



## BIRDLIFE SOUTH AFRICA ETHICS COMMITTEE

### DECLARATION

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (Principal Investigator/Researcher), hereby declare that I am fully acquainted with the following principles:

#### REPLACEMENT, REDUCTION AND REFINEMENT

As far as possible, any research protocol should adhere to the principals of replacement, reduction and refinement. In other words, researchers must strive to avoid the use of animals if alternative methods can yield the data they need, keep the number of animals that are to be used to the minimum that will still allow them to achieve their statistical objectives, and refine the proposed procedures to a level that will have the least distressing or harmful effects on the animals involved.

#### RELEVANCE

Research must address an important question relevant to the advancement of knowledge, conservation, education and science, be based on a plausible hypothesis and have a reasonable prospect of yielding good results.

#### RESPONSIBILITY

It is the responsibility of every person involved to ensure that the animals that are used are afforded the highest levels of welfare and protection from abuse.

#### POSITION STATEMENTS AND OTHER RELEVANT DOCUMENTATION

I further declare that I have acquainted myself with the requirements of the following:

1. SANS 10386: 2008 "The care and use of animals for scientific purposes" (available at [www.sabs.co.za](http://www.sabs.co.za)).
2. BirdLife South Africa's position statement "Tracking of Birds", available at <http://www.birdlife.org.za/about-us/our-organisation/position-statements>.
3. SAFRING's Code of Ethics forms part of the SAFRING manual, and can be viewed at <http://safring.adu.org.za>.
4. BLSAEC Terms of Reference, available at [www.birdlife.org.za](http://www.birdlife.org.za).

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_