by staff.
26/06/2017	Community service	Education / awareness	VulPro	Two teenage girls from Mount Cambridge School.
30/06/2017	Tour	Education / awareness	VulPro	2 adults and 4 children shown around the facility by staff.

Hide booking:

- 07/05/2017 Pieter van der Merwe (1)
- 27/05/2017 Christa Koekemoor (4)
- 14/06/2017 Carin Wiesler (2)

Administration and Pending

- Collection of donated carcasses
- Maintenance of VulPro vehicles
- Ongoing treatment and care of vultures and birds of prey at VulPro.
- Ongoing care for captive vultures and supplementary feeding of wild birds at Nooitgedacht.
- Fundraising
- Report writing
- Proposal submissions to various funders
- Press release writing
- Bi-annual newsletter
- Administration
- Vulture restaurant feeding at the Vulture Centre
- Facebook, Instagram and Twitter updates
- Maintenance
- Management of volunteers and students
- Management of the vulture hide and bookings
- Management of HR issues
- Management of VulPro as a whole
- Management and co-ordination of vulture research
- Maintain updated captive breeding and rehabilitation records
- Continual updates to website, including range maps of tracked birds, sponsor logos, and publications.