



COMMUNITY CONTRIBUTION TO CONSERVATION – HONORARY RANGERS

BEST PROJECT OF THE YEAR

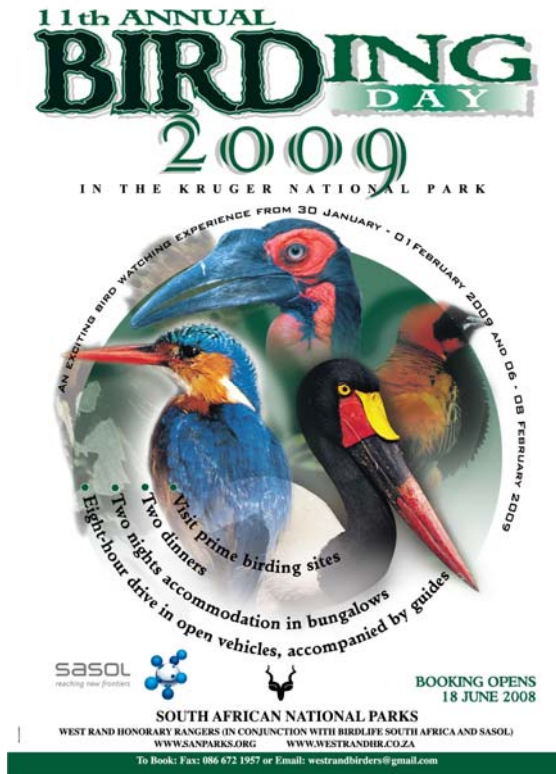
West Rand Honorary Rangers – Kruger Birding Weekend

For having conducted a project sustained over 10 years and which has become an established and much anticipated event for enthusiasts worldwide, the West Rand Honorary Rangers are awarded the prize for their annual Kruger Birding Weekend project.

Having begun in 1999 in 5 camps at Kruger National Park with around 150 participants, the Kruger Birding Weekend now encompasses 15 camps and attracts close to 700 participants. This project is funded through sponsors sourced by the West Rand Honorary Rangers and the Birding Weekend itself is a fundraising initiative. Donations received range from funds for smaller projects like the erection of bird hides and equipment and signs for the camps, to a Bantam Spotter Plane acquired two years ago for the monitoring of the central region of the Kruger National Park.

While the Kruger Birding Weekend brings in funds which are used almost exclusively for projects within Kruger, the West Rand Honorary Rangers have also been allowed to channel some funds to the other National Parks.

This project has clearly made a significant contribution towards conservation and with this award, we encourage its growth and sustained success.



HONORARY RANGER REGION OF THE YEAR

Bushveld Region

The best region award in this category is awarded to the region that has displayed unstinting dedication to their duties within the parks, an exceptional record in projects and has gone above and beyond their duties in support of the parks interests during difficult times.

The Bushveld Region has not only achieved its prescribed objectives timeously and consistently, they have also done an average of 100 hours of active duty per member and have raised R110 000 for projects in Northern Kruger.

They have made a significant contribution to the upgrade of the Phalaborwa Gate, the acquisition of the carved doors for the Letaba Elephant Museum and a trailer which they use to give educational talks on conservation at local community Schools.

The Bushveld Honorary Rangers are acknowledged most especially for their support of Kruger National Park during the union strikes in July 2007. This was the peak holiday season and several of the region's members came in on duty to ensure that the hospitality sector in the park was not adversely affected and that the guests were still given adequate service.

For this and their consistent good work on all levels, the Bushveld region is deservedly awarded the Best Region Award.

