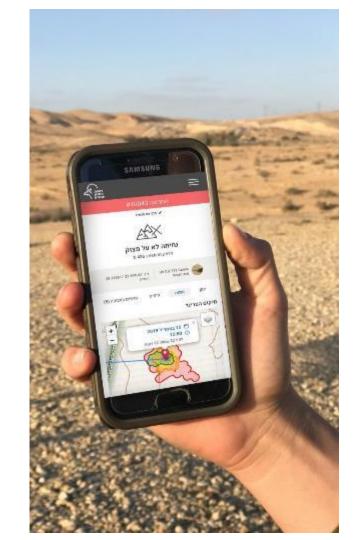
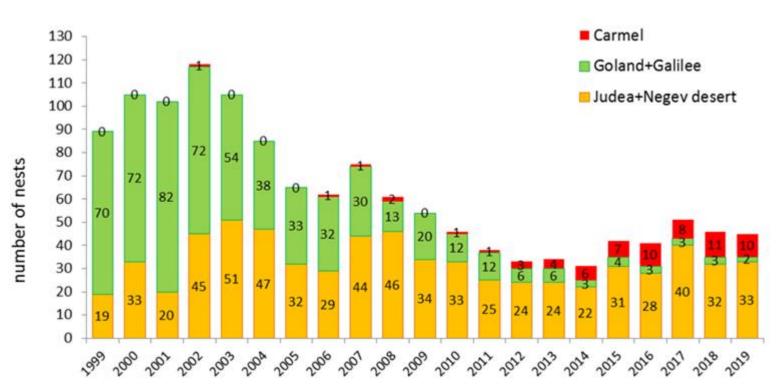


Location-aware alert system for wildlife poisoning using GPS tagged vultures

Israel Nature and Parks Authority
Jerusalem, Israel



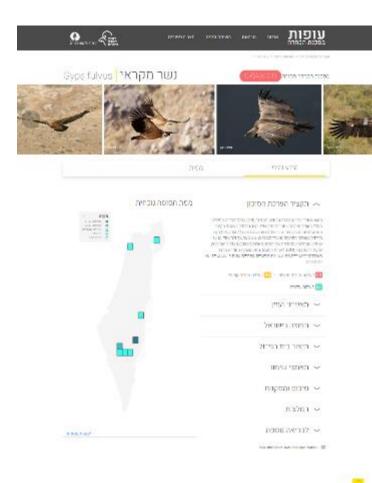
Griffon Vultures (Gyps fulvus) - GV



Griffon Vultures

Breeding occupancy difference, 2020-1990





Threats

Threat priority according to Vulture Multi species Action Plan

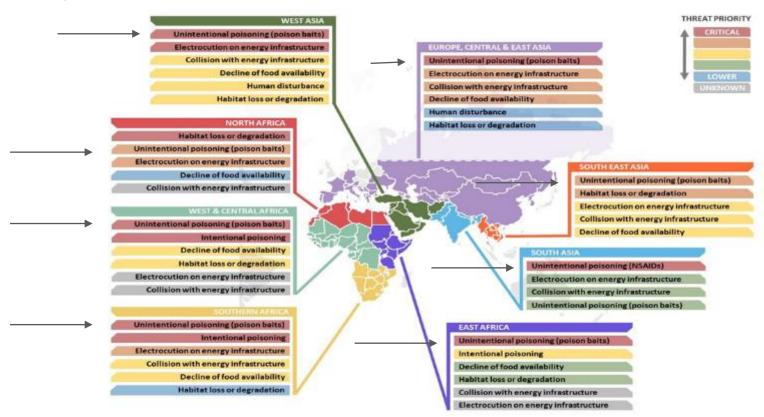
Including

- Intentional & Unintentional Poisoning
- Electrocution
- Collision with energy infrastructure
- Decline of food availability
- Habitat loss and degradation



Poisoning as global main threat

Threat priority according to Vulture Multi species Action Plan



Management actions

- Monitoring the population: individuals marking, veterinary inspection, tagging with GPS-Loggers
- Captive breeding and restocking of captive born and Spanish origin rehabilitated GV
- Controlling disturbances at nesting cliffs including military and civil aviation
- Guarding nests
- Education

- Supplementary feeding with safe food (without medications)
- Scheduled poisoning detection transects in Golan heights
- Sanitation projects removal of carcasses

The challenge of poisoning

- Almost impossible to predict or prevent
- Very difficult to detect on time detection is often by presence of carcasses
- Fast ground response is required after detection, often in remote areas.
- Almost impossible to enforce the law

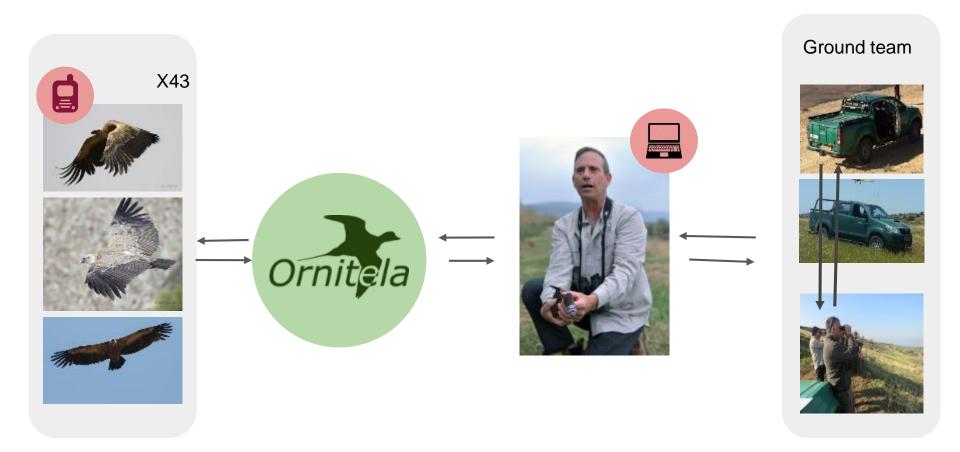
An early warning in near real-time about poison or carcass - Could make a difference?







Methodology: using griffons as poisoning detectors



Concept: using griffons as poisoning detectors



Stoynov E., Peshev H., Grozdanov A. 2018. <u>Early warning system for wildlife poisoning, using intensive GPS tracked vultures as detectives</u>. Fund for Wild Flora and Fauna

Limitations of this approach

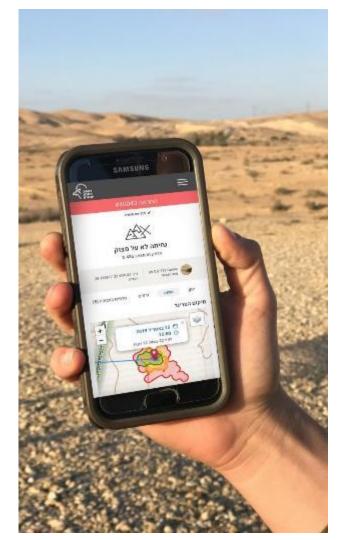
 Requires high human attention for inspecting animal movement and locations both in the office and in the field

- Depends on expert availability to inspect the incoming data
- Workload increase drastically with animal numbers
- Expertise required to infer the behaviour and locations

The challenge

Improve the basic methodology by using technology:

An automatic location-aware alert system for wildlife poisoning* using GPS tagged vulture* individuals



Technology

Ornitela - OrniTrack-50 GPS-GSM tracker

- Weights 50 grams
- GPS receiver, GSM transceiver
- No external antennas
- Solar charger: high efficiency 22%
- Data storage: 2,000,000 records
- Data upload: via GSM/GPRS/3G network
- Data are stored if network is unavailable
- Geofences: change sample and transmission frequency according to location
- Control: user remotely controls GPS & GSM and geofence settings
- Main data record: UTC date & time, GPS position, GPS altitude, speed, direction, instant acceleration (3 axes), temperature





Django

- Powerful web application development framework
- Open source
- Python based
- Full spatial support included with GeoDjango+PostGIS

 Django's primary goal is to ease the creation of complex, database-driven applications

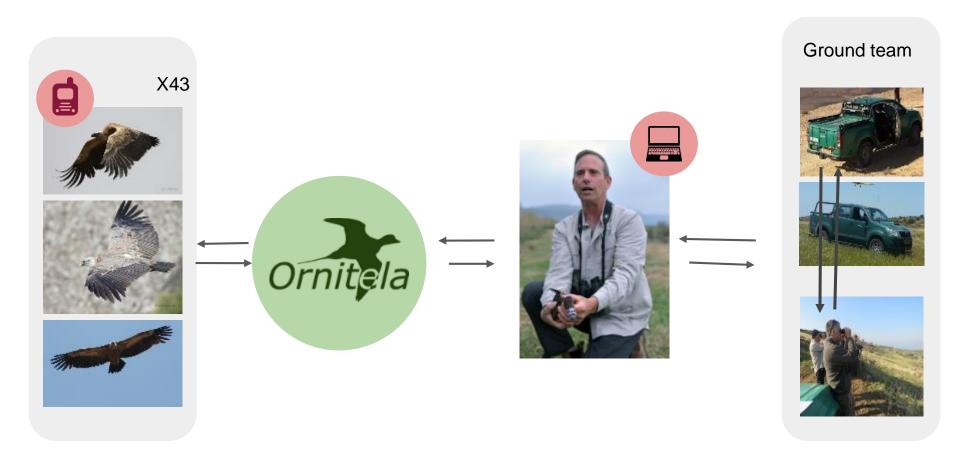


Telegram messaging

- Popular messaging application
- Extensive API and Bots (account that are operated by programs)



Previous architecture



New architecture Ground team X43 settings Alert system Ornitela

System description

- Integration to Ornitela:
 - Scheduled task for downloading and processing transmitters data when available
 - Automatic management of species and individual animals
- Testing fresh data against predefined suspicious* scenarios -
 - Landing off cliff landscape: feeding or stress
 - Received data + Lack of movement > 24h
 - Extreme body temperature when on the ground*
- Creation of alerts when scenario is met
 - Telegram messages with details sent to relevant Telegram groups, by species or by district
 - Settings for exclusion of transmitters, species or scenarios.
 - Scheduled report of open alerts
 - Automatic closing message when there is indication to the well-being of the animal
- Tests

Demonstrations

Data

https://dubi.parks.org.il/ornitrack/transmitters/



התראות משדרי דורסים

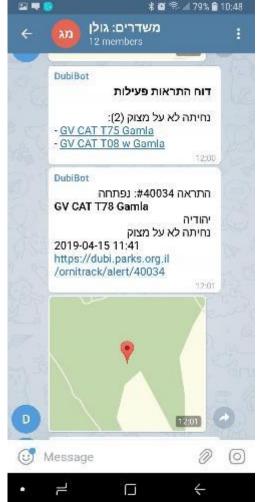
תקציר משדרים

•				
מין	משדרים	מוחרגים מהתראות	מוחרגים מהתראות	סוגי התראות
נשר מקראי	43	4	GV HB T96 white Cat :180173 GV T05 White Gamla :180175 GV Cat Hev T21W :17486 GV CAT Hever T21W :17488	נחיתה לא על מצוק טמפ' גוף קיצונית אין תנועה 24 שעות
עורב שחור	2	0		
עיט זהוב	3	0		טמפ' גוף קיצונית אין תנועה 24 שעות נחיתה לא על מצוק
עיטם לבן-זנב	1	0		טמפ' גוף קיצונית אין תנועה 24 שעות
עיט נצי	18	1	BE A15 YELLOW 2018 :171402	טמפ' גוף קיצונית אין תנועה 24 שעות
רחם	27	2	EV C39 Blue dead :17111 EV C39 Blue :17111	נחיתה לא על מצוק טמפ' גוף קיצונית אין תנועה 24 שעות
לא ידוע	2	1	Amir's Gazelle :17111	

Telegram Alerts



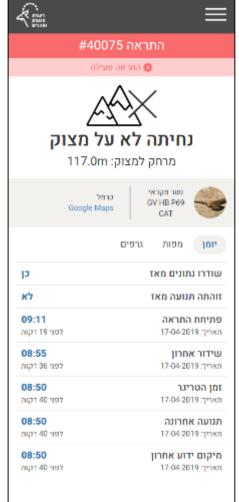




Alert details

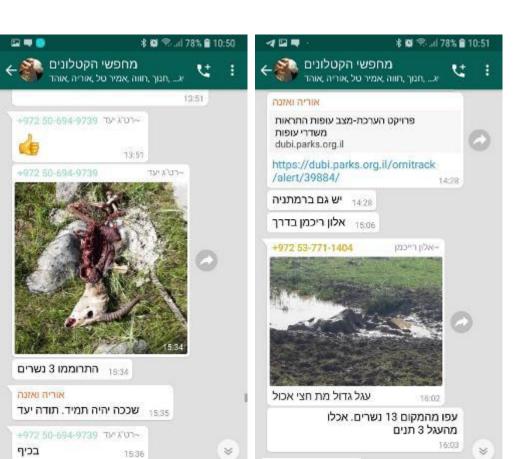


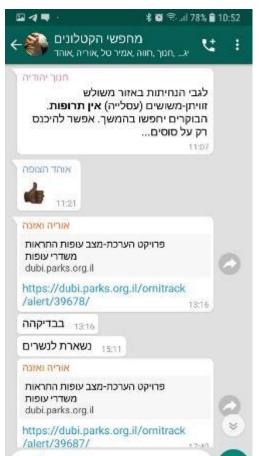




https://dubi.parks.org.il/ornitrack/a

Ground-team work - WhatsAPP







Effects

- Positive effect on the communication with farmers Vultures detect most carcasses and the information is passed on (Golan, Carmel)
- Higher success in preventing consumption of unsafe food (Golan)
- Better prevention of feeding on poached boares with risk of lead poisoning (Golan, Carmel)
- Better and faster detection of poisoning events and mortalities and prevention of additional secondary poisoning (Carmel, Negev)

What's next?

- Calibration and more complex logic to minimize false alerts
- Reporting of findings by the ground team
- Sharing the code and collaboration with foreign conservation teams
- User interface improvements

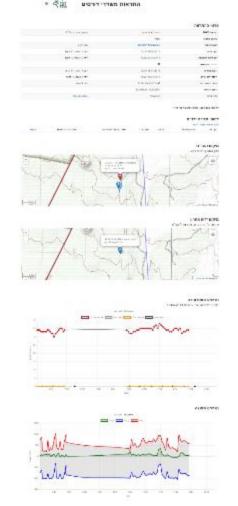
Thanks

- Ornitela's team
- Ohad's patience
- Rangers' patience
- Ofer Steinitz
- Udi Oron
- Nurit Avruch





Alert details



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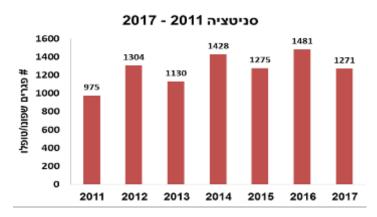
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Management actions

- Decrease carrying capacity > to reduce overpopulation of predators
- Inform shepherds of their livestock's mortality > cooperation vs. fear and anger
- ensuring only safe food is available for the vultures



בממוצע: 60±1266 פגרים בשנה. ביואקולוגיה/קנ"ט (6%±73), רט"ג (6%±27).

