

Project Update: October 2022

Before the RSG grant, starting from early May 2022, my project team and I had established relationships with the municipalities of Jimma, Bonga, and Agaro. So, primary from mid-May 2022, we were able to carry out a wet season field survey for total counts insight hooded vulture with best observation points at all chosen feeding and roosting sites. Four vulture species were observed; the hooded, white-backed, and Ruppell's vultures (all critically endangered) and the endangered lappet-faced vulture where Ruppell's and lappet-faced vultures were absent in Agaro or Bonga for count period in this survey.

We count up the largest count for hooded and white backed vulture respectively for wet season in Jimma city. The dumpsites were with highest number of hooded vulture counts compared to abattoirs for this period. The roost sites were used by hooded and white-backed vulture collectively but with exceptional for hooded in Jimma University and Bonga roosting sites. We never perceived the roost and known dumpsite in Agaro town. Therefore, more information regarding population estimate will be provided after dry season count at the end of December 2022.

The team also discovered three dead hooded vultures on the ground one at Bonga and two Jimma University, all of which had suffered from electrocution. The university guards and landfill workers were both agreed that it appeared to be an electric collision at those points, even though there were no additional cases for our review.

At this time, we are in the second phase of the project devoted to the ground survey of hooded vulture breeding sites in a way our team is eager to finish its fieldwork surveys and look for breeding grounds that were missed during the wet season.

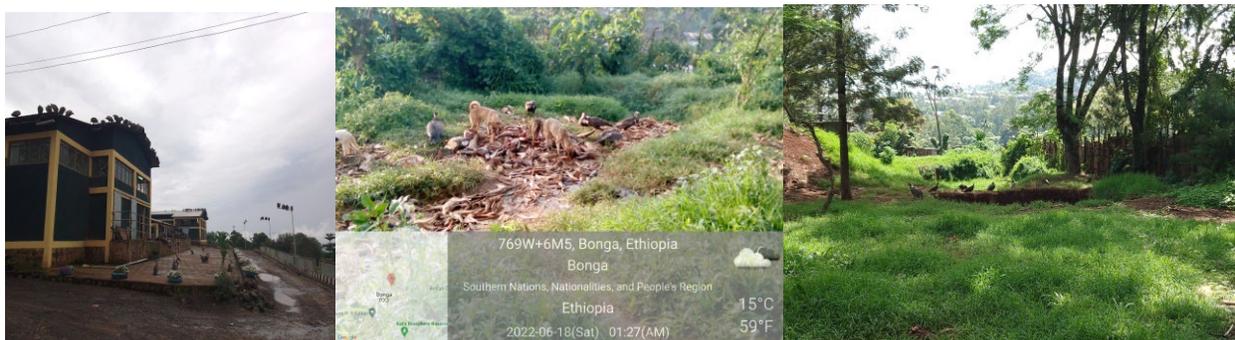


Fig 1: Jimma, Bonga and Agaro cities Abattoirs Respectively



Fig 2: Landfill, different vultures and observation for count data at dumpsite in Jimma (respectively)



Fig 3: while asking Abattoir guard for basic correction about vulture daily movement and searching for additional roost site near dump



Fig 5: Two Dead bodies of adult hooded vulture at Jimma University roost site and feed site and one fresh dead juvenile at Bonga University dumpsite respectively



Fig 6: Hooded vulture perching on building of car station in Jimma University (Main campus)



Fig 7: Among very common overnight and day roost trees (the *Eucalyptus* species and *Ficus* species respectively) for hooded vulture in study areas