



Vulture Multi-species Action Plan

Overarching Workshop – Toledo, Spain

Increasing protection of vultures via CMS:

Proposals to list ten species of Old World Vulture on CMS Appendix I



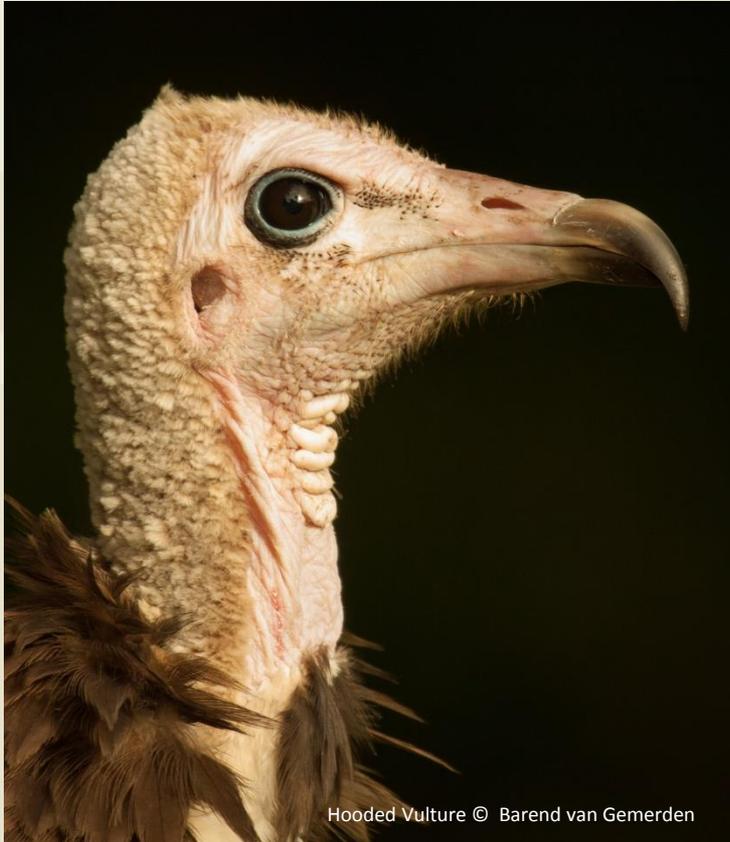
Nick P. Williams

Head of the Coordinating Unit of the CMS Raptors MoU

16 – 19 February 2017 – Overarching Workshop, Toledo, Spain

Vulture Multi-species Action Plan

Outline of presentation



- Appendix I and II of CMS
- Insights into vulture movements
- Species threatened with extinction
- Process to amend CMS Appendix I
- Requirements for proponents
- Outline timeline 2017
- Multi-species proposals

Appendix I and II of CMS



Appendix I – Endangered migratory species

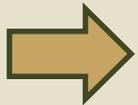
- Migratory species assessed in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their range.

Appendix II - Migratory species conserved through agreements

- Migratory species that have an unfavourable conservation status and that require or would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement.

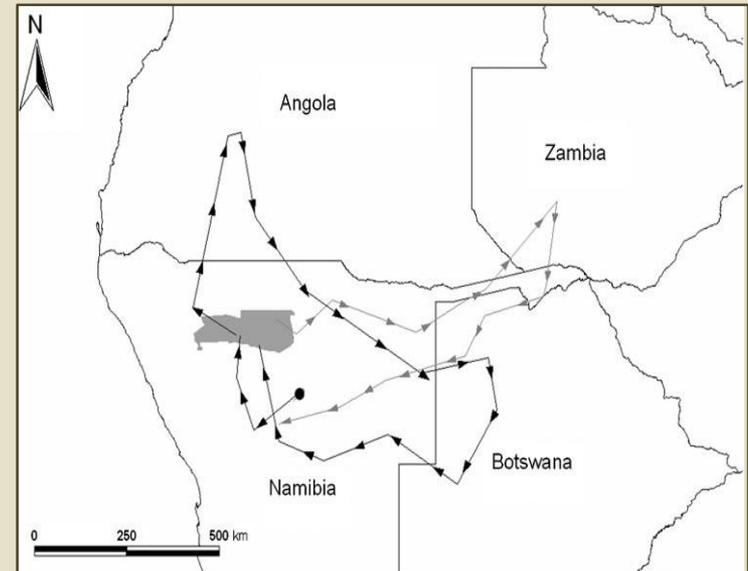
Only one vulture species – Egyptian Vulture currently benefits from Appendix I listing

All migratory species within Accipitridae Family are included in CMS Appendix II

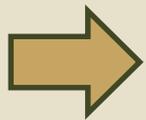


New insights into vulture movements

- Not traditionally seen as migrants
- New research reveals huge home ranges, large scale movements (often associated with seasonal changes and food availability), consistent with the CMS definition of ‘migratory species’



Simplified path of immature Cape Vulture between Feb & Sep 2005 (Bamford *et al.* 2007)



At MOS2 of Raptors MoU (Oct 2015), 12 vulture species added to Annex 1 on basis of evidence of migratory behaviour. Listed in Annex 3 (Action Plan), Table 1 as Category 1 (globally threatened species)

Vulture species threatened with extinction



- Populations in Africa, Asia and Eastern Europe in are decline and face a wide range of anthropogenic threats
- IUCN Red List status of vultures has seen drastic changes in recent years: by Oct 2015 the majority of vulture species were listed as 'Critically Endangered'
- For species listed on CMS Appendix I, Parties strive to: improve protection of these animals; conserve or restore their habitats; mitigate obstacles to migration; and, control other factors that might endanger them.
- International cooperation is a critically important ingredient of CMS.



Listing vultures on CMS Appendix I underpins key objectives of Vulture MsAP



Process to amend CMS Appendix I



- Appendices may be amended at any Conference of Parties (COP) (i.e. species added to or removed from the Appendices)
- Amendment proposals can be submitted by any Contracting Party
- The COP decides on the acceptance or rejection of a proposal

Next CMS COP scheduled to be held in October 2017



Technical Advisory Group committed to provision of support to proponents.

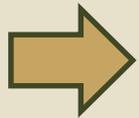
First drafts prepared for multi-species proposals for African and Asian vultures.



Requirements for proponents



- Proponents must provide a statement of their intent to:
 - conclude an international agreement or concerted action; and,
 - adopt the role of Focal Point for the nominated taxon and lead the development of an international agreement or concerted action
- **However, in this case the Raptors MoU is already in place (since 2008) and a Vulture MsAP is under active development**



Any country engaging in Vulture MSAP process should fulfil these requirements



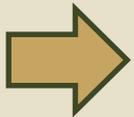
Outline timeline 2017

Feb – March	Interested countries alert Coordinating Unit of Raptors MoU
Early March	1 st complete draft of Listing Proposals shared with proponents
Late March	2 nd draft circulated for review to vulture experts (and others?)
Mid-April	Final draft produced, with TAG support, as appropriate
Early May	Proponents submit proposals to CMS Secretariat
Mid – July	Proposals reviewed by CMS Scientific Council
Late October	Proposals considered for adoption at CMS COP12

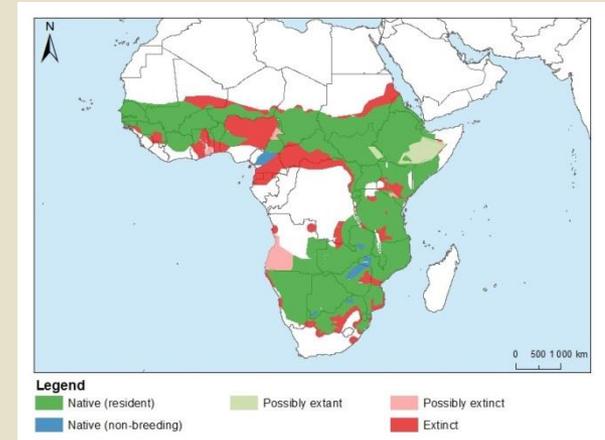
Multi-species proposals

- Two multi-species proposals:
 - 6 African Vultures: White-headed, Hooded, White-backed, Cape, Rüppell's and Lappet-faced Vulture
 - 4 Asian Vultures: Red-headed, White-rumped, Indian and Slender-billed Vulture
- Multiple proponents welcome in order to cover ranges of all species included

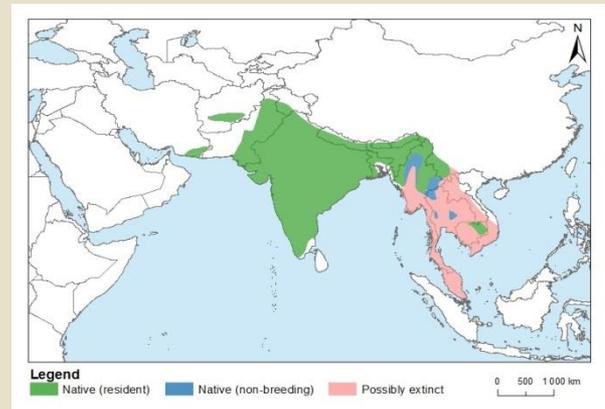
Excellent opportunity to demonstrate support for vulture conservation



Full technical support being offered by TAG so only modest inputs needed



Range map of White-backed Vulture



Range map of White-rumped Vulture

Thank you for your support!



Photo: © Chris Bowden

Vulture Multi-species Action Plan

Separate multi-species proposals

4 ASIAN species



Red-headed Vulture



Slender-billed Vulture



White-rumped Vulture



Indian Vulture

6 AFRICAN species



White-headed Vulture



Cape Vulture



Hooded Vulture



Rüppell's Vulture



White-backed Vulture



Lappet-faced Vulture