



# 2022 REPORT

A YEAR OF IMPACT

Photo: Coenraad Berrange/ Wildlife ACT



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# Opening Remarks

Despite the ongoing challenging recovery from the pandemic, 2022 was yet another year of significant impact for Wildlife ACT. We remain resilient and through collaborative efforts with our conservation partners and local communities, this past year proved to be another successful period for endangered species conservation in both Kwa Zulu-Natal and in a wider African context.

From an operational perspective, we welcomed several new faces to our growing team and have been inspired by the passion with which they have tackled any and all challenges. Our management team continues to strengthen, with additional programmes being introduced and bolstered. Significantly, 2022 marked the official launch of the Southern Drakensberg Conservation Project, as well as an increase in uptake from the Human-Wildlife Coexistence team.

On the voluntourism front, 2022 continued to feel the impacts that the pandemic had on travel and we continue to place an immense amount of focus on increasing numbers to our various volunteer projects. We look forward to continuing to see a rise in volunteers joining our teams but we know what lies ahead is still unpredictable.

Together with our partners, we are committed to expanding our impact and reinforcing our presence in various locations across the African continent, with a keen continued focus on the KwaZulu-Natal province in South Africa. Importantly, we remain loyal and reliable partners, and will continue to improve conservation efforts where they are needed most.

To my fellow teammates, who make up our Wildlife ACT family and drive our unwavering ethic and impact, I cannot thank you enough for another year of hard work, passion and dedication. You are truly conservation heroes.

A huge thanks to the Wildlife ACT board of trustees for their continued support and guidance. A massive thanks is also owed to our incredible network of volunteers, supporters, and conservation partners. Your support is crucial for the continuation of Wildlife ACT, what we stand for and what we strive to achieve – together, our impact is significant and we look forward to the exciting chapters ahead.

**Chris Kelly**

*Conservation Director,  
Co-Founder, &  
Executive Trustee*



# Our Mission

Wildlife ACT's mission is to save African iconic and endangered species and wildlands from extinction. Our aim is to develop and implement innovative, ground based and sustainable conservation models that save our wildlife, protect our wilderness, and benefit our local communities.

Our quest is to create inspiring connections with the wilderness, giving people pragmatic ways to support and be part of effective on-the-ground conservation work. Our promise: Real, honest conservation where it's needed most.

***Through strategic partnerships, sustainable funding models and developing technology, Wildlife ACT aims to:***

Implement strategic monitoring and research to inform and enable effective conservation management of wildlife.

Understand the needs of surrounding communities, and develop innovative programs to facilitate socio-economic advancement.

Use Africa-centric, people oriented models to drive wild area expansion.



## 2022 Goals

With South Africa still declared to be in a state of disaster into 2022 in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, goals were tentatively set within the instability of an unknown future. Nevertheless, with the gradual return of international travel, and gradual economic recovery, we aimed to take lessons learnt from the pandemic and strengthen the resilience of the organisation. The conservation sector was hard hit during the pandemic, and recovery to pre-covid operational capacity became a priority. We thus set out to be intentional and purposeful in order to continue to make our conservation impact.

This included: growing the operational footprint and impact of the Human-Wildlife Coexistence Programme across KZN, increasing monitoring presence in protected areas, attracting more volunteers to the conservation projects, launching the Southern Drakensberg Conservation Project, and strengthening the Community Conservation Programme.

# OVERVIEW HIGHLIGHTS



Hours in the field:  
**28 005**



Tracking devices  
fitted:  
**88**



Social media reach:  
**3 605 593**



Kilometres driven:  
**337 849 km**



Individuals saved:  
**41**



Website hits  
**155 555**





## **OVERVIEW: TOP ACTIONS**

### ***Human-Wildlife Coexistence Programme Strengthens***

With a strong start to the new programme in 2021, the HWCP has grown from strength to strength. Critically, the first response support for Vulture poisonings and carnivore breakouts has been strengthened with both increased resources and training of respondents across key hotspots in KZN. Additionally, working with communities, landowners and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, and through the use of remote tracking and field based staff, we have expanded our knowledge and understanding of key priority species outside of Protected Areas.

These species include Leopards, Spotted Hyenas, Vultures and Elephants. Finally, in the concluding months of 2022 we made the strategic decision to break down the internal division between the Community Conservation Programme and the Human-Wildlife Coexistence Programme, and officially brought the two programmes under one umbrella to maximise our efficiency and impact outside of protected areas.

### ***Leopard Survey Captures Trends***

In a collaborative effort between Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Isimangiliso Wetland Park Authority, Panthera, and Wildlife ACT, the KwaZulu-Natal Leopard Monitoring project conducted the annual Camera trap surveys on leopard density trends. The surveys were conducted on five flagship protected areas in Northern Zululand, all in varying size and habitats, namely Ithala Game Reserve, Hluhulwe-iMfolozi Park, Tembe Elephant Park, uMkhuze Game Reserve and Eastern Shores.

This initiative seeks to implement a monitoring plan that will provide a better understanding of leopard densities and trends long term which could effectively inform the provincial state of biodiversity planning reports and conservation policy.

### ***African Wild Dog Programme Strides Ahead***

The vital conservation work done on African Wild Dog in KwaZulu-Natal in 2022 was done in partnership with the following key organisations: Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Endangered Wildlife Trust, Somkhanda Community Reserve and collaboratively guided through the Wild Dog Advisory Group and KwaZulu-Natal Wild Dog Management Group. The KwaZulu-Natal population remains a vital source population both nationally and internationally and saw 18 individuals relocated and/or introduced in 2022.





## ***Continued...***

These informed relocations are guided through the invaluable data collected by our intensive monitoring programs on our partner reserves, namely Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, Tembe Elephant Park and the Somkhanda Community Game Reserve. The monitoring effort focused on African Wild Dogs saw the teams driving a total of 51658 km and spending 4668 hours in the field, which allowed us to quickly detect and effectively respond to snaring events which saved eight individuals.

In efforts to increase safe space and improve perceptions of African Wild Dogs, both regionally and nationally; Wildlife ACT alongside our strategic partners have continued to engage and facilitate African Wild Dog relocations and knowledge with both Government and Private Reserves both within KwaZulu-Natal and Nationally in efforts to conserve this critically endangered species.

## ***Vulture Conservation Programme Soars***

Together with our partners, Wildlife ACT continued to work towards stabilising the breeding population in northern KwaZulu-Natal through the actions outlined by the Zululand Vulture Project. As members of the National Task Force, we supported the implementation of the newly developed Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP) for Vulture species.

Over 2022, Wildlife ACT has helped improve understanding on the population demographics of tree-nesting vultures in northern KZN.

Cliff-nesting vultures have also received some additional recognition this year. As active members of the Bearded Vulture Task Force, Wildlife ACT has contributed to the annual nest monitoring programme by recording observations of 10 nests, a vital element of the species' Recovery Strategy and Action Plan.





## ***OVERVIEW: HIGHLIGHTS***

### ***Launching the Southern Drakensberg Conservation Project***

Made possible through a collaboration between Wildlife ACT, the Drakensberg Conservation Initiative and Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, this project forms part of Wildlife ACT's ongoing efforts to monitor and protect endangered and priority species and to assist in effective management of protected areas. The Project involves the monitoring of nesting sites, managing and maintaining safe vulture feeding sites, conducting a long-term remote camera trapping survey in the area, responding to emergency events, and more.

### ***Contributing to Black Rhino Range Expansion***

In mid-April 2022, four Black Rhino bulls were translocated from Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife's Weenen Nature Reserve and Ithala Game Reserve to Bonamanzi Game Reserve. The relocation formed part of WWF's Black Rhino Range Expansion Project, which has successfully created 13 new Black Rhino populations in South Africa thus far. Wildlife ACT formed part of these efforts in the translocation of these individuals which included fitting each Rhino with tracking devices to ensure effective post-release monitoring on the reserve.

### ***Making CONTACT - a series profiling anti-poaching K9 Units launched***

Created by Hill's Pet Nutrition with conservation partners, including Wildlife ACT, the Making CONTACT short film series tells the personal stories of five of the dogs and their handlers. As a long term conservation partner of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Wildlife ACT has provided support in the establishment and funding of the Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park K9 Unit. Funds raised through this campaign are directed to the K9 conservation units of both SANParks and Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park.

### ***Winning Silver at the Eco-Logic Awards***

Wildlife ACT was awarded Silver in the Nature Conservation Award category at the 2022 Eco-Logic Awards. Established by Enviropaedia in 2011, the Awards identify individuals, organisations and communities that positively contribute towards a sustainable world.



# ***ENDANGERED SPECIES*** **MONITORING**

The monitoring of endangered and priority species, not only assists in the creation of sound species management strategies, it also allows for swift emergency responses and serves as a crucial barometer for the overall health of our ecosystems.

Wildlife ACT is unique in that we actively advance conservation by initiating, implementing and managing monitoring projects on reserves which do not have existing monitoring programmes in place; or by taking over existing monitoring projects on reserves that can no longer fund or manage them.

In 2022, Wildlife ACT was able to continue to monitor endangered and priority species and support conservation activities within a number of reserves and protected areas. These included: Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, Tembe Elephant Park, Manyoni Private Game Reserve, the uMkhuze Section of iSimangaliso Wetland Park, and Somkhanda Game Reserve. In addition, we have been actively expanding our monitoring efforts beyond protected areas through Vulture tracking units and community conservation monitors. We also began our Southern Drakensberg Conservation Project to spearhead Vulture conservation efforts in the Maloti-Drakensberg mountain range and surrounds.

Furthermore, Wildlife ACT continued its support to North Island in the Seychelles through its Noah's Ark Project, an initiative that aims to restore the island and its habitats to their natural states, allowing recovery of the endemic fauna and flora.



# African Wild Dog

African Wild Dog were once found in great numbers throughout most of Sub-Saharan Africa. Today, just 6600 individuals are found on the continent, making Southern Africa's most endangered carnivore.

Working closely with partners such as Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife and the Endangered Wildlife Trust, Wildlife ACT is a key member of both the Wild Dog Advisory Group of South Africa and the KwaZulu-Natal Wild Dog Management Group.

On the ground, Wildlife ACT works tirelessly to provide high-quality daily monitoring of African Wild Dogs across KwaZulu-Natal, as well as emergency response, capture and relocation assistance and community education and awareness.

**Threats to African Wild Dogs include:** habitat loss, disease, persecution, illegal hunting, and poaching.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** monitoring, the application and use of field-tested technology, the fitting of GPS tracking equipment, informing adaptive management, emergency responses, and enhancing awareness.



Photo: Kayleigh Webber / Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**20**

TRACKING  
COLLARS FITTED



**18**

INDIVIDUALS  
RELOCATED



**8**

SNARES  
REMOVED



**24**

INDIVIDUALS  
SAVED



# Cheetah

Cheetah are the fastest mammals on land, being able to reach speeds of 120km/h over short distances, using their tails to steer like the rudder of a boat when in pursuit of prey. Cheetah can be found throughout Africa and while favouring open plains and grasslands that allow them to run unhindered, they are able to adapt to more vegetated habitats such as thickets.

Cheetah are classified as Vulnerable in South Africa, with only an estimated 7000 adults remaining in the wild, and fewer than 1 300 left in South Africa. Over the past 20 years, the global Cheetah population has decreased by 30% and Cheetah have disappeared from more than 75% of their historic range in Africa.

**Threats to Cheetah include:** habitat loss, persecution, competition, and low cub survival rates.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** attending to snarings, the fitting of GPS tracking devices, monitoring, and data capturing.



Photo: Coenraad Berrange/ Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**4**

TRACKING  
COLLARS FITTED



**8**

INDIVIDUALS  
RELOCATED



**4**

INTERVENTIONS



**3**

MEETINGS  
ATTENDED

# Vultures

Vultures are nature's cleanup crew, scavenging and disposing of animal remains that could otherwise become breeding grounds for disease. By swiftly recycling organic matter, Vultures help prevent the spread of illnesses that could affect both humans and animals.

Despite their importance, Vulture numbers across Africa are in rapid decline and their range numbers have decreased by up to 70%. Of the six Vulture species that occur in South Africa, all are either Vulnerable, Endangered, or Critically Endangered.

**Threats to Vultures include:** pesticide poisoning, habitat transformation, lead and pharmaceutical poisoning, belief-based use of Vulture parts, and electrocution.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** responding to emergency events, the fitting of GPS tracking equipment, monitoring, wingtagging, breeding population tracking, enhancing awareness and advocacy, lead exposure reduction campaigning, safe feeding site management, and poison crime evidence collection.



Photo: Anel Olivier/ Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



7

GPS TRACKING  
UNITS FITTED



9

WING TAGS  
FITTED



6

POISON SITES  
DECONTAMINATED



25

RESPONSE  
EVENTS



# Rhino

KwaZulu-Natal has one of the most important populations of both Black and White Rhino, with White Rhino populations regionally originating from Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park. These populations are still utilised as source populations when establishing new Rhino reserves in Southern Africa.

It is therefore crucial that these Rhino continue to be protected, stabilising the populations at a time when poaching for their horn is at excessive levels. Wildlife ACT's focus remains on several key populations, with a specific focus on Hluhluwe iMfolozi Park.

**Threats to Rhino include:** poaching and fragmentation, and habitat loss.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** technology, support of the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park K9 Unit, the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park Fence Project, veterinary support, dehorning, awareness and education, and sharing our expertise and resources.



Photo: Coenraad Berrange/ Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**24**

TRACKING  
DEVICES FITTED



**17**

DEHORNING



**10**

NOTCHED



**14**

RELOCATED

# Lion

Lions are the second largest feline predator in the world, weighing up to 200 kilograms. They were once found across most of Africa, Southwest Asia, Middle East, and South East Europe. According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Lions persist in only 8% of their historic range and now only occur in much smaller, isolated populations in most sub-Saharan African countries and there is also a small population in India. The most dramatic decline has occurred in the past two decades, and as a result, they are now considered extinct in 27 countries.

**Threats to Lion include:** habitat loss and fragmentation, incidental snaring, the subsequent harvesting of body parts for trade, unsustainable trophy hunting, conflict with local people due to the real or perceived threat that Lions pose to livestock and people, and the illegal trade in bush meat.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** attending to snarings, the fitting of VHF/GPS tracking devices, the relocation or retrieving of escaped animals, monitoring, data capturing, and raising awareness.



Photo: Coenraad Berrange/ Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**23**

COLLARS  
FITTED



**1**

SNARES  
REMOVED



**8**

INDIVIDUALS  
SAVED



**11**

RELOCATED



# Elephant

The African Elephant belongs to the Elephantidae family and is the largest terrestrial mammal. There are two distinct subspecies of African elephant – Savanna elephants and the smaller Forest elephants. Both subspecies are in rapid decline, with Savanna elephants only occupying approximately 15% of their historic range and the populations are becoming increasingly isolated and fragmented spatially. There are approximately less than 416 000 African elephants (including both Savanna and Forest populations) and can be found in 24 African countries.

**Threats to Elephant include:** poaching to supply the illegal ivory trade, illegal hunting, climate change and habitat loss Human-Elephant conflict and the subsequent persecution from both the perceived and real threat to human life or human crops.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** providing accurate data for sound management, assisting with developing individual elephant identikits for management purposes, assisting with the reintroduction and post release-monitoring of elephants to new, protected areas, and assisting with emergency events.



Photo: Coenraad Berrange/ Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**234**  
VISUAL  
OBSERVATIONS



**1**  
SNARES  
REMOVED



**1**  
INDIVIDUALS  
SAVED



**2**  
INTERVENTIONS

# Leopard

Wildlife ACT, through a collaborative partnership with Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, Isimangiliso Wetland Park Authority and Panthera, continues to carry out the KZN Leopard Monitoring Project. Through this partnership we have been able to carry out population density surveys within the province over the last 9 years.

The KZN leopard monitoring project initiative has sought to better understand leopard densities and trends through conducting annual short term remote camera trapping surveys across different provincial protected areas . The robust data provided by these surveys has enabled growing insight into how to effectively manage the species to improve Leopard Conservation.

**Threats to Leopard include:** human-Leopard conflict, indiscriminate hunting, sought-after skins.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** influencing policy, data collection, monitoring, and assisting in informing adaptive management.



Photo: Chris du Toit / Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**1**

COLLARS  
FITTED



**1044**

CAMERA TRAP  
OBSERVATIONS



**1**

INDIVIDUALS  
SAVED



**1**

RELOCATED



# Hyaena

Both Spotted Hyaena and Brown Hyaena are species well known across southern Africa, but despite this, population density estimates, conservation status, and demographic and genetic understanding are very poor.

As an iconic and important species in the KwaZulu-Natal landscape, Spotted Hyaenas have become an official priority for Wildlife ACT, with renewed focus and attention being put on them. As part of this, we support ongoing efforts to better understand the species space use, population connectivity, demographics and conservation threats across the landscape.

**Threats to Hyaena include:** retaliation killings, poorly regulated trophy hunting and incidental snaring.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** research, monitoring and mitigation strategies.



Photo: Megan Whittington / Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**7**

COLLARS  
DEPLOYED



**1**

CAMERA TRAP  
SURVEYS  
IMPLEMENTED



**1**

RESEARCH  
PROJECTS  
SUPPORTING



**115**

MAN HOURS

# Southern Ground Hornbill

Although the Southern Ground Hornbill is listed as Vulnerable across their range, in South Africa they have already been listed as Endangered, with only around 1500 individuals left in the wild. These birds are long lived and slow breeders with the monogamous pair breeding every second year. Although two eggs are laid by the female in their cavity nests, typically only a single chick is reared to adulthood.

Being cooperative breeders, the dominant adult male will have a group of helpers, typically male offspring who will assist with bringing food back to the nest for the female and chick. The chick will leave the nest and start foraging with the adults after around 86 days.

**Threats to Southern Ground Hornbills include:** habitat loss and destruction, persecution, and the traditional medicine trade.

**Strategies implemented by Wildlife ACT and partners include:** the fitting of GPS tracking equipment, monitoring, wing tagging, breeding population tracking.



Photo: Chris du Toit / Wildlife ACT

## 2022 STATISTICS



**3**

GPS BACKPACKS  
FITTED



**2**

WING TAGS  
FITTED



**38**

VISUAL  
OBSERVATIONS



**42**

MAN HOURS



# ***WILDLIFE ACT'S*** **VOLUNTEER MODEL**

Wildlife ACT has been able to provide sustained, free professional wildlife monitoring services to more than ten protected areas in Zululand for over twelve years through our conservation volunteering model.

From the outset Wildlife ACT established a tour operating company which developed a number of "voluntourism"-based models to allow people to support and contribute to important conservation efforts across the continent through their active participation.

Wildlife ACT volunteers contributed to endangered species conservation and ecology efforts on the following reserves: Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park, Tembe Elephant Park, Manyoni Private Game Reserve; as well as in the Southern Drakensberg and on North Island in the Seychelles.

While 2022 continued to bear the knock-on effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, we remain positive and look forward to continuing to welcome conservation enthusiasts from around the world to make a positive impact.

**331**

Volunteers

**3 667**

Priority species sightings

**13 971**

Hours in the field

**166 985**

KMs driven





# A WORD FROM OUR VOLUNTEER PROJECTS



## TEMBE

2022 was a productive and successful year for the Tembe Project. With the assistance of the IUCN SOS Rapid Action Grant, the team managed to collar numerous individuals, allowing the team to monitor these individuals more effectively and provided the Reserve Management a better understanding of these populations. Later in the year, the Tembe Wildlife ACT team excitedly welcomed the first volunteers back to the project after over a two years absence due to Covid-19. - **Kayleigh Webber, Node Manager**



## MANYONI

In 2022, we started welcoming volunteers back on to Manyoni and with this, the two monitor system was reinstated with two new monitors coming on board and the full-time monitoring of all the priority species on Manyoni commencing again. We are very excited to be back up and running to full capacity following the pandemic and look forward to welcoming many new and returning volunteers. - **Danielle Theron, Node Manager**



## HLUHLUWE

In 2022, the Hluhluwe Project saw a good deal of variation as they alternated between Conservation Training Courses and General Wildlife Volunteering. The team rose to the challenge and at the same time kept up with the daily hilly Hluhluwe monitoring of a successfully denning African Wild Dog pack and the exciting dynamics of the rest of the priority species too. - **Megan Hudson, Node Manager**





## **IMFOLOZI**

2022 was a great year for the iMfolozi project, a fresh pair of monitors started on the ground and hit it running. Chris du Toit and Gareth Robinson carried their duties out with passion – the flourishing animal populations and dynamics keeping them busy with highest cheetah numbers yet and a successful denning year for the African Wild Dogs, bringing the pack to 16 strong at the end of 2022. Maintaining close to 90% volunteer occupancy almost all year round, the iMfolozi Project continues to impress.

**- Megan Hudson, Node Manager**



## **SOUTHERN DRAKENSBERG**

2022 was a great year of growth for this project. Finally starting to recover after the impacts of Covid-19, a new Monitoring and Management group was introduced and the project officially opened up to volunteers. With this newfound growth, we expanded our camera trapping efforts in the region to help with biodiversity monitoring and increased our Bearded Vulture and Cape Vulture monitoring efforts with nest monitoring and supplementary Vulture Safe Feeding Site Support.

**- Phillip Swart, Node Manager**



## **SEYCHELLES**

It has been such a privilege to contribute towards returning the Eco-tourist programme to its' former glory while learning and experiencing everything the incredibly beautiful and unique natural world that Seychelles has to offer. I have already met some truly inspirational and enthusiastic eco-tourists and shared many beautiful sunsets on the beach watching baby turtles entering the sea for the first time.

**- Kaeleah Andrew, Conservation Coordinator**



# COMMUNITY CONSERVATION PROGRAMME

South Africa, like many countries across the continent, has a rapidly growing population characterised by a significant gap between the wealthy and the poor resulting in a great need for social development initiatives and inclusive economic growth. A large proportion of the population lives in rural areas, heavily reliant on nature to provide the most basic needs like food and water. This connection with nature comes at a risk.

As unsustainable land-use practices and climate change degrade the landscape, the environment's ability to provide natural resources deteriorates. The role of nature reserves and protected ecosystems is therefore crucial for the mitigation of these negative impacts to ensure that people who are entirely reliant on natural resources for survival can continue to thrive. These protected areas also have the ability to provide economic opportunities to the people living alongside them.

It is at this interface between people and protected areas that Wildlife ACT's Community Conservation Programme operates. Many of the people living adjacent to South Africa's protected areas have only a view across the fence, seeing wildlife in a negative light as competition for the same resources, and out of their reach. Wildlife, viewed as a source of food, is legally inaccessible with its harvest often resulting in arrest.

It is critical to change these perceptions by providing opportunities for such individuals to engage with wildlife and conservation, building an understanding and a deeper connection between people and nature. Wildlife ACT works to encourage participation in, and strengthen peoples' understanding of, the conservation sector, showcasing the value of nature and highlighting economic opportunities in the sector.



Photo: Casey Pratt / Love Africa Marketing

**90**

Community  
club members

**1056**

Man  
hours

**362**

Pupils  
engaged

**354**

Community  
members  
engaged

**9**

Schools  
worked with



# CONSERVATION TRAINING COURSE

Wildlife ACT's unique 28 day long Endangered and Priority Species Conservation and Habitat Management Course was launched in 2019, designed for those seeking practical, hands-on training, underpinned by course material carefully developed by our expert team.

The course modules include, Wildlife Monitoring, Camera Trapping, Track and Sign, Conservation and Habitat Management, Capture and Relocation, Wildlife Crime & Illegal Trade and Community Conservation. Since its inception, Wildlife ACT has proudly welcomed 33 students to our Conservation Training Course.

"The Wildlife ACT Conservation Training Course has made some incredible momentum over the past year, 2022 saw five groups of eager students excel through the course and its hands-on activities! The students assisted Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Parks' Ecological Advice Research team in a variety of activities from walking game count transects throughout the reserve, to habitat restoration and elephant impact deterrents, and sourcing sites and erecting camera trap surveys.

"They embarked on several bushwalks to enhance their knowledge of the surroundings in the natural environment and engaged in many discussions with our local Community Conservation Programme (CCP) manager and interns, increasing their awareness and understanding from those surrounding the park."

**- Megan Hudson, Conservation Course & Training Manager**



# FUNDRAISING HIGHLIGHTS

## ***SOS GRANT FOR WILDLIFE ACT'S TEMBE PROJECT***

As of 2022, Tembe Elephant Park's Threatened Species and Community Conservation Project is now supported by IUCN Save Our Species and co-funded by the European Union (EU). Wildlife ACT and Ezemvelo are fortunate that Tembe Elephant Park's endangered species conservation effort has received this grant, which has allowed us to continue vital monitoring and conservation efforts on Tembe and further support and strengthen the priority species work, including Lion, African Wild Dog, African Elephant and Black Rhino.



## ***RHINO PEAK CHALLENGE BREAKS RECORDS***

The exceptional 2022 Rhino Peak Challenge Ambassadors raised a combined total of over R1.3 million and we would like to thank each and every sponsor and donor for making the record-breaking amount raised possible. A special word of thanks goes to 2022's top fundraiser - long-time Wildlife ACT supporter, Patrick Rüegg, who raised over R230 000 with the help of fellow Wildlife ACT supporter, Brandie Wettstein.



## ***TEAM WILDLIFE ACT FAMILY RAISES FUNDS TACKLES THE GLOBAL RUN***

Wildlife ACT supporters from around the world gathered to support the Global Run portion of the Rhino Peak Challenge and raised over R27 000 for endangered species. Many thanks to Wildlife ACT volunteer, Jackie Scott, for driving this fundraiser to support Rhino and Vulture conservation.

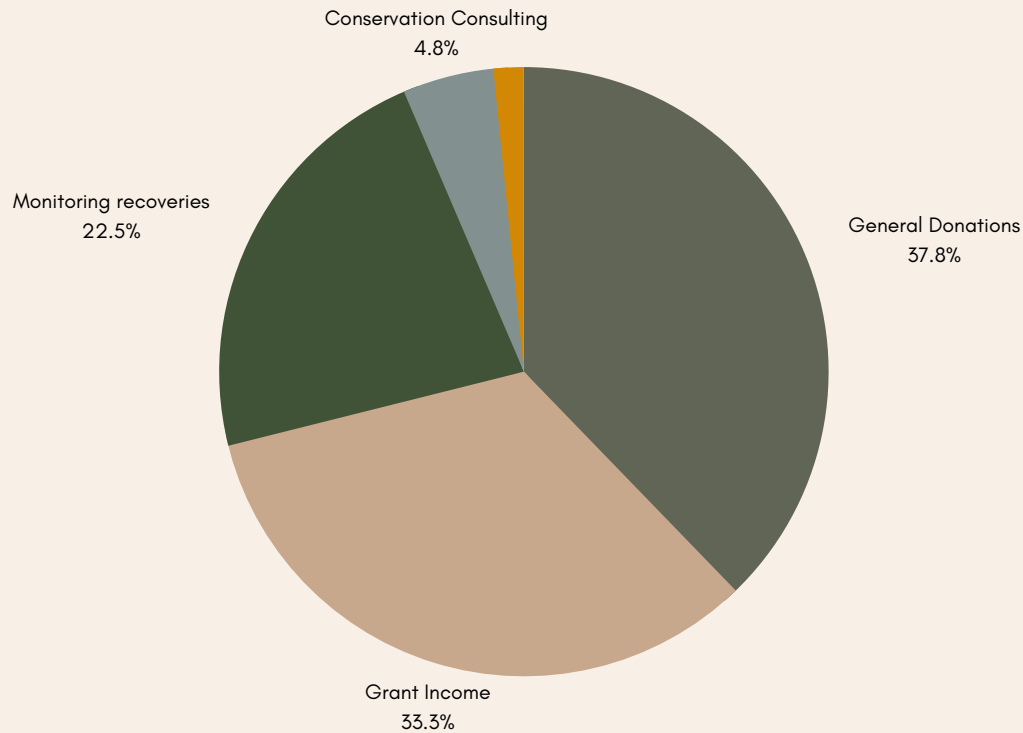




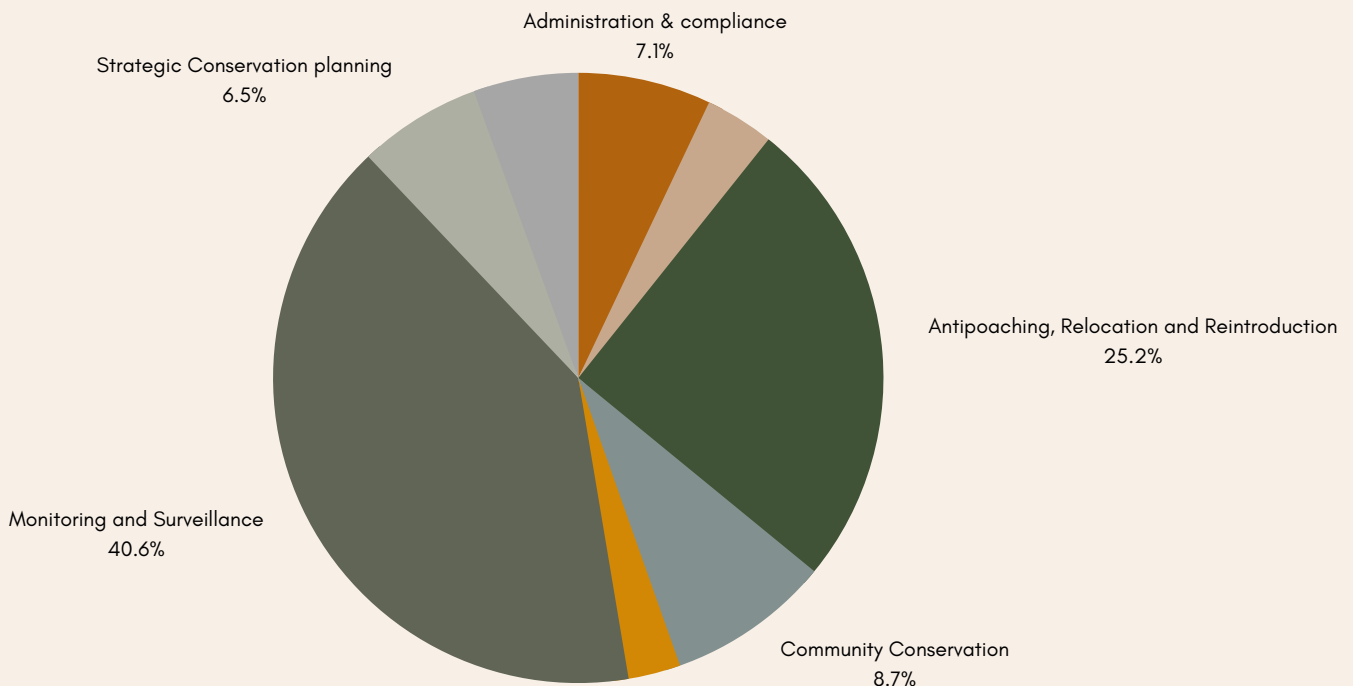
# FINANCIAL REPORT

***Wildlife ACT received income of R11 601 616.00 for the 2022/2023 Financial Year, and spent a total of R11 738 918.00***

## INCOME BREAKDOWN



## EXPENDITURE BREAKDOWN



# IN THE PRESS



**KZN Anti-poaching dogs receive dental treatment to maintain their crucial scenting ability**

IOL.co.za



**Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park's wild dogs get collared**

Zululand Observer



**Pack of endangered African wild dogs released in KZN reserve**

Times Live



**Four black rhino translocated successfully in KwaZulu-Natal**

Getaway Magazine



**When illegal wildlife trade meets muthi, vultures teeter on the brink of extinction - conservationists**

Daily Maverick



**Bull run: South Africa marks latest rhino relocation to boost populations**

Mongabay



**Rhino Peak Challenge coming in September**

The Green Times



**Vultures are vital to the food chain**

Zululand Observer



**Beheadings and poisoning of dozens of vultures in KZN points to 'good luck' traditional muthi dealers**

Daily Maverick



# WHO WE WORK WITH

**Wildlife ACT has partnered, and is associated, with a number of organisations across the globe. These organisations fully endorse our vision and efforts to protect and sustain the priority and endangered species that we work with.**

The support and guidance we receive is invaluable and we are extremely grateful. We wouldn't be able to do what we do without the following exceptional organisations:



# A WORD OF THANKS

**Wildlife ACT relies on public support, sponsorships, and grants to carry out its crucial conservation work. Without this support, our impact would be significantly limited and we are dedicated to maintaining the vital relationships fostered between our various programmes and their sponsors.**

A heartfelt thank you goes out to the following organisations for supporting Wildlife ACT and its partners in our conservation and community efforts:



**DRY CREEK FOUNDATION**



Transforming Lives



**INDIAN OCEAN TERMINALS**





# WITH MANY THANKS TO OUR SUPPORTERS

***We would like to extend our sincerest gratitude to every volunteer, donor, partner, WhatsApp group member, and supporter for your contributions in 2022. What we do would certainly not be possible without you.***

*Thank you to the following individuals for your support in 2022:*

Alastair Stalker	Gerald Broadbent	Out and About Travel (Pty) Ltd
Anne Brown	GivenGain Donors	Patrick Ruegg
Anne Thomas	Globex Financial Services	Protank (Pty) Ltd
Annette Glover	Hannelie van Zyl	Rebecca Longmire
Atlantic Beach	Hillcrest Primary School	Ryan Shillaw
Homeowners Association	Hill's Pet Nutrition South Africa (Pty) Ltd	Save The Rhino International
Aurex Constructors	Idea Wild	Scott Christensen
Benevity Donors	Integrity Software	Shelly Perkins
Blue Sky Society Trust	Involv Africa (Pty) Ltd	ShipMed Inc
Brandie Wettstein	Jackie Scott	Sinov8 Software Solutions
Brigitta Best	J&J Timber Supplies	Sudie Rakusin
Butt Farming	Kyle Abbott	Sue Fox
Christy Richards	Lauren Robinson	Sunbird
De Neushoornstichting	Lizzie Hide	S. Dresner
Deborah High	Lost Boy Wines	Tim Suttorp
Edward Morley	Lucy Chimes	The Mowat Family
Emma-Jane Barker-Goldie	Marinus Jens	The Shooting Guys
Explore More Creative Collective ta	Michaelhouse High School	UK Online Giving Foundation
Womxn For Wild	Nick Romeril	Vera Kirchgaessner
Florian Schuster	Nicole Laine	Wedgewood Nougat (Pty) Ltd
Francene & John McCabe	Nigel and Sally Ritson	Wildlife ACT Family Team Members
	Oceans 8 Charity Swim	Wildlife Conservation Network
		Yvonne Havenga



Photo: Casey Pratt / Love Africa Marketing

# MAKE A DIFFERENCE

*First and foremost, Wildlife ACT exists to save our endangered wildlife and wild places from extinction, and are working tirelessly 365 days a year to achieve this goal. Integral to this, is establishing new protected areas for conservation throughout Africa in the face of rapid urbanisation.*

*Achieving this requires the ongoing challenge of recruiting volunteers and raising much-needed funds and awareness on a global scale. We stretch every cent to make sure it is utilised in meaningful conservation operations.*

## HOW CAN YOU HELP?

### 1.VOLUNTEER

Our participants get to experience authentic conservation efforts associated with endangered and priority wildlife species, such as African Wild Dogs, Rhinos, Cheetahs, Vultures and Turtles, while at the same time gaining a deeper understanding of global environmental issues and their own roles in helping to address them.



### 2.DONATE

From the purchasing of monitoring and lifesaving equipment, to the relocation of endangered species and the educating of local communities, every cent helps us in our fight to save these priority species.

**Please consider donating to Wildlife ACT:**

Account Name: **Wildlife ACT Fund Trust**

Bank Name: **First National Bank (a division of First Rand Bank Limited)**

Account No: **62292413665**

Branch / Sort Code: **201511**

SWIFT Code / BIC: **FIRNZAJJ or FIRNZAJJXXX**

Bank Head Office Address: **FNB Bank City, Simmonds Street, Johannesburg, 2000**

Donate to GivenGain [here](https://www.givengain.com/c/wildlife):  
[www.givengain.com/c/wildlife](https://www.givengain.com/c/wildlife)





### 3.SPONSOR

Our on-the-ground team requires vital equipment to carry out the daily duties of monitoring endangered and priority species of wildlife. The sponsorship of items such as camera traps, battery packs, GPS devices, and tools is always incredibly appreciated. We need as much assistance as possible to make a valuable impact.



### 4.ENGAGE

Wildlife ACT strives to spread awareness and we'd appreciate your support in making this happen. Please spread the word about what we do with family and friends and encourage conservation enthusiasts in your communities to come and join us as volunteers.



***Please visit our social media platforms, read our blogs and spread the word about what we do at Wildlife ACT!***



@WildlifeACT



@wildlife\_act



@wildlifeact



@wildlife-act



@wildlifeACT

## LOOKING AHEAD

*Wildlife ACT strives to continue to be a source for real and practical change within the field of wildlife conservation. We have placed an emphasis on nurturing our strong existing team members, partnerships, and relationships and look forward to focusing on positive messaging aimed at strengthening conservation efforts. We hope to expand our efforts further and continue to provide monitoring services to protected areas.*

***We look very much forward to welcoming new and returning volunteers to the projects to make a collective impact.***





**THANK YOU FOR  
YOUR CONTINUED  
SUPPORT.**

