

August 2010



# SAWMA MATTERS

*Electronic newsletter of the Southern African Wildlife Management Association*

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## SAWMA 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary symposium: Biodiversity Conservation in a Changing World 19-22 September



Only one month to go  
before the symposium!

Register now and book  
your accommodation  
at Buffelspoort.

<http://www.sawma.co.za>



### Highlights include:

**Opening address:** Mr Allan Losaba: Chief Executive Officer,  
North West Parks and Tourism Board

**Key note addresses:**

Wildlife management in Australasia: Biodiversity is changing  
in our part of the world. **Peter J.S. Fleming** (Representing the  
Australasian Wildlife Management Society)

Climate change impacts on land uses and biodiversity in  
Namibia. **Chris Brown** (Executive Director of the Namibia  
Nature Foundation - NNF)

Conservation evaluation in an uncertain world. **Sam M. Ferreira**  
(Large Mammal Ecologist for SANParks)

Dinner Address during the gala dinner. **John Hanks**

**Registration forms are available at:**

<http://www.sawma.co.za/sym2010.html>) or [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za).  
**The symposium will finish at about 17h00 on 22 September.**

There is still enough accommodation available at Buffelspoort for the  
late comers. Please book your accommodation with Nadine Scholtz  
at Buffelspoort [nadines@atkv.org.za](mailto:nadines@atkv.org.za) (cc to [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za))  
without delay. Use the booking form available on the SAWMA website, to ensure that the staff  
know you are part of the SAWMA delegation.



**Hosted by: North West Parks & Tourism Board &  
NW Dept. of Agriculture, Conservation and Environment and Rural Development**



## SAWMA membership

### New Members:

A warm welcome to the following new SAWMA members:

**Michael Grover** from Sabi Sand.

**Ian Pollard** from Strider Expeditions.

**Francesca Parrini**, lecturer at University of the Witwatersrand.

**Wildlife Ranching SA** – Institutional member .



Photo: Rudi van Aarde

### Membership rates: Thanks for the payments received to date!

|                                     |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| Local individual members:           | R330-00   |
| Fulltime Student members (Local):   | R165-00   |
| Fulltime Student members (Foreign): | R330-00   |
| Foreign individual members:         | USD 90-00 |
| Local Institutional Subscribers:    | R630-00   |
| Foreign Institutional Subscribers:  | USD187-00 |

Please remember to use your surname or invoice number as reference or email proof of the payment to [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za)!

## South African Journal of Wildlife Research

### VOI 40/1:

Please contact the SAWMA secretariat if you have not by now received your journal copy. From time to time we receive journals returned due to address changes. Please remember to update your address when you move.



### Information for authors

- The manuscript should be original, and not published previously. Do not submit material that is currently being considered by another journal.
- Only work done on African Species will be considered will be considered for publication, unless by invitation.
- The manuscript should preferably be in MS Word format, submitted as an email attachment with cover letter to [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za) or [Michael.somers@up.ac.za](mailto:Michael.somers@up.ac.za)
- Authors should familiarize themselves with the Instructions to authors available on [www.sawma.co.za](http://www.sawma.co.za) and make sure the manuscript is formatted according to the instructions and examples of existing published articles.
- Corresponding authors will receive a PDF version of the article and an issue of the journal containing the article.

### Peer review policy

SAJWR is a peer review journal. All research articles in this journal undergo peer review, based on initial editor screening and refereeing by at least two referees.

### Editorial Procedure

All papers considered appropriate for this journal are reviewed by at least two reviewers. The review process usually takes 3-4 weeks. When two referee's reports have been received, these go to the associate editor originally assigned to the manuscript, who makes a decision on acceptance/revision/rejection. Once the final version of the paper has been accepted, the final proofs are prepared and send to authors for a final check.

### Electronic access codes

Please contact [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za) to obtain the 2010 login codes to view the full text articles in the latest journal issue.

Archival issues dating back to 1971 are also freely available in digital form through SABINET African Journal Archive (<http://content.ajarchive.org/>).

## UPCOMING EVENTS, PUBLICATIONS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, VACANCIES, NEWS SNIPPETS & MORE

### Announcement of the 7th International Wildlife Ranching Symposium 2011 and First Call for Papers



The Seventh Wildlife Ranching Symposium, to be presented in South Africa during October 2011, seeks to bring together a truly international meeting of minds on this subject. This announcement and call for papers is the first in a series of communications that will emanate from the steering committee. The International Committee will be enlarged to accommodate the expanding body of expertise involved in presenting the Symposium. Whilst it is primarily an academic event, it provides a much wider communal platform for related industries and activities.

In accepting the reins from Philippe Chardonnet, the members of the Organising Committee are very pleased to have Kimberley in the Northern Cape, South Africa, as the venue for the Symposium.

We are fortunate in having both the moral and financial support of the Northern Cape Provincial Departments of Environment and Tourism, without which we would not have been able to proceed with the organisation of the Symposium. The support of our scientific hosts, the SA Wildlife Management Association and Wildlife Ranching SA, the industries operational body, and our patrons promise to provide an unforgettably rewarding experience.

Kimberley is situated in a province and region with various desert biomes particularly suited to game. Game ranches occur directly adjacent to the City and the accommodation they offer is particularly suited to the Symposium goers. The, by then, completed international Conference centre next to the Big Hole and its tourist attractions will provide a wonderful setting. The Game Expo and an expo of related industries, art and products presented within its grounds, will also be a part of the experience. Companion programmes will be presented, pre- and post symposium tours arranged, in all a memorable programme. The food will be enjoyed for its innovation and excellence.

In this announcement of the 7<sup>th</sup> International Wildlife Ranching Symposium and its theme, ***The business of conservation - science, livelihoods and values***, we present an opportunity for the delegates to join us in the exploration of wildlife ranching, its economies, biology and societal aspects, in a world in which wilderness and biodiversity will come under increasing threat. We hope to provide a factual background for decision-making that will promote and preserve wildlife and its environment to the benefit of human society as well.

In the presentation of such an event, with representatives from the global village and its outliers, we hope to expand the knowledge base relating to most aspects of wildlife ranching for its application by decision-makers. It is indeed in the political field that misinformation and lack of information can adversely affect the decisions taken. Your contribution can be the remedy!

Note that this symposium will not replace the annual SAWMA symposium scheduled for September 2011

Bringing together academics, wildlife ranchers and wildlife-dependent communities from all parts of the globe, it is the personal contacts made that are, as we know, the most lasting legacy of such a meet.

Please forward this announcement to colleagues who may be interested in participating.

Please visit the website at <http://www.iwrs.co.za> for more information and the Call for Papers and Submission of Abstracts

**See you in Kimberley October 2011!**  
**Andrew Conroy, Symposium Chair, Kimberley, South Africa**



## “BirdLife South Africa’s Important Bird Areas Programme – now accessible to everyone”

BirdLife South Africa has launched its interactive, ‘onestop-shop’ website for Important Bird Areas (IBA), giving people access to maps, information, bird lists and resources about South Africa’s 122 IBAs. Visitors can also register as IBA supporters and thus become involved in assessing, monitoring and conserving the IBAs they are passionate about. This high-tech, but easy to use, website brings the IBA Programme that much closer to the network of birders, bird clubs, universities, government departments and conservation organisations who will play a role in conserving South Africa’s most important bird habitats. The website address is:

[http://www.birdlife.org.za/page/30/important\\_bird\\_areas](http://www.birdlife.org.za/page/30/important_bird_areas)

For further information, please contact: Daniel Marnewick, +27 (0)11 789 1122, +27; (0)82 772 4432, [iba@birdlife.org.za](mailto:iba@birdlife.org.za)

## African Journal of Range & Forage Science: Free access to the Editor's selection of papers for the month of August

[Habitat selection by large herbivores in relation to fire at the Bontebok National Park \(1974-2009\): the effects of management changes](#)

Authors: T. Kraaij; P. A. Novellie

[Syndromes of dryland degradation in southern Africa](#)

Author: R. J. Scholes

[Can brush-cutting of \*Pteronia paniculata\* improve the composition and productivity of veld in the Succulent Karoo, South Africa?](#)

Authors: N. Saayman; C. D. Morris; M. B. Hardy; J. C. Botha

## South African Young Scientists' Conference: 12-13 October 2010

The Academy of Science of South Africa, in collaboration with the Department of Science and Technology and the National Research Foundation, will host a South African Young Scientists' Conference on 12-13 October 2010 in Pretoria. Hosted within the framework of the Academy of Sciences for the Developing World and the Organization of Women Scientists for the Developing World, the conference is aligned to the International Year Theme, which in 2010 is biodiversity. For registration and queries, please contact Dorothy Mutheu Ngila at tel. 012 349 6607 or fax 086 576 9517.

More information available at [www.assaf.org.za](http://www.assaf.org.za).



HOPING TO ELICIT YOUR SUPPORT, YOUR COMMITMENT, YOUR VOICE

Please visit our website [stoprhinopoaching.com](http://stoprhinopoaching.com)



LeadSA, a Primedia Broadcasting and Independent Group of Newspapers initiative, will be hosting a Rhino Summit on the 23th of August in order to plot the way forward for the future of this precious resource. They hope to allow all stakeholders to communicate and perhaps come up with new and innovative methods of preventing poaching.

## Mining in the Mapungubwe Area ceases – for now

The fight to protect the Mapungubwe Cultural Landscape and its surrounding area from coal mining was taken to the next level in recent days with a number of actions being taken by both civil society as well as one government department.

Visit

[www.savemapungubwe.org.za](http://www.savemapungubwe.org.za)

and [www.ewt.org.za](http://www.ewt.org.za) for more information and a copy of the compliance notice and photographs and information on how you can help.

## UNIVERSITY OF PRETORIA DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AND ENTOMOLOGY DIRECTOR: MAMMAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

The Department of Zoology and Entomology incorporates the Mammal Research Institute (MRI), which has an international reputation for research on African mammals. The Directorship of the MRI is currently vacant, and we are inviting applications for this post at the level of Professor or Associate Professor.

The Director is expected to develop a strong research programme within the MRI and participate in undergraduate and postgraduate teaching within the Department. Crucial attributes of prospective candidates will be their vision of future research directions, their standing in the field, and their ability to attract both research funding and postgraduate students. Preference may be given to applicants with experience of conducting research on large terrestrial mammals.

Closing date for applications: 03 September 2010

**For further information, contact Prof. S.W Nicolson, Head, Department of Zoology and Entomology, University of Pretoria, Pretoria 0002, South Africa, +27 12 420 3233, [swnicolson@zoology.up.ac.za](mailto:swnicolson@zoology.up.ac.za)**

## SENIOR LECTURER/LECTURER DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY AND ENTOMOLOGY AND FOREST AND AGRICULTURAL BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE (FABI)

**Recommended requirements:** A Ph.D. degree in Entomology, Zoology or a related field. Research experience in the biological control of insect pests and in population genetic techniques.

**Duties:** The incumbent would be expected to establish a research programme in ecology and biological control of insect pests of forest and fruit tree crops; to advise postgraduate students in this field and to present lectures in the Department of Zoology and Entomology.

**For further information: Please contact Prof Mike Wingfield, (012) 420-3938, [mike.wingfield@up.ac.za](mailto:mike.wingfield@up.ac.za), or Sue Nicolson, (012) 420-3233, [swnicolson@zoology.up.ac.za](mailto:swnicolson@zoology.up.ac.za). Closing Date: 20 August 2010**

## 'Adventures With Elephant - Bela Bela' needs help with research:

We have a total of twelve elephant which we use for educational interactions and safaris and would like to find out if any researchers would be interested in working with us and our elephant. Unfortunately we do not have funds for any research ourselves but are setting up a research trust fund in order to try to help fund this research. We need research done on:

- understanding more about the ability of an elephants sense of smell - their role as bio detectors!!
- understanding elephant cognition
- if elephant can smell cancer in people
- the "healing" abilities of elephant through interacting with people.
- the sensitivity of elephants feet.
- connection is between the Temporal gland and the Jacobson's organ, ear, and eye secretions
- sight capabilities (color etc)
- Communication - inter species (handler to elephant), elephant to elephant (we can research them in the stables and communicating with wild elephant), body language etc
- The Human Elephant conflict and research into possible solutions to this conflict through elephant communication.
- Anything else you would like to research!

Contact Steve Hensman (+27) (0) 78 460 2259 Email: [info@efaf.co.za](mailto:info@efaf.co.za)



## Endangered Wildlife Trust: The Kruger Western Boundary Project

The Carnivore Conservation Project is running a project in the Western Boundary of the Kruger National Park. Photos are collected from reserves and wildlife ranches to learn more about the movements of Wild Dogs and Cheetahs west of the Kruger National Park.

'Cheetah movement does not seem to be as wide ranging as Wild Dogs. In reviewing home range sizes and movement of Cheetahs studied in Kruger it can be expected that they are moving across areas covering the entire Sabi Sands. This has been confirmed by photographs obtained by rangers and lodges within the reserve where a particular male referred to as "Tuesday" has been observed over the entire reserve covering an area of approximately 200km<sup>2</sup>. The photos being collected are proving to be invaluable in terms of completing the Wild Dog and Cheetah databases from within the KNP and developing full identification profiles for both species.

Have you seen Cheetahs or Wild Dogs and do you have any photos of them from the Western Boundary of the Kruger National Park? Please contribute to the study by: e-mail [census@ewt.org.za](mailto:census@ewt.org.za) or phone Grant Beverley: 083-225-6214 or Jess Watermeyer: 076-825-0624

The Western Boundary Project is sponsored by Land Rover South Africa.'

## Fencing impacts:

A review of the environmental, social and economic impacts of game and veterinary fencing in Africa with particular reference to the Great Limpopo and Kavango-Zambezi Transfrontier Conservation Areas.

Edited By Ken Ferguson and John Hanks.

Visit <http://www.wcs-ahead.org/qltfc-grants/grants.html> to download this document. Fifty-two authors have contributed to this publication (*Copies of this report are also available from Ken Ferguson: [selousgame@hotmail.com](mailto:selousgame@hotmail.com)*)

### Contents:

- Introduction
- Fences and People
- Disease Control and Fencing
- Fencing Impacts on Ecosystems and Populations
- Species specific fencing interactions
- Monitoring and planning the role of fencing in TFCAs
- Recommendations for the management of fences in TFCAs

Contact: Ken Ferguson, Fence Interface Research and Monitoring Coordinator, Research Fellow, Mammal Research Institute, University of Pretoria, PO Box 0002 Pretoria, South Africa, Cell: +27 (0)828326355 Alternative email: [kenferguson.firm@gmail.com](mailto:kenferguson.firm@gmail.com)

***Should anyone be interested to review this report for SA Journal of Wildlife Research, contact Elma Marais ([elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za))***

## Letter

*Dear Editor,*

*As a livestock farmer, I'd like to comment on the latest criticism of the SA hunting industry:*

*The monthly magazine SA Hunter/Jagter (March 2010) published an article written by me under the title 'Een bok, een skoot'. Loose ly translated this means one buck, one bullet. It should be the aim of every hunter to kill his or her quarry with a single shot. Two at the most. To do that, the hunter must be a good marksman and fit and veld-wise enough to get so close to the target that he or she can get a clear shot at a vital organ. If you can't do that, don't squeeze the trigger! Because if you do, you've got a good chance of wounding the poor animal. That's where most of the problems start.*

*Unfortunately, too many of today's recreational (biltong) hunters did not have the privilege of being mentored by someone who has respect for wild animals and who understands hunting ethics - or the unwritten laws of the great outdoors. So they arrive from the city office carrying grand rifles and scopes and wearing camouflage suits - and merrily fire away, over-excited and in too much of a hurry to think sensibly. Hunters associations and game farmers have a huge task in educating and re-educating this new breed of 'sportsman.'*

*Whether one likes the idea of hunting (or culling - what's the difference anyway?) the fact is that South Africa has huge populations of game and that the numbers have to be managed. Banning hunting or making it impossibly difficult for people to hunt will simply help to reduce the value of wildlife, forcing antelope back from private land into fewer, smaller conservation areas. In my district - which is an extensive small-stock farming region - the kudu numbers have expanded so much that they are now threatening the remaining pockets of spekboom veld in the mountain ranges. They also compete with livestock for browse and grazing. Thus, we have no choice but to get in hunters or professional culling teams to thin them out. Animal rights groups should understand this, while hunters should do some serious self examination of their behaviour during a day in the bush.*

*Regards, Roelof Bezuidenhout ([rbezu@telkomsa.net](mailto:rbezu@telkomsa.net))*

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Thanks to the members who forwarded items for this circular. Please continue to do so by sending anything relevant you would like to share with other SAWMA members to the following email address: [elma@mweb.co.za](mailto:elma@mweb.co.za)

Warm regards until next time,

Elma Marais  
(Newsletter Editor - SAWMA)