



The Value of Vultures

Species

Sierra Leone is home to three vulture species: the Palm-nut Vulture, White-backed Vulture and the Hooded Vulture.

The White-backed and the Hooded Vulture are listed as critically endangered by the IUCN red list. That means these vulture species are very close to extinction in the wild.



Palm-nut Vulture
Gypohierax angolensis



White-backed Vulture
Gyps africanus



Hooded Vulture
Necrosyrtes monachus

Threats

Vulture populations have drastically declined across Africa in recent years.

In Sierra Leone this is mainly due to: urban development, agriculture and farming, poisoning, hunting and trapping, logging and wood harvesting, human intrusions in habitat.



Vulture body parts are used for traditional medicine. Actually they don't have any real medical value.

Services

Vultures are critically important to prevent the spread of disease, regulate scavenger populations and spread nutrients across the landscape.

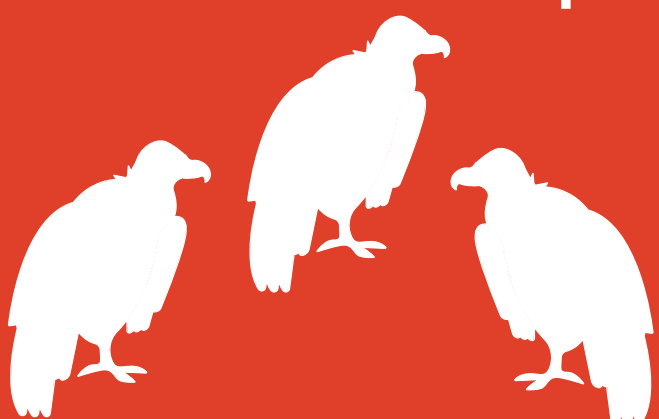
These services are important to keep the ecosystems stable and safeguard human health and livelihoods.



Vultures dispose carcasses efficiently and fast. With their acid stomachs they can digest diseases like anthrax, rabies and tuberculosis. This helps to stop the spread of diseases.

LET'S PROTECT OUR VULTURE POPULATIONS

to protect human health, livelihoods and ecosystem services.



Healthy Vultures = Healthy Ecosystems = Healthy People