



UNIVERSITY OF  
KWAZULU-NATAL  
INYUVESI  
YAKWAZULU-NATALI

**HELP SAVE A**  
*Species*



**AFRICAN WHITE - BACKED  
VULTURE**  
(*Gyps africanus*)



**WHITE - HEADED  
VULTURE**  
(*Trigonoceps occipitalis*)



**LAPPET - FACED  
VULTURE**  
(*Torgos tracheliotos*)

#### WHY VULTURES?

Vultures provide essential ecosystem services, yet they are among the most threatened groups of birds worldwide (Ogada, *et al.*, 2012). Currently, 69% of vultures and condors are listed as threatened or near-threatened, with the majority classified as Endangered or Critically Endangered (BirdLife International, 2014). Certain life history traits may make vultures predisposed to severe declines. They have specialised diets (Clavel *et al.*, 2011; Buechley and Şekercioğlu, 2016), delayed sexual maturation, slow reproductive rates and low population densities (Purvis *et al.*, 2000; Buechley and Şekercioğlu, 2016). Poisoning at carcasses, electrocution on powerlines, disturbance of nests, the use of vulture parts in traditional medicine, reduction in food availability and hunting vultures for food all threaten vulture populations (Bamford *et al.*, 2009; Boshoff *et al.*, 2011; Botha *et al.*, 2012; Ogada *et al.*, 2012; Angelov *et al.*, 2014; Williams *et al.*, 2014). Therefore it is critical to understand their status, breeding ecology and threats in order to implement conservation initiatives.

#### HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Report any vulture nests you see.
- Record coordinates of where nests were sighted
- Record behaviour of the vulture(s) by the nest (e.g sitting in the nest, feeding etc)
- Tree species where the nest is
- Time of day the vulture(s) was seen
- Send photographs if you have any
- Provide your name and contact details

PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT

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