



2019 Annual Report

ON THE FRONTLINE OF CONSERVATION



PAINTED DOG CONSERVATION

"Saving painted dogs through action and education"

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ABOUT PAINTED DOG CONSERVATION

Painted Dog Conservation (PDC) is a non-profit making organisation registered in Zimbabwe as a private voluntary organisation. Our mission is to create an environment where painted dogs can thrive.

OUR VISION

To protect and increase the range and numbers of Painted Dogs, (*lycaon pictus*) in Zimbabwe



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

By Peter Blinston

I am often asked how we remain as determined as we are given the relentless tide of challenges that we face, on a daily basis, on this conservation front line. Honestly, I don't really have a way to answer that. It's just the way we are made. The painted dogs are the epitome of the voiceless; they are innocent killers; and victims of mankind's inhumanity, thoughtlessness, and greed. They deserve and need as many champions as they can get and we are certainly determined to play our part in that regard. Are we optimistic? I guess collectively we are. By nature I am not, but I am the most determined, and live in hope that the tide will one day turn.

Drought was the over- arching "natural" phenomenon we had to deal with. I say natural phenomenon with reluctance because we all know (or live in denial) that mankind is negatively impacting our environment more than ever.

In 2019 we witnessed the demise of all but two of the Destiny pack, several killed by lions in these conflict zones around waterholes. As a result, the dogs are being driven into marginal zones and consequently struggle. To further compound the situation, the marginal areas often abut communal lands and poaching hotspots. We expended an extraordinary amount of effort and resources trying to protect the McDonalds pack.

Honestly it feels like the whole year brought nothing but challenges of this nature and for those who know me very well, you know why I would in particular feel that way about 2019. However the reality is that there were more highs than lows.

Ultimately it is your support that makes the difference. Without you we cannot achieve anything and we remain eternally grateful for all you do for us.





CONSERVATION RESEARCH

By Dr Hillary Madzikanda

HWANGE NATIONAL PARK



Painted Dogs
within PDC core research
area in HNP



Extrapolated
population of Painted Dogs
in HNP



The Zimbabwe National Pack may be regarded as a keystone of importance to the maintenance of dog populations in Southern Africa. Zimbabwe remains as a painted dog stronghold with an estimated seven hundred dogs.

Hwange National Park (HNP) has recorded a slight recovery in painted dog population since 2016, brought about by more pups in breeding units, more pups surviving to adulthood, being linked to plenty rainfall and prey species, thus healthier alpha females. The Gwayi areas outside HNP are still considered a sink habitat for dogs and herbivory. The McDonald's pack, Mpindo pack, Kali pack, Django pack range beyond HNP and have resulted in mortality and injuries, during the reporting period, as a result of anthropogenic induced factors.

CONSERVATION RESEARCH

By Dr Hillary Madzikanda

MID ZAMBEZI VALLEY - MANA POOLS

The successful recapture and translocation of the Mpindo Pack to the relative safety of Mana Pools was a particular highlight.



There is a growing concern surrounding the disturbance of painted dogs in Mana pools. While the painted dogs are a “must see” for many visitors, which translates as a big plus for the species in Mana pools, this enthusiasm needs to be carefully managed and monitored as painted dogs have an intrinsic ecological benefit and do have a massive tourist potential to balance.



Mid Zambezi - Mana Pools
Painted Dogs
population



Extrapolated
Mid Zambezi - Mana Pools
Painted Dogs
population



ZERO TOLERANCE TO WILDLIFE CRIME

By Enock Zulu

Illegal hunting activities featuring the use of wire snares (animal traps) is the biggest cause of mortality for painted dogs outside of protected areas. To mitigate this PDC has been operating professionally trained anti-poaching units since 2001.

The biggest challenge remains inappropriate and inadequate land management by fellow stakeholders. None of the safari concession holders operate anti-poaching units and in most cases the areas have no significant management presence at all. This is further compounded by photographic safari operators maintaining water holes in front of their lodges to attract animals for their clients to see. Creating literal “killing zones” in the process as these areas are targeted by poachers.





Legislation in Zimbabwe is robust in many ways for wildlife crime. However, poachers caught setting snares are handled with extreme leniency in most cases.

One such case was with the McDonalds pack alpha female, Fran. She was snared seven times in her life. The poacher who set the snares that finally took her life worked at the nearby safari lodge but claimed he had not been paid for months and had to provide for his family. The Magistrate was sympathetic and he was released with a very light suspended sentence.

We are working with Speak Out for Animals to not only challenge the sentence but to begin work on increasing the level of legal protection for painted dogs so that killing one carries a mandatory 5-9 year jail sentence. That is still work in progress but we will not rest.



759

Patrols in 2019



23441

Area Covered (sqkm)



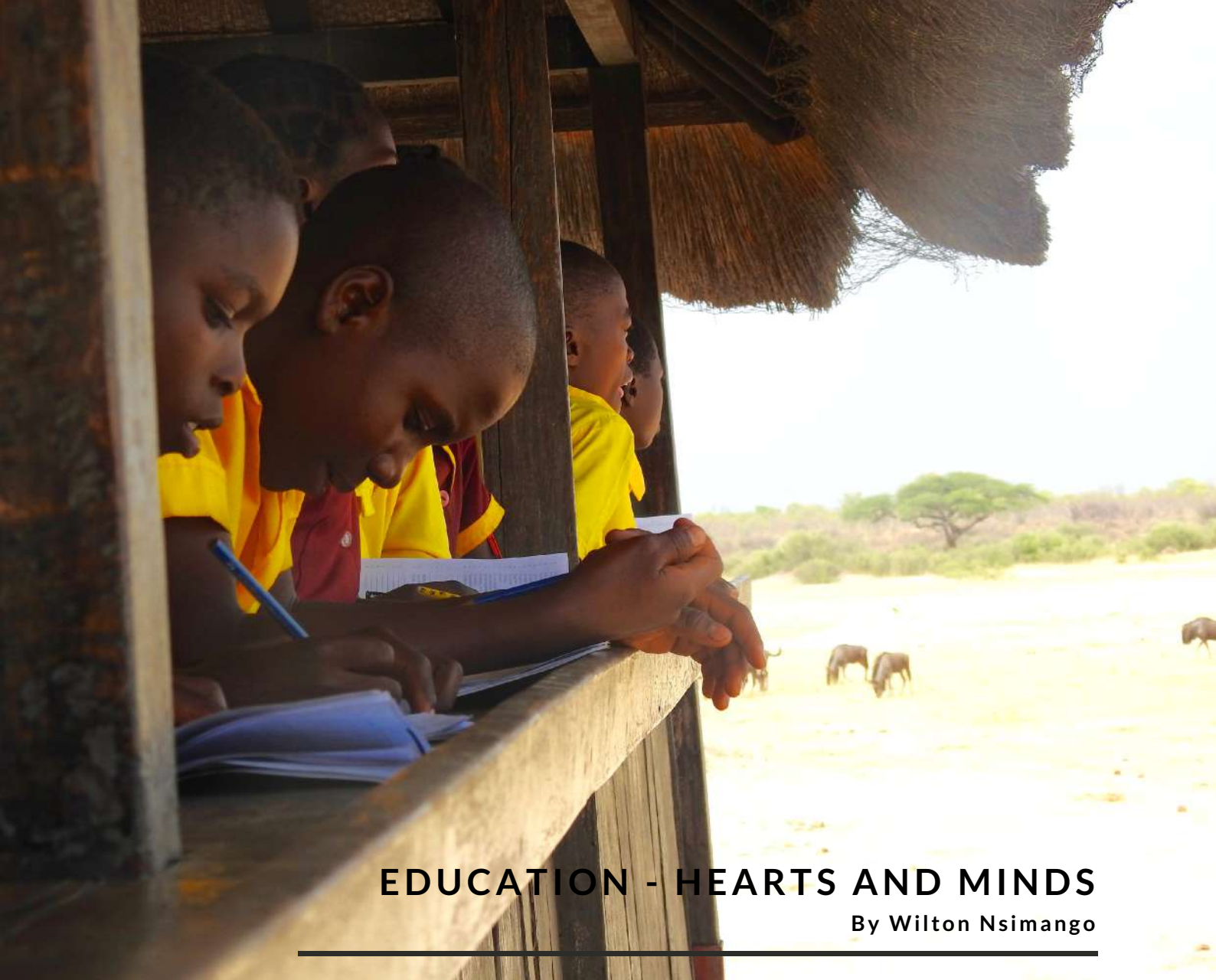
2462

Snares Collected



18

Poachers Arrested



EDUCATION - HEARTS AND MINDS

By Wilton Nsimango

23 free camps
conducted

782 students hosted at
Bush Camp

48 Conservation
Clubs visits

It is an unequivocal fact that today's children are tomorrow's wildlife custodians and they need to be educated about the various problems facing endangered species, with this in mind PDC established a Children's Bush Camp in 2004.

Here an extended experiential education programme has been designed, linked to the National Curriculum for grade six children, with a philosophy aimed at affecting healthy developments in the perspectives, attitudes and feelings of the students towards the environment.

EDUCATION - HEARTS AND MINDS

By Wilton Nsimango

23 camps were conducted in the free of charge program. This included the new Mpindo Primary School who had been promised inclusion in 2019 as a reward for the community who had reacted positively by looking after the dogs that had resided in their area. Despite of all the predation of goats, the community still did not take drastic action to kill the dogs or destroy the den.

Being the first students from that school it was quite interesting to note that the children had some information about painted dogs and the Bush Camp learnt from thier neighbours at Ngamo school who have been attending the camp since 2004.



The effects of the Happy readers program was felt in the core operating area with Mabale and St Francis Primary Schools coming up with above 60% passes at Grade 7 and being in the top 15 in Hwange District. This shows that most schools could have done better had they been part of the reading program 6 years ago. The two schools have had the books since 2014. Four donor schools came to camp though nine had booked and five cancelled due to failure by parents to pay for the trip. It's hoped that with an improved economy more schools will be coming.

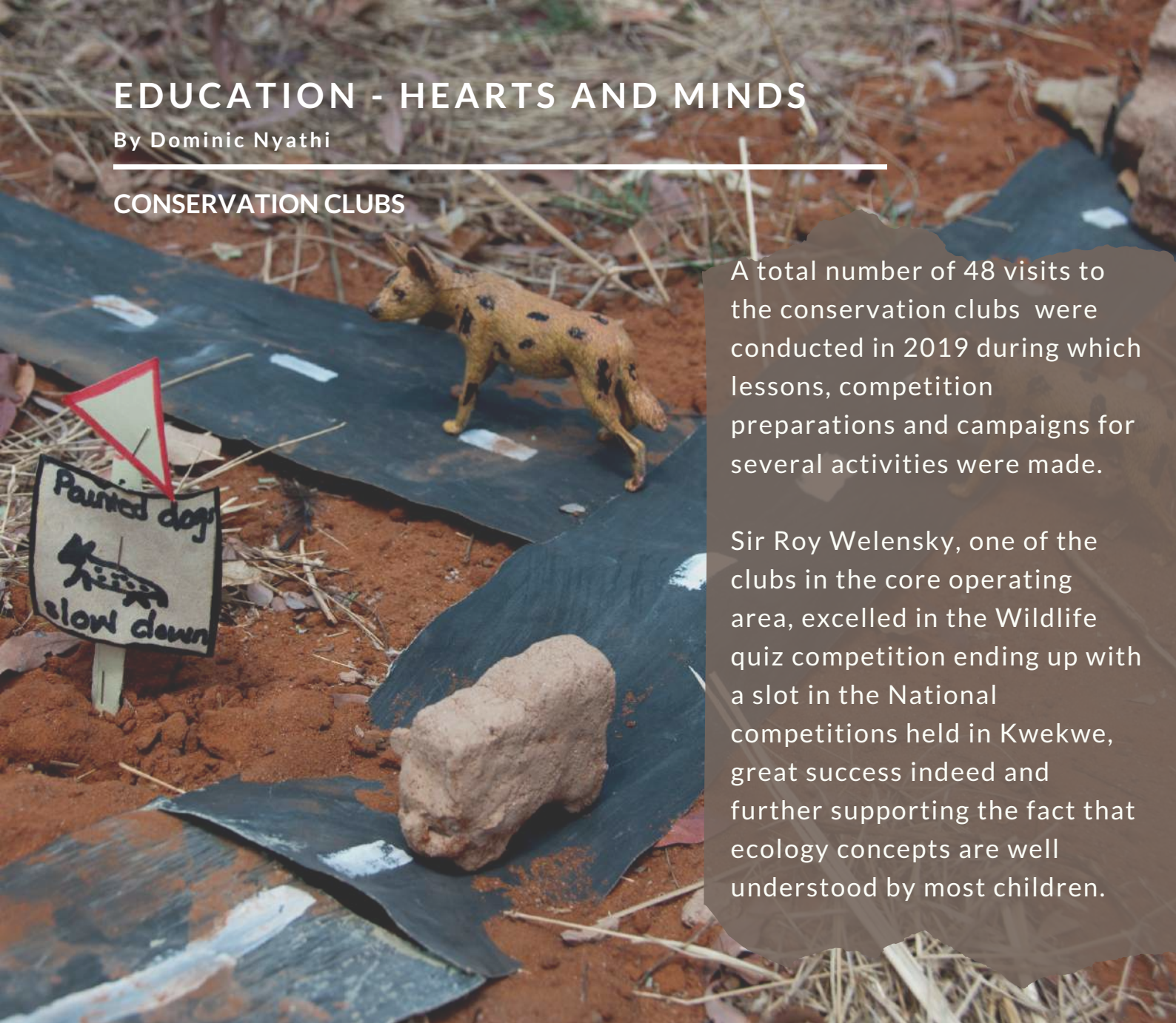
60%

Passrate at Grade 7 for schools benefiting from PDC's Happy Readers program

EDUCATION - HEARTS AND MINDS

By Dominic Nyathi

CONSERVATION CLUBS



A total number of 48 visits to the conservation clubs were conducted in 2019 during which lessons, competition preparations and campaigns for several activities were made.

Sir Roy Welensky, one of the clubs in the core operating area, excelled in the Wildlife quiz competition ending up with a slot in the National competitions held in Kwekwe, great success indeed and further supporting the fact that ecology concepts are well understood by most children.

PARTNERSHIPS

The support from the Ministry of Primary and Secondary Education has allowed PDC to operate in their schools with much ease.

Zimbabwe Parks and Wildlife Authority has also been a great partner in the education program by allowing the children into the park free of charge.

National Railways of Zimbabwe, Tel-one Zimbabwe, Civil Aviation Authority of Zimbabwe, Forest Commission, Wildlife Environment Zimbabwe, Hwange Safari Lodge, Sikumi Tree Lodge have all contributed in the conservation club activities, road shows, awareness campaigns and clean up campaigns.



EDUCATION - HEARTS AND MINDS

By Dominic Nyathi

PDC HIV / AIDS HEALTHCARE PROGRAM

The PDC healthcare, in partnership with Wild4Life, program provides for the health of the human population in the core operating area. By this, we assume that there will be an increase in the knowledge of PDC Aims and Objectives hence an increase in positive attitude towards nature by people in our core operating area. Through formal and informal education programs, the level of knowledge, understanding and empathy for Painted Dogs and nature, as a whole will increase.

We initially expanded the HIV/AIDS healthcare program activities from the areas surrounding PDC to cover the Hwange district with a population of 141629.

At the request of the Ministry of Health in Zimbabwe (MOHCW), in 2019 we went further to include Binga district which enabled us to reach out to its population of 128000.

Both districts are located in Matabeleland North province of Zimbabwe and they bring together a total of 32 health centres that we now work with to improve healthcare delivery in these rural areas.

128,000
is the additional
population now
covered by PDC
healthcare program
in remote Binga
district

250,000 +
Benefit from the PDC
HIV/AIDS Healthcare
program



EDUCATION - HEARTS AND MINDS

By Dominic Nyathi


PDC HIV / AIDS HEALTHCARE PROGRAM



The PDC donated ambulance “Mashambo” experienced several challenges spanning from overuse to service schedules. It is the only ambulance under Hwange Rural District Council (HRDC). As a result she was at times stationed at either Lukosi hospital or Victoria Falls hospital, when government ambulances were out-of-service. This shows how important in the district the ambulance is, instead of serving the five PDC clinics around Dete, it covered the whole district.


MASHAMBO'S WORK IN 2019...

 266 pregnant mothers attended

 47 Road Transport Accidents (RTAs) attended to

 491 total patient transfers (including children and pregnant moms)

 65 children less than 5 years attended

 8 MOHCW and station outreach programs

OUR HEROES

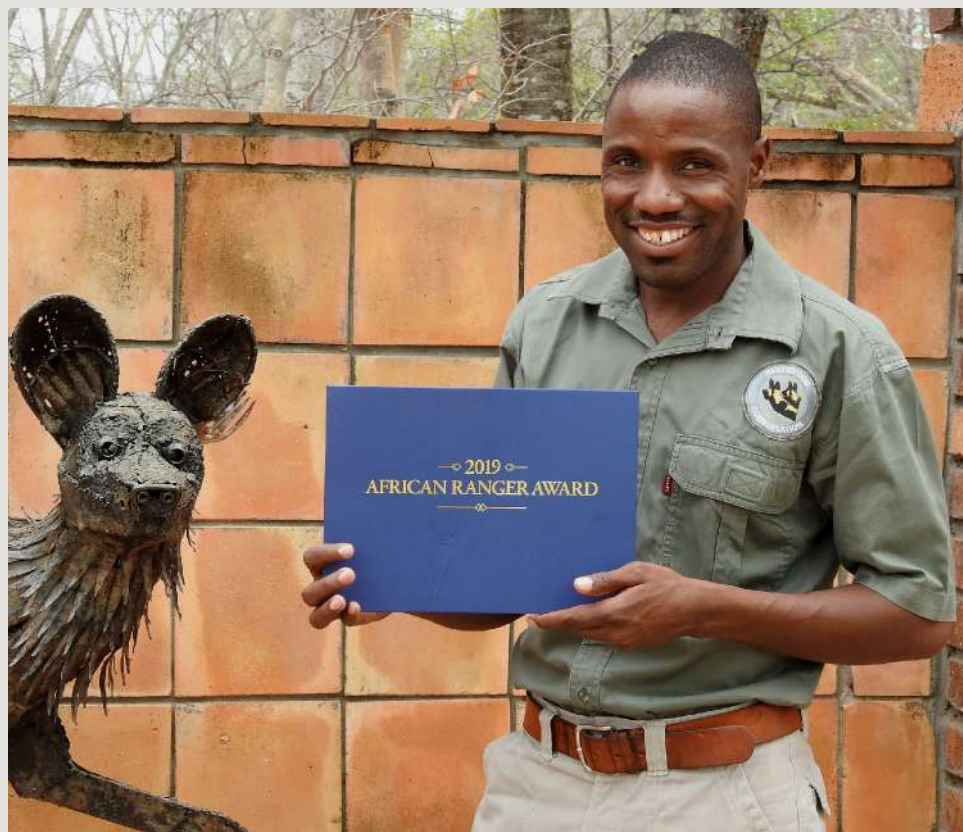
Dedicated staff members Belinda, and Lephias received International recognition for their work.



Belinda Ncube
Won 2 Awards in 2019
Houston Zoo Wildlife Warrior
Disney Conservation Hero



Lephias Muyuni
Won the prestigious
African Ranger Award



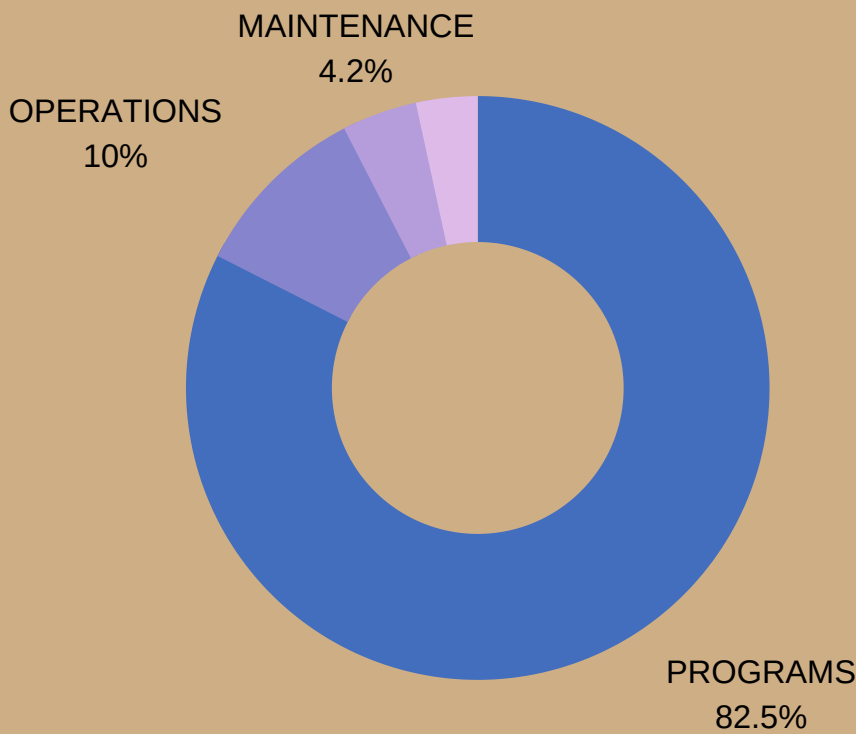
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

By Peter Blinston

CURRENCY: UNITED STATES DOLLARS (USD)

\$863,746

INCOME



BALANCE C/FOWARD

\$29,424

2019 IN NUMBERS

2462

snare recovered by
our Anti-Poaching in
2019

18

poachers
arrested in
2019

13481

children have gone
through Iganyana
Children Bush Camp
since 2004

491

patients transported
by PDC donated
ambulance
'Mashambo'

250,000 +

Benefit from the PDC
HIV/AIDS Healthcare
program

THANKYOU

We would like to express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation for all the support we received in 2019 from The David Shepherd Wildlife Foundation, Wildlife Conservation Network, Tusk and the organisations and individuals listed below in alphabetical order.



A-part BV
Aart Visee
Abby Caulkins
Alan & Victoria Peacock
Alexander Kendziorski
Andre Cohen
Andrew Davies
Anita Pereira
Artis zoo
Barbara Gleichenhaus
Bob Worth & Margaret McCarthy
Bruce & Trish Campbell
Burgers Zoo
Busch Gardens Conservation Fund
C2 Development
Camelion BV
Carol Guttery & Ken Voorheis
Cathryn Gabor & Rob Fuller
CGMK Foundation
Charles & Jaime Marshik
Chris von Spiegelfeld
Christine Hemrick
Christine & Vincenz von Braun
Christopher Lademacher & Kathleen Faeheny

Kathleen Sullivan
Kathryn & Robert Vizak
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Kirsten Vaccariello
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Leroy Elkin & Linda Bottarini
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Lily & James Melvin
Linda Lanzl
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Luca Frigerio
Lynne Heinrich
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Michael Schaeffer & Michelle Maton
Mouton Segeren family

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Cullen Geiselman
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Dave Cortright
David Berger
David Conrad
David McCullough
De Bedrijfskliniek BV
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Donald Sender
Donna Howe & Juan Loaiza
Donna Smiley
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Elizabeth Cosgrove & Cameron Smith
Evelyne Gevaert
Explorers against Extinction
Gaia zoo
Gesink family
Gitta Zimmerman

Mustela Beheer BV
Nancy Denison
Nick Dyer
Nina Geneson
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Painted Dog Conservation UK
Painted Wolf Foundation
Parco Natura Viva
Pembina Pipeline Match
Peter Jungeling
Philip Kavan
Point Defiance AAZK
Qualcomm Inc
Rebecca Bianchi
Rebecca Patton & Thomas Goodrich
Rietveld family
Rooijmans family
Rose & David Dortort Foundation
Safari West
SAFE Worldwide
Sarah & Roger Friedel
SAS ZOO FAUNE TROPICALE
Save- Wildlife Conservation Fund
Sherry Paul
Shie Lundberg

Glen Smith
Google Match
Graham Paine
Guy Oliver & Patricia Morris
Heidi Dugan
Hildebrand Fund
Holtzman Wildlife Foundation
Horne Family
Houston Zoo
Howe Ng & Aaron Hyland
Humane Society International
James Armstrong
James Hartley Smith
Jan Richardson
Jim Chapman
Jim Clark
Joe Hollstein
John Carothers
John Stuelpnagel
Jon & Laura Mellberg
Joyce Kaneshiro & James Poley
Judy & Chuck Wheatley
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van der Heijden family
van der Valk family
van der Weide family
VOF Compas Management
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Walli Finch
Willeke Kamphof



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