

continued to build on his MSc and PhD studies with research on amphibian responses to global environmental change, collaborating and publishing with experts from South Africa and abroad.

Outstanding features of Mohlamatsane include his excellent work ethic, ease with which he works in a team context, willingness to contribute to a greater cause (e.g., taking responsibility for mundane tasks, such as office health and safety), commitment to his family and deep humility. Mohlamatsane did not shy away from working long hours in the field, office, or over weekends. He is always passionate about science and determined to grow as a scientist. The latter was evident in his patient persistence with advancing a piece of scientific writing and the effort he made to gain experience in supervision. He certainly has a special affinity for helping and guiding students.

It came as no surprise when Mohlamatsane was headhunted by not one but two universities. He left SANParks at the end of June 2021. After lecturing for six months at Sol Plaatje University in Kimberley, Mohlamatsane and his family have now settled in Pretoria where he is a Lecturer at University of Pretoria's Faculty of Natural and Agricultural Sciences.

Mo, we sorely miss your gentle presence and wise comments during meetings. We miss your camaraderie and laughter during tea times and after-work runs. We miss you as a friend. May you continue to develop to your full potential as researcher, and now also as lecturer and supervisor, in your new academic environment. We look forward to welcoming you and your students back to the outdoor laboratories that our parks provide.

- Dirk Roux

Farewell to Rudi Williams after 20 years at SANParks

Rudi was born on 8 May 1975 in a small town called Pniel nestled at the foot of Simonsberg in the Western Cape, South Africa. He matriculated in 1993 at Luckhoff High School in Stellenbosch.

Rudi started his career at SANParks in 1995 as a research technician with scientific services under Dr Mike Knight. In 2001, he was offered the capture coordinator position at the Veterinary Wildlife Services unit in Kimberley. In 2008, Rudi was appointed as operations manager. In 2021, Rudi left the organisation after 20 years of service to pursue his dream of starting his own game capture business in the private sector, called I4wildlife. It is impossible to summarise his impacts, however, Rudi has left a mark for all to remember in the parks he worked.

Although there are many career highlights, some of Rudi's contributions include feats that at first seemed impossible until they were done. There was always a plan to get the job done in the best interest of wildlife and the organisation.



His contributions are numerous but some of the most note worthy projects include:

- capture and reintroduction of large mammals to Zinave National Park in Mozambique
- black rhino range expansion, including capture, holding and introduction of black rhino (*Diceros bicornis minor*) from South Africa to The Republic of Chad
- capture and translocation of 4400 animals from Kruger National Park to Greater Limpopo Transfrontier National Park
- capture and relocation of over 3000 animals from Vaalbos National Park to Mokala National Park
- capture and removal of all buffalo from Marakele National Park.

- Lourens de Lange



WWF Internship: Journey and Reflections



WWF interns at the valedictory event in February 2022. Top Row (left - right): Dr Alison Kock, Mr Sipelele Dyantyi, Dr Wendy Foden. Middle Row (left - right): Ms. Khensani Nkuna, Ms. Yonela Mahamba, Ms. Zinhle Manda, Ms. Navashna Gajathar. Bottom Row: Ms. Siphokazi Bokwe: General Manager - Learning and Development and Performance Management.