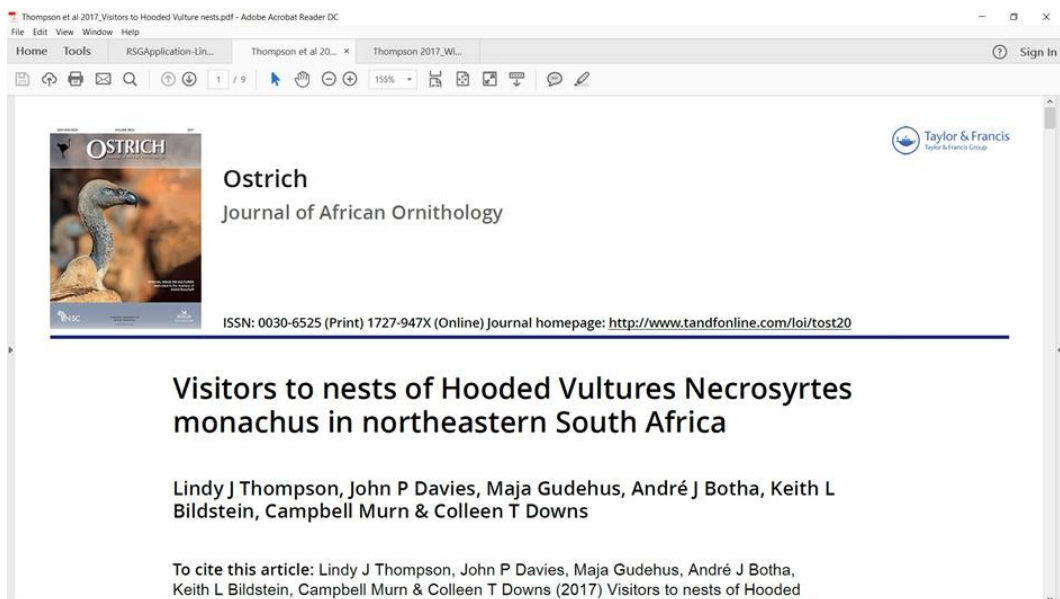
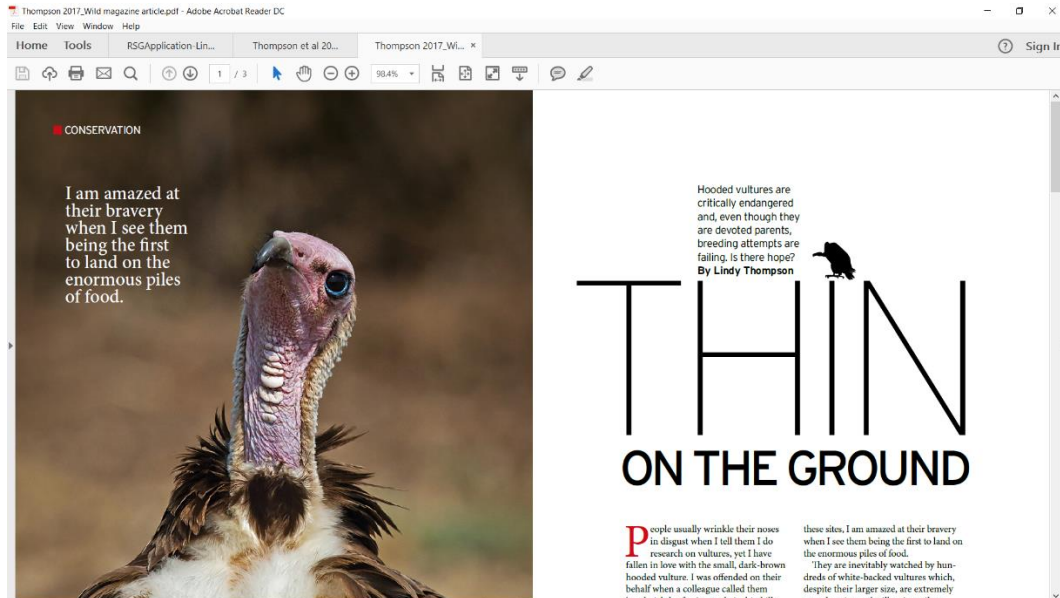


Project Update: August 2017

'My collaborators and I are excited to have published our first two papers from this project. The first recorded a hooded vulture trying to remove sticks from an old nest, representing an energy-saving way of nest-building.



The second paper presented results from a year's worth of camera-trap photos at 12 hooded vulture nests; there were no cases of nest usurpation, but there were two cases of nest predation, once by a martial eagle (itself an endangered species) and once by a Chacma baboon. I also published a popular magazine article in Wild magazine, which has a circulation of 70 000, to promote the project, and to introduce an MSc candidate, Ms Mbali Mashele, who is conducting questionnaires to assess the use of vulture body parts for muthi in South Africa. Mbali is supervised by Prof Colleen Downs at UKZN. We are grateful to the Rufford Foundation for funding this work.