

# Kafue Flats IBA



The Kafue Flats are an important Bird and Biodiversity area that supports well over 450 species. Some of these species are endemic, threatened, endangered and/or migratory species including breeding raptors.

The complex blend of grasslands and woodland (Savanna) zones are of much importance for the survival and safety of different species of birds, particularly the Vultures because they are a safe roosting (resting or sleeping) and nesting area.

Vultures, whose preference are sparsely vegetated areas, are seen perched/roosting and soaring over this Savannah woodland area in search of food. In the dry season, the large scattered trees of these woodlands host a good number of breeding pairs. Apart from making this place their “home”, they also follow the water bodies within the flats where they go to wash.

Movements of tagged Vultures that were fitted with GSM transmitters indicate that a good number of Vultures spend more time feeding on farms in Chisamba IBA and other farms in different areas. After feeding from these areas, they fly back to their roosting sight-the Kafue flats. <https://www.birdwatchzambia.org/vulture-tracking/>

Even though Vultures roost or soar over a wide variety of habitats and almost anywhere with large concentrations of big game animals, Kafue flats remains one of the strong holds for the roosting and breeding populations.

Chomba, Chansa & M'Simuko, Eneya. (2013) discuss in detail “Nesting patterns of raptors; White backed vulture ( *Gyps africanus* ) and African fish eagle ( *Haliaeetus vocifer* ), in Lochinvar National Park on the kafue flats, Zambia” follow the link to access the publication: [https://www.researchgate.net/publication/272880220\\_Nesting\\_patterns\\_of\\_raptors\\_White\\_back\\_ed\\_vulture\\_Gyps\\_africanus\\_and\\_African\\_fish\\_eagle\\_Haliaeetus\\_vocifer\\_in\\_Lochinvar\\_National\\_Park\\_on\\_the\\_kafue\\_flats\\_Zambia](https://www.researchgate.net/publication/272880220_Nesting_patterns_of_raptors_White_back_ed_vulture_Gyps_africanus_and_African_fish_eagle_Haliaeetus_vocifer_in_Lochinvar_National_Park_on_the_kafue_flats_Zambia)