

Aardvark Provincial Awards 2007

Award for best Performing Province



Sculpture by artist Steven Rici

This kind of initiative has an important impact as an incentive to the provincial civil society groups facilitating and leveraging land owner investment into biodiversity conservation. Each and every Province has done outstanding work to promote community conservation in South Africa, leading to more focus on biodiversity.

NACSA Executive committee decided that awards Gold Silver and Bronze for the best - performing province would give the provincial associations an incentive to carry on with their excellent work.

A detailed list of activities from each province was given to the judges.

The Judges were - The team at the Endangered Wildlife Trust.

The Awards were handed out by The executive Mayor of the Midvaal Alderman Marti Wenger at the Awards dinner held at Malonjeni Game Lodge On the 13 June 2007.

Gold: Kwa Zulu Natal Conservancy Association

The diverse action of the Conservancy Association to become involved with various aspects of Biodiversity Conservation shows the complete understanding of what Conservancies are all about, and the difference they can make within a community.

To be able to involve everyone (big and small as well as various cultures & communities) around their own environmental issues which they share within their immediate environment, shows that they are on the road of success and are in the process of strengthening the case for the environment and development in a balanced, considered and fair manner.

Carry on the 54 eThekwinini Conservancies with your good work. You are a voice to be reckoned with and your efforts will be credited in due course



Anthony Duigan, Marti Wenger, Malcolm Stainbank, Jean Lindsay and Trafford Petterson

Silver: Western Cape Conservation Stewardship Association

The effort which they, have put into their last year of being operational has been spotted and well rewarded.

Well done! They received funding from the CEPF and is doing some groundbreaking work in actively developing guidelines and plans for voluntary conservation sites in conservancies which could be rolled out Nationally and used generically by all one day.

Their strength also lies in their partnerships with their local conservation authority and other Government Departments.

Keep up the education and communication. You need to keep on spreading your local knowledge and use this to capacitate and involve more partners on the landscape.



Anthony Duigan, Marti Wenger, Chris Martens and Stephen Smuts

Bronze: Mpumalanga Parks Board

300 000ha of land in private hands are conservation committed. This is great Mpumalanga and you need to keep up the good work. Even though Mpumalanga does not have a formalised conservation association yet, the interest with establishing new interest groups (conservancies) have not stopped and yet another 4 were proposed over the last year.

Your Biodiversity in your Province need your effort and you need to honour this call.

Well done with the great work and good luck on working towards establishing your Provincial Association in 2008.



Anthony Duigan, Marti Wenger, Wilma Drodsky

Special Commendation: Gauteng Conservancy Association

Your immense growth (the doubling of your numbers over the last two and half years) is commendable. It also does not stop there – as the amount of initiatives and activities taking place for and with your members and in your area, is far overshadowing your figures. Newsletters, websites, educational tours, working with GDACE the IDP's and doing Political capacity building by taking the councilors to your unique biodiversity sites and areas of importance surely deserves a mention and a feather in your cap.



Anthony Duigan, Helen Duigan, Marti Wenger and Ivan Parkes