



BIRDLIFE SOUTH AFRICA

# ANNUAL REPORT

2021





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### Vision

BirdLife South Africa wishes to see a country and region where nature and people live in greater harmony, more equitably and sustainably.

### Mission

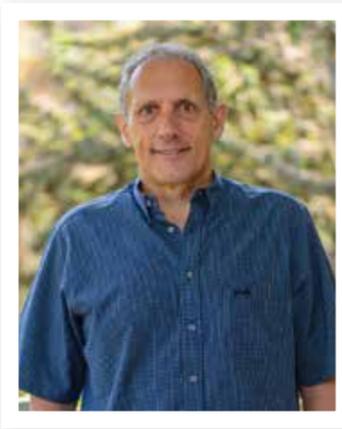
BirdLife South Africa strives to conserve birds, their habitats and biodiversity through scientifically based programmes, through supporting the sustainable and equitable use of natural resources and by encouraging people to enjoy and value nature.

ANDREW JENKINS

*cover* The Cape Rockjumper was Bird of the Year in 2021.  
(Photo: Michael Mason)

*left* Cape Cormorant

## Chairman's Statement



“Nature has the ability to renew, replenish and revive if given the space to do so.”

The natural world is in crisis and “Day Zero” for humanity to turn matters around is but a handful of years away as 2030 looms on the horizon! Climate change is causing unprecedented natural disasters. Reports from around the globe of floods, heatwaves, rampaging wild fires, rising sea levels, melting snow caps, massive deforestation and oceans drowning in plastic have become the norm.

The current pressure on our planet is placing at least a million species, including ourselves, at risk of extinction... and we are desperately running out of time! The next few years will be critical and we all need to keep fighting to save our natural environment.

In his book *A Life on Our Planet*, David Attenborough makes an explicit call to action in what he describes as his ‘witness statement’. He details the devastating biodiversity loss that the planet has suffered at our hands and he also provides his thoughts on his vision for the future. The world population in 1937 was 2,3 billion, the carbon in the atmosphere was 280 parts per million and the remaining wilderness extended over two thirds of the planet. In 2020, a mere 83 years later, our population had ballooned to 7,8 billion, the carbon in the atmosphere had reached 415 parts per million and, most shockingly, we had demolished half of the wilderness that remained.

It is however not too late! Nature has the ability to renew, replenish and revive if given the space to do so. A case in point is detailed in Attenborough’s book. In 1990, parts of the Mexican Coast were over exploited and hugely overfished so a marine protected area was established. Fishermen survived on government sponsored food vouchers and kept the faith for 15 years. The marine life in the area bounced back and increased by an incredible 400 per cent, not only allowing sustainable fishing practices to restart, but creating a new diving tourist industry for the local population.

Here in South Africa, our African Penguin population has crashed and we have lost 73 per cent of these precious birds in the last 30 years. Scientific evidence indicates that one of the major drivers is reduced prey availability... the birds are starving themselves into extinction. Would it not be incredible if a Mexican solution could repeat itself in South Africa in the few remaining strongholds of the species?

There are encouraging signs that in the boardrooms of business corporations, bankers, financiers, and investors there is a realization that it is no longer ‘Business as Usual’. Business needs to account for the way that it makes its money... maximizing profits in an exploitative way is no longer acceptable. A business’s social contract demands that it operates in future in a sustainable manner. Unfortunately the same signs are not as evident from the governments of the world where denial still rules sway in the face of the desperate need to remain popular and cling to power at all costs.

At midday on 20 June 1922, a group gathered at the London home of the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Robert Horne – then MP for Glasgow. United by their passion for birds, the group decided that coordinated international action was the answer to the various threats birds faced and founded The International Council for Bird Preservation (ICBP) – now BirdLife International.

The Declaration of Principles was for united action through which it would be able to accomplish more than organizations working individually in combating the threats to birdlife and its habitats.

BirdLife International is celebrating its centenary in 2022 and the organisation has come a long way since then. There are now 117 BirdLife Partners, including ourselves, working collaboratively across every continent. Active conservationists, once counted in their dozens, now number in the millions, with ten million supporters of the BirdLife Partnership alone and every one of you contribute to this number.

I thank you for your continued support and I plead to you to remain committed to the fight to save our birds, their habitats, our natural environment... ultimately to save ourselves from extinction!

PHILIP CALINIKOS  
CHAIRMAN

## Chief Executive Officer's Report

BirdLife South Africa continued to do good work in 2021 and, despite the continuation of the global pandemic, we managed to achieve many important conservation successes.

### Governance

BirdLife South Africa’s Board of Directors held nine meetings in 2021, three of which were strategy meetings. A self-assessment of the Board’s work in 2020 was completed in early 2021 and a work plan for 2021 was completed and adhered to. With assistance from Roger Wanless, an attorney and past Chairman of BirdLife South Africa, parts of the organisation’s Constitution were redrafted in order to allow greater representation of members on the Board. BirdLife South Africa’s Nomination Committee (chaired by Linda Hart) met on three occasions, its Fundraising Committee (chaired by Yvonne Pennington) on four occasions and its Remuneration Committee (chaired by Philip Calinikos) once during the year.

### Finances and fundraising

We have achieved an operating surplus for the 12th consecutive year. The endowment in the BirdLife National Trust, which has the aim of securing BirdLife South Africa’s long-term financial sustainability, has grown to just over R13-million. Our team’s hard work and innovation enabled us to raise the funds needed to cover our staff and project costs. Golden Bird Patrons contributed more than R2.7-million of funding in 2021, which is support we gratefully appreciate. The annual Jackpot Raffle was successful, with all 1000 tickets being sold long before the closing date and realising R345 000 in net income. The 2021 Virtual African Bird Fair also generated good income for BirdLife South Africa.

### Human resources

BirdLife South Africa is fortunate to employ a dynamic team that is driven by a shared passion for the conservation of birds and their habitats. During the past year, BirdLife South Africa recruited eight new staff members, including an Empowering People Programme Manager. We also recruited three interns to assist the organisation in 2022. The Mouse-Free Marion Project recruited four staff members in 2021 (see below).

As Covid-19 in some circumstances placed unfortunate stresses on some of our staff, we put in extra effort to engage regularly with staff members, remote working conditions notwithstanding, and where necessary we provided additional assistance and support. Despite the challenges, our team remains positive and ready to embrace new opportunities.

### Communication and awareness

Communication with our members and with the birding community in general was achieved using a variety of media, including six issues of *African Birdlife* magazine, 12 e-newsletters, daily posts on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, weekly updates sent to affiliated bird clubs, regular updates of the website and the presentation of talks to bird clubs and other groups.



“Golden Bird Patrons contributed more than R2.7-million of funding in 2021, which is support we gratefully appreciate.”





The number of *African Birdlife* subscribers decreased to 3243 (from 3464 at the end of 2020) and we lost almost all the bulk subscriptions to the magazine by lodges and hotels. This, we believe, can be attributed to Covid-19 and the associated economic downturn.

At the end of 2021 our social media presence comprised: 28 873 Facebook Page likes (22% increase from the end of 2020), 53 895 Facebook Group members (31% increase), 11 785 followers on Instagram (27% increase) and 3049 followers on Twitter (25% increase).

Our popular Conservation Conversations aired 47 webinars in 2021, bringing the total number of webinars to 81 since the first was broadcast in April 2020. These included series about birding in South Africa's national parks, Biodiversity Stewardship and Marion Island. Support for the webinars raised R52 000 via the Quicket donations platform.

We have developed a social media strategy and a draft marketing strategy and, with the appointment of a well-qualified and experienced Communications Manager, we will be using our various media to expand our reach to non-traditional audiences.

### Events

Very successful and well-attended virtual events were held in 2021: Learn About Birds Conference (on 27 and 28 May), AGM (29 May) and Virtual African Bird Fair (30 and 31 July). A Golden Bird Patron event was held in Pretoria (17 November).

The first Virtual and fifth Learn About Birds (LAB) Conference, held via Zoom, was an important platform for knowledge-sharing among ornithologists in South Africa and for raising funds for the Landscape Conservation Programme. The second-ever Virtual African Bird Fair was a major success, with 1936 people registering to attend.

A virtual Owl Awards event was held in June and bronze statuettes and framed certificates were presented to the recipients of nine Owl Awards, two Eagle Owl Awards and an Owlet Award. These awards allow BirdLife South Africa to recognise the contributions made by people and organisations to the conservation of South Africa's birds.

Birding Big Day 2021 was a great success, attracting more than 400 teams that comprised 1700 participants in total, to register for this annual event. Data for more than 600 pentads were submitted to SABAP2 and over 800 location records for threatened bird species were plotted.

Much time was invested during the year in organising Flock to Marion, which included signing the MOA with MSC Cruises and holding weekly Organising Committee meetings during the latter half of 2021.



TERRY FINNEY

### Membership

The number of direct members decreased to 2971 at the end of 2021. This is most likely to be a direct result of the economic fallout caused by Covid-19. Our corporate numbers have decreased to 13.

Salesforce was implemented as the new membership database in 2021. This platform is more user-friendly and will enable us to improve our service to members. It will also be used as a customer relationship management system for donors and funders by both BirdLife South Africa and the Mouse-Free Marion Project.

*African Birdlife* magazine is now being delivered by a distribution company, iSizwe Distributors, lessening the need to use the SA Post Office. At the end of 2020, iSizwe was delivering just over 1200 copies of *African Birdlife* to subscribers and this number increases with each issue.

### Wakkerstroom Tourism & Education Centre

Two bird guide training courses were held at the centre, upskilling people from rural areas and developing them into ambassadors for South Africa's birds and their conservation. As part of the process of increasing occupancy rates, the centre hosted its first team-building event, which was conducted for a Johannesburg-based law firm. General bookings started to increase as the harder levels of Covid-19 lockdown ended.

### Conservation Division

A new Conservation Division structure was successfully implemented in January 2020 and this has subsequently led to improved synergy and collaboration between BirdLife South Africa's six conservation programmes. These programmes prepared draft strategies to guide BirdLife South Africa's conservation work over the next five years (2022–2026). BirdLife South Africa's overarching conservation strategy has also been revised and is being implemented.

We were able to achieve our conservation objectives and key performance indicators, despite the challenges of 2020 and 2021. Funding was secured for the Empowering People Programme and community conservation project in northern KwaZulu-Natal. This programme will ensure that our conservation work is inclusive of communities and offers additional employment and upskilling opportunities to BirdLife South Africa's community bird guides. All six conservation programme manager positions were filled by the end of 2021. Funding was secured for all current Conservation Division staff and projects for 2022.

### Landscape Conservation Programme

- The Landscape Conservation Programme, with support from the Regional Conservation Programme, launched and implemented the WWF Nedbank Green Trust Western Cape Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measures (OECM) project, the first provincial-scale recognition, assessment and reporting of OECMs in South Africa.
- A five-year strategic framework that will guide the programme's work was developed.
- The 5th Virtual Learn About Birds Conference was successfully hosted with the FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology.

The following projects focus on protecting ecosystems:

#### WESTERN CAPE ESTUARIES PROJECT

- About 10 hectares of alien vegetation were cleared and an additional 30 hectares of follow-up clearing was done in the Moutonshoek Protected Environment.
- We launched the WWF Elizabeth Harding Klein River Estuary Protected Areas Project, which encompasses more than 1500 hectares and includes critically endangered estuarine ecosystem types and more than 200 bird species.

#### INGULA PARTNERSHIP

- 24 000 hectares of mesic grassland and wetland in the eastern Free State were successfully declared as the Upper Wilge Protected Environment.
- An alliance was formed with the Lesotho Highlands Development Authority to conserve the Southern Bald Ibis and Black Stork in Lesotho.
- The Ingula Nature Reserve was designated South Africa's 27th Wetland of International Importance according to the Ramsar Convention.
- Basic bird identification training was successfully done with twelve Nambithi horse-men at Ingula Nature Reserve.
- The Ingula Project's assistant, Steven Segang, completed his bird identification training and qualification at the Wakkerstroom Tourism and Education Centre.

#### KZN MISTBELT STEWARDSHIP PROJECT, IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CONSERVATION OUTCOMES

- 570 hectares of additional grassland, forest and wetland habitat, comprising one



The Wakkerstroom Tourism & Education Centre is used for training, education, meeting and birding purposes.



MARK D. ANDERSON

The Black Stork population is unfortunately in decline.

- nature reserve and two protected environments, were formally declared. An additional area of approximately 1500 hectares is in the process of being declared.
- Approximately 3700 hectares (five declared protected areas) of Blue Swallow and Cape Parrot habitat were provided with post-declaration support, including herbicide assistance for alien plant control worth about R35 000.
- The Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust provided support to the value of R399 856.

The following projects focus on protecting species:

**VULTURE CONSERVATION PROJECT**

- Lapalala Wilderness was established as a Vulture Safe Zone and Zinave National Park and Karingani Game Reserve (collectively 565 000 hectares) in Mozambique were assessed as potential Vulture Safe Zones.
- GPS transmitters were fitted to 15 White-backed Vulture chicks at Dronfield Nature Reserve to better understand the impact lead may have on their behaviour as free-flying juveniles.



MARK D. ANDERSON

**RAPTOR AND LARGE TERRESTRIAL BIRD PROJECT**

- Two national strategic workshops, which were attended by a range of conservation professionals, subject experts and other role-players, were hosted to determine conservation priorities for the Secretarybird and Taita Falcon.
- We received a commitment from the IUCN Conservation Planning Specialist Group for the facilitation of an international workshop for the drafting of a Continental Conservation Action Plan for the Endangered Secretarybird.
- A ground-breaking survey to locate Taita Falcons in Niassa Special Reserve, northern Mozambique, was conducted with funding from The Peregrine Fund. The team discovered the largest known population of Africa's rarest falcon.

**WHITE-WINGED FLUFFTAIL CONSERVATION PROJECT**

- Considerable effort has been invested in our work to ensure that Middelpunt Wetland, the only known breeding site for the White-winged Flufftail in southern Africa, be declared a private nature reserve.
- Three small grants were secured for the White-winged Flufftail Conservation Project.
- The Ntsikeni Nature Reserve Community Project was proposed to possible funders using a short film.
- Site assessments were completed to expand the Greater Lakenvlei Protected Environment in an effort to instil better management practices and safeguard the broader landscape surrounding Middelpunt Wetland.
- Several additional wetlands were surveyed along South Africa's eastern escarpment to determine the presence of the Critically Endangered White-winged Flufftail.

**BLUE SWALLOW PROJECT, IN COLLABORATION WITH CONSERVATION OUTCOMES**

- Blue Swallow monitoring in 2020/21 recorded a 38% increase in the number of fledglings compared to the number recorded during the 2019/20 breeding season.

- Two additional full-time Blue Swallow monitors were recruited in KwaZulu-Natal and one in Mpumalanga, thus maximising the monitoring effort in the 2021/22 breeding season.
- The African Blue Swallow Working Group was re-established. The group will meet quarterly and drive efforts to study and conserve the Blue Swallow across its entire range.

**BIRDS AND RENEWABLE ENERGY PROJECT**

- There was a record attendance (100 participants) at the Birds and Renewable Energy Forum, an annual event that brings together a wide range of stakeholders in South Africa to discuss the latest tools, challenges and lessons learnt in minimising the risk wind energy poses to wildlife.
- Our Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager, Samantha Ralston-Paton, was an invited speaker at two national conferences: Windaba and the International Association for Impact Assessment's annual meeting.
- The second edition of BirdLife South Africa's Guidelines for Verreaux's Eagle and Wind Energy was published.

Regional Conservation Programme

- Simeon Bezeng presented a five-day Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) workshop in Gabon and Cameroon, where 70 participants were trained on the KBA standard. Processes to establish a KBA national coordination group to lead the national KBA identification and the conservation of KBAs were also initiated.
- Simeon Bezeng co-authored a scientific paper in the journal *Nature Ecology and Evolution* (impact factor: 15.5) on the development of a new biodiversity metric, STAR (Species Threat Abatement and Restoration). The STAR methodology enables us to consistently measure where and how conservation and restoration could have the most significant impact.
- We supported Ethiopia in its successful efforts to mainstream biodiversity priorities into the country's national development plan, thus allowing for biodiversity outcomes to be taken into account during economic development.
- Bronwyn Maree was selected as one of 30 participants from seven African countries to participate in the Biodiversity Partners Programme funded by the French Development Agency (AFD). This four-month programme enabled participants to widen their knowledge of biodiversity and enhance their leadership in this field, as well as gain new skills to develop their nature-based projects to ensure a greater future impact.
- A European Roller monitoring programme was established in the Kruger National Park, and three private game reserves in KwaZulu-Natal have subsequently come on board. SANParks Honorary Rangers, reserve managers, rangers and research staff will join BirdLife South Africa staff in collecting data about the numbers and activities of European Rollers in their reserves.
- The first introductory KBA training workshop was held virtually with Zambian conservationists. A National Coordination Group to implement KBA processes has subsequently been established.
- A successful World Migratory Bird Day social media campaign, which highlighted some of the challenges migrant birds face during migration, was undertaken using Peter the Plover animations. The text was translated into four languages.

Seabird Conservation Programme

**ALBATROSS TASK FORCE**

- The Albatross Task Force (ATF) was awarded a two-year research grant by the Marine Stewardship Council Ocean Stewardship Fund. The Inshore Hake Trawl project will ensure that the uptake of seabird bycatch mitigation measures is made possible by all the vessels in this fleet. In partnership with the fishery, the ATF classified the fleet according to seabird bycatch risk criteria and initiated at-sea trials using tailored measures that will minimise the risk to seabirds and the interference with fishing operations.
- A four-day international ATF meeting, hosted by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, was attended by all five ATF project teams from South Africa, Namibia, Brazil, Chile and Argentina. Cross-cutting challenges and synergies included the use of electronic monitoring to ensure compliance and the importance of committing local government departments to sustaining reductions made in seabird bycatch.

right BirdLife South Africa is doing important Secretarybird research, including to understand the threats this embattled raptor faces.

below BirdLife South Africa and Conservation Outcomes partner on an important project to monitor KwaZulu-Natal's Blue Swallow population and protect the sites where the species occurs.



WARWICK TARBOTON



MARIETJIE FRONEMAN

Incorrectly placed wind farms can result in fatalities of several raptor species, including the Verreaux's Eagle.

- The ATF's participation, as part of the Advisory Steering Committee for the Albacore Tuna Pole fleet, ensured that the first targeted onboard monitoring programme for assessing the risk of seabird bycatch was implemented. With data collected from the first year of monitoring, detailed observer protocols have been developed to assess relative risk to seabirds and potential mitigation measures for this fleet.



MARIETJIE FRONEMAN

#### COASTAL SEABIRDS

- Juvenile African Penguins were released for the first time at De Hoop Nature Reserve as part of our attempt to re-establish a breeding colony at the reserve.
- A manuscript that investigates the marine distribution of African Penguins outside the breeding season was submitted to an international scientific journal for peer review and publication.
- BirdLife South Africa was one of three conservation stakeholders represented in an Extended Task Team on African Penguin Island Closures convened by the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment.
- We successfully deployed biologgers on 16 non-breeding and 51 breeding African Penguins.
- The at-sea spatial distributions of seven seabird species from 15 breeding colonies was submitted for inclusion in the Critical Biodiversity Area map to the National Coastal and Marine Spatial Biodiversity Plan.

#### MOUSE-FREE MARION PROJECT

- The Mouse-Free Marion Project gained significant momentum in 2021. Governance and management structures were established, including the Mouse-Free Marion Non-Profit Company (NPC), which was formally created as a special-purpose vehicle to execute BirdLife South Africa's responsibilities under the MOU with the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, and for which a Board of Directors has been appointed.
- The Mouse-Free Marion NPC appointed a number of key people to progress the project's planning and preparatory work. These positions were the Project Manager (February 2021), Operations Manager (July 2021), Communications Officer (August 2021) and Chief Philanthropy Officer (September 2021).
- The Mouse-Free Marion NPC commissioned the development of a fundraising strategy, which led to the appointment of the Chief Philanthropy Officer and the further development and implementation of the fundraising strategy.
- A number of planning documents and initiatives have been developed and advanced and there has been considerable progress in promoting the project via its website and other communication channels.

above The African Penguin's numbers are plummeting and its future could, to some extent, be dependent on the establishment of new breeding colonies in areas where its sardine and anchovy prey remain.

below Marion Island's seabirds are being heavily impacted by introduced House Mice.



#### Empowering People Programme

Funding was secured for the Empowering People Programme and community conservation project in northern KwaZulu-Natal. This programme will ensure that our conservation work is inclusive of communities and offers additional employment and upskilling opportunities to BirdLife South Africa's community bird guides.

#### AVITOURISM PROJECT

- We initiated the Go Birding project in 2021 for launch at our AGM in 2022. In 2021, we contracted professional bird guides who were out of work due to pandemic-related travel restrictions to revise all nine provincial birding routes, adding many new sites and improved information to our databases. This avitourism tool will become the premium South African trip-planning resource in future.
- Seven community bird guides graduated successfully from BirdLife South Africa's training programme held at the Wakkerstroom Tourism and Education Centre. These new guides will operate in the grasslands of the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal.
- Marketing videos were produced for 17 community bird guides to advertise their services and tell their stories.

#### Policy & Advocacy Programme

- The Policy and Advocacy Programme has supported other African BirdLife partners by participating in the delivery of training webinars, actively engaging in efforts to protect priority sites in Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe from problematic developments, and working to identify regional priorities for joint action.
- BirdLife South Africa's membership of the Bunkering Environmental Working Group and of a task team that aims to address mining-related threats to the Greater Laken-vlei Protected Environment has enabled constructive engagement with the relevant organs of state regarding significant threats to African Penguins and White-winged Flufftails respectively.
- BirdLife South Africa collaborated with the Endangered Wildlife Trust and several consultants to develop a draft guideline for implementing the mitigation hierarchy in South Africa.

#### Science & Innovation Programme

- The Indigenous Names for South African Birds working group, which aims to assign unique names in all official South African languages to all the species on the official checklist of South Africa's birds, was initiated.
- We have received support from donors for the Red Listing vision for the next four years, which will result in an updated national *Red Data Book of Birds*.
- An option to undertake point counts and transects was developed in BirdLasser.
- The Science and Innovation Programme submitted habitat suitability models for 63 species to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment's web-based site screening tool. This submission will ensure that when developers consider the impact of the footprint of their proposed development, these species will raise a red flag. They will then have to take these species into account when doing environmental impact assessments.
- During 2021 the Southern African Bird Atlas Project reached some major milestones, including 1 million hours of SABAP2 full-protocol atlasing since the project began in July 2007 and 300 000 full-protocol cards submitted.
- The programme started a project with funding from Ekapa Minerals to examine the impacts of fires on birds in the arid savanna around Kimberley.

'Giving conservation wings' is truly a collaborative effort, and BirdLife South Africa benefits from the contributions of its staff, Board, volunteers, affiliated bird clubs, and members, as well as from its collaborators and donors.

MARK D. ANDERSON  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



“ The Science and Innovation Programme submitted habitat suitability models for 63 species to the Department of Forestry, Fisheries ... This submission will ensure that ... developers will then have to take these species into account when doing environmental impact assessments ”

# THE YEAR BY NUMBERS 2021

**2 700 000**

Amount donated by BirdLife South Africa's 42 generous Golden Bird Patrons



**6**

Issues of *African Birdlife* magazine published

**660 000**

Four reserves covering 660 000 ha assessed as potential Vulture Safe Zones

**5**

A very successful 5th biennial Learn About Birds conference was held

**600**

Average weekly audience of Conservation Conversations webinars

**7**

Seven new Community Bird Guides from the grasslands of the Free State and KwaZulu-Natal trained at BirdLife South Africa's Wakkerstroom Tourism and Education Centre

**1936**

Number of people who registered to attend the second-ever Virtual African Bird Fair, which was a major success



**12**

BirdLife South Africa ended with a financial surplus for the 12th consecutive year!

**16**

Wetlands surveyed for the Critically Endangered White-winged Flufftail

**10 000**

The Greater Lakenvlei Protected Environment was expanded by more than 10 000 ha.

**25**

BirdLife South Africa celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2021 and donations of more than R400 000 were received in acknowledgement of the organisation's quarter of a century celebration

**18**

Number of Secretarybirds tracked thus far, and 20 new nesting records added in 2021 (65 records since 2000)

**24 000**

Size in hectares of mesic grassland and wetland habitat in the Eastern Free State successfully declared as the Upper Wilge Protected Environment

**27**

Ingula Nature Reserve designated as South Africa's 27th wetland of International Importance according to the Ramsar Convention

**35**

BirdLife South Africa's staff were hardworking and productive, and contributed enormously to the conservation of our country's birds

**100**

More than 100 stakeholders reached through the Birds and Renewable Energy Forum

**3000**

Followers on Twitter

**15 000 000**

US\$1 million donated by Dr Frederik Paulsen to the Mouse-Free Marion Project

**1**

BirdLife South Africa is one of the top bird conservation organisations in the world!

**1700**

Birding Big Day 2021 was a great success, with more than 400 teams, representing 1 700 people, registered for the event. Data for more than 600 pentads and over 800 location records for threatened bird species were submitted to SABAP2.

**1 000 000**

Southern African Bird Atlas Project reached some big milestones, including 1 million hours of SABAP2 full protocol atlasing since the project began in July 2007, and 300 000 full protocol cards submitted

**870**

Number of scientific articles that have used SABAP2 data

Bird species in South Africa benefit from BirdLife South Africa's conservation and awareness work

**4**

Issues of *Ostrich - Journal of African Ornithology* produced



**49**

We have the responsibility of conserving 49 endemic and near-endemic bird species (bird which occur nowhere else in the world)

**88**

Juvenile African Penguins released at the De Hoop Nature Reserve

**2500**

items bought by 350 shoppers from the *Shop for the Birds!* online store since July

**62**

migrant bird species were recorded by 57 citizen scientists during the October 2021 BirdLasser/BirdLife South Africa World Migratory Bird Challenge

**15**

GPS transmitters fitted to White-backed Vulture chicks

**67**

16 pre-moult and 51 breeding African Penguins tracked

**11 700**

Followers on Instagram

**1800**

Passengers booked to join the Flock to Marion voyage

**10**

Ten out of 13 threatened grassland and wetland species successfully raised chicks on Ingula Nature Reserve

**53 400**



Members of BirdLife South Africa's Facebook Group (the BirdLife South Africa Facebook Page has more than 25 000 followers)

**47**

Conservation Conversations webinars hosted

**48**

Two successful Southern African Regional Workshops held in 2021 with representation from six southern African countries (31 participants in the January meeting and 17 participants in the August meeting)

## Looking Ahead

A brief summary of some of the important work planned for 2022 follows:

- BirdLife South Africa will aim to continue with the good management practices that assisted the organisation in weathering the storms brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic over the last 2 years.
- The BirdLife South Africa Constitution will be amended to ensure it remains in line with the needs of the organisation and its members, in particular to allow greater representation of the organisation's members on its Board of Directors.
- The BirdLife South Africa 2022-2026 Conservation Strategy will be finalised.
- The Landscape Conservation Programme will continue working toward securing our most threatened grasslands, wetlands, forests and estuaries through Biodiversity Stewardship. Work will continue on several high priority threats to our vultures, raptors, large terrestrial birds, grassland endemics and wetland communities including a reduction in the impacts of lead ammunition, electrical transformer boxes, fences, detrimental habitat management practices and renewable energy.
- The Regional Conservation Programme will continue to strengthen conservation partnerships across eight African countries, roll out more capacity building and training in these countries on assessing threatened species and ecosystems, identifying Key Biodiversity Areas, and assessing other effective area-based conservation measures (OECMs).
- A key focus of the Seabird Conservation Programme will be the establishment of an effective fishing closure regime around African Penguin colonies. The programme will continue to monitor and promote seabird bycatch mitigation measures for inshore fishing fleets. An ecosystem-based approach will be promoted to fisheries to improve the conservation of the endemic seabirds of the Benguela current.
- The Empowering People Programme will appoint a Programme Manager, with an initial target of establishing a community conservation and education presence in Zululand. The programme will train its first cohort of Western Cape-based guides. A web-based South African Birders' Online Tool for Avitourism will be launched during the year.
- The Science and Innovation Programme will continue to develop innovative tools for conservation planning and monitoring. The programme will continue to support the other conservation programmes through scientific inputs. A Red List assessment process for birds in South Africa, Lesotho and Eswatini will be commenced.
- The Policy & Advocacy Programme aims to integrate conservation objectives into relevant policies and legislation. The programme will continue to develop mitigation hierarchy guidelines that can be used to improve Environmental Impact Assessments. It will also continue to support the improved implementation of national and international conservation frameworks.
- BirdLife South Africa will continue to support the Mouse-Free Marion Non-Profit Company as it works towards eradicating mice from Marion Island and restoring the ecology of this subantarctic island.
- Our recently appointed Communications Manager will work with staff and the Marketing Committee to improve our public visibility and grow our brand awareness through the organisation's communication channels.
- Priorities of the Fundraising Committee include ensuring that all core costs are met. We require a long-term funder for our Wakkerstroom Centre and the important environmental education work that is undertaken by its staff. We will continue to raise funds for the purchase of a Cape Town office.
- Flock to Marion will take nearly 1 500 birders to the Southern Ocean on an unforgettable birding adventure. Several other events will be hosted, including The African Bird Fair, Owl Awards, and Birding Big Day.
- We will continue to produce our world-class African Birdlife magazine, and we will promote awareness of the Cape Gannet as Bird of the Year in 2022.

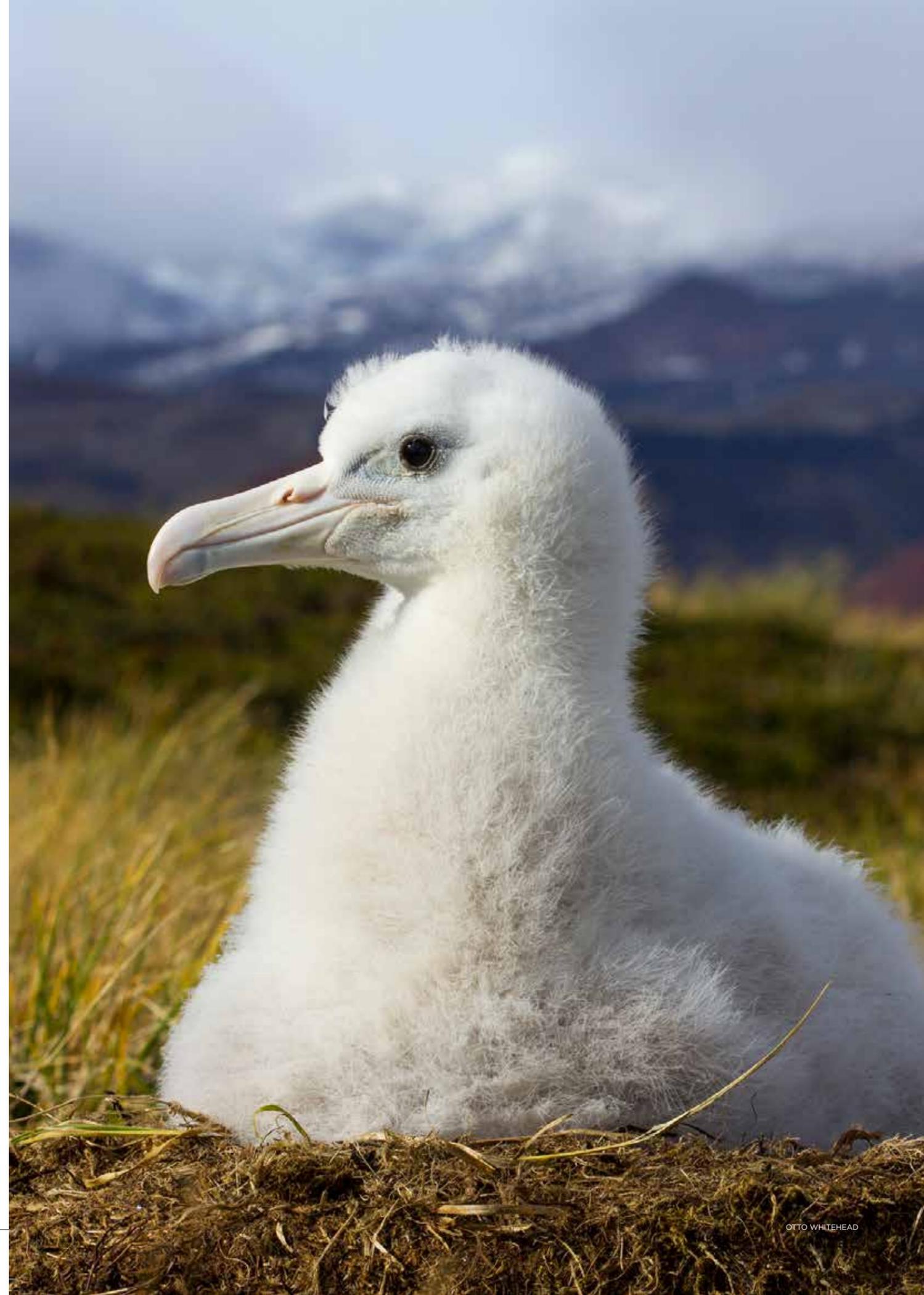
**FANIE DU PLESSIS**  
HEAD OF FINANCE & OPERATIONS



TREVOR HARDAKER

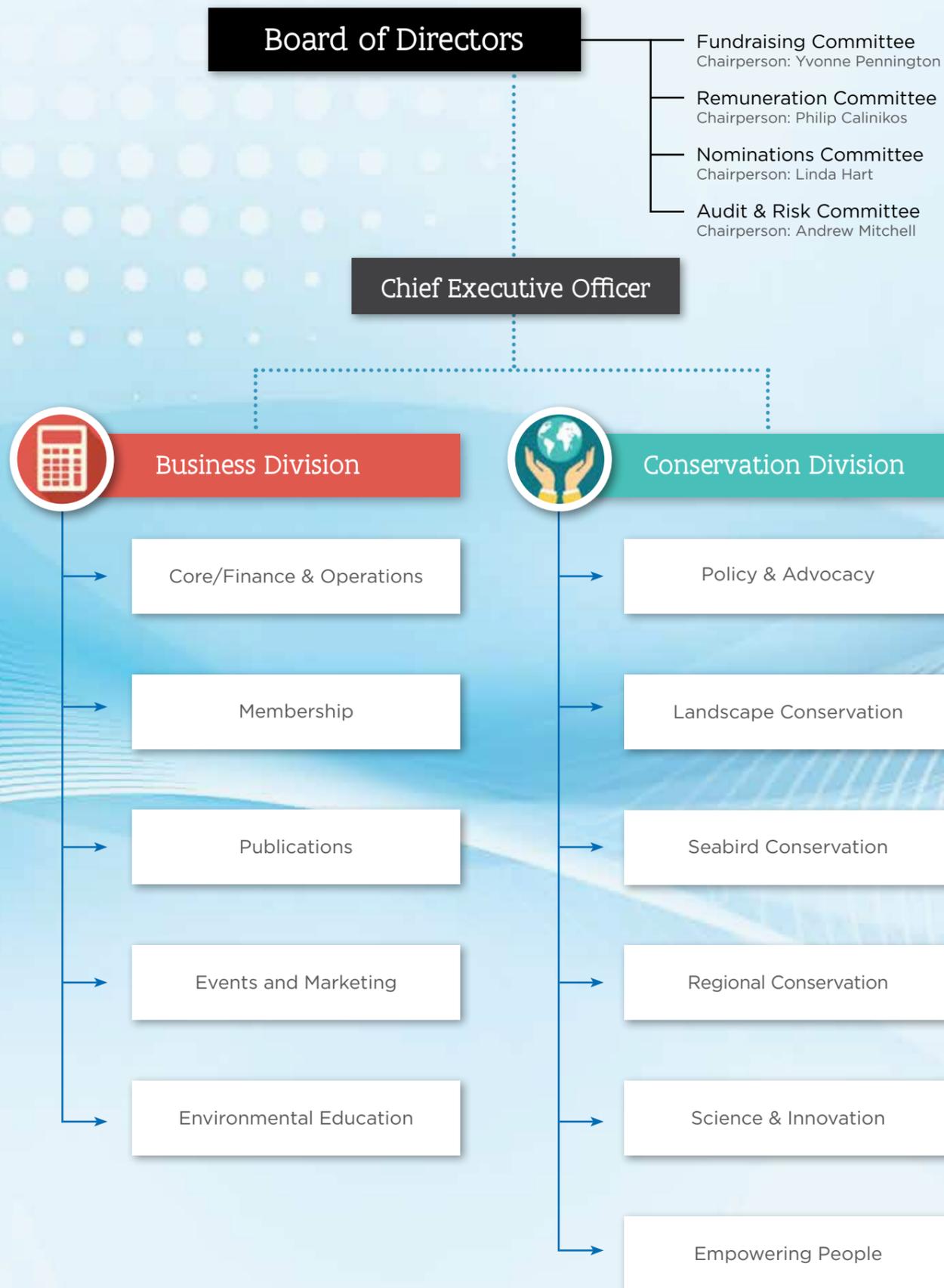
above *The Cape Gannet will be the Bird of the Year in 2022.*

opposite *Wandering Albatross chick, Marion Island.*



OTTO WHITEHEAD

# Organisational Structure



# Organisational and Conservation Objectives

The ultimate aim of BirdLife South Africa's work is to fulfil the organisation's vision and mission (page 1). Strategic long-term goals (see below) have been set in a framework, while both conservation and organisational objectives are formulated each year in order to realise the vision and mission. The achievement of these activities and targets is measured twice annually by reporting on key performance indicators.

## Strategic goals

- To realise, both efficiently and effectively, key national and international conservation goals and objectives.
- To be a conservation organisation that is influential and well respected locally and globally.
- To be a well-financed and sustainable organisation that is driven by a team of competent and committed staff.
- To have a diverse, engaged and committed membership and an engaged and representative audience.

## Business Division

The organisational objectives of the Business Division are:

**Financial**  
(e.g. unqualified audits, proper financial management, sufficient reserves)

**Governance**  
(e.g. maintaining an optimally functioning Board of Directors, sufficient policies and procedures)

**Human Resources**  
(e.g. human resources planning and recruitment, well-being, performance management and professional development)

**Membership**  
(e.g. growing and diversifying membership)

**Marketing and Communications**  
(e.g. increasing awareness, raising profile)

**Sustainability**  
(e.g. diversifying revenue streams, developing a fundraising strategy)

These organisational objectives are informed by the organisation's annual budget, policies and procedures manual, marketing and communications strategy, fundraising strategy, sustainability plan and various committees (management, marketing, fundraising, etc.).

The Board of Directors directly (and indirectly through the Audit & Risk Committee) provides oversight and guidance to the Business Division.



## Conservation Division

BirdLife South Africa's Conservation Division has achieved several notable successes over the past 10 years and is playing an increasingly important role in the conservation sector, not only in South Africa, but also in the southern African region and globally.

The Conservation Division's work is guided by BirdLife South Africa's Conservation Strategy. Following restructuring of the Conservation Division into six main conservation programmes, this strategy was revised in 2020 to align with the organisation's mission and vision to conserve South Africa's threatened avifauna. It is informed by global and national conservation strategies and policies and by organisational strengths, with a fresh focus on socio-economic imperatives on how to improve people's livelihoods and better facilitate educational activities. Our work is guided by the Convention on Biological Diversity's Strategic Plan for Biodiversity, including the Aichi Biodiversity Targets, international conventions and multi-lateral agreements, as well as national publications such as the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy and the National Biodiversity Assessment.

BirdLife South Africa's conservation programmes finalised strategies for 2022-2026. These direct and detail their work which supports the implementation of the Conservation Strategy.

Several strategic imperatives listed in the Conservation Strategy will build on the successes of the division:



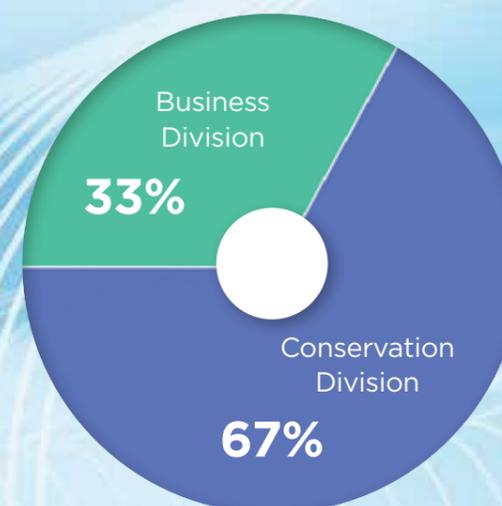
## Division of Expenses and Sources of Funding

BirdLife South Africa maintains a strict policy whereby all conservation work is supported by project-specific funding. No conservation work is undertaken without the necessary funding being in place. Furthermore, except for pre-approved administration fees, no conservation funding or donations are used to fund Business Division activities. The organisation prides itself on maintaining the highest standard of project management and reporting, which includes updating funders with regard to project activities and spending.

### Overview

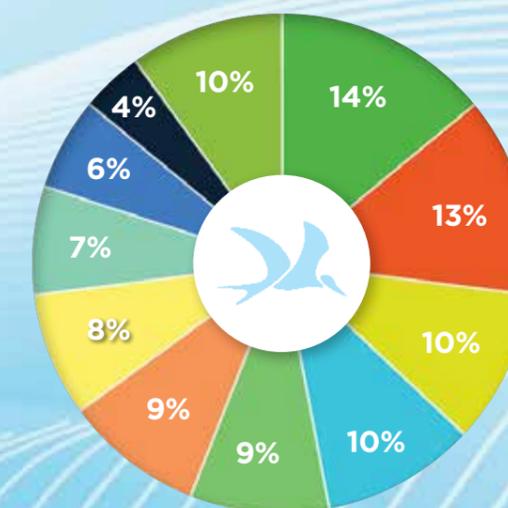
BirdLife South Africa continues to be financially sustainable in the face of challenging economic times, partly due to its maintenance of very diverse revenue streams, with no over-reliance on any individual source of funding.

Split between Business Division and Conservation Division expenses for 2021



- Conservation Division**  
R21 434 973
- Business Division**  
R10 495 217

### Total sources of funding for 2021



Sources	R'000
International institutions/foundations	4088
Local charitable trusts	3663
Individual funders	2826
Publication income	2807
Local corporate funding	2741
Golden Bird Patrons	2715
International BirdLife partners	2288
Government and parastatals	2046
Donations	1810
Events	1185
Other	2878

# Annual Reviews of the Performance and Effectiveness of BirdLife South Africa

## REVIEW BY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Mandate

A critical aspect of the governance structure of the organisation is encompassed in clause 10 of our constitution which requires the Board to commission an annual review of the performance of the organisation as a whole and of the Board itself. The results of these reviews are encapsulated in this report which has been reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee. We strive to maintain the highest level of corporate governance as prescribed by the King IV Report of 2016. In terms of the King IV report, there are four themes of governance roles of Boards, namely:

- Strategy: Directing the core purpose of the organization and setting of its short-, medium- and long-term direction.
- Policy: Giving effect to the strategy by approving policy – rules, structures and processes that define course of action and boundaries within which decisions can be made.
- Oversight: Providing oversight of implementation of strategy and policy by management.
- Disclosure: Disclosing on the organisation's performance and sustainable value creation.

In addition, the King IV supplement dealing specifically with Non-Profit Organisations such as ours makes reference to the three major responsibilities of the leaders of NPOs. These are highlighted in the Department of Social Development Code and their purpose is to ensure survival and growth. They are:

- The service programme is meeting the communities needs effectively and efficiently.
- A reliable and sustainable support base is established in order to fulfil its work.
- Procedures are put in place to ensure the careful and accountable handling of its resources and programmes.

### Organisational review

The past year has seen some recovery by organisations from the devastating financial and operational impacts on our country and the rest of the world resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. There is, however, still a long way to go to reach pre-pandemic levels. This is especially the case in South Africa's tourism industry which has suffered severe losses and which poses a major threat to the maintenance and preservation of our country's conservation areas and wildlife. As an organisation, we strive to address as many of the threats to birds as we can within the limits of the funding and personnel that we have available. As there's much to do, we use science to determine where our efforts are expended. We believe that we are making a meaningful contribution to the conservation of our country's birds. Our management and staff have worked tirelessly to deal with conservation initiatives in a prioritized manner within the constraints imposed on them.

BirdLife South Africa prepares targets at the beginning of each year which are included in a Strategic Framework document. This is coordinated by the two division managers, and the CEO reviews the contributions and collates them into the final document. It should also be noted that BirdLife South Africa's annual targets are closely aligned with BirdLife International's strategy, a strategy

we are obligated to implement in our country.

The strategic goals of the organisation, as encapsulated in the 2021 Strategic Framework, can be summarized as follows:

- To realise, both efficiently and effectively, key national and international conservation goals and objectives.
- To be a conservation organisation that is influential and well respected locally and globally.
- To be a well-financed, sustainable organisation that is driven by a team of competent and committed staff.
- To have a diverse, engaged and committed membership, and an engaged and representative audience.

The Framework document charts the performance against organisational objectives across both the business and conservation divisions. It also contains key performance indicators which provide an aggregated view of the performance of the organisation across key functional areas. For the operational (business) part of the organisation, the results for the 2021 year were:

- Twenty-four targets fully achieved.
- Six targets partly achieved with work ongoing.
- Four targets not achieved.

All four of the targets that were not achieved were related to the economic fallout caused by the COVID-19 pandemic (drop in direct and corporate membership numbers, drop in magazine subscribers and slow-down in the education programme). Increased emphasis will be placed on these areas in 2022. The review of BirdLife South Africa's conservation work by David Allan confirms that the Conservation Division continues to perform well.

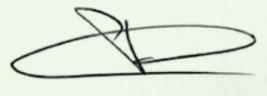
### Board self-assessment

The Nominations Committee of the Board is mandated to oversee this assessment process. Board members individually and independently completed an evaluation document of the Board's performance as a whole and in some cases participated in an interview. The process is overseen by the independent chairman of the Nominations Committee. It was pleasing to note that there were many areas of good practice identified while no major deficiencies were identified relating to the Board's performance.

### Opinion

Based on the above, the Board of Directors:

- Confirms that it is satisfied with the effectiveness of both the Board of Directors and the organisation as a whole, and
- Commends management on the significant progress made during the year under review.



PHILIP CALINIKOS  
CHAIRMAN  
5 March 2021

## REVIEW OF BIRDLIFE SOUTH AFRICA'S CONSERVATION WORK

This is the seventh annual review of BirdLife South Africa's conservation activities as mandated by the organisation's constitution. It is largely informed by the Strategic Framework document and input from the Head of Conservation and the managers of the six Conservation Division programmes (Landscape, Seabird, Regional, Policy & Advocacy, Science & Innovation and Empowering People).

BirdLife South Africa's conservation team remains extraordinarily productive. This is reflected in both the annual report for 2021 and the bumper weekly email updates distributed by the CEO. This is particularly commendable in the face of persistently challenging circumstances. The effect of the COVID-19 pandemic continued throughout 2021 and was exacerbated by outbreaks of lawlessness in parts of the country, with concomitant impacts on fund-raising and morale. 2022 is proving equalling trying in terms of deepening local and global trials. BirdLife South Africa will require even greater resilience going forward.

It is impossible to review all conservation work here and only selected observations are possible. Insights from the Policy & Advocacy Programme reflect an ever-worsening deterioration of South African government conservation capacity shifting a heavier burden on the shoulders of civic organisations. This perhaps renders some activities of the Regional Conservation Programme aimed at assisting other African nations increasing less justified, especially where these involve non-avian conservation matters. Some activities of the Empowering People Programme similarly seem to lack direct conservation relevance. These initiatives should conceivably be left to private enterprise or perhaps be transferred to some other division devoted to promoting birding generally. Relevant to the Landscape Conservation Programme, the ongoing shift in emphasis from the initial Important Bird Area (IBA) concept to a broader Key Biodiversity Area (KBA) approach risks losing the authoritative high ground of a purely avian standpoint. To some extent though, the strategy of BirdLife International may tie the organisation's hands in these issues.

The new Science and Innovation Programme is a fascinating development. I look forward to watching it develop a sharp and practical conservation focus. Hopefully it can play a much-needed role in bolstering the various citizen-science projects, such as SABAP2, SAFRING, CWAC, and CAR.

The Landscape Conservation Programme gives an inescapable impression of being at the centre of BirdLife South Africa's conservation work. This programme in particular seems focused on outcomes as opposed to actions, a distinction highlighted in earlier annual reviews. Hectares formally placed under conservation stewardship, guidelines dictating global best practice in renewable-energy impact assessments and innovative applied field conservation research methods are infinitely more valuable than talks and training courses attended or even organised.

The Mouse-Free Marion initiative, as driven by the Seabird Conservation Programme, is the most important conservation challenge ever faced by BirdLife South Africa. The concentration on this project in 2021 has been exemplary but this needs to be ramped up even further to fruition. This programme supports a plethora of additional worthy projects but I would like to see a greater emphasis on confronting the rampant over-exploitation of sardine and anchovy stocks by local commercial fisheries. This problem seems at the core of the catastrophic decrease in some of our most charismatic coastal seabirds – or is this a Gordian knot just too tight to tackle?

The bird conservation predicaments faced by South Africa are formidable but BirdLife South Africa remains increasingly up for the challenge.



DAVID ALLAN  
RETIRED CURATOR OF BIRDS, DURBAN NATURAL SCIENCE MUSEUM  
18 MAY 2022

## AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE ANNUAL REVIEW, FINANCIAL YEAR END 31 DECEMBER 2021

### Mandate

The constitution of BirdLife South Africa requires that the Audit & Risk Committee express an opinion annually regarding the effectiveness and performance of both the Board and BirdLife South Africa as a whole.

The Audit & Risk Committee has reviewed:

- a report titled 'Review by Board of Directors' for the 2021 reporting period, prepared by the Chairman of BirdLife South Africa;
- a report titled 'Review of BirdLife South Africa's Conservation Work' by David Allan;
- BirdLife South Africa Board performance evaluation; and
- the preparation of the financial statements of BirdLife South Africa and the External Auditors' report thereon.

During the course of the year the Audit & Risk Committee has also reviewed:

- the financial performance of BirdLife South Africa against the budget approved by the Board;
- risk assessment and mitigation measures determined by the Board and Management; and
- the Delegation of Authorities of BirdLife South Africa.

### Opinion

Based on the above and as is required in terms of the constitution, the Audit & Risk Committee is satisfied with the effectiveness and performance of both the Board and BirdLife South Africa as a whole.



ANDREW MITCHELL  
CHAIRMAN, AUDIT & RISK COMMITTEE  
18 May 2022

# Financials

## Abridged statement of profit or loss and other comprehensive income

for the year ended 31 December 2021

	2021 (R)	2020 (R)
<b>Business Division</b>	67 206	668 973
Income	10 562 423	11 666 069
Expenditure	(10 495 217)	(10 997 096)
<b>Conservation Division</b>	–	(230 569)
Income	21 434 973	18 805 026
Expenditure	21 434 973	(19 035 595)
<b>Net income from operations</b>	67 206	438 404
<b>Net non-operating (loss)/income</b>	(271 597)	200 790
(Loss)/surplus on disposal of assets	(874)	297
Bequests and donations for long-term sustainability	66 034	336 757
Donations to related parties	(336 757)	(136 264)
<b>Total comprehensive (loss)/ income for the year</b>	(204 391)	639 194

## Statement of financial position

at 31 December 2021

	2020 (R)	2020 (R)
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>Non-current assets</b>	398 264	348 864
Property, vehicles, furniture and equipment	398 264	348 864
<b>Current assets</b>	32 456 125	31 571 613
Trade and other receivables	2 313 046	1 620 375
Cash and cash equivalents	29 954 036	29 729 234
Inventory	189 043	222 004
<b>Total assets</b>	32 854 389	31 920 477
<b>EQUITIES AND LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>Reserves</b>		
Accumulated funds	6 042 237	6 246 628
<b>Current liabilities</b>	26 812 152	25 673 849
Income received in advance	22 509 216	23 220 861
Trade and other payables	4 302 936	2 452 988
<b>Total equities and liabilities</b>	32 854 389	31 920 477

The financial statements of BirdLife South Africa for the year ended 31 December 2021 have been audited by KPMG Inc. Set out here are the abridged statements of profit or loss and other comprehensive income for the year ended 31 December 2021 and the financial position at that date. These have been extracted from the Audited Financial Statements and disclose a sound financial position.

MANUELA KROG CA(SA)  
HONORARY TREASURER

## Sponsors and Supporters

BirdLife South Africa is very grateful to the many people, organisations and companies which support its work. These include the bird clubs and volunteers who serve on the Audit and Risk, Board of Directors, Animal Research Ethics, Flock, Flufftail Festival, Fundraising, List, Marketing, Nominations, and Rarities committees. Many BirdLife South Africa members also serve on bird club committees and the three regional fora. We are also grateful to the volunteers who assist at BirdLife South Africa's head office and Wakkerstroom Tourism and Education Centre.

### Donors and funders

#### R1 000 000 and more

Charl van der Merwe Trust, Eskom Holdings SOC Limited, International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Isdell Family Foundation (Neville, Pamela and Cara Isdell), Italtile and Ceramic Foundation Trust, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, Rupert Natuurstigting.

#### R500 000 – R999 999

Ekapa Minerals (Pty) Ltd, First Rand Trust (RMB), Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust, Investec Corporate & Institutional Banking, The Peregrine Fund, WWF South Africa.

#### R250 000 – R499 999

Jell Foundation, Marine Stewardship Council's Ocean Stewardship Fund, Swarovski Optik/Whylo Distributors (Pty) Ltd.

#### R100 000 – R249 999

Barbara Bickel, BirdLife International, BirdLife International Tokyo, Chamberlain Foundation, GaiaZOO, Stewart Horesji, MySchool/MyVillage/MyPlanet Programme, N3 Toll Concession, Nick & Jane Prentice, Rockjumper Birding Tours, Sappi Limited, Toyota South Africa, Uda Strydom, United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP/AEWA), Wildlife Acoustics, WWF Nedbank Green Trust.

#### R50 000 – R99 999

African Mining and Trust Company Limited, R. Botha, Tim Hancock, G.C. Jensen, Singita Lowveld Trust, Laetitia Steynberg, The Waterbird Society, United Nations Environment Programme – World Conservation Monitoring Centre (WCMC), Woolworths, Zimanga Private Game Reserve.

#### R2 000 to R49 999, and significant in-kind contributions

Agreenco, D. Allan, T.A. Anderson, P. Ballantyne, I. Barber, Baynesfield Estate, I. Bhorat, Birding Big Day participants and donors, Birdlasser, BirdLife Inkwazi, BirdLife KZN Midlands, BirdLife Lowveld, BirdLife Northern Gauteng, C.J. Blanckenberg, H. Borkum, J. Bradshaw, J. Briner, E.J. Buchmann, Bustards Birding Tours, S. Caelsson-Smith, P. Calinikos, P. Campbell, Cape Bird Club, CapeNature, Carl Zeiss (Pty) Ltd, D. Chamberlain, K. Chetty, A. Conradie, C. Cory, G. Crookes, Cuckoo Bird Club, I. de Bruyn, Department of Forestry, Fisheries and the Environment, P. Divall, M. Drummond, Dunkeld Village Association, Duram Smart Paint, R. Edmond, Elaine's Birding and Wildlife Products, A. Ellmer, Endangered Wildlife Trust, T. Erasmus, D. Erlank, G. Erling, P. Eslick, Eurolux, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, A. Featherstone, F.H. Chamberlain Trading (Pty) Ltd, FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, Flume Digital Marketing & PR, Ford Wildlife Foundation, K.J. Forsberg, A. Froneman, M. Froneman, N. Funda, Future for Nature Foundation, A. Gilbert, A. Gous, Greenfields Vet, GroundTruth, B. Hackland, Haggie Charitable Trust, M. Hainebach, T. Hardaker, L. Hart, V. Head, Hermanus Bird Club, J. Hewlett, A.W. Hester, J. Heyes, J. Humphries, Indian Ocean Export Company, J. Jacobs, John Voelcker Bird Book Fund, A. Jenkins, D. Kneebone, KPMG Inc., M. Krog, KZN Bird Club Regional

Forum, L. Lategan, D. Lawrence, C. Lotz, D. Ludlow, A.S. Malone, C. Masser, A. McKechnie, A. Mitchell, C. Mitchell, E. Mitchell, G. Modisapodi, S.M. Mylrea, Namaquasfontein, E. Nel, Northern Bird Club Regional Forum, G. Ortner, M. Papageorge, Y. Pennington, G. Pieterse, A. Plint, Polish Society for the Protection of Birds (OTOP), P. Radcliffe, Rand Barbet Bird Club, Rand Merchant Bank, Random House Struik, Rand Water Services (Pty) Ltd, F. Reuvers, C. Rhys, A. Riley, G. Rupert, P. Ryan, SABAP2 donors, SANParks Honorary Rangers: West Rand Region, H. Schoeman, D. Sharp, D. Slatter, M. Spicer, A. Stalker, Standford Bird Club, St Andrew's School for Girls, R. Stapleton, D. Stojakovic, W. Tarboton, S. Terblanche, The Hermann Ohlthaver Trust, The Lonnie and Kitty Strickland Foundation, M. Tripp, P. Verster, N. Visser, K. Waelkens, K. Wainwright, Wakkerstroom Bird Club, R. Wanless, G. Webb, I. Weiersbeye, H. Whitecross, Whylo Distributors, C. Wilson, J. Winter, Wits Bird Club, C.D.W. Wynn.

### Conservation League Donors

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### Corporate members

#### Partner

Duram Smart Paint, Investec Bank Limited, N3 Toll Concessions, Sappi Southern Africa Limited.

#### Associate

Ekapa Mining (Pty) Ltd, Nelesco 569 (Pty) Ltd, Ocean Breeze Food Merchants, SA Wingshooters, Singita Management Company, Surgical & Ophthalmic Supplies (Pty) Ltd.

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GOLDEN PIPIT ADAM RILEY

## Golden Bird Patrons

#### Golden Pipit

Alex Barrell, Tanya Browne, David Chamberlain, Philip Chamberlain, Michael and Rose Hainebach, Pamela Isdell, Tasso Leventis, Nedbank, Elizabeth and Duncan Parker, Phil and Joanna Perry, Remgro, Gaynor Rupert.

#### Golden-breasted Bunting

Chris and Barbara Cory, Golden Fleece Merinos, Don Hairs, Michael Pimstein.

#### African Golden Weaver

Mandy Ackerman, Geoff and Mary Ball, Stuart and Sandra Bird, John and Alison Bradshaw, Esstee Timbers, Paul and Jeanne Harris, Simon Milne, Vaughan Prost, Stephen Reinecke, Simon Stekhoven, Simon Susman.

#### African Golden Oriole

Ismail Bhorat, Nadya Bhorat, Shaun Bouchier, Howard Buttery, Maureen Dixon, Pat and Karin Goss, Christopher Greig, Halfway Group, Anton Heunis, Douglas Hoernle, Ken Collins Charitable Trust, Steve Palframan, Gianni Ravazzotti, Marc Solomon, Mike and Gail Strong, Peter Willig.

*Although we have done our best to ensure that all donors are listed, we apologise for any omissions. BirdLife South Africa is grateful for all the support it receives, no matter how large or small, and we will endeavour to acknowledge financial and in-kind contributions.*

## Patrons

Mrs Pamela Isdell | Dr Precious Moloi-Motsepe | Mrs Gaynor Rupert | Mr Mark Shuttleworth

## Honorary President

Prof. Anusuya Chinsamy-Turan (13 June 2020–)

## Board of Directors

Philip Calinikos (Chairman) | Mark D. Anderson (Chief Executive Officer) | Ismail Bhorat | David Chamberlain | Peter Dival | Dr Nicholus Funda | Linda Hart | Vernon Head | Manuela Krog (Honorary Treasurer) | Galeboe Modisapodi | Yvonne Pennington

## Audit & Risk Committee

Andrew Mitchell (Chairman) | Chris Cory | Manuela Krog | Germarie Pieterse | Arthur Plint

## STAFF

### Executive Management

Mark D. Anderson (Chief Executive Officer)

### Division Management

Fanie du Plessis (Head of Business Division)

Dr Hanneline Smit-Robinson (Head of Conservation Division)

### Conservation Division

#### Seabird Conservation Programme

Dr Alistair McInnes (Programme Manager) | Andrea Angel (Albatross Task Force Leader) | Dr Tegan Carpenter-Kling (Coastal Seabird Conservation Project Manager) | Christina Hagen (Pamela Isdell Fellow of Penguin Conservation) | Reason Nyengera (Albatross Task Force Instructor) | Margaret Tromp (Cleaner; –30 April 2021) | Nini van der Merwe (Island Restoration Project Manager; –31 January 2021)

#### Landscape Conservation Programme

Dr Melissa Whitecross (Programme Manager) | Dr Christiaan Brink (Raptor and Large Terrestrial Bird Project Manager; 4 January 2021–) | Kyrone Josiah (Landscape Conservation Programme and Conservation Division Intern; 1 February 2021–) | Dr Kyle Lloyd (Rockjumper Fellow of White-winged Flufftail Conservation) | Dr Giselle Murison (Western Cape Estuaries Conservation Manager) | Carina Pienaar (Ingula and Grasslands Project Manager) | Samantha Ralston-Paton (Birds and Renewable Energy Project Manager) | Steven Segang (Ingula Project Assistant; 1 January 2021–) | Linda van den Heever (Vulture Project Manager)

#### Regional Conservation Programme

Daniel Marnewick (Programme Manager; –30 April 2021) | Dr Simeon Bezeng (Acting Programme Manager 16 August 2021–) | Bronwyn Maree (EAFI Project Manager) | Lindsey Smith (Administrative Assistant; 18 January 2021–31 July 2021)

#### Empowering People Programme

Andrew de Blocq (Avitourism Project Manager)

#### Science & Innovation Programme

Dr Alan Lee (Programme Manager; 1 July 2021–) | Ernst Retief (Data and Spatial Planning Manager)

#### Policy & Advocacy Programme

Dr Melissa Lewis (Programme Manager) | Kirsten Day (Advocacy Officer; 15 November 2021–)

### Business Division

Kathleen April (Receptionist) | Joshua Chimaliro (Groundsman) | Julia Coldham (Assistant-Bookkeeper; 18 January 2021–) | Dr Isabel Human (HR Manager and Executive Assistant) | Rosemary Knight (Bookkeeper) | Ntombi Mbuli (Cleaning Specialist; 1 February 2021–) | Clare Neal (Events Manager; 13 April 2021–) | Jeanette Smit (Communications Manager; 18 March 2021 – 31 August 2021)

### Membership Programme

Shireen Gould (Programme Manager) | Janine Goosen (Subscriptions Manager and Office Administrator) | Baile Sechabe (Membership Administrator)

### Wakkerstroom Tourism and Education Centre

Kristi Garland (Tourism and Environmental Education Centre Manager) | Lucky Ngwenya (Bird Guide)



AFRICAN BARRED OWLET DANA ALLEN



The design and editing of this report was sponsored by Sappi.





CAPE WEAVER RICHARD DU TOIT



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