

BE PART OF THE CHANGE



PROTECTING AFRICAN VULTURES
THROUGH COLLABORATION & INNOVATION

2022 ANNUAL REPORT





TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary..... 1

Accomplishing VulPro’s Mission..... 2

Chairman’s Summary..... 3

Performance Review..... 4

 Rescue & Rehabilitation..... 4

 Reasons for Admissions..... 4

Breeding Surveys..... 6

 Overview 6

 Tree Nesting Vulture Monitoring..... 6

 Cape Vulture Breeding Surveys 6

Captive Breeding Programme..... 7

Powerline Surveys & Mitigation..... 8

Landowner & Farmer Engagement..... 9

Community Outreach, Interaction & Education 10

Noteworthy Events 2022 11

Research 12

Publications 13

 Published..... 13

 Publications in Prep..... 13

Administrative..... 14

 Board, Staff, Volunteers & Students 14

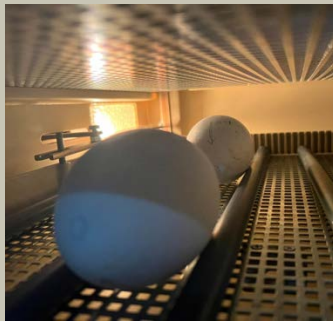
 Travel 15

 Financial 15

 Risk Strategy 16

 VulPro Sustainability 16





LIST OF TABLES

Table 1. <i>Rescues and releases</i>	5
Table 2. <i>Number of species affected by powerline incidents over five years</i>	9
Table 3. <i>Number of powerline incidents reported by VulPro in 2022</i>	9
Table 4. <i>Board members in 2022</i>	16
Table 5. <i>VulPro staff members in 2022</i>	16

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1. <i>Reasons for admission</i>	6
Figure 2. <i>Annual breeding success of Cape Vultures at the Nooitgedacht & Skeerpoort Colonies</i>	7



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

It is truly an honour and my pleasure to share with you our comprehensive 2022 report showcasing our conservation efforts in helping to prevent the extinction of Africa's vultures. Conservation, let alone vulture conservation, is a hard path to follow, often resulting in many sacrifices in one's personal life. But conservation is not just a 9-5 job, it is a calling and a lifestyle of putting your best foot forward, going about life in the most meaningful way and making sure we live in harmony with all living Beings, and in our case, making the world a better place for vultures.

It is for this reason and with the small staff compliment, that this report truly showcases just how much can be done by a group of individuals. With the right support from sponsors, volunteers, friends, family-members, stakeholders, and collaborators; positive outcomes and hope can be achieved in the plight of vultures in a most beneficial way.

This report also highlights the importance of each individual bird and how important it is to protect, conserve and nurture every single individual from their protection in the wild to their rehabilitation for release and/or captive breeding which benefits the species. Every individual is worth priority attention and every individual is worth fighting for their survival.

16 years ago, VulPro started as a one armed, one person approach to vulture conservation. Over the years it has grown to a world-leading and recognised vulture conservation organisation with 2022 reaching new heights with the fulfilment of a dream of running its own operational

onsite specialised vulture treatment facility. In addition, the facilities, research, stakeholder engagement, and grassroots conservation work continues to spearhead vulture conservation not only in the country, but globally. We are truly privileged to be able to give back to life in this significant way and, with the help of you all, to be able to continue fighting for the ongoing survival of Africa's magnificent vultures.

We hope you enjoy going through this report as it not only is a tribute to all vultures, but to you, who supported our journey throughout 2022.

Kerri Wolter
VulPro CEO



ACCOMPLISHING **VULPRO'S** MISSION

OUR MISSION:

To protect African vultures through collaboration and innovation.



We aim to implement our mission by striving to meet our objectives as per below:

RESCUE & REHABILITATION

By staying on the frontline of helping injured vultures and using rehabilitation methods developed over many years of work, we rehabilitate and release as many injured vultures as possible. We use an on-site hospital that specialises in the immediate care of vultures in need and have collaborated with specialised vets to pin broken wings that have seen vultures fly again.

CAPTIVE BREEDING FOR POPULATION SUPPLEMENTATION

In instances where birds cannot be released due to their injuries, we incorporate them into our captive breeding programme. They can then pair up, lay eggs, and raise their chicks. We release the youngsters so they can continue to contribute to their populations' survival.

RESEARCH FOR OPTIMIZING VULTURE CONSERVATION IN AFRICA

High-impact research is conducted at VulPro that contributes to our understanding of vultures in Africa. We strive to improve our research by collaborating with other institutes in a mutually beneficial arrangement that enhances knowledge and expertise transfers around the world. Instances of collaborative research include population monitoring, tracking, and using coloured

monitoring leg bands as part of the rehabilitation process and the release programmes. We use GPS transmitters to monitor our released birds' survival and foraging movements. It helps us understand movement patterns and behaviours, such as breeding and roosting. The wild populations are monitored annually at breeding sites. We maintain a re-sighting database using camera traps, photographs, and public sightings. In this way, we track wild, rehabilitated and captive-bred individuals past the point of transmitter failure. As we are so often in the field, we have been able to engage more with local landowners and extend our outreach programme to communicate the plight of African vultures.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The communities surrounding the vulture colonies and other areas that vultures use play an essential role in the species' survival. For this reason, we engage with the communities as part of our outreach and education campaign and embark on intensive bi-directional communication where we can understand the communities' concerns. Our education includes presentations, demonstrations, printed educational material, and social media.

We strive to ensure that vultures do not become extinct. We all know that it is much harder to re-introduce a species than to move individuals to supplement an existing population.



OUR YEAR AT A GLANCE



101 birds have been rescued

71 birds have been released



27 000+ people reached through education & outreach activities

2 223 active vulture nests monitored



16 vultures produced from our captive breeding programme

246 citings of our publications

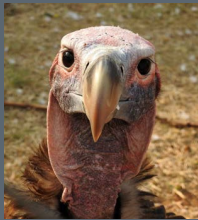


14 481 visits to the VulPro website

17 412 followers on Facebook



4 peer-reviewed scientific papers published



CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY

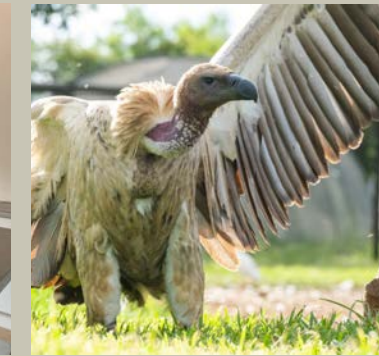
When 2022 started, no one knew what to expect with the year starting with yet another round of Covid restrictions. Thankfully this didn't last very long and the year saw changes in how the world managed Covid, allowing for an opening up of all activities in the country and VulPro.

Through the change in regulations, VulPro was able to once again meet its mandate more easily and was able to welcome back international volunteers. And as we've come to expect from the dedicated team at VulPro, the year saw many achievements which included the completion of our hospital to allow veterinarians to undertake surgeries and do advanced diagnostics radiographs onsite rather than moving birds to a veterinary clinic.

To also further our breeding programmes and rehabilitation, the centre saw five new enclosures completed. In terms of impact, VulPro was key in establishing the national vulture breeding steering committee and building stronger relationships with Eskom that will promote further powerline interventions and reduce bird injuries.

Thanks to the years of activities aimed at vulture protection, the activities at VulPro have been internationally recognised by our nomination for the prestigious Indianapolis award. While no one can predict what 2023 will bring, I am confident that the team at VulPro will be up to the challenged and ensure that our endangered vulture species receive the best possible care and interventions possible.

- Prof. Vinny Naidoo



PERFORMANCE REVIEWS

RESCUE & REHABILITATION

The most crucial work that we do is rescue and rehabilitation. By helping the individual, we can support the survival of the broader species.

Throughout 2022, we rescued and rehabilitated birds from across the country. As is typically the case, the beginning and the end of the year were our busiest seasons.

Table 1 below summarises the rescue and releases conducted by VulPro from 2010 to 2022.

	VULTURES			OTHER BIRDS		
	Rescued	Released	Success Rate	Rescued	Released	Success Rate
2010	30	13	43%	14	4	29%
2011	39	15	38%	17	7	41%
2012	58	31	53%	15	6	40%
2013	46	24	52%	13	7	54%
2014	72	15	21%	8	9	113%
2015	75	21	28%	22	12	55%
2016	73	16	22%	9	3	33%
2017	108	72	67%	24	2	8%
2018	120	48	40%	14	4	29%
2019	93	40	43%	59	37	63%
2020	81	17	21%	20	6	30%
2021	84	50	60%	12	4	33%
2022	89	49	55%	12	5	41%

TABLE 1: Rescues and releases

REASONS FOR ADMISSION

Once again, in 2022, we found that the greatest cause for admission was powerline incidents, with 20 admissions caused by powerline collisions, and 16 caused by electrocutions. We continue to fight for these birds, and each and every incident is followed up with a report to Eskom who we hold accountable for mitigating the lines to avoid these incidents from happening again.

This year we have, once again, seen the effects of human interference on vultures, with a member of the public contacting VulPro to find out if we would be interested in buying a Cape Vulture from them. This was immediately flagged with the local authorities; a sting operation was put in place to gain custody of the distressed bird. After being rehabilitated, the bird was successfully released.

Toward the end of the year, the most common reason for admittance has been grounded birds. This is a very common occurrence at this time of the year when youngsters are leaving the nest slightly too early and ending up in compromised positions across the landscape. Typically, these birds come into VulPro mostly unharmed but are given a little bit of extra time to “grow up” before they are released back into the wild.



PERFORMANCE REVIEWS



The chart below shows the threats, with their percentages, to the birds that have come into VulPro.

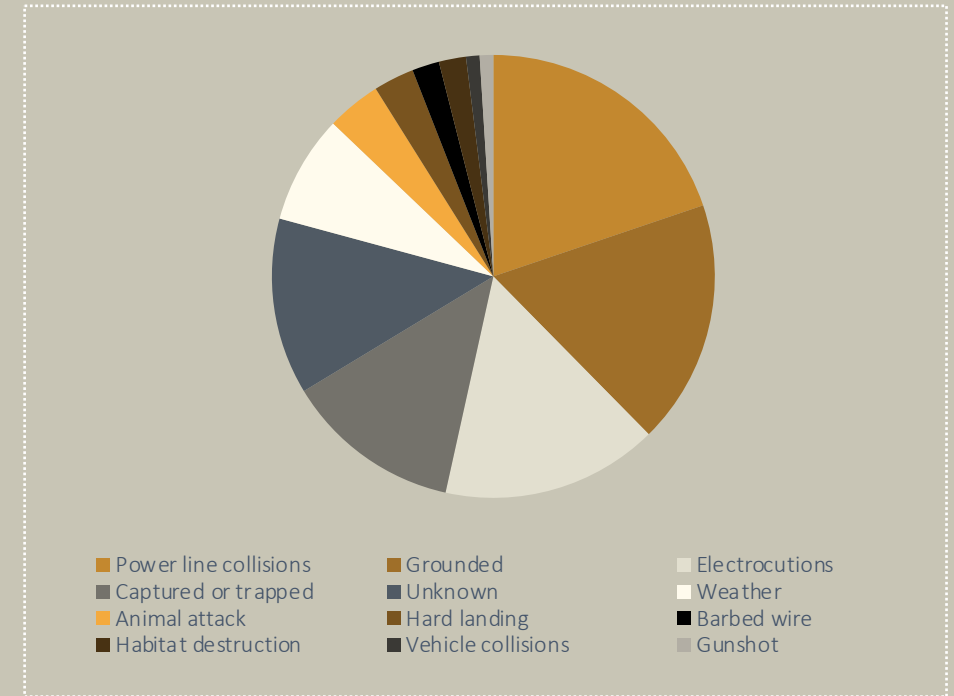


FIGURE 1: Reasons for admission

Currently, we have 273 permanent birds at VulPro that cannot be released. We have moved 39 to our satellite site at Bronkhorspruit to split the colony and spread the risk- this is to avoid the largest African vulture facility in the world potentially collapsing due to an infectious disease. We collaborated with GHB Farms under the authorisation of the Gauteng Department of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment (GDACE) to develop this facility.

BREEDING SURVEYS

OVERVIEW

During 2022, we monitored six Cape Vulture colonies across the northern parts of South Africa. A total of 2 036 active nests were observed during the initial survey. Furthermore, our African White-backed Vulture tree nesting survey efforts this year covered a total of three areas, comprising 23 properties and 187 active nests.

VulPro's cliff monitoring, which focuses on the northern parts of the Cape Vulture population, is home to approximately 50 to 60% of the entire breeding population. Each of the six colonies monitored have shown a slight increase in the number of breeding pairs. The breeding success varied between 56% and 98% for Moletjie and Kransberg colonies, respectively.

Three African White-backed Vulture sites were surveyed this year with a breeding success rate of approximately 73%. The populations appear to be generally stable with populations ranging from one to 57 active nests, with varying levels of success. Between the three sites, the breeding success rate ranged between 69 and 74%.

TREE NESTING VULTURE MONITORING

Unfortunately, for two years in a row, we have found dead breeding birds below nests, seemingly killed by electrocution events. We have consistently reported these events to our national power utility service, Eskom, but have had little to no result. With two more dead birds as a result of powerlines on a single farm this year, we have doubled

down on our efforts to ensure Eskom takes responsibility for these tragedies and mitigates these lines. We have been assured that these lines will take urgent priority, and we are cautiously optimistic that we will not lose any further birds on these lines.

CAPE VULTURE BREEDING SURVEY

The total number of breeding pairs estimated from the 2022 census at each site represents approximately 46% of the total global population of the vulnerable Cape Vulture. We continue to engage with landowners, stakeholders and the general public on the importance of protecting these breeding sites and mitigating threats in the surrounding landscapes to ensure the survival of these magnificent species.

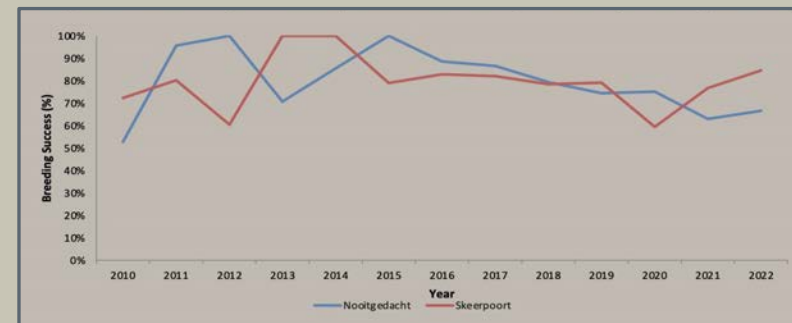


FIGURE 2: Annual breeding success of Cape Vultures at the Nootgedacht & Skeerpoort Colonies





CAPTIVE BREEDING PROGRAMME

At the beginning of this year, all 13 Cape Vulture captive-bred offspring were moved to the Eastern Cape to be released.

During the first three months of 2022, we completed much-needed maintenance in the breeding enclosures. All perches were replaced with new rough perches to avoid bumble-foot, and two new Hooded Vulture breeding enclosures were constructed.

During the season, unfortunately, two of our precious elderly breeding males died. However, fortunately, one left a legacy – one fertile egg. Overall, we had a total of 50 eggs from four species, namely one Lappet, one White-headed, six African White-backed vulture, and 42 Cape Vulture eggs. A total of 24 eggs were fertile, but nine of these were broken while being naturally incubated.

To end the captive breeding season for 2022, we managed to successfully produce 13 Cape and two African White-backed Vultures. We also have another Palm-nut Vulture offspring from our breeding pair again.

Both White-backed Vultures have been released and all 13 Cape Vulture offspring have been moved to the Eastern Cape, to Kate Webster in preparation for their release during the first quarter of 2023.

Up until recently, the survival rates of last year's released offspring was extremely high, however, just in the last two weeks, we have lost one rehab and one captive-bred Cape Vulture to wind farm collisions. This is extremely concerning as this new threat starts contributing to the species' declines in an already challenging landscape with powerlines.



POWERLINE SURVEYS & MITIGATION

Once again, most rehabilitation cases that came into VulPro were a result of powerline incidents. Powerline incidents are unfortunately often fatal for birds involved in them, and when a bird does survive one of these incidents, the damage is often irreparable and results in the birds becoming a permanent resident at VulPro. VulPro continues to work with Eskom and EWT to have dangerous lines mitigated, and we continue to follow up on work done in order to protect these birds.

In 2022, 43 powerline incidents were reported to VulPro. Thirteen of these cases have been closed, three have recommendation letters pending and seven are pending mitigation. A further 10 have investigations by Eskom pending. All powerline reports are followed up with Eskom and VulPro reviews all incident statuses in order to ensure that accurate recommendations are made.

These 43 powerline incidents involved a total of 49 birds, including 34 Cape Vultures, eight African White-backed Vultures, two unidentifiable vulture carcasses, and five other species, including Blue Cranes, Spotted Eagle-Owls and Denham’s Bustards. Unfortunately, these only represent a small portion of the incidents that have occurred as these are only the incidents reported to VulPro, and with powerlines stretching the length and breadth of the country there are most likely many other incidents that go unreported.

We would like to implore farmers and landowners to please get in touch with us should they find a dead vulture under a powerline so that we can ensure that these lines are made safe for vultures across the country.

SPECIES	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022
Cape Vultures	60	50	68	59	34
African White-backed Vultures	1	12	16	6	8
Lappet-faced Vultures	0	2	1	0	0
Unknown vulture carcasses	-	-	-	-	2
Other species	1	13	28	18	5
Total	62	77	113	83	49

TABLE 2: Number of species affected by powerline incidents over five years

Closed	13
Mitigation pending	7
Recommendation letter pending	3
Investigation pending	10
Open	7
Pro-active mitigation	1
Emergency recommendation	1
Referred to Envirotech	1
Total	43

TABLE 3: Number of powerline incidents reported by VulPro in 2022



LANDOWNER & FARMER ENGAGEMENT



A large portion of the land that vultures use in South Africa is not protected, and much of that land covers private farmland. As humans move more and more into the spaces that vultures use, it becomes more important to communicate with the people and communities that are living in close proximity to these birds, specifically farmers, and landowners.

Our biggest opportunity to talk to and engage with these individuals is through our annual breeding surveys, and during rescues in remote areas. It is during this time that we are able to discuss the importance of these birds with landowners, and hand out educational material to them and farm workers and staff living and working amongst them. Often, despite living amongst these birds, these individuals do not know the importance of vultures and how they are keeping their land clean. It is always exciting to see new enthusiasm for these birds in these spaces.

These groups also often have strong community values, and as such, word travels fast about our work in the area. This allows us to branch out to more properties in the area and expand our reach. It is through this that we are also able to explain the importance of reporting dead birds under powerlines and getting in touch for

vulture and other raptor emergencies. Further, we are able to assist interested parties set up vulture restaurants in order to help supply vultures with additional safe food, and educate these groups on the importance of not using poisons and moving away from leaded bullets during hunting. Finally, this year we have worked hard to ensure that all landowners that we engage with are given physical signs for their properties, showing their support for vultures. This once again creates awareness of our cause, and people learn that they can call us at any time for vulture support.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH, INTERACTION & EDUCATION



VulPro continues to engage with the public and interact with individuals in order to educate them and raise awareness on the importance of vultures and the work we do to protect them.

The following is a summary of our education, awareness, and media work over the last year:

- 838 people visited VulPro in 2022, for private tours and events, and school tours.
- 25 060 individuals visited two of our other birds on loan at the Cango Wildlife Ranch, helping us to continue to expand our reach across the public.
- 440 people were indirectly reached through tours and events at associated facilities that house birds originally from VulPro.
- Over 500 people were reached through Christmas markets and awareness outreach programmes
- VulPro was featured in nine articles in publications such as NWK Arena, Hartbeespoort Conservancy Getaway Magazine, Al Jazeera, the Reporter, the Bee-Eater Newsletter, the Radford School Newsletter, etc.
- We were interviewed twice on the radio station Chai FM and were featured as part of a SAPPO promotional video on the importance of pig farms to vulture conservation.
- VulPro also presented to groups on a number of occasions over the last year, including conferences, webinars, and talks at local schools. Such groups include

Dallas Zoo in the United States of America (online), Rhino Connect in South Africa, Future Wildlife Conservationists Club in Nigeria (online), the Tusk Conservation Symposium in Kenya, Lory Bird Park in South Africa, and Royal Veterinarian College Zoological Society in the United Kingdom.

- VulPro was represented by two staff members at the Pan-African Ornithological Congress (PAOC) in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, with over 300 delegates. They were able to network and showcase some of VulPro's work through a presentation.
- We were able to reach conservation professionals through training from raptor veterinarian, Dr. David Scott, during a training day. This was presented to a group of approximately 10 individuals including VulPro staff.
- This year VulPro hosted an awareness event, the Mountain Matinee, for International Vulture Awareness Day. The event included live music and a four-course meal to raise awareness and funds for vulture conservation: it was attended by approximately 130 people.
- VulPro participated in an IVAD event at the Wilhelma Zoologist-Tiergarten in Stuttgart, Germany, this year.
- VulPro's website was visited 14 481 times in 2022.
- Currently, we have 17 412 followers on Facebook, 1 968 followers on Twitter, 951 followers on Instagram, 426 followers on YouTube, and 291 followers on LinkedIn.



NOTEWORTHY EVENTS

VULTURE CAPTURES IN ZIMBABWE

In November and December 2022, VulPro was part of two capture events in Zimbabwe, with the Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust and the National University of Science and Technology (Zimbabwe). During these capture events, a total of 17 GPS tracking devices were fitted to African White-backed Vultures. These devices have been fitted as part of management and research programmes at the two respective organisations. We would like to thank the teams from Zimbabwe for inviting us to join them for these captures, as well as the other organisations that assisted with the captures including, the North Carolina Zoo, BirdLife Zimbabwe, and Jabulani Safaris. We look forward to seeing the results of these tracked birds and the important conservation work that will come from it.

INDIANAPOLIS ZOO PRIZE NOMINATION

The Indianapolis Zoo Prize is a coveted prize awarded every two years to an individual for “extraordinary contributions to conservation efforts”. With nominees from around the world and covering a myriad of species, VulPro CEO, Kerri Wolter, was named one of the 51 nominees for 2023. We are extremely proud of Kerri’s achievement and recognition of her work. We look forward to the next step of the nomination process and wish Kerri lots of luck as six finalists will be selected from the group of nominees. These nominees will be invited to Indianapolis for a Prizegiving Gala where the winner and finalists will all receive cash prizes of \$50 000 to \$250 000.

WIND FARM DEATHS

While African vultures are struggling through anthropogenic threats on a daily basis, a new threat is emerging for these threatened birds. While green energy has become a new go-to method of solving our country’s energy crisis, these so-called environmentally friendly strategies are proving to be a double-edged sword. This year, VulPro has had two tracked Cape Vultures that have collided with wind turbines in the Eastern Cape. This is an alarming situation for us, as these two birds were being tracked and we can only guess how many more vultures and other birds have fallen victim to these structures. We are working closely with environmental consultancy companies where new

PAN-AFRICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS

In November 2022 VulPro attended the 15th Pan-African Ornithological Congress in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. VulPro was lucky enough to send two delegates who represented VulPro during meetings, roundtables, presentations, and networking events. The congress was an exciting opportunity to showcase the work being done by VulPro, to connect with other vulture experts, and to learn from other organisations and programmes on the best way forward to help stop the decline of vultures in Africa. We look forward to the upcoming collaborations and projects that have been set up as a result of this conference.

structures are going up in order to advise as to best practice for the implementation of these wind farms. However, with vultures ranging as widely as they do, it is extremely difficult to declare a wind farm far enough from vulture movement that it does not pose a threat.

DRAFTED VULTURE BMP

Over the last few years VulPro, along with a number of other vulture organisations in southern Africa, has been working with the South African government to draft a vulture biodiversity management plan. The final draft of this BMP was gazette in December 2022 and is a step in the right direction to get South African authorities on board to protect African vultures. This plan encompasses best practices for the protection of African vultures including risk assessment of new and existing powerline structures in South Africa and ensuring that all lines within a 2.5 km radius of breeding colonies are made bird-friendly. The BMP represents the hard work put in by conservation organisations such as VulPro, and the acknowledgment from the government that these threats need to be taken seriously in order to protect these birds, and ultimately entire ecosystems and human populations as well.

CAPE VULTURE VALUATION

This year VulPro has been involved in putting together a financial valuation of Cape Vultures in South Africa. This financial valuation is a key tool in reflecting another important reason why vulture protection is so crucial and allows investors to understand their role

in the South African economy. This valuation in collaboration with Endangered Wildlife OU, includes factors across all focus areas from their role in reducing carbon emissions all the way to their appeal in avitourism. The final valuation for Cape Vultures in South Africa has been listed as R511,2 million at minimum, indicating what the South African economy stands to lose should these birds go extinct.



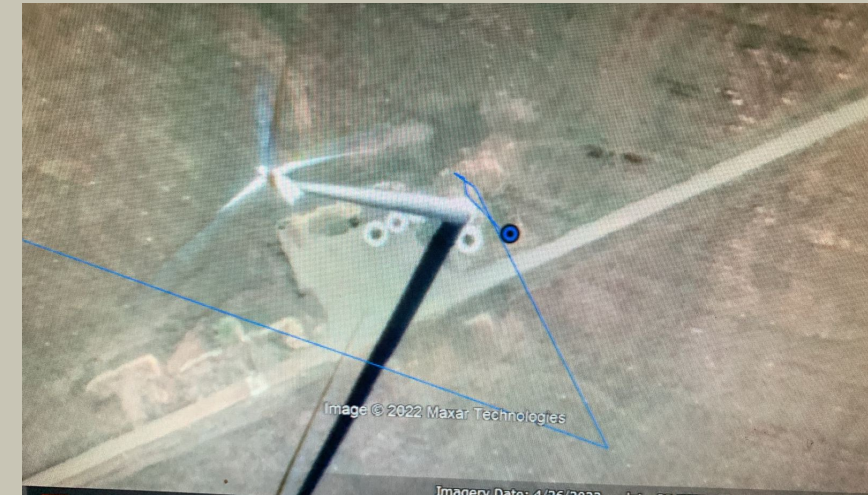
RESEARCH



In 2022 our research programme has continued to grow, and we are currently running and collaborating on 25 research projects. We were able to publish four articles in peer-reviewed journals in 2022, have submitted two, and have a final two in prep for submission. We were also cited 246 times in 2022, our highest annual citation rate ever.

One important study that was started in 2022 is the Ph.D. thesis of Caroline Grace Hannweg titled, "Assessing the effects of thermal factors on the spatial ecology of a Critically Endangered African vulture". This project, under the University of Pretoria, the Max Planck Institute, and the North Carolina Zoo, is focused on the movement of African White-backed Vultures under the effects of climate change and helping to make predictions about what we can expect for these birds under future climatic conditions. This will be done by comparing temperature variables to movement data and breeding success rates. This is a massive undertaking, covering the entire southern African region, and as such collaboration is a key aspect of the project. By partnering with organisations across southern Africa we are able to not only cover more space but also avoid duplication of data. However, within gaps in the landscape, more devices will be fitted, and in 2022 we were able to fit a total of 16 devices to African White-backed Vultures. We are looking forward to fitting a further 14 devices in early 2023. Our thanks to our collaborators, partners, and funders on this project, without whom this would not be possible, including the University of Pretoria,

Max Planck Institute of Animal Behaviour, North Carolina Zoo, National University of Science and Technology, Zimbabwe, Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust, Jabulani Safaris, BirdLife Zimbabwe, Dronfield Nature Reserve, Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research, Dallas Zoo, Greenville Zoo, International Association of Avian Trainers and Educators and Society for Conservation Biology.

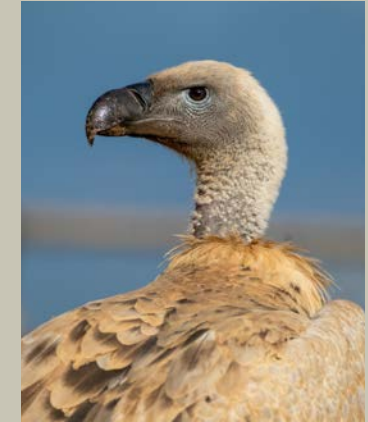


PUBLICATIONS



PUBLISHED

- Galligan, T. H., Green, R. E., Wolter, K., Taggart, M.A., Duncan, N., Mallord, J.W., Alderson, D., Li, Y. and Naidoo, V. 2022. The non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug nimesulide kills Gyps vultures at concentrations found in the muscle of treated cattle. Science of the Total Environment, 807, p. 150788
- Kane A, Monadjem A, Bildstein K, Botha A, Bracebridge C, Buechley ER, Buij R, Davies JP, Diekmann M, Downs C, Farwig N, Galligan T, Kaltenecker G, Kelly C, Kemp R, Kolberg H, MacKenzie M, Mendelsohn J, Mgumba M, Nathan R, Nicholas A, Ogada D, Pfeiffer MB, Phipps WL, Pretorius M, Rösner S, Schabo DG, Spiegel O, Thompson LJ, Venter JA, Virani M, Wolter K, Kendall C (2022) Size doesn't matter, it's how you use it: Using continent-wide variation in ranging behaviour of vultures to assess the feasibility of Vulture Safe Zones in Africa. Biology Conservation
- Hirschauer MT, Hannweg CG, Kemp R & Wolter K. (2022) VulPro: An overview of Africa's Vulture Conservation Centre. Vulture News
- Cervantes F., Murgatroyd M., Allan D., Kemp R., Kruger S., Maude G., Mendelsohn J., Rosner S., Schabo DG., Tate G., Wolter K. and Amar A. (Accepted-in prep for publication in early 2023) A partially explicit collision risk model for the Endangered Cape Vulture to guide wind energy development.



PUBLICATIONS IN PREP

- Casey, J., Kemp, R., Hannweg, CG., Hirschauer MT., Naidoo, V., Scott, D. & Wolter, K. (In Prep) Lead poisoning may not contribute to power line collisions amongst African Vultures.
- MacLeod N., Kemp R., Hannweg CG., Wolter K., Warren B. and Keith M. (In Prep) Examining the foraging ranges and behaviours of two African Vultures in Gauteng and North-West Provinces of South Africa.



ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

BOARD, STAFF, VOLUNTEERS & STUDENTS

Keri Wolter, the CEO of VulPro, has run VulPro as an independent not for profit organisation since 2011. With the support of the Chairman, members of the board, and staff, Keri ensures the organisation’s ongoing viability and the delivery of its mandate to safeguard the vulture species’ survival.

BOARD

VulPro would like to thank the board for its continued guidance and invaluable support. The members of the board and their roles are listed in the table below.

BOARD MEMBERS		
NAME	ROLE	SINCE
Prof. Vinny Naidoo	Chair & Research	2013
Magda Kets	Legal Advisor	2019
Robyn Howes	HR & Marketing	2014
Carl Kruger	Governance	2022
Craig Natttrass	Operations	2017
Keri Wolter	CEO	2011

TABLE 4: Board members in 2022

STAFF

Without a doubt, VulPro would not be where it is without the dedication of its staff members, listed in the table to the right.

VULPRO STAFF 2022		
Kerri Wolter	CEO	Permanent*
Obert Phiri	Operations Manager	Permanent*
Notice Phiri	Driver & Maintenance	Permanent*
Charles Banda	Maintenance Manager	Permanent*
Esther Mapope	Domestic Affairs	Permanent*
Caroline Hannweg	General Assistant	Permanent*
Ryno Kemp	Head of Research	Permanent*
Clarence Mabasa	Student	Permanent*
Shelton Mathe	Student	Permanent*
Bhekinkosi Sibanda	Student	Temporary
Kate Webster	Eastern Cape Representative & Fieldwork	Permanent
*Salaried		

TABLE 5: VulPro staff members in 2022

VOLUNTEERS & STUDENTS

Our volunteers are vital to VulPro’s success. They often rescue birds on the brink of death and bring them back to VulPro, where we are sometimes able to save them. During 2022 we had 20 visiting international volunteers staying at VulPro for between two to four weeks.

We would not be able to do our work and save so many vultures if it were not for our volunteers. We would like to thank our volunteers, the people, and the organisations worldwide who have assisted the vultures and VulPro in times of difficulty.



TRAVEL

Travel is a part of VulPro’s daily activities as we work throughout several provinces in South Africa. In 2022, we not only worked within our country’s confines, but we also made regular visits to our neighbouring countries such as Botswana and Zimbabwe.

Reasons for travel include but are not limited to the below:

- Carcass collection for feeding purposes
- Rescue and rehabilitation efforts
- Release of rescued individuals
- Meetings and conferences
- Management, supervision, and visits to vulture restaurants
- Travel to undertake research projects and fieldwork activities

- Training and education
- Talks and presentations
- Transportation of critical birds for veterinary services
- Vehicle service and maintenance

FINANCIAL
FUNDRAISING & SPONSORS

VulPro is a not-for-profit organisation. This means that we are dependent on the support of local and international donors and sponsors to continue with our work. Through this ongoing support of individuals and organisations, we can continue achieving our goals of conserving and stabilising vulture populations across southern Africa.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued support and commitment from our local and international sponsors and donors. We would also like to thank initiatives such as the MySchool/ MyVillage/ MyPlanet programme for allowing VulPro to be a chosen beneficiary in support of our plight.

VulPro is continuing to grow and develop its footprint worldwide. This will not only help educate local and international communities as to the importance and value of vultures, but also help promote and grow our support based, both in kind and financially.

- GOLD:**
- Holtzman Wildlife Foundation
 - Tusk Trust

- BLUE:**
- Boonshoft Museum of Discovery
 - Idea Wild
 - Little Rock Zoo
 - National Aviary
 - National Center for Birds of Prey
 - North Carolina Zoo
 - Thea Erasmus
 - Send-It
 - Virtual Assistant Business Hub
 - Zoological Society of
 - Hertfordshire
 - Paradise Wildlife Park

- SILVER:**
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
 - Dallas Zoo
 - Detroit Zoo
 - DHL
 - Fort Wayne Children’s Zoo
 - Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust
 - Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
 - Knoxville Zoo
 - Lomas Wildlife Protection Trust
 - Martin Ramstrup Holdings Aps
 - MaxPlanck Institute
 - Nashville Zoo
 - Natural Encounters Conservation

- THANKS TO OUR SPONSORS -

- San Diego Zoo
- Scottish African Safari Park
- Zoo Tampa

- BRONZE:**
- Abraham Foundation
 - Auckland Zoo
 - Blair Drummond
 - Brits Poles
 - Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden
 - Colchester Zoo
 - Designline Graphics
 - Different.org

- Forbatt SA
- Fondation Ensemble
- First Consulting Alliance
- Fresno Chaffee Zoo
- Friends of the Greenville Zoo Inc.
- GHB Farms
- Gallagher Security Management Systems
- Gauntlet Bird of Prey Centre
- Greenville Zoo
- Hamman Donation GPS
- IAATE
- Landgoed Hoenderdaell B. V Gierendag

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- Loch Lomond Bird Of Prey Centre
- National Aviary in Pittsburg
- Omaha’s Henry Doorly Zoo
- R&R Abattoir
- Sacramento Zoo
- Scottish African Safari Park
- Sophie Danforth Award – Roger Williams Zoo
- The Abraham Foundation
- Wilhelma Zoologisch-Botanischer Garten Stuttgart Zoo
- World Bird Sanctuary
- Zoo Atlanta

- THANKS TO OUR COLLABORATORS -

We could not do the work that we do in isolation. We would like to recognize and thank our collaborators.

- Anglia Ruskin University
- AZA Vulture SAFE
- Bakoven Farm
- BirdLife International
- BirdLife South Africa
- Boelani Farm
- Bosveld Farm
- Broederstroom Veterinary Clinic
- Cango Wildlife Ranch
- Cape Nature Western Cape
- Cape Vulture Lodge
- Department of economic, small business development, tourism and environment affairs, Free State Province
- Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment
- Dotreg Farm
- Dronfield Nature Reserve
- Eastern Cape Department: Economic Development, Environmental Affairs and Tourism
- Edinburgh Napier University
- EDM International
- Elandskloof Farm
- Endangered Wildlife OU
- Endangered Wildlife Trust
- Gauteng Department: Agriculture and Rural Development
- Griffons Bush Camp and Groothoek
- Groenedal Farm
- Haakdorn
- Harlou
- Horstmann Trust
- Kallie Lee Farm
- Jabulani Safaris, Zimbabwe
- Laastepoort
- La Rancho Farm
- Leeuwdoorn Farm
- Leibniz Institute for Zoo and Wildlife Research
- Leopard Lodge
- Limpopo Department: Economic Development, Environment and Tourism
- Loggerinde Hoek
- Max Planck Institute
- Moletje Nature Reserve
- Montecasino Bird Park
- Mpumalanga Tourism and Parks Agency
- Nando Farm
- NARREC
- National Lead Task Force
- National Vulture Task Force
- National Vulture Breeding Steering Committee
- National Wildlife Poisoning Prevention Working Group
- National University of Science and Technology
- Nature Rwanda
- Nooigedacht Farm
- North Carolina Zoo
- Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation
- North West Department: Economic Development, Environment, Conservation and Tourism
- Numzaan Safaris
- Omega Game Ranch
- Plettenberg Raptor Rescue
- Plumari Private Reserve
- Raptor Rescue, KZN
- Renosterfontein
- Rooiderbokvale
- Dr Sarah Woodhouse
- Soetdoring Farm
- Soutpansberg
- Swartbos Farm
- The Peregrine Fund
- Ultimo Farm
- UNISA
- University of Cape Town
- University of Pretoria
- University of Pretoria Faculty of Veterinary Sciences
- University of St Andrews
- Victoria Falls Wildlife Trust
- Vulture Conservation Foundation
- Vultures in Crisis
- Wildlife Act
- Woodside Lodge

- THANKS TO OUR ADOPTIVE PARENTS -

We would like to express our continued thanks to our adoptive parents! We are extremely grateful for your continued contribution to these birds during their stay at VulPro.

- Clive Vardakis – Cape Vulture, Brizzle
- Jonathan Chaplin – Cape Vultures, Conan and Sherry
- Alexander H – African White-backed Vulture, Kira-Mathilda; and Cape Vulture, Bacchus Carlo
- Ian Burton – African White-backed Vulture, George
- Andrea Schreier – Lappet-faced Vulture, Johnny
- Annemieke de Wit – White-headed Vulture, Isabis
- Suzanne Corrigan – Cape Vulture, Fionnbharr
- Kim Caldwell – Cape Vulture, Percy
- Tracey Robinson – Cape Vulture, Delilah
- Frank Schoppner – Lappet-faced Vulture, Fenja
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- Julie Edgley – Cape Vulture, Amala
- Hans and Ute Schute – Cape Vulture, Lucky
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- Dawn Griffard – Cape Vulture, Bubba
- Sandy Murray – African White-backed Vulture, Alfred
- Virbac – Cape Vulture, Cura
- Sjobbe Voet – Hooded Vulture, Mrs Nasty



RISK STRATEGY

VulPro continues to manage its investment asset in order to support its cash flow. Throughout 2022, we continued with our strict expense controls and managed our financial planning according to best financial practices. The funds continue to be monitored and invested at a conservative rate and have provided a modest return on investment during the turbulent markets (The audited financials are available on request).

VULPRO SUSTAINABILITY

VulPro continues to apply its core values and protect its key assets which have been nurtured over the past twelve years. These measures include employing suitable and committed staff and a competent board of directors to govern the organisation and adhere to sound and good corporate governance practices.

VulPro recognises that vultures are a benefit to all global citizens, today and tomorrow. With this in mind, we are challenging and growing our borders, informing more countries than before, about the importance and relevance of vultures. This outreach has helped us build and grow a loyal and healthy global sponsorship base: a massive contributing factor in VulPro's future and the sustainability of the species.

