



Specialised Security Services





MIKE BOLHUIS: **THE FLAMINGO PROJECT** **PART 8**

The Big Day! **The Release!**

A trial release of 49 birds took place at Kamfers Dam,
on 8 May 2019.

This release was not announced as the management team had to be sure how the young Flamingos would fit-in and adapt to their new surroundings. It was with great anticipation that the youngsters made their grand entrance, chirping and flapping their wings. It soon became a race to the algae-rich water for all the young birds, who announced their arrival in no uncertain terms with wild squeaks and cries !

This initial release was necessary in order to sort out some operational aspects before the final public release of the returning birds, which is scheduled for the week of 20 May 2019.

The final release still remains dependent upon the complete readiness of the birds in quarantine, and the approval of the Head Veterinarian, from Onderstepoort. For example, one young bird was not yet ready to join the group on the 8th. This youngster remained behind and was taken back to the SPCA-quarantine pen, for observation.

initiated at this time. It is a relief that the whole project will not end with the release of the birds but will continue through observation, to allow for the study and the preservation of the birds and their habitat. The process will be managed by the Sol Plaatjies University and BCRE, Nelson Mandela University as well as Onderstepoort.

The last scheduled, translocation from all the recovery facilities to the quarantine facility was on 9 May 2019. Most of the birds are still in the quarantine area to acclimatize before they are set free. They are ringed with a yellow ring on both legs, a number and a microchip respectively, to allow for long-term monitoring and to set them apart from their wild counterparts.

A milestone was reached by the ringing team when band #600 was fitted!

As per the request from the DEA, an intermediate pen has been erected at the National Zoological Garden (NZG/SANBI) for long term care. This intermediate pen is to allow for the completion of the permanent pen. It is being prepared for the potential non-releasable birds. Onderstepoort remains the facility for medically compromised birds along with any isolation needs such birds may incur.

Each milestone is a huge success for everyone involved and especially for our Flamingo-youngsters.

This rescue and eventual release is a first-ever, historical occasion, and has never been attempted before, by anyone. We are therefore very proud of every milestone achieved and truly thankful for everyone's involvement and commitment.

VIDEOS OF THE FLAMINGO JUVENILES:

<https://youtu.be/UPVsL-gmqNc>

<https://youtu.be/qvGbZxrwuS0>

https://youtu.be/6ySHe_6ZeKE

<https://youtu.be/KkA4IAw4Cb4>

<https://youtu.be/OzzqThyVbBw>

<https://youtu.be/J3dmRDbgbq8>

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<https://www.facebook.com/100004442313653/posts/1271266566364742/>

<https://clyp.it/pemphxdi>

<https://youtu.be/A4jPHOdcrmY>

<https://youtu.be/AaVy02SSw5o>

https://youtu.be/_gzB1B1vyfg

<https://youtu.be/npu6B94TQTs>

<https://youtu.be/2a1w5xUDUQ0>

<https://youtu.be/Z8umKIXRx38>

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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/f1d3b703-b22f-4d62-b520-677a9abf6325/Gmail_FLAMINGO_PROJECT_PART_2.01.pdf

[4473-8d8b-fd2cc63f066e/Gmail FLAMINGO PROJECT PART 3.pdf](#)

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<https://gallery.mailchimp.com/81ca5a64b7a954042f1ee5ab2/files/d05f8eaa-93da-49d0-9dd8-d4ed2cd64bee/Gmail FLAMINGO PROJECT PART 4.pdf>

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FLAMINGO PROJECT - PART 6

<https://mailchi.mp/6f05a36fea60/mike-bolhuis-the-flamingo-project>

FLAMINGO PROJECT - PART 7

<http://mailchi.mp/7c29e5488257/mike-bolhuis-the-flamingo-project>

**SEE BELOW THE LINK WITH MORE INFORMATION WITH REGARDS
TO THE FLAMINGO PROJECT:**

<https://www.linkedin.com/pulse/draft/AgGkscswrl0DEwAAAWitZcJvpZaeqvqWGJcb4yYMqzfMhxixtQYUhz9gcA2GZGSgyIiUlrQ>

If anyone has any information relating to the above, please contact us. All information will be treated with the utmost privacy and confidentiality.

You may forward this information.

Regards

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