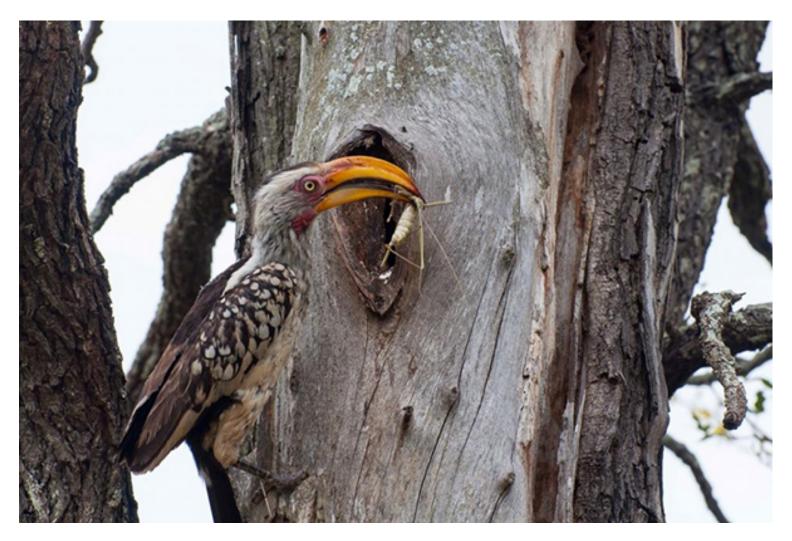


How high temperatures, drought have endangered the Kalahari bird?

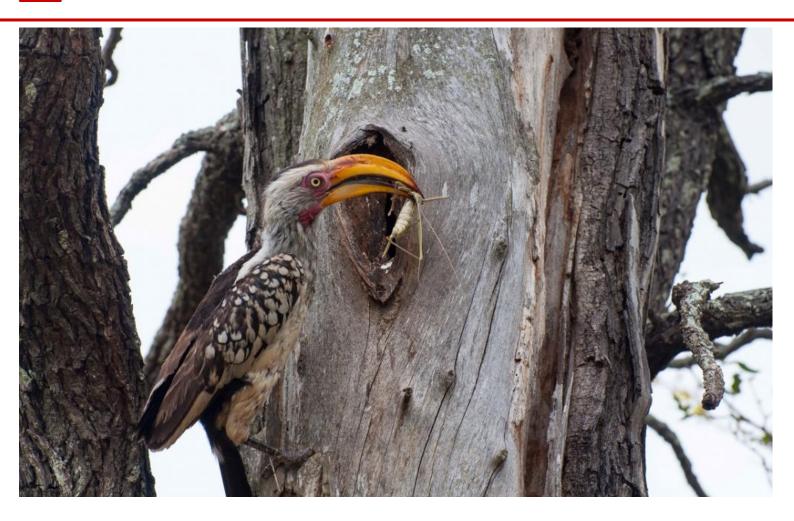
By IASToppers | 2022-06-09 17:30:00



How high temperatures, drought have endangered the Kalahari bird?

According to a study, increase in temperatures could see the southern yellow-billed hornbill disappear from parts of the Kalahari by 2027.

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[Ref: Down to Earth]

Southern Yellow-Billed Hornbill (Tockus leucomelas):

- It is a hornbill found in **southern Africa.**
- It is a common, widespread resident of the dry thorn fields and broad-leafed woodlands.
- They feed mainly on the ground, foraging for seeds, insects, spiders and even scorpions.
- They are known to forage co-operatively with **Dwarf Mongooses**.
- They nest in holes in trees. They line the cavity with dry grasses and leaves.
- The bird can be solitary but are also found in pairs or small groups.

Physical Features:

- It is a medium sized bird with long yellow beak.
- The skin around the eyes and in the malar stripe is pinkish.

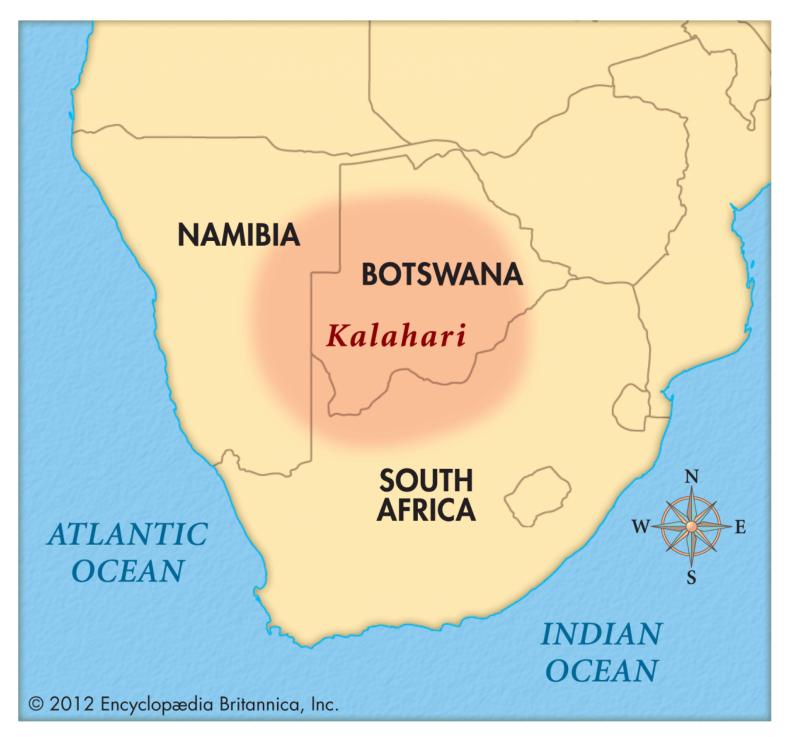
Conservation Status:

• IUCN Red List: Least Concern

Kalahari Desert:

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- It is a large basin like plain of the interior plateau of Southern Africa.
 - It is the southernmost desert in Africa.
- It is the 6th biggest desert by area on Earth and second biggest in Africa after the Sahara.
- The name 'Kalahari' means "large thirst" in Tswana language.
- Most of the desert is covered with vegetation with Savannah.
- It occupies almost all of **Botswana**, eastern third of **Namibia**, and northernmost part of **Northern Cape province in South Africa**.
- In the southwest it merges with the Namib, the coastal desert of Namibia.



[Ref: Britannica]



- The only permanent river that flows through the desert is the Okavango River.
- It is home to many big cats including lions, cheetahs or leopards.