



SOUTHERN AFRICAN WILDLIFE COLLEGE



The SAWC was established in 1997 in close cooperation with all interested and affected parties in Southern Africa; including national and provincial government departments, other conservation agencies, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

The principal business and corporate direction of the SAWC is encapsulated in its vision to empower and inspire future leaders in the fields of tourism and conservation, as well as others involved in environmental practices, to embrace the challenges of conservation in Africa. The major stakeholders include conservation agencies, tourism and hospitality sectors, local communities and private business.

In recognition of the fact that the future of our continent depends on the future of our natural heritage, the Wildlife College offers cutting edge hands-on training programmes, aimed at giving protected area managers the motivation and skills they need to become partners in conserving our continent and its associated fauna and flora on a sustainable basis and in cooperation with local communities.

The SAWC is an independent SADC training institution and does not receive a government subsidy. Registered as a non-profit organization (registration number 046-675-NPO), the SAWC is proudly supported by both the Peace Parks Foundation (PPF) and the Worldwide Fund for Nature – South Africa (WWF-SA) together with SACET, an independent Capital Trust Fund set up by WWF-SA in 1999 to provide a reliable income stream for the Wildlife College in perpetuity.



The SAWC aims to:

- Provide and develop high quality, informative and inspiring courses for protected area managers and other parties.
- Provide accreditation of training courses that will attain recognition in their own right but will also complement and link into a spectrum of protected area natural resource management training options available in southern Africa.
- Use training as a vehicle for the exchange of ideas, information, and expertise in order to promote cooperation between conservation organisations and cultures.
- Promote an integrated approach to the management of natural resource and protected areas that is appropriate to Africa: focusing especially on the role of local communities and other stakeholders in the sustainable management of resources.
- To train and develop people to manage newly created Trans-frontier Conservation Areas (TFCAs) in a manner which will be regionally and nationally consistent and will encourage the management of natural resources in a sustainable and culturally acceptable manner. This in turn will empower, uplift and capacity-build communities associated with the TFCAs with the aim of making a substantial impact in terms of addressing economic and unemployment issues.
- Be a dynamic, flexible and service-orientated organisation which aims to become a role model for socially and environmentally responsible development.
- To promote and support the work of the College by providing customized educational programmes suited to the international community who have an interest in wildlife, conservation and the environment. This includes customized education programmes for schools, universities and other groups.

The training offered by the Southern African Wildlife College is characterized by a hands-on, practical and highly participatory approach, which is complemented by group discussions and lecture sessions. All training is aimed at providing practical skills and experience, which supplements the theoretical knowledge embedded in the core of the College's modules. The training approach is to contract in practicing professionals with the relevant experience to ensure that the training is as practical, relevant and current as possible. Mentors and students are also encouraged to interact and to embrace different experiences and ways of learning.

The Wildlife College plays a pivotal role in equipping a new generation of conservation managers with the necessary skills to deal with the key challenges facing conservation today. Closely linked to this is the role that nature-based tourism is set to play in the socio-economic development of southern Africa which in turn has allowed the College to expand its relevance and reach across borders, greatly impacting conservation across the globe.

LOCATION AND PROXIMITY TO PLACES OF INTEREST

The Southern African Wildlife College is situated in the Mpumalanga province of South Africa, 10km west of the Orpen Gate of the world-renowned Kruger National Park. It is easily accessible with regular flights to Hoedspruit, Phalaborwa and Nelspruit airports.

Located in close proximity to a number of different training areas and places of interest including Moholoholo Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, Kapama Cheetah and Lion Breeding Projects, Mafunyani Shangaan Tribal Village and Blyde River Canyon with its myriad of waterfalls, pools, rivers and gorges, the Wildlife College is able to offer a wide range of nature-based training courses and educational programmes. Through various service providers in the area, the College is also able to provide experiential training, recreational adventure sports activities and visits to local communities.

Southern African Wildlife College

Private Bag X3015, Hoedspruit, 1380, South Africa.

Tel: +27 (15) 7937300

Fax: +27 (15) 7937314

e-mail: info@sawc.org.za

www.wildlifecollege.org.za



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR INTERNATIONAL GROUPS

In addition to the full spectrum of higher and further education and training offered to field staff and managers of protected areas, the College offers tailor-made programmes for local and international visitors to introduce them to conservation and environmental issues

These programmes are suitable for and are aimed at school groups, university students, post graduate students, or working professionals looking for a unique learning adventure experience and can be tailor-made to match the time constraints, budgets and the curricula of these institutions and the needs of individuals and/or groups of individuals.

CUSTOMIZED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR SCHOOLS

Target Market: Grade 9 & 10 Individuals or School Groups

Lecturers: Subject matter experts deliver presentations outlined in the course content

Past Visitors: Swedish School Group. The focus of this trip was to expose teenagers (between the ages of 14 and 16) to the world of wildlife guardianship and a possible career in conservation. Highlights included viewing elephants on foot, white water rafting and painting two classrooms at Nxalati Primary School.

Possible Course Content

- Mammals, Reptiles, Birds and Invertebrates
- Ecological Issues
- Landscape Issues
- Community Development around Protected areas
- Environmental Education
- Animal Rehabilitation

COST OF EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES AND COURSES

The cost of all our education programmes and courses is available on request and is fully inclusive of all course costs, accommodation and meals. Costs are also dependent on group size where minimum numbers may be required. Transport to and from OR Tambo Airport, Johannesburg's International Airport or Eastgate Airport in Hoedspruit can be arranged but the cost of the programme will not include the cost of flights into or out of local and/or international airports.

CUSTOMIZED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR UNDER GRADUATE AND POST GRADUATE STUDENTS

Target Market: Students studying Biological Sciences; Animal Sciences; Environmental Sciences including Environmental Management and Land Use & Planning; Community Health and Community Development

Lecturers: Subject matter experts deliver presentations outlined in the course content

Past Visitors: Michigan State, University of Virginia, Connecticut Central, AB College, Texas A & M and Grand Valley in the US; Katho from Belgium, the University of Queensland, Australia, and locally-based Pretoria University and Tshwane University of Technology.

Specific Short Courses can be presented for Universities or can be tailor-made to requirements.

Possible Topics for Specific Presentations and Lectures

- Anti-Poaching
- Bovine & Feline Tuberculosis and other Wildlife Diseases
- Carnivore Management
- Community-Wildlife Conflict and Interactions
- Wildlife Electric Fencing
- Erosion Management and Rehabilitation
- Eco-Tourism and Conservation
- Endangered Wildlife (Research & Management)
- Fire Management
- Game Censuses (Reasons & Methodology)
- Herbivore and Habitat Management including Alien Biota
- Infrastructure Management
- Veld and Water Management Practices
- Veterinary Research (Role and Importance in Wildlife Management)
- Social Structures and Behavior of African Elephants
- Hunting and Conservation
- Importance of Scientific Research in Wildlife Management Practices
- Cultural Heritage Site Management

CUSTOMIZED EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES FOR PEOPLE/WORKING PROFESSIONALS WHO WANT TO LEARN MORE ABOUT CONSERVATION AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

Target Market: Business people or delegations with an interest in wildlife management, conservation and environmental issues. Other areas of interest that can be included are socio-economic development and poverty alleviation programmes in and around parks and wildlife areas. The target audience also includes the donor community, decision makers and people who just want to learn more. Courses can be tailored according to the needs of the audience.

Lecturers: Subject matter experts deliver presentations outlined in the course content which is based on the groups needs. The courses and workshops are both informative and interactive.

Past Visitors: Various business delegations and interested parties or groups which for example have included a high profile Gambian delegation led by the Honourable Minister of Forestry, accompanied by the Director of Forestry, the Director of Parks and Wildlife Management and the Technical Assistance Director of Wildlife Management coordinated by the Department of Environmental Affairs.

These informative and innovative courses and workshops are aimed at giving participants a valuable insight into the Wildlife College, current conservation issues and wildlife management practices as well as community development around conservation areas.

Important topics such as anti-poaching and the current rhino poaching crisis, professional hunting and the role it plays in conservation, wildlife conflict, community-based natural resource management, climate change and land use planning can also be included on the agenda. Not forgetting to mention insights into other conservation issues such as environmental degradation, soil erosion, water catchment and fire management.

VENTURE INTO THE REALM OF TRACKING

Target Market: Select individuals or groups that are interested in learning more about the art of tracking in the African bush. Course participants need to have a certain level of fitness which will enable them to carry out the practical tasks associated with tracking and animal identification.

Lecturers: Subject matter experts and experienced trackers

Past Visitors: This is a new course being launched in 2012 and dates can be coordinated with the Wildlife College.

In Africa the task of tracking down wild roaming animals, or hardened groups of poachers, is usually left to a very select group of individuals. This is because the skill of tracking is not taught in a classroom or learnt from books; it is developed and honed through spending many hours on foot and walking through the African bush. Not an activity many individuals relish. However passionate people who take the time to learn the basics of this skill, will have the unique opportunity to experience the true African savanna on a far more intimate level.

Learning to identify and interpret signs of the presence of wildlife or humans opens up a whole new world of experience and reward. The partnership between the Southern African Wildlife College and Moholoholo, offers the perfect blend. The Southern African Wildlife College, located in the greater Kruger National Park provides the space and wild places and specializes in training of African conservationists while Moholoholo offers the opportunity to interact with African species on a very intimate level.

This two-week programme offers you the opportunity to reawaken your senses, to track down and view Africa's wildlife under the guidance and tutelage of some of the best trackers in South Africa and spend time in the presence of the men and women who are tasked to protect Africa's wildlife. So join us and venture in to the realm of tracking by living the African adventure.

Group sizes will be limited, with no more than 10 persons per group which allows for personal supervision and interaction with the trackers.

