

Bird Conservation International

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Front Cover: Vulture populations are in severe decline across Africa, and prioritising areas for their conservation is urgently needed. In this issue, Evan Buechley and colleagues describe how they compiled three independent datasets on vulture occurrence from road surveys, GPS tracking and citizen science (eBird), and built ensemble species distribution models to identify priority areas in Ethiopia, a stronghold for vultures in Africa. Overall, they found that only about one-fifth of vulture priority areas were protected. As vultures range widely, measures of broad spatial and legislative scope are needed to address drivers of vulture declines, including poisoning, energy infrastructure and climate change, while considering the local social context and aiding sustainable development.

Image credit: Hooded Vulture *Necrosyrtes monachus* © Evan R. Buechley.

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