

NOTABLE SUCCESSES...

- Establish a Wildlife Crime Working Group for KZN during 2002, the first Provinces to do so.
- Cluster meetings are held monthly between the partners to discuss all wildlife crimes across the Province. Hot spots, investigations and prosecutions are discussed.
- Training presented to identified police and prosecutors around the province. Visits to Protected Areas and offshore take place.
- A close working relationship has been established between relevant members of EKZNW, the SAPS and the KZN Prosecuting Service.
- A "Wildlife Crime Management in KZN" document has been compiled and ratified by the Provincial Commissioner of the SAPS in KZN; the Director of Public Prosecutions in KZN and the Chief Executive Officer for Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife.
- "Open days" for interested and affected parties have been held at Midmar, uShaka Marine World and iMfolozi Game Reserve to highlight the work of the KZNWCWG. The purpose was to raise awareness of wildlife crimes and their impact both locally and internationally.
- Awareness material is distributed to encourage voluntary compliance and education. Coastal officers set up the FISHCARE display at various centres and this is well received, especially by the school children.
- Brochures are distributed and awareness displays set up at events across the province, including the Royal Show.
- A Standard Operating Procedure was developed with the SAPS for dealing with cases of hunting with dogs. This is now a recognised guiding document for all Law Enforcement Officers in KZN.
- The KZNWCWG is a recognised model in co-operative governance to benefit wildlife and meet our obligations in respect of section 24 in the Bill of Rights of our National Constitution.



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FURTHER CONTACTS

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Marine poaching: 083 380 6298

Environmental crimes: 0800 205 005

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**KWAZULU-NATAL
WILDLIFE CRIME
working group**



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INTRODUCING THE KWAZULU-NATAL WILDLIFE CRIME WORKING GROUP

During August 2002, a group of senior members of three organizations, gathered at uMkhuze Game Reserve to discuss a new approach to combating wildlife crime in the Province of KwaZulu-Natal. The enthusiastic participants represented Ezemvelo KZN Wildlife, the SAPS and the KZN Prosecuting Service. The three-day workshop produced new ideas, which have become building blocks in a strategy to combine our efforts in a focussed approach to reduce the impact of wildlife crime on our valuable natural resources in our Province of KZN.

The participants at the uMkhuze workshop produced a Declaration in which the representatives committed themselves to undertake a number of stated activities, including the formation of a working group and so the KZN Wildlife Crime Working Group was formed in 2002. Regular attendance of senior representatives of the represented bodies form the core of the KZNWCWG. Quarterly meetings of these members and identified specialists in relevant fields, assess progress and plan future projects for the Working Group.

Participants of the KZNWCWG interact with many members of the represented bodies across the Province. These interactions are usually in response to the Working Group becoming aware of a serious wildlife crime or such a threat. The selected response can be in the form of in-service training, public awareness campaigns, targeted law enforcement operations or any combination of these, coupled with an ongoing interaction with interested members of the public.



MISSION STATEMENT

The KZNWCWG promotes co-operation between all relevant role players and the development of capacity to ensure the effective policing, investigation and prosecution of wildlife crime through sharing knowledge, skills and resources with all role players in our province and beyond its borders, in order to achieve the objectives of the uMkhuze Declaration.

