



## VULTURE PROGRAMME MONTHLY REPORT

July 2018

## MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Met with	Representing	Purpose	Project title/reference/purpose
2/07/2018	VulPro Staff	VulPro	Meeting to discuss how we can do more in terms of recycling, and minimise our carbon footprint as an organisation	Recycling
5/07/2018	Jaques Mouton	Green Guys Recycling	Meeting to discuss VulPro's recycling needs and how they can assist with the collection and proper disposal of our recyclable materials	Recycling
10/07/2018	PaulMcintyre	Elingo	Discuss the up and coming talk at the G-summit being held in Bryanston. Showcasing vultures and the need for everyone's input to save them	G-summit
13/07/2018	Columbus Zoo representatives	Columbus Zoo	Fundraising, networking and collaboration	Stakeholder engagement, input and sponsorship
16/07/2018	VulPro Staff	VulPro	Meeting with VulPro staff to discuss vehicle protocols	VulPro
19/07/2018	PaulMcintyre	Elingo	Meeting to discuss organising a fun run on the Nooitgedacht property in order to raise vulture awareness	Fun Run
20/07/2018	Emmanuel and Karin Morgan	Met with representatives of the Pretoria division of SANParks Honorary Rangers	Discussion regarding a future visit to the VulPro facility by the "Junior Rangers" kids club	Tour and presentation
25/07/2018	VulPro Staff	VulPro	A small farewell was held to say goodbye to our two attachment students, Lynnina and Hrsito	Farewell
30/07/2018	Chris Bowden	RSPB	Catch-up Skype Meeting	Collaboration and catch up

## Media

Ongoing media, awareness and exposure through Facebook and Twitter, as well as other social media throughout November; with 5000 followers on Kerri Wolter's profile and 9564 on VulPro's Facebook page. We have 1103 followers on Twitter and 529 followers on Instagram.

Date	Media	Publisher	Purpose	Comment
10/07/2018	Television interview	SABC	Vulture awareness	Held interview with SABC on Curley Wee farms to promote vulture awareness and conservation

18/07/2018	Television	Aqui la Tierra (Spanish television programme)	Vulture Awareness	Video clip showing the work VulPro undertakes and the importance of conserving vultures
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## CONSERVATION

### A. DIRECT ACTIVITIES

#### *Rehabilitation*

Date	MR Ref	Activity	Follow up	Comment
July 2018		Faecal samples were collected at the facility in order to do a worm count	Monitoring	De-worming of vulture enclosures is now underway
05/07/2018		Two Cape Vultures were electrocuted in Koster, North-West Province	Awaiting action from Eskom	Incident report has been filed.
06/07/2018		Cape Vulture was electrocuted next door to VulPro	Awaiting action from Eskom	Incident report has been filed.
09/07/2018		4 Cape Vultures electrocuted in Zastron area Southern Free State (two separate incidents)	Awaiting action from Eskom	Incident reports has been filed.
17/07/2018	01.07	Collected a Cape Vulture with a broken wing from Mockford Farms in Polokwane.	N/A as he will remain in captivity	Individual has a broken wing resulting from a power line collision. Unfortunately the break is in the joint and the bird will not be able to fly well enough to survive in the wild.
19/07/2018		1x Cape Vulture soft released at Rookwood	Wing tagged 243	Recovered from power line collision in the Bolo area of Stutterheim E Cape
23/07.208	02.07	Small Banded Goshawk which was dropped off at our facility was taken to Broederstroom Vet to assess wing damage	Monitoring for improvement	The shoulder joint seems to be dislocated. We hope that with rest and time, it should heal on its own.

#### *Vulture breeding statistics: Captive and wild*

Date	Project title	Project centered at	Comment
July 2018	Captive breeding	VulPro	To-date we have 5 Cape Vulture chicks and 1 African White-backed vulture chick. All are currently being raised by their parents. Only 2 more eggs are expected to hatch and both are African White-backed vultures.

8/07/2018-10/07/2018	Population surveys	Omega Farms- North West Province	Undertook the first survey of this new site for tree nesting African White- backed Vultures. 37 AWBV nests were found, 30 of which were active.
10/7/2018	Population surveys	Curley Wee, North-West	Undertook the first annual survey of African White-backed Vultures for 2018. Only 1 active nest was found.
July 2018	Tree-nesting survey	Khaya Ndlovu, Limpopo	18 nests were active out of the 28 known nest sites
25/07/2018 – 27/07/2018	Colony monitoring	Scheerpoort,	Undertook the second count for the colony and recorded nestling success. As to be expected, there is a slight drop but figures are still in the 280s.
30/07/2018	Colony monitoring	Nooitgedact	Undertook the second count for the colony and recorded nestling success. As to be expected, there is a slight drop but figures are still in the 130s.

### Research

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
July 2018	Vulture re-sighting database	VulPro	Continued to update the re-sighting database- Including repeat individuals, we have recorded 32 748 re-sightings to date.
July 2018	Vulture tracking device studies	Southern Africa	Continue to monitor the vultures with tracking devices and assess their movements and investigate any stationery positions. Currently there are still 10 active with cellular tracking units and 9 active transmitters with Movebank
July 2018	Eskom Phase 2	VulPro Phase 2 Eskom Project	56 transmitter data sets were sent to the Animal Demography Unit. This forms part of a collaborative project to identify characteristics of powerline incidents.
July 2018	Eskom Phase 1	VulPro Phase 1 Eskom Project	Phase one is near to being completed specifically focusing on buffer zones and spatial mapping of Cape Vulture incidents. This species has far more incidents recorded then with other species.
July 2018	National Research Foundation	VulPro	VulPro registered to receive interns from the NRF internship program for research
July 2018	Tree-nesting Surveys	VulPro	All data has been entered into a new format that will enable comparison across all the VulPro survey sites. We hope to have a student to analyse this in the new year.
July 2018	Core database	VulPro	A new format has been designed for the main database allowing us to more easily draw on information we need to develop a strategy for VulPro.
July 2018	Re-sighting database	Vulpro	This large data has been prepared for analyses which we hope to start at the end of the year

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
July 2018	Genetic Research	VulPro& UKZN	We aim to establish genetic relationship with in the captive founder population of both Cape Vultures and African White-backed Vultures (if funding permits) in 2019, samples will be collected at the end of this breeding season.
July 2018	Contemporary Conservation Symposium KZN	VulPro	An abstract is being submitted for this on the Cape Vulture releases, an overview of information learned through the process and the work Ben Jobson has carried out.
July 2018	Oppenheimer De Beers Research Group	VulPro	An abstract will be submitted on Cape Vulture releases.
19/07/2018	Interns	VulPro	Interns presented on their final projects to the VulPro team.
July 2018	Moletjie Colony partnership VulPro, Roots & Shoots and Limpopo provincial government	VulPro	A joint proposal has been put together by VulPro and Roots & Shoots to reverse the decline of the Cape Vulture Moletjie breeding colony.

### **Education & Training**

Date	Activity	Project title	Location	Comment
07/7/2018	Educational presentation and tour	Education	VulPro	20 people from BirdLife Sandton attended a talk and tour at VulPro, regarding the importance of vultures and the work we undertake.
11/7/2018	Training	Training	VulPro	Met with Mabalingwe Trust for training on vulture restaurants.
12/7/2018	Educational tour	Education	VulPro	Two adults and 2 children undertook a tour of the facility and learnt about the importance of vultures, as well as the work VulPro does.
13/7/2018	Presentation and talk	Education/ Relationship building	Cape Town	Kerri Wolter presented a talk to 11 members of Columbus Zoo, which is a VulPro Funder
16/7/2018	Educational tour	Education	VulPro	Two adults and 2 children undertook a tour of the facility and learnt about the importance of vultures, as well as the work VulPro does.
17/7/2018	Presentation	Education and Awareness	Bryanston	Kerri Wolter gave a presentation to 450 people at the G-summit at the Genesys Partner Pavilion about the importance of vulture conservation and the work VulPro does.

Date	Activity	Project title	Location	Comment
18/07/2018	67 minutes for Mandela	Volunteers	VulPro	40 ZK Tecostaff came to spend their 67 minutes for Mandela day at VulPro, and painted our entrance walls. They also continue to sponsor our Fish Eagle and Lappet-face vultures.
28/7/2018	Presentation and tour	Education	VulPro	55 members of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Bryanston Cub pack attended a presentation and tour of the VulPro facility. They learnt about the work VulPro does and the importance of saving vultures
28/7/018	Tour	Education	Rookwood	7 adults got a tour of the vultures at the Rookwood holding enclosure

### ***Hide booking***

12/7/2018- Michael Spinks- 2 adults

14/7/2018- 4 Adults

21/7/2018- Jan Stapelberg- 4 Adults

### ***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
- 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.