



# ANNUAL REPORT

Year end 2021 and 2022



This annual report covers the period 1 March 2020 to 28 February 2021 and 1 March 2021 to 28 February 2022 and has been prepared in accordance with the International Integrated Reporting Framework.

Front cover photo courtesy of Hoedspruit Elephant Rehabilitation & Development (HERD)  
Top photo courtesy of Hoedspruit Endangered Species Centre (HESC)

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# A MESSAGE FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT) has again provided substantial support to its beneficiaries in favour of the preservation of rare, vulnerable or endangered species. The extent to which the WCT has provided support to HESC and HERD to conduct programmes is detailed in the Annual Financial Statements.

01 MARCH 2020 - 28 FEBRUARY 2021:

During this period, tourism all but came to a halt, in our country and in the rest of the world. Domestic and international travel restrictions to combat the spread of the deadly Coronavirus resulted in thousands of jobs being lost as companies retrenched employees and closed their doors.

Innovative solutions were required to offset the loss of income that followed in the wake of the worldwide economic slump. Focused fundraising conducted online through social media and by participating in crowdfunding initiatives, provided the answer and yielded excellent results. Our fear that donations from individuals and corporates to a cause such as ours would cease, proved unfounded.

However, the substantial loss of income, financial burden of testing animals for Bovine TB and the restraints experienced because animals could not be released or sold under the TB quarantine regulations took its toll, particularly on HESC. The Centre was placed in business rescue and the tourism component temporarily halted.

Fundraising events and community educational visits could not take place as in past years.

Despite the decrease in the number of tourists and resultant loss of income, both HESC and HERD continued with their conservation and rehabilitation activities and cared for the animals in their care round the clock. Highlights of the period between March 2020 and February 2021 were the successful rehabilitation of the orphaned elephant Khanyisa and the release of the three rhinos Stompie, Balu and Nhlanhla back into the wild – events that captured the hearts and minds of conservation enthusiasts throughout the world.

01 MARCH 2021 - 28 FEBRUARY 2022:

The period between 1 March 2021 and 28 February 2022 saw a slow and steady recovery from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and a gradual return to travel. HESC continued with fundraising efforts, and business rescue was providing much-needed reprieve. The arrival of baby giraffe Shuri and the recording of her recovery, growth and development was a firm favourite among the many social media followers who regularly checked in to see her progress and donated towards her care.

Fundraising efforts for HERD also continued during this period and it was decided that they would form their own trust, the HERD Trust, which came into effect at the end of June, when the split from WCT was finalised on the 24th of June 2021.



# ABOUT THE TRUST

The Wildlife Conservation Trust (WCT) was established on 27 February 2015 to source funding and facilitate the financing and implementation of approved projects of HESC and since 2019 also of the Hoedspruit Elephant Rehabilitation Development (HERD) Trust. The deed of trust determines the following:

- The sole objective of the trust is to conduct one or more public benefit activities as defined in section 30(1) of the Income Tax Act, 1962, in a non-profit manner and with an altruistic or philanthropic intent;
- All the activities and resources shall be exclusively applied for the furtherance of the objectives of the trust and;
- No funds will be distributed, directly or indirectly, to any person (other than in the course of undertaking any public benefit activity);
- On dissolution of the trust, the remaining assets will be transferred to any public benefit organisation with one or more similar objectives as those of the Wildlife Conservation Trust.

## CORE VALUES

Core values on wildlife and conservation have remained the cornerstone of all WCT dealings.

- It is every individual's responsibility to help protect South Africa's wildlife for future generations.
- It is imperative to support public/private relationships to ensure the success of conservation efforts.
- The WCT has a zero-tolerance policy for any illegal activities relating to the trade or sale of wildlife, or parts thereof.

## MISSION

To assist in the preservation of rare, vulnerable or endangered animal species, and to provide assistance to those who have the capacity, knowledge and experience to fulfil an active and sustained role in the broader realm of conservation.

## VISION

To make a sustainable difference to vulnerable animals, specifically those under threat of extinction. To be a partner to those whose work is fundamental to conservation, but who are restricted by lack of money.

## OBJECTIVES

- Engaging in sustainable activities relating to conservation, rehabilitation and the protection of wildlife;
- Facilitating the care of animals in need, as well as the prevention of ill-treatment;
- Engaging in education and training programmes relating to environmental awareness;
- Working on projects that focus on educational enrichment, academic support, supplementary tuition or outreach programmes for the poor and needy;
- Facilitating training for unemployed persons with the purpose of enabling them to find work that is meaningful and sustainable;
- Assisting with the provision of school buildings or equipment for public schools and educational institutions engaged in public benefit activities.

## FUNDING

The WCT is dependent on donations and sponsorships to maintain the various approved projects of its beneficiaries and also conducts fund-raising initiatives and events, when possible, and the sourcing of corporate sponsorship and partnerships.

Previous and ongoing projects supported and funded by the WCT include:

- Rehabilitation of orphaned and injured rhinos and elephants at HESC and HERD;
- Anti-poaching initiatives on the Kapama Private Game Reserve;
- Contributions towards the Greater Kruger Environmental Protection Forum;
- Installation of a 24-strand 7 900-volt electric fence and motion detectors;
- Appointment of trained security guards;
- Provision and training of anti-poaching dogs;
- The sinking of a borehole and planning for the construction of a reservoir to ensure adequate provision of water; and
- Monthly contributions to the variable costs as listed in the Financial Statements.

# BENEFICIARIES

The WCT supported approved conservation programmes of the following entities:

## HOEDSPRUIT ENDANGERED SPECIES CENTRE (HESC)



The WCT provided funding to HESC as an important role player in the conservation of cheetahs and the rehabilitation of various species, particularly white rhinos.

HESC contributes to the conservation of endangered species by:

- Releasing and establishing captive-bred cheetahs in the wild to contribute to the conservation of the metapopulation species; and by participating in the Endangered Wildlife Trust's Southern African Cheetah metapopulation project,
- Treating, rehabilitating and releasing injured and orphaned rhinos brought to the Centre after poaching incidents;
- Educating learners, students and the general public in conservation and the role of predators, in sustaining ecosystems;
- Conducting eco-tourism by maintaining a limited collection of species for display purposes to generate funds to sustain the activities and conservation programmes of HESC;
- Providing opportunities for focused research that benefits the survival of endangered and other wildlife species; and
- Providing a safe alternative for animals that caused damage on commercial farms, with a view to re-introducing them to suitable conservation areas.

## HOEDSPRUIT ELEPHANT REHABILITATION & DEVELOPMENT (HERD)

(MARCH 2020 - JUNE 2021)



The WCT contributed to the conservation programmes of HERD, established in 2019 to provide a safe haven for orphaned and displaced elephants in Southern Africa. The orphanage is located at the Jabulani Safari premises on the Kapama Private Game Reserve.

The need to establish such a facility followed an upsurge in elephant poaching in Southern Africa and the simultaneous increase in the number of baby elephants (elephant calves) needing a place of safety to be rehabilitated and integrated with a new elephant herd.

## JABULANI ELEPHANT CARE CRISIS FUND (MARCH 2020 - FEBRUARY 2021)



The WCT subsidised the Jabulani Elephant Care Crisis Fund, initiated in 2020 to source funding for the Jabulani herd and carers in the wake of domestic and international travel restrictions following the Coronavirus pandemic.

Because the travel restrictions had halted all tourism activities and prevented guests from visiting Jabulani Safaris, this source of funding had dried up. Guests had in the past contributed significantly to the cost of caring for the elephants, their food, veterinary care, maintenance of stables, salaries for the animal carers and anti-poaching initiatives.

## VET BOOKS FOR AFRICA (MARCH 2020 - FEBRUARY 2021)



The WCT provided funding to Vet Books for Africa, the student-run conservation and educational initiative established in 1993 to distribute academic material and equipment to empower faculties of Veterinary Science at universities in other African countries and to provide aid and volunteering services at various veterinary clinics and conservation sanctuaries.

Vetbooks strives to promote education and conservation through actions and to unite veterinary students of Africa in order to achieve the ultimate goal of preserving this world for future generations.

# HIGHLIGHTS - A YEAR IN REVIEW

1 MARCH 2020 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2021



**MARCH 2020:** Orphaned elephant Khanyisa begins her integration into the Jabulani herd

Khanyisa was the first orphaned elephant successfully rehabilitated at the dedicated elephant orphanage established by HERD in 2019.



**OCTOBER & DECEMBER 2020:** Release of three rehabilitated rhinos; Stompie, Balu and Nhlanhla; back into the wild

Three rhinos were released back into nature as triumphant survivors of poaching and were a testimony to the dedicated and passionate conservation work conducted at HESC. Stompie and Balu were released in October 2020 and Nhlanhla, in December 2020.



**DECEMBER 2020 TO FEBRUARY 2021:** The Vet Books for Africa team journeyed into Africa

While the Vetbooks Expedition into Africa was shortened due to travel restrictions resulting from the COVID-19 Pandemic, valuable support was provided to Southern African Veterinary Faculties and contacts made in Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Kenya and Uganda.



**FEBRUARY 2021:** Arrival of orphaned elephant Fenya at HERD

Fenya was found in February 2021, abandoned and ensnared in a poacher's trap on a private game reserve in Limpopo. Various treatments followed, but she unfortunately succumbed to her injuries within a month of her arrival at HERD.



# HIGHLIGHTS - A YEAR IN REVIEW

1 MARCH 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022



## APRIL 2021: Mrs Mud

HESC received Mrs Mud, a Southern Ground Hornbill, during April 2021 - and introduced her to Gumpy. At first, the introduction went well and Gumpy brought her many gifts. Regrettably, Mrs Mud passed away on the 21st of May 2021. Her cause of death was unknown.



## APRIL 2021: Baby Civet

A baby civet became a new addition to the HESC rescue animals in April 2021. From the beginning it didn't appear to have much energy and on the 2nd of May it was placed on a drip as an attempt to restore its strength. Unfortunately the Civet passed away on the 12th of May.



## MAY 2021: Arrival of wild dogs

On the 19th of May HESC received 8 wild dogs which were placed in quarantine for the necessary period until TB tests had been conducted. These tests came back negative on the 1st of June and on the 4th of June, the dogs were moved to the big wild dog enclosure. This was once again an opportunity to create awareness around one of the most threatened predators in Africa. Regular visuals are shared on social media to show their colourful and irregular markings that are unique to each animal.



# HIGHLIGHTS - A YEAR IN REVIEW

1 MARCH 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022



## JULY 2021: Philipina gives birth to cubs

Phillipina, one of HESC's precious King Cheetahs, gave birth to 6 cubs on the 28th of June. Sadly, one cub died two days later. HESC will be raising the little cubs until old enough to be rewilded, at age 3 to 4 years. DNA tests were done on the 1st of February 2022 - a common practise across all conservation institutions to ensure that when the time comes to release cheetahs into a specific area, the right cheetahs are selected. This is done to prevent inbreeding and ensure the longevity of the cheetah metapopulation in that area.



## AUGUST 2021: Baby giraffe Shuri is brought to HESC for care and rehabilitation.

HESC was contacted and asked to assist with a three-day old giraffe, who was found weak and severely dehydrated on a reserve in the near vicinity on the 30th of August. The little giraffe was placed in quarantine as a routine procedure until TB tests had been done. These tests were completed on the 5th of November and came back negative 3 days later. Shuri, as she was named, was then moved to the Boma where she met resident rhino Esmé. The raising and rehabilitation of this little giraffe was a first for HESC.



Taking care of a baby animal whose health is compromised is not an easy task, but it is a passion, as well as a responsibility which HESC is happy to carry. Shuri was fed with special milk powder recommended by the wildlife vet to make sure that she gets all the nutrients she needs and 3 months later, Shuri was introduced to eating leaves and drinking water.

# HIGHLIGHTS - A YEAR IN REVIEW

1 MARCH 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022



## SEPTEMBER 2021: Dehorning of Esmé

Esmé, one of the female rhinos at HESC, was dehorned during September. Dehorning is a necessary procedure and takes place regularly, as rhino horns, like human nails, grow back again. Dehorning serves as a deterrent against poachers. The procedure took around 45 minutes and involved Esmé being darted and sedated, her horns sawn down to stumps, the edges smoothed with a grinder, and the remaining stumps oiled to prevent cracking.



## NOVEMBER 2021: Lions relocated

Scar and Mufasa, two resident lions at HESC, were relocated to Pumbaa Wildlife Park in Nelspruit on the 11th of November, where they will live out their retirement years.



## JANUARY 2022: Visit to Mabjane Creche

Educating the next generation about the importance of preserving our wildlife can change mindsets and bring an awareness of the plight of endangered species that children might otherwise not have known about. Therefore, HESC paid a visit to Mabjane Creche, a local preschool in the area. A talk was given to the children about Wildlife Conservation Trust and HESC; and about what both organisations do.



A talk about wildlife conservation and in particular the plight of rhinos and the horror of rhino poaching really grabbed the childrens' attention. This talk was given by Qulile, a member of the Black Mambas Antipoaching unit. She brought along her dog named Ella with whom she patrols the premises and boundaries of HESC. Wax crayons and pictures for the children to colour in were handed out and trees were planted on the school premises. A very productive and informative morning!

# HIGHLIGHTS - A YEAR IN REVIEW

1 MARCH 2021 TO 28 FEBRUARY 2022



## JANUARY 2022: Mongoose

HESC received a slender mongoose from Nyati Game Reserve on the 1st of January 2022. However, due to the mongoose's known agility, it managed to release itself on the 1st of February during a cleaning session of its habitat.



## FEBRUARY 2022: Arrival of sable calves

During February, 7 new sable calves were born at HESC. In order to keep the sables healthy, their medications, which include deworming, are placed into their feed and left at strategic places to ensure everyone will at some stage ingest these necessary treatments.



## FEBRUARY 2022: Spotted eagle owl

On 26 February 2022, one of the employees of HESC found a spotted eagle owl with a broken wing in one of the cheetah enclosures. The owl was placed into rehabilitation to be released when its wing had healed.



## ANIMALS SPECIES FINANCED BY WCT IN THE 2020/2021 FINANCIAL YEAR

The cost of the animal conservation programmes is a significant expense in the annual WCT budget. These costs include the daily care of animals to provide food, veterinary care when necessary and the maintenance and upgrading of enclosures. Funding is financed by allocations from the WCT obtained through donations and sponsorships received from supporters.

Species financed by the WCT include African elephants (*Loxodonta cyclotis*), white rhinos (*Ceratotherium simum*) orphaned or injured in poaching incidents, as well as other animals brought to or referred to the Centre by nature conservation authorities or animal welfare organisations when found in unsuitable conditions or without the necessary permits. At HESC the objective is always to return animals back to the wild once rehabilitated and at HERD, to re-integrate elephants with the Jabulani herd.

### Numbers as per 28 February 2021

African elephant	1
White Rhino adults	3
Lion	2
Leopard	1
Serval	1
Zebra	2
Sable	7
Raptors (Spotted eagle owl)	2
Southern African Ground Hornbill	1
Blue Crane	9
Crowned Crane	3
Ostrich	1
African Grey	1
Sheep	2
Leopard Tortoise	11



## ANIMALS SPECIES FINANCED BY WCT IN THE 2021/2022 FINANCIAL YEAR

Numbers as per 28 February 2022

Cheetahs (Philiphina & Cubs)	2 King & 3 regular cheetahs
Wild Dogs	8
White Rhino adults	3
Leopard	1
Serval	1
Raptors (Spotted eagle owl)	1
Zebra	2
Sable	18
Southern African Ground Hornbill	1
Blue Crane	8
Crowned Crane	3
Ostrich	1
Sheep	1
Leopard Tortoise	1
Giraffe	1

## AFRICAN ELEPHANT (*LOXODONTA CYCLOTIS*)

HESC and HERD have a long association with orphaned and injured elephant calves that goes back to 1997 when Jabulani was found abandoned in a mud pool and brought to HESC where he was rehabilitated. Since the establishment of HERD in 2019 on the Jabulani premises, elephant rehabilitation has been conducted there and during the period under review, one elephant calf was cared for at the elephant orphanage. Another, rescued in February 2021, did not survive due to its injuries. Both highlighted the horror of poaching through snaring. The objective of HERD is to rehabilitate elephants to integrate them with the Jabulani herd.



### **KHANYISA**

Khanyisa was found as a four-month-old albino calf with a snare around her neck in a reserve adjacent to the Kruger National Park. She was rescued on 7 January 2020 and brought to HERD shortly thereafter. The little one was severely dehydrated and weighed a mere 124 kilograms. Her rehabilitation during the review year included treatment for both her extensive physical injuries and the emotional trauma suffered.

Her integration into the Jabulani herd was conducted in phases and because many of the Jabulani herd of rescued elephants were orphans themselves, the elephants easily adopted the little orphan. Lundi took over the role of the adoptive mother. The Jabulani herd's emotional support and around the clock nursing and attention of elephant carers paid off and Khanyisa's health improved. By February 2021 she had more than doubled her weight and weighed 280 kilograms.



### **FENYA**

Fenya was found in February 2021, abandoned and ensnared in a poacher's trap on a private game reserve in Limpopo. It was thought that she had been alone with the snare around her neck for a month or two. The little elephant was severely dehydrated and emaciated with deep wounds around her neck where maggots had started eating the rotting flesh. Treatment at HERD included a blood transfusion from one of the older female cows in the Jabulani herd. However, due to the severity of her injuries and despite day and night care, she died within a month of arriving at the elephant orphanage.



## LEOPARD (*PANTHERA PARDUS*)

The young leopard cub rescued in 2017 out of a hollowed-out tree trunk where she was found lying next to her dead mother, is still a resident at HESC. The cub, thought to be only a few days old at the time, is now a healthy young leopard that would not have been alive had she not been brought to HESC. Today she is a beautiful specimen of the species.



## LION (*PANTHERA LEO*)

The two lions, Scar and Mufasa, were still residents at HESC up until November 2021, when they were relocated to a reserve to enjoy their retirement years. In the brief period that HESC was open for tours, guests to the Centre enjoyed seeing the animals and learning about the species and the threats facing lions in southern Africa and worldwide. The lions were born in 2009 to parents Piet and Lucky that were brought to HESC after Piet was rescued from a canned hunting scenario and Lucky from a neighbouring country where she was being raised as a housecat.



## WHITE RHINO (*CERATOTHERIUM SIMUM*)

The rehabilitation of rhinos remains a major focus of the conservation programmes at HESC. Rhinos rehabilitated at the Centre have included animals injured and orphaned in brutal poaching incidents as well as Esmé, our beloved mascot, who would not have survived if HESC had not taken her in, as her mother could not produce sufficient milk to sustain her young calf.

In all, 13 rhinos were rehabilitated at HESC and since December 2018 ten have been released fully rehabilitated back into the wild. Of the ten, three rhinos were released back into nature during the review period as triumphant survivors and a testimony to the dedicated and passionate conservation work conducted at HESC. Stompie and Balu were released in October 2020 and Nhlanhla in December 2020. To ensure the security of the released rhinos, the locations of the new homes are not revealed. Esmé, Lula and Khulula remain at HESC.



## CHEETAH (*ACINONYX JUBATUS*)

The Wildlife Conservation Trust took the decision to fund female King cheetah Philipina and her 5 cubs at HESC. The cubs were born during a tough financial period for HESC, and it was decided to start a Global Giving project to raise the much-needed funds for the care of these cubs until they are released and rewilded. The project has done well and the cubs (one of which is also a King cheetah) are thriving. When cheetahs are released into the wild, great care is taken to ensure that the areas chosen meet the requirements for the wellbeing of not only the released cheetah, but also the existing metapopulation in the area. DNA tests also ensure that inbreeding is prevented and the population is diverse.





## GIRAFFE (*GIRAFFA CAMELOPARDALIS*)

At just a few days old and severely dehydrated, Shuri, a baby giraffe, was brought to HESC for care and rehabilitation. The Wildlife Conservation Trust provided funding for the little giraffe and a Global Giving project was started to raise more funds. The project has also done extremely well and Shuri is a much loved member of the HESC family, with a large following on social media.



## OTHER ANIMALS

Savannah, a serval cat, has been a resident at HESC since 2013 when she was brought to the Centre by a family who had found her abandoned and tried to raise her as a pet. Because she is so domesticated and used to human interaction, she cannot be released.



# CONSERVATION PROJECTS

Varied and ongoing projects and programmes at HERD and HESC are conducted for the conservation and sustainability of wildlife and the environment, and the empowerment of local communities.

## ANTI-POACHING AND SECURITY PROGRAMMES

Ensuring the safety of animals accommodated at HESC and HERD, cured horns particularly those targeted by poachers, remained a major operational focus and expense.

Initiatives in place to strengthen security include the following:

- Participation in the Greater Kruger Environmental Protection Forum (GKEPF);
- An anti-poaching unit consisting of trained security guards and canines;
- Close liaison with the anti-poaching unit of Kapama;
- A 24-strand 7 900-volt electric fence and motion detectors; and
- A partnership with the Black Mambas to patrol HESC grounds.

The partnership and collaboration with the Black Mamba Anti-Poaching Unit has been in place since September 2018 and remains an important cog in the security system. Three members of this all-female anti-poaching unit work shifts at HESC each day patrolling the boundaries of the Centre with HESC's well trained K9 unit.

Established in 2013 by Transfrontier Africa, the Black Mambas Unit was formed to protect the Olifants West region of Balule Nature Reserve, but now protects all boundaries of Balule in the Greater Kruger National Park, as well as other reserves in Limpopo.



## ELEPHANT IMPACT PROJECT

The WCT contributed to this project that was developed to combat further environmental degradation and reclaim 50 hectares of land regularly traversed by elephants around the elephant stables located on Jabulani Safari premises. The land was rejuvenated through brush-packing to keep the elephants off while the regrowth of vegetation was encouraged by spreading elephant manure on the soil.



## AQUAPONICS AND WORMERY PROJECTS AT HERD

Developed to benefit Jabulani lodge and the elephant orphanage, both these projects are based on the objective of sustainable consumption. They not only provide a good germination medium and nutrient-rich water for the irrigation of seedlings for fresh produce, but also contribute to the goal of zero waste and a lower carbon footprint as plant and organic kitchen waste is recycled.

At the wormery, red wiggler worms are fed elephant manure and plant waste that produce vermicompost (an excellent, nutrient-rich organic fertiliser and soil conditioner) and vermite (urine that acts as an organic insect repellent).



## JABULADIES PROJECT

Initiated by Jabulani owner Adine Roode, this project aims to inspire and empower the women in the Jabulani and HERD teams, as well as their local communities, through the creation of a unique collection of hand-embroidered items. The work provides an additional source of income and contributes significantly to the upliftment of the communities.

By incorporating visuals of our environment and wildlife into the products, the Jabuladies create and share awareness of conservation and how protecting the wilderness and tourism create valuable job opportunities.



## VETBOOKS FOR AFRICA

Certain fundraising and other events of the student-run conservation and educational initiative were cancelled or postponed due to the worldwide COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent travel restrictions.

The scheduled biennial expedition of close on 12 000 km through Africa (29 December 2020 to 3 February 2021) was shortened as a result of the pandemic and travel restrictions prohibiting entry into countries. While the objective of the expedition was to distribute academic material and share knowledge through volunteering and teaching at veterinary faculties, only 2 of the intended 4 universities and 2 of the charities were visited, but valuable contacts were made and countries visited included Mozambique, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Malawi, Kenya and Uganda. Aid was also provided to veterinary clinics and conservation sanctuaries along the route.



## EXPEDITION PROJECT

A collaboration with the UK-based Expedition Project provides online courses on conservation in South Africa and the proceeds are donated to HESC. The social enterprise project aims to identify social and environmental challenges in South Africa and create awareness of projects such as ours to encourage others to follow suit.

Online courses include Wildlife Vet Online (for veterinary and bioscience students) that cover topics on ecology, zoology and wildlife conservation, and Conservation in Action, aimed at anyone with an interest in ecology, community education, conservation tourism and what it takes to run a centre such as HESC.

Detailed descriptions of the activities of WCT beneficiaries and the animals rehabilitated at HERD and HESC can be found on the relevant social media platforms.

# RESEARCH

Both HERD and HESC make their facilities and animals available for focused scientific and academic research to benefit the survival of endangered species. Many of the projects are ongoing.

## ELEPHANT ETHOLOGY

Research was conducted for an MSc in Animal, Plant and Environmental Sciences focused on Elephant Ethology. Carried out by University of the Witwatersrand student Chloe Caister, the research entailed looking at the personalities of the Jabulani elephants and how this affected the interpersonal dynamics and behaviour within the herd. Because the Jabulani herd is close-knit and well known for its acceptance of orphaned elephant calves, it can play an integral role in elephant conservation and research in Southern Africa.



## DNA PROFILING

DNA profiling continued in accordance with the scientific regulations for wildlife DNA forensic analysis. The process is aimed at preventing inbreeding and is an integral part of the conservation of rare, vulnerable and endangered animal species.

## BREEDING OF CHEETAHS TO SUSTAIN THE GENETIC DIVERSITY OF THE SPECIES

HESC is a source of cheetahs for relocation into the wild to sustain the genetic diversity of the species in Southern Africa. Because the mortality rate of cheetah cubs born in the wild is so high, the Centre plays a valuable role in sustaining the species and research, particularly into the dietary needs of cheetah cubs, has ensured that cubs survive into adulthood.

## CHEETAH RESEARCH

Ongoing research aimed at developing species-specific diagnostic assays to improve the detection of *M. bovis* infection in cheetahs and other wild felids including lions and leopards was conducted by the Division of Molecular Biology and Human Genetics of the Stellenbosch University, in collaboration with Dr Peter Rogers from Provet Wildlife Services. Researchers assisted HESC with screening cheetah for *Mycobacterium bovis* infection.



## REHABILITATION OF INJURED RHINOS

HESC has over the years provided sanctuary to many rhinos injured and orphaned due to poaching or in other ways. Developing protocols for the treatment and rehabilitation of the animals is ongoing and has provided valuable knowledge on rhino rehabilitation. Of 13 rhinos rehabilitated at HESC since 2013, three remain residents at the Centre.

## SOUTHERN GROUND HORNBILL RESEARCH

HESC collaborates closely with the Mabula Ground Hornbill Trust on the breeding and behaviour of this bird, conspicuous for its size, striking black plumage and red wattles.

## DEVELOPING A MILK SUBSTITUTE FOR SUCKLING ELEPHANT CALVES

HERD continued research on developing a milk substitute suitable for the metabolic needs and development of the intestinal tract of young elephant calves. Very little information is available on the digestive biochemistry of suckling elephants and the composition of elephant milk. The research was conducted with the support of the Oak Foundation.



# FUNDRAISING

As fundraising events could not take place during the period under review as result of the world-wide restrictions on travel and public gatherings to combat the spread of COVID-19, fundraising was conducted mainly online through social media and crowdfunding platforms. The success of these initiatives emphasised the overwhelming support for the conservation and rehabilitation of wildlife.

## GLOBAL GIVING PROJECTS



### HERD (UP TO JUNE 2021)

- HERD - Baby Albino Elephant Khanyisa's Fundraiser
- HERD - In memory of orphaned elephant calf, Fenya
- HERD Elephant Impact Project Phase 1
- HERD Elephant Impact Project Phase 2



### HESC

- Big Rhinos Need Big Hearts Too
- Help raise Philipina's cheetah cubs to release
- Can you help rescued baby giraffe Shuri



### VET BOOKS (UP TO FEBRUARY 2021)

- Vet Books for Africa

# SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Financial Year Start: 1 March | Financial Year End: 28 February  
 Financials audited by an independent auditor

## Wildlife Conservation Trust (Registration number: IT586/2015)

### Financial information

Financial Year Start : 1 March  
 Financial Year End : 28 February

The annual financial statements have been audited by an independent auditor

### Financial Trends Analysis

	2022 R	2021 R	2020 R
<b>Net surplus</b>			
	R	R	R
Unrestricted surplus before depreciation	2,966,757	779,721	2,655,286
As a % of income	31%	8%	36%
Unrestricted surplus after depreciation	2,658,404	448,203	2,417,477
As a % of income	27%	5%	32%
<b>Revenue</b>			
Fundraising events	4,216,502	3,098,927	1,062,228
Investment Income	31,669	31,534	43,385
Government Grants	-	-	-
Private Grants	5,419,169	6,234,222	6,325,308
Other Revenue	43,478	87,223	48,101
Total	<u>9,710,818</u>	<u>9,451,906</u>	<u>7,479,022</u>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Operational	358,319	1,830,520	1,272,260
Depreciation	308,353	331,518	237,809
Research	-	-	-
Marketing	52,500	628,489	488,755
Animal care	6,333,224	6,211,758	3,062,721
General expenses	18	1,418	-
Total	<u>7,052,414</u>	<u>9,003,703</u>	<u>5,061,545</u>
<b>Statement of financial position</b>			
Non-Current assets	414,707	1,683,539	1,876,770
Cash and cash equivalents	4,993,942	4,301,843	3,291,952
Other current assets	234,102	413,160	291,541
Current liabilities	<u>(112,090)</u>	<u>(747,409)</u>	<u>(420,193)</u>
Equity	<u>5,530,661</u>	<u>5,651,133</u>	<u>5,040,070</u>
<b>Remuneration - Officers, Directors, Trustees, and Key Employees</b>			
<b>Name</b>	<b>Nature</b>		
Adine Roode	Trustee	-	-
Lente Lidia Roode	Trustee	-	-
Wilhelmus Labuschagne	Trustee	-	-
Gert Cloete Gertzen	Trustee	-	-
Daniël Hendrik du Plessis	Trustee	-	-
Daniël Hendrik du Plessis	Other services	22,760	26,110
		<u>22,760</u>	<u>35,195</u>





# OUR SUPPORTERS

## MARCH 2020 - FEBRUARY 2021:

### CORPORATE PARTNERS

Acorn Products  
Bayer (Pty) Ltd  
Citibank Ireland  
Investec  
Nature's Own Beverages  
OMI Solutions (Pty) Ltd  
Omega Vet  
Our Seven Worlds  
SA Mint  
Sanlam  
South Africa Sava  
Warrior500

### FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS

US friends of HESC  
Izindlovu Fund  
Reclaimed Earth  
Elephant Allies  
Peace4Animals  
Small Animal British

### CAUSE RELATED MARKETING

Discover Earth  
Elestration  
MySchool  
Tatiana M Designs

### DONATIONS IN KIND

Allied Nutrition  
Amarula  
Annatjie Knapp  
Atalien Greyling  
Debs Small  
Investec  
Jabulani  
Letaba Wireless Networks  
Lifemax  
Lynne Le Roy  
Matthew Ground  
Multi Mune  
Muriel Wittstock  
Saturn Pre-primary  
Soleil Citrus  
SSEM Mthembu Medical  
The 50 Club  
Warriors for Africa Wildlife  
Whimsical Collection

## MARCH 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022:

### CORPORATE PARTNERS

Investec  
Nature's Own Beverages

### FOUNDATIONS AND TRUSTS

US friends of HESC

### CAUSE RELATED MARKETING

My School

### DONATIONS IN KIND

A Sykes  
Ansie Venter  
BA Hickling  
Bequested estate - Hm Ga  
Discover Earth  
Down 2 The Wire  
EA Reynolds  
IVVC Cape Town  
Janina  
Jenny Filmater  
Linda Barnard  
Ms Kieck (rhino painting)  
Newsflare Ltd  
Nomad Trust  
Okule Media  
Patri  
Renate Radael  
Richmond  
Rick W  
Rounding  
S van Veijeren  
The Cottage Montessori Preschool

## OUR TRUSTEES

Lente Lidia Roode - Chairperson  
Adine Roode  
Danie du Plessis  
Gert Cloete Gertzen  
Wilhelmus Labuschagne

## OUR ADVISORS

### DR WILLEM SCHULTHEISS

M.Med.Vet.(Gyn) University of Pretoria  
Business Unit Manager Ruminants at CEVA SANTE ANIMALE

### DR PETER ROGERS

BSc (Vet) University of Pretoria  
Wildlife veterinarian healthcare practitioner, specialising as a  
Veterinary Surgeon in Hoedspruit, Limpopo, South Africa

