

Foraging Ecology of Threatened Vulture Species in Dehradun, Uttarakhand (India)



Himani Singh Khati^{1,3} Sunny Joshi^{1,2}

¹Himalayan Institute for Sustainable Environment & Research Society (HISER), D. Dun (India)

² School of Environment & Natural Resources, Doon University (India),

³ Dept. of Habitat Ecology, Wildlife Institute of India.



Introduction

Vultures are scavenger avian species; they provide an immense ecosystem service by efficiently cleaning the dead carcasses up from the environment.

The species presence and the dead food source availability in the Dehradun (Western Himalaya) of India would help in providing better understanding of the habitat suitability for the **India's Action Plan for Vulture Conservation 2020-2025**.



Materials and methods

The following methods were adopted for the current study;

- Point Count survey
- Road transect survey



Results

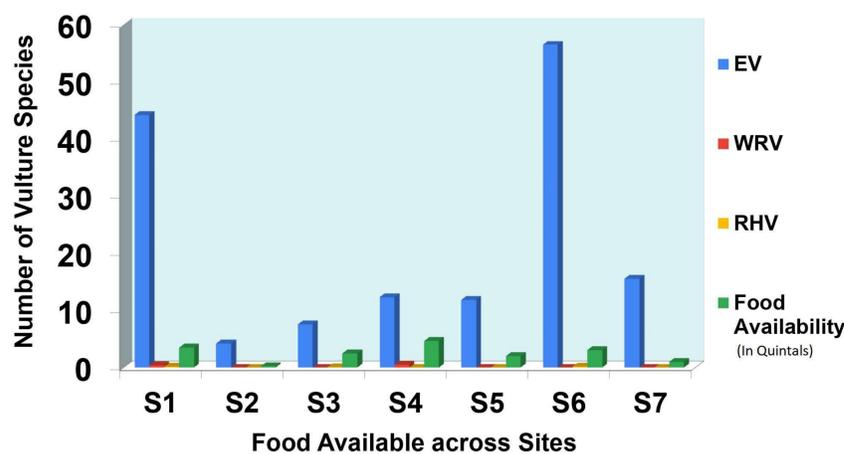
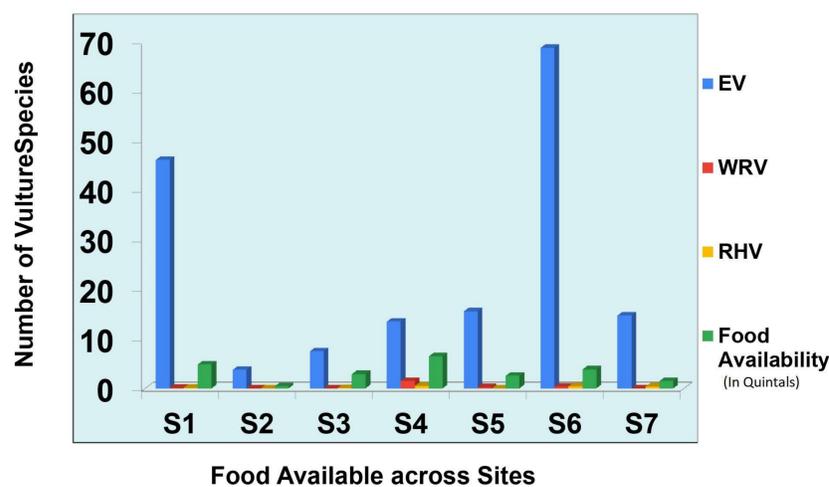
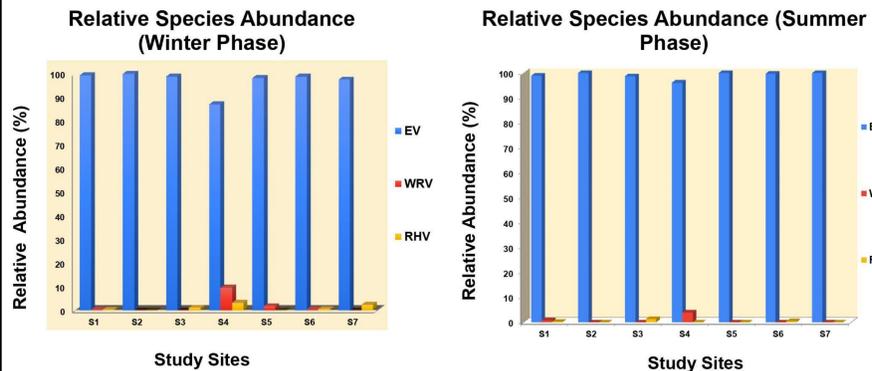


Figure 1&2 : Relative Species Abundance (%); **Figure 3&4:** Vulture to Food Availability Pattern in Winter and Summer months respectively.

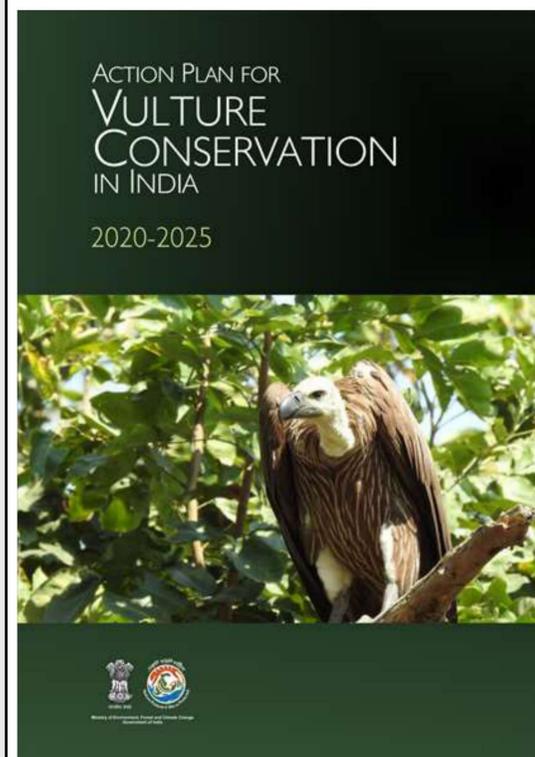


Conclusions

Dehradun, foothills of the Himalaya provide an ample amount of food source (dead carcasses) for the threatened Vulture species.

The high relative abundance of species and the food available to sustain their population shows positive future conservation projections.

These areas with proximity to forests and regular food supply can sustain larger Vulture populations in the near future.



Literature cited

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- (2) Prakash, V., Green, R.E., Pain, D.J., Ranade, S.P., Sarvanan, S., Prakash, N., Venkitachalam, R., Cuthbert, R., Rahmani, A.R., Cunningham, A.A., 2007. Recent Change in population of resident Gyps vultures in India. *J. Bombay Nat. Hist. Soc.* 104; 129-135.

Acknowledgments

Raptor Conservation Programme (RCP), HISER society, Dehradun (India)
<https://hisersociety.org/raptor-conservation/>

Further information

<https://hisersociety.org/raptor-conservation/>
https://www.conservationleadershipprogramme.org/media/2016/04/CLP-Final-Report_2907.pdf
<http://moef.gov.in/wp-content/themes/moef-green/ebook/Action2020-2025/ActionPlan.html>