

# Wetland biodiversity in danger?

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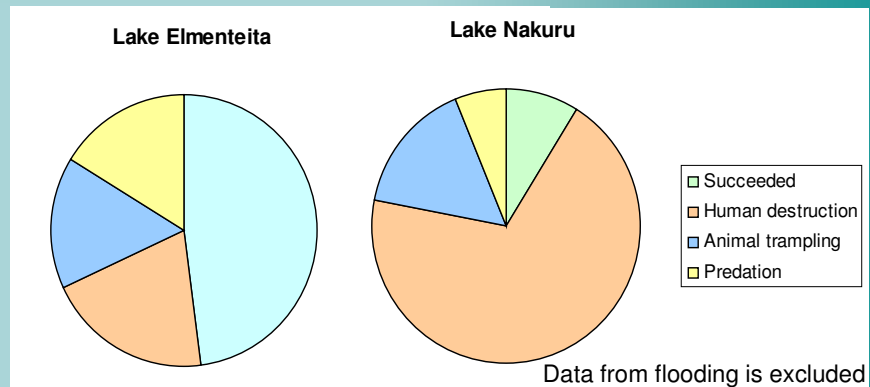
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Using artificial nests, an index of breeding success of Kittlitz's Plover, *Charadrius pecuarius*, was compared between two soda lakes in the Rift Valley with different levels of human disturbance. Lake Nakuru with high and lake Elmenteita with low.

"Is human disturbance deleterious for breeding Kittlitz's Plovers?"

"The nests are destroyed by vehicles at Lake Nakuru"



## Conclusion

- Natural nest occurrence coincided with areas of higher artificial nest survival.
- Contradictory trends in breeding habitat preference pattern.
- Flooding is the biggest threat to breeding Kittlitz's plovers at both lakes. At Nakuru it is also challenged by destruction by vehicle.

"However, some level of disturbance is needed to maintain the open habitat, preferred by the Kittlitz's Plover."

- Intense usage of shoreline implies reduced nesting access.

