Visitor Safety Programme

A Visitor Safety Officer chats to some hikers

The Visitor Information Centres serve as communications hubs

3 -4: The Tafelberg Visitor Information Centre operates 24/7

Expanded Public Works Programme

In March 2004 the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism (DEAT) granted Table Mountain National Park (TMNP) R35 million to run a three-year Expanded Public Works Programme (EPWP). The aim of the programme is threefold:

- to create conservation and tourism-based training and skills development opportunities for 450 people from the townships bordering the Park,
- to develop a strong and durable infrastructure that will minimize the impact of the TMNP's annual 4.2 million visits on the Park's biodiversity,
- to create a high-quality tourism infrastructure to help realise the TMNP's goal of becoming the world's premier urban National Park by 2010.

Workers who have been trained under the EPWP will all have developed skills that will enable them to compete on the open market once the programme is complete.

Visitor Safety Programme

As an open access Park and international tourist destination surrounded entirely by the City of Cape Town, TMNP has a variety of visitor management priorities including mountain safety and security issues. To this end a team of Visitor Safety Officers (VSO) and Rangers (VSR) has been recruited to assist visitors by advising them around mountain safety information as well a patrolling the high-use areas on the urban edge as precaution against any criminal or illegal activities. Visitor Information Centres have been installed at strategic points across the Park and serve as information centres and "gateways" to the Park as well as being points from which patrols are deployed.

The TMNP VSO's are assisted by trained patrol dogs and their handlers. While the patrols have regular routes they are deployed, as necessary, throughout the park.

5-7: Dog patrols along the urban edge of the park

8-9: Cooperation with law enforcement agencies is key to the success of the programme

environment & tourism
Department:
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REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

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Table Mountain National Park
A Park for All, Forever 'n Park vir Almal, vir Altyd
iPaka yoluntu lonke ngonaphakade

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