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FLAMINGO PROJECT - PART 4

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The Flamingo project started on 25 January 2019



The flamingos are doing well and growing fast.

FLAMINGO PROJECT

In this project we are giving you feedback regarding the rescue of the +/- 2000 Flamingos, from the Kamfers Dam.

I started this project on the 24th of January 2019. The first project-document and all the media coverage which followed, explains the whole operation. It is very

important to remember that any animal, in eminent danger of death needs to be rescued and even more so, if the situation arose as a result of human error. There should be, and we are steering towards that by way of legislation, clear procedures including the correct paperwork and administrative processes in place, to act immediately to save any animal in need of rescue. No time should be wasted if a rescue mission is underway. A multi-disciplinary collective group should assist with the rearing of such animals until they can be released back into nature, which could be a lengthy process.

We had 2 major meetings one on 31 January 2019, and the other on 11 February 2019. Those two meetings were extremely necessary and important. A multi-disciplinary collective group was created. This group consisted of myself, the originator and head of the rescue project as well as specialists in the field of nature conservation and many other animal groups and organizations. We set-up strict rules and regulations in both meetings, with regards to the rescue operation, what it entails and procedures to follow if future rescue operations would be necessary. The transportation and accommodation of the birds and the rearing procedures inclusive of the medical needs of the birds were discussed. General planning and reintegration of the birds back into nature was also discussed. In the last meeting everyone agreed to do their part and to take ownership. Everyone is on board and everyone has agreed to the processes and the steps to take in going forward. In the meeting we stood by our initial decision to rescue the dying Flamingo-babies, and we will do so again, should the circumstances place us in the same situation. In this last meeting, good relations were established with everyone involved, especially with the specialists from Nature Conservation, who are responsible for all documentation (transport permits and holding permits).

We have been creating an enormous data base of information from the beginning: micro-chipping, meticulous records keeping of all medical services, weighing and measuring of chicks, monitoring of behaviour. Each person has made a valuable contribution and, we have been working together as a team with the same purpose and goal in mind.

We will further our investigation to identify what series of events led to the devastating situation we found ourselves in, on 24 January 2019.

I can assure you that I will leave no stone unturned. Once this investigation has been completed, all the relevant parties will be contacted and duly confronted. We are still of the opinion that this whole debacle could and should have been prevented a long time ago. The possibility remains that many of the role players could be guilty in some way or another, of non-involvement or too little involvement.

We want to thank the media for reporting the rescue since its inception and keeping the topic alive. We are so pleased with their input. We want to thank the

South African-public and some international companies for their support. The South African-public specifically, has constantly and vigorously supported us and we have been inundated with requests to help, donate, to feed, services like rearing the birds and cleaning services. We are also keeping meticulous record of media reports and when this project draws to a close, we will present a complete file to everyone interested to read at their leisure; it will also be made available for use for educational purposes.

We are particularly overwhelmed by the support and interest of schools and children. Many schools, individuals and companies went out of their way, to support this enormous endeavour.

I want to thank The Lord, God, our Creator, for constantly proving Himself to be the incredible designer of Nature, which He has created for us. I have had affirmation of the intelligent design and of God's Creation, over-and-over again throughout the duration of this project.

Herewith the latest videos of a "feeding frenzy", which will warm the cockles of your heart. It shows how these birds have grown and how eager they are to live! Their zest for life is still there and I am sure that if these birds could speak, they would all say: "Thank you, to an amazing TEAM!"

<https://youtu.be/XfGiLLzc7fl>

<https://youtu.be/ofANhCqK1y4>

We continue to pray for The Lords' blessing over this project, so that we may complete it successfully. This will be done by releasing as many birds back into the wild, as possible.

Within 2 weeks, (which will be documented in part 5), the Flamingo-babies will be able to feed by themselves and placed in bigger camps in order to get used to the outside temperatures. When they are between 2 and 4-months old, stronger and have adapted sufficiently to outside life, the intense and extremely important process of reintegration, will start. We have the most competent scientists in our groups, who are facilitating the release process. Kamfers Dam will be our first choice for release.

A holding venue is in the process of preparation. At this venue, chicks will be able to adapt to the climate, water and infrastructure, specific to the site. When they are strong enough, healthy and fat, and when their immune systems are strong, they will be released in the hope that they will join the existing creches of juveniles. Juveniles form creches separate from the parents, and we hope that our young Flamingos will integrate completely into these groups. Here they will be taught how

to be wild again.

We will give thorough feedback and video and information of where we are, at the various stages. The public deserve all the information we have, and continuous feedback, since they have supported us from the beginning. I would like to thank all team members, the public, media, volunteers, and generous donors for rising to the occasion and making a real difference.

Herewith the NPC/NPO for the flamingo project:

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/81ca5a64b7a954042f1ee5ab2/files/c6f76fad-6fc0-4d38-9cee-fd6d4dd44bb8/NPO_FLAMINGO_PROJECT.pdf

Herewith the an update:

Before:

https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/draft/AgFNP0rY_zdv2wAAWjHZtihYbiX4wZl1A6lFio4RLUYeWONmh-7CtZQQkxRaKZHU0GJGw

After:

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/draft/AgGXZf7r21v-zgAAWjHb0AbCULzkjoAGTHqngchtdsObO2xWtuD8j8BeLM7A1Uec-Rvglg>

FLAMINGO PROJECT - PART 1

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/81ca5a64b7a954042f1ee5ab2/files/a8a2a703-4835-46f8-9631-226e01e01fde/Gmail_FLAMINGO_PROJECT.pdf

FLAMINGO PROJECT - PART 2

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/81ca5a64b7a954042f1ee5ab2/files/96d49666-49b3-45be-abd3-9c01f7ca70ab/Gmail_FLAMINGO_PROJECT_PART_2.pdf

FLAMINGO PROJECT - PART 3

https://gallery.mailchimp.com/81ca5a64b7a954042f1ee5ab2/files/2e5c020c-bc80-4473-8d8b-fd2cc63f066e/Gmail_FLAMINGO_PROJECT_PART_3.pdf

SEE BELOW THE LINK WITH ALL THE INFORMATION WITH REGARDS TO THE FLAMINGO PROJECT:

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/draft/AgGkscswrl0DEwAAAWitZcJypZaeqvqWGJcb4yYMqzfMhxixtQYUhz9gcA2GZGSgyliUlrQ>

You may forward this information.

Regards

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Follow us on Facebook to view our projects - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mike-Bolhuis/699211183522411?fref=ts>

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