



VULTURE PROGRAMME MONTHLY REPORT

October 2019

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Date	Met with	Representing	Purpose	Project title/reference/purpose
02/10/2019	Dewald Kleynhans	Volunteer	Discussion around digital marketing, communications and social awareness	Marketing
06/10/2019-11/10/2019	Tusk Trust Symposium	VulPro	Kerri Wolter attended the Tusk Trust Symposium in Kenya, presenting VulPro's vulture rescue, rehabilitation and release work for the past 11 years	Networking and funder liaisons
07/10/2019	Dewald Kleynhans and Julie Lundt	Volunteers	Discussion around digital marketing, communications and social awareness	Marketing and social media
07/10/2019	Jack Lester	Aerial Cableway Hartebeespoort	Potential fundraising collaborations	Fundraising and partnerships
08/10/2019	Lulani Speed	Amazingwe	Potential fundraising collaborations	Fundraising and partnerships
16/10/2019	Chris McClure	The Peregrine Fund	Discussed data agreements for analysing and publishing Cape Vulture monitoring data	Research publications
18/10/2019	VulPro directros	VulPro directors	Quarterly directors meeting	VulPro directors
21/10/2019	Susan Gage	Die Ou Pastorie	Potential fundraising collaborations	Fundraising and partnerships
21/10/2019	Attendees of the Vulture national Task Force	Department of Environmental Affairs, NGOs, private and public sectors	Second meeting to discuss the way forward in producing the national vulture strategy document	National vulture task force workshop
22/10/2019	Sheba Zagner	Riverleigh Equestrian Estate	Potential fundraising collaborations	Fundraising and partnerships
23/10/2019	Lapalala Game Reserve Staff	Lapalala Game Reserve	Site visit for restaurant establishment on the Lapalala Game Reserve	Landowner engagement/ restaurant establishment
25/10/2019	Glen Ashbury	Private	Meeting to discuss a partnership to develop VulPro merchandise for fundraising and awareness	Fundraising and awareness
25/201/2019	Sarah Aspenstrom	University of Edinburgh Napier	Structure and progress of MSc thesis	Research project

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28/10/2019	Sarah Woodhouse	Detroit Zoo	Discussion around a five-year plan and commitment of collaboration with the Detroit Zoo vet department	Collaboration and sponsorship
28/10/2019	Alvaro Camina Cardenal	World Bank	Discussion around the fitment of tags on pelicans given VulPro's expertise	Pelican research
29/10/2019	Mark Flint and colleagues	Siemens	Donation, handover and training of Ultrasound Machine	Donation and training
31/10/2019	Janice Le Roux	Dahua Technology	Discussion and way forward with VulPro's current camera systems for monitoring of the captive birds	Camera system monitoring and sponsorship

Media

Ongoing media, awareness and exposure through Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, as well as other social media throughout May; with 5000 followers on Kerri Wolter's profile and 12 911 on VulPro's Facebook page. We have 1 235 followers on Twitter and 1041 followers on Instagram.

Date	Media	Publisher	Purpose	Comment
15/10/2019	Skype Interview	National Geographic	Education and awareness	Awareness and exposure to the threats vulture face and more specifically, to veterinary drugs and their effects on vultures
October 2019	Presentations	Alvaro Camiña Cardenal	Education and awareness	Collaborator Alvaro Camiña included VulPro's work in presentations at the European Vulture Research Conference, the Wind Indaba in Cape Town and the BAREF Birds and Wind Energy Forum at the Centre of Biological Diversity at SANBI Kirstenbosch throughout the month
16/10/2019	Press Release	Farmers Weekly	Education and Awareness	VulPro distributed a press release, regarding the vulnerability of newly fledged vultures, requesting that the public please contact us should you find any downed or injured birds

CONSERVATION
A. DIRECT ACTIVITIES

Rehabilitation

Date	MR Ref	Activity	Follow up	Comment
06/10/2019	01.10	Collected an injured Lappet-faced Vulture with a broken wing from Warmbaths	Monitoring for strength and weight gain before joining the other birds	This individual appears to have an old wing break from a power line collision. He is being monitored for improvement but given his injury, will unfortunately not be released
08/10/2019	02.10	Collected an injured African White-backed Vulture with a broken wing at Kimberly	He has since joined the open top enclosure disabled vultures	This individual has a broken right wing from a power line collision. He is being monitored for recovery, unfortunately due to the nature of his injury he had to undergo amputation and will be incorporated into the our breeding program
28/10/2019	03.10	Collected an injured White-backed Vulture from Lindleyspoort in the North West Province	Monitoring for weight gain before joining the rehab AWBs.	This individual seems to have suffered a power line collisions, injuring his right wing. The break is again in the elbow joint and thus, preventing any future flight and release.

Research

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
3/10/2019	Conference and networking	European Vulture Research Conference	VulPro's research on the rehabilitation and release success of vultures from 2007-2019 was presented at the first European Vulture Conference in Albufeira Portugal.
15/10/2019	Cape Vulture Lifetime Tracking	Skeerpoort	Collaborators from the Max Planck Institute sponsored and deployed 20 tracking devices on Cape Vulture nestlings at the Skeerpoort colony with the VulPro staff and team in a very exciting novel expedition
22/10/2019	Powerline Survey	Leeuwfontein, Limpopo	A powerline survey of 17 structures was conducted in the region where the Lappet-faced vulture was rescued a few weeks previously as a follow up of the incident report submitted to Eskom.
28/10/2019	Publication	VulPro	Research study published in the Journal of Wildlife Rehabilitation, entitled " A review of Vulture wing anatomy and safe proapatagial tag application methods, with case studies of injured Vultures"

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
October 2019	Vulture re-sighting database	VulPro	The re-sighting database has been updated and currently sits at 40 522 entries of reported sightings and re-sightings of tagged vultures across southern Africa
October 2019	Vulture tracking device studies	Southern Africa	7 Max Planck tracking devices and 24 Cellular Tracking devices are currently active for October 2019 with the addition of 20 new e-Obs devices.

Captive Breeding

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
October 2019	Vulture Captive Breeding	VulPro	Our captive bred Cape and African White-backed Vulture chicks are all doing extremely well, and growing phenomenally fast with the first three chicks already fledged.

Wild Vulture Population Monitoring

Date	Project title	Location	Comment
10/10/2019-13/10/2019	Wild Vulture Captures and processing	Olifants River Private Game Reserve	Wild captures and processing of vultures was undertaken at the Olifants River Private Game Reserve, with one African White-backed Vulture nestling and one Hooded Vulture nestling being fitted with a SAFRing rings, coloured leg bands, and blood samples taken for lead.
16/10/2019-18/10/2019	Wild Vulture Captures and processing	Omega Game Farm	Processing of African White-backed Vulture Nestlings were undertaken for the first time at this site, with the use of a Cherry picker. A total of 11 individuals were fitted with SAFRing rings, coloured leg band, and blood samples were taken to test for lead

Education & Training

Date	Activity	Project title	Location	Comment
01/10/2019	Education and Awareness	Education and Awareness	Onderstepoort	Kerri Wolter presented a talk at the Onderstepoort Veterinary Academic hospital, addressing students and sharing with them the importance of the work VulPro undertakes
1/10/2019-3/10/2019	Conference and networking	Conferences	Oppenheimer Stadium Johannesburg	VulPro attended the 10 th annual Oppenheimer Conference with over 350 delegates attending from various sectors of the conservation world to network and attend various talks and presentations
03/10/2019	Education and Awareness	Volunteer	VulPro	Volunteer Carol Smith arrived as part of the 'Boots on the Ground' experience and learnt about the work VulPro undertakes whilst participating in field work activities

Date	Activity	Project title	Location	Comment
11/10/2019	Education and Awareness	Education and Awareness	VulPro	A group of students from Montessori Eco school undertook a tour around VulPro and gained information to help them with a project on endangered species
14/10/2019	Education and Awareness	Education and Awareness	VulPro	A group of 8 Veterinarians undertook a tour around the centre to learn about the importance of vulture conservation and the work that VulPro undertakes
15/10/2019	Education and Awareness	Education and Awareness	VulPro	A scout group spent a day volunteering at the centre, learning about the importance of conserving vultures and the important work VulPro undertakes
26/10/2019	Education and awareness	Education and awareness	VulPro	Two individuals undertook a tour of the VulPro facility to learn about the importance of vultures and the work we undertake

Administration and Pending

1. Collection of donated carcasses
2. Maintenance of VulPro vehicles
3. Ongoing treatment and care of vultures and birds of prey at VulPro.
4. Ongoing care for captive vultures and supplementary feeding of wild birds at Nooitgedacht.
1. Fundraising
2. Report writing
3. Proposal submissions to various funders
4. Press release writing
5. Administration
6. Vulture restaurant feeding at the Vulture Centre
7. Facebook, Instagram and Twitter updates
8. Maintenance
9. Management of volunteers and students
10. Management of the vulture hide and bookings
11. Management of HR issues
12. Management of VulPro as a whole
13. Management and co-ordination of vulture research
14. Maintain updated captive breeding and rehabilitation records
15. Continual updates to website, including range maps of tracked birds, sponsor logos, and publications