



Wolwekraal Conservation and Research Organisation (WCRO)

PO Box 47 Prince Albert 6930

NPO Reg. Num 121-079 (15.05.2013)

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2018.02.28

NON-PROFIT ORGANISATION ANNUAL REPORTS Narrative Report on the past year's activities 2017.03-2018.02

1. Section A: Basic details about the Organisation:

1.1 Organisation name:... Wolwekraal Conservation and Research Organisation .

1.2 Non-profit Organisation Registration Number:..... **121-079 (15.05.2013)**.....

1.3 The twelve-month period this Report covers:... ..2015.03.01-2016.02.28

1.4 Contact persons (Two office bearers nominated by the Organisation):

Contact personSue Milton-Dean

Contact person's title in your organisation(Secretary/Treasurer).....

Telephone number (023) 5411828... ..

Fax number ()

Cell phone number082 7700206..

E-mail address... WklConsResOrg@gmail.com.....

Another contact person is.....Chris Ball.....

Contact person's title in your organisation ... Vice Chairperson....

Telephone number

Fax number ()

Cell phone number ...082 990 2004...email..mrchrisball@gmail.com

1.5 Organisation's physical address:

.....Nuwestraat 8.....

.....Prince Albert.....

Province ... Western Cape.....

Postal code 6930.....

1.6 Organisation's postal address (if different to 1.5):

.....PO Box 47.....

.....Prince Albert.....

Province ... Western Cape.....

Postal code 6930.....

South African Revenue Service Tax Number 9541/939/16/2; NPO Reg. Num 121-079 (15.05.2013)

EXCO Members: Chairperson Dr WRJ Dean; Vice Chair Mr Chris Ball; Cape Nature representative Dr Alan

Wheeler; Additional Member Mr Hugh Forsyth;

Secretary/Treasurer Dr Sue Milton-Dean

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<http://www.wcro.co.za>

1.7 Organisation's Office Bearers. If the form does not have enough spaces for all your office bearers please add the rest on a sheet of paper, and attach. (Office Bearers may be e.g.: Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Trustees. etc)

Name	Office bearer title	Work or home address	Postal address	Telephone (include dialing code)	ID Number
William Richard John Dean	Chair	8 Nuwestraat, Prince Albert 6930	PO Box 47, Prince Albert 6930	Tel: +27 23 541 1828; Cel: +27 79 517 3693	ID 400810 5011 083
Christopher John Watkins-Ball	Vice Chair Member & fiduciary officer	Ouplaas, Kruisrivier, Calitzdorp	.PO. Box 49, Calitzdorp 6660.	Tel: +27 Cel: +27 82 990 2004	ID 391102 5051 082
Suzanne Jane Dean	Secretary/ Treasurer Member & fiduciary officer	8 Nuwestraat, Prince Albert 6930	PO Box 47, Prince Albert 6930	Tel: +27 23 541 1514; Cel: +27 82 770 0206	ID 520713 0118 082
Hugh Pickering Forsyth	Additional Member & fiduciary officer	2 Klipstraat, Prince Albert 6930	2 Klipstraat, Prince Albert 6930	Tel; +27 23 5411 514,	ID 430317 5030 083
Alan Wheeler	CapeNature Representative	Queens Hotel Building Baron van Reede Street Oudtshoorn 6625;	Private Bag X 658, Oudtshoorn, 6620	Tel: +27 44 203 6312; Cel: +27 82 300 1787	ID 650802 5011 087.

Changes to the Office Bearers: please attach a copy of minutes where changes were made and attendance register.

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2. SECTION B: THE ORGANISATION'S MAJOR ACHIEVEMENTS OVER THE PAST YEAR:

Activities (projects and programmes) for the reporting year	How beneficiaries benefited
<p>1. Maintain Wolwekraal Nature Reserve Infrastructure. The Nature Reserve boundary fence between Municipal garbage dump and the Nature was repaired in May 2017 following a flood that damaged the electric and mesh fences across the Dorpsrivier. The fence along the boundary with the Waterkop estate was also repaired where it had been damaged by people accessing the reserve as a short cut to the Drierivier farm</p>	<p>Wolwekraal Nature Reserve is a government Gazetted protected area. WCRO and CapeNature are committed to co-managing the area to maintain biodiversity and ecosystem function for recreation, education, carbon sequestration and soil and water protection. Beneficiaries are the present and future community of Prince Albert (in terms of quality of life, education, employment), school learners and visitors to the area. Maintaining fences limits movement of garbage and feral animals into the Nature Reserve and discourages intruders who intend to vandalise, hunt or remove trees.</p>
<p>2. Provide environmental and natural history education for the public and for schools and transfer skills to local community. Major environmental education activities this year included a restoration project carried out by 25 B-tech students and mentors from the Saasveld campus of NMMU (July 2017) and a visit by 50 2nd year Saasveld Nature Conservation students to the reserve. Appointment of a 3rd year NMU Nature Conservation student (Yondela Nqadala) as an intern in 2017 increased the scope and success of our Environmental Education activities. She developed a citizen science trail and took 95 Grade 4 learners (Prince Albert Primere), 16 special education learners (PASS School) and two groups of learners from home schools for educational walks in the Nature Reserve in 2017. WCRO contributes environmental education lessons for one hour per week for a special needs school (Prince Albert Skills School) developed by the Depth Leadership Trust In addition to 50 university students and 95 school learners, 154 visitors were</p>	<p>Young school learners and special needs learners enjoyed the outdoor education experience and broadened their understanding of the interactions between people and the environment. University groups make regular visits to Wolwekraal Nature Reserve to enrich lab studies with field ecology. Local residents and tourists have commented enthusiastically about the natural history and heritage information gained on walks in Wolwekraal Nature Reserve. Students and interns gained experience in environmental education, public speaking, scientific writing, plant and animal identification, field sampling and research techniques. WCRO activities have also promoted debates on waste management, water allocation to people and the environment, and control of alien invasive plants.</p>

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Activities (projects and programmes) for the reporting year	How beneficiaries benefited
given guided walks k in the Wolwekraal Nature Reserve Nature Reserve during the reporting period.	
<p>3. Conduct and publish research.</p> <p>WCRO members mentor one intern annually for the South African National Environmental Network (DST/NRF). The mentoring includes assistance with data collection, analysis and scientific writing. Funds obtained by WCRO members through publication of papers in peer-reviewed journals were paid to WCRO and used to fund veld restoration trials and research on the Nature Reserve. Long-term ecological research projects on Wolwekraal Nature Reserve are being conducted in collaboration with SAEON, and include repeat surveys of 72 vegetation plots, and long term decay studies that form part of an international study on decay rates. Additional research includes drought monitoring, the monitoring of burrow use by birds and mammals, and updating of flora lists. A reptile-tagging study is envisaged for 2018/2019. We also collaborated during the reporting period with SAEON Arid lands Node to compile a special journal issue dealing with research in the Karoo, and presented research results at a conference on climate change effects on birds, as well as at farmers' days in Prince Albert and Merweville. WCRO members also contributed expertise to monitoring kraaling sites for the Landmark Foundation "Shepherding Back Biodiversity" project, and made inputs to an architectural MSc at TUT and a Sociology MSc at UCT.</p>	<p>Beneficiaries of our research activities include the students who learn, gain experience and degrees, the business Renu-Karoo that uses research-based information to improve its veld restoration service to the public, CapeNature that receives updated species lists, and members of the public who access the WCRO and Renu-Karoo websites in search on information on veld rehabilitation and environmental issues. The South African Environmental Observatory Network carries out research on the Wolwekraal Nature Reserve because it is an ideal site to observe the influence of village development on a natural environment and to record and share information on climate change impacts on vegetation and decay rates. WCRO research facilitates interactions between disciplines of ecology, sociology, psychology, anthropology, archaeology, history, education and art.</p>
<p>4. WCRO works in collaboration with other organizations and government agencies to identify and assist in the conservation of natural and cultural environments in the Prince Albert Municipal area.</p> <p>In 2017/2018 WCRO members collaborated with CapeNature, the Endangered Wildlife Trust (EWT), the Gouritz Cluster Biosphere Reserve (GCBR), South African Biodiversity Institute (SANBI), Landcare Beaufort West, Prince Albert</p>	<p>WCRO and members of collaborating organizations (CapeNature, LandCare, SAEON, EWT, GCBR, SPL, SANBI, IJR, Prince Albert Municipality, Depth Leadership Trust, Department of Sociology at Stellenbosch University, Nature Conservation Department at NMMU, Landmark Foundation, Conservation Management Services) benefited from the shared experience and knowledge. In</p>

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Activities (projects and programmes) for the reporting year	How beneficiaries benefited
Water & Sanitation Forum, Stellenbosch University School of Public Leadership (SPL), the Institute for Justice and Restitution (IJR), Prince Albert Municipality, and the South African Environmental Observatory Network (SAEON), in conducting, synthesizing and reviewing research that could lead to better environmental management and conservation of natural and cultural environments in the Prince Albert Municipal area as well as elsewhere in the Karoo.	In addition WCRO provided 20 practical one hour sessions for mentally-challenged teenage learners from the PASS School in Prince Albert.
5. WCRO raises funds for its activities and manages these funds to achieve its objectives. During 2017, WCRO raised funds amounting to R15,000 through guided walks and public talks, R20,000 from the Table Mountain Fund (for upgrading fencing), and R50,000 from the NRF for peer-reviewed publications. Funds were used for intern support, infrastructure maintenance on the Nature Reserve, environmental education, and restoration trials and other research activities.	CapeNature benefits from the co-management of Wolwekraal Nature Reserve by WCRO. Post-grad students benefitted from practical participation in ecological restoration on Wolwekraal Nature Reserve, and interns benefitted from the experience gained through interactions with learners, post-graduate students from other disciplines and the public.
8. Provide access to information pertaining to its activities and management through regular open and transparent communication. Public access to information pertaining to WCRO activities and management was achieved through regular Exco meetings and an AGM, by updating of the website (www.wcro.co.za), interaction with the eleven ordinary members to WCRO, and occasional articles in the local newspaper (Prince Albert Friend).	Local inhabitants and visitors to Prince Albert learn about the natural environment and cultural heritage in which the village of Prince Albert is embedded.

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3. SECTION C: LIST OF IMPORTANT MEETINGS AND ANY CHANGE TO CONSTITUTION

3.1 Types and number of meetings your Organisation held during the past year

Type of meeting	Indicate by ticking		No of meetings held during the year	Comments
	Yes	NO		
Annual general meeting (AGM)	x		1	2017.03.25
Special general meeting		x	0	
Board meeting (Exco meetings)	x		4	2017.03.25, 2017.06.30, 2017.10.04, 2018.01.26
Others (specify) research planning		x	1	

4 Did the Organisation make any change or changes to its Constitution during the past year

NO

NOTE: If your answer is YES, please attach the following to your Report:

3.4.1 A copy of the resolution/s to change the Constitution;

3.4.2 A copy of the changed Constitution.

Please attach a copy of, Annual Financial Statements, which include a Balance Sheet and an Income and Expenditure Report and the Accounting Officer's report to this Narrative Report

ATTACHED AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR WCRO as PDF

Submitted online on 2018.06.06

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