

CONSERVING OUR NATURAL HERITAGE FOR TOMORROW



PHALABORWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION

Dear reader.

LETTER OF INTRODUCTION

Allow us to introduce you to PHALABORWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION – NPC.

PNHF – NPC is a registered Non-profit company, registration number 2020/872513/08. The company is based in Phalaborwa, in the province of Limpopo in South Africa. Phalaborwa is situated right next to the Kruger National Park and is surrounded by nature reserves and protected areas. PNHF – NPC focusses on conservation and assisting nature reserves and other conservation organizations in the removal of snares, anti-poaching, rescue of animals trapped in snares, rescue of injured animals, data collection, research, litter clean-ups, environmental education and community outreach mostly, but not limited to the Mopani region of the Limpopo province.

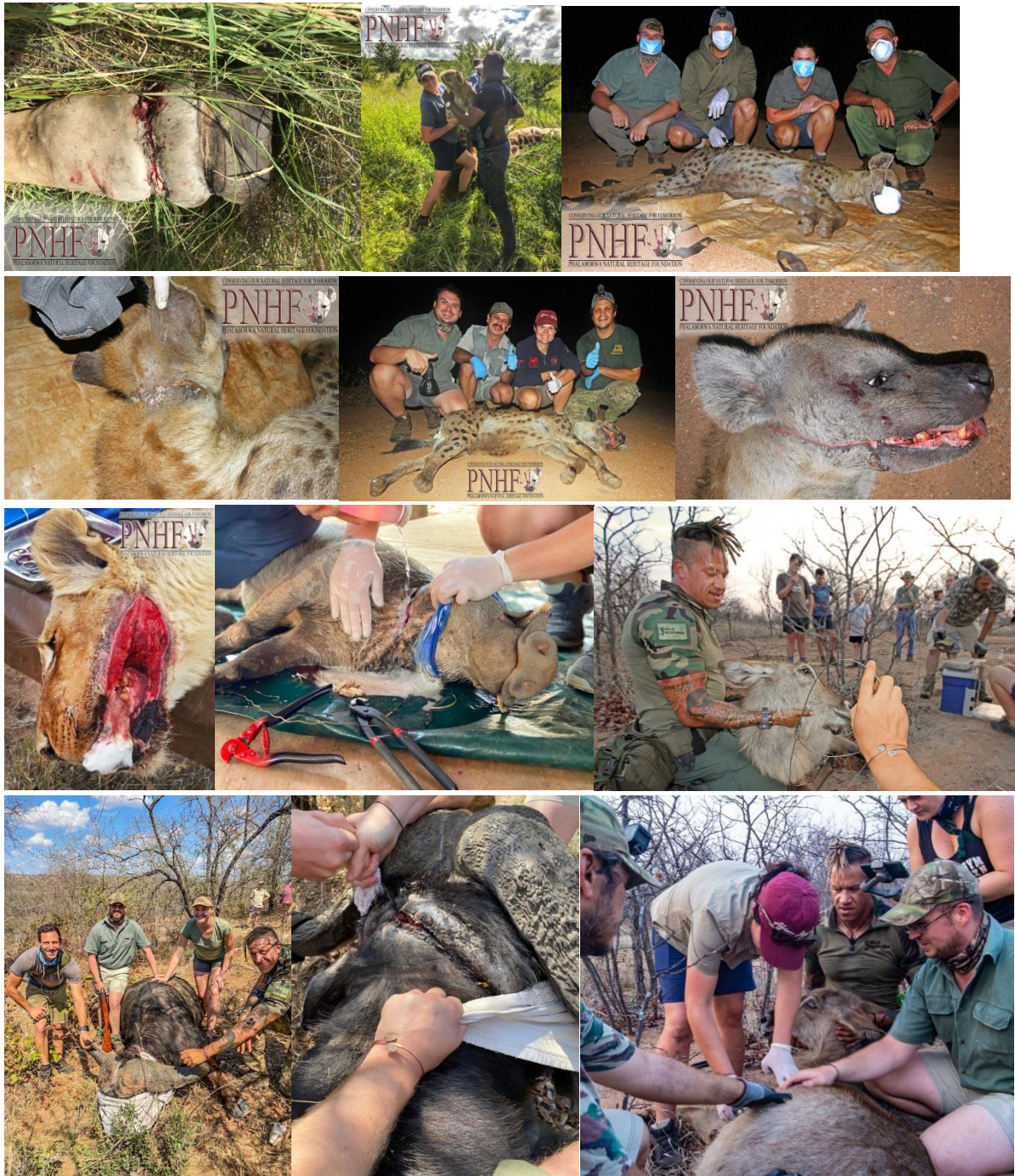
PNHF – NPC was created in March of 2020 and since the company has organized or assisted in the following projects: 13 Snare Sweeps during which 375 snares have been removed, 26 carcasses discovered of animals killed in snares, ranging from buffalo, waterbuck, plains zebra, impala, steenbok, warthog, black-backed jackal white-backed vulture and domestic animals. These sweeps have been conducted in the Greater Kruger National Park, state owned land, private reserves and public land.



All the snares removed are donated to Down to the Wire, an organization that turns the snares into jewellery and in turn use the profits generated to pay for the veterinary fees to treat animals with snares on them.



Darting and treating of the following animals that had snares on them: 3 spotted hyena, 1 lioness, 1 cape buffalo, 1 southern giraffe, 1 waterbuck, 1 warthog and 1 domestic cow.



The rescue of a hippopotamus trapped inside a cement sewerage catchment dam.



Assisted Elephants Alive in the tracking, locating and immobilizing of two elephant bulls to have their tracking collars replaced.



Litter clean-up operations in and around Phalaborwa.



Community outreach project to donate Hippo Rollers to poor communities living next to reserves we operate in, done in collaboration with Hippo Roller and Inscent K9 and other organizations.



Aerial game census and reconnaissance flights for anti-poaching operations on tribal reserves.



PNHF – NPC has assisted and collaborated with various organizations, reserves and government departments with projects and operations, below is a list naming a few of these.

LEDET (Limpopo Economic Development Environmental Affairs and Tourism)

EWT (Endangered Wildlife Trust)

Elephants Alive

SPCA – Local Phalaborwa Branch

Local Ba-Phalaborwa Municipality

APNR (Associated Private Nature Reserves)

Mahlatini Private Nature Reserve

Mthimkhulu Tribal Nature Reserve

Hippo Roller

Inscent K9 unit

Wild Response

Black Mambas

Bushbabies Environmental Educators

Down to the Wire

Bateleurs – Flying for conservation

Mangata Vets

Wildscapes Veterinary & Conservation Services

Meet the team:



Cathy-Louise Troskie – Treasurer.

My life journey started in the Free State province of Southern Africa. Growing up I adored nature, but never really acquired the knowledge regarding what everything was about when it comes to mother nature. Both my parents taught us never to destroy or kill anything unnecessarily, for other lives are not less important than my own.

At the age of 18 and at the beginning of my bookkeeper career, I met Eugene Troskie. The mutual interest was immediately there, not only for each other but the fact that he knew a lot about my passion, nature. As the years progressed and we got more involved with conservation and saving animals, PNHF was born out of a love for the beings with no human voice.

We quickly learned that the only way for us working side by side we needed to do our own thing while raising our beautiful daughter, Alexis, in the wild. Getting hands on and upfront with what we actually were born to do.

A good 9 years of my life I worked with finances and in 2017 I decided to complete my certificate in Lodge management and further my knowledge in the tourism and conservation field. Fast forward to 2020 and I'm still in the financial industry, working as a registered financial advisor for Old Mutual.

Nature will always be my passion and we spend all our free time volunteering to do PNHF's various conservation related operations.



Eugene Troskie – Managing Director

From a young age I've had a very keen interest and passion for nature. Growing up in the Free State, I've always been involved in volunteer conservation work in municipal and provincial conservation reserves.

I ended up studying for a field guide and lodge management qualification after school. Became a tourism and conservation qualification facilitator, training guiding and conservation students for SANParks and Freestate Dept, of Environmental Affairs and Tourism.

Tourism and education alone has never satisfied my need to have a hands-on involvement in conservation and I continued to study wildlife management and started getting more and more involved in environmental science and conservation work. Cathy Louise Troskie and myself have always shared the same passion for nature and our daughter is definitely following in our footsteps, encouraging us even more to leave something behind for her, a natural heritage for her generation to protect.

In the beginning of 2020 we started getting a lot of requests to assist in rescue efforts of snared wildlife and to organize snare removal patrols. Being unable to work due to Covid-19 lockdown, we ploughed all our time and resources into conservation in the area and in the process PHALABORWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION NPC was born.



Rion Lerm – Secretary.

I grew up in Pretoria and from an early age I was introduced to the world-renowned Kruger National Park where I often went with my family on vacation during schooling years. There I developed a profound interest for birds and birdwatching.

My tertiary education was in the form of studying more practical conservation management courses that later developed into a profound love for the natural sciences, specifically ornithology (the study of birds and bird communities). During my two years as honours student, I worked as an environmental educator and assisting with reserve management. But it did not stop there! While still busy with my Master's degree, I started working for an international long-term ecological research network in South Africa called SAEON. Here, I further developed my scientific interests into the field of community ecology - working on reptiles, dragonflies and continuing bird research inside and outside protected areas.

Currently, I'm keeping myself busy with maintaining research infrastructure and my PhD. After hours I enjoy spending time with family and friends where I do bird photography, falconry and assist various entities with administration work. I also recently became involved in anti-poaching operations and other tasks of the Phalaborwa Natural Heritage Foundation.



Francois Prinsloo – Additional Director.

I was born in Phalabowa, a mining town bordering the Kruger National Park and as a youngster, during school holidays, my parents would book two weeks holiday almost every year in the Kruger National Park, so as youngsters, my siblings and I enjoyed every moment of it hence my love for nature and its well-being. My career as a health and safety professional has not only helped me see the benefits of keeping people safe from harm and looking after their well-being, but made me realize that the environment that we found ourselves in are of paramount importance to our survival as a human race, we need nature and all it has to offer.

For the past two years I've been a part of the SANParks Honorary Rangers, making a difference where I possibly can and it's been an absolute pleasure working with them.

I joined the PNHF team in the beginning of the year when it was officially formed and are especially interested in the technical aspects and gadgets used in modern day conservation.

We need your help!!

PHALABORWA NATURAL HERITAGE FOUNDATION – NPC has not received any donations or funding, apart from sponsors paying for the veterinary costs to immobilize and treat animals. Costs to conduct operations and projects have been done entirely out of their own pockets.

PNHF has reached a point where funding is desperately needed to continue with the existence of the non-profit company.

We are asking for donations towards administration and running costs, veterinary fees to be covered, equipment, training, uniforms and maintenance of vehicles.

Please consider supporting this initiative to ensure its continued existence which is vitally important in this area as there are no similar organizations here.

Visit us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PhalaHeritage>

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Back a Buddy Fundraising Campaign: <https://www.backabuddy.co.za/charity/profile/pnhf>

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