



INTEGRATED REPORT

2019-2020



SANCCOB'S PRIMARY OBJECTIVES

The primary object of the SOUTHERN AFRICAN FOUNDATION FOR THE CONSERVATION OF COASTAL BIRDS is to conserve seabirds, the African penguin being the flagship species of focus, and, upon identification thereof, other complementary marine species.

This includes:



oiled wildlife preparedness, planning and response



rehabilitation, chick-rearing and breeding programmes



original and collaborative research which contributes toward achieving the organisation's conservation goals



training people to handle and care for seabirds and other marine species, oil spill response procedures, safety and other relevant skills that will benefit conservation



education and public awareness which inform and encourage people to develop positive habits that contribute towards a healthy ocean and wellbeing of the animals that depend on it



fundraising, revenue-generating activities and project administration which support the objects of the company



informing and influencing local and global consciousness and action, promoting responsible governance of marine ecosystems and the conservation of marine animals that depend on it, and working towards harmonious coexistence between humans and marine life.



CONTENTS

Message from the Chairperson	4
Message from the Chief Executive Officer	5
Rehabilitation	7
Veterinary	15
Research	20
Government Liaison	26
Oiled Wildlife Preparedness and Response	31
Education	37
Volunteering and Training	42
Resource Development	45
Extract from Statement of Comprehensive Income	47
Current Staff and Board of Directors	48
Funders and Supporters	49



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



The recently released global Living Planet Index provides a stark reminder of the state of biodiversity, revealing a staggering 68% average decline in the population sizes of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish between 1970 and 2016 – less than 50 years – a blink of an eye when compared to the millions of years that many of these species have inhabited Earth. If we ever needed a reminder, this should make us sit up and take note. I applaud the dedicated, professional and passionate staff at SANCCOB, who play a critical role in ensuring the reversal of these declines.

Economic growth in the past half century has changed our world unrecognisably, driving exponential health, knowledge and standard-of-living improvements. Yet this has come at a huge cost to nature and the stability of the Earth's operating systems. We know that the natural systems – which sustain the amazing diversity of life, which provide food, water regulation, climate stability, and which our economies rely on – can't withstand such growing pressure.

But we are seeing a turning of the tide. Nature is higher than ever before on the political and economic agenda. In September 2020, nearly 150 countries and 72 Heads of State will address the first ever United Nations Summit on biodiversity to build political momentum towards the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. This sends a united signal to step up global ambition for biodiversity and to commit to matching our collective ambition for nature with the scale of the crisis at hand. This signal was echoed by the World Economic Forum Global Risk report 2020, which includes biodiversity loss amongst the top five risks to society and the global economy. The science has never been clearer, and the awareness of the problems and the consequences has never been higher.

This takes place at a time when much of the world is rebuilding and recovering from Covid-19. What this pandemic has highlighted for me is the deep interconnection between planetary health and human health, and the need to transition to a society and economic system that values nature, and stops taking it for granted.

So, it's against this backdrop that I thank our staff, members, volunteers and supporters. It has been inspiring to see how we have pulled together for the sake of our seabirds and nature in general. It has been an immense privilege to be the Chair of an institution that is as well-respected and successful as SANCCOB. I know we will continue to go from strength to strength.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Petersen'.

DR SAMANTHA PETERSEN
Chairperson

MESSAGE FROM THE CEO



We are pleased to present the SANCCOB Integrated Report (1 April 2019 – 31 March 2020). There have been many remarkable accomplishments involving many passionate staff, volunteers, board members, supporters, funders and numerous other partners in conservation. We must rely on this passion to make sure we persevere and realise the goal of halting the serious decline that many seabird species are suffering and return the populations to their historic numbers. We all urgently need to continue working together to resolve the difficult conservation challenges and ensure a more prosperous future for all seabirds.

The need to address the multiple threats to seabirds has resulted in SANCCOB evolving over the past few years to ensure a multifaceted approach to seabird conservation. This evolution is clearly evident in the new 5-year SANCCOB strategy. The strategy showcases this increased scope of work, with conservation, research, disaster preparedness, education and seabird colony work showing exponential growth. Of course, our

world-renowned seabird rehabilitation and oiled wildlife response remain at the core.

This strategy cannot be achieved without partnering with like-minded organisations. SANCCOB has many meaningful and successful partnerships with conservation management authorities, state-owned enterprises, NGOs, Trusts and Foundations, Zoos and Aquaria, and individuals. We value our partners and believe that working together is critical to the conservation of seabirds. Successful partnerships enable organisations to draw on each other's strengths and achieve targeted conservation outcomes quickly and efficiently. The ability to leverage partner resources, subject matter expertise and innovation is a competitive advantage.

On 26 March South Africa initiated a national lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic. SANCCOB continues to operate while implementing all the lockdown compliance measures. This is an uncertain time for SANCCOB financially and consequently some of our planned projects have been put on hold. The Covid-19 pandemic has also disrupted the timeline of the construction of the much needed new rehabilitation pool and pens in Port Elizabeth.

As a non-profit organisation SANCCOB is heavily reliant on donations, and as many of our donors are experiencing difficult financial times during the pandemic, we need to be cognisant that funding from our established donors may reduce. We thank our loyal supporters who are able to continue supporting us during this period. Alternative sources of

funding will need to be sought with the help of our supporters.

We are thankful for the strategic expertise and clear guidance from our Board of Directors. Their commitment to the development of the new SANCCOB strategy was inspiring and has resulted in the organisation setting some ambitious goals.

Our Penguin and Seabird Ranger project, which is managed together with the conservation authorities, expanded with the placement of a Penguin and Seabird Ranger in Algoa Bay. The rangers are now based at Stony Point (Betty's Bay), Simon's Town and on Robben and Bird islands.

A heartfelt thank you to all who keep SANCCOB at the forefront of seabird conservation. The staff and volunteers are at the heart of the organisation and I am eternally grateful for their commitment, professionalism and energy.



DR STEPHEN VAN DER SPUY
Chief Executive Officer

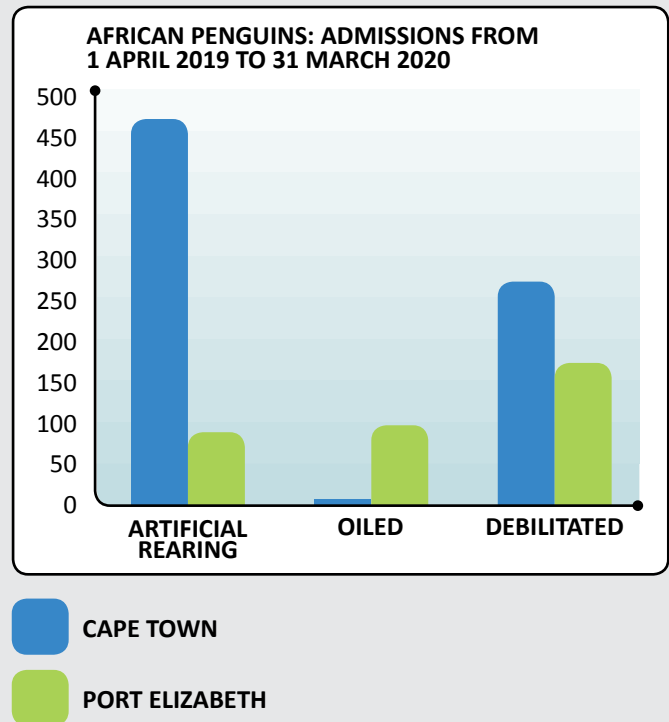


REHABILITATION

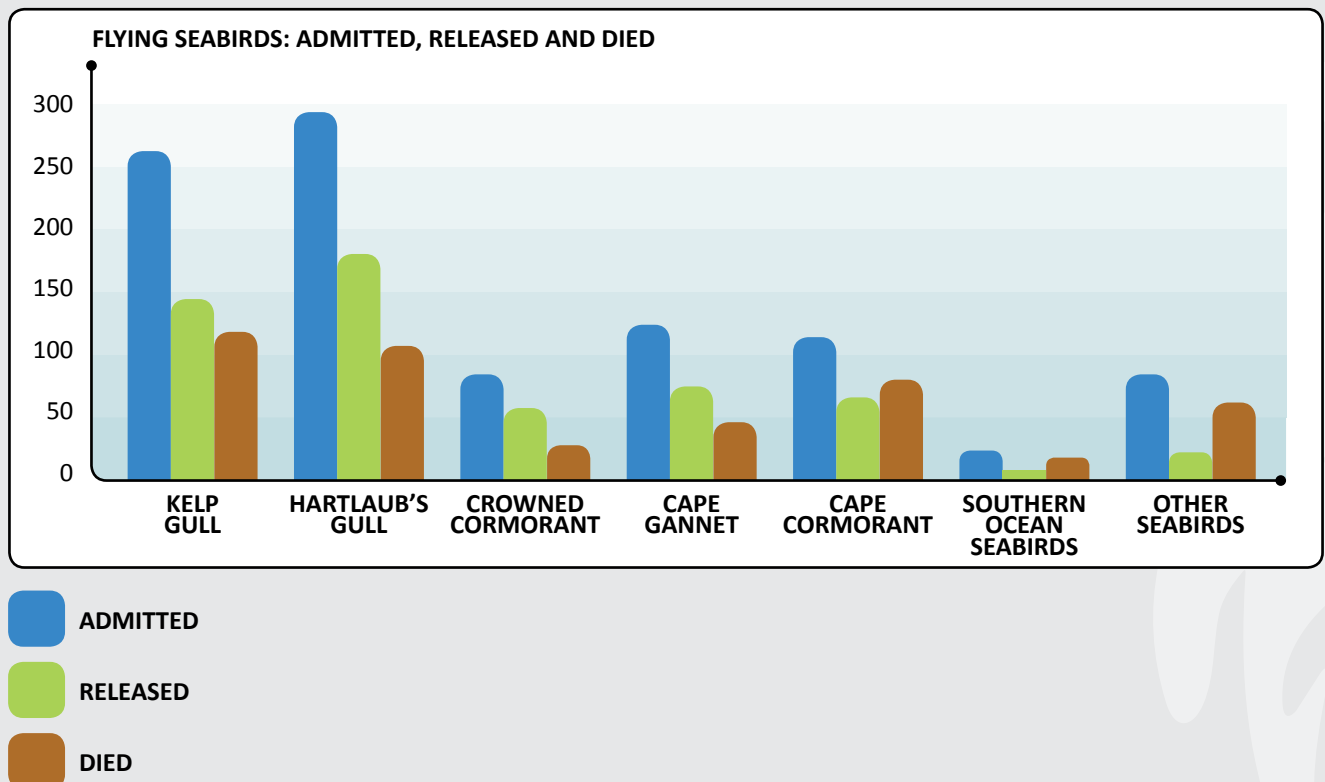


OVERALL SEABIRD ADMISSIONS

A total of 2,076 seabirds were admitted to SANCCOB's two centres in Cape Town (Western Cape) and Port Elizabeth (Eastern Cape) during the period under review. With the use of the state-of-the-art hospital in full swing at the Cape Town facility, day-to-day operations and patient treatment processes, from admission to release, have been vastly improved. African penguins admitted during this period consisted of 546 African penguin chicks for hand-rearing, 98 oiled and 437 debilitated penguins. The total release rate for African penguins was 78%.



Flying seabirds that were admitted totalled 993, with a release rate of 53%. Injured or ill flying seabirds often still have the strength and ability to fly away from rescuers and as a result these seabirds are only able to be rescued when they are extremely weak and compromised, reducing their survival rate.



A VARIETY OF MASS SEABIRD ADMISSIONS

By the end of March 2019, we had the last of the surviving Lesser flamingos back to Kimberley after months of hand-rearing the chicks, which had been abandoned by parent birds during drought affecting Kamfers Dam. Soon after the flamingos were back in the Northern Cape, the Cape Town centre brimmed yet again with 65 very hungry and noisy endangered juvenile Cape gannets. The abandoned young birds were rescued from Lambert's Bay Bird Island Nature Reserve, in partnership with CapeNature, and after three weeks of rehabilitation were released into False Bay.

RIGHT: Cape gannet being released in False Bay



On 26 November 2019, SANCCOB responded to an incident involving Crowned cormorant chicks in Lambert's Bay. The trees that the chicks were nesting in were situated outside a local grocer, and the birds were considered pests due to their noise level and the corrosive effects their guano was having on customers' vehicles. Crowned cormorants are classified as Near Threatened on the IUCN Red Data List, and are protected under the National Environmental Management: Biodiversity Act (10/2004): Threatened or Protected Marine Species (ToPS) Regulations, so this incident would not have taken place if the correct protocols had been followed.

LEFT: Crowned cormorant tube-fed with fluids on admission

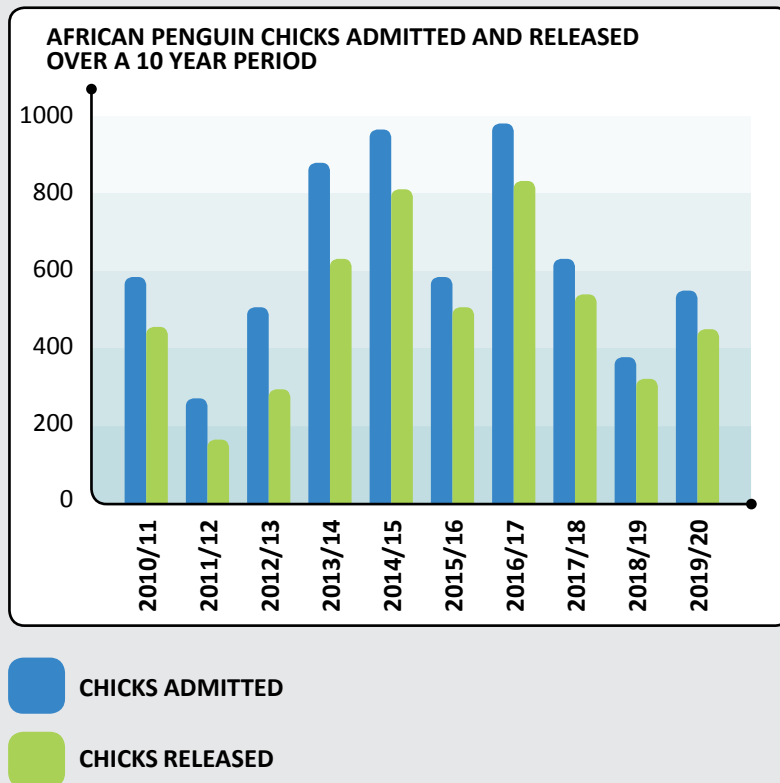
The tragedy of this entire situation is that the trees were felled during the peak breeding season; chicks fell directly out of the nests and landed on the hard concrete road, causing multiple fractured bones or death. With the assistance of CapeNature, a total of 76 Crowned cormorant chicks were rescued and admitted to SANCCOB, of which 12 individuals were euthanised due to the severity of their injuries. 52 chicks were successfully released back to Dassen Island.

The lack of a permit to fell trees with the knowledge that live seabirds inhabited these trees is a serious concern, and SANCCOB has urged the relevant authorities to investigate this incident and take the appropriate action against those involved.

African penguin chicks were admitted from the month of October onwards due to moulting parent birds unable to hunt for fish to feed them. CapeNature, with the assistance of SANCCOB staff, searched the Stony Point penguin colony for abandoned chicks; in teams we set off to systematically look through nest sites and managed to rescue 53 African penguin chicks. Additional chicks were rescued by SAN-Parks and the Penguin and Seabird Rangers in Simon's Town simultaneously. We found that many of the chicks were a lot younger than those admitted in previous years, and the number of chicks admitted was lower. This is likely due to successful breeding earlier in the year, and then a second clutch hatching too close to the parent birds' moulting period. Fish availability also plays a role as birds delay their breeding until fish stocks are more abundant. By early January 2020, most of these chicks had been successfully released.



A total of 546 African penguin chicks were admitted to both SANCCOB facilities for artificial rearing, which included eggs that were incubated and hatched on-site. We are proud of the 81% release rate, and it's motivating to know they are bolstering the wild African penguin population.



A highlight for 2019 is the admission of the 1000th African penguin egg to the Chick Rearing Unit – a phenomenal achievement by all involved.

Since the appointment of a Penguin and Seabird Ranger on Bird Island (a partnership between SANCCOB and SANParks), the Port Elizabeth centre has started to receive more chicks that have been abandoned or are in poor condition to be reared on-site.

2020 started off with an exceptionally early African penguin egg season. Eggs are usually admitted from the end of January or early February, but in 2020 some were admitted from as early as 13 January. During the first six months of 2020, over 300 eggs were admitted to SANCCOB's specialised Chick Rearing Unit for incubation, hatching and hand-rearing for release. The Chick Rearing Unit was in full swing by early February, with 173 abandoned eggs received throughout the month!

With the abundance of eggs the three egg incubators on-site were running out of space fast! A big thank you must go out to Steinhart Aquarium | California Academy of Sciences, who saved the day and donated a brand new Grumbach egg incubator, ensuring that all eggs that were rescued from the colonies were warm and safe.

PELAGIC BIRD STORIES

There is always a buzz of excitement when pelagic seabirds are admitted. Two of these amazing seabird species were successful releases for SANCCOB. Storm petrels are the smallest seabirds; the Leach's storm petrel was rescued by a pelagic birding tour, whose members found this tiny 36g adult waterlogged and shivering far out at sea. Needless to say, when admitted to SANCCOB, all measures were taken to ensure this seabird could be released back into the wild. This little bird successfully reached the required release criteria 15 days after admission.

LEFT: Adult Leach's storm petrel was waterlogged and hypothermic on admission

On 6 June, a concerned member of the public in Saldanha alerted us of an injured Indian yellow-nosed albatross in need of care. This species is classified as endangered. The bird was admitted due to emaciation and severe pododermatitis on both feet (pododermatitis is a bacterial infection and inflammatory reaction of the feet). Treatment was started straight away and routine X-rays were done to check for any skeletal abnormalities or plastic/hook ingestion. Due to the severity of the pododermatitis, specialised soft booties were designed to relieve the pressure on the feet. The albatross also had some fish oiling and required a spot wash to improve its waterproofing. After one month of rehabilitation at SANCCOB, the Indian yellow-nosed albatross was released off-shore on a pelagic boat leaving from the False Bay Yacht Club in Simon's Town on 7 July.



Indian yellow-nosed albatross admitted due to emaciation and severely infected feet

TRAINING

Theory and hands-on practical training is conducted all year round and covers important topics such as egg and seabird transportation, safe handling of chicks and eggs, basic triage for seabirds and first responder training.

Ensuring that training happens on a regular basis allows for speedy, safe and efficient rescue and transportation of seabirds from all along the coastline to our facilities.

The excellent network of first responders and stabilisers we have trained also ensures the seabirds are in safe hands from point of rescue to admissions.



27 training sessions were conducted by SANCCOB rehabilitation staff on-site, and off-site for colony staff and various stakeholders

FROM EGG INCUBATION TO RE-ENCOUNTER IN THE WILD

African penguin eggs and chicks are often abandoned by their parent in the colonies, either due to extreme weather conditions or a lack of food. This leads to breeding birds abandoning their offspring to ensure their own survival. Late in the season, chicks are also abandoned when adult birds start moulting and can't go to sea to provide food for their chicks. Our Penguin and Seabird Rangers, together with the conservation authorities, monitor the nests in the different colonies and intervene when it becomes clear that the eggs or chicks would not survive without intervention.

JOURNEY FROM RESCUE AND TRANSPORT TO HAND-REARING

Penguin and Seabird Rangers are trained on a biannual basis by skilled staff from SANCCOB. The main focus of this training is the safe collection of abandoned African penguin eggs and chicks, as well as the correct handling and transportation. Eggs and chicks that have been identified as either abandoned or at risk of abandonment (due to nesting in unsafe areas) are rescued by the rangers and transported to SANCCOB's specialised Chick Rearing Unit (CRU). The primary focus of this unit is to incubate and hand-rear African penguin chicks and eggs.

The CRU can be compared to a hospital's neonatal ward. Skilled hand-rearers work shifts to ensure the chicks are cared for round the clock to monitor behaviour and temperature, feed chicks every three hours, and provide veterinary care if needed.

The process from hatching to release can take three to four months. Since the project's inception in 2006 and the opening of the CRU in 2011, SANCCOB has successfully released more than 7,000 African penguin chicks back into the wild. To date, more than 1,000 African penguin eggs that would not have survived without being rescued from the colonies, have been admitted to SANCCOB.



TRACKING OF HAND-REARED AFRICAN PENGUINS

When the young birds have reached the desired age, weight and condition for release, a transponder is inserted, which is about the size of a rice grain. These fledglings are taken to either Simon's Town or Stony Point for release, and from previous work we know that African penguin fledglings spend their first year at sea, swimming hundreds to thousands of kilometres up the West Coast of South Africa, with some reaching as far as Namibia.

Using the inserted transponders, we are not able to track the birds during this time but can detect them when they return to a breeding colony and cross strategically placed transponder readers. Once in a while, SANCCOB receives young birds that have been found along the West Coast of South Africa, emaciated due to lack of food in previously fish-rich environments. In recent years, we have had several birds that we were able to identify as hand-reared chicks from SANCCOB thanks to the implanted transponder.

Ideally, these young birds will return to the Western Cape after about a year at sea to moult into their adult plumage. Once they reach three or four years of age, they will start breeding at one of the colonies, not necessarily at their colony of origin, as recent research indicates that fish availability may be a stronger factor influencing their choice of breeding site.

A good example is an African penguin with the transponder number 989001004376991. The bird was admitted from Stony Point as an abandoned chick due to moulting parent birds in November 2015 and numbered as AP751 in our SANCCOB records (thus the 751st African penguin admitted to SANCCOB in that year). It was released back at Stony Point in Betty's Bay as a fledgling in January 2016.

Thanks to the insertion of a transponder, we know that the bird frequently visited the Stony Point colony between August 2017 and April 2018, thus as a young non-breeder, it most likely moulted into its adult plumage at its natal colony. However, between June and December 2018, the bird was recorded frequently on the ground reader at Robben Island and was finally observed there with its partner incubating an egg in March and April 2019. Unfortunately, they lost their egg in 2019 but hopefully are now more successfully breeding and raising their chicks. Due to restrictions during the Covid-19 pandemic, we don't have more information for 2020, but are looking forward to seeing this bird successfully raising its young.

Another example of a hand-reared chick from SANCCOB is 964000006172813, a chick that was removed during a residential clearance by our rangers in Simon's Town in September 2013. This bird was released at Robben Island in October 2013 and has been detected three times between June and September 2015 at Stony Point. Since 2018, it has been recorded very frequently at Simon's Town and we suspect it has been breeding at Simon's Town for three years now.

These are just a few examples of chicks that SANCCOB has successfully rescued, hand-reared and released back into the wild in recent years. Recent data analysis confirms that SANCCOB hand-reared chicks have a similar survival rate as chicks reared by their parents in the wild, and these examples show that hand-reared chicks successfully start breeding after carefully selecting the colony they prefer.

VETERINARY



CAPE TOWN SEABIRD HOSPITAL

At our Cape Town centre we performed 332 surgical procedures and 627 X-ray studies during the year under review. Most of the difficult cases that the veterinary team treat surgically are trauma cases. Although we can never be absolutely sure of what has caused the trauma, careful examination of the wounds usually allows us to make an educated guess. Many of the injured African penguins had injuries from seal or shark bites, which often require repeated surgical procedures to clean the wounds properly before they can heal.

This year we treated an unusually high number of African penguins with injuries, especially broken legs that needed to be stabilised surgically with orthopaedic pins or plates. These orthopaedic cases are always a challenge for the veterinary team to treat and care for – penguins can survive with broken legs for an incredibly long time in the wild and so often the broken bones have started to heal in abnormal directions before the birds are admitted to SANCCOB for repair.

Our in-house X-ray machine is essential for making a quick, accurate diagnosis when an injured bird is admitted. Besides helping us to see broken bones, it also enables us to see if a bird has swallowed a metal object such as a fish hook. We are also able to track healing and evaluate more subtle organ changes.

EASTERN CAPE SEABIRD HOSPITAL

In 2019 SANCCOB Port Elizabeth hosted a newly graduated veterinarian, Juanita Krassnitzer, for her compulsory community service year. She worked part-time at SANCCOB, where she was in charge of the veterinary care of seabirds. Most of the surgical procedures and X-rays were done off-site by the local veterinary practices. After a lot of work, the SANCCOB PE centre was registered as a veterinary hospital in April 2019. A simple but useable anaesthetic machine was donated and, with the help of another generous donation, we were able to buy an autoclave and the initial surgical instruments required to perform basic surgical procedures on-site. The first surgical procedures were done on-site in October 2019 when Dr David Roberts visited from Cape Town. We would still like to upgrade the surgical theatre and veterinary equipment and to install an X-ray machine in order to provide better on-site veterinary care.

Veterinary cases have ranged from a flamingo and an African darter entangled in fishing line (severe injuries that required orthopaedic surgery) to emaciated and abandoned African penguin chicks that were emaciated and had been abandoned, two Giant petrels, and a tiny European storm petrel that had been blown off-course.

SEABIRD VETERINARY EXPERIENCE AND EDUCATION

SANCCOB's veterinary experience programme continues to be very popular. We hosted prospective and current veterinary students, as well as qualified vets, veterinary nurses and veterinary technicians. We have partnered with the Faculty of Veterinary Science of the University of Pretoria to host and mentor final-year veterinary students for their research electives. We are especially grateful for the assistance from the veterinary teams from Georgia Aquarium and The Maryland Zoo, who worked with us during our busiest months. SANCCOB was privileged to be assisted by and to mentor Dr Esti de Wet and Dr Elizabeth Howard, newly qualified South African veterinarians, as part of their compulsory community service year.

SHARING AS FAR AS THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

SANCCOB's Clinical Veterinarian, Dr David Roberts, presented lectures on seabird medicine and rehabilitation at the Sharja International Conservation Forum for Arabian Biodiversity (SICFAB) in the United Arab Emirates. It was an incredible opportunity to meet and share SANCCOB's expertise with the international attendees.



MEMORABLE CASES

RIGHT: Dr David Roberts treated a Great white pelican admitted with a severe wing injury. Dr Rebecca Duerr from International Bird Rescue provided guidance from afar and the injury healed remarkably well. International Bird Rescue is well known for the large number of pelicans the organisation receives annually for rehabilitation.



LEFT: This Skua was found on a fishing vessel docked at the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town. The weakened bird was unable to walk and fly, and thus developed open wounds on its hocks. One month of veterinary care, experimental hock cushions made from recycled wetsuit material, and a lot of time in the rehabilitation pool aided its recovery for release in July 2019.

RIGHT: National Oiled Wildlife Response Workshop – New Zealand: David attended New Zealand's National Oiled Wildlife Response training workshop, which is run by Wildbase at Massey University to train New Zealand's national oiled wildlife response team. He presented on SANCCOB's role in responding to oil spills in South Africa and participated in three days of training and exercises on oiled wildlife response. Included were lectures and practical exercises on the effects of oil on wildlife; health and safety; communication during a disaster; why, where and how to set up a field stabilisation site; waste management; and understanding how oiled wildlife is cared for and washed.



10th INTERNATIONAL PENGUIN CONFERENCE

The 10th International Penguin Conference took place in Dunedin, New Zealand, in August 2019. This conference takes place every three years and is the only international scientific conference that focuses exclusively on penguins, bringing together several hundred penguin scientists from around the world. SANCCOB was well represented with Dr David Roberts (SANCCOB's Clinical Veterinarian), Dr Lauren Waller (SANCCOB's Leiden Conservation Fellow) and Dr Katta Ludynia (SANCCOB's Research Manager). As the Chair of the previous conference, Lauren had the privilege of opening IPC10. David, Lauren and Katta each gave an oral presentation on different aspects of

African penguin research: Avian Influenza, moult patterns and post-release movement of hand-reared African penguins. In addition to these presentations, SANCCOB was represented with seven posters, co-authored in another four presentations, and was actively involved in two pre-conference workshops.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (SANCCOB staff as first author and presenter):



Lauren Waller, Peter Barham, Barbara Barham, Richard Sherley, Robert Crawford, **Katrin Ludynia**, Azwianewi Makhado, Leshia Visagie, Bruce Dyer, Les Underhill (2019): Moult phenology of adult and juvenile African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*), are we seeing adjustments in timing of moult in the Benguela Upwelling System?



Katta Ludynia, Jennifer Grigg, Barbara Barham, Alistair McInnes, Nola Parsons, **Stephen van der Spuy**, Ric Urban, Richard Sherley (2019): Insights into the “lost years” of young African penguins: using transponders in SANCCOB's hand-reared penguins to understand movements and their role in bolstering the wild population.



David G Roberts, Laura Roberts, Jessica Kemper (2019): Responding to H5N8 Avian Influenza in African penguins.

ORAL PRESENTATIONS (SANCCOB staff as co-authors):



Pablo García Borboroglu, P Dee Boersma, Sue Ellis, Charly A Bost, Andre Chiaradia, Tom Schneider, Phil J Seddon, Alejandro Simeone, Phil N Trathan, **Lauren J Waller**, Barbara Wienecke, Natasha J Gownaris (2019): Towards a Penguin Global Conservation Agenda promoted by the IUCN SSC Penguin Specialist Group.



Jennifer Grigg, Steve Votier, Alison Cotton, **Lauren Waller**, **Katrin Ludynia**, Christina Hagen, Andrew de Blocq, Azwianewi Makhado, Richard Sherley (2019): Shining light on the lost years to inform conservation planning: investigating the movement ecology of immature African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*).



Christina Hagen, Ross Wanless, Kevin Shaw, **Lauren Waller** (2019): Initial phases of re-establishing an African Penguin colony in South Africa.



Marcela P. A. Espinaze, Cang Hui, **Lauren Waller**, Sonja Matthee (2019): Relationship between nest characteristics and ectoparasite infestations in African penguin nests.

POSTER PRESENTATIONS



Romy Klusener, Renata Hurtado, Nola J Parsons, Ralph ET Vanstreels, **Nicola Stander**, **Stephen van der Spuy**, **Katta Ludynia** (2019): Hand-rearing African penguin chicks: a tool for the conservation of an endangered species.



Kyle Maurer, **Katta Ludynia**, **Albert Snyman** (2019): Influence of marine debris on African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*) admitted to a seabird rehabilitation facility, SANCCOB, Cape Town, South Africa between 2008 and 2018



Albert Snyman, Ralph ET Vanstreels, Chandre Nell, Adam M Schaefer, Thomas Stracke, Nola J Parsons, **Katrin Ludynia**, Pierre A Pistorius (2019): Determinants of external and blood parasite load in African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*) admitted for rehabilitation.



Nicola J Stander, **Christian Triay**, **Katta Ludynia**, **Lauren Waller**, **Stephen van der Spuy** (2019): From bathtub to government bill: the changing role of a rehabilitation and conservation organisation.



Jess Philips, **Christian Triay**, **Katta Ludynia** (2019): Taking the AZA SAFE African Penguin Disaster Relief Project across borders: South African – Namibian collaborations for disaster preparedness and response.



Deon Geldenhuys, Alistair McInnes, **Lauren Waller** (2019): Unmanned Aerial Vehicles for monitoring threatened penguin populations.



Rebecca J. Miller, **Lauren J. Waller**, Gavin W. Maneveldt, Lorien Pichegru, Richard B. Sherley, Juan Schen, Andre Ganswindt (2019): The effects of anthropogenic disturbance on African penguin mainland colonies.

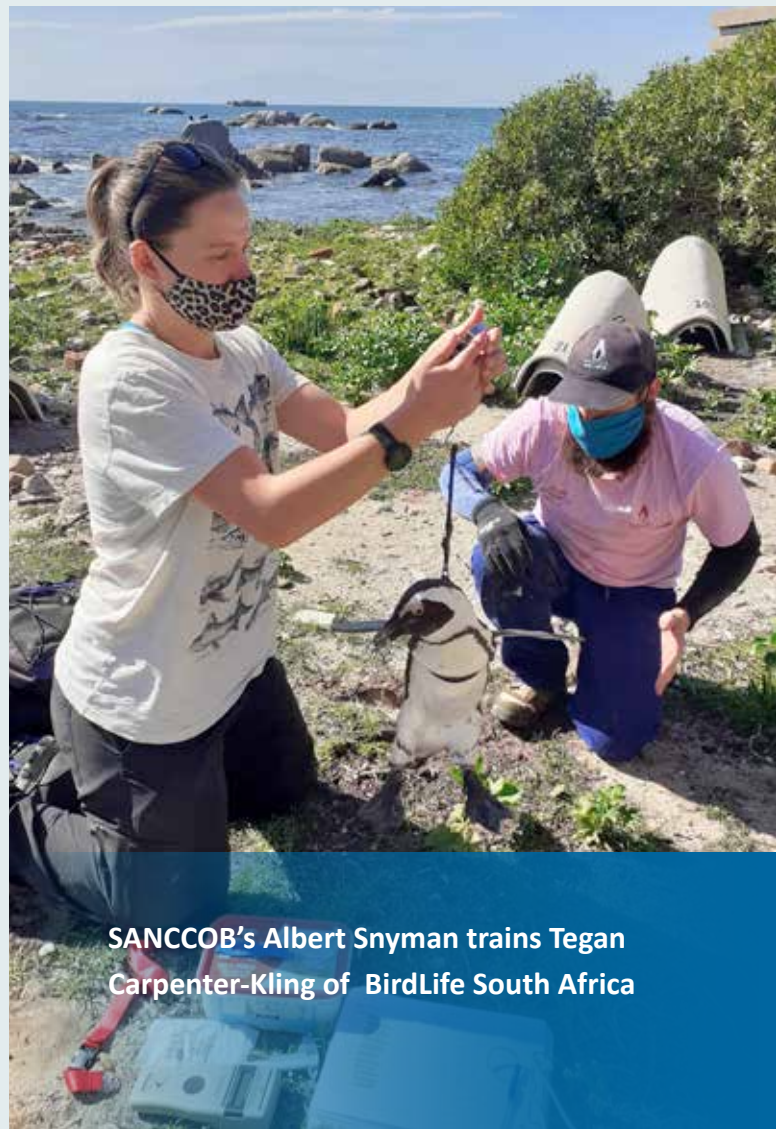


TRANSPONDER WORK

In 2019, the SANCCOB Research Department was able to return to the main African penguin breeding colonies to continue the transponder work that had been on hold in 2018 due to the Avian Influenza outbreak. Over 250 adults and more than 300 fledglings in the colonies had subcutaneous transponders inserted, and over 700 African penguins were released from our SANCCOB centres with transponders in 2019. We currently have a total of nine ground readers placed at six of the main breeding colonies that detect transpondered birds when they enter or leave the colony. In addition, colony staff and SANCCOB rangers use hand-held readers when conducting nest checks. Many SANCCOB hand-reared chicks and penguins that have undergone rehabilitation at the centres are being recorded at the breeding colonies, thus showing the success of our work. An analysis, presented at the 10th International Penguin Conference in 2019, showed that hand-reared penguin chicks released from SANCCOB have a similar survival rate as wild-reared chicks, and start breeding at the same age. With more than 7,000 African penguin chicks hand-reared and released from SANCCOB since 2006 (of which over 50% are inserted with transponders*), the importance of this conservation intervention can be seen in the wild, where hand-reared chicks are now bolstering the breeding population of this endangered species.

The transponder project also sheds light on the movement of penguins along the coast and their

choice of breeding location. Several juveniles that were in rehabilitation in the Western Cape have been detected as adults on Bird Island, Eastern Cape, highlighting the movement of fledglings westwards (as previously seen using satellite transmitters) and the threats faced by these young birds, many of which were admitted underweight due to the lack of fish in previously rich waters off the Western Cape. After successful rehabilitation, the birds have returned to what is presumably their colony of origin, Bird Island, where they hopefully find sufficient food to successfully raise their young.



SANCCOB's Albert Snyman trains Tegan Carpenter-Kling of BirdLife South Africa

•as of 2013

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

SANCCOB continued its important work on avian diseases in 2019. A Memorandum Of Agreement was signed with the Faculty of Veterinary Science at the University of Pretoria (UP), focusing on studying the prevalence of Avian Influenza in African penguins and other seabirds. SANCCOB partners with UP, University of the Western Cape and the Freie Universität, Berlin, Germany, in a MeerWissen project (African-German partners for ocean knowledge) on African penguin health, a project funded by the German government (GIZ/BMZ). Thanks to a project funded by the Rupert Nature Foundation, SANCCOB is conducting its own disease surveillance work on birds admitted to our Cape Town centre and on carcasses found in the colonies to understand the prevalence of different diseases in our local seabirds. This work directly helps the managing authorities to understand seabird mortalities in the colonies and to develop contingency plans for future disease outbreaks.

TRACKING IN SIMON'S TOWN

After an initial tracking study in 2003 led by SANCCOB's Chairperson, Dr Samantha Petersen, then student at the University of Cape Town, little has been known about the foraging areas and at-sea movements of African penguins breeding in Boulders and Simon's Town. The Simon's Town penguin colony has been relatively stable in terms of number of breeding pairs for several years, while other colonies in the vicinity have declined dramatically. The stable community is located within the Marine Protected Area of False Bay, so it is important to understand if the foraging areas for these endangered birds are sufficiently protected. Researchers from SANCCOB, BirdLife South Africa and SANParks are collaborating in a study of the foraging movement of penguins breeding in Simon's Town. The study, scheduled to commence in 2018, had to be postponed due to Avian Influenza. In 2019, 15 African penguins breeding in Simon's Town were successfully deployed with GPS and dive loggers, and a few with video cameras as well. The data collected in 2019 showed that all tracked birds stayed within False Bay (similar to birds in the 2003 study), incorporating areas along the northern and eastern side of False Bay, which fall outside of the current Marine Protected Area. The study is planned to continue and results will be combined with tracking and sighting data for other top predators to make False Bay a safe space for marine wildlife such as African penguins, Great white sharks, whales and dolphins.



SANCCOB's Kyle Maurer assisted researchers to secure GPS and dive loggers to African penguins in Simon's Town

COLONY SUPPORT

SANCCOB's Penguin and Seabird Ranger Programme, in partnership with the management authorities, grows from strength to strength. SANCCOB now deploys rangers in four of the main seabird colonies in South Africa: Robben Island, Simon's Town, Stony Point in the Western Cape, and Bird and St Croix islands in the Eastern Cape. The rangers work closely with the managing authorities in the colonies, assisting with seabird monitoring and habitat maintenance. SANCCOB's rangers are able to respond quickly if birds are in need of rescue

and stabilisation, and facilitate transport of birds to the nearest SANCCOB centre.

We are proud to be working together with CapeNature, SANParks, City of Cape Town and Cape Town Environmental Education Trust (CTEET) in the provision of much-needed assistance to the colonies in the form of SANCCOB rangers. We thank our rangers for all their hard work, often under difficult conditions – heat, storms, rain and even during Covid-19 lockdown.

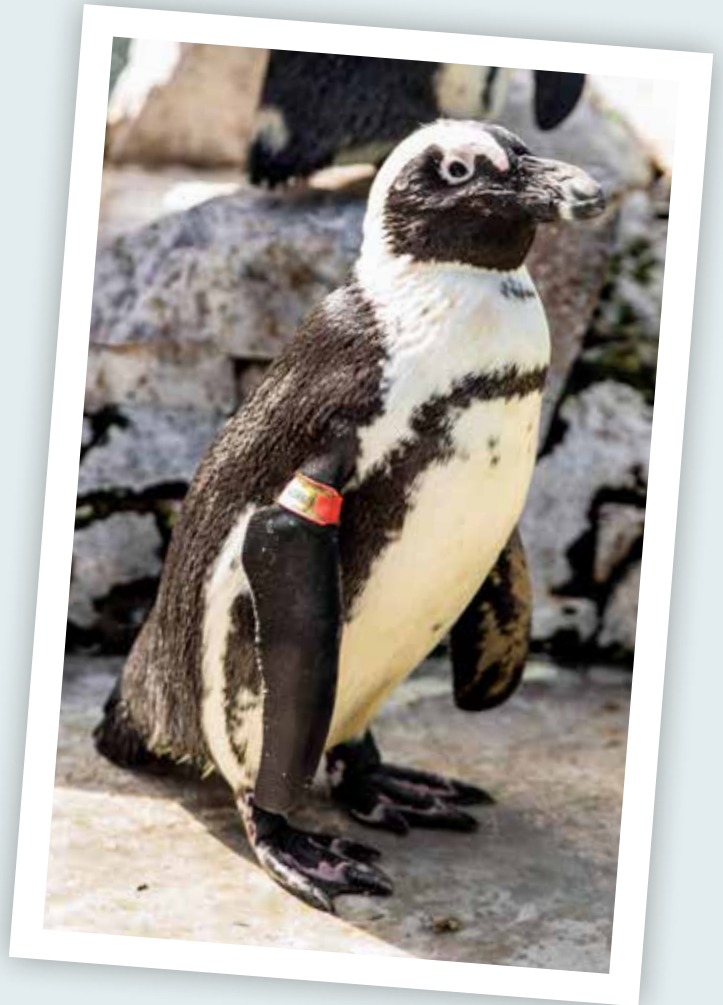


SIMON'S TOWN PENGUIN RANGERS

In 2008, the Burgher's Walk Restoration Project was started, initiated through collaboration between the Zoo Aachen (www.euregiozoo.de), SANCCOB, SANParks and CTEET. The project aimed at supporting SANParks and the City of Cape Town with the monitoring and maintenance of breeding African penguins, especially in the area south of Boulders Beach, which is known as Burgher's Walk.

Since then, the project has grown from year to year and is now called the Simon's Town Penguin and Seabird Ranger Project as it is no longer limited to Burgher's Walk nor to penguins alone. We currently have four Rangers and one Site Manager based in Simon's Town, funded through SANCCOB and the City of Cape Town. The rangers are employed through the Cape Town Environmental Education Trust (CTEET), and many have come through CTEET's learner programme. The ranger position is another step in their career paths to become fully fledged conservationists. From SANCCOB's side, the Zoo Aachen is still the major funder of this programme. A recently awarded grant for a climate change adaptation project funded through WWF US in collaboration with SANParks will contribute to the project as well. The City of Cape Town not only assists with funding for ranger salaries and with providing the Site Manager, Mashudu Mashau, but also supports the team with equipment and materials and provides them with an office at the Simon's Town Library. Arne Purves from the Coastal Management Team (City of Cape Town) plays a pivotal role in managing the programme, together with SANCCOB's Research Manager, Dr Katta Ludynia.

African penguins started breeding in Simon's Town in the mid-1980s when the first few pairs



started breeding at the site that is now Boulders Beach. Boulders Beach forms part of Table Mountain National Park (TMNP), managed by South African National Parks (SANParks). As the numbers increased, the birds moved to areas outside the official limits of the Boulders Section – TMNP, both municipal areas like Burgher's Walk as well as private properties surrounding the main breeding colony at Boulders. Initially, the rangers' duties were to maintain the vegetation and infrastructure at Burgher's Walk, to secure the safe breeding of the penguins in this area, and to enable safe access to the area for the public. Their duties also included transporting injured birds to SANCCOB for treatment and rehabilitation, and SANCCOB provides a vehicle for that purpose. Being out in the field all day, the rangers soon began to

assist with the monitoring of breeding penguins, to rescue abandoned eggs and chicks and to be the eyes and ears on the ground for any threats like predators (seals, caracals, dogs), disturbance by visitors and residents, oiling incidents and any other seabird-related issue that needed attention.

These days, the Simon's Town Penguin Rangers are an essential part of penguin conservation, working closely with SANCCOB, City of Cape Town and SANParks. They conduct weekly nest checks to assess breeding success, monitor breeding birds and rescue abandoned eggs and chicks and any seabird in distress. They assist with several research studies on African penguins and conduct moult counts and an annual census.

They also liaise with the local residents and the general public, assist with preventing predation by caracals, seals and domestic animals, and play their part in the environmental education of visitors to Simon's Town by speaking to tourists about threats faced by the endangered African penguin and how best to behave in order to least disturb them, thus helping to secure their survival.

The relatively stable numbers of breeding African penguins in Simon's Town, with one of the highest recorded numbers in 2020, is a clear indicator of a well-managed and protected colony (as well as for seemingly abundant food sources inside False Bay), thanks to our SANCCOB Penguin Rangers on the ground.

MONITORING BIRDS ON A WORLD HERITAGE SITE

The Robben Island Museum (RIM) Ranger provides direct support to researchers and government in collecting data and performing census counts.

Robben Island Museum requires the use of many different service providers and these companies are not necessarily aware of the sensitive species on the island, particularly African penguins, which tend to wander across the roads. In response, RIM has introduced induction workshops to highlight sensitive areas and emphasise the code of conduct to be adhered to while working on this World Heritage Site.

Through careful monitoring, injured seabirds or chicks that have been abandoned are rescued quickly and stabilised by SANCCOB's trained Ranger on the island. This increases the birds' chances of a full recovery and eventual release.

NEW APPOINTMENT OF RANGER ON BIRD ISLAND

Eduard Drost, SANCCOB's Seabird and Penguin Ranger on Bird Island, is the latest addition to the team, having started in January 2020.

Eduard is based on Bird Island, Algoa Bay, both the world's largest Cape gannet breeding colony and an important colony for African penguins. He works closely with SANParks, which manages Bird Island and neighbouring St Croix Island – the world's largest African penguin breeding colony and one that's visited only for monitoring and research purposes. Unfortunately, the islands in Algoa Bay, especially St Croix Island, have recently seen a reduction in the number of penguin breeding pairs. SANCCOB's work in rescue, rehabilitation and release of penguins (and gannets) at our PE centre is crucial to ensure the conservation of these species.

PUBLICATIONS



Snyman A, Mostert E, Ludynia K (submitted): Sex determination in Kelp Gulls (*Larus dominicanus vetula*) using bill measurement. Ostrich.



Snyman A, Vanstreels RET, Nell C, Schaefer AM, Stracke T, Parsons NJ, Ludynia K, Pistorius PA (2020): Determinants of external and blood parasite load in African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*) admitted for rehabilitation. Parasitology Research.



Vanstreels RET, Parsons NJ, McGeorge C, Ludynia K, Waller L, Ruthenburg M, Pichegru L, Pistorius PA (2019): Predation on African Penguins: Predator-specific necropsy characterisation to inform conservation management. Ostrich.



Vanstreels RET, Pichegru L, Pfaff MC, Snyman A, Dyer BM, Parsons NJ, Roberts DG, Ludynia K, Makhado A, Pistorius PA (2019): Ingestion of seashells and anthropogenic debris by African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*). Emu.



Ryan P, Ludynia K, Pichegru L (2019): Ships' risky fuel transfer are threatening African penguins The Conversation: <https://theconversation.com/ships-risky-fuel-transfers-are-threatening-african-penguins-121575>



Espinaze M, Hui C, Waller L, Matthee S (2019): The efficacy of a modified Berlese funnel method for the extraction of ectoparasites and their future life stages from the nests of the African penguin (*Spheniscus demersus*). Ostrich.



Boersma PD, Garcia Borboroglu P, Gownaris NJ, Bost CA, Chiaradia A, Ellis S, Schneider T, Seddon PJ, Simeone A, Trathan PN, Waller LJ, Wienecke B (2019): Applying science to pressing conservation needs for penguins. Conservation Biology.



Espinaze M, Hui C, Waller L, Dreyer F, Matthee S (2019): Parasite diversity associated with African penguins (*Spheniscus demersus*) and the effect of host and environmental factors. Parasitology.



Ropert-Coudert Y, Chiaradia A, Ainley D, Barbosa A, Boersma PD, Brasso R, Dewar M, Ellenberg U, Garcia Borboroglu P, Emmerson L, Hickcox R, Jenouvrier S, Kato A, McIntosh RR, Lewis P, Ramirez F, Ruoppolo V, Ryan PG, Seddon PJ, Sherley RB, Vanstreels RE, Waller L, Woehler EJ, Trathan PN (2019): Happy Feet in a hostile world? The future of penguins depends on proactive management of current and expected threats. Frontiers in Marine Science.



NATIONAL SEABIRD TECHNICAL TEAM

Two of SANCCOB's staff members are also members of the Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries' (DEFF) National Seabird Technical Team (STT). This is a scientific group that provides advice on matters pertaining to seabird research and conservation in South Africa. Matters that have been discussed this year include the island closure experiment and the implementation of the International Stock Assessment Workshop panel recommendations; National Seabird Monitoring; Algoa Bay penguin numbers; mitigating Cape gannet mortality at Malgas; African penguin tracking data; Pelagic seabirds and bycatch and Southern Ocean Vagrants, to name but a few. Scientific recommendations formulated by this group are then sent to DEFF's Top Predator Working Group. This Working Group is represented by National and Provincial government officials, and advises the Department on all matters.

As part of this group, SANCCOB has undertaken to facilitate a process with the STT members and other relevant National and Provincial government officials, and the scientists that advise them, to standardise the monitoring protocols for all

coastal seabirds in the country. As part of this process, all current monitoring protocols will be reviewed and disturbance impacts discussed. This process will culminate in a standardised National Monitoring Framework, which aims to ensure that monitoring programmes are implemented in a uniform fashion across all seabird breeding colonies. This process will also ensure that we have the data required to assess the impact of management actions/mitigation measures implemented, and will also facilitate easier analysis of data across all colonies. The last time that these protocols were drafted for the region was in 2007, as part of the Benguela Current Large Marine Ecosystem Project. The STT believed that it would be prudent to revisit these measures, given the increasing threat status of many of the seabirds, as well as the increase in number and intensity of threats they face. This process started in early 2020. It was originally hoped that the process would be completed by end 2020 for implementation in 2021, although there may be a slight delay as a result of Covid-19.



SMALL PELAGIC SCIENTIFIC WORKING GROUP (SWG-PEL)

SANCCOB sits as an observer on the Small Pelagic Scientific Working Group that is chaired by the fisheries section of DEFF. We work closely with the other conservation NGOs (BirdLife South Africa and WWF), as well as with an ecosystem researcher from the University of Cape Town (UCT), all of whom are observers on this group. SANCCOB's role is to raise concerns relating to marine ecosystem aspects that are impacted by recommendations emanating from the members of this group. One of the documents we compiled and submitted to this group was "Concerns regarding low sardine biomass levels" (FISHERIES_2019_APR_SWG-PEL_11). The document was a response to the low spawner biomass survey of November 2018, the lowest level on record since 1985, with fish that were in very poor condition. It also suggested a revised setting of the direct sardine Total Allowable Catch.

The South African government in 2008 initiated a first-of-its-kind experiment whereby seabird breeding colonies were alternately opened and closed to small pelagic fishing within a 20km radius. Dassen and Robben islands along the West Coast were opened and closed alternately, as were St Croix and Bird islands in Algoa Bay. Much debate over many years has taken place within the SWG-PEL over the analytical methods used and the interpretations of the results of this study. During 2019, these results were (again) evaluated by an international panel of fisheries experts who are invited by DEFF and UCT's MARAM Group to evaluate the science produced within a number of fish scientific working groups, including the small pelagic one. This workshop is called the International Stock Assessment Workshop (IWS). In response to the recommendations made by this workshop, we submitted the following document:

Recommendations for island closures around African penguin colonies (FISHERIES_2019_DEC_SWG-PEL_44), where our recommendations included the following:

"We recommend that 20km small pelagic fishery closures be implemented around the four African penguin colonies included in the island closure experiment: Dassen Island, Robben Island, St Croix Island and Bird Island. In addition to this and considering the sense of urgency needed to help avert current rapid population declines of African Penguins (the SA African penguin population has decreased by 46% since the initiation of the island closure experiment), and in consideration of the precautionary approach as advocated by South African legislation, we recommend that the same 20km closures be extended to the other two large colonies at Stony Point and Dyer Island. Collectively, these colonies comprise ca 90% of the African penguin breeding population in South Africa (DEFF unpublished data). We strongly recommend that these recommendations be adopted under the current dire situation for African penguins to help avert the decline and ultimate extinction of this species."

These recommendations were not taken on board, and we continue to advocate for this and other actions required to improve food availability to endangered African penguins and other seabirds. In November 2019, SANCCOB coordinated and contributed to a Ministerial Brief together with WWF South Africa, BirdLife South Africa, UCT and NMU on the status of Island Closures, providing recommendations as highlighted above.

AFRICAN PENGUIN BIODIVERSITY MANAGEMENT PLAN (AP-BMP)

SANCCOB continues to play a role in the African penguin Biodiversity Management Plan (BMP). We actively contribute to two Working Groups that oversee the implementation of actions contained in this BMP, namely the Population Reinforcement Working Group (PRWG) and Habitat Working Group (HWG). The PRWG oversees all actions that relate to penguins in captivity (including rehabilitation) and the HWG oversees the actions that are involved on the ground in the African penguin colonies.

Biodiversity Management Plans have a lifespan of five years, and the first one ran from 2013 to 2018. SANCCOB, together with a number of other stakeholders, assisted the DEFF with the compilation of the second BMP. It was gazetted for public comment on 18 October 2019, with the closing date for comments 30 days thereafter in November 2019. The DEFF are busy finalising this document and we look forward to supporting them in the implementation of this plan which in its (Draft) aims to 1) take steps towards downlisting the African penguin from IUCN's list of species having an endangered conservation status; and thereby 2) to ensure the survival of the species in South Africa in a healthy environment for South Africans and visitors to experience. The plan shows promise to maintain (with possible expansion) the socio-economic benefit (jobs and revenue) that African penguins generate for the country.

SANCCOB AND IUCN

SANCCOB is a member of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and plays an active role in a number of activities. Firstly, as a South African National IUCN member, we attend quarterly meetings. Activities this year focused on providing inputs into motions that were circulated ahead of the World Conservation Congress that was originally scheduled to take place in France in July 2020, but was postponed to January 2021 as a result of Covid-19. We also attended the IUCN ESARO Regional Conservation Forum in Johannesburg (23-25 July 2019), that focused on key issues that ESARO wanted to advocate at the World Conservation Forum in 2020.

SANCCOB is also a member of the IUCN Penguin Specialist Group (PSG), a scientific section of IUCN established to (amongst other things) disseminate scientific information on penguins globally and to lobby for their protection, particularly with relevant governments. The PSG facilitated the inputs into the Red List updates for the world's penguin species, and SANCCOB scientists contributed to this assessment update.

ADVOCACY AND PROMOTING BEST PRACTICE

The South African coastline experiences extreme weather conditions, rendering it a high risk area for oil spills. Following the Algoa Bay spill in 2019, SANCCOB once again, strongly objected to the continuance of ship-to-ship bunkering and presented clear recommendations to government, including at a ministerial level.

Africa as a whole has seen an increase in exploration and drilling for oil and gas; the off-shore regions around the continent have seen growing interest from oil and gas majors willing to explore what they believe is the next exploration hotspot for mineral resources in the world. One of the ways in which South Africa aims to boost the country's struggling economy is through offshore oil and gas exploration, but at what cost to the environment? SANCCOB has positioned itself as a key stakeholder and engages with oil and gas industry companies to highlight the inherent risks that vessel-source pollution poses to seabirds, the importance of

preparedness, and provides assistance with site-specific contingency plans.

The priority remains for South Africa to be prepared for the next potential oil spill. SANCCOB has made a substantial contribution to the drafting of the National Oiled Marine Wildlife Preparedness and Response Contingency Plan (NOWPRCP), supporting government's efforts to plan for a safe, timely and effective response to oiled seabirds and other wildlife. The National Oil Spill Contingency Plan inherently deals with ecosystems but not wildlife, hence the need to develop a focused document which aims to promote the planned and nationally coordinated response to any marine oil spill affecting wildlife and ecosystems. At a regional level, SANCCOB assists government in drafting site-specific oiled wildlife contingency plans and helps to improve the level of preparedness.



“One more oil spill can spell catastrophic consequences for an already dwindling population of African penguins”

GENERAL ADVOCACY

SANCCOB, together with CapeNature, hosted a Cheese and Wine Reception at Stony Point Nature Reserve. The aim of this event was to showcase our relationship with CapeNature and to network with businesses in the area. CapeNature's Martin Albertus presented on the organisation's core values and how it values partnerships, and SANCCOB presented on the status of the African penguin. The evening was a wonderful success and we look forward to engaging more with the broader community of Betty's Bay area and surrounds as we support CapeNature's conservation efforts at Stony Point.

BRANDFONTEIN SURVEYS

The Brandfontein surveys are monthly coastal surveys conducted near Cape Agulhas, where researchers cover a 2km stretch of coastline on foot, recording all seabird mortality observed. This area has become a hotspot for seabird mortality, and the survey is part of disease surveillance and seabird predation monitoring in order to learn more about natural mortality versus abnormal mortality rates.

In January we conducted our first survey and counted 38 Cape gannets (8 females, 4 males and 26 of unknown sex); one African penguin fledgling (no transponder); 1 Cape cormorant adult and 1 Sooty shearwater. 7 Cape gannets and the Sooty shearwater had brain swabs taken for Avian Influenza testing.

All other species sightings (such as seals, fish and whale carcasses) were documented, and will be submitted, together with the bird numbers to contribute to De Mond Nature Reserve State of Biodiversity (SOB) data.



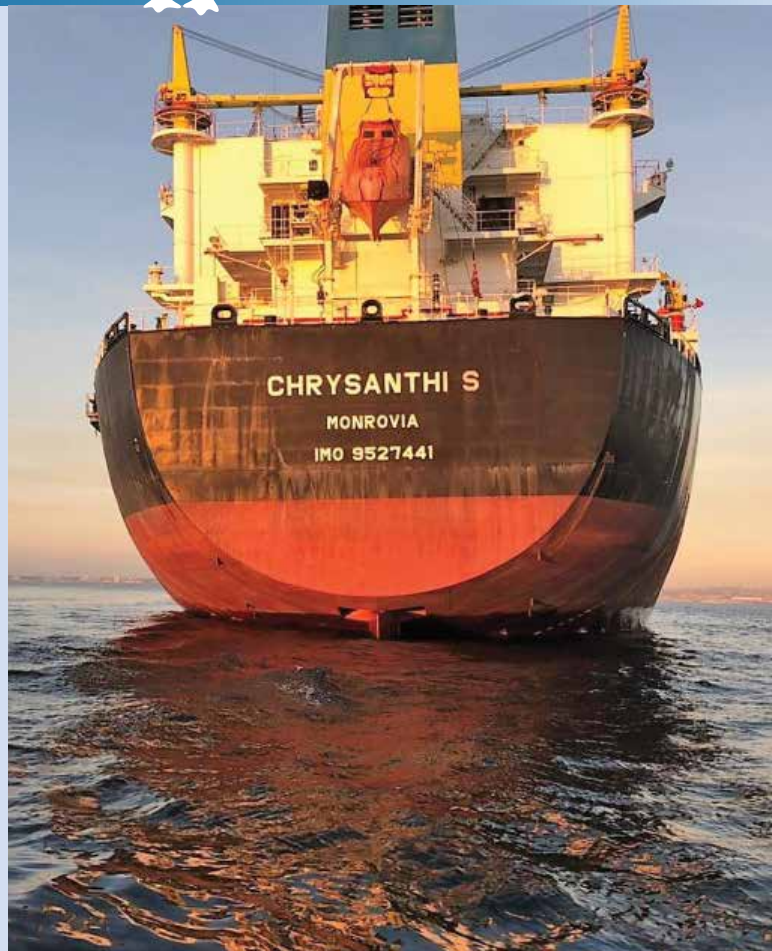
OILED WILDLIFE PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE



2019 OIL SPILL: MV CHRYSANTHI S, ALGOA BAY

Another oil spill incident occurred on 6 July 2019 as a result of offshore fuel ship-to-ship (STS) bunkering, three years after the last STS-related oil spill affecting seabirds in Algoa Bay. Approximately 400 litres of bunker fuel spilled into the ocean, affecting 125 endangered seabirds consisting of African penguins, Cape gannets and Cape cormorants. Ship-to-ship bunkering refers to the transfer of heavy fuel oil from one ship to another outside of the harbour environment. Off-shore bunkering is a high risk operation that directly threatens the marine environment and the rich biodiversity that inhabits it.

The Department of Environment, Forestry and Fisheries (DEFF), South African National Parks (SANParks) and SANCCOB coordinated the oiled wildlife response. Poor weather conditions following the oil spill hindered DEFF and SANParks from carrying out an immediate wildlife assessment, which delayed the recovery of affected seabirds. 91 African penguins, 13 Cape gannets and 4 Cape cormorants were admitted to SANCCOB Port Elizabeth in the days following the spill as and when SANParks Rangers could gain access to the notoriously treacherous St Croix Island, with high sea swells persisting and threatening safety.



“While SANCCOB has an explicit responsibility to respond to seabirds affected by oil spills, we strongly object to the permitting of fuel bunkering in close proximity to endangered seabird colonies”

A team of oiled wildlife responders from SANCCOB's Cape Town centre were deployed to the Eastern Cape to assist SANCCOB Port Elizabeth (PE) staff to timeously stabilise and wash oiled seabirds. To add to the tragedy, oiled eggs and African penguin chicks were also admitted during the rescue operation, subsequently abandoned by oiled parent birds. Sadly, the eggs were 100% oiled and the fumes and toxins from the oil had suffocated the embryos developing inside. With the smallest chick admitted weighing only 64g, a full-scale chick rearing room was set up, and shift work was implemented to give these compromised chicks a fighting chance, from early morning until late at night.

The birds were severely contaminated and many were completely covered in thick, heavy fuel oil. To understand the severity, Heavy Fuel Oil (HFO), also referred to as bunker fuel, is the remnant substance from petroleum processes and is a viscous tar-like substance that is persistent in the marine environment and very slow to biodegrade. Oil spills have severe impacts on seabirds, and penguins are especially prone to oiling because they are flightless, and therefore unable to fly over polluted areas. Oil reduces the seabirds' insulation, leaving them vulnerable to hypothermia, and causes skin irritation and ulcers. In an attempt to preen oil off their plumage, seabirds invariably ingest some of the highly toxic fuel oil, which disrupts their endocrine systems. Despite the best efforts of rescue and rehabilitation, oiled African penguins that are cleaned and released have lower breeding success than unoiled birds. Standard protocols include collecting oiled feather samples from affected seabirds, which were analysed at the Nelson Mandela University. These were compared against bunker oil samples and sea oil samples. The results showed a clear correlation between the oiled feather samples and the bunker sample, confirming that the oil was a



result of the offshore bunkering operations. Fortunately, the oil spill response was covered by insurance. The South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) issued the owner of the vessel with a fine of R350 000 and obtained a letter of guarantee for R5 million security to cover the clean-up.

The oiled wildlife rehabilitation efforts continued at SANCCOB Port Elizabeth throughout August, September and October. The effort was hampered by extreme weather. Birds that met the strict release criteria were released from early August and were handed back to their custodians, SANParks, to transport them to Bird Island by boat and air.

OFFSHORE SHIP-TO-SHIP BUNKERING

We are grateful for the commitment from staff, volunteers and interns, our conservation partner, SANParks, as well as Orca Foundation, Nature's Valley Trust, Bayworld, and Robbie Francis of Stampede Cruises. Thank you all for dedicating your resources to assist during this time.

Offshore ship-to-ship bunkering operations have been permitted in Algoa Bay since 2016 and are one of the major threats to seabirds in the region. As Algoa Bay is a well-positioned stop-over route and offshore bunkering is convenient as vessels avoid port fees and save time by not diverting to berth into port, oil tankers and commercial vessels prefer this method of refuelling. The Bird Island group within Algoa Bay is part of the Marine Protected Area

established by SANParks as part of the Greater Addo Elephant National Park. St Croix holds the largest remaining population of endangered African penguins in the world and Bird Island has the largest stronghold of endangered Cape gannets. Since 2016 SANCCOB has strongly objected to the bunkering permits issued by SAMSA and Transnet Port Authority and, furthermore, the absence of a contingency plan for oiled wildlife. Through our active involvement on the Bunkering Environmental Working Group and via direct engagement with the bunkering operators, SANCCOB is working towards ensuring adequate mitigation measures are in place in anticipation of the next environmental disaster. Since it is not a legal requirement in South Africa for maritime entities to have an oiled wildlife contingency plan, SANCCOB must work hard to promote oiled wildlife preparedness and response as an integral part of mainstream oil spill response among its partners and government, as well as the oil, gas and shipping industries.

In comparison to other oil spills, the amount of oil spilled from the MV Chrysanthi S seems small. However, there is no correlation between the volume of oil spilled and the number of birds affected.

Washing an oiled penguin at SANCCOB Port Elizabeth



SANCCOB AND GLOBAL PREPAREDNESS

SANCCOB is part of a Global Oiled Wildlife Response System (GOWRS); a network of responders established to develop and improve oiled wildlife response capabilities and techniques throughout the world. In-person meetings are organised annually to practise response drills and exercises. SANCCOB joined the group in Germany in 2019, and participated in a desktop training exercise with the German authorities from the Maritime Centre for Coordination in Cuxhaven and representatives from Schleswig-Holstein (a state in northern Germany). The scenario involved an oil spill in the River Elbe, which affected three German states. This exercise provided valuable insight into how GOWRS operates as an entity that offers oiled wildlife response capabilities in a foreign country.

In January 2020, SANCCOB CEO, Dr Stephen van der Spuy, participated in the UK meeting at one of the System's member organisations, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA).

SANCCOB has developed a strong partnership with GI WACAF (Global Initiative West and Central Africa) as the principal oiled wildlife response organisation in the region. GI WACAF is a project between the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) and the International Petroleum Industry Environmental Conservation Association (IPIECA) that was created to enhance the capacity of partner countries to prepare for and respond to marine oil spills. GI WACAF works in close cooperation with relevant national authorities in 22 African countries. By doing so, GI WACAF is contributing to better protection of the marine environment in the region.

In 2019, SANCCOB attended the 8th GI WACAF Regional Conference with government delegates representing all African states on the Atlantic coastline of Africa (South Africa to Mauritania). SANCCOB presented a case-study on the oil spill in Algoa Bay and hosted 30 delegates at the SANCCOB centre in Cape Town for a tour and a more in-depth discussion on oiled wildlife response.

SANCCOB's Christian Triay (standing) attended the Global Oiled Wildlife Response System (GOWRS) in-person meeting in Germany



SAFE (SAVING ANIMALS FROM EXTINCTION) DISASTER RELIEF PROJECT – SUPPORTING SANCCOB’S PREPAREDNESS CAPABILITY

SANCCOB has partnered with the Association of Zoos and Aquariums (USA) Saving Animals from Extinction (SAFE) programme to address African penguin conservation. The African penguin was chosen as one of the signature species in 2015. A multifaceted approach that involved all stakeholders took on the goal to enhance sustainable wild African penguin populations. One objective is disaster relief, aimed at improving oil spill preparedness and response for African penguins in South Africa and Namibia.

A major aspect of preparedness is having a store of pre-determined equipment that can be accessed quickly in the event of oil spills affecting seabirds. The SAFE programme enabled us to purchase a dedicated container and equipment, which is stored on-site at SANCCOB Port Elizabeth and is strictly utilised for oiled wildlife response purposes. The necessary equipment stored and maintained in the container includes capture and transportation items, Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) and equipment that decontaminates oiled seabirds.

‘We promote preparedness because when an oil spill happens, chaos and disorder ensue, especially in the first 72 hours. By stockpiling the required equipment and having a contingency plan, the chances of a successful response are greatly increased.’

The Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation expressed interest in the feasibility of supporting seabird rehabilitation and oiled wildlife preparedness in Namibia as part of their corporate social responsibility. This engagement was largely due to a successful meeting held in 2018 when SANCCOB and AZA SAFE visited Namibia to investigate ways to assist African penguin conservation efforts. In 2019, SANCCOB hosted the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation and gave delegates a tour of the SANCCOB hospital and rehabilitation centre in Cape Town, and also discussed the types of seabirds admitted to our facility and the threats facing them.



Jess Phillips of The Maryland Zoo in Baltimore with SANCCOB's Christian Triay, Nicky Stander and Stephen van der Spuy in Oranjemund, Namibia

As in South Africa, the African penguin population in Namibia has declined drastically. In March a productive workshop was held in Lüderitz between Namibian government authorities, the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation, SANCCOB, and AZA SAFE, which highlighted the urgent need to preserve the remaining African

penguins and other threatened seabirds along the Namibian coastline. The African penguin species occurs in Southern Africa, and if we are trying to save the species, it must be done holistically and we cannot restrict our efforts to a single location or country. Thank you to the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation for arranging and sponsoring the workshop.

During the week-long workshop, SANCCOB presented to the delegates, who included city and ministry representatives, academics, researchers, conservationists and our hosts, the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation. The presentation outlined SANCCOB's recommendations to the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation from Levels 1-3: the basic Level 1 recommendation is to provide financial aid to the existing seabird rehabilitation facilities in Namibia that would fund much-needed upgrades to the facility and essential equipment. Level 2 comprised of funding oiled wildlife preparedness and response in the form of designated stockpiled oiled wildlife response equipment, OWR training and contingency planning. We soon realised during the site visits that we needed to pitch exactly what was required to have the greatest impact, and so Level 3 proposed that a brand new state-of-the-art rehabilitation facility is built in Lüderitz to replace the existing facility, as well as Level 2 designated stockpiled oiled wildlife response equipment, OWR training and contingency planning.

The response from the Debmarine-Namdeb Foundation was favourable and the remainder of the week was spent looking at possible locations suitable for a rehabilitation facility. The SANCCOB team returned to Cape Town eager to start the real work on this exciting collaboration when the Covid-19 pandemic hit, which caused the progress on the project to slow down. We look forward to getting back on track with this important project soon.

EDUCATION



TOURING VISITORS

The centres saw 13,660 touring visitors during this period, many of whom often flock to see the feeding of the home pen birds at specific times of the day. Visitors are given a brief history of SANCCOB's establishment before they are taken on an informative tour of the facility. As expected, the improvements to the facility in the Western Cape increased the number of tour visitors. Many previous volunteers and visitors were delighted to see the new facility and reminisced on all the good, old times spent at the hospital.

SCHOOL GROUPS

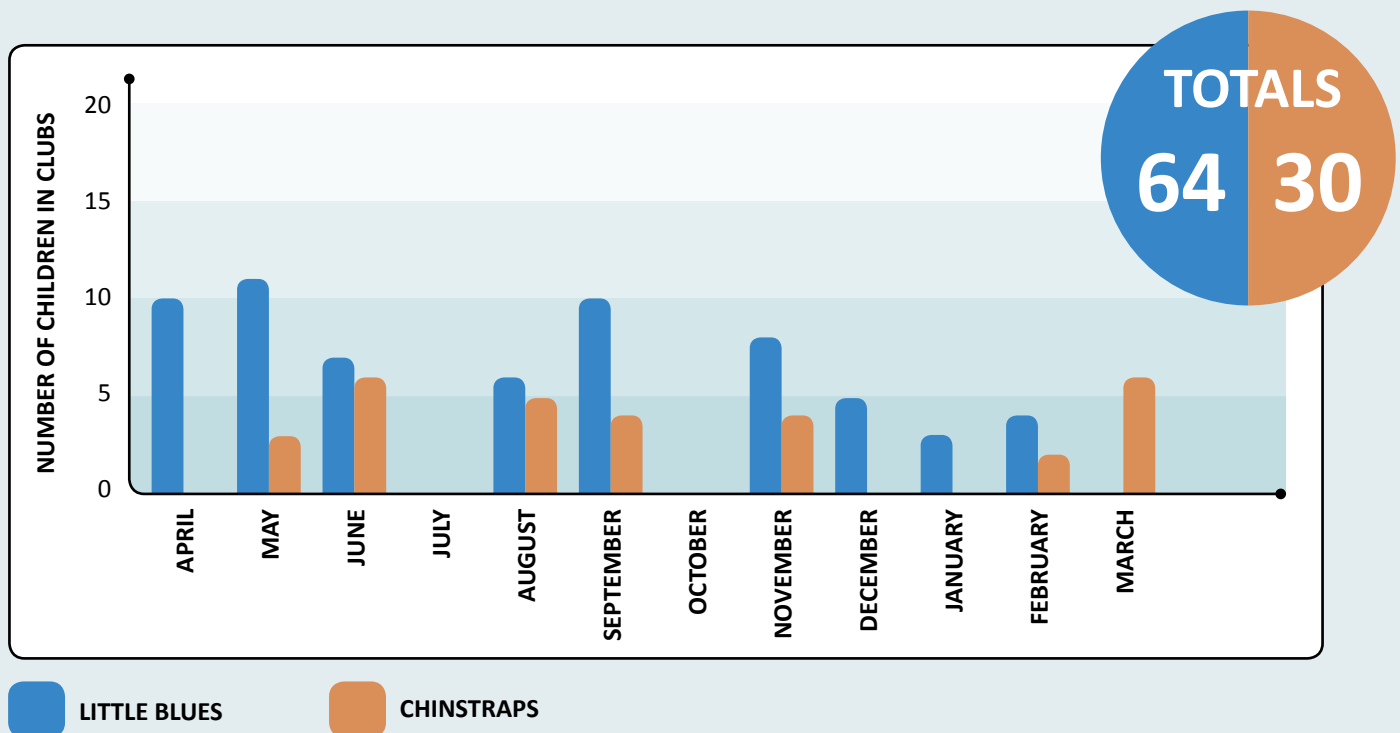
During this period SANCCOB's Education teams saw over 4,500 learners both on-site and off-site. Many local schools build a visit to SANCCOB into their yearly planner and this year was no exception, apart from the schools that cancelled their visits in March due to Covid-19. The most popular lessons include the plight of penguins, their life cycle and distribution, threats and how to save the African penguin, details about SANCCOB, lessons on pollution as well as rock pool excursions and seashore search and clean-up.

Several visiting schools during the period adopted penguins, either as a class project or through their eco-clubs.



SANCCOB KIDS CLUBS

The Little Blues Club (7-11 years) and Chinstraps (12-17 years) met on Saturdays at the Port Elizabeth Centre for activities that included basic chores such as keeping the home pens clean, beach visits and clean-ups, and environmental games and crafts. These clubs are popular with young conservationists as they are allowed to complete tasks that assist the centre. We hope they continue their good work going forward and can someday assist in the volunteer programme when they are old enough.



LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS PROGRAMMES

During 2019, two programmes for special needs learners were completed. The lessons in these programmes focus on introducing learners to SANCCOB, the birds we treat and what they can do to help. This is done through interactive lessons created around the mental and physical abilities of the classes.

The Rand Merchant Bank funded programme hosted 311 learners from eight schools in the Western Cape.

The learners took part in a five-part lesson programme during the year. They had two lessons at school, one visit to SANCCOB's

centre, one beach clean-up and full access to the penguin festival event. They were provided with lunch and each school received a large resource pack to help them continue with the lessons they'd learnt. The packs included books, posters, stationery sets and recycling resources.

The De Beers Marine programme hosted 21 learners from Alpha school for learners with autism. The SANCCOB team presented two lessons at their school and invited the class for a lesson at the centre. There they could take a tour of the centre, meet one of our ambassador birds and learn how they can help save seabirds in their daily lives.

UKUVULA PROJECT

Glendale High school in Mitchell's Plain and Prestwich Primary school in Cape Town CBD took part in The Ukuvula Project this year. The learners were very excited to visit SANCCOB as well as Rietvlei Nature Reserve. The 98 learners received a lesson and were treated to a quick breakfast snack before dashing off to Eden on the Bay for a beach clean-up. The learners had an opportunity to give back to nature by filling black bags with waste collected from the beach. Once the beach clean-up ended, the exhausted youngsters enjoyed a meal at Moyo where, as a send-off gift, the schools were each given 50 customised bags filled with stationery and resources to continue with environmental lessons in their classrooms.

NATIONAL MARINE WEEK

The SANCCOB Port Elizabeth Education Department attended National Marine Week, hosted by the Ocean Sciences Department at the Nelson Mandela University. More than 460 learners attended the SANCCOB exhibit, which focused on marine pollution and seabirds. The Education Manager attended a Sustainable Seas Trust (SST) Educational Workshop on zero tolerance towards plastic waste. Delegates from South Africa and other African countries presented their activities and research findings. Small group discussions were held to discuss how best to grow and improve education regarding plastic waste.

PORT ELIZABETH DISCOVERY ROOM UPGRADE

The Education Department in Port Elizabeth was the grateful recipient of funding from the National Lottery Commission for the upgrading of its Discovery Room. Here, school learners gather for lessons, and visitors to the Centre start their tours. Hardware improvements to the Discovery Room included cabinets, shelving, folding chairs and tables, a 55-inch TV screen and DVD player as well as office desks and chairs. Additional taxidermy specimens were procured as well as various environmental games.



PENGUIN PALOOZA

On 7 December, we celebrated our 4th Annual Penguin Palooza in collaboration with CapeNature at the Stony Point colony in Betty's Bay. The day started with the release of rehabilitated African penguins back into the wild, and SANCCOB hosted an information and shop table. Activities such as raffles, colouring-in competitions and scavenger hunts were held, with many happy winners emerging with a

range of prizes. Representatives from WWF, Shark Warriors and CapeNature also had exhibits for the public.

Four of our international volunteers joined us on the day to assist and to partake in the release of the penguins. Despite the windy conditions, the Penguin Palooza was a successful event.

PENGUIN FESTIVAL

2019 was a year marked with changes to our Annual Penguin Festival in Simon's Town in the Western Cape. With its venue changed from the Navy sports field to Simon's Town School, the event took place on 5 October 2019. As the weather was very agreeable, this year's festival received a large number of visitors to both the penguin release and the festival itself, despite the distance between the two areas. Families happily walked up from Seaforth beach to the festival venue while being guided by marshals and traffic officials to ensure their safety.

The Kids Zone bustled with children and parents alike, while our exhibitors and food stalls kept the festival flowing. The kids' zone included inflatable rides, a face-painting zone, an activity area hosted by CTEET and a pedal-bike course sponsored by Pedal Power Association. Exhibitors from several conservation organisations such as CTEET, WWF-SASSI and Shark Warriors, and departments within the City of Cape Town set up interactive stalls to keep crowds entertained and educated.

To celebrate the annual event, the Eastern Cape centre hosted a release event during which the

public could witness the release of 10 rehabilitated African penguins back into the wild. The unique and ideal location of the facility means that events like these can present a source income. Being within walking distance from the release, most of the visitors opted to pick up something from the SANCCOB store and even to go on a tour of the facility. This was a successful day for the entire team.

A very big thank you to our conservation partners, staff and volunteers who assisted in planning and hosting these festivals.



NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK

SANCCOB participated in the 2019 National Science Week under the theme, “Facing the harsh realities of climate change”, with activities such as on-site and off-site school lessons. In Cape Town, a public talk was presented by BirdLife South Africa CEO, Mark Anderson, on the Lesser flamingo, a topic close to our hearts, after the large number of Lesser flamingo chicks were admitted to SANCCOB for hand-rearing in early 2019. In Port Elizabeth, Professor Pierre Pistorius of Nelson Mandela University presented on the effects of global warming on seabirds on Marion Island.

An open day was held at the SANCCOB Cape Town facility which drew a large number of people who toured the centre and visited information stations set up by all departments. Visitors could thus interact with staff at the exhibition tables, and enjoyed a unique and interactive experience.

Unfortunately, the open day planned for our centre in Port Elizabeth had to be cancelled due to the oil spill caused by ship-to-ship bunkering in Algoa Bay. A workshop was also held in Cape Town with the managing authorities on the effects of climate change on seabird colonies.

EXTENDING NATIONAL SCIENCE WEEK TO SCHOOLS

During the last week of July, the SANCCOB Cape Town education team visited three schools for lessons as part of the National Science Week initiative. The schools visited were Masiphumelele High School in Ocean View, Dunoon Primary School in Dunoon and Hector Peterson High school in Wallacedene. Our programme concentrated on climate change and the effect it has on our seabirds. We saw 456 learners who would not have covered this topic in their normal curriculum or had an opportunity to visit SANCCOB. The learners watched a presentation on how climate change affects seabirds and were guided through three stations set up in each school’s hall. The stations included:

- 1) A taxidermy area where the penguin anatomy specimens were on display;
- 2) An activity area where they received booklets specially created for this project in three different languages; and
- 3) An interactive game area set up to show learners how to conserve seabirds through practising recycling habits.

The Port Elizabeth centre hosted 240 grade 5 and 6 learners from four schools: Ilinge Primary school, WB Tshume Primary school, Melumza Primary school and Elufefeni Primary school.



VOLUNTEERING AND TRAINING



VOLUNTEERS

SANCCOB receives tremendous support from volunteers throughout the year, and 2019 proved no different. SANCCOB would not be able to achieve the objectives of the organisation without the unwavering support of its volunteers. These dedicated people become an extension of the staff and are an integral part of the daily running of the centres. Not only do volunteers assist with the hands-on work with the seabirds, but also in all functions of the centre such as education, research, marketing and administration.

Both the local and international volunteer programmes were well supported at the centres in the Western and Eastern Cape. The international volunteer programme attracted 133 individuals, representing 23 different countries, who supported the bird rehabilitation staff

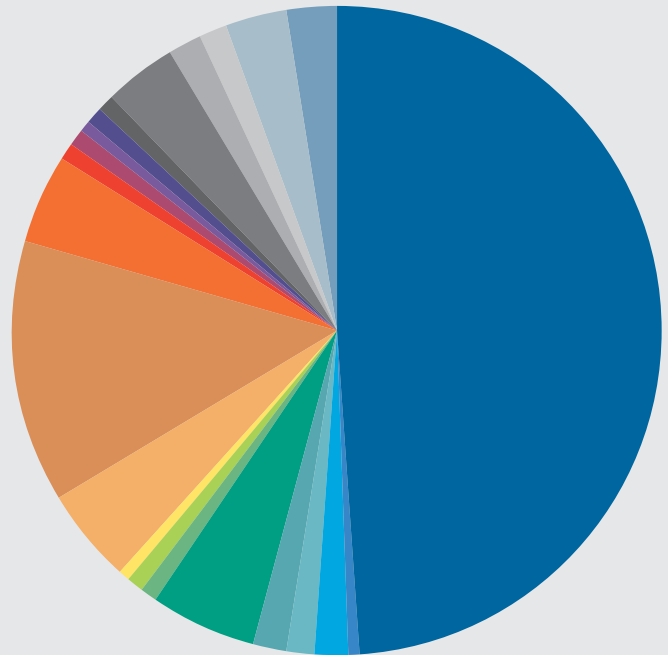
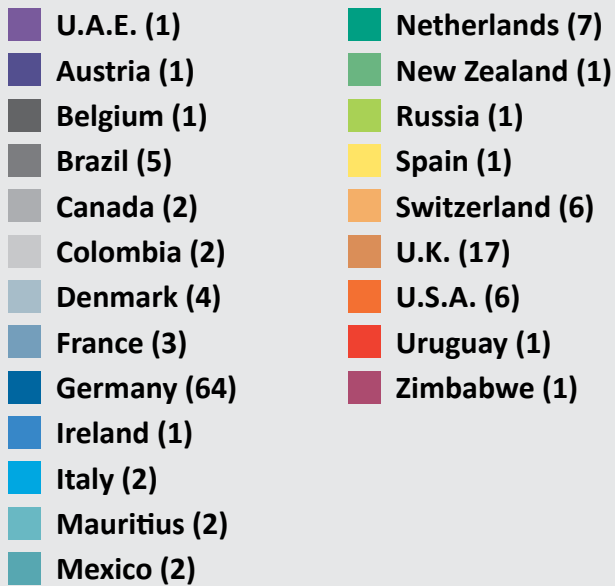
with day-to-day operations at both seabird rehabilitation centres. The local volunteer programmes continue to attract a steady stream of active volunteers who make a long-term commitment to become part of the SANCCOB team. We've also been privileged to have steadfast volunteers of the now-closed Cape St Francis centre, who travel for hours to volunteer in Port Elizabeth. This shows great passion and commitment to our organisation and the birds.

Several past volunteers and interns who returned to volunteer were awestruck by the newly built facility in Cape Town. Potential volunteers are often made aware of SANCCOB by previous volunteers, thereby proving that volunteers become local and international ambassadors for seabirds and our cause.

Volunteers, interns and staff enjoying some treats during Christmas Day duty



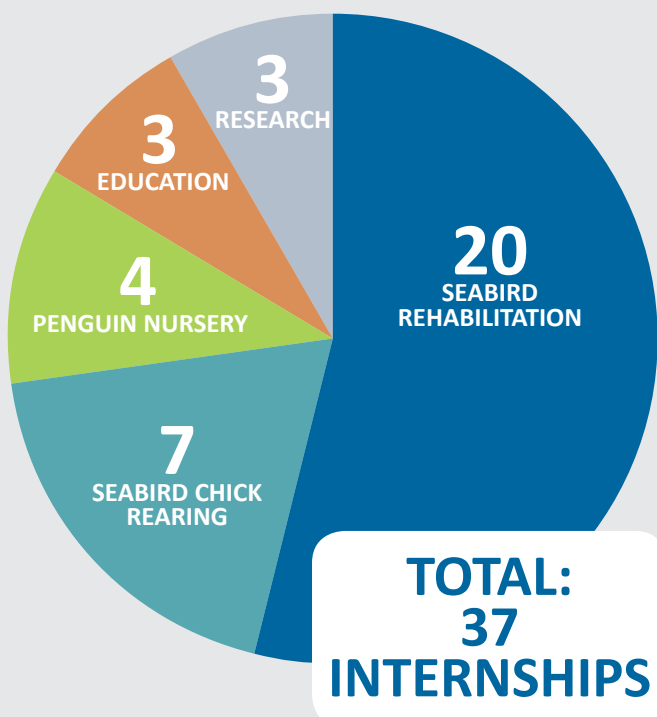
COUNTRIES OF VOLUNTEERS REPRESENTED IN THE INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER PROGRAMME



INTERNSHIPS

SANCCOB's internship programme continues to grow from strength to strength. Interns join the SANCCOB team through an independent internship programme, managed directly by SANCCOB, as well as through external internship programmes whereby SANCCOB hosts interns.

During the 2019/2020 year in review, a total of 37 new interns received training at SANCCOB, with most participating in the Seabird Rehabilitation internships. In addition, several individuals returned after previously volunteering with us. A first for SANCCOB was hosting two interns through the Tourism Blue Flag Beach Stewards Programme. For the ninth consecutive year, the National Research Foundation (NRF) has placed interns at SANCCOB. During the 2018/2019 programme, three interns were hosted at SANCCOB and all completed their year-long programme. The 2019/2020 programme saw SANCCOB awarded five interns by the NRF, three of whom have already found permanent employment within their fields. Both internship partnerships with the NRF and Tourism Blue Flag are important skills development programmes with which we are proud to be associated. We look forward to continuing with these individuals in 2020 and providing them with valuable workplace experience.



ANIMAL PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

In 2019, SANCCOB hosted a record number of 29 international zookeepers and aquaria staff in this programme. The individuals represented the following institutions: Adventure Aquarium, Alaska Sealife Centre, Denver Zoo, Seneca Park Zoo, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Little Rock Zoo, Aachener Tierpark Euregio Zoo, San Francisco Zoo, Mystic Aquarium, Georgia Aquarium, Shedd Aquarium, Dingle Ocean World, San Diego Zoo, Maryland Zoo, Florida Aquarium, Albuquerque Zoo and Jacksonville Zoo. The majority of participants join the programme during the peak period of October to January, known as “chick season” at SANCCOB.

The participants find the experience incredibly rewarding as they are able to develop their skills in working with seabirds, share their particular skills with SANCCOB and further develop the partnership between their institutions and ours. Several staff members had taken part in the programme previously and shared that many of their colleagues remain interested in working with us too.

VET EXPERIENCE

The Vet Experience programme offers local and international persons a platform to experience what a career as a veterinarian will be like. The course lasts either one or two weeks, and participants are supervised and instructed by a qualified clinical veterinarian. During the vet experience they have access to veterinary textbooks, research papers and veterinary standard operating procedures for self-study. In 2019, SANCCOB received 16 vet experience participants – 10 were international and six were local. Dr Braam Steyn, who took part in the programme at the end of 2019, has since come on board in 2020 as a CCS Vet for SANCCOB.



RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

SANCCOB's income increased year-on-year from R17,416,821* (for the period 1 April in 2018 to 31 March 2019) to R22,349,307* in 2019/2020. A large proportion of income is donated by South African trusts and corporates as well as international zoos and aquaria, which raise funds for conservation work on the ground.

Income from grant-making foundations grew slightly to R2,220,400 and the income mainly covered specific projects at our organisation. The largest proportion of funds came from international zoos and aquaria in North America and Europe, contributing a total amount of R4,196,721.

* Included in the income is deferred income. Deferred income for the year ended 31 March 2019 amounted to R70,685.41; the deferred income for the year ended 31 March 2020 included more than R5 million in bequests.

Another important income stream at SANCCOB is the donations from individuals. Even in challenging economic times, the Resource Development team managed to increase the donations through the penguin adoption programme. The adopt-a-penguin initiative increased from 2018 by nearly 25% to an amount of R1,186,907 for the year in review.

The other individual giving initiatives remained more or less stable year-to-year, with a total gifted amount by individuals of R1,770,331. We received more than 1,000 gifts from individuals alone, and cannot do without them.

CAPITAL PROJECTS

An exciting development at the Port Elizabeth Centre was the construction of the new rehabilitation pool with extended pens. The pool is nearing completion. The gates to the pens and the netting cover are still to be installed. Kate Routledge of Sigma Consulting is the Project Manager, with assistance from Stephen and Stacey Webb, the previous manager of SANCCOB Port Elizabeth. We are fortunate to have been donated and offered cost price on consultancy time, building supplies, paint and a filter system for this project. Funds for the project were received from the National Lotteries Commission through the National Lottery Distribution Trust Fund (NLDTF), MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet,

the Pueblo Zoo and many other generous organisations and individual donors. We are extremely grateful to all the sponsors who made this venture possible. The pool will streamline the rehabilitation process of birds at SANCCOB and will contribute majorly to the recovery process of these ill or injured birds.



NATIONAL LOTTERIES COMMISSION
LOTTO FUNDED

EVENTS

SANCCOB was the beneficiary of the West Coast Athletics Club, the UCT Underwater Club, and the Takealot Golf day, and was the first non-profit to benefit from a recycled bag initiative, launched at Pick n Pay retail stores across the country. Ford Wildlife Foundation came on board and loaned us a vehicle for the transportation of seabirds, research activities and our marine education outreach efforts. An enjoyable event was held at Ford Imperial Paarden Eiland, where the key to the vehicle was handed over.

The Port Elizabeth centre took part in and hosted many events during the year, starting with the Splash Festival over the Easter weekend, where the SANCCOB exhibit raised awareness amongst the many visitors to the City. Regular beach clean-up outings were held as well as partnering with Re-Trade and the Sustainable Seas Trust for the International Coastal Clean-up Day in September. The annual SANCCOB benefit auction in Port Elizabeth that was due to be held in March 2020 was postponed indefinitely due to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Other events included exhibiting on World Oceans Day, Welcoming of the Whales festival and Night at the Museum, which included showing a movie at the Centre during the school holidays. Sunset walks from SANCCOB to the lighthouse and back were held during the warmer months. The Pedal for Penguins spin-a-thon event was initiated this year and this popular new fundraiser is set to become a more permanent feature on SANCCOB's event calendar.

Cause-Related Marketing (CRM) campaigns and other fundraising initiatives connecting individuals to our cause are opportunities to build brand partnerships and we hope to succeed in engaging more business partners, locally and internationally. We keep donors and supporters up to date via our newsletters and invite you to subscribe online at www.sanccob.co.za.



EXTRACT FROM STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

FINANCIALS

The financials reported on cover a 12-month period from 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Thanks to the support of a wide range of long-term and new partners, we are able to maintain the standard of care provided to seabird patients at our centres, and support conservation work in the wild. We are grateful for the funding received from each donor that enables us to save the seabirds of Southern Africa.

SANCCOB NPC (Registration number: 2001/026273/08)

Annual Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2020

FIGURES IN RANDS	12 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2020	15 MONTHS ENDED 31 MARCH 2019
Revenue	15,071,533	19,977,686
Cost of sales	(505,627)	(662,061)
Gross profit	14,565,906	19,315,625
Other income	1,156,539	1,405,741
Operating expenses	(16,751,223)	(18,391,267)
Operating (loss) profit	(1,028,778)	2,330,099
Investment revenue	963,025	1,111,620
Fair value adjustments	(645,204)	(631,736)
Finance costs	(362)	(3,387)
Total comprehensive (loss) income for the year	(711,319)	2,806,596

The above is an extract from the audited Annual Financial Statements. For full disclosure, please refer to the Statement of Comprehensive Income found on Page 9 of the financial statements.

CURRENT STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**ALBERT SNYMAN**

Researcher

ALEX ROGERS

Educator

ANDILE MDLULI

Robben Island
Seabird Ranger

ANGELA WILMOT

Volunteer and Intern
Coordinator

BUHLE MKONA

Coffee Shop Assistant

CURTLY AMBROSE

Bird Rehabilitator

DR DAVID ROBERTS

Clinical Veterinarian

DEBORAH LAYNE

Bird Rehabilitator PE

EDUARD DROST

Seabird Monitor EC

FELICIA PLAATJIES

Coffee Shop Assistant

FRANCÉ VAN WYK

Bird Rehabilitator

GAVIN PETERSON

Assistant Marine Ranger -
Stony Point

HEDWICH TULP

Relationship Manager

DR KATTA LUDYNIA

Research Manager

KYLE MAURER

Bird Rehabilitator

DR LAUREN WALLER

Leiden Conservation Fellow

MARGOT COLLETT

PE Centre Manager

MELISSA CADMAN

Chick Rearing
Unit Supervisor

MELISSA-ANN KNOTT

Accountant

MICHELLE

BRACKENRIDGE

Administrator PE

NATALIE MASKELL

Chief Operating Officer

NICOLA STANDER

Preparedness and
Response Manager

NOLEEN CHITWERE

Housekeeper

NOLIEN JANSE

VAN VUUREN

Bird Rehabilitator PE

PETER VAN DER LINDE

Bird Rehabilitator

REENE NAGESSUR

Receptionist

ROMY KLUSENER

Rehabilitation Manager

RONNIS DANIELS

Head of Communications
and Individual Giving

RUSHAAN MARTHEZE

Procurement and
Inventory Officer

SHARNAY WAGNER

Education Supervisor

SIBONGILE GEORGE

Rehabilitation Assistant

STEPHANIE BRISLAND

Data Administrator

XOLA TSEWU

Marketing and Fundraising
Coordinator PE

ZAINAB MOUTON

Fundraiser

ZAMOKUHLE LAZOLA

Bird Rehabilitator PE

BOARD OF DIRECTORS**DR SAMANTHA PETERSEN**

Chairperson

DR STEPHEN VAN DER SPUY

Chief Executive Officer

INGE CILLIERS

Treasurer

DR AZWIANEWI MAKHADO

Board Director

DR ANTON WOLFAARDT

Board Director

VERNON BOULLE

Board Director

In addition to staff listed,
SANCCOB also funds the
placement of four Penguin
and Seabird Rangers.

FUNDERS AND SUPPORTERS



R5,000 - R9,999

- Alexander, X
- Allwetterzoo Münster
- Attica Zoological Park
- Audubon Nature Institute
- Baber, J
- Bear, L
- Bletcher, D
- Brinkworth, M
- Broderick, E
- Bruce, S
- Catherwood, L
- Charalambides, E
- Charlo Athletic Club
- Chris Baker & Associates
- Eudyptula, M
- Green, A
- Halo Water Systems
- Henry Vilas Zoo
- Herbert Hurd Primary School
- IPEICA - International Petroleum Industry
- Environmental Conservation Association
- Jean Monnet University
- Jenkinson's Aquarium
- Kirsten, J
- Koffie Venter Trust
- Kunkel, C
- Kunz, G
- Marie C Durand, J
- Mc Owen, B
- MTT (Pty) Ltd
- Newall, A
- Orange Thunder Technologies CC t/a SimplePay
- Pistoia Zoo
- Rotary Club of Claremont
- Schroeder, C
- Shadowlands Wholesale Nursery
- Souness, C
- Spoor & Fisher
- Stadt Aachen
- Ureflex
- Visser, M

- Wildwood Wildlife Park Zoo & Safari
- Minocqua Wisconsin
- Zoological Society of Hertfordshire

R10,000 - R19,999

- African Creative
- Cockcroft, H
- Denapoli, D
- Faruk Yalçın Zoo
- Honolulu Zoo
- Ingram, E
- La Palmyre Zoo
- Lansberry, K
- Lemar, E
- Little Rock Zoo
- Masser, C
- Naidoo, P
- Noakes Family Charitable Trust
- P S Policansky Will Trust
- Ross, V
- Schwarz Upliftment Trust
- Six Flags Discovery Kingdom
- SSI Schaefer Systems South Africa (Pty) Ltd
- The Forest Drive Trust
- The Nth Dimension Ltd
- The Roundabout Kids
- The Royal Portfolio - Silo Hotel
- UCT Underwater Club
- Veilleux, M
- Whittaker, G
- Wuppertal Zoo

R20,000-R49,999

- Ackerman, W
- Adventure Aquarium
- Antwerp Zoo - Koninklijke Maatschappij voor Dierkunde
- Beyer, J
- Cassim Veterinary Anaesthetics
- Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden
- Como Park Zoo and Conservatory
- Daikoku, Y

- EG Wood Will Trust
- First Technology Western Cape (Pty) Ltd
- Isa Carstens Academy
- Jacksonville Zoo and Gardens
- JDI Foundation
- Leipzig Zoo
- ZooTampa at Lowry Park
- Minnesota Zoo (Minnesota Zoo Foundation)
- Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Moody Gardens
- MySchool MyVillage MyPlanet
- Ocean Basket
- Océarium du Croisic
- OdySea Aquarium
- Pueblo Zoo
- Sea Life Paris
- Tampa Bay American Association of Zoo Keepers
- The Leers Charitable Trust
- Tulsa Zoo
- V & A Waterfront Holdings (Pty) Ltd
- Wrocław Zoo
- Zoo Basel
- Zoomarine Italia

R50,000-R99,999

- ARTIS Amsterdam Royal Zoo
- Barbara and Edwin Courtenay Charitable Trust
- Bristol Zoological Society
- Brookfield Zoo (Chicago Zoological Society)
- Dierenpark Amersfoort (DierenPark Amersfoort Wildlife Fund)
- Joan St Leger Lindbergh Charitable Trust
- Lisbon Zoo (Jardim Zoológico e de Aclimação)
- Lomas Wildlife Protection Trust
- Mapula Trust
- Maryland Zoo in Baltimore
- Memphis Zoo
- National Aviary Pittsburgh
- Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo
- Satch Krantz Conservation Fund
- Saginaw Valley Zoological Society Children's Zoo at Celebration Square (Saginaw Children's Zoo)
- Schneier, S
- Seneca Park Zoo Society
- Wags and Menace Make a Difference Foundation
- West Edmonton Mall Marine Life

R100,000 and above

- Aachener Tierpark
- Abax Foundation
- ACTIF Foundation
- Birdworld
- Cheyenne Mountain Zoo
- Columbus Zoo and Aquarium
- De Beers Marine
- Fort Wayne Children's Zoo
- Greensboro Science Center
- Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust
- Le Pal Zoo
- Leiden Conservation Foundation
- Rand Merchant Bank
- Ripley's Aquarium of the Smokies
- Sarangi, P
- Steinhart Aquarium - California Academy of Sciences
- Stichting Wildlife
- The Supreme Master Ching Hai International Association
- Toronto Zoo
- Tshikululu
- Wave Foundation
- Zoo Duisburg

CAMPAIGN PARTNERS AND SPONSORS

- African Creative
- Firststrand Volunteers
- Ford Wildlife Foundation
- Paarman Landscapes
- Parklands Superspar
- Rotary Club of Claremont
- Spec-Savers South Africa
- Takealot
- Two Oceans Aquarium
- WaddleOn by Marts

IN-KIND SUPPORTERS

- Arbalest
- Atlantis Foods Group
- Cassim Veterinary Anaesthetics
- First Technology Western Cape (Pty) Ltd
- Gibbs, M
- Halo Water Systems
- Lomaen Medical (Pty) Ltd
- Misselbrook, P
- National Nuclear Regulator
- Shadowlands Wholesale Nursery
- Steinhart Aquarium - California Academy of Sciences

IMAGE SOURCES

Cover:	Noel McShane/Pexels
Contents page:	Michael Luenen/Pixabay
Page 5:	Jeffrey Abrahams
Page 6:	Patrizia08/Pixabay
Page 8:	Kelvin Trautman
Page 9:	Joshua Rubin
Page 12/29/37:	Bjorn Krietsch
Page 16:	Jean van Der Meulen/Pexels
Page 20:	Nola Parsons
Page 26:	Paul Nicolson/Pixabay
Page 30:	Cindy Mazadiego
Page 32:	Richard Llewellyn
Page 37:	Jameelah Ebrahim
Back cover:	Christo Ras/Pixabay





TABLE VIEW

22 Pentz Drive, Table View, Cape Town,
Western Cape, 7441, South Africa
Tel: +27 21 557 6155
Fax: +27 21 557 8804

PORT ELIZABETH

Cape Recife Nature Reserve, Marine Drive,
Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape, 6011
Tel: +27 41 583 1830
Fax: +27 41 583 1835

After hours and weekends:

Tel: +27 78 638 3731 (Cape Town)
Tel: +27 64 019 8936 (Port Elizabeth)

Support SANCCOB

Account holder: SANCCOB
Bank: First National Bank
Branch: Table View
Branch code: 203 809
Account number: 5923 713 5859
Account type: Current
Swift code: FIRNZAJJ
Email: reception@sanccob.co.za

Registration Number: 2001/026273/08
NPO number: 003-134 NPO
PBO number: 130001247

SANCCOB will issue Section 18A tax certificates for donations of R100 or more per annum to donors eligible for tax in South Africa, in accordance with the Income Tax Act 58 of 1962.



www.sanccob.co.za