



MEDIA RELEASE

Calling all photographers

Cape Town, 1 July. The world's oceans hold an astounding diversity of life. BirdLife South Africa celebrates this diversity with an annual 'Oceans of Life' Photographic Competition, to make the oceans and the wonders they contain more accessible to ordinary people, through the lens of a camera.

BirdLife South Africa is pleased to announce the opening of the competition on 1 July 2013. The competition accepts images of all marine life, in all its diversity, from sharks to seabirds to fish and everything in between. Finalists, including the winning images will be exhibited for two months at the Iziko South African Museum from National Marine Week, starting 7 October as a part of the annual Save our Seabirds Festival.

ORYX Photographic Expeditions in conjunction with One Ocean Expeditions have again sponsored the main prize, an amazing, once-in-a-lifetime Arctic adventure to Spitsbergen with its abundance of iconic mammals such as Arctic fox and polar bear.

1st prize in the main category: The ORYX Award: A trip for 2 to Spitsbergen, Norway, from One Oceans Expeditions VALUED AT UP TO US\$15 000.

Canon South Africa has sponsored a very exciting prize for the winner of the Youth Category (under-21s) – a Canon EOS 7D camera and 18-135 mm IS Lens Kit, worth R21 000.

The competition is open for entries from 1 July-31 August 2013. To view previous year's images or updates on the festival, or to enter the competition, visit www.sosfestival.co.za.

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For further information, please contact: Christina Moseley, (021) 419 7347, or email christina.moseley@birdlife.org.za

Notes for the editor:

1. The mission of BirdLife South Africa is to promote the enjoyment, conservation, study and understanding of wild birds and their habitats.
2. BirdLife South Africa contact details: Lewis House, 239 Barkston Drive, Blairgowrie, P.O. Box 515, Randburg, Johannesburg, South Africa, Tel. +27-11-7891122, Fax. +27-11-7895188, e-mail address: info@birdlife.org.za, website: www.birdlife.org.za
3. For more information about One Ocean Expeditions see their website at <http://www.oneoceanexpeditions.com/>.
4. For further information regarding booking of tours, costs and other destinations for Oryx Worldwide Photographic Expeditions visit <http://www.oryxphotography.com/>.