

Project Update: July 2017

Since the hooded vulture breeding season began in May 2017, I have been very busy monitoring nests in the Lowveld. In July 2017, I joined John Davies from the Blyde-Olifants Pel's Fishing Owl project (and his volunteers) for a 7-day survey of the riparian birds of the Blyde River (in north-eastern South Africa). We were also hoping to find new hooded vulture nests to add to those already being monitored. We found some new nests, and also saw two juveniles (with creamy-brown feathers on their napes) breaking twigs from a Matumi tree – interesting behaviour for two apparently sub-adult birds. Earlier this month I presented a talk on hooded vulture breeding behaviour at the combined biennial conference of the Entomological Society of Southern Africa and the Zoological Society of Southern Africa in Pretoria.



1. Surveying riparian species along the Blyde River, north-eastern South Africa.



2. The Blyde River, where we did a 7-day survey, hoping to find new hooded vulture nests.

Breeding ecology of the Hooded Vulture in South Africa.

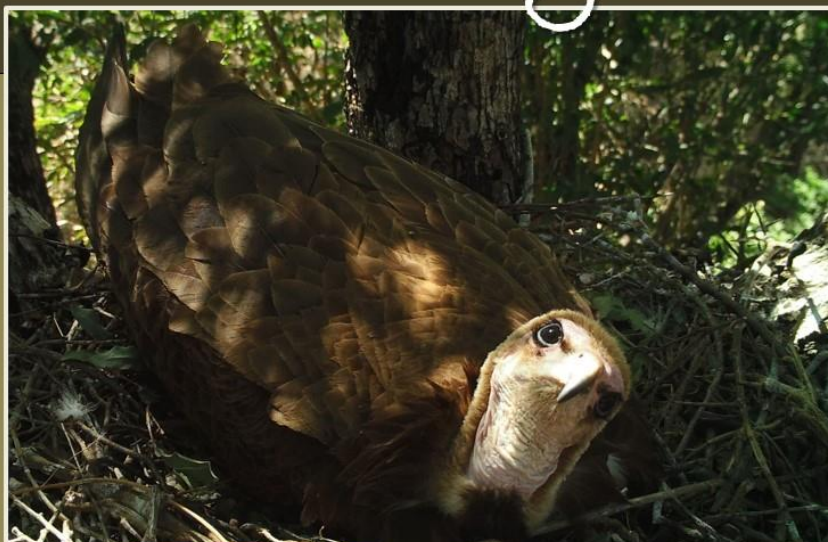


L. Thompson, C.T. Downs, A. Botha, K. Bildstein and C. Murn



3. Title page of our presentation at the combined ESSA and ZSSA conference in Pretoria, July 2017.

Thank you



4. Final slide of our presentation at the combined ESSA and ZSSA conference in Pretoria, July 2017, gratefully acknowledging financial support from the Rufford Foundation.