

Integrated Report

2014-2015

Conservation in Action



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WE SUPPORT

The Endangered Wildlife Trust is a signatory to the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)



The Endangered Wildlife Trust is a member of the Global Goals for Sustainable development



The Endangered Wildlife Trust is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature



Message from the Chairman

It has been heartening, during this past year, to witness the great strides being made by the EWT. Particularly our work in engaging and educating the public and our communities with regards to the wider conservation drive and the need to remain active and focussed in our undertaking to preserve and protect the environment in all its facets. All this despite a volatile and unpredictable global economic climate.

Poaching syndicates, in various guises, and their allies have grown more sophisticated and often hide in plain sight. I commend our EWT staff, partners and greater support base for their excellent work in exposing some of these parties. There is, however, much more that we can and should still do in this regard. To this end, the EWT is continually extending its partnership network to ensure that we are reaching more people, more communities and playing an ever-increasing role in driving the conservation agenda. To do so, a robust governance structure – based on the cornerstones of transparency, accountability, sustainability and actual results – supports the EWT's efforts for the benefit of generations to come

The world is changing and rural communities and local people are constantly presented with new commercial opportunities that often relate to tourism. While we applaud this industry, it can also involve the exploitation of our wildlife and the environment. I need only make mention of the highly publicised Zimbabwean hunting debacle around Cecil the Lion, or the continued decline of our rhino populations due to poaching, with those responsible, in some instances, being hosted by communities under the guise of 'travellers passing through'. Generating awareness and educating community members, of both this generation and future generations, will remain key in the continued drive and execution of our mandate.

Due to misguided interventions and machinations of those in power, new data indicate a steady decline in overseas visitors – by as much as 14% – and our tourism industry is in retreat. We welcome the support of members of the public, the media and the tourism sector in working with us to strive for even greater transparency, ethics and honesty in the use of wildlife in pursuit of the tourists' dollars in a sustainable form.

This integrated report reflects the significant spectrum of work the EWT engages in and should serve as a reflection of the dedicated service to conservation by the outstanding EWT team. Our CEO, Yolan Friedmann, and her staff continue to deliver exceptional results in the field. In turn, this allows for increased and sustained donor confidence, thus allowing the EWT to continue building its legacy on a strong foundation. On behalf of the Board of Management, I convey our sincere appreciation for your hard work, dedication, tenacity and flare exhibited during the year under review.

To the Board of Management and the entire trustee body thank you for your commitment, and passion for our cause. We greatly appreciate the time you afford the Trust and your wise council is a vital element of our success. We all need to stand at the ready to assist the management of the Trust in the coming years. As our work expands our services as a trustee body will be in greater demand.

I am always proud to be able to congratulate the many staff members who, through their hard work and perseverance, are recognised by being bestowed awards and recognition. Well done to you all and thank you for the value these accolades add to the EWT's standing and brand recognition – merits that ring true for the entire organisation.

In the words of Theodore Roosevelt, 'Here is your country. Cherish these natural wonders, cherish the natural resources, cherish the history and romance as a sacred heritage, for your children and your children. Do not let selfish men or greedy interests skin your country of its beauty, its riches or its romance.'

A heartfelt thank-you to our many donors who continue to loyally support our endeavours by providing funding and other resources which enable the Trust to fulfil its mandate and strategy on an ongoing basis. We trust that this report will find your favour and provide valuable insight into our achievements in pursuit of the EWT Vision.

As Chairman, I refer to the resignation of those Trustees who have served us loyally and provided wise council for many years. We thank you for your commitment and service, and look forward to your continued involvement for many years to come as supporters and members of the Trust.

May those to whom the baton is entrusted enlighten us with new insights, renewed vigour and drive so that the EWT may continue to grow its legacy and become an even more significant conservation organisation.

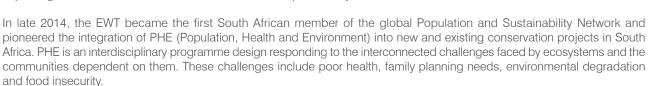
Dirk Ackerman

Message from the CEO

A fundamental feature of the EWT's character, and our approach to achieving critical conservation objectives, has always been to be courageous and forward-thinking. Courage does not come without its share of criticism and we acknowledge that we have occasionally raised some eyebrows with our decisions to engage big business when others may have preferred picket lines; but equally when we have taken on, and won, David-versus-Goliath battles with multinationals that appear to run roughshod over our local regulatory framework and the environmental rights of our communities. The EWT, and our partners, have achieved some remarkable gains for environmental stewardship and wildlife conservation over the years and the ability to act as both a partner of choice as well as a watchdog and public advocate, serves us well.

The key to the success of this approach lies in the word "partnership" and the Trust has always believed firmly in the power of engaging like-minded organisations and individuals into a collective force for good. In 2014/5, this approach took the EWT into an exciting





The sustainable management of natural resources is difficult for communities with unmet family planning needs, with growing numbers of people placing increasing pressure on resources, and poor health outcomes limiting the ability of communities to engage in biodiversity conservation. We are working with the Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme (TVEP) and the British High Commission, to achieve zero tolerance towards all forms of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse and HIV/AIDS stigma wand wildlife crimes in a community bordering the Kruger National Park. We have invited the community to unite in saying 'NO' to both social and wildlife crimes, and they named the project *Hayi Laa!*, meaning 'not here!' in Xitsonga, the predominant local language. Through our partners, the EWT is currently the only NGO bringing PHE programmes to South Africa in a bid to reduce wildlife crime and support social development which will result in sustainable communities and a sustainable environment for all.

This work is not without context and it is widely acknowledged that wildlife crime, including but not limited to the poaching of rhino and elephant, is on the increase globally and certainly here at home. The EWT is proud to be supporting our government colleagues in departments such as the South African Revenue Services and South African Police Services with training in environmental law enforcement and compliance, but also through the deployment of highly trained sniffer and tracking dogs into various ports and critical field posts around the country. Our dogs have been instrumental in a number of busts involving wildlife contraband and have assisted in tracking and locating important evidence to support successful arrests and convictions. The EWT also established a Wildlife in Trade Programme in 2014/5, dedicated to addressing issues such as escalating wildlife crime and some of the challenges resulting from a legal regime that supports private wildlife management in South Africa, which, despite being largely responsible for achieving excellent conservation outcomes, has also begun to present numerous emerging concerns.

In addition to the existing list of strong partners with whom we work, the EWT entered into strategic partnerships with the Wilderness Foundation and Fauna and Flora International in the last year and is currently in discussions with BirdLife South Africa, The Wild Foundation (USA) and the Honorary Rangers for the same. The Trust continues to seek opportunities to expand our role, influence and reach beyond the conservation sector and has played an active role in the discussion groups and workshops hosted by the Institute of Directors of South Africa (IoDSA) to revise the King III Code for Good Corporate Governance. The EWT's CEO is currently serving a second term as a Director of the IoDSA and is thus assisting to bridge the gap between leadership in the corporate sector in South Africa and the sustainability agenda. Taking our role in driving the sustainability agenda in South Africa one step further, the EWT took the National Biodiversity and Business Network (NBBN) to greater heights in the past year by hosting the inaugural National Biodiversity and Business Indaba at GIBS in February 2015, which was attended by over 80 people representing various businesses and sectors in the country. The NBBN also hosted a session at the IUCN World Parks Congress held in Australia in December 2014. Our leadership role was further augmented by the EWT hosting the first Rufford Research Conference to be hosted in Africa which was held in Cape Town.

Internally, the EWT bore the fruit of a tough, but rewarding year by increasing our revenue by 25% and increasing our personnel numbers by 14%. The increase in project spend of 27% resulted in the EWT achieving anticipated progress in more than 67% of our 92 robust targets which have been designed to ensure measurable impact across all EWT conservation activities.

I am proud of the EWT staff who have driven these, and numerous other achievements and our partnerships, which are rewriting the conservation agenda in line with contemporary challenges and needs. I am particularly proud of the multiple awards



and accolades that the EWT Team continues to bring home (see page 56) and for the recognition that is regularly bestowed on them for their tireless dedication to the conservation cause. And whilst all this extraordinary work is being done, the EWT staff continue to expand their own knowledge base and skills levels and several have achieved degrees and qualifications in the course of the past year. To those staff members, I applaud you for your commitment, dedication and discipline. I also wish to sincerely thank the Support Services staff of the EWT, whose jobs may not lend themselves to receiving external awards and public recognition, but without whose hard work and unparalleled passion for the EWT we could not achieve anything for the wildlife and natural heritage that belongs to all South Africans, current and future. You are all conservation heroes to me!

Finally, the EWT's Board of Management and its sub-committees in the form of the Audit and Finance Committee and its Remunerations and Nominations Committee, provide ardent oversight and impassioned guidance to the Executive Management Team for which we are eternally grateful. Special mention must be made of our Chairman Dirk Ackerman and our Treasurer Paul Smith, who are always available and willing to do more, spend more energy, provide more input and offer more time than they probably even realise they are doing. Their commitment to the EWT spreads into their personal lives to the extent that Paul (as well as fellow Board members Karin Ireton and Anthony Wannell) rode the 94.7 Cycle Challenge to raise funds for the EWT, and Dirk toured the Northern Cape recording roadkill incidences to assist in mapping roadkill hotspot localities in the country for future mitigation.

The patronage of our extraordinary constituency – who regularly contact us with feedback on our media releases, news posts, newsletters and publications – as well as the continued support of our loyal donor base, plays a crucial role in keeping the EWT courageous and progressive and we are proud to also call them our partners in our journey towards achieving an equitable and sustainable planet for us all. Whilst we all look forward to the time when the planet no longer needs the EWT to be doing the work that lies at the core of our existence, we are grateful that until then, we work alongside you all in the pursuit of this vision for our future.

Thank you.



Who we are

The EWT is a non-governmental, non-profit, conservation organisation, founded in 1973 and operating throughout southern and parts of East Africa. We conserve threatened species and ecosystems in southern Africa by initiating research and conservation action programmes; implementing projects which mitigate threats facing species diversity; and supporting sustainable natural resource management.

The EWT communicates the principles of sustainable living through awareness programmes to the broadest possible constituency for the benefit of the region. We have developed a unique operational structure through which our Mission and objectives are achieved – meeting our conservation goals through the work of specialist, thematic programmes, designed to maximise effectiveness in the field and enhance the development of skills and capacity. These programmes form the backbone of the organisation and are essentially self-managed projects harnessing the talent and enthusiasm of a dynamic network of individuals who specialise in an area of conservation importance and have developed unique expertise in response to the challenges they face.

Programmes comprise multiple stakeholders and harness their diverse but relevant expertise to address environmental priorities. Stakeholders include national and provincial government, other NGOs, landowners, local communities, farm workers, conservancies, academic institutions and

industry. The EWT also acts as a public watchdog, often taking government and industry to task for decision-making which does not meet sustainability criteria.

Our Vision

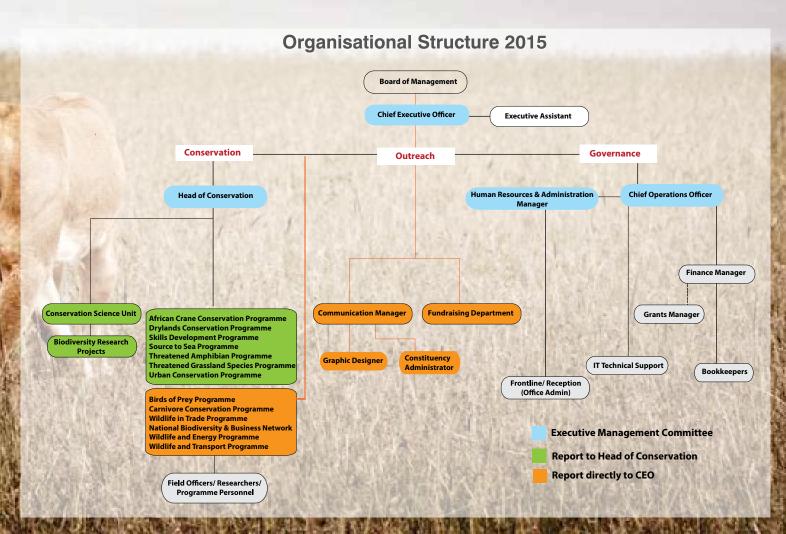
A healthy planet and an equitable world that values and sustains the diversity of all life.

Our Mission

The Endangered Wildlife Trust is dedicated to conserving threatened species and ecosystems in southern Africa to the benefit of all people.

We achieve this mission by:

- Initiating and implementing conservation research and action programmes;
- Preventing species extinctions and maintaining biodiversity and ecosystem functioning;
- Supporting sustainable natural resources and management;
- Communicating the principles of sustainable living and empowering people by capacity building, and awareness programmes to the broadest possible constituency; and
- Taking a strong leadership and advocacy role in promoting environmental and social justice.





The current EWT Conservation Strategy sets objectives and targets from 2012 – 2017. It is the six Strategic Imperatives in our strategy that guide all the work of the EWT and under which targets have been set against which projects have reported in this document. In preparation for a review of the strategy in 2017, 2016 will see the EWT management relook at the current operational structure of the EWT to consider if it remains appropriate and effective to meet the anticipated growth in both programmatic scope and scale, as well as geographic reach and stakeholder expansion. Our recent growth presents opportunities for the EWT to achieve greater conservation impacts but also poses challenges in terms of ensuring that we remain operationally function, effective and sustainable.

Challenges facing all NPOs today pertain mostly to the ability to generate funds to cover the increasing costs of governance and administrative support as donors increasingly do not provide enough funding for the vital backbone of the institutions that deliver project outcomes on the ground. The environment in which NPOs operate today is characterised by intense governance requirements as we aim to achieve best practice and full compliance with the requirements of legislation and codes that deal with, for example,

information management, transformation, safety and security, transparency, accountability and financial management. The EWT will never compromise our efforts to achieve best practice in all spheres of corporate governance but acknowledges that it is challenging to fund this work and resource administrative positions appropriately.

The retention of highly skilled personnel remains a challenge in the non-profit sector as we compete with the private sector to offer our staff the best benefits. The EWT has however, focused intensely in recent years to provide competitive pay packages and offer benefits such as generous leave allowances, skills development support and a staff wellness programme. We recognise that the funding climate in an NPO often precludes us from undertaking robust succession planning processes and this presents a potential weakness, in the event that staff are unable to continue their careers with the EWT. Career development and opportunities for growth, despite a sometimes horizontal programme structure, remains a focus for the EWT as part of our retention strategy. We are extremely proud of the Level 2 BBEEE rating which is also indicative of our ability to attract, develop and retain the best talent from across the spectrum of racial groups in South Africa in line with our Employment Equity Plan and targets.



In 2015/6 our focus on talent management and development will persist as we support the development of young people through our intern and mentorship projects which have paid rewarding dividends. In this regard, we acknowledge and thank the Development Bank of Southern African and the South African Biodiversity Institute (SANBI) for including the EWT in the Groen Sebenza intern programme for the past three years. This has allowed us to support and share in the exciting development journey of 12 young conservation interns who were placed the EWT. This brought the number of opportunities provided to young people in the form of paid internships with the EWT to 26 for the year.

A key imperative for the EWT in the next few years will be to generate sufficient funding to secure our existing base in Modderfontein. We are currently hosted in our facility by Zendai Heartland and would like to purchase the building in which we are based, to ensure our security in perpetuity. In a tough funding climate, this challenge may take some time to meet. The strength of our Fundraising Team and inclusion of expert consultants in this field in the past few months does

however, offer new opportunities, and the future does indeed look bright for the EWT head office to remain in this ideal location for years to come.

The greatest challenge that faces the EWT remains the escalating onslaught on our natural resources by unscrupulous poachers, traders, developers and polluters, and the EWT will increasingly find itself having to reflect critically on what we can take on, and can positively impact, and what we simply cannot. Saying "no" is tough and for people passionate about our planet and its wildlife, this is even harder. The EWT recognises that we cannot do justice to every cause or solve every problem and a carefully considered strategy that will guide this decision-making process in years to come, remains our greatest asset and tool. To be effective in what we do, we must be selective in what we choose to do.

The EWT therefore remains focussed in our vision and objectives and is confident of continued strength in our ability to achieve them.

Overview of this Report

- Message from the Chairman
- Message from the CEO
- Who we are

Our Vision

A healthy planet and an equitable world that values and sustains the diversity of all life.

Our Mission

The Endangered Wildlife
Trust is dedicated to
conserving threatened
species and ecosystems in
southern Africa to the
benefit of all people.

6 Strategic Imperatives

- 1. Identify human-induced threats and the affected species in order to halt or reverse species decline.
- 2. 2.Ensure that the viability of threatened habitats and ecosystems is maintained.
- 3. Develop innovative, economically viable alternatives to address harmful impacts to the benefit of people and biodiversity
- 4. Increase awareness and mainstream environmental considerations into the daily lives of people and decision makers.
- 5. Explore and develop opportunities for mentorship and capacity building within the conservation sector.
- 6. Provide a leadership role in ensuring efficient and adequate implementation, compliance and enforcement of conservation legislation.

Overview of progress towards conservation targets

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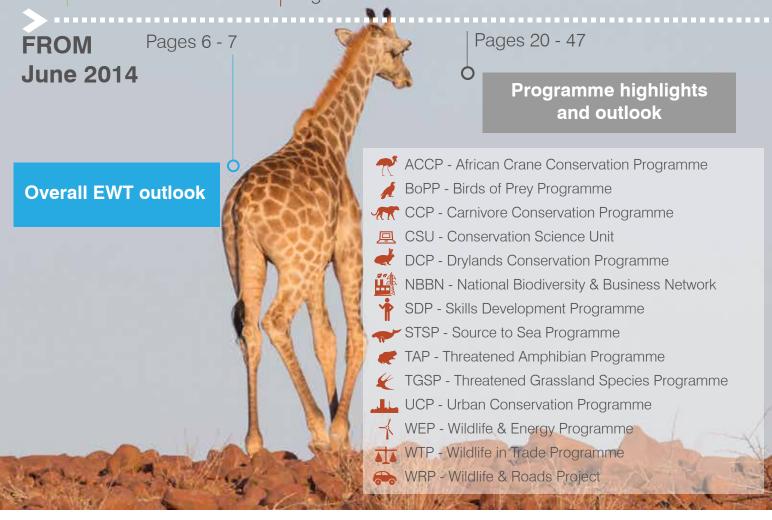
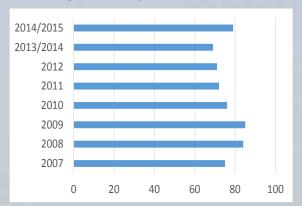


Fig. EWT employee numbers over time



We aim to support the EWT's Mission and Vision by fostering a healthy, progressive, and equitable work environment that will attract and retain excellent employees and enable them to develop to their full potential.

Who we work with

The EWT conducts its conservation activities through a multitude of formal and informal partnerships and alliances, both within South Africa and beyond its borders.

Collaborating with others means sharing best practice, and building on the skills and expertise of like-minded people and organisations to the benefit of our environment.

- Media
- Our passionate people

- Who we work with
- Supporters
- Board and Trustees
- Contact us

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Where we work

Covernance
Funding and sustainability
Awards and achievements

To ensure that the EWT is able to meet its conservation objectives, attracting and retaining funding remains a priority. We are thus always grateful to our loyal members, donors and supporters (individuals, trusts, foundations and corporates) who ensure that our critical conservation work is able to continue.

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Where we work

Figure 3

To ensure that the EWT is able to meet its conservation and retaining funding remains a priority. We are thus always grateful to our loyal members, donors and supporters (individuals, trusts, foundations and corporates) who ensure that our critical conservation work is able to continue.

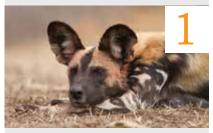
Overall Progress Towards Conservation Targets

Our strategic approach

The EWT's Conservation Strategy 2012-2017 centres around six Strategic Imperatives that encompass our broad programmatic focus. These imperatives focus on understanding and improving the status of threatened species, securing and restoring the natural habitats on which all life depends, reducing the impacts of human-induced threats, improving awareness of our environment and the role of biodiversity among a diversity of stakeholders, building capacity and skills within the conservation sector, and promoting the development and implementation of strong legislation to protect our natural world and ensure its responsible use.

High-level organisational targets support each imperative. We action these through specific, high-level programmatic targets that provide a blueprint for each of our 14 conservation programmes. The EWT's Conservation Strategy is a living document that has undergone several iterations to continually refine and enhance our work. The latest refinements came through a strategic planning workshop, convened in June 2014, to initiate the process of defining specific, measurable programme and project indicators. We use these indicators to determine whether our projects – as defined in their work plans – achieve their pre-defined targets. This allows us to assess project and programme performance.

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE



Identify human-induced threats and the affected species in order to halt or reverse species decline.

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE



Ensure that the viability of threatened habitats and ecosystems is maintained.

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE



Develop innovative, economically viable alternatives to address harmful impacts to the benefit of people and biodiversity.

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE



Increase awareness and mainstream environmental considerations into the daily lives of people and decision makers.

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE



Explore and develop opportunities for mentorship and capacity building within the conservation sector.

STRATEGIC IMPERATIVE



Provide a leadership role in ensuring efficient and adequate implementation, compliance and enforcement of conservation legislation.

How did we do over the past year?

The following tables provide an overview of our progress towards achieving our conservation targets in 2014/2015. Dashboard colours indicate whether targets are "on track" (●), that there is "slow progress" (●), or that progress has "not started" (●). Programme icons are represented as follows: Programme icons are represented as follows:



ACCP - African Crane Conservation Programme



BoPP - Birds of Prey Programme



CCP - Carnivore Conservation Programme



CSU - Conservation Science Unit



DCP - Drylands Conservation Programme



NBBN - National Biodiversity & Business Network



SDP - Skills Development Programme



STSP - Source to Sea Programme



TAP - Threatened Amphibian Programme



TGSP - Threatened Grassland Species Programme



UCP - Urban Conservation Programme



WEP - Wildlife & Energy Programme
WTP - Wildlife in Trade Programme



WRP - Wildlife & Roads Project

Strategic Imperative 1: Conserving species

Under this Strategic Imperative, the EWT identifies species under threat of extinction and uses evidence from cutting-edge monitoring and research on species biology, ecology and threats to deploy strategies and solutions to prevent these extinctions. Our focal species often act as indicators of the health of the ecosystems in which they occur. The first Strategic Imperative is primarily addressed through the EWT's programmes as listed in the table below. In general, we performed well against the 22 targets falling under this Strategic Imperative and, as was the case in the last reporting period, this was our most successful area of work. Where progress was slow, this was primarily due to delays in establishing necessary partnerships and securing buy-in for our work – vital to the long-term sustainability of our conservation impact.

Programme	Targets	Progress towards conserving species		
African Crane Conservation Programme	3	incli (Zai eas dist and crar opp	nitored crane breeding success rate at all active project sites. Highlights uded our aerial crane surveys in KwaZulu-Natal and the Kafue Flats mbia) which recorded some of the highest crane counts in recent history. In tern Uganda, we compiled baseline information on the threats to and ribution of Grey Crowned Cranes, identifying 27 flocking sites, 11 nesting sites 14 roost sites. In south western Uganda work on the illegal trade in these nes provided a good understanding of the drivers and market chains and an cortunity to initiate discussions with government around law procement.	
Birds of Prey Programme	3	Nor	completed aerial nest surveys of Kruger National Park, Mokala National Park, thern Cape and North West province vulture breeding sites. Other site and ony monitoring continued.	
Carnivore Conservation Programme	3	now mor collu sixtl	naged carnivore metapopulations are doing well: Cheetah populations have been established on 52 reserves, comprising 293 Cheetahs on a land area of the than one million hectares; Wild Dogs now occur on ten reserves, which ectively support a population as large as that in the Kruger National Park. The half Wild Dog and forth Cheetah photographic census in Kruger National Park eived a record 1,125 entries.	
Drylands Conservation Programme	3	Clar sparther and juve on the successions.	Cape Critical Rivers (CCR) team completed a system-wide survey of the nwilliam Sandfish, during which we made the first ever discovery of a Sandfish wning site in the Biedouw River, and have a baseline of population status for species. The CCR team also completed one of the very few translocations of endangered fish species carried out in South Africa, by rescuing 380 sandfish eniles from a stretch of the Biedouw River where they would have been preyed by alien fish species, to a pristine section of river where they will be able to cessfully recruit. We deployed 100 cameras in our study to obtain baseline bulation densities for Riverine Rabbits in Sanbona Nature Reserve.	
Source to Sea Programme	2	outs the Dug of o sysi part alier Toa	v 61 joint law enforcement and Dugong monitoring flights both inside and side the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park, Mozambique, tallying 200 hours in air, with repeat sightings totalling 1,143 adult Dugongs and 142 calves. Our gong project recorded zero Dugong mortalities till March this year, a direct result for law enforcement work. In the Amathole Catchment, we completed a full teem fish and habitat status survey of the upper Keiskamma River. Results form to fa monitoring programme with respect to conservation actions such as in tree removal and catchment rehabilitation. We also finalised the Amathole d Conservation Plan this year which will help guide conservation actions for the cies.	
Threatened Amphibian Programme	3	dev pop mor wor	ted amphibian monitoring methods using passive acoustic (automated) ices at different sites for several species. Improved our understanding of the pulation size for Pickersgill's Reed Frog at one site. Collected our first year's nitoring data for the Endangered Kloof Frog at Vernon Crookes Nature. We are king with industrial, mining and corporate stakeholders to put action population rventions such as translocations, captive breeding and biodiversity offsetting.	

Programme	Targets	Progress towards conserving species		
Threatened Grassland Species Programme	2	4	Assessed all threatened species under the Programme's conservation umbrella, with Yellow-breasted Pipit still under assessment, as a baseline from which to assess trends going forward. Oribi and Blue Swallow populations appear to have stabilized. We have not quantified all threats in detail and this is under detailed investigation in all data deficient areas.	
Wildlife in Trade Programme	2		Inspected Zambian breeding facilities to investigate whether captive breeding of Pancake Tortoises is sustainable with respect to CITES permit numbers. Regular attendance at Gauteng South African Police Service Rhino and Wildlife Crime Forums and the OR Tambo International Airport Cargo forum assisted in highlighting other species and issues related to wildlife crime. Arranged for 11 rhino criminal case prosecutors to attend a Black Rhino darting; held two workshops for church leaders in the Bushbuckridge area; and ran a debating competition with 23 schools for International Rhino Day. Our Hayi Laa! community project, launched in partnership with the Thoyandou Victims Empowerment Project, raised awareness of social and wildlife crimes near Kruger National Park.	
Wildlife & Roads Project	1		Research in the Pilanesberg National Park and the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area (GMTFCA) improved our understanding of the impacts of roads on biodiversity. The GMTFCA research illustrated the efficacy of low-level roadside fences in preventing wildlife mortalities while still allowing habitat connectivity for small terrestrial vertebrates.	

Strategic Imperative 2: Conserving habitats

The EWT integrates the conservation of species, habitats and ecosystem processes in an holistic approach to biodiversity conservation: securing and restoring habitats is crucial to securing species, and human beings in turn reap the benefits of the health and preservation of intact ecosystems.

The second Strategic Imperative is primarily addressed through the EWT's programmes as listed in the table below. We made solid progress towards the 14 habitat-focused targets falling under this imperative. One of the most exciting developments has been the massive strides towards securing large swathes of land under Biodiversity Stewardship. This process can be long and laborious but the significant returns we reaped in the Eastern Cape, Mpumalanga and Free State have made our efforts worthwhile. Where progress was slow, we could often attribute this to external factors. These included some protracted delays in securing funding to undertake ecosystem rehabilitation work across a number of sites, and the complexity of working with multiple stakeholders when working with the land. Fortunately, many of these issues have been resolved and we expect progress to pick up in this area over the upcoming year.

Programme	Targets	Progress towards conserving habitats
African Crane Conservation Programme	3	The 14,000 ha Cedarville Protected Environment (Eastern Cape) and 12,000 ha Greater Lakenvlei Protected Environment (Mpumalanga) moved positively through the public comment period. Eight farmers within the Hlatikulu Catchment (KwaZulu-Natal) committed to protect their land through Biodiversity Stewardship or Conservation Servitudes for at least 30 years. Their land includes 46 km of the Hlatikulu River, some 1,040 ha of wetland and 2,500 ha of grasslands. We developed a methodology to monitor changes in ecosystem goods and services. We also drafted management plans for each of seven sites to be proposed as protected areas in KwaZulu-Natal. Our Drakensberg EcoRangers contributed to the clearing of more than 30 ha of alien invasive plants on four farms that will be declared. We held three workshops for 90 land users in the Drakensberg region, to increase the awareness of land users and encourage improved management practices for biodiversity and ecosystem services. We also obtained baseline information on wetland extent and health in each of the wetlands included in our sites in South Africa that are part of the Biodiversity Stewardship Programme.

Programme	Targets	Progress tow	vards conserving habitats
Birds of Prey Programme	2		Established good working relationships with service providers to address disturbance during breeding. Successful annual roost survey, with awareness of migratory raptors at its highest since project began.
Drylands Conservation Programme	3		Made progress towards developing working Riverine Rabbit conservancies in the Northern Cape, where we also accelerated our restoration work in the critical riparian habitat of the Karoo. Restored 100 ha of degraded rabbit habitat, and implemented follow-up restoration activities to improve the recovery of 350 ha. Conducted the first assessment of ecosystem services response to restoration on the Sakrivierspoort restoration site. Worked with CapeNature to clear alien trees from indigenous fish habitat along Western Cape rivers.
Source to Sea Programme	2		Introduced a number of farmers to the Biodiversity Stewardship Programme in the Amathole Catchment. We commenced alien vegetation clearing and ecosystem rehabilitation in the catchment and trained over 100 people from local villages in disciplines including incentive-based livelihood enterprises and the value of healthy ecosystems. In Bazaruto, Mozambique, our two marine patrol teams covered a distance of 23,982 km with 450 patrols, confiscating 1,671 items of illegal fishing equipment and 1,382 kg of illegally harvested marine resources.
Threatened Amphibian Programme	1		Developed habitat protection guidelines for priority threatened frog species, including recommendations on terrestrial buffer zones for wetlands and riparian habitat.
Threatened Grassland Species Programme	1	4	Secured key habitat for threatened grassland species through landowner interactions and assurance of willingness to assist. Developed a new custodianship process that we are rolling out to secure formal commitment to continue protecting target threatened species and their habitat.
Urban Conservation Programme	ī	ملكم	We cleared 90% of the alien invasive vegetation along the river that runs through the Modderfontein Reserve. Inland, we eradicated an average of 70% of the alien vegetation and carried out land rehabilitation efforts, in the form of gabions, brush-packing and sowing barren lands. This has significantly minimized soil arcsion.



Strategic Imperative 3: Addressing threats

This Strategic Imperative aims to develop innovative, economically viable alternatives to address harmful impacts, to benefit both people and biodiversity. Humans often have negative impacts on other species and their habitats and we need a healthy mix of innovation, determination and pragmatism to lessen these impacts in a way that benefits both nature and people.

The third Strategic Imperative is primarily addressed through the EWT's programmes as listed in the table below. We aimed most of the 12 targets under this Strategic Imperative at identifying and mitigating existing and emerging threats to biodiversity that result directly from human actions. Progress has been reasonably good despite the massive scales at which these threats are manifested. We are very pleased to report a big improvement in progress over this reporting period. However, in other areas we feel that we are lagging: for example, although we have placed livestock guarding dogs in hotspot areas of carnivore-livestock conflict, the scale of this problem is so widespread that it is unlikely we will ever reach all the farmers we want to.

Programmes	Tragets	Progress to	wards addressing threats
African Crane Conservation Programme	2		Conducted education and awareness programmes at 12 schools near Rugezi Marsh in Rwanda and 23 schools in Western Kenya – four of which now help monitor cranes at Kenya's Saiwa Wetlands. We established vegetable gardens at six schools around Chrissiesmeer that both provide food and act as practical models for educating learners about food production. We established six beekeeping cooperatives – distributing 36 beehives – for our livelihoods project around Rugezi Marsh, Rwanda. Trained and mentored five community members from around Chrissiesmeer in bird guide training (with BirdLife South Africa: BLSA), while a further nine community members from around Rugezi Marsh underwent bird guide training with the Albertine Rift Conservation Society.
Birds of Prey Programme	2		Tracking data of Bearded Vultures provided information to develop a sensitivity map for wind-energy developments within their range. The Lesotho government continues plans despite input reflecting severe consequences for species.
Carnivore Conservation Programme	1	ATT	Placed eight livestock guarding dogs, bringing the total to 170 dogs securing over 250,000 hectares of farmland as predator friendly areas.
Drylands Conservation Programme	1		Collected hydrological flow data in four threatened river systems in order to determine current flows, and compare these with ecological reserve flow requirements, as stipulated by the Department of Water and Sanitation. Used this information to develop a user-friendly tool for monitoring flows in these rivers, and to recommend on ecological reserve flow requirement in the Huis River, home to the last remaining population of the Critically Endangered Barrydale Redfin.
Urban Conservation Programme	1		Developed best practice biodiversity guidelines for homeowners using urban ecology principles. Attended all available training courses, and got involved in as many initiatives as possible, to learn as much as we can about urban ecology and biodiversity conservation.
Wildlife & Energy Programme	4	-0/	Our Eskom strategic partnership saw the development and adoption of best practice guidelines for wind energy facilities, and the inclusion of bird-friendly structures in the utility's biodiversity standards. At Sere Wind Farm the EWT is conducting post-construction surveys according to the guidelines developed by EWT/BLSA. Both the energy industry and government adopted guidelines developed jointly by the EWT – government now uses these guidelines in environmental management plans for facilities.

Programmes

Tragets

Progress towards addressing threats

Wildlife & Roads Project



The Wildlife and Transport Programme scaled down in 2014 to form the Wildlife and Roads Project. This allowed a more focused approach to examine the impacts of roads on wildlife, which has enabled us to streamline our efforts. The project now works with a number of key stakeholders in the roads sector (for example, N3 Toll Concession and Bakwena N1/N4 Toll) to examine road ecology along major South African highways.

Strategic Imperative 4: Awareness and mainstreaming

The targets under this Strategic Imperative all aim to increase awareness and mainstream environmental considerations into the daily lives of people and decision makers. We do this through a diversity of strategies: firstly ensuring that our guidelines and tools are adopted and implemented; secondly ensuring that our data are integrated into relevant decision-making processes, and; thirdly through a diverse array of programmes and projects that aim to instil positive changes in behaviour and practices among selected stakeholder groups.

The fourth Strategic Imperative is primarily addressed through the EWT's programmes as listed in the table below. In recognition that behaviour change is the key to a better, more environmentally responsible world, the programmes have set more targets under this Strategic Imperative than any other (24). We have made significant, positive strides in ensuring that our information and expertise feeds into conservation planning: the EWT's central Biodiversity DataBank has become an important source of biodiversity data to Environmental Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental Assessments, and several of our experts have been co-opted onto committees that shape the environmental focus of the national development agenda. The EWT has contributed data and expertise to several Non-Detriment Findings for species that are traded, and we have been instrumental in the compilation of the national Biodiversity Management Plans for Species. We continue to provide information to the public through informative posters, booklets and presentations. Excitingly, we have revitalized our role in the WESSA Eco-schools Programme, with an expanding emphasis on schools based in urban areas.

Where progress has been slow, or is yet to start, this has been largely due to changes in strategic focus, or the establishment of new lines of work that must still commence. For example, our National Biodiversity & Business Network underwent a strategic planning review in March 2015, while we only implemented our Urban Conservation Programme in its new guise in late 2014, and many of the exciting activities under these two programmes are yet to be initiated. We recognise the ongoing need to effect positive behaviour change among people in all walks of life, and the targets under this Strategic Imperative will therefore continue to be a major focus for the Trust.



Programmes	Targets Progress	s towards raising awareness
African Crane Conservation Programme	1	Contributed data to four development planning processes, as well as data to two research projects. Also integrally involved in the planning of wetland rehabilitation with Working for Wetlands in KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa.
Birds of Prey Programme	1	Good levels of awareness maintained nationally, but could be improved in certain sectors of the population.
Carnivore Conservation Programme	3	The Non-detriment Finding Assessment extensively used our data on the movement of wild Cheetahs into captivity. Results of habitat suitability modelling for Cheetahs and Wild Dogs contributed to the conservation planning process for Limpopo province and, for the first time, these two carnivores are included at a provincial level plan. Our research on conflict related killing helped amend Leopard hunting quotas in Limpopo province. For the first time, the Kruger Wild Dog and Cheetah Photographic Census made use of social media platforms, with excellent success. We expanded our reach among several audiences through farmers' conservation days and shows, as well as environmental seminars.
Conservation Science Unit	1 🖳	Made significant strides to ensure that our information and expertise feeds into conservation planning. The EWT's central Biodiversity DataBank has become an important source of biodiversity data to Environmental Impact Assessments and Strategic Environmental Assessments.
Drylands Conservation Programme	2	Our data used to inform one wind farm and three strategic environmental assessments for developments in the Karoo. We provided comments to the Department of Mineral Resources on the fracking regulations, commenting too on individual fracking applications. Our data was also compiled with historical data to reassess the IUCN conservation status of the Clanwilliam Sandfish. We hosted a multi-stakeholder workshop, about alien invasive fish issues. Our innovative spatial tool to highlight the risk of alien invasive species spread into critical fish areas helped implement mitigation actions. Riverine Rabbits continued to enjoy media coverage through a variety of media channels and we launched an awareness programme with the primary school in Loxton.
National Biodiversity & Business Network	4	Worked with each of the NBBN's Founding Partners to proactively facilitate the mainstreaming of biodiversity into their business activities. In partnership with the IUCN and the African Centre for Technology Studies, developed tools to facilitate the mainstreaming of biodiversity into business in South Africa and, in consultation with relevant parties, assessed the current policy and regulatory framework and make recommendations to ensure that it is conducive to the mainstreaming of biodiversity into business in South Africa.
Source to Sea Programme	4	Facilitated the enhanced application of regulations, best practice guidelines, and conservation interventions in the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park – with improved compliance. Through the Healthy Catchment Alliance, we recruited 16 new Eco-Schools and implemented four teacher capacity development workshops in the Eastern Cape. We hosted the Northern Cape Primary Science Programme to facilitate Eco-Schools into Alexander Bay.
Threatened Amphibian Programme	2	Amphibian data incorporated into the systematic conservation plan for eThekwini Municipality, as well as KwaZulu-Natal conservation planning. Commented on several major developments and mining applications threatening priority frog species. Made significant progress in highlighting the importance of frogs in South Africa by developing eight regional educational frog posters and a children's educational book on frogs, as well as through a research paper based. Our national awareness day Leap Day for Frogs, saw

over 30 events around South Africa.

research paper based. Our national awareness day, Leap Day for Frogs, saw

Programmes

Targets Progress towards raising awareness

Threatened **Grassland Species** Programme



Registered all relevant development applications with potential impacts to threatened grassland species and used our data to assist with planning processes to reduce these impacts. Our data also fed into provincial conservation plans. Produced and distributed various posters, booklets and other handouts throughout the grassland biome and to key stakeholders from law enforcement officials to rural schools. Our projects featured through various media outlets.

Urban Conservation Programme



Commented on development applications and took part in biodiversity forums. With the paucity of biodiversity data for urban areas, we focussed on increasing the rate at which we can collect data from the public, while we receive more and more urban wildlife related queries. Our social media following is growing steadily and our public events were well attended.

Wildlife & Energy Programme



We engaged with partners in Namibia, Somalia, Sudan and with the World Bank to assist in developing guidelines for energy developments in Africa. We also advised Australia in developing guidelines to prevent mortalities and develop reporting structures, partnerships, etc., to address their wildlife interactions with electrical infrastructure.

Wildlife in Trade Programme



Ran a demand reduction poster competition in Vietnam and have hosted a monthly demand reduction call with all interested stakeholders in South Africa. We targeted the Chinese community in South Africa for a demand reduction telephone campaign through the Chinese Community Policing Forum in Cyrildene, Johannesburg.

Wildlife & Roads Project



Our social media sites and newsletter, The Green Mile, now have a combined membership of over 2,000 followers. This contributed towards a greater awareness of the impacts of roads on biodiversity, as well as increasing the number of roadkill sightings submitted to the project by members of the public – our volunteer database almost doubled in size, with over 200 volunteers collecting roadkill data, that total about 10,000 data points from across the country.

Strategic Imperative 5: Capacity and skills

The conservation sector in South Africa suffers from a shortage of skills, capacity and experience. Inadequate conservation awareness in the National Education Curriculum, a widespread absence of economic and career incentives, and the absence of appropriate mentorship have all created large skills gaps. Under this Strategic Imperative, the EWT explores and develops opportunities for mentorship and capacity building within the sector by developing high quality, relevant and accredited training tools. Our approach ensure that these tools are utilised, and we implement a range of focused capacity building and leadership interventions.

The fifth Strategic Imperative is primarily addressed through the EWT's programmes as listed in the table below. We classified 72% of the 18 targets under this Strategic Imperative as 'on track' during the year under review. We undertook a number targeted skills interventions, both internally and externally, and from a scientific perspective, we provided mentorship and supervision to Honours, Master's and Doctoral students from a number of institutions. Where progress was slow or not started, this was primarily due to lack of funding to initiate projects, or time constraints associated with developing new materials for the many interventions we have planned.

Programme

Targets Progress towards developing skills and capacity

African Crane Conservation Programme



Completed a two-week learning exchange with our partner from the Kipsaina Crane and Wetland Conservation Group in Kenya featuring projects from South Africa and lessons learned from Kenya. Eight EcoRangers from previously disadvantaged backgrounds underwent a three-month environmental and conservation training programme in the southern Drakensberg, of whom we employed four to contribute to the fulfilment of our objectives.

Programme	Targets Progress	towards skills & capacity
Conservation Science Unit	1 📮	We provided staff training on Geographical Information Systems (GIS), CyberTracker and data management. Developed online courses on GIS and Ecological Niche Modelling for internal/external use.
Drylands Conservation Programme	1	With the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries we started mapping baseline data in order to develop best practice riparian habitat utilisation guidelines.
National Biodiversity & Business Network	1	Through our monthly newsletter, we kept NBBN members up-to-date on the latest business and biodiversity news from across the globe. We presented the inaugural National Business and Biodiversity Indaba this year, followed by an event in Johannesburg on natural capital and our first ever event in KwaZulu-Natal on investment in ecological infrastructure.
Skills Development Programme	3	Initiated a US State Department-funded project to build law enforcement capacity to curb illegal wildlife trade. Fifty-two officials from mixed enforcement agencies attended the Wildlife Trade Law Compliance and Enforcement training programme, and approximately 80 officials from various enforcement agencies attended the South African Cycad Enforcement training programme.
Source to Sea Programme	1	In Bazaruto, we stimulated skills development within the park's law enforcement team. Coordinated dolphin and whale guide training for selected participants from the Sigidi Community, Eastern Cape.
Threatened Amphibian Programme	2	Collaborated closely with several research institutions, in particular North West University, with both an Honours and doctoral student.
Urban Conservation Programme	3	Implemented the Eco-Schools Programme in ten previously disadvantaged schools in Hammanskraal that now benefit hugely from the programme. We hosted youth activities on the Modderfontein Reserve and gave several environmental talks at schools.
Wildlife & Energy Programme	1 -0	Exceeded the targeted number of courses developed and the number of Eskom, municipal and contractors participating in training interventions.
Wildlife in Trade Programme	1	Assisted the South African Police Service Human Resources Department with the development of a training manual for the Stock Theft Unit Detectives who take charge of rhino and other wildlife crime investigations.
Wildlife & Roads	1	Established partnerships with stakeholders to reduce the impacts of roads on wildlife and provided training workshops for data collection and species

Strategic Imperative 6: Law and policy

To protect our rich biodiversity, air, water, and soil as national assets and resources, South Africa's Constitution and the National Environmental Management Act provide a legal framework for a suite of environmental legislation that regulates South African environmental issues in an open, participatory, inclusive and transparent manner. However, South Africa's sound legal framework for matters relating to the environment does not guarantee its effective utilisation. Under this Strategic Imperative, the EWT strives to provide a leadership role in ensuring efficient and adequate implementation, compliance and enforcement of conservation legislation. We do this by providing inputs to improve the legal regime for biodiversity conservation; supporting effective implementation, use and participation in environmental legislation and other legal processes; and supporting enforcement.

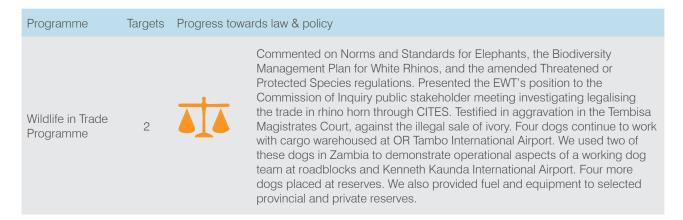
awareness through roadkill campaigns.

identification to capacitate road patrol teams. Expanded on current public

Although all of our programmes deal with legal and policy issues to varying degrees, this Strategic Imperative is primarily addressed through the EWT's Wildlife in Trade Programme. We commented on several pieces of legislation, including the revised Threatened or Protected Species Regulations, the draft Biodiversity Management Plan for 11 Critically Endangered and 4 Endangered Encephalartos species, draft amendments to the Alien and Invasive Species List and the Norms and

Project

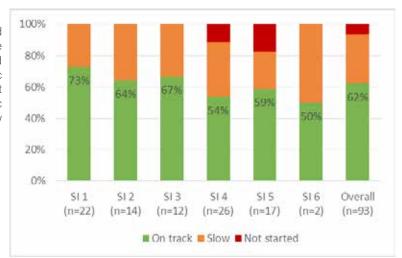
Standards for Elephants. We are also active in awareness raising initiatives, ensuring that the public, law enforcement officials and members of the judiciary are aware of South Africa's environmental legislation. Recognising that the legal environmental framework provides the cornerstone for all of our work, we aim to define some additional targets over the next year to ensure that our work on law and policy



A birds-eye view

For the period under review, we achieved anticipated progress in 62% of our 93 programme targets, with the greatest success achieved for species-related targets under Strategic Imperative 1 (73% on track), and the slowest progress achieved for targets under Strategic Imperative 6 (50% on track), which deals with law and policy.

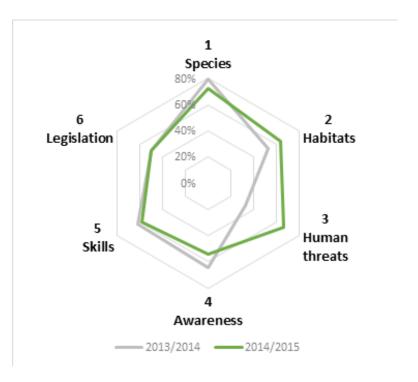
Fig. Percentage of programme targets that were on track, had slow progress or were not started in 2014/2015, for each of our six Strategic Imperatives (SI).



Progress over time

One advantage of a 5-year strategy is that it allows us to monitor trends in our progress over time. The radar plot below provides a standardized summary of progress towards targets under each of our Strategic Imperatives, and illustrates that while we have maintained our impact across the six pillars of our strategy, we have made particularly significant improvements in our efforts to address human-induced threats (Strategic Imperative 3). Only 33% of targets in this area were on track in the previous reporting period year, and we are very pleased to report a major improvement in 2014/2015.

Fig. Trends in progress towards each of the six Strategic Imperatives in 2013/2014 and 2014/2015. The axis represents the percentage of targets that are deemed on track in each year





Kerryn Morrison Programme Manager



Cynthia
Chigangaidze
Senior
Administrator



Ursula Franke Senior Field Officer



Osiman Mabhachi Senior Field Officer



Glenn Ramke Field Officer



Steven Segang Field Officer



Griffin Shanungu Zambia Cranes and Wetlands Conservation Project



Tanya Smith Southern Africa Regional Manager



Cobus Theron Senior Field Officer



Wattled Cranes on the up

Wattled Crane populations have increased at two key sites. Our annual KwaZulu-Natal aerial survey conducted with Ezemvelo KwaZulu-Natal Wildlife recorded the highest count for Wattled Cranes in the past 25 years – 311. We followed this with a successful aerial survey of the Kafue Flats in Zambia with the Zambian Wildlife Authority, which returned an estimate of 2,300 Wattled Cranes – the highest recorded population for any floodplain in Africa since the 1970s.

Improving the lives of people

Crane conservation links strongly to finding a good balance between the needs of cranes and the people who share the same land. Over the last year, we collaborated with BirdLife South Africa and the Albertine Rift Conservation Society in training five bird guides for Chrissiesmeer in South Africa and nine for Rugezi Marsh in Rwanda respectively. We have identified both areas for their avitourism potential, to provide a viable option for improving livelihoods. Also working with the Albertine Rift Conservation Society in Rwanda, we established six beekeeping cooperatives, providing them with 36 beehives to place on the wetland buffer zone. By doing so, the project aims to improve the value that the local community attaches to the wetland system. We also set up six vegetable gardens in the Chrissiesmeer area. This will increase the supply of vegetables to the community and improve their understanding of the benefits derived from sustainable resource use.

Safeguarding our water factories

We await the final proclamation of a further 27,000 ha of South Africa's grasslands and wetlands – or water factories – as Protected Environments or Nature Reserves. These include the proposed Greater Lakenvlei Protected Environment, Cedarville Protected Environment and Beaumont Nature Reserve. When this is finalised, the EWT will have lead on the protection of critical water factories in Mpumalanga, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal.

EcoRangers to the Rescue

A year ago we embarked on a journey to find young individuals from rural communities in the southern Drakensberg to become our first EcoRangers. For three months we trained eight EcoRanger candidates. The project has been a great success – with four eventually selected to assist us in protecting cranes and ecosystems while carrying communities along with us on this journey.





Nduduzo Khoza Thabo Madlala





Yonela Sipeka T

Thabathani Tshaka



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- The Population and Sustainability Network is interested in collaborating with us on a project at Rugezi Marsh in Rwanda, providing an opportunity to integrate human population and health issues into our conservation work.
- We will be collaborating with Conservation International to develop conservation agreements with local communities for long-term conservation financing benefits in Rwanda. These negotiated agreements with local communities ensure the achievement of environmental and conservation objectives.
- The ICF/EWT Partnership has entered into an agreement with the UNEP-African Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement to service and coordinate the International Working Group for the Grey Crowned Crane Single Species Action Plan. This will assist significantly in providing access to government departments across Africa with the aim of fulfilling this plan.

Challenges

- Building a team with the relevant technical skills to execute programme activities effectively is a challenge for growth and succession planning.
- To achieve our strategy, we will need to find and secure longer term funding options that are strategic, innovative and large-scale.

Growth Areas

 Through in-country partnerships, the ICF/EWT partnership will establish full time projects in Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya under an East African Regional Manager appointed before the end of 2015.

Risks

 In order to meet our ambitious conservation strategy, we envision significant growth within the programme over the next five years.
 We risk developing at a rate that is not sustainable, and hence need to ensure we base the structures we develop on good governance, and that the team has the required capacity.



André Botha Programme Manager



Leigh Combrink Senior Field Officer



Ronelle Visagie Field Officer



Tselane Rachuene Intern



Rebecca Mabuza Administrator

Students:

- Maryna Jordaan
- Lindy Thompson
- Rowen van Eeden
- Kagiso Mohlamme

Birds of Prey Programme

We action conservation projects for a wide range of raptors, including vultures and other large birds, throughout southern Africa. We identify and address conservation threats to these species through a combination of practical effectiveness and robust science – strengthening the efficiency of the regional birds of prey conservation network.



Bird's eve view

In collaboration with the University of Cape Town and Hawk Conservancy Trust, we completed an aerial survey of tree-nesting vultures and other raptors in the central Kruger National Park during September 2014, which means we have now surveyed two-thirds of the park. We located some 600 nests, some of which are active, while others have fallen into disuse. We also worked with the EWT's Wildlife and Energy Programme to conduct aerial surveys of vulture breeding sites and assess breeding populations. Sites included the Molopo River, in the North West and Northern Cape provinces, as well as the first aerial surveys of African White-backed Vulture breeding sites at Mokala National Park and other areas around Kimberley since the 1990s, and counted some 350 new and old nests.



A helping hand for hornbills

We continued monitored breeding activity at more than 30 Southern Ground Hornbill nests in the Kruger National Park during the 2014/2015 breeding season, of which 14 successfully reared chicks. The project harvested six second-hatched nestlings (that would otherwise have died in the wild) from nests in the park to add to the captive breeding population – in line with the species' National Conservation Action Plan. We also fitted 14 nestlings with colour-rings, as well as fitting two sub-adult birds with satellite tracking units to monitor their movements.

Babysitting raptor nests in the Karoo

Raptors frequently used telecommunications towers as breeding platforms. Ronelle Visagie, our Platberg-Karoo Raptor Project Coordinator, has established a sound working relationship with four telecommunications companies using these towers in the Northern Cape, and assisted them in eight maintenance events. She was able to take care of the eggs or nestlings of active nests while maintenance work was performed. With the work complete, and Ronelle's care, the breeding birds returned to their nests to continue raising their young.

Long haul for raptors

This year's Annual Migratory Falcon Roost Count garnered its best support to date, with public awareness of the migration and threats facing these birds reaching an all-time high in the region. Working with our partners in Hungary and elsewhere, we were also able to track the movements of several individuals from a range of species – mostly Amur Falcons – sharing this information with our supporters through the EWT website and Facebook page.

Tackling the ever-increasing threat of vulture poisoning

The regional impact of poisoning on vulture populations is an ever-increasing concern, with major incidents recorded in Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Sadly, in South Africa poisoning seems to be on the increase too, with more than 200 deaths from four incidents across the country. In January 2015, in partnership with the IUCN SSC Vulture Specialist Group (VSG), we established a Pan-African Poisoning Database for vultures and other wildlife poisoning events. This database will enable authorities to capture information from such events across Africa, enabling us to better quantify the extent and impact of this widespread threat.

The EWT was also involved in training of South African Police Service (SAPS) personnel – part of an endangered species training course at the SAPS Academy in Hammanskraal. We trained 25 students on the management, investigation and prosecution of poisoning incidents that affect raptors and other wildlife. We will present this training to another 4,000-plus learners over the next four years.

Operation Oxpecker

We made good progress with the design and industry approval of a single label, for use by the manufacturers of insecticides and the like, on oxpecker-compatible products here in South Africa. We also conducted successful translocations of Red-billed Oxpeckers from the Lowveld to both KwaZulu-Natal and the Mokala National Park in the Northern Cape.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Accredit and implement training on the investigation of poisoning incidents to the SAPS, national and provincial conservation organisations, and internationally in cooperation with southern African partners.
- Expand the current regional focus and scope of work related to migratory raptors.
- Plan, coordinate and other arrangements with regard to the Second Pan African Vulture Summit in Senegal, October 2016.

Challenges

- We require sufficient resources to support the implementation of the Bearded Vulture Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) as well as the drafting and approval of a Cape Vulture BMP.
- We need to curb the massive impact of poisoning on vultures and other endangered bird species which is leading to their catastrophic decline.
- There is an urgent need to create greater public awareness of the potential threats to human health posed by the use of vulture body parts as muthi.

Growth Areas

- Expand avifaunal surveys of the Olifants River to include management units in the upper catchment of the system.
- Continue with research on the role of vultures in the spread/control of disease in partnership with the University of Pretoria and State Veterinary Services.
- Conduct a vulture-tracking project in partnership with SANParks.
- Continue with the Pan-African Vulture Strategy, expanding activities (including support for poisoning and power line-related issues and greater governmental involvement and support) to gap areas in specific countries.

Risks

- The substantial increase in wildlife poisoning requires immediate and effective intervention.
- Existing vulture populations cannot sustain present illegal harvesting and poisoning rates.



Dr Kelly Marnewick Programme Manager



Grant Beverley Senior Field Officer



Vincent van der Merwe Senior Field Officer



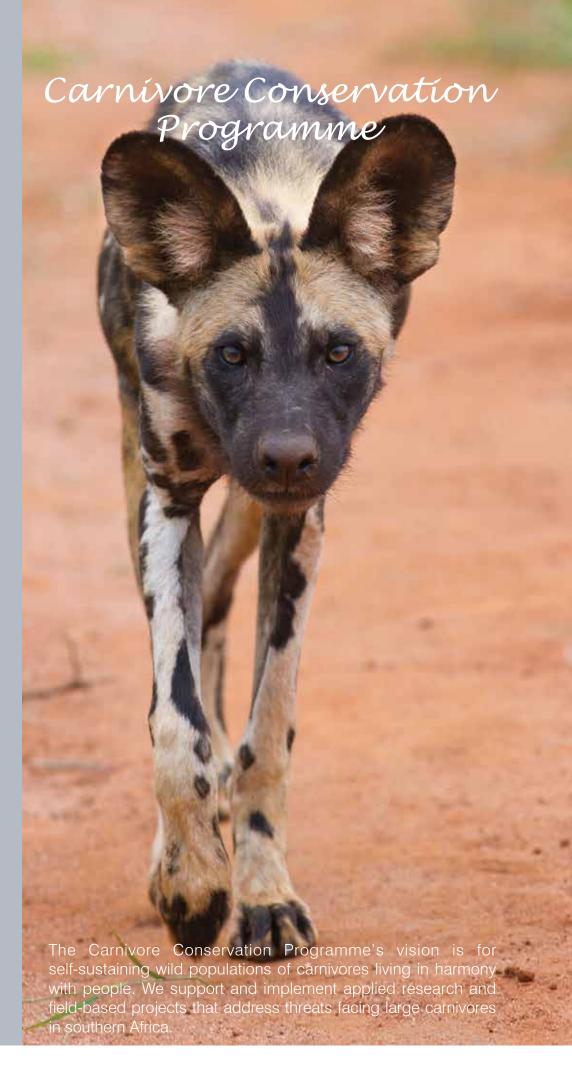
Derek van der Merwe Senior Field Officer



David Marneweck Field Officer

Students:

- Thandiwe Knutson
- Ken Buk



Moving the goal posts for carnivore conservation

This year we completely revised the Carnivore Conservation Programme's strategy in line with contemporary conservation thinking and the dynamic challenges that carnivores face. For three days we brainstormed our strategy in Dullstroom and the result is in an exciting new ten-year plan with the vision of 'self-sustaining, wild populations of carnivores living in harmony with people.'



Making it more difficult to cheat with Cheetahs

There is justifiable concern that wild Cheetahs are being laundered through the captive market and traded. This is something we have been fighting to prevent. To this end, we were instrumental in preparing the Non-detriment Finding Assessment for Cheetahs that is currently awaiting signature by the Minister of Environmental Affairs. The assessment recommends a compulsory genetic studbook to prove captive parentage before trade is allowed - a move that would effectively prevent wild Cheetahs entering into the captive market for trade. This is a very positive step towards curbing illegal trade and we commend the South African National Biodiversity Institute and the Department of Environmental Affairs for this development.

Wild Dog conservation in KwaZulu-Natal: a pack effort

Six African Wild Dog populations on reserves in KwaZulu-Natal contributed to 73% of the national Wild Dog numbers in the managed metapopulation. This celebrates the dedication of key role-players and the highly collaborative nature of Wild Dog management in the province – in particular the coordination efforts of the KwaZulu-Natal Wild Dog Advisory Group. This direct and continuous on the ground commitment in KwaZulu-Natal is making a real difference in increasing the persistence of Wild Dogs in the province – both inside and outside of protected areas.

African Wild Dogs expanding their paw print

The National Managed Wild Dog Metapopulation coordinated the movements of 15 African Wild Dogs to successfully bond two new packs and release them into Zululand Rhino Reserve and Somkhanda Game Reserve. This increased South Africa's Wild Dog population in fenced reserves (the managed metapopulation) to ten reserves and 192 Wild Dogs – rivalling the number of Wild Dogs found in the Kruger National Park.

Cheetahs increase their safe 'spots'

To date, the EWT's Managed Cheetah Metapopulation Project helped drive the introduction of Cheetahs into 52 fenced reserves across South Africa. This equates to 293 Cheetahs, or approximately a quarter of South Africa's wild Cheetah population. These reserves cover more than one million hectares of new, safe Cheetah habitat and this has increased their total area of occupancy by 11%. To put this into perspective, the Kruger National Park covers almost two million hectares and is home to around 400 Cheetahs.

A Sunday roast to boast about

Every year farmers kill thousands of Black-backed Jackals and Caracals to protect their sheep. This is one of the most volatile conflicts between people and carnivores in South Africa, yet consumer awareness of the issue is low. In a bold move, Woolworths has embarked on an ambitious project with the EWT to bring 'wildlife friendly' lamb to their shelves. This project focuses on using nonlethal anti-predation measures on farms, while creating awareness for consumers of the environmental impacts of their consumption habits. This should encourage consumers to make more informed decisions about the meat they buy and the impact their choices ultimately have for our carnivores.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

Vast conservation areas in other SADC countries offer opportunities for the restoration of extirpated populations of Cheetahs and/or African Wild Dogs. Carnivore conservationists could use lessons from our managed metapopulation projects to plan and implement these projects. Additionally, South Africa's managed metapopulation provides a potential, sustainable source of Cheetahs and Wild Dogs for reintroduction.

Challenges

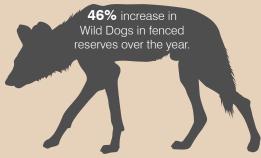
- The lack of capacity and understanding of carnivore conservation in permitting departments makes our work increasingly difficult. Implementation of the recommendations from the Non-detriment Finding Assessments for Cheetahs and Leopards will address many of these issues.
- In some reserves, the success of reintroductions means predator populations are burgeoning. Proposed solutions, including euthanasia, are not ethically acceptable. We need more effective population control measures for threatened large carnivores in fenced reserves an issue which we are now looking into.

Growth Areas

 Over the past year a more strategic approach to metapopulation management has been taken and trials for some 'out-of-the-box' concepts have been proposed to address the lack of space for Wild Dogs and to ease the management of 'boom and bust' periods in Cheetah and Wild Dog numbers.

Risks

 Outside protected areas, the increasing commercial value of even the more common prey species makes landowners progressively less tolerant of predation and more willing to exterminate carnivores.





Dr Lizanne Roxburgh Senior Scientist



Matthew Child Red Data List Intern



Samantha Page Conservation Science Officer



Claire Patterson-Abrolat Special Projects Manager



Lucky Myeni Intern



Getting it together

We made good progress towards the establishment of the Biodiversity DataBank – a centralised database for all of the EWT's biodiversity data. A major part of this work involves cleaning and standardizing data so that diverse datasets can be seamlessly combined, stored, extracted, analysed and shared. In preparation for uploading to the DataBank, we restructured, cleaned, and standardised 12 datasets from five different programmes. We are now populating the DataBank with cleaned datasets and testing it.

Mammals see red

The South African Mammal Red List Project made significant progress over the last year, with selection of the final editing team and finalisation of the assessment template. We have also initiated the final editing phase, with good feedback from our assessors. The project uses novel methods, using land cover datasets, to properly quantify the assessments and transform them into transparent, replicable methodologies to ease future revisions. The first of its kind, the team has compiled a national mammal distribution and game count database containing in excess of 500,000 records. We have also developed a framework to measure the conservation value of private subpopulations, with application far beyond the Red List.



Sharing (data) is caring

We share our data under various collaborative agreements. This included formalising relationships with the Universities of KwaZulu-Natal and the Free State, to facilitate the sharing of data with researchers and students. We also received 18 requests for data over the past year, and were able to provide data in 13 cases: four for use in environmental impact assessments, seven for research, and two for conservation planning. While we received requests for a wide variety of data, the most frequent calls were for crane and birds of prey breeding sites.

Putting the science into conservation

The Conservation Science Unit provides mapping and data analysis support and training to the various EWT conservation programmes. Amongst other things, we developed a predictive model for the occurrence of wildlife road mortalities in Addo Elephant National Park, which is currently being field-tested. We also developed seasonal species distribution models for Shoebills in the Bangweulu Swamps, Zambia, to predict their occurrence and population size in their southern-most stronghold. In addition, we designed a CyberTracker cell phone app for field data collection by field staff and partners from the EWT's crane programme. We will develop this for other programmes too, to simplify the process of data collection and submission to the EWT's DataBank. We also provided training in GIS, data management and CyberTracker for 60 staff over the course

Networking at home and abroad

The EWT's Lizanne Roxburgh was elected to the African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement (AEWA) Technical Committee as the representative for southern Africa. She attended the technical committee meeting in Germany, in preparation for the triennial Meeting of Parties in late 2015, where new resolutions will be ratified and future focus of the technical committee decided.

The Conservation Science Unit joined 100 delegates in attending the conference Africa Rising: Mobilising Biodiversity Data for Sustainable Development, held in Cape Town. This included interested parties from research institutions, international organisations, donor agencies and representatives of 21 African countries, including staff of the Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) African Nodes, of which the EWT is one. A declaration and work plan on Biodiversity Information for Sustainable Development in Africa was developed to guide future work and to highlight the importance of biodiversity information for sustainable development planning.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Involvement with the AEWA technical committee to increase focus on African issues in a Euro-centric committee.
- Opportunities for analysis and publications as the EWT's data become more centralised and better managed.
- The Mammal Red List Project has the potential for many spin-off projects, including the compilation of a Conservation Evidence database and setting a national research agenda. Also in creating incentives for private landowners to manage their wildlife well, as well as consolidating data submission channels.

Challenges

- The amount of work needed to coordinate data submission across all programmes and projects, ensure they meet the required standards and maintain their databases.
- Coordinating the many aspects of the Mammal Red List Project, including managing the mistakes from MammalMAP's previous attempt at data-cleaning, and soliciting final assessors' comments and consensus.

Growth Areas

- Expanding the use of digital data collection by our field staff or citizen scientists using CyberTracker, or other cell phone apps.
- Expanding our suite of online courses to meet the demands for data-related training.
- Development of collaborative biodiversity databases with other organisations.
- Training interns from Swaziland and Lesotho to conduct their own Red Lists and galvanising Africa-wide national Red List assessments as mandated by the National Red List Alliance.

Risks

- Data management and submission is a low priority for many staff who deal with pressing conservation issues in the field, long hours and challenging field conditions.
- The amount of work the Mammal Red List Project required is too much for the allotted time, compounded by a lack of synergy amongst editors.



Christy Bragg Programme Manager



Alwyn Lubbe Field Officer



Bonnie Schumann Senior Field Officer



Johnny Arends Nursery Worker



Hester de Wee Nursery Worker



Insauf De Vries Assistant Intern



Janice Essex Intern



Count the ears and divide by two

We are on track to start counting rabbits, through a very innovative research project to develop a population density model for Riverine Rabbits using over 130 camera traps. We are overseeing this Master's study in partnership with the Sanbona Nature Reserve, renowned camera trap expert Jeremy Bolton, and the University of Cape Town.

Going with the flow saves fish

The special and unique fish of the Cape Critical Rivers need the summer low-flow refuges of rivers to survive, when water levels are at their lowest. Which means that if you look after the water, you look after the fish and biodiversity that rely on that water. With our partners, the Cape Critical Rivers project developed a toolkit to monitor flows in key rivers, in association with farmers, conservation and water authorities to keep that flow going.

Where jackals dance, rabbits roam

We recorded Riverine Rabbits within six kilometres of Loxton, on the farm Jakhalsdans in the Sak River Conservancy – the closest yet to our home base, and a new record in this stretch of habitat. The Cape Hunters and Game Association of the Western Cape kindly donated the cameras to the EWT.

Fish, fishermen, farmers and flows – the Cape Critical Rivers Project

The Cape Critical Rivers Project works in the beautiful but threatened rivers of the Cape Floristic Region. The project has raised the bar of conservation through a multi-faceted, integrated, partnership. Our work here has raised awareness of the conservation importance of these special rivers using flagship fish species, implemented innovative tools to keep the water in the rivers, worked with farmers to enhance water use efficiency and undertaken high-impact interventions to save critically endangered species hovering at the edge of extinction.

Informing Karoo restoration

The Drylands Conservation Programme conducted several research studies to inform our Riverine Rabbit habitat restoration work. These included our ongoing investigations into plant survival and ecosystem service recovery, following our baseline assessments in 2013. We also planted 1,500 plants on the farm Maanhaarspoort.

Riverine Rabbit restoration reaps rewards

Our Riverine Rabbit project has reaped several tangible rewards with 100 hectares of Karoo vegetation added to our restoration efforts. In doing so, the EWT's Karoo indigenous nursery grew some 3,000 plants for our restoration sites and we created 229 days of employment for the impoverished Loxton community.

Conservancies map for the future

Together with the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries, we facilitated two mapping sessions with members of four Riverine Rabbit Conservancies. These conservancies. situated on commercial farmland, are critical for the rabbit's wellbeing. This is the first time that World Overview of Conservation Approaches and Technologies (WOCAT) tools have been applied (a) in a conservation context and (b) at such a fine scale. The resulting data on the extent and condition of riverine habitat, the levels and extent of degradation, as well as current land-use within the conservancies will be critical in informing our conservation strategy for the Critically Endangered Riverine Rabbit. The Wagenaarskraal Conservancy, with our close support, submitted its management plan to the Department of Environment and Nature Conservation in the Northern Cape in January 2015.

A big hand for small fry

The Cape Critical Rivers partnership successfully rescued 380 Endangered sandfish from succumbing to desiccation and predation by alien fish. We have also reduced the risk of further alien invasive fish spreading to key catchments – where they take over from threatened native species - by facilitating their removal from high-risk dams and reservoirs and developing a toolkit to identify areas of high risk in critical catchments. The stocking of alien species in farm dams poses a huge risk of biological invasions into the natural system, where these species have an adverse impact on water quality, indigenous species survival and ecosystem resilience.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

 The current focus on fracking in the Karoo is opening up opportunities to mainstream biodiversity into development planning. Partnerships represent key opportunities to bring much-needed expertise and skills into the programme.

Challenges

- Balancing programme time, funding and governance is a big challenge.
 The current lack of capacity in the environmental sector to advise on environmental legislation and policy issues constrains our conservation impacts.
- The energy crisis in South Africa has catalysed the fast tracking of energy development in the sensitive and under-studied drylands of the Karoo, leaving environmental concerns in its wake. The lack of capacitated environmental policy and legislative oversight will hinder our effectiveness to reduce the biodiversity impacts of this emerging threat.

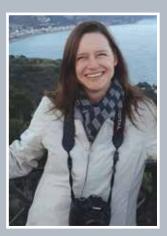
Growth Areas

- Valuable partnerships with Landcare and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries have grown our skills and capacity to mainstream biodiversity into agriculture in the drylands.
- The Karoo restoration project is about to upscale into a landscape-scale initiative.
- The strong partnerships we have formed in the Cape Critical Rivers project helps us leverage further funding to consolidate our work in protecting threatened indigenous fish species. This provides scope to inform freshwater biodiversity conservation through the broader Cape region.

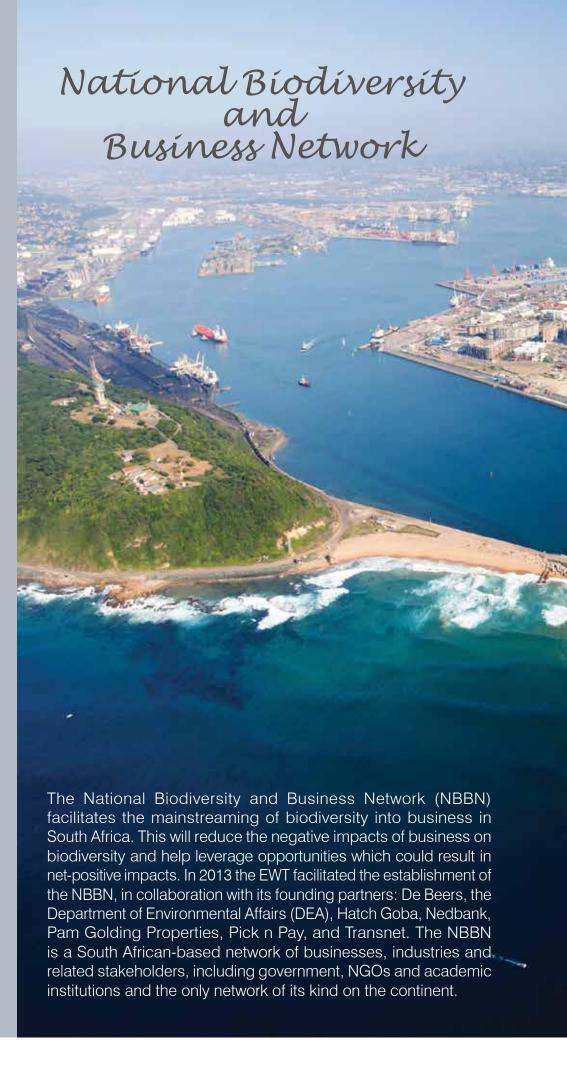
Risks

Currently limited time and resources hinder the collection of the scientific data needed to prioritise conservation interventions.

Furthermore, in the drylands where farming can be marginal, landowners are extremely wary of signing binding agreements – particularly given the limited resources they have to institute sustainable resource interventions that are often capital-intensive.



Shelley Lizzio Programme Manager



Growing support

In addition to its founding partners, 17 supporting partners strengthened the NBBN, while we have attracted over 700 subscribers from business (including mining, finance, infrastructure, real estate and agriculture), government, NGOs and academia since our inception.

Getting the message to business

We communicate on a regular basis with our subscribers through our monthly newsletter. This includes biodiversity and business related information on international and national news, events and publications on biodiversity and business related information.

Managing our natural capital

In June 2015, we hosted a fruitful information sharing and networking event in partnership with SRK Consulting in Johannesburg entitled *Managing our natural capital – latest developments and tools*. Attendance of the event was good, with over 50 representatives from, NGOs, government and business.

The road ahead

In June 2015, we finalised the NBBN three-year strategy with input from the NBBN steering committee. We have now begun the process of implementing the strategy's key activities. These include the development of a monitoring and performance framework to assess a broad range of companies in different sectors in South Africa with respect to the progress they have made in the mainstreaming of biodiversity into their businesses. For now, the implementation is dependent on sourcing appropriate funding.

The main event

In February 2015, we successfully convened the inaugural National Biodiversity and Business Indaba in partnership with the Gordon Institute for Business Science in Johannesburg. The event, attended by more than 100 delegates, provided a platform for collective discussion to improve the mainstreaming of biodiversity considerations into business.

The cosmopolitan audience included forward-looking CEOs, financial, sustainability and risk managers, corporate social responsibility directors, environmental economists and consultants, leading academics, NGOs, students, professional advisors, sustainability leaders, natural capital experts, government officials and financiers.

The programme included keynote addresses by industry leaders, presentations on a variety of topical issues and a number of panel discussions featuring senior representatives from business and government that discussed topics such as the role of the green economy in supporting the mainstreaming of biodiversity into business. Plenary sessions on day two of the Indaba focused on the state of biodiversity mainstreaming across five different sectors. The outcomes of the plenary sessions included recommendations on how to further the mainstreaming of biodiversity into these sectors. Following the event we distributed these as Indaba proceedings and are working with the Chamber of Mines to take these recomendations forward.

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PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Implementation of the NBBN strategy will provide the EWT with the opportunity to become a leader in mainstreaming biodiversity into business
- Exposure to new business sectors will provide the NBBN with opportunities to grow.
- The successful implementation of the NBBN's three-year strategy has the potential to increase substantially the profile of the NBBN in South Africa and across the globe.

Challenges

 The current global economic situation and competing business risks may prevent companies from appreciating the business case for biodiversity management.

Growth Areas

- As the NBBN strengthens, it will be able to increase the number of business sectors with which it engages and so further the mainstreaming of biodiversity.
- As business understanding of biodiversity mainstreaming grows, the NBBN's focus will move away from awareness raising towards the implementation of biodiversity mainstreaming projects.

 Ultimately, we aim to reach a point where business can upscale successful projects throughout and across sectors.

Risks

We rely on businesses understanding, or buying into, the importance of biodiversity conservation. However, many businesses do not realise the critical importance of this, which reduces their likelihood of engaging with us and moving the National Business and Biodiversity Network forward.



In June 2015, we finalised the NBBN three-year strategy with input from the NBBN steering committee.



Adam Pires Programme Manager



Ashleigh Dore Training Coordinator



Ndzalama Chauke Intern



Talking to the law

Faced with the ongoing scourge of wildlife trafficking we continue to direct our attention towards the law enforcement sector to ensure that justice is served. Not only is the poaching of rhinos and elephants a grave concern, but many other wildlife species are being harvested illegally. In response we have implemented two key enforcement support training programmes targeting over 200 officials representing the South African Police Service (SAPS), the South African Revenue Service (SARS), provincial conservation agencies, and the State Security Agency. These training programmes, in addition to rhinos and elephants, target other wildlife species being trafficked including our endemic Encephalartos cycad species, some of which are already extinct in the wild.

Keeping up with compliance

We have ensured that our Wildlife Trade Enforcement Training Programme retains its accreditation under the umbrella of the EWT, as a registered training service provider with the Culture Art Tourism Hospitality and Sports Sector Education and Training Authority (CATHSSETA), the national nature conservation sector education training authority. The Skills Development Programme also sits on the Joint Working Committee of CATHSSETA to provide expertise on the Sector Skills Plan for the conservation sector.

Uncle Sam and wildlife trade

We have embarked on an ambitious partnership with the US Department of State: Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL). working in close collaboration with the African Wildlife Foundation and the International Fund for Animal Welfare and in alignment with the Department of Environmental Affair's training priorities. The EWT's mandate is to develop and deliver a new suite of wildlife trade enforcement training and information awareness raising projects in South Africa and its neighbours. These include regional prosecutor and magistrate awareness raising campaigns to realise the scope of the issues and their powers to address them.

Thinking ahead

The Skills Development Programme will continue along two main thrusts for the immediate future. First, to support the skills and knowledge needed within the law enforcement sector, though creative delivery techniques and strategic partnerships, in order tackle illegal wildlife trade. Second, to create enabling conditions for the uptake of the Sector Skills Plan.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

 Through the INL partnership we have gathered more momentum, support and leverage to address wildlife trafficking issues through the provision of training. This partnership has also enabled the formation of other valuable partnerships with international organisations, which strengthens opportunities for funding and implementing multi-faceted projects.

Challenges

- Implementation of project activities within the allocated timeframe, ofter as preparation time for specific interventions is underestimated and delays can be beyond our control.
 This has a knock on effect on other inter-dependant activities.
- Working with crime intelligence in relation to wildlife trafficking is a sensitive issue when it comes to maintaining strategic governmental partnerships. In some cases our project activities bring us very close to highly sensitive issues and we need to remain very discreet in orde to maintain important partnerships formed over years.

Growth Areas

 To intensify the skills set of the programme staff (and EWT partner programmes) to keep abreast with constantly evolving threats to biodiversity and the identification of applicable learning tools to address these

Risks

 As the responsibilities of law enforcement staff change after they have received training, institutional memory may be lost. This means that our skills development training is not implemented as efficiently as anticipated.





Bridget Corrigan Programme Manager



Karen Allen Senior Field Officer



Nic Armstrong Field Operations Officer



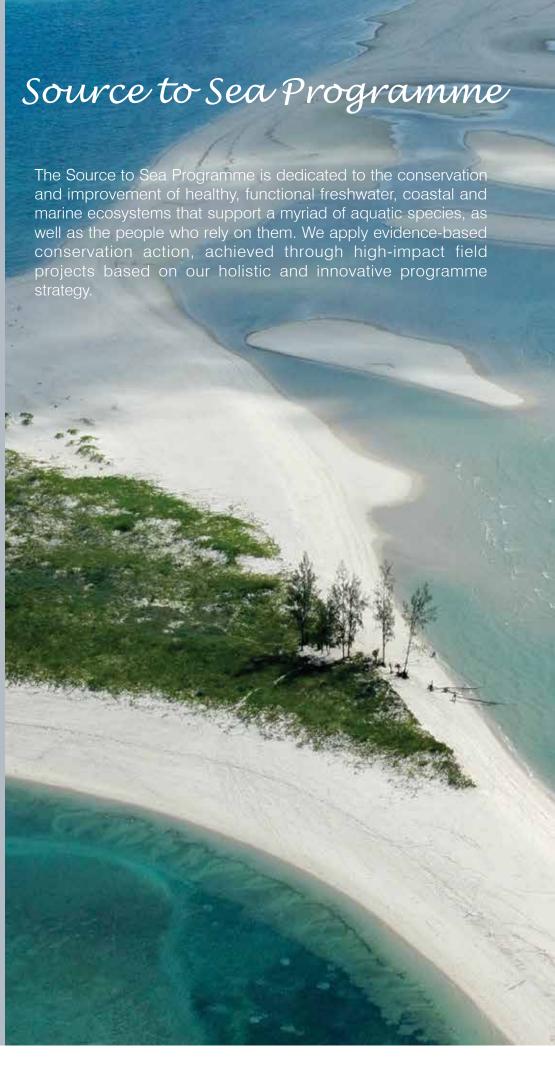
Christine Coppinger Field Officer



Asiphe Sahula Intern



Grant Smith Field Officer



Going from strength to strength

Over the last year, we have forged exciting new partnerships and grown from four to six staff. Both the Future for Nature and Eco-Logic Awards recognised our significant contribution to conservation. We also secured over eight million rand in project funding, made tangible conservation achievements and made a direct and positive impact to the lives of well over 100 people in the areas where we are active.

Conservation planning for threatened species

We finalised a conservation plan for the Critically Endangered Amathole Toad, while that for the Border Barb is nearing completion. The plans will guide the long-term conservation of these threatened species and the freshwater habitats they rely on. We hope that these plans will eventually feed into formal Biodiversity Management Plans that government gazettes.

Waterbirds count again

In the Orange River Mouth, we re-initiated the biannual bird counts, which had been discontinued for a number of years due to capacity and logistical constraints. Doing so, we hosted the Cape Bird Club and the Northern Cape Department of Nature Conservation. Our survey yielded a total of 2,353 birds – up 26% from the 2012 count but still well below the numbers recorded in the 1980s. While this increase over the past few years is encouraging, we are still far from understanding the drivers of these fluctuations.

Protecting Dugongs, promoting alternative livelihoods

A strong law enforcement team translates to improved conservation outputs, and minimises illegal activities. In 2014, our two marine patrol teams worked under guidance from Tomas Manasse, as Head of Law Enforcement for the Bazaruto National Park. Together, we covered a distance of 23,982 km, carrying out 450 patrols, confiscating 1,671 items of illegal fishing equipment and 1,382 kg of illegally harvested marine resources. Dr Thierry Lavitra from the Université de Toliara, Madagascar, conducted a feasibility assessment for sea cucumber farming for us, as an alternative livelihood option for fishing communities. While he found that conditions are not ideal for sea cucumbers, he suggested seaweed farming as a viable alternative and we are currently developing this further.

The Healthy Catchment Alliance

One of the most exciting developments in the last year is our move into a highly collaborative space that tackles conservation issues holistically. Through our partnership with WESSA and Conservation South Africa in the Amathole and UmZimvubu catchments, the Healthy Catchment Alliance has recruited 16 EcoSchools and set up two catchment rehabilitation programmes. We also held a learning exchange in 2014 to share experiences between organisations.





PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

Strategic partnerships with government, academia, NGOs and community-based organisations enable us to maximise our conservation impact by bringing together specific skill sets and role-players for truly integrated projects that address environmental, social and economic issues within areas of conservation importance.

Challenges

 Contractual delays which have affected the implementation of project activities. These have negatively affected our standing within communities and proved a challenge to manage. However, we maintain good communications with all stakeholders in order to minimise the impact.

Growth Areas

Tackling fully integrated conservation projects that address major conservation issues using the "Blue Economy" as a major area for growth within our conservation priority catchments and coastal areas.

Risks

Working with various communities and interest groups to meet our conservation objectives, there is a considerable risk in creating expectations around economic opportunities even though these cannot always be met, as we must rely on our funders to meet their social commitments. We manage this risk through regular communications with established community forums.



Saving Dugongs! Revised night-fishing regulations in Bazaruto put into effect fron April 2015 will reduce Dugong bycatch.



PROGRAMME STAFF



Dr Jeanne Tarrant Programme Manager



Christine Coppinge Field Officer



Nick Evans Junior Field Officer

Students:

Mea Trenor

Threatened Amphibian Programme



The Threatened Amphibian Programme focusses on frogs! Indeed, amphibians are the most threatened group of vertebrates on earth. Coupled with people's generally negative attitudes towards them here in South Africa, conserving our threatened frogs is an ongoing challenge. Our programme fills the gap between applied conservation research and on-the-ground amphibian conservation action by addressing direct threats to some of our most threatened frog species. We have a growing interest in environmental education and raising public awareness, without which conservation initiatives are futile.

Of dogs and frogs: sniffing out one of South Africa's rarest toads

The elusive Amathole Toad is one of South Africa's most reclusive frogs, despite several concerted efforts to find them in recent years. In fact, it disappeared for 13 years before the species was rediscovered in 2011, near Hogsback in the Eastern Cape. This year, we paired up with North-West University's African Amphibian Conservation Research Group, and Jessie the frog-finding Border Collie, to test a novel way of tracking the toads down. Despite encountering several frog species through the four-day search, the Amathole Toad eluded us (though the time of year undoubtedly contributed to this). The project – with support from an Amphibian Survival Alliance Seed Grant - did allow us to survey predicted toad sites and identify suitable sites for upcoming searches.



Counting eggs before they hatch

The Kloof Frog is an Endangered species restricted to coastal and riparian forest patches in KwaZulu-Natal and the Eastern Cape. Females attach unique egg clutches to rocks or plant surfaces above slow-flowing sections of streams. Given the conspicuousness of the egg clumps, it makes sense to count the clumps as a good means of monitoring the species. The EWT developed monitoring protocols to collect the data. Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Honorary Officers rolled out this method at Vernon Crookes Nature Reserve, on the south coast, monitoring the frogs on a monthly basis since December 2013. We will use their data to examine trends in this frog's breeding biology and are now looking to roll out the method at other known sites - both in and outside of protected areas. This will provide the first meaningful data on population trends, abundance and ultimately the population size of this threatened amphibian.



Critically Endangered Pickersgill's Reed Frog discovered at new sites

Our Pickersgill's Reed Frog project has gone from strength to strength in the last year, with new donors Rand Merchant Bank and the Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund coming on board. This has helped us to assess the effectiveness of our restoration efforts at four wetland sites in the greater Durban area. We have also been able to expand our work with 20 local schools and communities close to Pickersaill's Reed Frog sites. During the summer we were delighted to discover two new localities for the species in the Mtunzini area. We are now working with the seven relevant landowners to ensure correct management of these wetlands. as well as the implementation of long-term monitoring plans.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Our discovery of the Critically Endangered Pickersgill's Reed Frog on a proposed wetland development successfully influenced the acquisition of the site by the municipality, ensuring the frog's long-term management and protection there.
- The award of our Natural Resource
 Management project helped
 leverage co-funding. This will enable
 opportunities for research,
 community engagement, job
 creation, training and improved
 habitat management and protection
 of priority coastal wetlands.

Challenges

- Serious delays in finalising our contracts from the Department of Environmental Affairs for the Natural Resource Management project.
- Despite their ecological importance and the freshwater habitats they represent, people often perceive frogs negatively – affecting both funding and conservation opportunities.

Growth Areas

- An expanding the network of role players with whom we interact. For example, we have garnered good support from local conservancies.
- There appears to be a growing interest from the public in frogs and the environment and our "Leap Day for Frogs" 2015 was a definite step up on previous years.
- We will expand the production of amphibian-related educational material to complement our regional frog posters and children's book on frogs.

Risks

- The "business as usual attitude" and ongoing development pressures that ignore amphibians and their habitat priorities.
- The extreme vulnerability of the Critically Endangered species we are working on may reduce our ability to save them in the long term.

Expanding our work with schools and communities close to Pickersgill's Reed Frog sites

PROGRAMME STAFF



Dr Ian Little Programme Manager



Bradley Gibbons Field Officer



Jiba Magwaza Intern



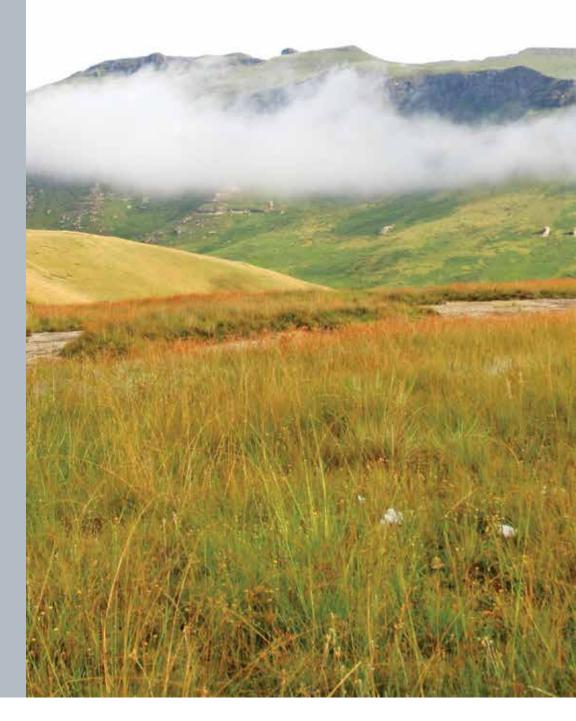
Samson Phakathi Senior Field Officer

Students:

- Tamanna Patel
- Chanel Rampartab
- Darren Pietersen
- Zwelakhe Zondi

Threatened Grassland Species Programme

The Programme works towards an ecosystem approach for grassland conservation. To do so we focus on targeted areas within grasslands where we prioritise work on threatened, specialist and endemic species – including Yellow-breasted Pipits, Blue Swallows, Oribi, Sungazers, golden moles and more recently Botha's Lark. Our activities target both species-specific actions as well as broader habitat conservation work that preserves the ecosystem services – especially given that grassland catchments act as the 'water factories' – critical for human well-being.



A bright future for Sungazers

The Sungazer conservation project has grown significantly over the last year and is reaching well beyond our initial expectations, in terms of the scope of the project, financial support and partner buy-in. We now have a new staff member on the project as well as a dedicated Master's student looking at trade-related threats to the species. We have visited over 120 landowners in the five priority areas we identified in 2013 for the protection of Sungazers, with considerable support from local landowners. These initial meetings are critical for the biodiversity stewardship process that relies on the trust of landowners when we offer them the opportunity to secure their remaining intact Sungazer habitat as a formally protected area. Consequently, we are negotiating with local landowners for the proclamation of about 10,000 hectares of Sungazer-friendly habitat.

Increased support to address dog hunts

Our anti-poaching collaboration has grown and the team now includes SA-CAN, KZN Hunters and Conservation Association, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Working on Fire, the SPCA, SAPS and traditional authorities. Reporting suggests that large scale taxi hunts have moved to remote areas where our enforcement ability is stretched. Oribi are our main species of concern. The challenge is complex as in many rural areas hunting with dogs is seen as a cultural right and not an illegal activity. Our education and awareness continues to address this misperception. We have also visited nearly 100 rural police stations, spreading our message to police officers who have often previously been involved in hunts, unaware of the illegal nature of this practice.

Good neighbours

In partnership with Mondi Ltd and the Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, we are addressing grassland conservation related issues in central KwaZulu-Natal. Work focusses on newly redistributed land as part of South Africa's land claim process. Our initial community work will improve relations between Mondi and their community neighbours, especially in the Kranskop area which is our pilot site, while improving livelihoods and management for the long-term sustainable management of communal grazing areas. We are establishing a protocol to help other communities with similar over-grazing issues to improve community-owned grassland ecosystem health for food security and improved livestock production.

Good news for Blue Swallows!

The Blue Swallow is Critically Endangered in South Africa, with less than 35 breeding pairs that we know of in the country. Good news is that our predictive model to identify possible breeding sites, and subsequent ground-truthing using an aerial survey, has turned up a new breeding population of as many as five pairs of this threatened species in the Ebuta area of southern KwaZulu-Natal. This is a really significant find, given their low numbers in South Africa.

Climbing mount improbable – a blow to the illegal trade in Sungazers

As part of our continuing crusade against the illegal wildlife trade, the South African National Biodiversity Institute's scientific authority has approved the Sungazer Non-Detriment Finding. The result is a ban in the trade of Sungazers collected from the wild. Breeders will now need to provide genetic proof that the Sungazers they wish to export come from second-generation captive populations before authorities issue them with export permits. Given that there is no recorded case of Sungazers breeding successfully in captivity anywhere in the world it is highly likely that all traded individuals presently come from wild stock, which the ban will address.

Raising the flag for the Yellow-breasted Pipit

Yellow-breasted Pipits only live on South Africa's intact, highland grasslands. They are a good barometer of healthy grasslands and disappear from an area that is over-grazed or frequently burnt. Our current research shows that numbers of this "proudly South African" species are much lower than we used to think with only about 60% of predicted Yellow-breasted Pipits sites (based on a preliminary model) actually having them, and targeted conservation action is an urgent priority.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Rolling out a new custodianship approach that allows formal recognition of conservation-friendly farmers and signing of basic agreements towards ongoing conservation efforts.
- Our new collaboration with provincial and national Fire Protection
 Associations – invaluable for disseminating the Grazing and Burning guidelines – for improved and more sustainable grassland management.
- The proposed rerouting of the N3 will impact Sungazer populations. While this is a major threat we are working to establish relocation protocols to protect the impacted populations.

Challenges

- Capacity limitations, with more work than our three staff members can handle. This throttles our ability in achieving our primary conservation goals.
- Addressing the ever-increasing threats to grassland habitats posed by the mining and energy sectors.
- Our expansion into tackling the escarpment as a whole – especially important following the closure of the South African National Biodiversity Institute's grassland programme – will cause shifts in the programme structure.

Growth Areas

- The Eastern Great Escarpment
 Initiative (a collaboration towards
 strategic conservation planning for
 biodiversity and sustainable ecosystem services in catchments of
 national importance) will extend from
 the Wolkberg in central Limpopo to
 the Sneeuberg in the central Eastern
 Cape.
- We will shortly launch the Botha's Lark conservation project. This species is both globally Endangered and endemic to the central highland grasslands.

Risks

 Insufficient support from provincial conservation authorities due to their capacity limitations.



PROGRAMME STAFF



Boaz Tsebe Programme Manager



Emily Taylor Project Coordinator



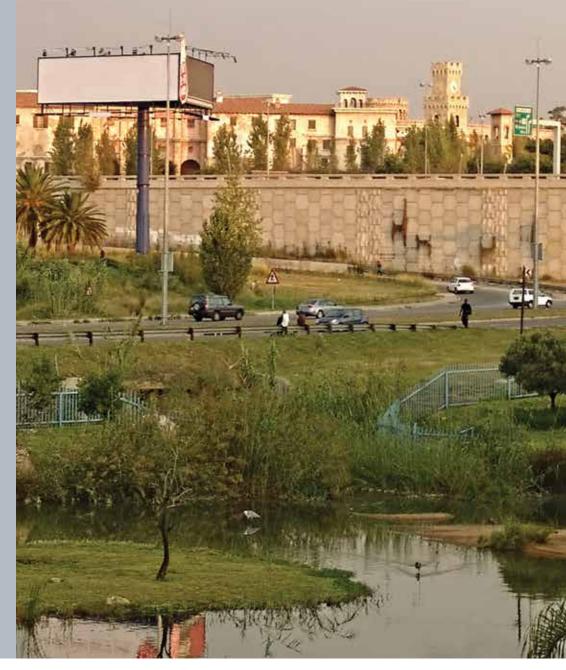
Shumani Makwarela Intern





Urban Conservation Programme

The Urban Conservation Programme is one of the EWT's youngest programmes, established in 2013 in response to the growing pressure that expanding urban areas have on our biodiversity. While formally protected areas are crucial for conserving biodiversity, we need to consider cities and other urban areas in our conservation thinking too. Our programme aims to improve the relationship urban residents have with their natural environment and the wildlife on their doorsteps. Our flagship initiative is the management of the Modderfontein Reserve in the heart of Johannesburg.



International escapades

Project coordinator, Emily Taylor, was invited to speak at the International Urban Wildlife Conference in Chicago in May 2015. The conference brought together urban ecology experts from all over the world and it was a huge honour for the EWT to showcase one of our youngest projects at the prestigious event. Urban conservation is an established field of study in the USA, and we soaked up a wealth of lessons. International exposure and collaboration is essential to ensure we build on experiences from cities that have already developed effective urban conservation strategies.

Getting rid of aliens

This year we managed to clear 90% of the alien invasive vegetation along the river that runs through the Modderfontein Reserve, which the EWT manages on behalf of Zendai. This is critical, as water is a very efficient way for invasive seeds to disperse. Away from the river, we also eradicated some 70% of the alien vegetation, taking care to ensure that our Eucalyptus thinning programme avoided mature trees that provide nesting sites for a variety of raptors such the African Fish-eagle, Black Sparrow-hawk and Long-crested Eagle. Our land rehabilitation efforts, in the form of gabions, brush-packing and sowing barren lands, are working well and helped to minimise soil erosion. Due to the size of the reserve, we decided to minimise controlled burning but still maintain adequate firebreaks. These breaks served their purpose well in preventing the spread of a number of accidental fires that occurred. Over the past year, the reserve has gained major exposure through both social media and by word of mouth, demonstrated by the 30% increase in people walking, running, cycling,

birding and picnicking on a daily basis – this nature on their doorstep is drawing in more and more people.

Eco-Schools Programme bearing more fruit...and vegetables

Following the remarkable success of the Eco-Schools Programme in five schools in Hammanskraal over the last two years, we have taken more schools under our wing. The project sponsor, Bakwena, was very enthusiastic about expanding and we approached five additional schools in Hammanskraal - who were all eager to come on board. We now have ten schools in our stable and they are all thriving, while reaping the rewards from their vegetable gardens and recycling projects. The Programme benefits the schools and also the surrounding communities through the distribution of surplus vegetables and opportunities for income generating activities.

Growing up green

In May, we joined forces with Modderfontein Reserve to host Nobel Primary School's top performing students, for the International Day for Biological Diversity. Shumani Makwarela, our Groen Sebenza intern, lead an interactive walk that covered diverse topics including the impact of alien invasive species, indigenous plants, birds, water, insects, mammals and the history of the area. The day ended with the students helping to remove the alien invasive plant Marabilis jalapa - also known as 'Four-o-Clock' along the river. We also treated learners to some Modderfontein Reserve and EWT-branded merchandise as a token of our appreciation.



PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Developing the largest urban conservation network in South Africa, particularly through collaboration with relevant conservation individuals and organisations.
- Grow the research component regarding the Modderfontein Reserve and greater Gauteng urban space.
- To improve the conservation and management of areas of high conservation value in Gauteng in partnership with organisations such as the Gauteng Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Challenges

- Negotiating an amicable resolution to conflict between humans and wildlife in urban areas, to ensure that our cities are supportive of both people and wildlife.
- Motivating schools and teachers to maintain their energy and enthusiasm for their Eco-Schools projects.
- Continuous habitat loss, due to continued development pressure, bordering Modderfontein Reserve and other natural areas.

Growth Areas

- Partner with more Eco-Schools in Hammanskraal and expand into other impoverished communities in Gautena.
- Develop and implement guidelines and toolkits to foster positive human-wildlife interactions occurring within Gauteng, both printed and online.
- Organise, launch and manage an Urban Conservation toll-free hotline that is accessible to everyone who wishes to report wildlife encounters, or is looking for assistance in conflict situations.

Risks

- Insufficient buy-in from stakeholders, including the public, who have yet to grasp the importance of urban conservation.
- Little cohesion amongst organisations involved with conservation and wildlife activities to work together e.g. in rehabilitation, research, conservation practice, pest control.
- Persecution of wildlife due to negative perceptions and an inadequate knowledge of urban wildlife.

PROGRAMME STAFF



Dr Andrew Taylor Wildlife Trade and Ranching Project Manager



Kirsty Brebner Rhino Project Manager



Karen Trendler Consultant

Intern:

Ndifelani Mulaudzi



Lending a helping hand

Our dog project is lending a helping hand in Zambia. Here we collaborated with Game Rangers International and the Zambian Wildlife Authority, with funding from the African Wildlife Foundation. Belgian Malinois, Renaldo, and German Shepherd, Hitch, spent three weeks in and around Lusaka demonstrating how helpful dogs are at detecting shipments of illegal wildlife. In total, the dogs searched 333 trucks and other vehicles at roadblocks, with one successful bust, and also worked at the Kenneth Kaunda International Airport in Lusaka. This trial resulted in a commitment from the Zambian authorities to deploy dog units in regions known to be smuggling routes for wildlife products.

Heddy the Hot Dog

Belgian Malinois, Heddy, is a dog on a mission. We recently deployed her to the heat of KwaZulu-Natal, where she took up a new dog-of-all-trades position as the horn, ivory, arms and ammunition sniffer dog in the law enforcement department of Ezemvelo KwaZulu Natal Wildlife with handler. Chantal Dickson. The move was a success - in March, while searching the homestead of a suspected poacher. Heddy unearthed a hidden rifle along with two packets of ammunition. Given that poachers hire out their rifles to other poaching groups, her find potentially disrupted more than one poaching syndicate.

Wildlife ranching and the green economy

Our project assesses the contribution that private wildlife ranching makes to the green economy. In pursuit of this aim, we have surveyed over 250 wildlife ranchers across South Africa to obtain detailed information on the financial, social and conservation impacts of the industry. We anticipate adding significantly to the current knowledge base with respect to the wildlife ranching sector, specifically the total areas of land under wildlife ranching, the number of animals removed through live sales and hunting, the income this generates and the social benefits.

Demand reduction

The EWT initiated a poster competition in Vietnam, where we encouraged people to design a poster that they felt conveyed the message to the Vietnamese people that they should not buy or use rhino horn. A panel of judges assessed the entries, and the winner and runner up received their prizes at the launch of the *One More Generation* campaign at the US Embassy in Hanoi.

Rhinos – up close and personal

Eleven criminal prosecutors – from various regions but all assigned to rhino cases - had the experience of a lifetime with a Black Rhino. The event revolved around the darting of an individual to change the transmitter in its horn – all part of a routine monitoring programme. Once sedated the prosecutors could get up close and personal with the rhino. They were able to touch and smell the rhino and listen to its heavy breathing. Considering that some of the prosecutors had never seen a rhino before – their only experience with rhinos came from exposure to rhino crime scenes – the impact was enormous, with everyone really moved by the event. As a result, we have some important new conservation converts.

Hayi Laa!

One very exciting development in the community arena is our ground breaking project to tackle social and wildlife crimes that impact on the people and wildlife in the rural community of Hluvukani, close to the Kruger National Park. We have partnered with the Thohoyandou Victim Empowerment Programme (TVEP) in a move to integrate the TVEP model of zero tolerance towards all forms of sexual assault, domestic violence, child abuse and HIV/AIDS stigma with a similar zero tolerance to wildlife crimes. We need the community to unite in saying 'NO' to both social and wildlife crimes, which is why we called the project Havi Laa!, meaning 'not here!' in Xitsonga, the predominant local language.

Conservation, creation and churches

The Timbavati Bush School in Hoedspruit hosted the first of two church leaders' workshops, representing 14 churches and their 3,000-plus members. Our project engaged with this audience as churches have a massive following and immense influence amongst rural communities in South Africa. Attendees had not previously thought that they could contribute to curb rhino poaching. After watching a particularly harrowing video of a poaching incident, and a workshop facilitated by the religion-based NGO A Rocha, church leaders showed real commitment to caring for creatures and creation, especially rhinos. The success of this first workshop led to a second, and there will be more in the future.

PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Our developing projects and relationships with communities will allow us to work with them to reduce their involvement in wildlife crimes, a critical factor needed to reduce rhino poaching.
- The outputs from our wildlife ranching project should provide relevant information that can be used to help guide policies relating to land reform, food security and biodiversity conservation on private land
- Our established networks and partnerships provide opportunities to expand our scope of work and give more weight to our activities.

Challenges

- Organised crime's involvement in illegal wildlife trade reduces the chance of stamping out this scourge.
- Consumer demand for wildlife products is largely based in foreign markets where we have little reach.
- Our ability to address illegal wildlife crime is hampered by our lack of an official mandate and the reluctance of government agencies to share information and resources.
- Obtaining permission and support for deployment of dogs, particularly at high risk borders, is difficult.
- We do not have an adequate footprint in Mozambique, which presents a major threat to our wildlife through poaching and trafficking routes.

Growth Areas

- We understand that community projects aimed at reducing the incentives for poaching will be critical for curbing illegal trade, and will expand our efforts in this regard.
- We would like to build on the Hayi Laa project by replicating it with other communities.
- Reducing demand for wildlife products is crucial. We will roll out demanding reduction campaigns in
 - Chines communities in South Africa.

Risks

• Rhino and elephant poaching rates may continue to increase.



PROGRAMME STAFF



Constant Hoogstad Programme Manager



Marianne Golding Administrator



Lourens Leeuwner Senior Field Officer



Amos Letsoalo Senior Field Officer



Matt Pretorius Senior Field Officer

Field Officer Interns:

- Kirsten Retief
- Reona Diergaardt
- Elizabeth Maggot
- Jo-Ann Josephs







The greener side of green energy

This year, the Wildlife and Energy Programme began its in-depth biodiversity impact monitoring at Eskom's flagship wind energy facility, Sere, near Koekenaap in the Western Cape. The monitoring consists of daily transects on foot underneath the wind turbines to look for bird and bat carcasses from collisons with the overhead blades. The project also assesses the impacts that infrastructure associated with the wind farm - including roads and power lines - might have for wildlife, by conducting power line surveys and road transects. We have employed several new staff from nearby communitie who walk an average of 10 km per day, to conduct these surveys, providing valuable skills transfer to local communities. As the project is still in its first year, we are still collating and analysing our data.

The science of power

For the seventh consecutive year, we continued our long-term monitoring of measures to reduce bird collisions with power lines in the Karoo – one of the only investigations of its kind in the world. Flagging lines to improve visibility reduces bird mortalities by around 70% under high-risk lines. We continue to monitor these power lines in order to assess the durability and effectiveness of various bird flappers. Meanwhile, the testing of the new nocturnal OWL device - a bird flapper designed to warn birds at night of the presence of power lines through a flashed warning - shows promising results, generating international interest in its application. Preliminary results suggest a 98% reduction in bird deaths. We have also tracked Cape Vultures, White-backed Vultures, Ludwig's Bustards and Ground Hornbills, in order to assist Eskom to plan the best locations for new power infrastructure, as well as providing advice with respect to existing structures. The programme also developed risk maps for each of Eskom's Distribution Operating Units, allowing them to make informed decisions when new power lines are developed.





Action plans

The Wildlife and Energy Programme assisted Eskom Generation is developing biodiversity action plans at all of their 16 power stations, including priorities such as legal compliance with biodiversity legislation, in-depth game management plans and identifying biodiversity "hotspots" in order to assist them in managing their biodiversity efficiently.

Steering into the future

Eskom and the EWT conducted their inaugural annual workshop in 2015 to lay down firm plans for the future of the partnership – as well as establishing a steering committee – a positive development for moving forward.

Energising employees

We provided wildlife interaction training to 1,289 Eskom employees and contractors, setting an all-time record for people trained in a financial year. The training attendees received helped them to understand biodiversity more holistically, and resulted in numerous Eskom employees acting in a more responsible manner towards biodiversity.

The rub of the green

Our five-year research project in the Kruger concluded in November 2014, looking into power line impacts of wildlife in the park. A staggering 1,000 wooden poles reportedly need to be replaced each year due to the impacts of large mammals, who use them as rubbing posts. Our investigation - using 12 camera traps on three different sections of power lines – revealed, to our surprise, that Cape Buffaloes were actually responsible for over half the incidents, with rhinos and elephants major culprits too. Subsequently, we tested four different measures to reduce this damage. We are pleased to report that all four measures stood the test of time and could save Eskom an estimated R20-million annually.

PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

The Wildlife and Energy Programme expanded its wings, making contact with other parastatals and the telecommunications industry to explore opportunities to work together to address their wildlife interaction issues.

Challenges

- Capacity and personnel were two of the challenges that we identified in 2014, but were quickly addressed by the addition of new staff members to the programme.
- Public pressure on the Eskom/EWT partnership to perform under difficult economic circumstances has added an additional burden.

Growth Areas

The Eskom/EWT partnership evolved into some of the unexplored Eskom Business Units including Eskom Generation, Eskom Real Estate and Eskom Renewable Energy divisions, giving increased growth opportunities within generation, real estate and wind and solar developments.

Risks

- The addition of new staff members, associated with the recent growth of the programme, gives added responsibility to ensure that the programme remains sustainable.
- The current and foreseeable economic climate in South Africa continues to pose a risk for future energy developments.



From 2010 -2015 we have trained 8,500 Eskom employees

PROGRAMME STAFF



Wendy Collinson Senior Field Officer

Students:

- Gareth Nuttall-Smith
- Seloba Chuene
- Thando Cebekhulu
- Stephanie Periquet
- Agnes Mkotywa

Wildlife and Roads Project

Road vehicles and transport infrastructure have a massive impact on wildlife and the EWT's Wildlife and Roads Project addresses these concerns by working with relevant stakeholders from the public and private sectors to curb this form of human-wildlife conflict. Our current focus is on reducing the number of collisions between wildlife and motor vehicles.



Steering initiatives

We have recently collaborated with several stakeholders, including the N3 Toll Concession and the Bakwena Platinum Corridor Concession, to work towards reducing the impacts of roads on wildlife and to expand on their current public awareness campaigns with respect to wildlife deaths. As a result, citizen scientist submissions to the EWT have increased since 2014, together with more detailed identification of species killed on our roads.

Transporting awareness across the globe

In 2014, the Wildlife and Roads Project launched its mobile app, Roadwatch, to enable the public to submit roadkill sightings to the EWT and contribute to our ever-expanding database. Volunteer numbers have almost doubled from last year, with over 200 citizen scientists collecting roadkill data, contributing almost 10,000 data points from across the country. Through a partnership with the University of the Free State, we use these data to develop sensitivity maps of areas where biodiversity is at particular threat from roads and our analyses consider specific habitat types across all the country's provinces

Our social media sites – that include Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter – as well as our newsletter *The Green Mile* – have a combined and ever-growing membership of over 2,000 followers.

We have been invited to sit on two international committees, the Transportation Research Board in the United States and the European-based Infra Eco Network Europe (IENE), to showcase our southern African work.



Driving science

We have published a number of articles, including four chapters in the international publication *Handbook of Road Ecology*, as well as four scientific papers in international peer-reviewed journals.

Thanks to the momentum the project is gaining, there are now four new postgraduate research projects underway as joint collaborations with three of South Africa's top universities, namely Rhodes University, the University of the Free State and the University of Venda.

A number of international and national conferences showcased the project, including the IENE (Sweden) and the Birds of Prey Annual Conference (South Africa), while a further three abstracts were accepted for two international and one national conference.



Chauffeuring wildlife to safety

With support from Bridgestone SA, we carried out fieldwork in the Pilanesberg National Park for our Roadkill in Protected Areas Project. This work addresses the many wildlife deaths that occur even in our protected areas. In 2015, we partnered with Rhodes University to conduct related field work in the Addo Elephant National Park.

With support from De Beers Group Services, we also carried out a roadkill-reduction trial in the Greater Mapungubwe Transfrontier Conservation Area. Encouragingly, the barriers we set up to keep wildlife off the roads led to a significant reduction in road deaths of small mammals, reptiles and amphibians.

Propelling our achievements

In 2014, the IENE honoured project leader, Wendy Collinson, with their Personal Award in appreciation of her contribution to road ecology and vehicle-wildlife conflict in South Africa. We were also the recipients of a Certificate of Merit (Transport Category) in South Africa's Eco-Logic Awards.

PROGRAMME OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- We formalised agreements with the University of Venda and the University of the Free State for a number of road ecology projects.
- Rhodes University is undertaking data collection in Addo Elephant National park as part of the Roadkill in Protected Areas Project.

Challenges

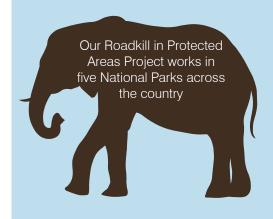
- Although there are many people willing to assist with the collection of roadkill data, retaining the interest of these volunteers is challenging.
- Using roadkill data collected by volunteers presents a challenge since it is often collected in an ad hoc manner and effort cannot be quantified systematically.

Growth areas

- Our recently established partnerships with South Africa's toll concessionaires are very relevant to the project and bring more credibility to our work. We are exploring partnerships with additional stakeholders in the roads sector.
- We will continue building and expanding national and international networks related to road ecology.
- We need to initiate and conduct further research to produce credible guidelines on how to minimise the negative effects of road construction on biodiversity. More importantly, we need to translate our research findings into policy.

Risks

- Capacity to address the current scope of the project is limited.
- Several work areas are dependent on volunteer coordinators and effort, potentially resulting in variation in the consistency and quality of datasets from across the country.



The EWT in the Media

THE TEAM



Lillian Mlambo Communication and Brand Manager



Marion Burger Graphic Designer



Joel Thosago Membership Administrator



Rachel Serakwana

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS

The EWT website

The EWT website continued to attract healthy visitor numbers in 2014/2015, boosted by our regular updates in both content and the design of the platform. The site received almost 5,000 visitors per month, with the careers, programmes and support us pages consistently receiving the most page views.

Social media

The EWT's Facebook page continues to attract new followers in leaps and bounds and is now an effective engagement tool to reach out to our social media community. The Facebook page remained a great medium for sharing EWT stories from the field, with our supporters readily commenting on posts that they found interesting. By financial yearend, the EWT Facebook group had made a huge 44% gain in fans and had 14,326 followers - a growth of 4,433 new 'likes' since the last Integrated Report. Interestingly, our fans remained predominantly female at 58%, with 42% being males. We gained 1,628 new Twitter followers in 2014/2015. The total number of followers for this reporting period stands at 6,548. The EWT's YouTube channel attracted 24 new subscribers – by end of June 2015 we had 76 subscribers.

E-newsletters

We distributed six issues of the EWT's electronic newsletter, *EWTalk*, to an email database of almost 8,000 subscribers during the year under review. The newsletter continues to receive positive feedback and continually attracts new subscribers, growing by nine per cent.

Advertising

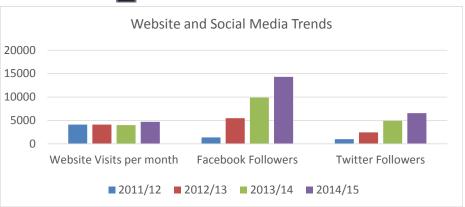
The EWT developed and launched a high profile environmental awareness campaign entitled *Destroy the Environment, Destroy Yourself* creating billboards, posters and television film. Ad Outpost helped us to post the billboards and posters in various high traffic locales in Johannesburg, while e.tv and various DSTV channels flighted the broadcast television film. We still receive feedback from members of the public who continue to be exposed to the EWT through this campaign that commanded high media space value to the tune of more than three million rands.

PRINT PUBLICATIONS

Environment – people and conservation in Africa

The magazine is a joint venture between the Endangered Wildlife Trust, the Wildlands Conservation Trust, the Cape Leopard Trust, the Wilderness Foundation, the South African Association for Marine Biological Research, the Game Rangers Association of Africa, the Southern African Foundation for the Conservation of Coastal Birds and the Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa. The magazine is produced quarterly and distributed to the more than 11,000 members and subscribers of the various partner NGOs.





Media releases and media coverage

We distributed 31 media releases during 2014/2015, resulting in extensive media coverage on national and local media platforms and reaching out to a significant and diverse public audience.

The EWT was featured in magazine, newspaper and online articles in premier media like Farmers Weekly, CountryLife, Animal Talk, Business Day, the Sunday Times, Beeld, the Star, the Mercury, the Citizen, Weekend Argus, Volksblad, the Times, Mail & Guardian, Africa Geographic, and broadcast spots on top-tier radio and television slots including 50/50, SABC News, SABC2, e.tv News, eNCA, Kyknet, 702, ClassicFM, RSG, Algoa FM, 567 Cape Talk, SAfm, Radio Laeveld and Jacaranda FM. This resulted in the EWT generating an approximate advertising value equivalent of two million rands.

Acknowledging our media supporters

Thank you to Wild & Jag/Game & Hunt for providing valuable pro bono monthly editorial space to the EWT.

A big thank you goes to e.tv, DSTV Media Sales, Viacom International, and AdOutpost for providing valuable pro bono media space for the EWT environmental awareness campaign entitled Destroy the Environment, Destroy Yourself.

Many thanks to Go Fish Client Catchers for the ongoing digital marketing and internet marketing advisory services they provide the EWT and for running our Google Ad campaign.

ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST Destroy your environment, destroy yourself. Save both at www.ewt.org.za

Fig. Environmental awareness campaign entitled "Destroy the Environment, Destroy Yourself"

DEPARTMENTAL OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- According to the South African
 Research Foundation, six out of ten
 South African adults have ready
 access to a cellphone. There is a
 huge opportunity to embark on a
 supporters engagement plan
 leveraging this medium.
- With the increase in the number of people moving to the digital marketing space, we need to increase and build on our current strategy to reach out to this diversified and important stakeholder base.
- To increase our brand visibility and media coverage we continue to rely on forging partnerships and relationships with members of the media and media owners.

Challenges

 We rely on financial and in-kind support to maximise our communications and advertising efforts in a difficult economic climate. Securing this support requires extensive levels of engagement with corporate South Africa to yield results.

Risks

 Dealing with the media and having the work of the EWT featured in film work and documentaries presents itself with potential reputational risks. We have developed policies around film work and media requests to reduce and manage these risks.



Our Passionate People

THE TEAM



Alison Janicke Human Resources Manager



Emma Chisare Executive Secretary



Yves Manana IT Technical Support Officer



Lesego Mokgatlhe IT Technical Support Officer



Precious Morgan Receptionist



Sizakele Ntsele Office Administrator



Dora Mncube House Keeper



Tembi Milni House Keeper

We aim to support the EWT's Mission and Vision by fostering a healthy, progressive, and equitable work environment that will attract and retain excellent employees and enable them to develop to their full potential.

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Operations

The structure of the EWT's organogram remained largely unchanged. We did, however, experience a 14% growth in the overall numbers of employees, increasing from 69 to 79. This significant growth is attributable to an increase in contractual work and the number of short-term employment contracts granted under this reporting period due to the nature of the project funding received.

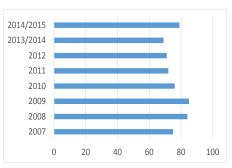


Fig. EWT Employee numbers

Talent management

The EWT is passionate about harnessing the talent and leadership of its employees and places value on creating opportunities for promotion and career advancement. Our concerted effort towards providing opportunities for promotion and career advancement have instilled a greater sense of shared value for both the EWT and its employees. During 2014/2015 we promoted eleven employees, a significant rise when compared to the general internal promotion trends over the last seven years.

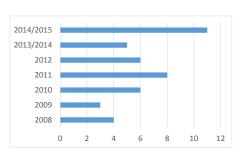


Fig. Trends in internal promotions, 2008-2015

Organisational workforce demographics

The EWT's gender distribution remains stable, with females and males accounting for 61% and 39% of the workforce, respectively. As at 30 June 2015 we employed a total number of 79 staff members, with 57 permanent employees and 22 on short-term contracts.

Race	Permanent staff		Interns		Part-time staff		Contract staff	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
African	9	10	3	3				
Coloured				3	1	1		
Indian		1						
White	14	23	1	2		3	3	2
Total	23	34	4	8	1	4	3	2
Grand total	5	7		12		5	5	

Table: Organisational workforce demographics

Employment equity

The EWT is fully committed to transformation and reflecting the natural demographics of South African society in its workforce. We made good progress in achieving employment equity targets during this period, with improvements across all categories. Further delivery on targets, particularly at middle management levels, remains a priority for the 2015/2016 period.

Employment and terminations

Through the reporting period, the EWT received an income stream for the implementation of several short-term projects. To align to this funding, we created ten new short-term contract positions.

There was notable employee movement across the different occupation and management levels within the organisation during this financial year. The Programme and Unit Managers' level increased by five employees whilst the Field Officers and Administrators level increased by six employees.

Table: Employment and terminations

Replaced full term positions	3
New full term positions	2
Replaced contract positions	1
New contract positions	24
Total Intake	30
Resignations of full term positions	4
Resignations of short term positions	6
Completed short term contacts	8
Retrenchments	2
Total Departures	20

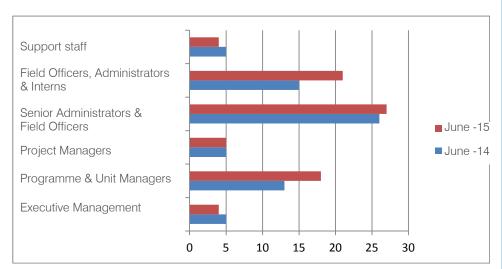


Fig. Employee headcount

Learning and development

The EWT places a high premium on employee development and training these activities are an important priority for organisational effectiveness. During our annual Development Week, in June 2015, we held five training courses for all 79 staff, along with seven roundtable discussions focused on pertinent subjects related to our areas of expertise. We placed a large focus on drawing on the talents and experience of our staff, who co-facilitated the various training sessions in specific target areas. Some of the workshops which were covered included trade-offs and off-sets, ethics, introduction to population modeling, the EWT's Biodiversity DataBank, data management and analysis in Excel and basic video editing. This talent sharing has contributed to an increase in comradery, the sharing of experiences and increased inter programme and unit collaboration.

Formal training

Forty-seven staff attended certified training courses through this reporting period. These included a variety of comprehensive, tailored training sessions in the areas of: geographical information systems; Microsoft Word; Safety, Health and Environment; and business communications.

DEPARTMENTAL OUTLOOK

Opportunities

The EWT understands that the privilege to operate as one of South Africa's largest biodiversity NGOs carries an inherent obligation to demonstrate leadership in every dimension of its operations. This includes the role that it must play in supporting the progress of South African society. As such, the EWT remains fully committed to comply with the Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment (B-BBEE) and Employment Equity (EE) principles.

Challenges

- Our projects require intense levels of reporting and monitoring. Our support services staff conduct much of this work: securing financial support for these core activities requires priority attention.
- The continued changes in operational requirements, due to the size and nature of funding opportunities, has led to increased and intense human resource governance requirements for the EWT. This will require us to consider increasing our capacity.

Risks

 With the increase in the scale and scope of the EWT's programmatic work, we run the risk of growing too quickly without the relevant human resources structures and capacity in place to support this growth.



Internships

As one of the largest biodiversity conservation NGOs in South Africa, we continue to make a valuable contribution in the mentorship and capacity building of young professionals entering the conservation sector. Through the review period, we placed a strong focus on training and up-skilling young people through internships – we provided internship opportunities to 26 young people, a significant number of whom come from previously disadvantaged communities.

We placed these interns across various EWT departments for experiential work and mentorship. As a result of their experience with us a vast majority of these interns have since been offered employment opportunities elsewhere.

EcoRangers Internship: In August 2014, the EWT's African Crane Conservation Programme successfully initiated the EcoRangers Southern Drakensberg Stewardship Project, which supports landowners in the implementation of conservation management plans for stewardship sites. This exciting project provided an opportunity for 30 candidates from local communities to attend an insightful stewardship workshop. Subsequently, eight candidates underwent three months of intensive training, resulting in the EWT offering four highly-proficient candidates with short-term employment contracts as EcoRanger interns.

- Groen Sebenza: A Jobs Fund Partnership Project developed by the South African National Biodiversity Institute and funded by National Treasury saw the EWT host 12 interns during this reporting period. The project will end in December 2015. The EWT has committed to providing some of the interns with further work opportunities on fixed term contracts after the internship project ends, while others have used the experience to find work alsowhere.
- <u>Sere Project</u>: In May 2015, the Wildlife and Energy Programme expanded its renewable energy project, which required the assistance of four interns over a 12-month period.
- Science Unit: The Science Unit hosted three interns. We offered one of them a short term employment contract and another has gone on to do a Masters at Rhodes University.
- <u>Programme Field Interns</u>: Both the Source to Sea and Threatened Amphibian Programmes are hosting an intern each for a 12-month period.
- <u>Support Services:</u> The Finance and Governance unit is hosting an intern for a 12-month fixed term contract to assist with the coordination of contractual and regulatory compliance processes.



ORGANISATIONAL SUSTAINABILITY - BROAD-BASED BLACK ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

Qualified Small Enterprise Certificate (QSE)

The EWT's QSE rating saw a marked improvement from a Level 5 to Level 2 contributor, due primarily to an increase in points scored under the skills development element.

Socio-Economic Development Certificate (SED)

The EWT received a 100% rating for its Socio-Economic Development Certificate for the fifth consecutive year. The certificate was awarded for the outstanding work undertaken by the EWT towards conserving species and ecosystems in southern Africa, conducting research and conservation programmes, implementing projects that mitigate threats to species, supporting sustainable natural resource management and its activities around transformation such as human capital development in the rural or underdeveloped urban areas. This means that the EWT's sponsors can recognise 100% of the value of their sponsorship in the calculation of their own scorecards.

Table: The EWT's Broad-Based Black Economic Empowerment targets and performance

Element	Target Score	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014/2015
Ownership	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Management	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Employment Equity	25.00	5.59	10.18	11.66	11.04	12.17
Skills Development	25.00	1.25	9.88	0.84	2.78	25.00
Preferential Procurement	25.00	25.00	22.15	17.71	25.00	25.00
Enterprise Development	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Socio-Economic Development	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00	25.00
Overall score	100.00	56.84	67.21	55.22	63.82	87.17



THE TEAM

Governance



Mandy Poole
Chief Operations Officer



Melissa Govindsamy Bookkeeper



Justice Moabelo Financial Manager



Xolani Klass Grant Manager



Bruce Shikwambana Intern

Abbas Moola





Annual General Meeting

The EWT AGM was held on 21st October 2014 where the Trustees of the EWT voted to accept four new Trustees, namely Mr Anthony Diepenbroek, Ms Bongiwe Njobe, Dr Crispian Olver and Mr Christo Reeders. Mr Terence Sibiya resigned as a Trustee and from the Audit and Finance Committee and Mr Mike Bridgeford also resigned as a Trustee. The EWT Board was re-elected in its entirety with Mr Dirk Ackerman continuing the position of Chairman and Mr Paul Smith as Treasurer. Mr Uwe Putlitz continues as Deputy Chairman. The Board comprises eight Trustees and the CEO as an ex-officio member.

Board of Management and Committees

The Board of Management met four times during the last financial year and undertook work according to the Board-approved work plan as determined at the beginning of the calendar year. Board committees, in the form of the Audit and Finance Committee (AFC) and the Remuneration and Nominations Committee also met, with the former meeting five times and the latter meeting once. The work plans of the Board and the AFC not only guide the activities of these committees, but also serve as the foundation for an annual review of the effectiveness of both bodies.

Audit and Finance Committee

In line with the Amended and Restated Deed of Trust 2014, the former Finance Committee of the Board of Management was re-constituted as the Audit and Finance Committee (AFC). At its first meeting in 2015, the AFC adopted a new AFC Charter laying out its roles and responsibilities under the following headings: (1) composition and meetings of the AFC; (2) purpose of the AFC; (3) duties of the AFC; and (4) performance evaluation of the AFC.

Internal Management Structures

The EWT **Senior Management Team** (Exec) comprises Yolan Friedmann (CEO), Mandy Poole (COO), Alison Janicke (HR Manager) and Dr Harriet Davies-Mostert (Head of Conservation). The Exec met 13 times in the last financial year to discuss a broad agenda covering financial performance, HR, IT, fundraising, administration, operations and general governance, strategy, conservation programmes, outreach, marketing and communications and partnership development.

The Conservation Management Team comprises all senior managers from the Support Services departments as well as the Programme Managers and senior Project Management staff. This committee met 11 times during the year and discussed, inter alia, programme and project management issues, conservation strategy, financial performance, ethics, data sharing, regional offices, science and research, the review of existing projects and the development of new projects.

Finally, the **Conservation Forum (CF)** met monthly and is a forum for all EWT staff to receive updates on all Programmes and Departments, EWT news and information and participate in discussions and debates around 'hot topics' or items of conservation importance. The CF also invited guest speakers to address the staff on various matters

Registration in Mozambique

At the May Board meeting the Board of Management approved the registration of the EWT as a foreign NGO operating in Mozambique in order to facilitate our continued activities to protect and conserve the Dugong and its threatened habitat in the Bazaruto Archipelago National Park.

Governance Intern

We hired a law graduate as a Governance Intern. Her activities included liaising with Adams and Adams in finalising the registrations of all the EWT's Trademarks in South Africa and neighbouring SADC countries. In addition, the intern is assisting with the management of all current and expired EWT contracts and is fulfilling the role of Information Officer for the EWT in line with the requirements of, *inter alia*, the Protection of Personal Information Act.

Policies

In a continued effort to ensure that the EWT meets with all the requirements of excellent corporate governance and achieves best practice in all its efforts, the Trust developed a Procurement and Conflict of Interest Policy as well as a policy addressing the provisions of the Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013 (POPI).

The EWT is well supported by Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr in all matters of governance, policy development and compliance.



Deloitte & Touche Registered Auditors Audit - Gauteng www.deloitte.com Buildings 1 and 2 Deloitte Place The Woodlands Woodlands Drive Woodlands Orive Woodlands Sandton Private Bag X6 Gallo Manor 2052 South Africa Docex 10 Johannesburg

Riverwalk Office Park, Block B 41 Matroosberg Road Ashlea Gardens X6 Pretoria, 0081 PO Box 11007 Hatfield 0028 South Africa Docex 6 Pretoria

Tel: +27 (0)11 806 5000 Fax: +27 (0)11 806 5111 Tel: +27 (0)12 482 0000 Fax: +27 (0)12 460 3633

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS ON THE SUMMARY FINANCIAL STATEMENTS OF THE ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE ENDANGERED WILDLIFE TRUST.

The accompanying summary financial statements, which comprise the summary statement of financial position as at 30 June 2015, and the summary statement of comprehensive income, are derived from audited financial statements of the Endangered Wildlife Trust for the period ended 30 June 2015. We expressed an unmodified opinion on those financial statements in our report dated 2 October 2015. Those financial statements, and the summary financial statements, do not reflect effects of the events that occurred subsequent to the date of our report on those financial statements.

The summary financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by the basis of accounting described in note 1 to the audited financial statements and the requirements of the Fundraising Act applied in the preparation of the audited financial statements of the Endangered Wildlife Trust. Reading the summary financial statements, therefore, is not a substitute for the reading the audited financial statements of the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

Management's responsibility to the summary financial statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary audited financial statements in accordance with basis of accounting described in the note 1 to the audited financial statements and the requirements of the Fundraising Act and for such internal control as management determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the summary financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

Auditors' responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the summary financial statements based on our procedures which were conducted in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) 810, "Engagements to report on summary financial statements".

Opinion

In our opinion, the summary financial statements derived from the audited financial statements of the Endangered Wildlife Trust for the period ended 30 June 2015 are consistent, in all material respects, with those financial statements, in accordance with the basis of accounting described in note 1 to the audited financial statements and the requirements of the Fundraising Act.

Deloitte & Touche Registered Auditors Per: C. Naidoo

Delathe & Touche

Partner

raithei

13 October 2015

National Executive: "LL Barn Chief Executive "AE Swiegers Chief Operating Officer "GM Pinnock Audit
"N Sing Risk Advisory "NB Kader Tax. TP Rilay Consulting 5 Gwala BPaa5 "K Black Clients 6 Industries
"IX Mazzocco Talent 6 Transformation "MJ Jarvis Finance "M Jordan Strategy "MJ Comber Reputation 6 Risk
"IJ Brown Chairman of the Board

A full list of partners and directors is available on request

* Partner and Registered Auditor

B-BBEE rating: Level 2 contributor in terms of the Chartered Accountancy Profession Sector Code

Member of Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

for the year ended 30 June 2015

	12 months 30 Jun '15 R	18 months 30 June '14 R
Revenue	37 220 964	44 546 145
Expenses	37 204 837	(45 363 911)
Total comprehensive operational deficit for the period	16 127	(817 766)
After charging: Depreciation Owned and leased assets - charged to income - charged to non-distributable reserves	52 208 877 062 929 270	125 132 696 531 821 663
and after crediting: Interest received – bank deposits	552 414	986 843
Accumulated funds at beginning of period	9 872 427	10 690 193
Prior year adjustment	(4)	-
Accumulated funds at end of period	9 888 550	9 872 427

SUMMARY STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

as at 30 June 2015

	30 Jun '15 R	30 June '14 R
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment Total non-current assets	3 046 567 3 046 567	919 645 919 645
Current assets		
Accounts receivable	771 375	527 073
Cash and cash equivalents	21 182 845	18 565 152
Total current assets	21 954 220	19 092 225
TOTAL ASSETS	25 000 787	20 011 870
FUNDS AND LIABILITIES		
Trust funds		
Accumulated funds	9 888 550	9 872 427
Non-distributable reserves	2 978 052	818 891
Total Trust funds	12 866 602	10 691 318
Current liabilities		
Accounts payable	696 919	406 288
Funds held on behalf of other organisations	2 390 857	822 362
Deferred revenue	8 822 884	7 806 954
Provision	223 525	284 948
Total current liabilities	12 134 185	9 320 552
TOTAL FUNDS AND LIABILITIES	25 000 787	20 011 870

Notes to the financial statements

Accounting policies

The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis. The following are the principal accounting policies used by the Trust that are consistent with those of the previous periods.

1.1 Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration receivable. Gross revenue excludes value-added tax and represents subscriptions, donations, project income and other voluntary contributions. Subscriptions income is recognised on receipt. Income for specific projects or functions is matched with expenditure as incurred. Revenue from sale of goods and services is disclosed net of expenditure incurred. Interest received is accrued on a time basis, by reference to the principal outstanding and at the effective interest rate applicable.

1.2 Deferred revenue

Revenue received for specific projects is matched against project expenditure when incurred. Deferred revenue relating to completed projects is re-allocated to other projects. Deficits are recouped from other donors or projects.

1.3 Property and equipment

Property and equipment are included at cost. Cost includes all costs directly attributable to bringing the assets to working condition for their intended use. Depreciation is calculated by a charge to income computed on a straight-line basis so as to write off the cost or amount of the valuation of the assets over their expected useful lives. The depreciation rates applicable to each category of fixed assets are as follows:

Leasehold improvements 10% straight-line Other assets 33.33% straight-line

Donated artwork is not depreciated. Assets purchased for projects are charged against deferred revenue upon acquisition. The related depreciation of these assets is also written down against the depreciation reserve. The gain or loss arising on the disposal of an item of property and equipment is determined as the difference between the sale proceeds and the carrying amount of the asset and is included in income or deficit for the period.

1.4 Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents are measured at fair value and comprise cash on hand, deposits held on call with banks and investments in money market instruments.

1.5 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Trust has a present obligation (legal or constructive) as a result of a past event, it is probable that the Trust will be required to settle the obligation, and a reliable estimate can be made of the amount of the obligation. The amount recognised as a provision is the best estimate of the consideration required to settle the present obligation at the statement of financial position date, taking into account the risks and uncertainties surrounding the obligation. Where a provision is measured using the cash flows estimated to settle the present obligation, its carrying amount is the present value of those cash flows. When some or all of the economic benefits required to settle a provision are expected to be recovered from a third party, the receivable is recognised as an asset if it is virtually certain that reimbursement will be received and the amount of the receivable can be measured reliably.

1.6 Financial instruments

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised on the Trust's statement of financial position when the Trust has become a party to contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets

The Trust's financial assets are held-to-maturity investments, bank balances and cash and accounts receivable. Held-to-maturity investments are carried at cost. The accounting policy for bank balances and cash is dealt with under cash and cash equivalents set out in note 1.4. Accounts receivable are stated at cost.

Financial liabilities

The Trust's principal financial liabilities consist of accounts payable. Accounts payable are stated at cost.

1.7 Trust funds

The Trust raises funds for future projects which are designated as Special Funds in the Statement of Financial Position. Due to the fact that the future use of these funds is unspecified, Management assesses and releases funds back to the Statement of Comprehensive Income as and when approved by a resolution of the Board of Management. The Trust does not currently hold any Special Funds.

Funding and Sustainability

THE TEAM



Dr Tim Jackson Senior Technical Writer



Frank Jackson Business Development Officer



Debbie Thiart
Public Relations
Officer



Carla van Rooyen
Business
Development Officer



Zingisa Xuba Intern

To ensure that the EWT meets its conservation objectives, both attracting and retaining donors remain a priority. As always, we are extremely grateful to our loyal members, donors and supporters (individuals, trusts, foundations and businesses) who ensure that our critical conservation work continues. We also acknowledge the considerable help we receive, in terms of both *pro bono* support and in-kind donations. The funding we receive from our supporters is the driving force behind our ability to deliver on our Mission, and we acknowledge them all whole-heartedly. By way of acknowledgement, we have incorporated a comprehensive list of our supporters over this last year on pages 62-65.

Special events

During the year, the EWT participated in several events geared towards raising funds for our conservation activities. These events served as useful avenues for our supporters enjoy the outdoors whilst raising funds. In November 2014, 76 supporters rode the 94.7 Cycle Challenge for the EWT and raised over R220,000, whilst in March 2015 it was Cape Town's turn, where 30 riders took up the gauntlet of the Argus Cycle Challenge and



raised R30,000. Another well attended event was our annual golf day that took place in May 2015. The event generated over R90,000 towards our work, with a number of corporates sponsoring four-balls, as well as donating prizes that we auctioned off.





Relate bracelets

In partnership with Relate, we continued to raise funds through the sale of locally beaded bracelets. Together, we developed each bracelet to help protect a specific threatened species – the range includes Cheetah, Wild Dog, Dugong and rhino bracelets. These bracelets also support job creation and empower the beaders to improve their lives through education and income generation. Due to their popularity, we have added two

new bracelets to the range – a frog and a Bateleur (eagle) bracelet. The bracelets are available through the Relate online shop at www.relate.org.za, the EWT eShop at www.ewtshop.co.za and at our conservation talks, as wells as at selected retail outlets including CNA, Trappers Trading, Woolworths and Tiger's Eye. In the past financial year we sold 8,000 bracelets and raised over R280,000. By far our most popular bracelet – with more than four times the sales of any other item – remains the rhino bracelet, followed by those for both Wild Dogs and Cheetahs.

Retail

We launched a number of new items in our eShop in the course of the financial year, including new fluffy toys and miniature pewter animals. We sold 210 of our annual calendars and raised over R16,000 through the various eShop sales made through the course of the year.

Conservation talks

We continue to host our monthly conservation talks at the Country Club Johannesburg. These talks serve as a platform to bring our supporters closer to the work we do. In the past year we expanded these talks to include an additional venue, and our supporters can now enjoy informative talks at both the Auckland Park and Woodmead venues in

Johannesburg. Through the year we hosted 12 talks, with an average attendance of 70 supporters at each talk, and raised between R5,000 and R9,000 from each talk. Our most successful talk, hosted by Auckland Park, saw 180 guests attend our talk on responsible tourism by Rynette Coetzee and Ian Thompson.

Membership

We receive annual support from our loyal members and the past financial year saw a slow but steady increase in membership numbers from 4,312 to 4,339.

Campaigns

We launched a number of campaigns over the course of the 2014-2015 financial year. A few highlights include:

The *Grow a Tree* campaign, in which we encouraged supporters to donate R50 to purchase a leaf for our growing virtual tree. We displayed the names of supporters who participated on leaves of the growing tree that we displayed on the EWT website.

We launched an email signature campaign, where we added a link to subscribe to our newsletter to staff email signatures, in an effort to expand our newsletter subscriber list.

On Valentine's Day 2015 we launched a video campaign to thank our donors for their support and this elicited positive feedback from numerous supporters.

Corporates

We invested a lot of effort in bringing in corporate funding, raising over R5 million from new corporate supporters in the past year, while adding over 15 new corporate members

Trusts and foundations

Our support from trusts and foundations – both nationally and overseas – generated R21,5 million, with international trusts and foundations contributing over R18 million towards our programmatic activities, with support from as far afield as the United States, New Zealand, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Switzerland.

Emotive mailers

We sent out our emotive mailer, *Help Save our Planet*, in May 2014. With many thanks to those 171 people who contributed a total of R93,652, or an average donation of almost R550. We look forward to the returns from our June 2015 emotive mailer, in its custom-designed envelope, and called *Help us Stop Illegal Wildlife Trade*.

Support from individuals

Donations from individuals make up the backbone of our funding as it is the most sustainable funding source and we are grateful for the continued support from individual donors. One of the primary methods individual donors used to support us in the past financial year was through GivenGain, an online donation platform linked to organisations such as the EWT. We also partnered with companies such as Woolworths to make it easy and convenient for individuals to contribute to our work. The MyPlanet Rhino Fund card raised over R1,8 million and the MyPlanet EWT card raised over R200,000 in the last financial year.



Bequests

Bequest funding remains one of our most important sources of income and we received a number of beguests in the past financial year. We ran a campaign in September, during Wills Week, to encourage supporters to make use of the services of attorneys who offered to draw up free wills. During that time, eight supporters contacted us to inform us that, as a result of the campaign, they have left us a bequest. We are establishing a Legacy Society to thank and honour those who have chosen to leave bequests to the EWT. During the 2014-2015 financial year we are very grateful for the bequests we received to the value of just over R3,3 million.



DEPARTMENTAL OUTLOOK

Opportunities

- Our conservation projects continue to yield high impact and attract supporters who want to be part of the work we do to conserve species and habitats.
- We are increasingly incorporating more community-based work as this is an essential component determining the success of our projects and, in doing so, we are also diversifying the sources of funding we receive.
- Our strong, Level 2, B-BBEE score attracts more corporate funders who are drawn to our inclusive and transparent policies.
- The growth in the global digital landscape is diversifying opportunities for people to support us through crowd-funding campaigns, online donation platforms and avenues such as retail-linked supporters' cards.

Challenges

- The focus of corporate social investment funding is shifting from conservation NGOs as businesses implement internal measures to reduce consumption and their environmental footprint.
- We are continually updating our fundraising strategies – particularly given the present economic climate – to ensure our sustainability in light of these challenges, in order to maximise the return on our efforts.

Growth areas

- We see a growing opportunity to increase funding received from trusts and foundations.
- Digital fundraising opportunities are growing rapidly.
- We are expanding our fundraising strategies to incorporate a larger number of fundraising campaigns.
- Individual support is increasing and we are making it easier for individuals to support us through events, online donations, campaigns and other avenues such as supporter cards linked to various retailers.

Risks

 The current economic situation, lack of available funding for supporting departments such as finance, business development and human resources, and competition from other non-profit sectors remain the biggest risks.

Awards and Achievements

Future for Nature Awards

The EWT's Karen Allen, Project Executant of the Source to Sea Programme's Dugong Emergency Protection Project, was the proud winner of a Future for Nature Award – one of only three awards made from many entries globally. The Netherlandsbased Future for Nature Foundation recognises the protection of species of wild animals and plants and the conservation of nature in general. The Foundation aims to stimulate a new generation of nature conservation leaders by providing support to young, highly committed and talented conservationists. In this spirit, the Foundation awards young conservation leaders like Karen who inspire and mobilize others. As well as the international prestige the award creates, the Euro 50,000 prize is a real boost for Karen's Dugong conservation work in Mozambique.

Mail & Guardian Greening the Future Award

This year the EWT's Cape Critical Rivers project won the prestigious Mail & Guardian's Greening the Future Award in the Biodiversity Stewardship category. These awards aim to showcase the country's most noteworthy and newsworthy environmental projects.

Rivers in the Western Cape are under tremendous pressure as their waters irrigate the hub of the fruit and wine industries, supply domestic use, while alien invasive fish species and habitat loss disrupted their sensitive ecosystems – presenting considerable conservation challenges. The EWT worked with its project partners here - including CapeNature, the Freshwater Research Centre and the Northern Cape Department of Environment and Nature Conservation using a multi-faceted approach. This has led to increased awareness of the conservation importance of our rivers and the development of innovative tools to keep the water in the rivers where they benefit the ecosystem.

Infra Eco Network Europe Personal Award

In 2014, the Infra Eco Network Europe (IENE) awarded Wendy Collinson, Field Officer of the EWT's Wildlife and Roads Project, with their Personal Award. In doing so, they recognised formalized, international, network of experts active in the field

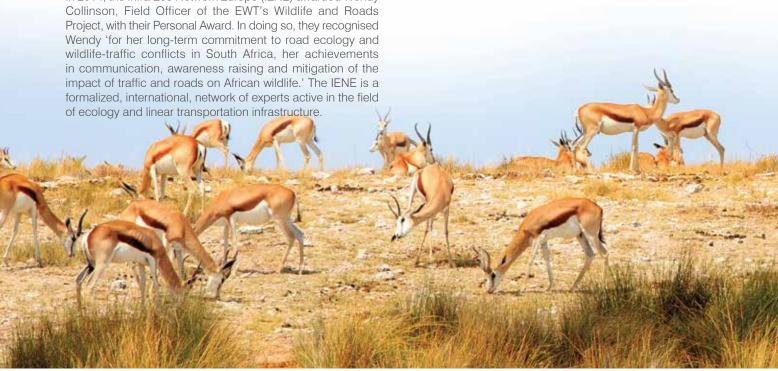
WESSA Awards

The Wildlife and Environment Society of South Africa (WESSA) awarded two EWT staff members with awards through the year. A Northern Areas Regional Award was presented to Andre Botha – Manager of our Birds of Prey Programme – for his outstanding contribution to conservation and work with raptors in particular. The second, impromptu award went to Samson Phakathi in recognition of his enthusiastic contribution towards conservation. WESSA is a well-known South African environmental organisation that aims to initiate and support high impact environmental and conservation projects to promote public participation in caring for the Earth.

2014 - INTERNAL AWARDS

Each year the EWT pays homage to the sterling efforts of its staff members for their outstanding and lasting contribution towards tackling pressing conservation issues in South Africa and beyond. In 2014, the following staff members and programmes were recognised for their achievements.

- Programme of the Year: African Crane Conservation Programme
- Programme Manager of the Year: Constant Hoogstad, Wildlife & Energy Programme
- Conservation Achiever of the Year: Kirsty Brebner, Rhino Project
- Conservation Supporter of the Year: Dr Tim Jackson, Fundraising Department
- Media Award: Wildlife & Roads Project
- Consistently Strong Performer: Karen Allen, Dugong Emergency Protection Project
- Consistently Strong Performer: Wendy Collinson, Wildlife & Roads Project
- Consistently Strong Performer: Dr Lizanne Roxburgh, Conservation Science Unit



Who we work with

New and updated partnerships

The EWT achieves its significant conservation impacts by working in partnership with a multitude of organisations. These include government agencies and parastatals, communities, other NGOs, companies, academic institutions and private individuals, among others. While our current partnerships are far too numerous to mention individually, we draw attention in the list below to the new or updated agreements signed with partners over the course of the past year.

- African-Eurasian Migratory Waterbird Agreement
- African Wildlife Foundation
- Eastern Wetland Rehabilitation
- Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife
- Flint Sky
- Greendogs Conservation
- International Crane Foundation
- International Fund for Animal Welfare
- Lanseria International Airport
- National Zoological Gardens of South Africa
- North-West University
- Parque Nacional Do Arquipelago Do Bazaruto (Mozambique)
- South African National Parks
- South African Institute for Aquatic Biodiversity
- United Nations Environment Programme
- University of the Free State
- Waterberg Biosphere Reserve
- Whispers of the Wild
- Wildlands Conservation Trust
- Wilderness Foundation
- Wildlife Act Fund

The EWT and the IUCN – the International Union for Conservation of Nature

The EWT is a long-standing member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the world's oldest and largest global environmental organisation comprising almost 1,300 government and NGO members. Our membership has a particularly active history. The EWT's CEO, Yolan Friedmann was Chair of the South African National Committee from 2004-2008, and was a Regional Councillor for Africa from 2008-2012.

During the year under review, the EWT's Head of Conservation, Dr Harriet Davies-Mostert, attended the IUCN World Parks Congress in Sydney in November 2014, where she cohosted a special session on mainstreaming biodiversity into business, and presented talks on the importance of NGO/business partnerships. The EWT participated in various meetings of the IUCN National Committee during 2015, and Harriet was appointed Chair of this committee in June 2015.

In addition, our expert staff play key roles among several of the IUCN's Commissions. We are represented on the Temperate Grasslands Specialist Group of the World Commission on Protected Areas, and we are particularly active in the Species Survival Commission. Andre Botha, the EWT's Birds of Prey Programme Manager was instrumental in the establishment of the Vulture Specialist Group, and our staff currently contribute to the following specialist groups and bodies under this commission:

- Afrotheria Specialist Group (Red List Coordinator)
- Amphibian Specialist Group
- Canid Specialist Group
- Cat Specialist Group (and its subsidiary, the African Lion Working Group)
- Crane Specialist Group
- Conservation Breeding Specialist Group
- Lagomorph Specialist Group
- National Red List Alliance (member of the Coordinating Body)
- Sirenian Specialist Group
- Vulture Specialist Group (co-Chair).



Supporters

Strategic Partnerships

Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd
International Crane Foundation

Institutional Supporters

Deloitte Southern Africa DLA Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr

Supporters

Patron Supporters (R250,000 and above per annum)

Bakwena Platinum Corridor Concession

Barloworld

Bridgestone South Africa

Charl van der Merwe Trust

Conservation International Foundation

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Afromontane

Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund Maputaland-

Pondoland-Albany Hotspot

Department of Environmental Affairs

Development Bank of Southern Africa

Elizabeth Wakeman Henderson Charitable Foundation

European Union

Future for Nature Foundation

Global Environmental Facility

Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust

International Union for Conservation of Nature

Investec Property

Koos and Rona Rupert Education Trust

Lindt & Sprüngli South Africa

Mohamed bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund

Mondi Ltd

National Lotteries Distribution Trust Fund

Nedbank Green Trust

Rand Merchant Bank

Relate Trust

Sasol

SOS: Save Our Species Fund

South African National Biodiversity Institute

Table Mountain Fund

United States Agency for International Development

United States Department of State (International

Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs)

Van Tienhoven Foundation for International Nature

Protection

Woolworths Trust

World Wildlife Fund Green Trust

Groundbreaker Supporters (R100,000 – R249,999)

Association of All Wheel Drive Clubs South Africa /

Land Rover Owners Club

ABAX Foundation

African Wildlife Foundation

Anglo Inyosi Coal (Pty) Ltd

Bosman Emergency Response Fund

Cheetah Species Survival Plan Fund

Cleveland Zoo

Columbus Zoo

Conservation Action Trust

GCCL² Management Services

Global Biodiversity Information Facility

HCI Foundation

Interwaste (Pty) Ltd

Laguntza Foundation

N3 Toll Concession

National Geographic Big Cats Initiative

One Owl Enterprises

Prince Bernhard Nature Fund

Riplog (Pty) Ltd

Seacology

Vaughan de la Harpe

Webber Wentzel

Wildlands Conservation Trust

Zoological Society of London

Custodian Supporters (R50,000 – R99,999)

Adcorp

AfriSam

Afrivet

Altron Group, & Powertech

Alu-Cab

Anthony Sedgewick

Assore Mining

Badger Holdings

De Beers Group Services

Decatur Park District

E Oppenheimer & Son

Felix Schneier Foundation

Flexilube

Flora and Fauna International: Flagship Species Fund

Hatch Goba

IQ Business Group

Kevin Hodgson

Knowsley Safari Park

Marincowitz Welfare Trust Miami-Dade County

Mones Michael Trust

Nedbank

Pam Golding Properties

People's Trust for Endangered Species

Pick 'n Pay Retailers

Pittsburgh Zoo

Protea Hotel Kruger Gate

Tekkie Tax

TRAFFIC International

Transne

Zoological Society for Species and Populations

Explorer Supporters (R2,500 – R49,999)

Africa International Advisors

Africa's Finest

Amphibian Survival Alliance

Anne Rimbault

Anne Swann Personnel

Auckland Zoo Conservation Fund

BDG Foundation

Beth Hackland

BMM Consultants

Bush Whisperer

Cango Wildlife Ranch

Canopy Tours
Cape Union Mart
Carol Ratcliffe
Cassie Carstens
Cavalli Estate
Christina Johanna Cilliers

Colin Osner Copenhagen Zoo

Council for Scientific and Industrial Research

Cranefield College
David Graaff Foundation
Davies Foundation
Digital Outsource Services

NCT Forestry Co-operative Neil Ginsburg

Neotel

Network Configuration NTE Company Limited

Old Mutual
Onesto Trading
P Jivan Kalianjee
Paramount Group
Philip Moore Family Trust

Phoenix Zoo Platinum Life

Pretoria Girls School



Dr Shapiro

Du Toit Mandelstam Inc Elizabeth (Biffy) Kühne Free Range Jewellery Hawk Conservancy Trust

Highveld Lodge

Hollard

Hulamin

Hunter Films

Indwe Risk Services

JH Trust

Jocelyn Cuthbert

Johannesburg City Parks and Zoo

Karin Ireton KLB Engineering Kloof Conservancy Legacy Lifestyle Leriba Lodge

Lesley Hohne Livingstones

Markjan van Schaardenburgh

Max T Solutions
Mrs G Fergusson
Mr WL Dreyer
My Rhino

Project Plus Redhill School Trust Saint Louis Zoo

South African National Parks (Honorary Rangers)

Scovill Zoo

Sean Williams Living Creatures Trust

SLR Consulting SNP Logistics

South African National Road Agency SOC Limited

Southern Sun Hotels Synovate IPSOS Tandy Foundation The Diana Group Thomas Bergman Tomaz Florindo

Trans Africa Safaris
Trappers Trading

TreadRight Foundation

Trivium Capital

Tuli Development Trust

Victoria Reuvers Wedgewood Welgevonden Wilderness Safaris

Wildside

Supporters in kind

Patron Supporters (R250,000 and above per annum)

Ad Outpost
Bidvest Protea Coin
BMW Motorrad
DSTV Media
Ford Wildlife Foundation

Jaguar Land Rover South Africa Lowe Johannesburg

The Bateleurs

Viacom International Media Networks Africa

Zendai Property Development

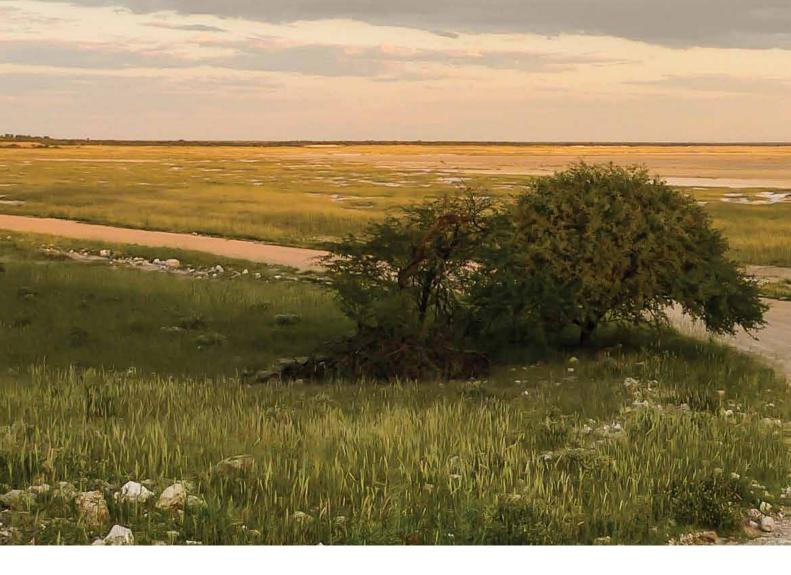
Groundbreaker Supporters (R100,000 – R249,999)

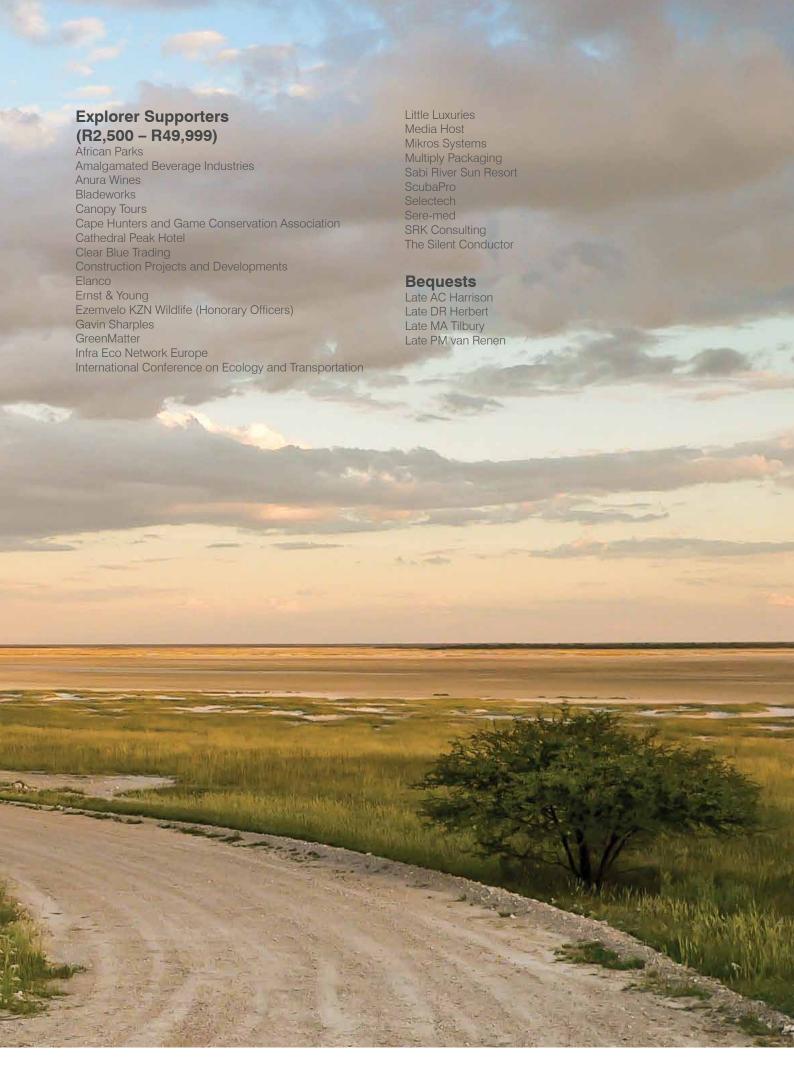
&Beyond
Bridgestone South Africa
Country Club Johannesburg
Land Rover Centurion
Lesoba Difference

Custodian Supporters (R50,000 - R99,000)

Cube Route / Eukanuba
Go Fish Client Catchers
Gordon Institute of Business Science
Ireland Davenport
Kathea Communication Solutions
Maurice Kerrigan
Mopane Bush Lodge
Nikon South Africa
North-West University
Painted Wolf Wines
Royal Canin
Tshwane University of Technology

Waterberg Vets





The EWT's Board & Trustees

Board	of I	Manac	eme	nt

Dirk Ackerman (Chairman)	1999 – current
Uwe Putlitz (Vice Chair)	1987 – current
Paul Smith (Treasurer)	2011 – current
Antony Wannell	2005 – current
Joanna Goeller	2006 – current
Karin Ireton	2004 – current
Lot Mlati	2007 – current
Mike Esterhuysen	2001 – current
Yolan Friedmann (Ex-Officio member)	2005 – current

Life Members

Clive Walker		1986
Angus Morrison	- 100	1993
Derek Ritchie	127	1993
Kenneth Whyte		1993
Dave Donald		2012
David Mitchell		2013
Dr John Ledger	- 0	2013
Michael Barnett		2013

Audit and Finance Committee

Paul Smith (Treasurer)	2011 – current
Antony Wannell	2008 – current
Barry Ackers	2010 – current
Neil Morris	2014 – current
Quan Rees	2014 – current
Dr Terence Sibiya	2010 – 2015
Yolan Friedmann (Ex-Officio member)	2005 – current

Remunerations and Nominations

Karin Ireton	2010 – current
Mike Esterhuysen	2010 – current
Paul Smith	2012 – current
Yolan Friedmann (Ex-Officio member)	2010 – current

Trustees	
Antony Wannell	2005 – current
Anthony Diepenbroek	2014 – current
Bongiwe Njobe	2014 – current
Brian Courtenay	1996 – current
Christo Reeders	2014 – current
Crispian Olver	2014 – current
Daniel van der Merwe	2010 – current
Diana Smullen	1999 – current
Dirk Ackerman	1998 – current
Joanna Goeller	2006 – current
Karin Ireton	2004 – current
Lot Mlati	2006 – current
Marilyn Dougall-Thomas	1993 – current
Mike Esterhuysen	2001 – current
Dr Nick King	2007 – current
Paul Smith	2010 – current
Robyn Stein	2001 – current
Rest Kanju	2008 – current
Dr Terence Sibiya	2009 – 2015
Uwe Putlitz	1980 – current

Contact us

General enquiries
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The EWT is registered as a Non-Profit Organisation, registration number 015-502 NPO and PBO Registration No 930 001 777. The EWT is 501 (c) (3) compliant, US IRS Reg. EMP98-0586801.

The EWT is a proud member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the United Nations Global Compact



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endangeredwildlifetrust.wordpress.com

Executive Management Committee



Chief Executive Officer Yolan Friedmann



Chief Operations Officer Mandy Poole mandyp@ewt.org.za

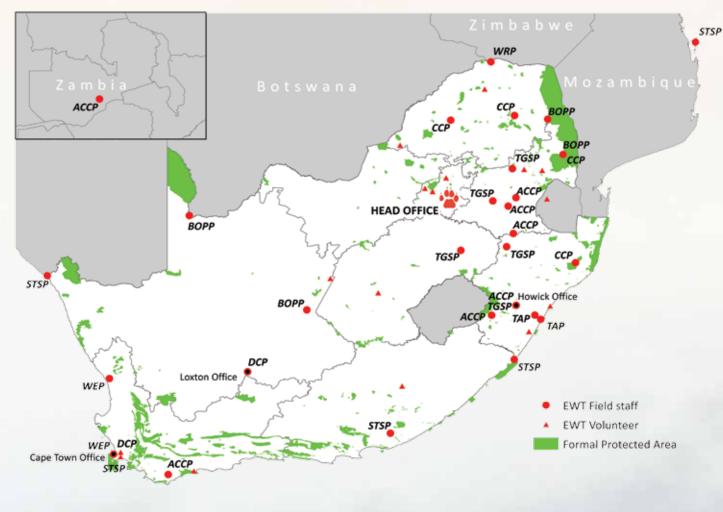


Head of Conservation Dr Harriet Davies-Mostert harrietd@ewt.org.za



Human Resources Manager Alison Janicke alisonj@ewt.org.za

Map of where we work in South Africa



ACCP - African Crane Conservation Programme

BoPP - Birds of Prey Programme

CCP - Carnivore Conservation Programme

CSU - Conservation Science Unit

DCP - Drylands Conservation Programme

NBBN - National Biodiversity & Business Network

SDP - Skills Development Programme

STSP - Source to Sea Programme

TAP - Threatened Amphibian Programme

TGSP - Threatened Grassland Species Programme

UCP - Urban Conservation Programme

WEP - Wildlife & Energy Programme

WTP - Wildlife in Trade Programme

WRP - Wildlife & Roads Project



Map of where we work in Africa

