

2017 SYMPOSIUM OF CONTEMPORARY CONSERVATION PRACTICE 6 - 10 November

Fern Hill Conference Centre, Howick, KwaZulu-Natal, South Africa

MONDAY, 6 November 2017

10h00-13h00

REGISTRATION

13h00-14h00

LUNCH

SESSION 1 - FERN THEATRE

Chair

Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife

Andy Blackmore

14h00-16h30

PLENARY

OPENING PLENARY

Time

Speaker

Organisation

Title

14:00-14:10

Andy Blackmore

Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife

Opening and welcome

14:10-14:40

Trevor Sandwith

International Union for the Conservation of Nature

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Raising the bar: achieving quality, justice and solutions in protected and conserved areas

14:40-15:10

Wendy Foden

Stellenbosch University / International Union for the Conservation of Nature

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Do the climate change species shuffle - conservation managers as dance teachers

15:10-15:40

Timm Hoffman

University of Cape Town

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Looking back to conserve the future: the role of historical ecology in conservation practice

15:40-16:00

Sebataolo Rahlao

South African National Biodiversity Institute

South Africa's first national status report on biological invasions: key findings and knowledge gaps

16:00-16:30

DISCUSSION & ANNOUNCEMENTS

16h30-17h00

TEA

| MONDAY, 6 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--|---|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------|--|----------------------|--|------------------|--|
| SESSION 2 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 3 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 4 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 17:00-18:40 | Global Change | | | 17:00-18:40 | Threatened Species I | | | 17:00-18:40 | Workshop: Cycad Conservation, Trade and Law Enforcement | | |
| Chair | SUN / IUCN | Wendy Foden | | Chair | UKZN | Timo van der Niet | | Chair | EWT | Catherine Hughes | |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 17:00-17:20 | Ricky Taylor | Ezemvelo | Historical ecology: insights into past conditions and future trajectories of change in the Mlalazi estuary | 17:00-17:20 | Craig Whittington-Jones | GDARD | A preliminary assessment of fences as a hazard for birds in South Africa | 17:00-17:20 | Mauritz de Bruin | EWT | Threats facing the survival of Encephalartos cycad species |
| 17:20-17:40 | Ian Macdonald | International Environmental Consultant | A global change prelude? Some observed impacts of the 2015-2017 "Super Drought" on a small protected area on the southernmost Lebombo mountains | 17:20-17:40 | Nozipho Mkhabela | Ezemvelo | Modelling the distribution of the blue swallow, <i>Hirundo atrocaerulea</i> | 17:20-17:40 | Ashleigh Dore | EWT | Legal framework and other regulations |
| 17:40-18:00 | Ursina Rusch | WWF-SA | Drought anomalies in tick ecology: the case of rhinoceros as hosts | 17:40-18:00 | Rachel Kramer | WildOceans | Whale Time – a citizen science approach to conservation of humpback whales | 17:40-18:00 | Tommie Steyn | MTPA | Current initiatives undertaken in an attempt to protect cycads |
| 18:00-18:20 | Sarita Maree | UP | Planning for persistence in the face of anthropogenic threats and environmental change: novel insights from phylogenetics and phylogeography enable more effective conservation of Africa's endemic golden moles (<i>Chrysochloridae</i>) | 18:00-18:20 | Matt Dicken | KZN Sharks Board | Diet and trophic ecology of the tiger shark (<i>Galeocerdo cuvier</i>) from South African waters | 18:00-18:20 | Wessie Wessels | SAPS | Law enforcement and compliance case studies |
| 18:20-18:40 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION | | | 18:20-18:40 | Thierry Hoareau | UP | dDNA barcoding of South Africa's linefishes | 18:20-18:40 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION TO ACHIEVE THE FOLLOWING: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update our collaborative plan for cycad conservation based on the knowledge that stakeholders can contribute at the session • Prioritize and allocate actions and explore further opportunities for cycad conservation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore avenues to support the work of law enforcement • Further conservation/collaboration opportunities and updated cycad conservation plan | | |

| MONDAY, 6 November 2017 | | |
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| MONDAY EVENING FUNCTION | | |
| SESSION 5 - ORANGE TREE ROOM AND SURROUNDS | | |
| 18h40-19h30 | POSTER SESSION | |
| Merrisa Naidoo | UKZN | The effect of varying concentrations of microplastic fragments on the filtration rate and ingestion of microplastics in <i>Perna perna</i> (L.) in relation to conservation practices |
| Nikita van Schoor | UKZN | Uptake of microplastic fibres in the Natal Rock Oyster, <i>Saccostrea cucullata</i> (Born, 1778) |
| Oladimeji Iwalaye | UKZN | Microplastic ingestion in marine invertebrates: small plastics causing big problems? |
| Godfrey Padare | UFH | A preliminary assessment of critical thermal maxima of selected species associated with mangrove forests in Mngazana estuary |
| Ayabulela Mrubata | UFH | Salinity tolerance of the caridean shrimp <i>Palaemon peringueyi</i> (Caridea: Palaemonidae) in Kariega estuary |
| Refilwe Mofokeng | UKZN | Assessment of debris pollution at Durban harbour |
| Conrad Geldenhuys | NCDENC | Conservation stewardship as mechanism for landscape level vegetation monitoring in the Succulent Karoo |
| Daan Loock | Sasol | Status of a serval population on a highly industrialised site (Sasol, Secunda) and implications to the conservation of this species |
| Wayne Matthews | UNISA | The value of rapid baseline surveys: documenting unexpected herpetofaunal richness at an industrialised site |
| Daan Loock | Sasol | Survey effort and seasonally effects on small mammal diversity and density estimates in a highly modified landscape |
| Murunwa Nelufule | UniVen | Comparative analysis of bat communities at two protected areas (Venetia Reserve and Mapungubwe National Park) in the Limpopo Valley |
| Nozipho Kheswa | Ezemvelo | Assessing the status of <i>Protea caffra</i> , the host-plant of the endangered endemic <i>Capys penningtoni</i> butterfly |
| Rouxdene Deysel | GDARD | Floristic and environmental characteristics of the Heidelberg opal butterfly (<i>Chrysoritis aureus</i>) habitats on the Witwatersrand and Ventersdorp geological system in Gauteng and Mpumalanga |
| Tonderai Makoni | UniVen | The role of heritage databases in conservation planning in the Vhembe Biosphere Reserve in Limpopo |
| Joy Khuzwayo | SANBI | Forensic application of strontium stable isotopes to determine the origin of poached cycads |
| Rion Lerm | SAEON | Detecting invasive Smelter's Bush using a simple UAV system and open source software packages |
| 18h40-20h30 | ICEBREAKER & POSTERS | Cocktail Function - Orange Tree Room and Surrounds |

| TUESDAY, 7 November 2017 | | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------|---|---|
| SESSION 6 - FERN THEATRE | | | |
| 08h15-10h00 | PLENARY | | TUESDAY PLENARY |
| | Chair | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Craig Mulqueeny |
| Time | Speaker | Organisation | Title |
| 08:15-08:30 | Craig Mulqueeny | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS |
| 08:30-09:00 | Joris Cromsigt | Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences / Nelson Mandela University | KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Conserving Africa's mega-diversity in the Anthropocene: the Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park story |
| 09:00-09:20 | Jeanetta Selier | South African National Biodiversity Institute | An assessment of the potential risks of the practice of intensive and selective breeding of game to biodiversity and the biodiversity economy |
| 09:20-09:40 | Lizanne Nel | South African Hunters and Game Conservation Association | The "business" of wildlife - requirements for sustainability? |
| 09:40-10:00 | Michele Pfab | South African National Biodiversity Institute | Science into policy: setting evidence based quotas for the hunting of leopard and the export of lion bone |
| 10h00-10h30 | TEA | | |

| TUESDAY, 7 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|--|-------------------------|---|----------------------|---|-----------|---|
| SESSION 7 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 8 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 9 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 10:30-13:00 | Special Session: Advancing Ecological Infrastructure Thinking in the Context of Integrated Catchment Management I | | | 10:30-13:00 | Special Session: Camera Traps - Standardised Applications for an Invaluable Ecological Research Tool I | | | 10:30-13:00 | Estuaries | | |
| | Chair | ERS | Nicky McLeod | | Chair | UKZN | David Ehlers Smith | | Chair | Ezemvelo | Santosh Bachoo |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 10:30-10:50 | Richard Lechmere-Oertel | GEF5 | Delineation of water resources within the UDM timber and sugar sectors: a new baseline dataset for ecological and hydrological analysis | 10:30-10:50 | Ross Pitman | Panthera | Camera trapping best practice using leopards as a case study | 10:30-10:50 | Cameron McLean | eThekwini | The impact of waste water on the functioning of an urban estuary: an ecological timeline and assessment of management interventions |
| 10:50-11:10 | Bruce Scott-Shaw | NatureStamp | Hydrological responses within the timber and sugar regions to current and potential delineation and buffering scenarios | 10:50-11:10 | Tharmalingam Ramesh | Salim Ali COMH | Predictors of low leopard populations in protected areas of Maputaland landscape | 10:50-11:10 | Madonna Vezi | UKZN | Application of relative risk model for evaluation of ecological risk in selected river dominated estuaries in KwaZulu-Natal |
| 11:10-11:30 | Richard Lechmere-Oertel | GEF5 | Initial calculations of the socio-economic costs of various wetland delineation and buffering scenarios within the timber and sugar sectors | 11:10-11:30 | Rion Lerm | SAEON | Where to go and what to do: using simple camera trap data to investigate spatial and temporal distributions of large herbivores across different habitats | 11:10-11:30 | Sarah Stalberg | MER | Clawing back the IBA status of the uMvoti Estuary |
| 11:30-11:50 | Janet Edmonds | SusFarms2018 / SASRI | Implications of wetland delineation and buffering, and potential scenarios of implementation, within the sugar sector | 11:30-11:50 | Meredith Palmer | University of Minnesota | Camera trapping as a tool for applied management: an overview of statistical techniques to produce accurate abundance estimations from survey data | 11:30-11:50 | Bianca McKelvey Morgan | MER | The case for redefining the boundaries of the Amatikulu Nature Reserve |
| 11:50-12:10 | Richard Lechmere-Oertel | GEF5 | Risk-based policy responses to wetland delineation and buffering in the timber sector | 11:50-12:10 | Sarah Heubner | University of Minnesota | SnapshotSafari: long-term biodiversity monitoring | 11:50-12:10 | SPEED PRESENTATIONS (7 mins each with 7 mins total discussion): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The impact of traditional fish traps on the beta diversity and sediment dynamics of the Kosi Bay system, Amy Shurety, UKZN Bacterial population dynamics associated with traditional fish traps within Kosi Bay, Deborah Robertson-Andersson, UKZN Spatio-temporal distribution of the macrozoobenthic fauna of Bushmans and Kariega estuaries, Thabisa Mavubengwana, UFH Spatial and seasonal variations of phytoplankton attributes in relation to prolonged mouth closure of uMdloti estuary, Khutso Ramalepe, UKZN Potential effects of altered salinity on the respiration of fiddler crabs (Uca) in Mngazana estuary, Lukhanyiso Vumazonke, UFH Ontogeny of salinity tolerance of the marsh crab, <i>Parasesarma catenatum</i> (Brachyura: Sesarmidae), in Mngazana estuary, Asandiswa Nonyukela, UFH The change in meiofauna communities following desiccation due to drought in St Lucia Lake, Mpilonhle Nyawo, UKZN Comparative assessment of the prawn community of eelgrass and mangrove habitat in the Mhlathuze estuary, Mary Manukuza, UniZul The accumulation of lead and manganese and their effects on the osmoregulation of <i>Chiromantes eulimene</i>, Siyabongo Nkomo, UniZul | | |
| 12:10-12:30 | Richard Lechmere-Oertel | GEF5 | Nesting strategic wetland delineation and buffering scenarios within the gazetted CMA Resource Quality Objectives for the uMngeni Catchment | 12:10-12:30 | Robin Colyn | BirdLife SA | The application of camera trapping to assess Rallidae species richness within palustrine wetland habitat | 12:10-12:30 | | | |
| 12:30-12:50 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION led by Richard Lechmere-Oertel and Nicky McLeod | | | 12:30-12:50 | Manqoba Zungu | UKZN | Impact of habitat fragmentation and habitat structure on the occupancy of forest mammals in eThekwini municipality | 12:30-12:50 | | | |
| 12:50-13:00 | | | | 12:50-13:00 | Deborah Winterton | SANParks | Speed presentation: Exploring occupancy dynamics of terrestrial vertebrates in the Postberg section of West Coast National Park | 12:50-13:00 | | | |
| 13h00-14h00 | | LUNCH | | | | | | | | | |

| TUESDAY, 7 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SESSION 10 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 11 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 12 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 14:00-16:00 | Special Session: Advancing Ecological Infrastructure Thinking in the Context of Integrated Catchment II | | | 14:00-15:30 | Special Session: Camera Traps - Standardised Applications for an Invaluable Ecological Research Tool II | | | 14:00-16:00 | Co-Management | | |
| | Chair | SANBI | Alex Marsh | | Chair | Ezemvelo | Craig Mulqueeny | | Chair | Ezemvelo | Joe Phadima |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 14:00-14:20 | Matome Mahasha | DWS | Catchment management forums: decentralised land-water use | 14:00-14:20 | Yvette Ehlers Smith | UKZN | Predators and anthropogenic disturbance influence spatio-temporal distribution of forest antelope species | 14:00-14:20 | Tembisa Jordaan | Ezemvelo | The Biodiversity Economy, Conservation and the Transformation Agenda - a balancing act or a conundrum? |
| 14:20-14:40 | Pfananani Ramulifho | UniVen | A conceptual framework towards more holistic freshwater conservation planning through incorporation of stream connectivity and thermal vulnerability | 14:20-14:40 | Mfundo Maseko | UKZN | Response of crested guinea-fowl (<i>Guttera edouardi</i>), a forest specialist, to spatial variation in land use in iSimangaliso Wetland Park | 14:20-14:40 | Samson Phakathi | EWT | Exploring alternatives to poaching with dogs in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands: the power of community engagement facilitation |
| 14:40-15:00 | Thembeke Mhlongo | UKZN | Towards an understanding of the value of information systems in supporting social learning in a multi-stakeholder engaged water resource management processes | 14:40-15:00 | David Ehlers Smith | UKZN | Camera-trap data elucidate habitat requirements and conservation threats to an endangered forest specialist, the spotted ground thrush (<i>Zoothera guttata</i>) | 14:40-15:00 | Nonhle Mngadi | Ezemvelo | Unpacking socio-economic challenges to enhance protected area management effectiveness: case study of Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife Ongoye Forest Reserves |
| 15:00-15:20 | Nantale Nsibirwa | UKZN | Identifying critical source areas and transport pathways of diffuse pollution in the uMngeni catchment | 15:00-15:20 | WORKSHOP facilitated by David Ehlers Smith and Yvette Ehlers Smith: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidelines/considerations for survey design and implementation Metadata recording guidelines Data archiving options and solutions, including dealing with sensitive species data Equipment security Desired outputs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Technical guideline document in relation to different objectives Publication on camera trap metadata and data archiving minimum standards | | | 15:00-15:20 | Kennedy Nemutamvuni | SANBI | Multi-stakeholder management of a wetland in the City of Tshwane: the case of Colbyn |
| 15:20-15:40 | Pearl Gola | SANBI | Using the ecological infrastructure approach to secure water supply in a catchment: lessons from the uMngeni catchment | 15:20-15:40 | | | | 15:20-15:40 | Ncami Msimang | Ezemvelo | Collaborative conservation management through people and parks: investigating the possibility of a paradigm shift |
| 15:40-16:00 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION led by Alex Marsh and Pearl Gola | | | 15:40-16:00 | | | | 15:40-16:00 | William Olupot | Nature and Livelihoods | Determining sites suitable for tourism development in protected areas: a case of Mabira Central Forest Reserve |
| 16h00 - 16h30 | | | | TEA | | | | | | | |

| TUESDAY, 7 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SESSION 13 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 14 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 15 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 16:30-18:00 | Special Session: Advancing Ecological Infrastructure Thinking in the Context of Integrated Catchment Management III | | | 16:30-18:00 | Alien Species | | | 16:30-18:00 | Legal and Policy | | |
| Chair | SANBI | Alex Marsh | | Chair | SANBI | Sebataolo Rahlao | | Chair | Ezemvelo | Andrew Muir | |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Title | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 16:30-16:50 | Nicky McLeod | ERS | Hydro-solidarity: catchment collaboration for socio-ecological sustenance | 16:30-16:50 | Collette Terblanche | Colterra | iSimangaliso Wetland Park Invasive Species Strategy and Control Plan | 16:30-16:50 | Arie Trouwburst | Tilburg University | International law and lions (Panthera leo): understanding and improving the contribution of wildlife treaties to the conservation and sustainable use of an iconic carnivore |
| 16:50-17:10 | Liezl le Roux | Living Lands | Collaborative governance for ecological infrastructure: a top-guided, bottom-based approach | 16:50-17:10 | Samkelo Moloi | Ezemvelo | Early detection, rapid response and practical work on famine weed (Parthenium hysterophorus) | 16:50-17:10 | Melissa Lewis | Tilburg University | The Convention on Migratory Species' contribution to the conservation and sustainable use of lions and other African large carnivores |
| 17:10-17:30 | Duncan Hay | INR | Water pricing and investment in catchment management: what are the options? | 17:10-17:30 | Georgina Wilson | UP | Assessing and prioritising corridors in Mpumalanga for the management of alien plants | 17:10-17:30 | Han Somsen | Tilburg University | Technologies in environmental policy: a normative typology |
| 17:30-17:50 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION led by Alex Marsh and Pearl Gola | | | 17:30-17:50 | Michael Cunningham | UP | The unseen invasion: the role of phylogeographic analysis in conservation of Mozambique tilapia | 17:30-17:50 | Andy Blackmore | Ezemvelo | Who owns and is responsible for the elephant in the room? Management plans for free-roaming elephant in South Africa |
| 17:50-18:10 | | | | 17:50-18:10 | Sharon Louw | Ezemvelo | Detection and response to a new alien plant invader (Elephantopus mollis) in Ongoye Forest Reserve | 17:50-18:10 | DISCUSSION | | |
| TUESDAY EVENING FUNCTION | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18h30-21h00 | BOOK LAUNCH | | | Master of Ceremonies: Craig Mulqueeney, Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Introduction by George Hughes | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Conserving Africa's Mega-Diversity in the Anthropocene | | | | | | | |
| | | | | Joris Cromsigt | | | | | | | |
| | FERN THEATRE & ORANGE TREE ROOM | | | Traditional Braai and Cash Bar | | | | | | | |

| WEDNESDAY, 8 November 2017 | | | |
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| SESSION 16 - FERN THEATRE | | | |
| 08h15-10h00 | PLENARY | | WEDNESDAY PLENARY |
| | Chair | Wildlands | Zoe Brocklehurst |
| Time | Speaker | Organisation | Title |
| 08:15-08:30 | Zoe Brocklehurst | Wildlands | INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS |
| 08:30-08:50 | Samantha de Villiers | Smith, Ndlovu & Summers Attorneys | How protected are our protected areas? |
| 08:50-09:10 | Jennifer Olbers | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Offshore oil and gas exploration: an up-and-coming threat to KwaZulu-Natal marine conservation? |
| 09:10-09:30 | Harriet Davies-Mostert | Endangered Wildlife Trust | Status of road ecology research in Africa: what more do we need to know? |
| 09:30-09:50 | Hayley McLellan | Two Oceans Aquarium | Rethink the Bag |
| 09:50-10:00 | DISCUSSION | | |
| 10:00-10:30 | TEA | | |

| WEDNESDAY, 8 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SESSION 17 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 18 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 19 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 10:30-13:00 | Ecosystem Management | | | 10:30-13:00 | Microplastics | | | 10:30-13:00 | Monitoring | | |
| | Chair | UKZN | Michelle Tedder | | Chair | MER | Nicolette Forbes | | Chair | EWT | Matthew Becker |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 10:30-10:50 | Timo van der Niet | UKZN | Conserving species: what is a species and are all rare species equally worth conserving? | 11:00-11:20 | Deborah Robertson-Andersson | UKZN | A semi-decadal overview of marine plastic research in KwaZulu-Natal: quo vadis? | 11:00-11:20 | Pete Goodman | Conservation Solutions | Is biodiversity in South African protected areas being conserved? |
| 10:50-11:10 | Gideon de Jager | UP | Conserving ecological and evolutionary processes in Cape buffalo (<i>Syncerus caffer caffer</i>) and common eland (<i>Tragelaphus oryx</i>) | 11:20-11:40 | Gemma Gerber | UKZN | More than just food: mussels as biomonitors of microplastic pollution in the KwaZulu-Natal coastal environment | 11:20-11:40 | Lize Joubert-van der Merwe | SUN | Development of a robust, easy-to-use biodiversity index for mesic grasslands |
| 11:10-11:30 | Samantha Mynhardt | UP | Delineating potentially threatened evolutionarily significant units (ESUs) in the absence of a sound taxonomy for golden moles | 11:40-12:00 | Gan Moodley | UKZN | Climate change and microplastics: serious conservation threats for the brown mussel, <i>Perna perna</i> (L.)? | 11:40-12:00 | Andrew Whitley | Wildlands | Establishing a National Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for restoration/rehabilitation projects |
| 11:30-11:50 | Petros Ngwenya | Ezemvelo | The value of rehabilitation: monitoring 65 years of veld recovery at Weenen Nature Reserve (1948 - 2013) | 12:00-12:20 | Matthew Coote | UKZN | Microplastics make fish anally retentive | 12:00-12:20 | Dave Druce | Ezemvelo | Population structure, demography, and social dynamics of Hluhluwe-iMfolozi Park elephants 35 years after reintroduction as juveniles |
| 11:50-12:10 | Riddhika Ramesh | Salim Ali COMH | Predicting suitable habitats for the reintroduction of red-billed oxpeckers in South Africa | 12:20-12:40 | Refilwe Mofokeng | UKZN | Preliminary results showing the effect of microplastics on the survival of the amphipod, <i>Grandidierella lognorum</i> , following a 10 day exposure | 12:20-12:40 | Sharon Louw | Ezemvelo | The endangered Karkloof blue butterfly (<i>Orachrysops ariadne</i>) - flying high at Nkandla |
| 12:10-12:30 | Gareth Naylor | UKZN | The effectiveness of a small Marine Protected Area in Nuarro, Mozambique | 12:40-13:00 | Wesley Dalton | UKZN | Conservation implications of microplastic fibre uptake in the caridean shrimp <i>Palaemon peringueyi</i> (Stebbing, 1915) | 12:40-13:00 | Rigardt Hoffman | UKZN | Recreational SCUBA diver and ragged-tooth shark (<i>Carcharias taurus</i> Rafinesque 1810) interactions on the south-eastern coast of South Africa |
| 12:30-12:50 | Sam Hofmeyr | UKZN | Impacts of SCUBA diver activity on the coral reefs of Sodwana Bay, South Africa | 12:30-12:50 | POSTER PRESENTATIONS (5 mins each with 15 min total discussion): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The effect of varying concentrations of microplastic fragments on the filtration rate and ingestion of microplastics in <i>Perna perna</i> (L.) in relation to conservation practices, Merissa Naidoo, UKZN • Uptake of microplastic fibres in the Natal Rock Oyster, <i>Saccostrea cucullata</i> (Born, 1778), Nikita van Schoor, UKZN • Microplastic ingestion in marine invertebrates: small plastics causing big problems? Oladimeji Iwalaye, UKZN | | | 12:30-12:50 | Steve McKean | Ezemvelo | Densities, value and population trends of priority grassland medicinal plants in some KwaZulu-Natal Midlands protected areas |
| 12:50-13:00 | DISCUSSION | | | 12:50-13:00 | | | | DISCUSSION | | | |
| 13h00-14h00 | | | | LUNCH | | | | | | | |

| WEDNESDAY, 8 November 2017 | | | |
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| MID-SYMPOSIUM TOURS & WORKSHOPS | | | |
| MEET AT FERN HILL FRONT ENTRANCE | | SESSION 20 - CHAPEL | SESSION 21 - KARKLOOF |
| 14h00-17h30 | MID-SYMPOSIUM TOURS | OCCUPANCY MODELLING WORKSHOP | FUNDRAISING WORKSHOP |
| | Umgeni Valley Walk (limited to 22 delegates), led by Jim Taylor (WESSA) | <p>The training workshop will focus on Occupancy Modelling. It will be run by Drs. Riddhika Kalle and T. Ramesh from the Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History, India.</p> <p>The workshop is aimed at beginners and will cover the basic methods for modelling species occurrence using simple presence/absence data. We will focus on the practical use of field data in the freely available program, PRESENCE. The workshop will begin with a lecture followed by practical exercises on how to estimate species occupancy and detection probability using program PRESENCE taking real field data, followed by the selection of appropriate models, and interpreting results. We will focus only on the basic occupancy model i.e single-season model and demonstrate how to analyze detection/non-detection data to determine occupancy and detection probability. We will then model the impact of environmental parameters on species detection and occupancy. By the end of the training workshop, participants will be comfortable in identifying their scientific questions applicable to this technique. Participants will be able to analyze their own data sets from point counts, camera-trap surveys, transects, trail walks, call counts and many more in an occupancy modelling framework.</p> <p>Places will be limited to 25 delegates, and only those that submit motivations will be considered for inclusion. Delegates will need to bring their own laptops and data, and should consult the reading list on the website beforehand.</p> | <p>This workshop looks at how to design and develop projects in Conservation organisations that will increase its attractiveness to a diverse range of funders. The workshop explores project design and development guidelines, a overview of types of funding that can be attracted and employed for environmental conservation outcomes and guidelines on accessing these funding sources.</p> <p>The workshop will be run by Augustine Morkel, the Executive Manager Operations for WWF SA and the Trust Manager for the WWF Nedbank Green Trust, who has an MBA degree and a B.Tech:Nature Conservation degree with 19 years experience in the Environmental Conservation sector of South Africa.</p> <p>Delegates should sign up for this workshop via email to secretariat@conservationsymposium.com, and are encouraged to bring current projects and proposals to the workshop.</p> |
| | Mandela Capture Site, led by Joe Phadima (Ezemvelo) | | |
| | Midlands Local Breweries and Vineyard (limited to 12 delegates), led by Kirsten Oliver (Wildlands) | | |
| | Impendle Wildflowers and Blue Swallows (limited to 30 delegates), led by Brent Coverdale (Ezemvelo) and Clinton Carbutt (Ezemvelo) | | |
| | Raptor Flight Display and Bearded Vulture Breeding Programme, led by Sonja Krüger (Ezemvelo) | | |
| | Wattled Crane Recovery Programme (limited to 15 delegates), led by Matthew Becker (EWT) and Ryne Ferguson (KZN Crane Foundation) | | |
| | Self-Drive Midlands Meander | | |
| WEDNESDAY EVENING FUNCTION | | | |
| 18h30-21h00 | MOVIE NIGHT | Master of Ceremonies: Pragna Parsotam-Kok, NEWF Congress | |
| | | Introduction to the Nature, Environment & Wildlife Filmmakers Congress: Noel Kok | |
| | FERN THEATRE & ORANGE TREE ROOM | "Unearthed. The deeper the dig, the darker the secrets" by Jolynn Minnaar with introduction by Jolynn Minnaar | |
| | | Popcorn and Pizza | |

| THURSDAY, 9 November 2017 | | | |
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| SESSION 22 - FERN THEATRE | | | |
| 08h15-10h30 | PLENARY | | THURSDAY PLENARY |
| | Chair | Endangered Wildlife Trust | Harriet Davies-Mostert |
| Time | Speaker | Organisation | Title |
| 08:15-08:30 | EWT | Harriet Davies-Mostert | INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS |
| 08:30-09:00 | James Fitzsimons | The Nature Conservancy | KEYNOTE ADDRESS: Building a collaborative national reserve system from public, private and indigenous lands: lessons from Australia |
| 09:00-09:20 | Dave Balfour | Department of Environmental Affairs | Review of the National Protected Area Expansion Strategy (2008) – an update |
| 09:20-09:40 | Scotty Kyle | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Conservation in Maputaland: facts, fallacies and the future (1980 to 2017) |
| 09:40-10:00 | Peter Taylor | University of Venda | Ecosystem services provided by bats in macadamia orchards in South Africa |
| 10:00-10:20 | Shanan Atkins | University of the Witwatersrand | How to convert evidence of a net loss of humpback dolphins into conservation action? Halting humpback dolphin bycatch using the Human-Wildlife Conflict framework |
| 10:20-10:30 | DISCUSSION | | |
| 10h30-11h00 | TEA | | |

| THURSDAY, 9 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SESSION 23 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 24 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 25 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 11:00-13:00 | Special Session: Innovative Financing and Policy Mechanisms to Secure Protected Areas II | | | 11:00-13:00 | Special Session: Drones in Conservation | | | 11:00-13:00 | Special Session: Contributing to the National Plant Conservation Strategy | | |
| | Chair | CO | Kevin McCann | | Chair | Ezemvelo | Debbie Jewitt | | Chair | SANBI | Suvarna Parbhoo-Mohan |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 11:00-11:20 | Kevin McCann | Conservation Outcomes | Conservation finance for protected areas | 11:00-11:20 | Debbie Jewitt | Ezemvelo | Exploring the use of drones for conservation monitoring | 11:00-11:20 | Zaitoon Rabaney | BotSoc | The Botanical Society supporting National Plant Conservation Initiatives |
| 11:20-11:40 | David Cox | INR | Biodiversity offsets as a mechanism to support biodiversity stewardship sites | 11:20-11:40 | Camille Fritsch | UKZN | Unlimited Application Vehicle: an investigation of the value of UAVs as a monitoring tool for a variety of species in KwaZulu-Natal | 11:20-11:40 | Vathiswa Zikishe | SANBI | Towards meeting the goals of the National Plant Conservation Strategy |
| 11:40-12:00 | TBC | TBC | BIOFIN - addressing the biodiversity finance challenge | 11:40-12:00 | Marinus Boon | Kite Imagery / UJ | The application of UAV imagery for environmental planning and monitoring | 11:40-12:00 | Hlengiwe Mtshali | SANBI | South Africa's Strategy for Plant Conservation Target 2: an up-to-date assessment of the conservation status of all South African species |
| 12:00-12:20 | Mat Hardy | RMIT University | Protecting biodiversity on private land using revolving funds: a case study of Australia | 12:00-12:20 | Matt Pretorius | EWT | A remotely piloted aircraft system for marking Eskom power lines | 12:00-12:20 | Trafford Petterson | eThekwini | Ex-situ conservation of three threatened plant species |
| 12:20-12:40 | Candice Stevens | BirdLife | Private protected areas - long-term sustainability | 12:20-12:40 | Wynand Uys | Aerial Photogrammetry and Mapping | Information-rich photographic surveying and monitoring of protected areas with a light fixed wing aircraft using affordable equipment and software | 12:20-12:40 | Renira Boodhraj | SANBI | Surveying threatened plants in central KwaZulu-Natal |
| 12:40-13:00 | Greg Martindale | Conservation Outcomes | Protected areas and the wildlife economy | 12:40-13:00 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION | | | 12:40-13:00 | Bongani Zungu | eThekwini | Management of green/open spaces in eThekwini municipality: a case study involving the Custodians of Rare and Endangered Wildflowers |
| 13h00-14h00 | | | | LUNCH | | | | | | | |

| THURSDAY, 9 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SESSION 26 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 27 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 28 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| Special Session: Innovative Financing and Policy Mechanisms to Secure Protected Areas II | | | | Special Session: Transfrontier Conservation Areas - Catalysts for Enhancing Conservation and Socio-Economic Development | | | | Land-Use Planning I | | | |
| Chair | | CO | Greg Martindale | Chair | | Ezemvelo | Ian Rushworth | Chair | | eThekwini | Boyd Escott |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 14:00-14:20 | Kerry Maree | TMF | The Table Mountain Fund's contribution towards implementing the Western Cape Protected Area Expansion | 14:00-14:20 | Willeen Olivier | DEA | An overview of the TFCAs in South and southern Africa, and the major projects and role-players involved | 14:00-14:20 | Alex Marsh | SANBI | The Biodiversity and Land Use (BLU) project: tools and interventions strengthening our regulatory landscape |
| 14:20-14:40 | Emily Taylor | EWT | The Gauteng Biodiversity Stewardship Programme - update on progress | 14:20-14:40 | Roelie Kloppers | Wildlands | Bringing down fences or building walls: borderland dynamics and the prospects of a Lubombo Transfrontier Park | 14:20-14:40 | Felicity Elliot | Ezemvelo | How does biodiversity fit into land-use planning? |
| 14:40-15:00 | Duncan Hay | INR | Water pricing and investment in catchment management: what are the options? | 14:40-15:00 | Rudzani Mudau | DEA | The Awelani Project: developing eco-tourism and the wildlife economy on communal land | 14:40-15:00 | Lyle Ground | eThekwini | The challenges of offsets; a case study of the King Shaka International Airport development |
| 15:00-15:20 | FACILITATED DISCUSSION | | | 15:00-15:20 | Sonja Krueger | Ezemvelo | The implementation of the Biodiversity Management Plan for Bearded Vulture in the Maloti-Drakensberg Park TFCA | 15:00-15:20 | Richard Boon | eThekwini | The role of municipal land use planning in biodiversity conservation in an environmentally significant and contested landscape |
| 15:20-15:40 | | | | 15:20-15:40 | Roland Vorwerk | DEA | The role that Boundless Southern Africa plays in implementing cross-border events in the TFCAs and the impact that they have on communities | 15:20-15:40 | Natasha Govender | eThekwini | The history and development of open space planning in Durban |
| 15h40-16h00 | | | | TEA | | | | | | | |

| THURSDAY, 9 November 2017 | | | | | | | | | | | |
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| SESSION 29 - FERN THEATRE | | | | SESSION 30 - CHAPEL | | | | SESSION 31 - KARKLOOF | | | |
| 16:00-17:40 | Special Session: Coastal Forest Conservation | | | 16:00-17:40 | Threatened Species II | | | 16:00-17:40 | Land-Use Planning II | | |
| Chair | UP | Pieter Olivier | Chair | EWT | Tanya Smith | Chair | Ezemvelo | Richard Boon | | | |
| Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title | Time | Speaker | Org. | Title |
| 16:00-16:20 | Pieter Olivier | UP | The response of bird assemblages to fragmentation reveals conservation strategies for coastal forests in a human-modified landscape mosaic | 16:00-16:20 | Taryn Gilroy | Wildlife ACT | An analysis of cheetah (<i>Acinonyx jubatus</i>) home range and habitat preference and the potential influence of competitors on their movements in the Hluhluwe–iMfolozi Park | 16:00-16:20 | Yvette Ehlers Smith | UKZN | Forest habitats in a mixed urban-agriculture mosaic landscape: patterns of mammal occupancy |
| 16:20-16:40 | Mfundo Maseko | UKZN | The effects of habitat-patch size and patch isolation on the diversity of forest birds in Durban | 16:20-16:40 | Monique Swanepoel | UP | Using genetic data to infer the population status of the elusive suni antelope | 16:20-16:40 | Jurie Theron | SUN | Spider diversity within the agricultural mosaic of the Cape Floristic Region: landscape context and edge effects |
| 16:40-17:00 | David Ehlers Smith | UKZN | Indian Ocean Coastal Thicket is of high conservation value for preserving taxonomic and functional diversity of forest-dependent bird communities in a landscape of restricted forest availability | 16:40-17:00 | Skhumbuzo Kubheka | Ezemvelo | The Maloti minnow, <i>Pseudobarbus quathlambae</i> (Barnard, 1938), is not extinct in South Africa | 16:40-17:00 | Michelle Mahove | WITS | Do phylogenetic biodiversity metrics provide additional information for conservation? A study in southern Africa using <i>Helichrysum</i> (Asteraceae, Gnaphalieae) |
| 17:00-17:20 | Yvette Ehlers Smith | UKZN | The importance of microhabitat structure in maintaining forest mammal diversity in a mixed land-use mosaic | 17:00-17:20 | Zwelakhe Zondi | SANBI | Assessing and documenting the cultural use of sungazers, <i>Smaug giganteus</i> , by traditional healers within the species distribution range | 17:00-17:20 | Samantha Infante | UKZN | A biodiversity assessment of Shaka's Rock and surrounds: should special management be implemented? |
| 17:20-17:40 | Sibongiseni Xolo | UKZN | Ant diversity and composition in reforested landscape of Buffelsdraai landfill | 17:20-17:40 | Musa Mkhize | Ezemvelo | Plant species threatened by non-sustainable harvesting for traditional medicine practices: case study of uMlazi Ezimbuzini Herbal Market | 17:20-17:40 | Zodidi Gwayise | UKZN | Zooplankton biodiversity in relation to Critical Biodiversity Areas (CBAs) and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) on the KwaZulu-Natal coast: implications for conservation planning |
| THURSDAY EVENING FUNCTION - FERN THEATRE | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18h30-24h00 | SYMPOSIUM DINNER | | | Master of Ceremonies | | | | Harriet Davies-Mostert | | | |
| | | | | Guest Speaker | | | | Gcina Mhlophe | | | |
| | | | | Presentation of Premiers' KZN Student Award | | | | Nikara Mahadeo | | | |
| | | | | After-Dinner Entertainment | | | | Hairy Legged Lentil Eaters | | | |

| FRIDAY, 10 November 2017 | | | |
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| SESSION 32 - FERN THEATRE | | | |
| 08h45-11h30 | PLENARY | | Hot Topic: Rhino Conservation Update - Ensuring the Long-Term Survival of Rhinos |
| | Chair | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Craig Mulqueeny |
| Time | Speaker | Organisation | Title |
| 08:45-09:00 | Craig Mulqueeny | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | INTRODUCTION & ANNOUNCEMENTS |
| 09:00-09:20 | Peter Goodman | Conservation Solutions | Population status, performance and trend of rhino populations in KwaZulu-Natal |
| 09:20-09:40 | Cedric Coetzee | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | KwaZulu-Natal rhino crime |
| 09:40-10:00 | Chris Barichiev | Zoological Society of London | Do armed field-rangers deter rhino poachers? An empirical analysis |
| 10:00-10:20 | Magdel Boshoff | Department of Environmental Affairs | Domestic rhino horn legislation |
| 10:20-10:40 | Pelham Jones | Private Rhino Owners Association | Legal trade in rhino horn and how it will bring benefit to rhino conservation |
| 10:40-11:00 | Chris Barichiev | Zoological Society of London | Rhino Impact Investment Project: developing innovative funding mechanisms for conservation |
| 11:00-11:30 | DISCUSSION | | |
| 11:30-12:00 | TEA | | |
| SESSION 33 - FERN THEATRE | | | |
| 12h00-13h00 | PLENARY | | CLOSING SESSION AND AWARDS CEREMONY |
| | Chair | UKZN | Michelle Tedder |
| Time | Speaker | Organisation | Title |
| 12:00-12:30 | TBC | TBC | Awards ceremony |
| 12:30-13:00 | Ian Rushworth | Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife | Closing remarks and thanks |
| 13h00-14h00 | LUNCH | | |