



*May the Roar of the African Lion be
Heard by the Children of our Children's
Children Forever*

Annual Report
2010-2011

GAME RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA

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VISION: The Game Rangers Association of Africa commits itself to the protection, conservation and, where possible, restoration of Africa's biodiversity and the continued existence of its wilderness for the benefit of present future generations

MISSION:
GRAA is dedicated to applying best practice management principles on conserving Africa's natural resources in a professional and ethical manner.



GRAA Annual Chairman's Report – 2011

to be tabled at the Annual General Meeting,
Isimangaliso wetland Park, March 2012

1. In memoriam

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing away of the following members and other African rangers during 2011:

- Dr U. de V. Pienaar
- Ian Sussens
- 12 Rangers from the Virunga National Park in two separate incidents involving armed rebels (March 2011)
- Dick Fryer, long-standing member from the Eastern Cape passed away on the 15th of August 2011
- Ranger Asani Sebuyoli was killed in an ambush in the Virunga National Park on the 5th of June 2011. His colleague was seriously wounded, but survived the attack.
- Rangers Imanirafasha Seminane and Nzabonimpa Bahamwite, also from the Virunga National Park. Were killed in an ambush on the 29th of July 2011.
- A Field Ranger from KZN Wildlife was killed in a friendly-fire incident during the period under review. The ranger's name could not be determined at the time of writing this report.
- Gilbert Schutte (January 2012)
- Alex Miller (February 2012)

Thin Green Line Foundation – Applications for support for Rangers Esnat Pande (Zambia) and the rangers from the Virunga National Park mentioned above are being processed.

2. Environmental Affairs and legislation

South Africa:

2011 earmarked a continued escalation in the poaching of rhino in South Africa with some incidents also having been reported from Swaziland and Namibia. The latest figures available for 2011 stand at 447 animals and animals on both formal conservation areas as well as on private land were targeted to provide in the demand for this sought-after commodity which is believed to currently be comparatively more expensive than other black-market substances such as cocaine.

Public awareness of this issue is at an all-time high and millions have been raised in a short period of time



and that should boost the coffers of organizations tasked to counter this threat. There is however great concern that, as with many high-profile events, the public may rapidly be approaching a point where the poaching of rhino may no longer be as prominent an issue to focus on and that “rhino-fatigue” could eventually lead to a greater degree of apathy with regard to this matter. Points of view that question whether most of the massive amounts of funding raised are in fact being used for the purpose they were intended and conflicting opinions within the conservation and wildlife management sectors about the correct approach to address the threat also does not assist in creating a climate conducive to effectively curb the scourge of rhino poaching at all levels. Another major concern is the lack of substantial political backing and support for the efforts to curb the poaching of rhino and other wildlife, especially from senior government officials, parliamentarians and, especially, the office of the President. We trust that the newly announced parliamentary enquiry focused on this matter will go a long way in addressing this need and will be following its progress closely.

It is easy to forget about the most vital component required to counter this threat, namely the rangers at all levels dedicated to this task who often put themselves at risk to protect rhino and other wildlife from the threat of poaching. We maintain the belief that the best way to curb this threat is to have sufficient, well trained, motivated and equipped rangers on the ground to prevent the poaching of rhino through sufficient ground coverage backed by reliable intelligence and managed by skilled and experienced operations officers. Although we support all other efforts to curb activities further along the supply chain of illegally acquired rhino horn and other wildlife trade, it is still preferable to prevent the killing of the animals through effective preventative measures and immediate follow-up of incidents.

The GRAA will continue to, where possible, contribute to this effort through facilitating the training of rangers and improving on existing training standards and practices with regard to area integrity operations. In addition, we will continue to highlight the challenges and obstacles faced by conservationists in addressing this problem and lobby to ensure that the substantial financial and material support pledged in this regard reaches the rangers that it was intended for.

Another area of concern in terms of conservation in South Africa is the continued and escalating pressure on our protected areas by a range of human activities, both on the periphery as well as within such areas. An example of this is the approval of coal mining activities close to the Mapungubwe National Park which is likely to have severe repercussions on the environment and particularly the catchment of the Limpopo River in

coming years. After several years, the issues with regard to the Ndumu Game Reserve have also not been resolved despite claims to the contrary by the provincial minister and other formal structures involved and the impacts of un-controlled and illegal use of resources from within the reserve continues. There are several other examples such as the above and the GRAA has real concerns about the future of some of our prime protected areas should the current trend continue and those responsible for the maintenance and up-keep of thereof continue to neglect their duty. The current lack of political support and endorsement for protected areas and other conservation matters is a cause for concern that needs to be addressed as a matter of urgency.

South Africa is of course not the only country in the region to face the above threats and reports from Zimbabwe reflect an even gloomier picture in this regard. Rangers there continue working under very difficult circumstances to maintain the area integrity of protected areas with little or no support and often with considerable personal sacrifice. The Gonarezhou National Park currently also faces considerable pressure from neighbouring communities which could have a detrimental effect on the status of the Park as well as its position in the Greater Limpopo TFCA.

Zambia:

The changing political landscape in Zambia has also



impacted on protected areas and the work of rangers in that country. Shortly after the election of the new President, a statement was made that the wildlife and national parks are the property of the people and that they are therefore entitled to make use of the resources that these offer. Many criminals, including many poachers and the suspects accused of the attack and murder of ranger Esnart Pande, were released under a blanket amnesty. The statement was later retracted after intervention by various parties, but resulted in very challenging working conditions for rangers in that country.

East Africa:

Perhaps the most prominent issue in terms of threats to protected areas in East Africa is the plan to build a new highway across the Serengeti to facilitate trade and easier travel between Tanzania and Uganda. Although substantial pressure from conservationists and other lobbying groups have resulted in the authorities reviewing their decision and deciding to downgrade the planned route to a gravel road, the general expectation is that this is a temporary retreat and that this route will be fully developed over time causing a huge impact on one of the last great mammalian migratory spectacles on the planet. It is likely that a route in this area will not only cause the death of thousands of wildebeest and other wildlife through collisions with traffic, but that the route will also facilitate ease of access to poachers targeting the wildlife in the area.

The confiscation of large consignments of ivory at ports in East Africa and the Far East during 2011 is also an indication of the continued poaching of elephants in many areas of Africa to support this trade.

3. African and Regional representation issues

African Chapters:

The Namibian Chapter has made great progress in the last year and membership seems to be growing steadily. Simon Mayes was elected as the new Chair of this Chapter after Peter Bridgeford stepped down at their last meeting.

William Soko is still working hard to formally register the Zambian Chapter, something which was complicated somewhat with the political changes that were brought about in that country. This Chapter is very close to being established.

A positive step toward the establishment of a Kenyan chapter was made with the recruitment of 24 rangers from the Sera Conservancy as members.

James Logan Slade is currently working hard to promote the establishment of a formal chapter in Zimbabwe and has undertaken to work as GRAA representative in that country. This will also establish a more substantial working relationship between the GRAA and the International Anti-Poaching Foundation.

Regional Matters:

The KZN, Lowveld and Western Cape Regions continue to be the most active in a South African context and I would like to commend both the Chairs of these regions and their Regional Committees for their support. The Eastern Cape Region is also slowly in the process of being re-established and I have full confidence in Chair Div de Villiers to see this through. On the contrary the Gauteng and Free State regions seem to be in need of a serious injection of new energy and focus and the Africa Committee will continue to attempt to ensure that this is improved and maintained in future.

4. SAWC partnership and Training

SAWC partnership:

Theresa Sowry, Vivian Kgaphola and the other staff at the Southern African Wildlife College deserve a lot of credit for continuing the training of field rangers, funded by the Liberty Wildlife Foundation, in 2011. GRAA member Ruben de Kock and his team from African Field Ranger Training Services once again stepped up to the plate to train new field rangers that have been deployed in key conservation areas.

Due to the changing needs in terms of training, the tented camp at the SAWC hosted less trainees than in previous years. The GRAA and SAWC will need to work closely together in future to ensure that the occupation of the tented camp remains at optimal levels to secure the income derived therefrom. Read more about this and other training matters in Vivian's report.

An initiative to resurrect a structure similar to the Game Rangers Training Coordination Group that made such a significant contribution to setting and maintaining the standards of Field Rangers Training in the 1990's was discussed with several organisations and individuals and 2012 should see this development materialise. It is believed that such a development will make a significant contribution to assist to the current threat of poaching both in the private and public sector.

5. Finances

Sandra Basson stepped down as the Financial Portfolio Holder late in the year and we would like to thank her for her contribution to the running of the GRAA's affairs, often under difficult circumstances in terms of communication and other factors. The finances of the GRAA continued to be managed by Janet Snow and the GRAA Administrative Officer, Natalee Crozier. I am once again happy to report that the GRAA was able to timeously submit all its financial documents for the production of an audited financial statement by our auditors. The financial position of the Association appears sound and we are maintaining the good financial situation of the last few years. The unacceptably high percentage of members not paying their annual subs continues to be a challenge. The fact that the GRAA finds itself in a positive financial situation does not however mean that we are in a position to engage in any un-planned expenses, especially in view of the current global economic climate. The GRAA Africa Committee and the GRAA Regions will have to plan and focus on substantial fundraising efforts in 2012 to ensure that the current situation is maintained.



6. Fundraising

This year's fundraising activities were dominated by the relocation of the GRAA Annual Golf Day from the Lowveld to Gauteng and the event was held on the 23rd of September 2011 at the Wanderers Golf Club. Thanks to the efforts of Marius Fuls and several other GRAA members, the day was a huge success with just over R 175 000.00 being raised to support the work of the GRAA. Marius' report in this regard provides more details. The KZN Region also continues with a range of activities to raise funds to benefit the GRAA.

7. Membership

Membership status:

The Association current has 870 active members from 23 countries. New membership applications during 2011 numbered 243. Please refer to the membership report for more details.

Secretariat

Natalee Crozier continued with the high standard of work that we have become accustomed to and we would like to thank her for her continued efforts to ensure that the day-to-day activities of the Association remain on track. This is certainly not a simple feat considering the fact that she is trying to obtain information and other input from people working as volunteers who are mostly focused on issues other than the GRAA. Natalee and her husband Ian also became the parents of twin boys, Craig Anthony and James Aiden, in late December. On a similar note, Africa Committee members Chris Galliers and Marius Fuls also celebrated additions to their families during 2011. We would like to congratulate them and wish them all the best for the future.

8. Communications and media

Cleft Stick:

There were 26 issues sent out to members and associates on the mailing list during 2011. A fair amount of responses and favourable comment are received from members.

Despite the permanent plea there are still a lot of email addresses that change and the C~S “bounces” back. The same applies to postal addresses as some of the magazines also come back as address unknown.

Environment magazine

This publication continues to grow from strength to strength and editions 6-9 of this magazine was distributed to a readership in excess of 30 000. The partnership with the other partners continues to generate benefits beyond the magazine and facilitates frequent communication on GRAA issues beyond our membership. Members that would like to contribute to the GRAA pages or main editorial component of the magazine are welcome to submit articles to us.

9. IUCN & Conservation issues:

IUCN: Tim Snow continues to represent the GRAA on the southern African Regional Forum and also fulfils the role of Deputy Chairman of the Forum.



10. International Ranger Federation

I am happy to report that the IRF continues to increase its level of activity and interaction with rangers worldwide and that particular focus is placed on the plight of rangers in areas facing particular challenges and threats.

The good news that the next World Ranger Congress will be held in Tanzania in November 2012 was somewhat dampened by the projected costs for attending which places the event beyond the reach of most rangers in Africa. This issue was raised with the Organising Committee by the GRAA and several of its members on a number of occasions, but the replies received advised us to seek sponsorships to enable members to attend rather than finding affordable alternatives for rangers that are not so fortunate to benefit from sponsorship. Should a representation from GRAA be able to attend, this issue will again be raised at the Conference.

11. Conclusion and Way Forward

This year's AGM will be my last as the Chairman of the GRAA as I have decided to step down after a tenure of 4 years. Having served on the Africa Committee for almost 16 years, I am glad to say that the Association has come a long way in terms of growth and establishing itself as an organisation with good credibility that can speak with experience and insight on behalf of the game ranger profession in Africa. I trust that the last 4 years have continued to contribute to this trend and that the Association is in a position to grow even further and that it will continue to achieve its Mission and promote the important role that conservation practitioners play in the conservation of wilderness, protected areas and the biodiversity that it contains.

The challenges facing Africa's wildlife and protected areas have never been greater and the well-publicised scourge of rhino poaching that has become an everyday occurrence in South Africa is a good example of this. The amount of publicity focused on this however also masks other issues such as the large-scale poaching and trade of other wildlife across Africa, the compromise of the area integrity of a number of national parks and other areas of global conservation importance and the loss of life suffered by rangers in countries such as the



Democratic Republic of the Congo, Kenya, Zambia and elsewhere in Africa. The need for a strong voice to speak on behalf of conservationists working to protect the above is also now greater than ever and I trust that the GRAA will continue to strive to be that voice.

It has been an honour to serve as Chairman of the GRAA over the past 4 years. Thank you to everyone for your support and best wishes to the new committee for the future!

André Botha

andre@ewt.org.za

IUCN Portfolio Report

Over the past year I have attended three IUCN South African member meetings. As vice chairman I chaired the November meeting. I also attended the Regional Conservation Forum (RCF) held in Johannesburg in September, headed by Ali Kaka, Director of the East and Southern Africa Regional office (ESARO), and who is a GRAA member.



During the first half of 2011, the South African members discussed and defined a desired direction of actions and activities, which align with the work plan of IUCN as defined by the 2008 World Congress. At the ESARO RCF, the focus has been Forests and Food Security and some questions have been raised about the alignment of conservation with food security issues. The crux is that people who are food-secure place less pressure on the environment through harvesting and bush meat use; although it is known from GRAA members' work that a resource lock down is also not ideal and the sustainable use option is preferable.

With an IUCN World Congress happening at Jeju, Korea during September 2012, the issue of representation by IUCN African Regional Councillors has been raised again. Having Yolán Friedmann in South Africa and Hillary Masundire in Botswana is a bonus for the region, and as GRAA representative I have supported the re-election of both individuals. Election of councillors is "conservation politics" at its best. We would like to avoid the conflict and confusion of competing candidates at the Congress. Paid up IUCN members are likely to receive support to attend this Congress, i.e. one representative per organisation, but cost of Specialist Groups and Commission members are not supported.

Some progress has been made with the Department of Environmental Affairs with regard to the declining effectiveness of various conservation authorities in South Africa. The Director General, Mr. Mketeni is well aware of the problems and we hope a small delegation from GRAA will meet with him to discuss and seek solutions to this problem. The GRAA AC May 2011 suggestion for "training top management, heads of departments and ministers" is perhaps arrogant and requires some strategic thought and revision. It's near impossible to get these high office bearers to a face to face meeting, so the GRAA ducks need to be in a well practiced row before this is suggested. That doesn't however imply that we will not seek to address issues by whatever means are available to us.

The South African National Norms and Standards for Damage Causing Animals appear to be "on ice". The process appears to have been derailed by the small stock farming industry and the species primarily under consideration in that document are jackals and caracals and those which threaten small livestock. Should it be reviewed, a much greater emphasis should be placed on animals such as Elephants, Hippos, Lions and Crocodiles which threaten life and livelihoods and rational debate about the full spectrum of species requires consideration. Rural communities should be shown how to avoid these conflicts by proactive prevention, rather than just continued killing of so called damage causing animals.

The revised Firearms Act in South Africa has caused much concern in many conservation and hunting associations, but the re-licensing has been almost completed. Many parties have reported problems, but as in any undertaking of this magnitude, there are bound to be problems, which if raised correctly should be sorted out. Unless the GRAA have specific issues to raise or constructive interventions to make, then criticism and slander are not the way to resolve this. A media release was contemplated but would be ill-advised without facts to hand. Advice

is available for any South African members who have problems with re-licensing. Finally, as Conservation Portfolio holder on the GRAA Committee, I thank members for their support where this has been called for. Having served the association on this committee since 1998, I have grown “battle weary” and have the hope that I will relinquish this position to a younger member soon.

Tim Snow

GRAA Fundraising and Marketing Portfolio.

Portfolio Holder: Marius Fuls

GRAA Annual Golf Day benefit:

It has become custom for the Game Rangers Association of Africa to have an annual golf day benefit to forward their cause and conduct projects. 2011 However saw a change in approach with the event moving from the usual venue in Phalaborwa to the Wanderers Golf Club in Gauteng. This successfully stepped up the standard and impact of the event, with the anchor sponsorship again coming from Toyota via the good offices of Marius Senekal, Toyota marketing manager. For the first time the services of a professional events coordinator, Currin't Events, was employed, and this proved to have been the key to the most successful golf day ever held by the GRAA.

On 23 September, around 100 golfers took to the course for a fun day of golf in support of the cause for which the GRAA was raising funds, namely ranger training. Training was identified as one of the major hurdles in successful environmental law enforcement. Environmental criminals (not only rhino poachers) become more and more organized and specialized while the ranger corps is frequently left behind. A day of golf worth remembering, and a cause and course to compliment it. At the end of lovely day of bantering, getting out of embarrassing situations using mulligans and attempting NOT to hit one of the beautiful Toyota vehicles parked at the greens, everybody enjoyed the shade of the deck for a sundowner drink and reflecting



on the day and the cause before joining together for the evening prize giving function and dinner.

We had the privilege of enjoying the company of Claire Johnston of Mango Groove fame who did not hesitate for one moment in offering her services as Masters of Ceremonies free of charge. This really set the scene for an evening worth remembering. After an excellent supper and some liquid courage, it was the turn of Joff van Reenen from the High Street Auction Company to squeeze the last pennies from the pockets in a first-of-its-kind auction. Joff had little trouble and lots of fun getting very good bids for unique items such as participations in rhino capture operations and lion monitoring in the Kruger National Park, participation in the Pel's fishing owl survey, exclusive birding trips, 4x4 safaris in Southern Africa and Lebombo-Eco-Trails. Then, it was time for the long awaited prize giving. The prizes on offer truly made it worth the while for the winners, ranging from 5-star exclusive lodge accommodation, trips to any National Park in the country, Spa vouchers and sets of books written and autographed by legendary game rangers.

During the evening we had the opportunity to honour one such legendary game ranger who passed away. Rob Filmer moved mountains to ensure access to wildlife areas for disabled people, and his wife Julie received the award on his behalf from GRAA Vice-Chair, Chris Galliers. We were also reminded of the work rangers do and the difficulties they often encounter in protecting our natural heritage, not only in South Africa, but all over our lovely continent and indeed all over the world. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of those rangers who paid the highest price for their profession, and for their families who were left behind.

Julie Filmer receiving a GRAA award from Chris Galliers on behalf of her late ranger husband, Rob.

Before everybody went their happy way, Len von Graevenitz, President of Toyota vehicle sales, announced that the day raised over R175,000 – the highest ever at a GRAA golf benefit. Ten percent of this income will go towards a ranger support fund set up by the GRAA to support rangers and their families who lost their income in the execution of their work. The rest of the money will be used to train rangers in whatever way possible.

Len von Graevenitz from Toyota, Claire Johnston and Marius Fuls from the GRAA with the amount raised on the day.

We will do the same in 2012, but aiming even higher, as the battle to protect our wilderness and natural heritage is intensifying on a daily basis. Negotiations and preliminary arrangements have already begun with the target date for the 2012 GRAA Golf Benefit being 21 September.



Back, (left to right) Joe Walters, Adrian, Piet Beytell
Middle (left to right) Tristan D. Cooper, Trygve Cooper, Martin Britz, Chris Bakkas, Malcolm Taylor, Manie LeRoux
Front (left to right) Petrina Kanjimbi, Ben Beytell, Mark Paxton, Simon Mayes

World Ranger Day – 31 July:

The annual World Ranger Day of 31 July as declared by the IUCN will be celebrated in 2012 by a marketing launch to promote the work rangers do and the challenges they face. Details for this event is still in the planning stages, but it promises to be an event that will focus on the general public and especially the youth, and will probably take the form of an on-line information and support activity with its launch being on 31 July. It will be an event that will also aim to grow over the years and details of this will be announced early in 2012.

AFRICA REPORTS

Annual Report GRAA Namibia 2011

At the 2011 GRAA AGM at Gariep Dam, changes were made to the GRAA Constitution to legalise GRAA Chapters in other provinces and countries. This allowed Namibia to legally establish an independent chapter in that country.

On 11 June 2011, a meeting and social (bring & braai) was held in Windhoek to which members were invited. There was report back by Peter and Malcolm on the decisions reached at the AGM at Gariep Dam. The next step towards the establishing a GRAA Namibia Chapter was explained. An interim committee was appointed to take the chapter forward with Peter once again at the helm as Chairperson. Malcolm as tasked with setting up the bank account as the chapter would also be responsible for retaining Namibia member's fees. It was also mentioned by Malcolm that the first AGM of the chapter would have to be held within six months of the interim committee being established.

On 26 November 2011, the first AGM for the GRAA Namibia Chapter was held at the Okatjikona Environmental Centre at Waterberg Plateau Park. The meeting was attended by 11 members. At this inaugural meeting, a new committee was elected to manage the affairs of the Chapter.

Chairman: Simon Mayes

Dep. Chairman: Peter Bridgeford

Secretary: Tristan Cooper

Treasurer: Malcolm Taylor

Committee Members: Ben Beytell, Manie le Roux, Petrina Kanjimbi, Mark Paxton, Chris Bakkes.

- GRAA NAM to be registered in Namibia as it has a constitution.
- Important for GRAA NAM to identify future goals and objectives.



- Draft a letter to the minister of MET, pledging GRAA NAM's support
- The GRAA NAM account that has been opened.
- GRAA NNF account that was opened during the Shamburg GRAA AGM should be closed and remaining funds transferred to the new account
- Other suggestions were put forward :

Proposal that GRAA NAM apply for membership of the Friends of the Parks association

Also a membership card was suggested that could act as official ID for GRAA NAM members.

Start developing an archive of photos and stories which document member's experiences and history in Namibian conservation Fund raising activities need to be initiated, additional members were added to the committee to look into this issue

Achievements

Namibian GRAA Chapter Started

This was done by two members attending the 2011 AGM and the GRAA committee allowing changes to the constitution. The retention of membership fees in Namibia (except for a 10% admin fee to GRAA secretariat) was also a major concession and will thus assist with the newly formed chapter in Namibia. Quarterly meetings for the committee will start in 2012 now that the Chapter is fully operational.

Membership

There are 76 Namibian listed members, 42 of which are active. A total of 40 new members have joined since the AGM was held at Shamvura in 2009. The first Namibian meeting was held at Teufelschlucht game farm outside Windhoek where the attending members and non-members made a definite decision that the GRAA Namibia chapter should go ahead. Since then at every consecutive meeting new members have joined thus emphasising the need for such an association in Namibia. Progress was also made in contacting older members who had not renewed membership for some time.

Challenges

As mentioned above, there are 76 listed members but only 42 are active. At the AGM members from various parts of the country were tasked with contacting members and informing them of the Namibian GRAA status.

A further challenge in Namibia is the distances members are from each other, unlike South Africa where there are provincial Chapters, Namibia because of the low numbers of members cannot accommodate regional chapters. Therefore we hope the quarterly meetings will be held from time to time in the regions where members can also attend.

Funding as with all private associations is a problem. Membership fees are not enough to cover additional activities planned by the Namibian chapter. At the AGM, members came up with some ideas which need to be followed up this year.

S. Mayes

Chairman, Namibia GRAA Chapter

P. Bridgeford

Vice Chairman, Namibia GRAA Chapter

REGIONAL REPORTS

LOWVELD ANNUAL REPORT - 2011

GRAA Golf Benefit

The Lowveld Region hosted the biggest ever golf benefit for the GRAA on 23 September 2011 at the Wanderers Golf Club. This day raised in excess of R175 000-00 for ranger training. Full details of this event are given in the report on Fundraising and Marketing. This event will resort fully under the Fundraising and Marketing Portfolio as of 2012 as it has become a national event and is not a regional fundraiser anymore.

Other Issues

The Lowveld Region is experiencing a quiet period with little activities other than the golf day going on. With the golf benefit becoming a national event, the Lowveld Region has to look for an alternative regional fundraiser to generate income in order to conduct its regional affairs. There is an urgent need to get members more involved and tackle game ranging issues – not just raising funds. For this purpose, leadership is a crucial necessity, and with the current Chairperson moving to another region early in 2012, such leadership is sourly needed. Planning in this regard will commence early in January 2012 in order to ensure continuity and progress in the run-up to the 2012 AGM in March.

Contacts:

For any Lowveld Region issues, or to indicate your participation, please contact the out-going Lowveld chairperson, Marius Fuls, on 083-305 3104, or marius.fuls@gmail.com.

Marius Fuls

Lowveld Regional Chairperson
PO Box 196; Gravelotte; South Africa; 0895
(H&W) +27 (0)83 611 5022 / (Mobile) +27 (0)83 305 3104
(Fax) +27(0)12 307 5556
marius.fuls@gmail.com Website: www.gameranger.org

KZN ANNUAL REPORT - 2011

Introduction

The year of 2011 saw the GRAA in KZN take a fairly large step. It has been a busy year which culminated in the good news that the GRAA KZN region had been given a Small Grant funding from the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund in order to implement a Protected Area Management System into WESSA's Umgeni Valley Nature Reserve. The Annual bird tours were run and a successful AGM held in Zululand. Once again many of the members have been active and have given much of their valuable time in order to promote and drive the region onwards.


Fundraising

Regional:


- Another talk in the series of From the Campfire Talks was held as a fundraiser. This took place on the evening of 10 March, at WESSA Umgeni Valley Nature Reserve. Dr Ian Player gave a talk entitled,

**GAME RANGERS
ASSOCIATION of AFRICA**
(KWAZULU-NATAL REGION)

'FROM THE CAMPFIRE' TALK SERIES presents

 **DR. IAN PLAYER**
Internationally renowned conservationist, father
of the South African Wilderness Movement and
patron of the Game Rangers Association of Africa,
Dr. Ian Player, will present the next talk in the 'From
the Campfire' series entitled:

**"PERSONAL REFLECTIONS -
WILDERNESS, DREAMS AND THE BIBLE".**



The talk will be held at the WESSA GOLDFIELDS CENTRE in Howick.
THURSDAY 10TH MARCH 2011, 17:30 FOR 18:00.
Cost: R35 per person

This is a Game Rangers Association of Africa Fundraising Initiative.

“Wilderness, Dreams and the Bible – A personal Reflection”. The talk attracted 84 people and raised close to R2500.

- Many meetings were held in Howick during the course of the year. Many of them included meetings around planning for the GRAA 2012 AGM, The CEPF project and Bird Tours.

On the back of a project concept and proposal from Paul Jennings (GRAA member based in Zululand), the GRAA KZN region decided to support this initiative.



The Project:

In order to reach as many South Africans as possible, Sboniso Phakathi and Paul Jennings planned to walk from Musina in the Limpopo Province, to Cape Town in the Western Cape, a distance of around 2,000 km. By doing this they would bisect the country and create a journey of awareness along the way. Education was at the top of their list, and as such they aimed to visit as many schools as they could in order to talk to our young people about the importance of conservation. (See www.rightsforrhino.co.za for more information and follow Paul and Sboniso on Twitter and Facebook).

With an emotional finish and 2,000 km under their shoes, Paul Jennings and Sboniso or “Spoon” Phakathi completed their walk from Mussina to Cape Town. This was a major accomplishment and a heroic effort. A big thank you must go to Paul and Spoon for keeping the GRAA flag flying high throughout the trip. The project reached numerous people of a diverse audience which included approximately 16,500 school children. Good support was provided by the Green Wall of Africa. The project’s achievement resulted in being nominated for an Enviropedia award, in Cape Town. The project also managed to raised R82,971.93. This money will be assigned to projects or interventions related to rhino conservation and environmental education which will be managed by a small committee.

A fantastic feat, well done!



Left to right: Paul Jennings, Dr Ian Player and “Spoon” Sboniso Phakathi

Maputo/Pondoland Albany Hotspot Programme

A meeting was held on Wednesday 17 August between Dr Roelie Kloppers (Wildlands Conservation Trust), Peter Thomson and Chris Galliers, in order to get a foot in the door to prove PAMS by attaining a small Grant from CEPF. The project, in partnership with WESSA, entails implementing PAMS into WESSAs Umgeni Valley

Nature Reserve. The aim of the project will be to pilot the impacts of PAMS as well as to strengthen the ability of the GRAA to implement projects.

In January the project kicked off with a 3-day project orientation and planning session. This was facilitated by Wayne Lotter and well attended by core WESSA Umgeni Valley staff as well as members of the GRAA.

Further planning has been done in order to set timeframes which will see the project start in earnest in February and end in November 2012.



Bird Tours:

Three bird tours were planned for this year. Unfortunately due to low booking numbers for the December tour, we were forced to reduce it to two tours in November. We had to cancel the tour outside of one month or else we were liable for the cancellation fee. Even still we incurred an R800 fee. Subsequent to the cancellation we had enough interest that would have been able to fill the tour. This was unfortunate but unavoidable because of the financial risk.

Set backs were then experienced with the first tour as there were a number of last minute cancellations. At the end of the tour we managed to get 8 people on the tour and still managed to make a profit of R8,000.00. The tour was a success and thanks must go to George Zaloumis and Bill Howells for running the tour so efficiently. The second bird tour is fully booked with 14 people and we therefore expect a profit of close to R16,000.

Note: The 2011 bird tours saw an increase in price from R2,500 p/p to R3,000. We thought this would impact on bookings but the response has not lead to validating this.

Going forward:

- We were unable to get the sponsorship for the bird tours in time for 2012 but we are working on it for 2012 so that it will prove to be an incentive to prospective people.
- We need to see if we can negotiate with EKZNW to get a discount (hopefully 50% rather than the 40% received to date) on the accommodation. In addition we will look to get a longer term agreement so that this is not negotiated annually.
- A tour is planned for Mkhushi to celebrate its centenary
- The GRAA KZN will look to diversify the tours offered

Balance as of 18 January 2012

	Income	Expenditure	Profit / Loss	
Administration	R 1,188.73	R 6,808.62	-R 5,619.89	
Sales R		R 530.07	-R 530.07	
GRAA Main account	-	-	-	
Project Tour 8	R 6,875.55	R 6,875.55	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
Project Tour 9	R 3,948.97	R 3,948.97	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
Project Tour 10	R 7,704.95	R 7,704.95	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
Project Tour 11	R 22,349.00	R 22,349.00	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
Project Tour 12	R 831.60	R 831.60		Transferred to AGM acc.
Project PAMS	R 1,188.73	R 1,188.73	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
Project PAMS - Wildlands Trust	R 67,257.00	R 10,248.80	R 57,008.20	
Fund Raising	R 9,516.68	R 9516.68	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
KZN AGM	R 193.75	R 193.75	-	Transferred to AGM acc.
2012 AGM	R 58,448.80	-	R 58,448.80	
Totals	R 179,503.76	R 70,196.72	R 109,307.04	
Funds available in bank account	R 109,307.04			Balance 18/1/2012
Rights for Rhinos (separate account)	R 51,570.05	R 1,302.05	R 50,268.00	

- We need to identify and communicate where money's raised from the tours, will go to (KZN specific projects)?
- A greater effort and attention needs to go towards marketing the tours (including marketing material, branding, timing etc)

Thanks must go to George Zaloumis, Bill Howells and Muriel Yunnie for making it all happen.



GRAA KZN AGM:

The AGM was held on the 22 August 2011 at Tembe Elephant Reserve. There was a good turnout for the weekend but especially for the AGM. It was also valued to have Dr Player attend the AGM.

Thanks must go to Harold Thornhill for organising the venue, to Don and Muriel Yunnie for organising the catering and to Barry Lovell and KZN Wildlife for hosting us for the weekend.

Marketing and media

The Region has invested in two banners which we hope will be used as much as possible. An offer has been made to the region that anyone who has the opportunity to display them at an event can contact Chris Galliers.

Chris Galliers did an interview with East Coast Radio on the issue of the Ministers statement to prioritise the issuing of firearm licenses to game farmers and anti-poaching units.

Comments / Statements

A request for comments on the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park Integrated Management Plan was sent out to GRAA KZN members. Comments were collated into a single document which was submitted on behalf of the GRAA to KZN Wildlife. No feedback has been received to date.

Finances

The KZN Region finances reflect a healthy state. The amount of R67,257.00 is half the project funding for the PAMS Project. This is ring-fenced and will need to follow strict managing (in line with the GRAA's Financial Policy, 2011). Profits from bird tours continue to be a valuable fundraising stream. Unfortunately the final bird tour of the year was cancelled due to insufficient numbers.

Fundraising activities have proved to also add valuable and useful funds. This should be a target for 2012.

MATTERS TO RAISE

Recruitment – The GRAA needs to continue its recruitment of members who are active in the field as well as to improve the demographics of the organisation. To do this we will need to strengthen our relationship with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.

Conservation

Rhino Poaching - like the rest of the country this still remains a concern in the province. The GRAA has been a founder member of a collection of like-minded organisations in KZN called "Project Rhino". This comes on the back of trying to improve the co-ordination around fundraising, project implementation, information and communication around rhinos (see www.projectrhinokzn.org).

Land Transformation

Concerns about the rapid rate of land transformation in KZN are a concern. Over 50% of the province has been transformed and is being transformed at a current rate of 1.35% per annum.

Donation

The GRAA decided to sponsor a much needed spotlight for Tembe Elephant Reserve in order to help with their lion research. This was also in appreciation for the hosting of the KZN AGM.

KZN meetings held

A number of committee meeting were held as well as meetings between various sub-committees. These include the

MPAH and Bird Tour sub-committees.

The year going forward:

- In an effort to become more focused and outcomes driven, it was decided that by the end of this year, each portfolio member must develop a one-pager that reflects plan and what activities will be undertaken to achieve this plan during for 2012. These are to be sent to the chairman and secretary and to be presented at the first meeting in 2011.
- As a way of attracting members to become involved in the KZN GRAA affairs it was agreed that a regular or quarterly newsletter is prepared and sent the GRAA secretary (Natalle Crozier) to then distribute to members to inform them of what the GRAA Africa Committee and the KZN Regional Committee are involved in and doing. Issues of conservation within KZN should also be reported on. It was also agreed that it could go to prospective new members. Peter Thomson offered to put such a newsletter together.
- The requests for members to keep on the lookout for project ideas and opportunity for the GRAA remains a priority. We need more projects on the ground.
- For the GRAA to implement projects in 2012.
- We would like to see increased membership participation and thus need to, in collaboration with members, work on establishing participation opportunities.
- Strengthening of relationships between the GRAA and other organisations in KZN including EKZNW.
- Continue working towards the establishment of a Zululand sub-branch of the GRAA.
- For the GRAA KZN to make a considerable contribution to the fight against rhino poaching in KZN
- To run more successful and sponsored bird tours
- To host the best and most informative GRAA AGM

Chris Galliers

Regional Chairman: KZN

079 504 4296

chrisgalliers@gameranger.co.za

Course participants for all four courses are as outlined Introduction

Western Cape Annual Report 2011

Membership - Static

Meetings - Nil

Awards

We eventually managed to get the Spirit of Africa Award to Robbie Robinson. There was very good media coverage thanks to Rhett and Rob Markham.

Game Translocation Committee

There is no finality around a fixed policy but it is headed towards a self regulated system. There is some trepidation from CapeNature on this.

Nuclear Power Station at Bantamsklip and Fracking in the Karoo: All quite on the western front. As far as Fracking is concerned, the Western Cape Minister of Economic affairs has not been able to get clarity on the suspension of Fracking.

Obituaries

It is with regret that we acknowledge the passing of Dick Fryer. Our condolences to Mike and family. Rhett Hiseman's mum passed away during January 2012.

Thank you Mr Chairman,

Rory Allardice

Eastern Cape Annual Report 2011

The Chairman of the Eastern Cape apologises for not being able to attend the AGM

Law Enforcement:

The focus of much of the law enforcement effort was on preventing and dealing with Rhino poaching. The province lost a record number of 11 rhino in 2011; 2 at Shamwari Private Game Reserve, 7 at Dwesa (Provincial), 1 at Tsolwana (Provincial), 1 at Samara (Private Reserve Graaff Reinet). This does not seem too bad in comparison with other provinces and the total of 448 country-wide, but is never-the-less totally unacceptable. The efforts of state and private rangers, SAPS, concerned public and private landowners has resulted in the number of poached animals remaining relatively low. Honorary rangers have put in many hours of voluntary work especially around Queenstown (Lawrence de Lange Local Municipal Reserve) and Shamwari. NGOs like Stop Rhino Poaching.Com and Rotary have donated funds and equipment to assist our rangers, and VW as well as Toyota have donated vehicles.

The extra effort on rhino anti-poaching has a positive spin off on other environmental protection too because the presence of rangers deters thieves, smugglers and poachers with other intentions as well. As a result of efforts in protecting the rhinos on the Great Fish River Nature Reserve, the EC Parks were able to donate 20 black rhino for a rhino expansion programme.

The EC has representation on the National Wildlife Crime Reaction Unit and a Provincial Rhino Priority Forum has been established with SAPS. In addition we have started a Special Investigation Unit which is based at the Amalinda Nature Reserve in a derelict, run-down office that we are trying to repair with external funding and donations because the state has no budget for this. The Provincial Law Enforcement budget was cut by 84% this financial year, however, there were major successes. One of the country's most prominent cycad smugglers, Frederik Smal, was arrested and jailed for dealing in the endangered species.

The focus on conserving the Wild Coast remains a priority. Numerous cases were investigated pertaining to unauthorised development and illegal sand mining. Vehicles were impounded in conjunction with the Asset Forfeiture Unit and houses, jetties and other structures were demolished following court orders.

A farmer who cleared valley bushveld paid a R275 000 administrative fine, was sentenced to a further R30 000 fine in court and received a 5 year suspended prison sentence. He also had to pay a consultant to draft a rehabilitation plan and has to revegetate the cleared area. The persons involved in the illegal storage of medical waste in Butterworth were fined R200 000 in a plea bargain and had to pay for cleaning the site and disposing the waste at a hazardous waste site that is licensed for medical waste.

These are only a few of over 1000 cases being investigated by the DEDEAT Compliance and Enforcement Unit. It is no reflection on the marine or forest cases in the Province.

Development impacts:

The N2 Toll Road through the Wild Coast has been approved. This will bisect the Pondoland Centre of Endemism, one of the richest floral kingdoms in the world. One of the requirements of the authorization is that an offset mitigation must be agreed upon prior to construction beginning. It may be worth the GRAA providing inputs into what the minimum offset should be.

In the upper catchments of Pondoland the government wants to dam the Umzimvubu River, the largest remaining undammed river in the country. This is one of the 30 priority development projects identified for economic growth in SA. The idea is to provide water for irrigating >10 000 ha, afforestation and possibly construct a hydro electric scheme. A problem is that the catchment to the Umzimvubu is terribly eroded through overstocking with goats, and uncontrolled sand mining occurs along many accessible areas. The idea is to begin with a massive land care programme and possibly establish a protected area around the proposed dam site. Sand mining is not only ruining the Umzimvubu catchment. It is completely out of control, especially in the former Transkei. There are 155 illegal sand mines along the Wild Coast alone. DMR and DAFF are doing very little to prevent or control this, but DEDEAT environmental officers have been fining offenders and impounding trucks and machinery.

The illegal developments along the Wild Coast have not stopped despite court cases in favour of the State and regardless of us having demolished almost 100 houses. Local people have now moved into the Coastal Conservation Areas and the influx is resulting in serious environmental degradation. In addition, local municipalities have pushed illegal roads to the coast through sensitive wetlands, steep slopes and pristine State Forests. Criminal cases have been opened but the Constitution does not allow one State Department to take another to court on criminal charges, therefore we have had to embark on administrative action in the hope that we can get some areas rehabilitated. The worst examples of environmental destruction where dozens of kilometres have been bladed are at Hluleka Nature Reserve, Umzimpunzi State Forest (Mbotyi), Poenskop State Forests and Lufondo (near Mkambati Nature Reserve).

The Collywobbles Road is not near the Wild Coast, neither does it clear forest, but it is another example of a poorly constructed road and cuts through steep mountains near one of SA's most important Cape Vulture breeding colonies. The Chairman of the GRAA visited the site together with other experts and the Association made valuable input into measures to mitigate against the negative effects of this development.

On a positive note, the EC DEDEAT is preparing an EMF for the Wild Coast and is at an advanced stage with this process. The Wild Coast Project is assisting with funding, training, Environmental Education and planning, such as an expanded protected area strategy. Hopefully there will be buy-in from local leadership and communities for this or the future of the area will be bleak – environmentally and economically.

Biodiversity:

Cycad populations continue to be exploited by collectors, and now also medicinal healers. A process has begun whereby officials are microchipping wild plants. A Biodiversity Management Plan has been gazetted for the endangered *E. latifrons* cycad in an effort to protect this species.

Concerns have been raised from farmers and hunters about a possible decline in the Kudu population. The DEDEAT, through GRAA member Tim de Jongh, arranged a workshop in Graaff Reinet where interested parties expressed opinions. It appears as if this decline is only in some of the Karoo areas where there has been about 3 years of serious drought. Otherwise EC kudu populations are reportedly healthy.

Quintus Hahndiek requested that the GRAA highlights the negative effects of TOPs Regulations on black wildebeest populations in the province where many game farmers are now getting rid the once valuable (and formerly endangered) species because of the unreasonably restrictive legislation.

Eastern Cape Protected Areas:

State of protected areas: By and large National and Provincial Protected Areas in the Province appear to be in a good state with ECPTA audits and management assessments indicating improvement in comparison to the past few years. There are a few reserves that have problems, especially those in or near to towns and cities where the demand for housing and jobs is being felt (e.g. Umtiza, Fort Pato, Nduli, Luchaba, Hluleka). Environmental Officers and rangers will have to keep ensuring that the reserves are well managed and relevant/beneficial to surrounding communities.

A big concern is the state of municipal nature reserves. Some have ceased to function and are invaded by cattle and goats. Koos Ras (Sterkstroom) and Aliwal North are two examples. However, Matatiele and Queenstown have thriving local nature reserves and their rangers need to be commended. Community Reserves and Private Nature Reserves require renewed efforts because many have folded.

Membership:

The EC has 29 members on its data base, but many are inactive and have not paid fees for years. The EC Chairman attempted contacting all members to enquire about their interest in the GRAA and the response was mostly positive. Brad Fyke enquired whether past members who want to rejoin need to pay membership fees for previous years and a decision was taken at the GRAA Committee Meeting in Howick that this would not be necessary.

Dick Fryer was not a GRAA member from the EC, but he passed away last year and his brother, Mike, requested the EC Chair to write an obituary for him.

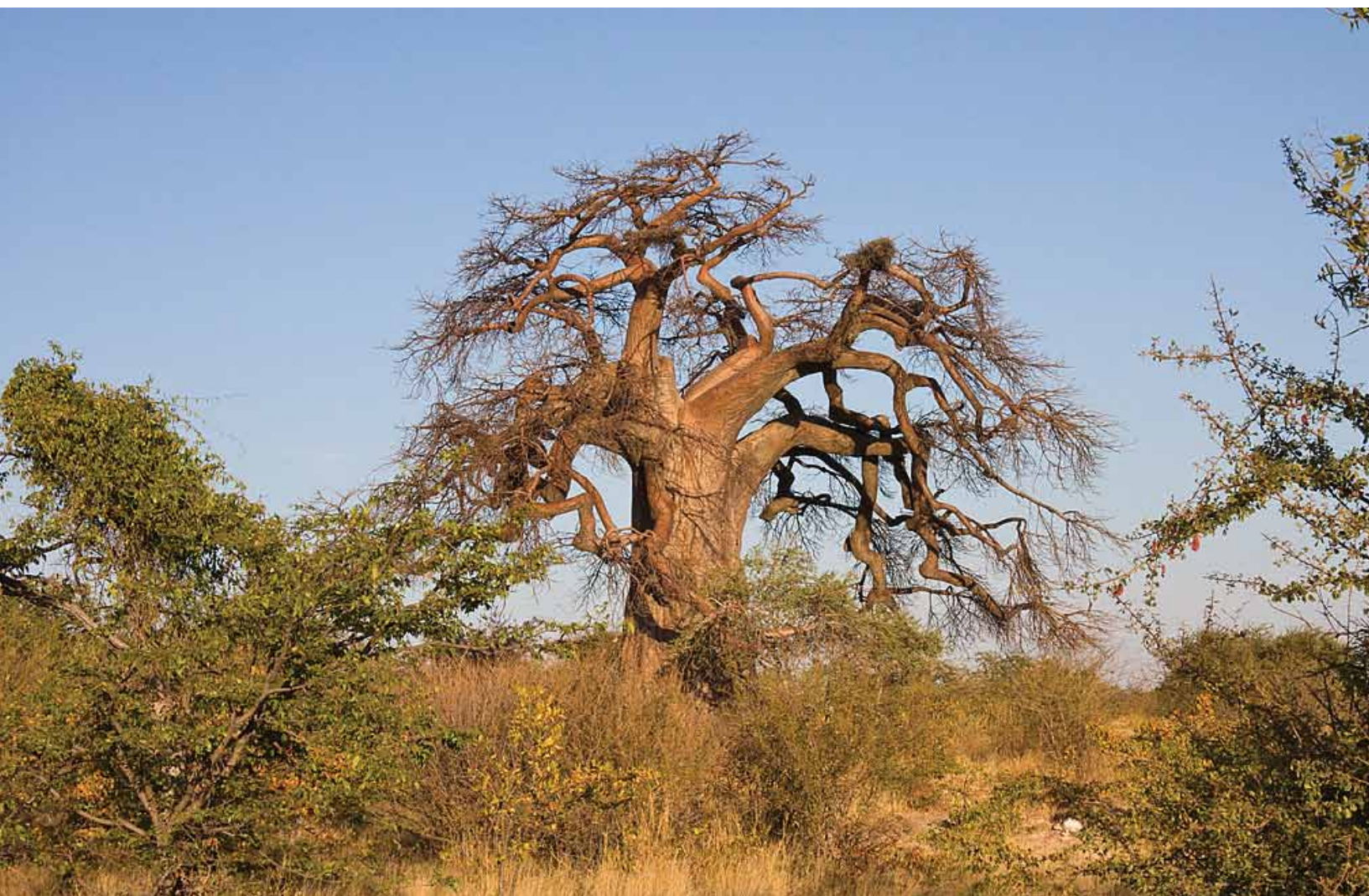
No formal EC GRAA meeting was held during the year, but there was email correspondence amongst members debating various topical conservation issues (like the kudu decline) and the Chair invited members to an informal function in East London during November.

Barry Patterson of SANParks has indicated his interest in becoming a member of the GRAA.

Finances:

The Eastern Cape funds that were forwarded to the National Branch several years ago have been spent meaning that the branch has no funds. No fund raising events were held during the past year.

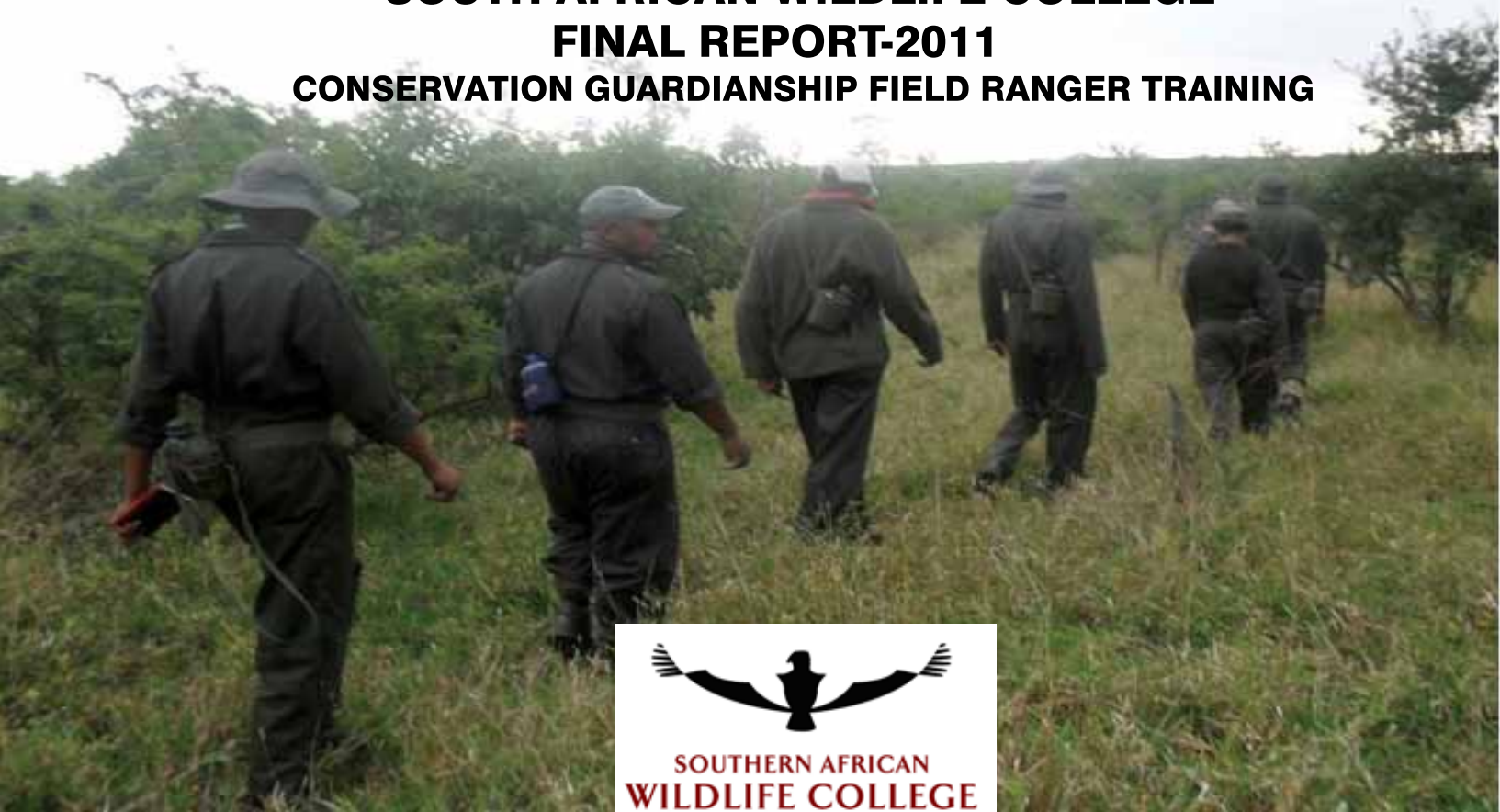
Dir de Villiers
Chairman
28-2-2012



SOUTH AFRICAN WILDLIFE COLLEGE

FINAL REPORT-2011

CONSERVATION GUARDIANSHIP FIELD RANGER TRAINING



In response to the increase in rhino poaching seen across South Africa a joint funding proposal between the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) and the Game Ranger Association (GRA) has given rise to the Wildlife Guardian Programme, which holds as its main objective the training of field rangers. The driving force behind the realization of the programme has been the Liberty Wildlife Foundation who has been a main sponsor of various field ranger training projects.

Purpose of the training

In order to curb the current trend in poaching, conservation organizations need trained and experienced people on the ground. The field rangers are the first and often last line of defence once poachers have entered a conservation area, literally the bullet proof shield for the rhino in some cases. In order to carry out this function they require dedication, physical fitness and stamina and a high level of skills in a broad range of fields.

The training is structured in such a way as to develop within individuals an understanding of and appreciation for the natural environment. The training develops a conservation ethic, which will guide the field ranger through all facets of their chosen careers, and ensure their dedication to the protection of the natural environment.

Course outcomes: Basic Field ranger training programme

- Persons who have undergone the training will be equipped with skills which will allow them to:
- Demonstrate an understanding of nature conservation issues and conduct activities in an environmentally sensitive manner.
- Carry out designated conservation security practices according to a plan, e.g. conduct routine security patrols in order to deter, detect and combat illegal activities within an area of responsibility.
- Gather and report accurately on local and keystone wildlife species information to be used for population management purposes.
- Demonstrate in their behaviour and lifestyle, a set of values and ethics centring on respect for self, others and the environment.
- Demonstrate an understanding of HIV/AIDS and its implications.
- Implement sound occupational health and safety practices in the workplace according to a plan.

Many of the organizations, who had requested bursaries to train unemployed community members, were unable to wait for funding approval and were, because of the situation, forced to take into employment a large number of staff who could monitor activity on the ground. The downside being that these newly employed

staff members were as yet untrained. For that reason they requested that the bursaries previously identified to go to unemployed be used to train the newly employed – all being previously unemployed - recruits from the communities. As such, the complete bursary allocation is provided below.

Training completed: Basic Field Ranger training programme

20 March-29 April 2011: 30 Bursaries

02 May-03 June: 17 Bursaries

19 June - 22 July 2011: 25 Bursaries

31 July - 2 August 2011: 25 Bursaries

11 September - 14 October 2011: 3 Bursaries below:

Group 1: 20 March-29 April 2011			Group 2: 2 May-3 June 2011		
Name		Surname	Name		Surname
1	Andries	Adonis	1	Storm	Couldridge
2	Fikelephi Moses	Andreas	2	Johannes	Domroch
3	Nochance	Columbia	3	Xolani	Fongqo
4	Thembisile	Heppie	4	Samkele	Hinana
5	Marcus Adrain	Jordaan	5	Hendrik	Isaks
6	Galvin Reginald	Klein	6	Charles	Jembula
7	Jan	Kolberg	7	Thembikhaya	Kosopu
8	Sikhetso Joseph	Kubayi	8	Smauel	Mahlangu
9	Mark Noel	Kuun	9	Lewiese	Mapaling
10	Kagiso Phenias	Mabogola	10	Aubrey	Meno
11	Sipho Joseph	Mabatha	11	Andrew	Meno
12	Mashikara Elias	Mahlo	12	Samuel M	Mmesi
13	Tertius	Malan	13	Ishmael	Mogodi
14	Clive	Martin	14	Hardwick	Mosweu
15	Mokgaetsi	Charles	15	Joseph	Mothegwe
16	Motshwane Michael	Mathole	16	Marius R	Mouton
17	Elias Madimetja	Mmotla	17	Michael	Mzimba
18	John Lesiba	Mohlala			
19	Clive	Morris			
20	Righard Mthakati	Mthabele			
21	Mbhasobhi Alfred	Mziyako			
22	Gerald	Nkosanandhlovu			
23	Tshemba Imagine	Ndlovu			
24	Patrick Nyathi				
25	Sipho	Sibuyi			
26	Sivuyile	Sobayeni			
27	Wynard	Sono			
28	Samuel	Tompies			
29	Ndwamatho Caphus	Tshirovha			
30	Bradley Mzwandile	Wana			

Group3 : 19 June-22July 2011			Group 4: 1 August - 2 September			Group 5: 11 September - 14 October 2011 Joined in on the last course - NONE LWF Funded course		
Name		Surname	Name		Surname	Name		Surname
1	Tumelo Patric	Aphane	1	Botlholo Tebogo	Marcus	1	Mavis	Ntondini
2	Bogopa Lizzy	Mokgaetsi	2	Cebekhulu	Sithabiso	2	Jackson	Mgxoteni
3	Busakwe Pumizile	Corry	3	Dlamini Nozipho	Pretty	3	Ndoda	Dubula
4	Kgaladi Alie	Nthe	4	Hlongwane Lungile	Virginia			
5	Lekalakala Kgalelo	Glorie	5	Hlongwane	Notombizodwa			
6	Lekete Kentse	Lorraine	6	Hlongwane Zamangwane	Charot			
7	Mabaso Mfanampela	Elzari	7	Hlubi Nonkanyiso	Bongakele			
8	Maine Lethebe	Johannes	8	Khoza Thokozani	Laurence			
9	Mapukata Jongilita	Ronnie	9	Lebepe Mathokone	Innocent			
10	Matlho Cecilia	Keabetswe	10	Madonsela Zakhele	Cyril			
11	Matthews	Richard	11	Magugu Zandile	Primrose			
12	Mazibuko Mkhomazi	Ndawo	12	Mavibuko Doctor	Siyabonga			
13	Mbuli Rebecca	Bawinile	13	Mazibuko Khulekani	Sthembiso			
14	Mgebhuza Ntlokomiso	Herstone	14	Mazibuko Vukani	Patrick			
15	Mhlanga	Johan	15	Mdhuli Bukelani	Sakhile			
16	Mogotlhe Bosi	Rodgers	16	Miya Thembelani	Thembelani			
17	Mokatsane Kabelo	Retshidisitwe	17	Mokoena Kedibone	Patricia			
18	Goitsemodimo	Richard	18	Mthembu Nozipho	Agnes			
19	Msibi Phillip	Mphikwa	19	Mvatsha Mthetheledi	Hendry			
20	Themisile Ruth	Msibi	20	Mvula Vumile	Ruth			
21	Petla George	Stanley	21	Ndou	Aplheous			
22	Phago Thapedi	Phineas	22	Ngcobo Sizakele	Ambitious			
23	Sello Molefi	Reginald	23	Snyders Jerome	Juwell			
24	Tsholofelo Barnard	Tabane	24	Zitha Tsakani	Solly			
25	Tamako Mooketsi	Treasure	25	Zondo Njabulo	Mjo			



BREAKDOWN OF THE BURSARY ALLOCATION FOR THESE THREE TRUNCHEONS OF TRAINING														
Organization (National / Provincial)	Bursaries identified		20 March-29 April 2011		1 May-3 June 2011		19 June-22 July 2011		31 July-2 August 2011		11 Sept - 14 Oct 2011		Actual Allocation	
	Unem- ployed	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Em- ployed	Unem- ployed	Employed
South African National Parks														
Table Mountain		8		9										9
Richtersveld		2				2								2
Mokala		8		2		2		2		2				8
Kgalagadi		2		1		2								3
Augrabies				2										2
Mapungubwe									2	2				2
South African Provincial Parks														
LEDET (Limpopo)		8		8										8
MTPA (Mpumalanga)	20	8	3	5		4	10						13	9
EZKN (Wildlife Natal)	20								19				19	
NWPTB (North West)	10					7		10						17
ECPTA (Eastern Cape)		6						3				3		6
TOTALS	50	50	3	27		17	10	17	21	4		3	34	66
Total number of students on course		30		25		27		27		18		126		
Total number of bursaries utilized		30		17		25		25		3		100		
Total bursary allocation for reporting periods				47				53				100		

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Basic Field ranger training
 Liberty Wildlife Foundation: Basic Field ranger training programme
 Musarte 01 05 01 00
 FINANCIAL REPORT

	Total Budget	Budget @ 47 students	Actual	Variance	
Administrative Costs					
Administration & communication	12,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00	-	
Course Management	30,000.00	15,000.00	15,000.00	-	
Room & equipment rentals @ R400 pd for 35 training days	56,000.00	28,000.00	28,000.00	-	
Staff costs @ R500 pd for 35 days	70,000.00	35,000.00	35,000.00	-	
Living expenses for participants and trainers					
Food (3 meals a day for 100 participants & facilitators for 35 days @ R100 per day)	378,000.00	178,000.00	185,500.00	-7,000.00	An additional translator is included in each training intervention
Accommodation (on site 100 participants @ R80 pppd for 35 nights)	280,000.00	131,600.00	131,600.00	-	
Accommodation (on site facilitators @ R130 pppd for 35 nights)	36,400.00	18,200.00	27,300.00	-9,100.00	An additional translator is included in each training intervention
Trainer fee (including travel)					
Trainer Fee @ R5000 per learner	500,000.00	235,000.00	267,900.00	-32,900.00	Trainer required to charge VAT at an additional cost Of 15% of contract value, R5700 / student
Materials					
GRAA membership @ R200 per learner	20,000.00	9,400.00	11,000.00	-1,600.00	SAWC did pay for additional private learners to join GRAA
Training consumables (Ammunition, camping supplies, clothing and footwear)	20,000.00	9,400.00	18,337.52	-8,937.52	Additional and webbing belts were purchased for students as well as the development of branding for the program, cost to be incurred by the SAWC
Other Expenses					
Field/town trips @ R10 km (bus) 500 km	20,000.00	9,400.00	12,210.65	-2,810.65	Additional transport cost to Witbank to replace students who were incorrectly allocated to training
TOTAL COURSE (assuming 100 learners) excl VAT	1,422,400.00	66,368.00	737,848.17	-51,648.17	

FINANCIAL REPORTS: Basic Field ranger training
 Liberty Wildlife Foundation: Basic Field ranger training programme
 Musarte 01 05 01 00
 FINANCIAL REPORT

Course budget @ R75,000.00 / course of 14 learners

	TOTAL Budget / Course	Budget @ 28 stu- dents	Actual	Variance
Adiministration Costs				
Administration & Communication	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00	
Course Management	20,000.00	20,000.00	20,000.00	
Trainer fee (including travel)				
Trainer fee (including travel) 2 groups	120,000.00	120,000.00	120,588.00	-588.00
TOTAL COURSE COST (Assuming 28 learners) excl VAT	150,000.00	150,000.00	150,588.00	-588.00



FINANCIAL REPORTS: Basic Field ranger training / Liberty Wildlife Foundation: Basic Field ranger training programme
Musarte 01 05 01 00
FINANCIAL REPORT

	Total Budget	Budget @ 47 students	Actual	Variance	Budget @ 53 students	Actual	Variance	Overall expenditure	Explanation
Administrative Costs									
Administration & communication	12,000	6,000	6,000	-	6,000	6,000	-	12,000	
Course Management	30,000	15,000	15,000	-	15,000	15,000	-	30,000	
Room & equipment rentals @ R400 pd for 35 training days	56,000	28,000	28,000	-	28,000	28,000	-	56,000	
Staff costs @ R500 pd for 35 days	70,000	35,000	35,000	-	35,000	35,000	-	70,000	
Living expenses for participants and trainers									
Food (3 meals a day for 100 participants & facilitators for 35 days @ R100 per day)	378,000	178,000	185,500	-7,000	199,500	203,000	-3,500	388,500	An additional translator is included in each training intervention
Accommodation (on site 100 participants @ R80 pppd for 35 nights)	280,000	131,600	131,600	-	148,400	148,400	-	280,000	
Accommodation (on site facilitators @ R130 pppd for 35 nights)	36,400	18,200.00	27,300	-9,100	18,200	22,750	-4550	50,050	An additional translator is included in each training intervention
Trainer fee (including travel)									
Trainer Fee @ R5000 per learner	500,000	235,000	267,900	-32,900	265,000	302,100	-37,100	570,000	Trainer required to charge VAT at an additional cost Of 15% of contract value, R5700 / student
Materials									
GRAA membership @ R200 per learner	20,000	9,400	11,000	-1,600	10,600	10,600	-	21,600	SAWC did pay for additional private learners to join GRAA
Training consumables (Ammunition, camping supplies, clothing and footwear)	20,000		18,337.52			798.00	-135.00	20,135.52	
Other Expenses									
Field/town trips @ R10 km (bus) 500 km	20,000.00		12,210.65			8,342.73		20,533.38	
TOTAL COURSE (assuming 100 learners) excl VAT	1,422,400.00		737,848.17	-51,648.17		779,990.73		1,518838.90	

Conclusion:

With a total of 100 qualified field Rangers trained through the Liberty Wildlife Foundation Sponsorship it gives all of us affected with increasing number of rhinos being poached daily that the problem will surely decrease in the near future. The GRAA's initiative to drive the force to encourage, motivate and also source out funding for more field rangers to be equipped and trained is playing a major role is assisting to fight the rhino poaching and also ensuring that the best field rangers are the ones guarding our Natural Resources in all this Conservation Organizations.

The is absolutely no doubt that more field Rangers still need to be trained. All involved stakeholders such as the Game Rangers Association of Africa, Liberty Wildlife Foundation and African Field Rangers Training Services support to the Southern African Wildlife College will ensure that the training remains as accurate and also goes beyond the expected standard to produce qualified graduates who are suit to be entrusted with the responsible to work as field Rangers.

SUPPORT FOR THE NATURAL RESOURCE
MANAGEMENT TRAINING
SOUTHERN AFRICAN WILDLIFE COLLEGE
CERTIFICATE COURSE BURSARIES



Project Title	Funding of one student to study the Advanced Certificate Course at the Southern African Wildlife College during 2011
Reporting Period:	31 January – 1 December 2011 (Interim Report provided for period 31 January – 19 August 2011)

Introduction

It is with great pleasure that we report on the activities of the Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC), for the period 31 January to 1 December 2011.

A total of 22 full-time students from seven different African countries were enrolled to study for the Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation in Trans-Frontier Conservation Management. A further seven students attended the course part-time as part of the “Recognition of Prior Learning” RPL student group. One full time student withdrew due to an illness in her family which brought the final number of full time students to 21. (See Table 3 for a full list of Advanced Certificate Students)

Twenty five (25) students from three countries enrolled for the Higher Certificate in Nature Conservation in Conservation Implementation and Leadership. A total of 23 full time students (one of the initial 25 completed the course part time and one withdrew half way through the course due to personal circumstances) completed the course together with an additional two part time and three supplementary students.

The funding provided by the GRAA totaling R65,000 enabled Mosa Khalema from the Maloti Drakensburg Project, Lesotho to complete the Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation in Trans-Frontier Conservation Management (NQF Level 6).

Objectives

The primary objective of the certificated courses which run for a full year, is to provide natural heritage managers, and particularly protected area managers, from Africa with the relevant skills and knowledge to:

- Manage and conserve a natural resource or protected area according to an integrated management approach
- Effectively supervise the broad range of management and field activities being performed in a natural or protected area
- Manage community and tourism development within the natural or protected area, sustainably and in cooperation with local communities

In doing so, the College aims to:

- Provide and develop high quality, informative and inspiring courses for natural heritage managers and other parties.
- Strive for recognition as a regional rather than a national institution by working closely with other southern African training initiatives.
- Provide accreditation of training courses that will attain recognition in their own right but will also complement and link into a spectrum of protected area natural resource management training options available in southern Africa.
- Use training as a vehicle for the exchange of ideas, information, and expertise in order to promote cooperation between conservation organisations and cultures.
- Be a dynamic, flexible and service-orientated organisation which aims to become a role model for socially and environmentally responsible development
- Promote an integrated approach to the management of natural resource and protected areas that is appropriate to Africa, focusing especially on the role of local communities and other stakeholders in the sustainable management of resources.

Methods

The College continues to strive to ensure a high standard of training. In doing so, it continually examines and evaluates its curriculum and learning materials to ensure compliance with workplace and national qualification requirements.

In addition, the College uses a unique approach by contracting in top conservation practitioners to offer modules in their respective fields. In this way the College's permanent staff is kept to a minimum and the courses offered remain flexible and responsive to market forces.

The new model of training introduced in 2010 proved to be successful and was well received by all parties. The benefit of this model was that students spent less time away from their workplaces, and were also able to integrate what they learnt in their work through the workplace components of the course. However, in an attempt to resolve some of the problems experienced in gaining access to resources to obtain information for workplace assignments, management agreed to address this by starting the 2011 academic year with a college block instead of the first college block taking place in April.

This allowed for induction at the College with students being able to conduct the necessary research before going back to their places of work where they completed their assignments in one block before returning for the final semester. Essentially, this means that the two workplace blocks in 2010 were combined into one longer block in 2011.

Activities

Both the Higher and Advanced Certificate Course programmes commenced with a College block on the 31 January 2011 which continued until 29 April 2011. The first few days of the College block were devoted to an induction where the students were briefed on academic and logistical issues for their course, issued

with study material and participated in team building exercises in order to get to know each other.

The workplace block commenced on 1May and continued to 19August. During this time learners continued with full time work duties. In addition to this, they completed workplace assignments and kept a log of work performed which was submitted on a monthly basis. First semester workplace assignments were to be submitted by 27 June with the second semester workplace assignments being submitted when they reported back for the final semester on 22 August 2011.

Table 1 & 2 in Annexure A outline the course modules and trainers for both training blocks which took place at the Southern African Wildlife College.

Final report advance certificates

5.1. The Training Programme

The modules proceeded as planned for both the first and second College training blocks. This year there were two fulltime trainers Cleve Cheney and Dr. Alan Gardiner (who took up the post of senior lecturer during the year). Modules falling outside their areas of expertise were trained by outside trainers. The Advanced Course progressed well during the second training block with learners completing an additional seven modules during the final semester.

5.2. Summative assessments

The real test of the learner's ability to apply what has been learnt was revealed in their summative assessments. In this assessment learners are given a practical case study in which all the modules that have been presented during the course have to be integrated into a management plan and they stand or fall by what is presented. Some learners submitted very good work with the general standard being better than last year (2010). The average mark for the summative assessments was 72.9 with no re-assessments being required.

5.3. Achiever awards

Although awards in the end only go to a few individuals credit must be given to each and every learner who, without exception, put in tremendous effort.

Top achievers for the year of study are indicated in the Table 7. Special mention is also made of learners who were runners up in the different categories to acknowledge their achievements as well.

5.4. Overall results

The College is pleased to announce that there was a 100% pass rate in the Advanced Certificate Course which this year proved to be a strong group. Four of the full time students passed with distinction with nine students scoring above 80% for their final course mark. The final results are shown in Table 6. First and second semester results are shown in Tables 4 and 5.

5.5. General Advanced Certificate issues

The 2011 Advanced Certificate Learners were committed to hard work and were a pleasure to work with. Student behavior this year was excellent with no issues requiring disciplinary procedures. An outstanding feature has been the dedication learners have shown towards conservation.

5.6. In closing

In terms of academic and overall achievements the year can be considered a great success. Having completed the Advanced Certificate course, the students can return to their places of work armed with both the knowledge and practical skills to become more effective in and for the cause of conservation.

The College would also like to express our grateful appreciation and thanks to the donors who provide study bursaries to our learners. This investment in well-trained and committed wildlife managers is of inestimable value and will go a long way towards achieving lasting conservation results that address both economic and ecological needs.

To all the organizations that entrusted us with their employees, we also extend our thanks. In releasing their employees for further study at the Southern African Wildlife College, they are not only helping their employees to expand their horizons and advance their careers but are also working towards achieving long lasting conservation results; thereby helping sustain the natural heritage that makes Africa globally competitive.

Ref	Description	Budget	Actuals	Funds Balance
1	Meals & Accommodation			
1.1	Accommodation	3,000.00	9,999.40	-6,999.40
1.2	Meals	20,000.00	23,436.09	-3,436.09
	Subtotal meals & Accommodation	23,000.00	33,435.49	-10,435.49
2	Travel & Related Costs			
2.1	Field Trips / Excursions	3,640.00	2,940.29	699.71
2.2	Transport	2,500.00	3,407.63	-907.63
2.3	Workshops & Conferences	2,500.00	1,460.52	1,039.48
	Subtotal Travel & Related Costs	8,640.00	7,808.43	831.57
3	Training Equipment & Materials			
3.1	Learning Materials (books)	500.00	308.71	191.29
3.2	Course Materials / Consumables	3,843.17	3,475.46	367.71
3.3	Manuals	3,328.61	1,241.92	2,086.69
3.4	Lecturers Fees	20,000.00	22,031.88	-2,031.88
3.5	Lectures Accommodation	3,000.00	3,468.00	-468.00
3.6	Lecturers Transport	706.38	1,682.00	-975.63
3.7	Student Costs	1,981.86	1,826.79	155.06
	Subtotal Training Equipment & Materials	33,360.00	34,034.75	-674.75
	TOTAL	65,000.00	75,278.68	-10,278.68

Conclusions

The Southern African Wildlife College would like to take this opportunity to express our grateful appreciation and thanks to the GRAA for their continued support of the SAWC. The support received by way of student bursaries is immeasurable when it comes to the future of conservation in Africa.

This was reiterated by Dr Joseph Okori, WWF International's African Rhino Programme Manager, and key note speaker at this year's graduation ceremony who addressed the students by saying, "The guardianship of Africa's wildlife resources has been bestowed upon you. You have been empowered with the science of Natural Resource Management and the art of Natural Resource Protection. The protection and survival of Africa's threatened species is in your hands."

"You are the leaders of tomorrow, you are our advance warning system; charged with the propagation of conservation best practices to ensure ecosystem integrity with support from and engagement with communities. As

wildlife guardians, you are also the bridge that will strengthen regional conservation efforts. As ambassadors of the Southern African Wildlife College, it is your duty to share your skills and talents with your neighbours to ensure the protection of our natural resources.”

Advanced Certificate student, Mosa Khalema is seen being congratulated by
Dr David Mabunda - CEO SANParks and Chairperson of the College Board of Directors - and
Dr Maria Kanjere – Executive Manager: Academic Affairs at the SAWC - respectively.

Thank you

Jeann Poultney

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Marketing & Fundraising

Tel: +27 (0)11 704 4386 | Mobile Tel: +27 (0)82 45 828 45

SAWC Direct Line | +27 (0)15 793 7300

Fax: +27 (0)86 670 8687

Email: jpoultney@sawc.org.za

SCHEDULE OF MODULES AND TRAINERS – ADVANCED CERTIFICATE

Module	Date	Trainer
Biodiversity Management	1 -11 February 2011	C. Cheney
Catchment Management	12-19 February 2011	G. O’Brain
Community Based Natural Resource Management	21 Feb – 4 March 2011	E. de Beer
Research Skills	7 – 11 March 2011	M. Kanjere
Environmental Development Plans	14 -25 March	R. Kalwa
Resource Economics	28 March – 1 April 2011	L. Pietersen

Table 1: Schedule of modules and trainers – Training Block 1 / Advanced Certificate

Module	Date	Trainer
Natural Resource Protection	22 August 2011	C. Cheney
TFCA Management	5 September 2011	R. Dhlokhlo
Tourism Management	12 September 2011	J. Neweham
GIS	19 September 2011	C. Beech
Land Use Planning	3 October 2011	S. Struwig
Financial Management	10 October 2011	S. van Schalkwyk
Human Resource Management	24 October 2011	L. Greyling

Table 2: Schedule of modules and trainers – Training Block 2 / Advanced Certificate

STUDENT INFORMATION – ADVANCED CERTIFICATE				
Advance Certificate Student list 2011				
Surname	Name/s	Country	Organization	Full or part time student
Mr. Kisio	Edwin	Kenya	Lewa Wildlife Conservancy	Full
Mr. Mpevana	Phakade	South Africa	Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism	Full
Mr. Ndzutha	Xolani	South Africa	Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism	Full

Mr. Landule	Kholisa	South Africa	Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism	Full
Mr. Qashu	Mandla	South Africa	Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism	Full
Mr. Mugoti	Matthew	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife	Full
Mr. Mwera	Petros	Zimbabwe	Zimbabwe Parks & Wildlife	Full
Mr. Chikanya	Gideon	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Mr. Mabethi	Charles John	Malawi	Dept Parks & Wildlife	Full
Mr. Kabota	Dines	Malawi	Dept Parks & Wildlife	Full
Mr. Jere	Nashon	Malawi	Dept Parks & Wildlife	Full
Mr. Ndaona	Kumanga	Malawi	Dept Parks & Wildlife	Full
Mr. Nzimba	Phindile (Anton)	South Africa	Timbavati	Part time
Mr. Munanzi	Cebens	Namibia	Wuparo Conservancy	Full
Mr. Silumesi	Shadreck	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Mr. Mwenya	Lucky	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Mr. Phiri	Sangulukani	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Mr. Daka	Lewis	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Ms. Namulunga	Lilian	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Ms. Namulunga	Lilian	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Ms. Mubanga	Mina	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full
Mr. Khalema	Mosa	Lesotho	Maloti Drakensberg Project	Full
Ms. Mijoni	Annie	Zambia	Zambia Wildlife Authority	Full *
Mr. Biyela	Jabulani	South Africa	KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife	Part time
Mr. Mazibuko	Zephred	South Africa	KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife	Part time
Mr. Mkhabela	Dennis	South Africa	KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife	Part time
Mr. Mthembu	James	South Africa	KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife	Part time
Mr. Zulu	Leonard	South Africa	KZN Ezemvelo Wildlife	Part time
Mr. Machavi	Jeremiah	South Africa	SAWC	Part time

Table 3: List of learners for the Advanced Certificate 2011 academic year highlighting the GRAAbursary recipient

* Withdrew due to illness in the family

Results of the first semester Modules are shown in Table 4 and the second semester in Table 5.

Module	Number of students passed	Average class mark %	Best student per module (%)	Number of semester exam reassessments
Biodiversity Management	21 out of 21	75.6	M. Mugoti (89.9%)	0
Catchment Management	21 out of 21	73.9	N. Jere (84.6%)	0
CBNRM	21 out of 21	81.6	N. Jere (98.4%)	2
Resource Economics	21 out of 21	82.4	N. Jere (91.5%)	
Conservation Research	21 out of 21	79.6	M. Mugoti (91.4%)	1
Environmental Development Plans	21 out of 21	81.9	K. Ndaona (94.2%)	0

Table 4: First semester results

Module	Number of students passed	Average class mark %	Best student per module (%)	Number of semester exam reassessments
Natural Resource Protection	20 out of 20*	82.4	M. Mugoti (94%)	0
TFCA Management	26 out of 26	71.8	M. Mugoti (85.6%)	0
Tourism Management	20 out of 20	83.3	M. Mugoti (95.2%)	0
GIS	26 out of 26	67.7	N. Jere (85.6%)	1
Land Use Planning	*25 out of 26	67.9	N. Kumanga (88.8%)	8
Financial Management	26 out of 26	83.1	N. Jere (98.4%)	0
Human Resource Management	20 out of 20	84.3	K. Ndoana (93.2%)	0
SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT	20 out of 20	72.9	G. Chikanya and M. Mubanga (81%)	

*One learner did not write semester exam due to illness

Table 5: Second semester results

Final results are shown in Table 6 with the top achievers being highlighted in Table 7

FINAL RESULTS FOR ADVANCED CERTIFICATE 2011

Learner	Summative assessment (%)	Learner graduates (final course mark %) / Learner did not graduate
Chikanya, G.	81%	Graduates (83.1%) (Placed fifth)
Daka, L	79%	Graduates (77.9%)
Jere, N.	78%	*Graduates (86.8%) (Placed first)
Kabota, D.	74%	*Graduates (84.4%)(Placed fourth)
Khalema, M	67%	Graduates (77.7%)
Kisio, E.	79%	Graduates (77.9%)
Landule, K.	63%	Graduates 61.3(%)
Mabethi, C. J.	74%	Graduates (82.4%)
Mpevana, W.	63%	Graduates (71.3%)
Mubanga, M	81%	Graduates (82.1%)
Mugoti, M.	77%	*Graduates (85.7%) (Placed third)
Munanzi, C.	67%	Graduates (71.7%)
Mwenya, L.	68%	Graduates (74.8%)
Mwera, P.	77%	Graduates (82.7%)
Namalunga, L.	80%	Graduates (68.0%)
Ndaona, K.	78%	*Graduates 85.8(%) (Placed second)
Ndzutha, X.	63%	Graduates (66.3%)
Phiri, S.	68%	Graduates (75.8%)
Quashu, M.	63%	Graduates (74.3%)
Silumesi, S.	80%	Graduates (83.0%) (Placed sixth)
AVERAGE	72.9%	
PART TIME		
Masia, T.	Graduates	
Mokansi, M.	Graduates	
Muthathi, C.	Graduates	
Mulhovo, R. O.	Graduates	
Nzima, N.	Graduates	

*Graduates with distinction

Table 6: Final results

Category	Name	Special mention
Best overall student for the year	N. Jere	K. Ndaona, M. Mugoti, D. Kabota, C. Mabethi
Most improved student for the year	M. Quashu	K. Ndaona, M. Mugoti, L. Namalunga
Best SA student for the year	P. Mpevana	
Best financial student	N. Jere (98.4%)	M. Mugoti, G. Chikanya, S. Silumes
Best protected area management	G. Chikanya	M. Mubanga

Table 7: Top achievers

STUDENT PROFILE

NAME: Mosa

SURNAME: Khalema

AGE: 24

COUNTRY: LESOTHO

ORGANISATION: MINISTRY OF TOURISM ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE LESOTHO.

OCCUPATION: ENVIRONMENT OFFICER

DONOR REPORT: GAME RANGERS ASSOCIATION OF AFRICA

Introduction:

The second semester took a different angle from the first in that students had to submit their workplace assignments before commencement of each module. Time was a huge challenge as we had to do the workplace assignments together with day to day routines at work prior to the second semester. There was a redeeming factor for this work load though; I was able to integrate my studies into my work routines during the workplace break. This semester has been an eye opener in many ways; explanations per subject will be given below.

Natural Resources Protection

In this module, I have learned how to shield a Protected Area's biotic and abiotic components as well as general assets of an organization from harm, theft, poaching, or degradation. Methods of protection include awareness programs and law enforcement. In this subject I have learned how to plan and co-ordinate law enforcement operations and to conduct investigation relating to nature crimes.

Trans-Frontier conservation Area Management

This subject is the crux of the course of the Advanced Certificate. In this subject I have learned how the Trans-frontier Conservation Areas were formed and the rationale behind that formation. This subject is, to put in plain words, the importance of holistic management of the resources in and around Protected Areas. The subject stresses the importance of collaboration across political and international boundaries in the management of the natural resources.

Eco-Tourism

In this module I have learned more about sustainable, responsible and non-consumptive utilization of natural resources without negatively impacting on the environment, that is, consumption with tomorrow in mind. It is in this subject that it was instilled in me that tourism finances conservation, without revenues from tourism, large scale conservation would not be able to continue. The module educates on how to better advertise and manage tourism products in and around Protected Areas. Having learned this also in previous modules, Eco-tourism Management also does not neglect the importance of the involvement of local communities in conservation through community based tourism.

Geographic Information Systems (GIS)

I have gained a lot from GIS; from basic creation of maps to creation of maps of specific components or attributes of a geographical location. This included creation of maps according to vegetation type, soils, population and density. GIS has also equipped me with skills on how to use software including Arc-view to analyze data collected in the field to produce information for clear decisions regarding conservation management.

Land use Planning

This module also proved to be of critical significance as it helps in determining land use practices that are suitable for a specific geographical location or Protected Area. In this subject I learned to apply GIS technologies to land use planning principles. Land use helps in placing value on areas that are rich in biodiversity or those having little human impact. Land is also a guiding tool on how to manage natural resources through facilitation of a development strategy for Protected Areas. With Land Use Planning I have learned to directly manipulate data and information by means of GIS to derive a spatial management plan for a Protected Area.

Financial Management

The main objective for Protected Areas is to generate income through nature based tourism. Financial Management equipped me with skills on how to manage these finances. In Financial Management I have also learned how draw up and handle Protected Areas' budget; this is of utmost importance because it includes allocation of funds for the management of a Protected Area.

Human Resources Management

In this module, I have learned how to manage the most important assets of an organization that is 'employees'. This included reviewing of basic management principles of management, roles and functions of management, and roles of a manager as a facilitator of achievement organization goals and objectives. In this subject I have learned how to achieve goals through employees by means of motivating them to fulfil organizational tasks to their maximum abilities.

Conclusion

It has been a life changing experience to be part of The Advanced Certificate in Nature Conservation in Trans-Frontier Conservation Management class. I am grateful to the Game Rangers Association of Africa for funding my education.



Year End Membership Report

01/12/2010 – 30/11/2011

Member Status Report

Of the 1400 members listed on the GRAA database 870 members are listed as active.

Status	Count of Status	Status	Count of Status
Active	870	On Hold	1
Deceased	84	Resigned	22
Honorary	1	Resigned 2009	1
Non Active	408	Resigned 2010	6
Not Active	1	Resigned 2011	6
Grand Total		1400	

Active Membership per Country

Countries are sorted alphabetically.

Country	Count of Country	Country	Count of Country
Alaska	1	RSA	499
Australia	3	Russia	1
Botswana	28	Rwanda	1
Canada	3	Swaziland	1
Cote d'Ivoire	1	Tanzania	4
Ghana	1	UAE	1
Hungary	1	Uganda	1
Kenya	35	United Kingdom	7
Lesotho	1	USA	7
Malawi	19	Zambia	164
Mozambique	13	Zimbabwe	36
Namibia	42		
Grand Total		870	

Active Membership Types

Member Type	Count of Member Type	Member Type	Count of Member Type
Affiliate	9	Patron	1
Alaska: Member	1	Professional	3
Australia: Professional	2	RSA: Member	174
Botswana: Member	2	RSA: Professional	182
Botswana: Professional	1	Russia: Member	1
Canada: Professional	2	Rwanda: Professional	1
Founder member	6	SAWC Member	2
Ghana: Professional	1	SAWC: Member	107
Honorary	14	Student	1
Hungary: Member	1	Swaziland: Professional	1
Kenya: Member	33	Tanzania: Member	1
Kenya: Professional	1	Tanzania: Professional	3
Lesotho: Professional	1	UK: Member	2
Mozambique: Professional	1	UK: Professional	2

Namibian: Member	19	USA: Member	2
Namibian: Professional	23	USA: Professional	1
Organisation Associate	3	Zambia: Professional	1
Outreach 08	148	Zambian: Member	61
Outreach 09	51	Zimbabwe: Member	1
Past Patron	1	Zimbabwe: Professional	3
Grand Total		870	

2011 Membership

243 new memberships applications processed in 2011. Of which 61 Zambian member, 33 Kenyan members and 109 SAWC members have been registered.

Member Type	Count of Member Type
Ghana: Professional	1
Honorary	1
Kenya: Member	33
Namibian: Member	4
RSA: Member	18
RSA: Professional	14
SAWC: Member	109
Zambian: Member	61
Zimbabwe: Professional	2
Grand Total	243

Number of Payments due for 2011:

The majority of the unpaid subscriptions are as a result of the SAWC 2010 memberships which were not renewed in 2011. Unfortunately I only started to differentiate between the membership types in 2011. Therefore the 2010 SAWC memberships reflect as RSA: Member types. Members who have not made payment in 2 years will be listed as Non Active.

Member Type	Count of Member Type
RSA: Member	177
RSA: Professional	182
SAWC: Member	109
Ghana: Professional	1
Kenya: Member	33
Namibian: Member	19
Namibian: Professional	23
Student	1
Swaziland: Professional	1
Zambia: Professional	1
Number of Paying Members	547
2011 Payments Received	-438
Number of Payments Due	109

Financial statements

Financial Statements for the year ended 30 November 2011

Country of incorporation and domicile: South Africa

Accounting Officer: Boshoff Drotsky, Chartered Accountants (S.A.), Registered Auditors

The reports and statements set out below comprise the financial statements presented to the Executive committee


Executive committee's Responsibilities and Approval

The executive committee is responsible for the maintenance of adequate accounting records and the preparation and integrity of the financial statements and related information. The independent accountant is responsible to determine that the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records, summarised in the manner required by section 58(2)(d) of the Act.

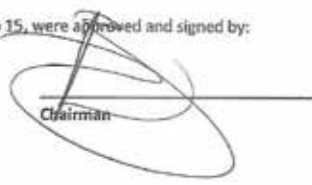
The executive committee is also responsible for the corporation's system of internal financial control. These are designed to provide reasonable, but not absolute, assurance as to the reliability of the financial statements, and to adequately safeguard, verify and maintain accountability of assets, and to prevent and detect misstatement and loss. Nothing has come to the attention of the executive committee to indicate that any material breakdown in the functioning of these controls, procedures and systems has occurred during the year under review.

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis, since the executive committee has every reason to believe that the corporation has adequate resources in place to continue in operation for the foreseeable future.

The financial statements set out on pages 5 to 15, were approved and signed by:



Treasurer
21 February 2012



Chairman

Accounting Officer's Report To Game Rangers Association of Africa

We have performed the duties of accounting officer to Game Rangers Association of Africa for the year ended 30 November 2011. The financial statements of Game Rangers Association of Africa set out on pages 5 to 13 are the responsibility of the members. No audit is required by the Act to be carried out and no audit was conducted. Accordingly we do not imply or express an opinion or any other form of assurance on the financial statements.

We have determined that the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records, summarised in the manner required by section 58(2)(d) of the Act and have done so by adopting such procedures and conducting such enquiries in relation to the accounting records as we considered necessary in the circumstances. We have also reviewed the accounting policies which have been presented to us as having been applied in the preparation of the financial statements, and we consider that they are appropriate to the business.

Boshoff Drotsky
Chartered Accountants (S.A.)
Registered Auditors

Per:
JH Boshoff
Centurion
17 February 2012

Executive committee's Report

The executive committee submits its report for the year ended 30 November 2011.

1. Review of activities - Main business and operations

The association promotes the interests of game rangers through training, support and monitoring and operates principally in South Africa.

The operating results and state of affairs of the association are fully set out in the attached financial statements and do not in our opinion require any further comment.

2. Events after the reporting period

The executive committee is not aware of any matter or circumstance arising since the end of the financial year which may have an adverse effect on these financial statements.

3. Treasurer

The treasurer of the association during the year and to the date of this report is as follows:

Name:

Janet Snow

4. Independent accountant

Boshoff Drotzky Auditors will continue in office for the next financial period.

Statement of Financial Position			
	Notes	2011	2012
Assets			
Non-current Assets			
Property, plant and equipment	2	6,527	9,124
Current Assets			
Inventories	3	7,740	8,450
Trade and other receivables	4	3,435	9,002
Cash and cash equivalents	5	651,526	533,030
		662,701	550,482
Total Assets		669,228	559,606
Equity and Liabilities			
Members' interest and reserves			
Retained income		643,817	559,606
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Trade and other payables	6	25,411	
Total Equity and Liabilities		669,228	559,606

Statement of Changes in Equity			
		Retained income	Total equity
Balance at 01 December 2009		742,012	742,012
Changes in equity			
Total comprehensive loss for the year		(182,406)	(182,406)
Total changes		(182,406)	(182,406)
Balance at 01 December 2010		559,606	559,606
Changes in equity			
Total comprehensive income for the year		84,211	84,211
Total changes		84,211	84,211
Balance at 30 November 2011		643,817	643,817

Statement of Cash Flows			
	Notes	2011	2010
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from (used in) operations	9	96,613	(239,164)
Interest income		21,885	29,386
Net cash from operating activities		118,498	(209,778)
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	2	-	(15,586)
Net cash flows from bank accounts not disclosed in the prior year		-	90,840
Net cash from investing activities		-	75,254
Total cash movement for the year		118,498	(134,524)
Cash at the beginning of the year		533,030	667,554
Total cash at end of the year	5	651,528	533,030

Accounting Policies

1. Presentation of Financial Statements

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standard for Small and Medium-sized Entities, and the Close Corporations Act, 1984 (No. 69 of 1984) . The financial statements have been prepared on the historical cost basis, and incorporate the principal accounting policies set out below. They are presented in South African Rands.

These accounting policies are consistent with the previous period.

1.1 Property, plant and equipment

- Property, plant and equipment are tangible items that: are held for use in the production or supply of goods or services, for rental to others or for administrative purposes; and
- are expected to be used during more than one period.

Property, plant and equipment is carried at cost less accumulated depreciation and any impairment losses. Depreciation is provided using the straight-line method to write down the cost, less estimated residual value over the useful life of the property, plant and equipment, which is as follows:

Item:	Average useful life
Furniture and fixtures:	6 Years

The residual value, depreciation method and the useful life of each asset are reviewed at each annual reporting period if there are indicators present that there is a change from the previous estimate.

1.2 Financial instruments

Financial instruments at amortised cost

Financial instruments may be designated to be measured at amortised cost less any impairment using the effective interest method. These include trade and other receivables, loans and trade and other payables. At the end of each reporting period date, the carrying amounts of assets held in this category are reviewed to determine whether there is any objective evidence of impairment. If so, an impairment loss is recognised.

Financial instruments at fair value

All other financial instruments are measured at fair value through profit and loss.

1.3 Inventories

Inventories are measured at the lower of cost and selling price less costs to complete and sell, on the first-in, first-out (FIFO) basis.

1.4 Revenue

Revenue is measured at the fair value of the consideration received or receivable and represents the amounts receivable for goods and services provided in the normal course of business.

Interest is recognised, in profit or loss, using the effective interest rate method. Revenue received in the form of donations are exempt from tax by the Income tax Act Section 18A.

Notes to the Financial Statements						
2. Property, plant and equipment						
	2011			2010		
	Cost / Valuation	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value	Cost / Valuation	Accumulated depreciation	Carrying value
Furniture and fixtures	38,759	(32,232)	6,527	38,759	(29,635)	9,124
Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2011				Opening balance	Depreciation	Total
Furniture and fixtures				9,124	(2,597)	6,527
Reconciliation of property, plant and equipment - 2010			Opening Balance	Additions	Depreciation	Total
Furniture and fixtures			1	15,586	(6,463)	9,124
3. Inventories						
Merchandise					7,740	8,450
4. Trade and other receivables						
Esterhuysen Botha Attorneys					1,626	2
AGM Prepaid expenses					1,809	9,000
					3,435	9,002
5. Cash and cash equivalents						
Cash and cash equivalents consist of:						
Bank balances					651,526	533,030
6. Trade and other payables						
AGM Income received in advance					4,176	-
Amounts received in advance					21,235	-
					25,411	-

Notes to the Financial Statements

	2011	2010
7. Revenue		
Sale of goods	8,563	16,255
Proceeds from projects	8,334	-
	16,897	16,255
8. Investment revenue		
Interest revenue		
Bank	21,885	29,386
9. Cash generated from (used in) operations		
Profit (loss)	84,211	(273,246)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation and amortisation	2,597	6,460
Interest received	(21,885)	(29,386)
Changes in working capital:		
Intentories	710	965
Trade and other receivables	5,569	56,042
Trade and other paybles	25,411	1
	96,613	(239,164)

10. Tax

The receipts by or accruals to the Association are exempt from income tax in terms of section 10(1)(d)(iv)(bb) of the Income Tax Act.

Donations by or to the Association are exempt from donations tax in terms of section 56(1)(h) of the aforementioned Act.



Statement of Financial Performance

	Notes	2011	2012
Revenue			
Advertising share of revenue		8,334	-
Sale of goods	7	8,563	16,255
Cost of sales			
Opening stock		(8,450)	(9,415)
Purchases		(6,143)	(21,140)
Closing stock		7,740	8,450
		(6,853)	(22,105)
Gross profit (loss)		10,044	(5,850)
Other income			
AGM Deposits		33,653	18,680
Bird tour (10, 11, 12 & KZN)		100,341	121,114
Donations received		2,790	4,009
Fundraising		12,349	34,430
Golf Day Income		213,843	-
GRA AGM Berg-En-Dal		-	57,142
GRAA Training		5,034	12,123
Interest received	8	21,885	29,386
Subscription fees		79,000	81,554
SAWC - Accomodation		62,062	51,353
Shipping expenses recovered		1,725	-
Sundry income		285	7,000
Sponsorships - Liberty Foundation (SAWC)		-	402,948
Wildlands Conservation Trust Training		-	44,506
		532,967	864,245
Expenses (Refer to page 15)		(458,800)	(1,131,641)
Gain from prior year under-statement of assests		-	90,840
Profit (loss) for the year		84,211	(182,406)

Statement of Financial Performance

	Notes	2011	2010
Operating expenses			
Accounting fees		(5,016)	-
Administration and management fees		(107,198)	(75,611)
Advertising		(2,200)	-
AGM Expenses		(33,843)	(78,168)
Annual Report		(6,266)	(3,192)
Bank charges		(3,527)	(2,440)
Bird Tour (10, 11, 12)		(73,246)	-
Bird Tour (KZN)		(185)	(81,627)
Computer expenses		(1,099)	-
Depreciation, amortisation and impairments		(2,597)	(6,460)
East African Project		-	(18,920)
General Expenses		(8,829)	(14,721)
GRAAC Expenses		(44,440)	(36,618)
Golf Day		(25,000)	-
GRAA Training		(2,565)	(151,247)
IUCN		(3,089)	(2,828)
IRF		-	(339)
Magazines		(35,049)	(34,764)
Postage		(3,403)	(2,995)
Printing and stationary		(6,030)	(9,489)
Rhino Security Meeting		-	(4,190)
Stock written off		(230)	-
SAPS Accreditation		(1,057)	(3,928)
Telephone and fax		(11,065)	(8,400)
Wildlife Collage Training		(63,361)	(409,708)
Travel - local		(19,505)	(36,490)
Web design		-	(3,000)
Wildlands Conservation Trust Training		-	(144,506)
		(458,800)	(1,131,641)

Portfolio

GRAA Chairman
Vice Chair
Legal & Constitutional
Financial
Treasurer
GRAA Administrative Officer
IUCN Representative
Training & Projects

Youth
Trade
Editor: Game Ranger
Marketing

Name

Andrè Botha
Chris Galliers
Martin Schofield
Vacant
Janet Snow
Natalee Crozier
Tim Snow
Andrè Botha
Vivian Kgaphola
Marius Fuls
Mornè Pretorius
Natalee Crozier
Paul Phelan
Marius Fuls
Rory Allardice

Email address

andreb@ewt.org.za
chris.galliers@gameranger.co.za
schof@sai.co.za

jsnow@treverton.co.za
sec.gra@gmail.com
snowman@ewt.org.za
andreb@ewt.org.za
vkgaphola@sawc.org.za
marius.fuls@gmail.com
mpretorius@myconnection.co.za
sec.gra@gmail.com
mwngruma@mweb.co.za
marius.fuls@gmail.com
roryallardice@telkomsa.net

Regional

Regional

Gauteng Regional Chairman
KZN Regional Chairman
Lowveld Regional Chairman
Eastern Cape Chairman
Free State Chairman
Western Cape Regional Chair

Name

Position Open
Chris Galliers
Marius Fuls
Div De Villiers
Mornè Pretorius
Rory Allardice

Email address

chris@wessa.co.za
marius.fuls@gmail.com
Div.DeVilliers@deaet.ecape.gov.za
mpretorius@myconnection.co.za
roryallardice@telkomsa.net

Chapter

Chapter

Angola Representative
Botswana Representative
Cote de Ivoire Chairman
DRC Representative
Malawi Representative
Namibia Representatives

Sierra Leone Representative
Tanzania Representative
Uganda representative
Zambia Representatives

Name

Roland Goetz
Grant Craig
Joachim Kouame
Jobogo Marindi
Gervaise Thomala
Peter Bridgeford
Simon Mayes
David Zeller
Keith Roberts
John Makombo
William Soko
Tom Heinecken

Email address

qissama@hotmail.com
papadi@info.bw
ahounze@yahoo.fr
jmirindi@jahoo.com
g_thamala@yahoo.com
pmbridge@iway.na
simon@span.org.na
dazeller@soft.co.za
keith.roberts@tgts.com
john.makombo@uwa.or.ug
wlmsoko@yahoo.com.au
tomh@kaingu-lodge.com



**“Game Rangers are the
work force for
conservation in Africa”**

