

Morukuru Goodwill Foundation

THESE LARGE CREATURES ARE IN VITAL NEED OF ASSISTANCE THROUGHOUT AFRICA. THE MORUKURU GOODWILL FOUNDATION IS PUTTING SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNTS OF MONEY INTO COMBATING RHINO POACHING SPECIFICALLY WITHIN MADIKWE GAME RESERVE.

The Predator Bio-diversity Project

RUN BY ROB-HARRISON WHITE

WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THE SUPPORT OF THE MGWF?

The MGWF has for a number of years been supporting the research on an often overlooked medium size predator – the black – backed jackal *Canis mesomelas*, whose legendary cunning and predatory interactions with wildlife and the livestock industry, has written this omnivore into folk-law in most African countries.

WHY SPECIFICALLY THE JACKAL, WHY NOT ANOTHER ANIMAL?

It is unfortunate that thousands of innocent animals are killed or maimed each year by control options such as gin-traps, poisons and hunting with dogs which are used in attempts to control and kill black-backed jackals. The loss of mammalian biodiversity as a result of direct interaction with these control methods is alarming. In fact, the future of many harmless species such as the riverine rabbit *Bunolagus monticularis* and the black-footed cat *Felis nigripes* is questionable. Certain vulture colonies such as the vulture colony which existed at Nelspoort in the Karoo, have already become extinct as far back as the mid 1800's, mainly as a result of the attempted poisoning of jackals with strychnine.

There is no doubt that the attempted control of this shy charismatic predator omnivore over the last 350 years has often had incalculable and devastating consequences for biodiversity both inside and outside protected areas.

Despite this prolonged conflict, no long term solutions have been forthcoming to alleviate the predations by jackals within the livestock industry context, or in the more recently formed game industry.

In fact a telephonic opinion survey study completed by The University of the Free State (Professor H.O. de Waal et al) estimated losses to the livestock industry in South Africa as a result of predations by mostly jackals and caracals, to be in the region of 1.3 billion Rands for 2009.

In a nutshell, the attempted management of the black-backed jackal for over 3 centuries has not worked with respect to reducing predations attributable to black-backed jackals or by attempting to control its numbers.

WHAT ARE YOU RESEARCHING IN MADIKWE?

In Madikwe we are specifically concentrating on the influence that territorial jackal pairs may have both on limiting predations by the general jackal population as well as the influence that jackal territorial pairs appear to have in suppressing jackal population growth.

WHAT IS THE IMPORTANCE OF YOUR PROJECT?

The aim of the Predator Bio-diversity Project is to investigate alternative and more ecologically friendly management strategies,

for the effective and practical management of jackal both within and outside protected areas. This research will provide a scientific foundation to guide management options with respect to these two species.

Protected areas, conservation, biodiversity, and animal production both within the livestock and game farming industries will benefit significantly and should be guided by the research results obtained through this project with respect to management options for of the black-backed jackal.

A typical pose of a black backed Jackal.

ROB WITH ONE OF HIS MANY JACKALS, WITH WHOM HE SPENDS MANY FULL NIGHTS OF INTENSIVE RESEARCHING.



Local Community School Upliftment Project

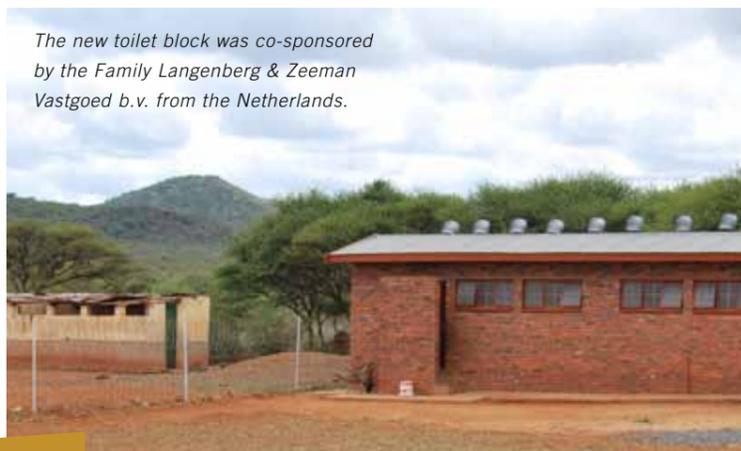
The main intention of the creation of Madikwe was to create jobs for and uplift the surrounding local communities. A better future for your children most often starts at school. With this in mind, The Morukuru Goodwill Foundation has now adopted an ongoing project to assist the Molatedi Primary School.

The Molatedi Primary School has been in need of a large amount of work in order for it to be a safe and productive learning environment. One of the initial projects undertaken was to completely rebuild a block of toilets for the children, as the old one was in a bad state of disrepair - rendering it virtually unusable. MGWF sponsored this project - and the children now have a new ablution facility.

With an ongoing investment in the future of the communities, generously donated and supported by individuals, The MGWF is ensuring that our young learners start to understand the benefit of eco-tourism and conservation. It is our sincere hope that this creates much needed future ambassadors for Africa's natural heritage.



The new toilet block was co-sponsored by the Family Langenberg & Zeeman Vastgoed b.v. from the Netherlands.



Some of the children next to one of the school classroom blocks.

Other projects undertaken by The MGWF include:

- # Donations of reading books - which has now inspired the creation of a small Library by the School
- # New schoolbooks in English language for all grades; before this donation most of the learning materials were in local Tswana language but English is compulsory and very important for the children to learn.
- # School writing boards for the classrooms.
- # Supplying paint and brushes to give the community the opportunity to upgrade classroom interiors
- # New ceiling and classroom partitions have been made - as previously the ceilings had collapsed, and the classrooms were divided by metal sheeting. This meant that the respective classes could not run separately as the noise was too great.



Some school children do a thank you dance for the donation of paint for the classroom.

THE TWO TOILET BLOCKS AT THE SCHOOL. THE LEFT BUILDING IS THE OLD AND NOW UNUSED ABLUTION FACILITY - THE RIGHT ONE IS THE NEW FACILITY PROVIDED THROUGH THE MGWF.

Madikwe enters the rhino war

DECLAN HOFMEYR - OPERATIONS MANAGER: MADIKWE GAME RESERVE

While well aware of all that was going on in rhino conservation worldwide, of the many dead rhino at the hands of poachers and the shootouts between law enforcement and rhino criminals in conservation areas across the country, Madikwe had remained relatively untouched, her rhino populations safe, until the 1st of November 2011 when she was dragged headlong into the confrontation.

Since 2000 1144 rhino have been poached in South Africa, 1024 since 2008, and Madikwe has lost 6 since that fateful day in November. The demand for horn is still driven by far Eastern markets, in particular Vietnam and China, and the uses remain in the traditional medicinal market. A source from Vietnam, that is known to the author, suggests that rhino horn is openly marketed in that country despite the fact that it remains illegal to sell.

In order to meet this threat, short falls in the Madikwe Field Ranger corps need to be filled. This

is with particular relevance to training and equipment. Most of the Field Rangers joined Madikwe during a peaceful period of political realignment during which the militaristic nature of the Field Ranger duties were de-emphasised and the responsibility of the Field Ranger shifted toward the more scientific responsibility of data collection and wildlife monitoring. This has to change because the field rangers now face an armed, trained poacher who is willing to die for the price of a rhino horn.

To end this the Morukuru Goodwill Foundation has very generously offered training and logistical support to the Field Rangers of Madikwe. The team will be trained by the very experienced trainers of the Specialised Wildlife Protection Academy and kitted out with everything from pocket knives to night vision equipment. Training will take place in Madikwe for maximum effectiveness and the result will be a re-motivated wildlife, and in particular, rhino protection force to be reckoned with.





Did you know ?

At the time of printing there were less than 22.000 Rhino's left in Africa, with most of them located in South Africa.

448 Rhino's were poached in South Africa in 2011 that we know of, with this percentage growing hugely everyday.



DECLAN (MADIKWE PARKS BOARD OPERATIONS MANAGER) ACCEPTS MUCH NEEDED ANTI-POACHING EQUIPMENT, WHICH WILL GO A LONG WAY IN ENSURING MADIKWE'S RHINOS ARE KEPT SAFE.

Counter Rhino Poaching initiative

The Morukuru Goodwill Foundation is an avid supporter of Madikwe Game Reserve, and throughout the years has sponsored various projects and items to North West Parks & Tourism Board (NWPTB). Things such as Elephant Collaring and Rhino Notching and sponsoring additional Wildebeest relocations into the Park are but a few donations. These days however most of our funding is going to an even more critical cause.

Africa is facing a very serious problem in the form of Rhino Poaching. In South Africa alone Rhino poaching has increased dramatically over the last few years. In 2011, over 440 Rhino's were poached in RSA that we know about, in comparison to 330 from 2010 and 122 from 2009! If poaching continues to rise this way – we are looking at the very real possibility of extinction of a species. Most parks have anti-poaching teams – but they tend to be under-trained and under equipped – a very real problem if you consider that Rhino horn can fetch up to US\$ 60,000 Per KG! The Anti-poaching teams are fighting a very bloody and dangerous war in Game Reserves, and need all the help that they can get.

With this in mind – The Morukuru Goodwill foundation has adopted a strategy of assisting Madikwe Game Reserves Rhinos, and the anti-poaching team

dedicated to protecting them. Funds generously donated have been invested into equipment which is much needed. 50 Cyber-Tracker devices were handed over to NWPTB (North West Parks and Tourism Board) which allow for continued tracking and detailed observations of Rhinos (and other animals). MGWF has also now paid for training of 15 people on a course that will adequately train an anti-poaching team to deal with all aspects of anti & counter poaching, including armed combat and bush survival skills. MGWF is also donating a large amount of equipment to allow teams to safely spend days tracking and apprehending poachers in the bush.

Although protecting Madikwe's Rhino is a small battle in a much bigger war – by protecting our local heritage we set a great example to all Conservation areas throughout Africa. We send a very clear and firm message that Poaching will not be tolerated, and that we will combat it by whatever means necessary! Thank you to all that have donated to such a worthy cause.

Both the Black & White Rhinos are affected in the poaching.



A HEAVILY SEDATED WHITE RHINO HAS AN EAR NOTCH ADMINISTERED. EAR NOTCHINGS AND CHIP IMPLANTINGS ARE BUT A FEW METHODS USE TO COMBAT POACHING AND TO IDENTIFY RHINOS IN THE WILD.

How can you help the MGWF

WITH MONEY

The most straightforward way of helping us is by donating money. Guests can leave a donation in an envelop at the lodge, or you can transfer money to one of our bank accounts in South Africa (in ZAR) or the Netherlands (in euro's).

ALLOCATE YOUR DONATION

If you would like to give a larger amount of money and wish for it to be allocated to a specific MGWF project (i.e. Schoolbooks or Counter Rhino Poaching), we will gladly accommodate this request. Please talk to your Lodge Managers, or a MGWF representative as detailed further on.

OTHER WAYS OF HELPING

There are other ways of supporting the projects we are working on. We have had school children buying our "stoprhinopoaching" bracelets and selling them back home, and then donating the profits to the MGWF. Numerous guests have donated English books to the Molatedi School Library, whilst others have even donated soccer outfits to the Molatedi High School. One family donated something particularly special – a day of their precious holiday to help paint classrooms and clearing the school vegetable garden. Please speak to your Lodge Managers should you wish to support this or any other initiative you may have.

VISITING & INTERACTING WITH MGWF PROJECTS

We gladly welcome Morukuru guests to visit the projects we support. Visiting both the school and the village are easily organised during schooldays and integrated into part of your stay with us. Other interactions may need a little more preparation time or may have additional costs. Rob-Harrison White is available at the lodge, subject to him being in the park during your stay. Another really exciting option is to participate in a Rhino notching experience. Get to touch a rhino in this amazing experience, however the costs of such an event will be R 50,000 due to having to organise both a veterinarian and helicopter. Please contact your Lodge Managers for availability and for further details.



Ed & Anka Zeeman, owners of Morukuru Family & Founders of The Morukuru Goodwill Foundation.

Please feel free to take this personal copy!



Follow and like us on our Morukuru Family page

The Morukuru Soccer Team with the Molatedi High School Soccer team, all donning gear generously donated.



Details of the Morukuru Goodwill Foundation

The goals of the foundation are:

- # Promotion of Wildlife preservation & Conservation.
- # To improve Educational Facilities and/or Individuals within the Education sector.
- # To Improve healthcare and associated health-care facilities.
- # To assist in the welfare and wellbeing of people by providing assistance of sporting events.
- # Assisting in initiating, guiding and/or financing economical activities to improve the social and economic standards of the people.

All of these goals are focused within South Africa but more specifically within and around The Madikwe Game Reserve & De Hoop Nature Reserve.

The Morukuru Goodwill Foundation (MGWF) was founded in 2007 by Ed & Anka Zeeman, Owners of the Lodges in the Morukuru Family within the Madikwe Game Reserve and of De Hoop Nature Reserve.

The Morukuru Goodwill Foundations Office address is Breed 26, 1621 KC HOORN, Netherlands, or P.O Box 459 1620 AL HOORN, Netherlands.

The MGWF has the status of ANBI, meaning that under certain conditions Dutch donors can have some tax-benefits. Other nationalities will have to check with your tax-advisors.

The board members of the MGWF comprise of Mr. Ed Zeeman (Chairman), Arend Gerritsen and Peter de Vries, all of whom are from the Netherlands. For Projects, ideas, donations or questions please feel free to contact ed.zeeman@morukuru.com or anka.reijnen@morukuru.com. Alternatively contact your lodge managers on lodge@morukuru.com.



Anka Zeeman with the headteacher of The Molatedi Primary School, handing over paint for the classrooms.



MORUKURU GUESTS GENEROUSLY HANDING OUT NEW SCHOOLBOOKS.

BANK ACCOUNTS

In Holland:

Bank: Rabobank

Accountnummer: 12.83.56.332

IBAN nummer: NL13RAB00128356332

In South Africa:

Bank: Investec Bank Ltd.

Account number: 10011271348

Branche code: 580105

Branch name: 100 Graystone Drive, Sandton

SWIFTCODE: IVESZAJJ