BirdLife SOUTH AFRICA
Giving Conservation Wings

BirdLife South Africa

Annual Owl Awards

Award Recipients, 1999 – 2026

The Owl Awards recognise individuals, organisations and companies whose contributions have significantly advanced bird conservation and BirdLife South Africa's work.

2026

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Andrew Skowno Clifford Dorse David Weaver Denise Landau FreeMe Wildlife Frey Brett Jane Trembath S.H. Gumede Primary School Themba Mthembu	Lorien Pichegru Pippa Parker	Mya Zeelie

2025

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Ian Barber Steve Davis Peter Divall EcoSolutions Libby Hirshon Michael Riffel / RIFCON Rob Simmons Tsawule Farmers' Association Ester Van der Westhuizen-Coetzer	Azwianewi Makhado Brent Coverdale	Gabby Sykora

2024

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
South African Wind Energy Association Pierre Retief John Glendinning Francois vd Merwe Mpumalanga Tourism & Parks Agency Maureen Dixon Jessica Briner Anthony Paton Jim Rankin	Peter Nelson Ingrid Weiersbye-Porter	Zoë Lunau-Jones

2023

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Alberto Vaccari and Lily Bickerstaffe Barbara Bickel Biodiversity Law Centre - Kate Handley Carin Malan Dominic Naidoo Gavin Walker John Clements Karen Bullen Priscilla Beeton	Vincent Parker Nick Prentice	Jandre Verster

2022

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
André Marx	Italtile & Ceramic Foundation	Romario Valentine

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Carol Jacobs Dave Hayter Floreat Educational Environmental Club Ford Wildlife Foundation Joe Grosel Malcolm Gemmell Otto Schmidt Pat Nurse	Garth Batchelor	

2021

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Chris Lotz Crystelle Wilson Dullstroom Trout Farm Gavin Petersen Nicolette Forbes Peter Ginn Saul Sithole (posthumously) Sithembiso Blessing Majoka Clive Vivier	Geoff Lockwood Mabula Ground Hornbill Project	Mark Heystek and Justin Ponder

2020

No awards presented (because of COVID-19), but recipients of awards during the previous 11 years commemorated (including in social media posts)

2019

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Alastair Findlay Garth Shaw & Khanyisane Falake Jessie Walton Judy Stockill Martin & Melanie Potgieter Rozanne Fleet Charles Malherbe Geoff McIlleron Kevin McCann	KEM-JV Swarovski Optik (Andrew Whysall)	Rocco da Silva

2018

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Alastair Campbell Buyekezwa Polo Craig Nattrass Faansie Peacock John Carter Junior Gabela Nature Valley's Trust South African National Biodiverstiy Institute Sheree Bega	Derek Engelbrecht Eskom	Joshua Olszewski

2017

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Ben Hoffman Brett Gardner Duncan McKenzie Eelco Meyjes Humbu Mafumo Mark Brown Neil Jowell Sakhamuzi Mhlongo Skhumbuzo Mbewu	Melissa Fourie Vernon Head	Jordan Ralph

2016

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
BirdLasser GardenShop Ines Cooke Kevin Shaw Lloyd Edwards Marion Mengell N3TC Peter Lawson Rand Water	Jonathan Haw Zeiss - South Africa	James Wade Lee

2015

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Dr Garth Batchelor Angus Burns Philip Calinikos	Gisela Ortner Charl van der Merwe Trust	Sascha Michel

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Andy Featherstone Christopher Greig Maggie Langlands Phil Liggett Bonginkosi Ndaba Mark Young		

2014

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Airports Company South Africa (ACSA) Albert Froneman Dr Dave Whitelaw Investec Corporate & Institutional Banking Kishaylin Chetty Mitsui & Co Mpho Phiri Nyameka Makonya (Total) Raymond Rampolokeng	Mike McCullough Strilli Oppenheimer	Rebecca-Ruth, Michael, Tyrone and Seth Pullen

2013

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Roger Wanless Trevor Hardaker Robbie Aspeling Department of Environmental Affairs – Biodiversity & Conservation (Wilma Lutsch and Humbulani Mafumo) Karin Van De Venter, Van De Venter Majapelo (VVM) Monika O'Leary, West Rand Honorary Rangers Adam Riley Helen Biram The Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust	Eve Gracie Not awarded	Tommy Buckham

2012

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Avis Barbi Forsyth Continental Outdoor Media	Graham Warsop Gaynor Rupert	Kayla Boix-Witts

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Owlet
Honda South Africa Joanne Jackson Niall Perrins Ocean View Association for Persons with Disabilities – Bird scaring line construction team Samson Mulaudzi and Christopher Nethonzhe Zolile Nqayi		

2011

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Staff
Chris Lotz Bo van der Lecq David Sonnenberg Graham Brill Keith Harrison Lance Robinson Mel Tripp Peter Lawson Russell Hall Sylvia Ledgard Daniel Sims Ronelle Visagie	Jon Smallie Peter Sullivan	Daniel Marnewick

2010

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Staff
Norman Elwell Glenn Ramke Caxton Press The Gardener/Die Tuinier Simon Gear David Chamberlain Gisela Ortner Ernst Retief Tom Tweedy PlasFed First Rand Ltd Corne Molenaar	Jan Fourie Samantha Petersen	Bronwyn Maree/Nikki McCartney

2009

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Staff
Dale Hanmer Brian Colahan Werner Schroeder Simmer & Jack Xtrata Alloys Barrie Rose Sarah Lukeman Louis Olivier Margi Brocklehurst Nicci Wright	–	Pamela Barrett

2008

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
Richards Bay Minerals AVCASA Royal Australian Ornithological Society Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation Continental Technology Enterprises York Timbers Charl van der Merwe Trust ACDASA Clear Channel Independent Edward Snell & Co N3TC **Media**	Eskom Vogelbescherming Nederland Ango American Corporation Chairman's Fund RSPB Mazda Wildlife Fund Palaborwa Foundation Sasol Rio Tinto/BirdLife International Partnership Sappi	Geoff McIlleron Nico Myburgh Wilfred Chivell of Dyer Island Cruises SANParks Honorary Rangers Cape West Coast Region Alan Knott-Craig Wendy Carstens West Rand Honorary Rangers Cape Bird Club Peter Steyn Gerry Cassidy Stephen Davis Mark Anderson Friends of Nylsvley

2007

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
ACDASA Bayer Leuopold Ango American Corporation Chairman's Fund Palaborwa Foundation CC Africa Edward Snell & Co Avima VVM Bateleurs Clear Channel Independent Charl van der Merwe Trust	Rio Tinto plc Sappi WWF Tree Routes Partnership BirdLife International RSPB De Beers Consolidated Mines Vogelbescherming Nederland Eskom Generation Richards Bay Minerals Uthungulu District Municipality Mazda Wildlife Fund Sasol E Oppenheimer and Sons	Roy Cowgill Roland Vorwerk Thinus Ferreira Hugh Chittenden Brian Agar Hazel Thompson Peter Ginn & Pat Nurse Gill Hardingham Frank Wygold Johan Scott Susie Fairweather Pat Brenchley Malcolm Gemmel

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
Igroup Global Forest Products **Media** Zululand Observer RSG **50/50** Ivan May	The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation	Sbusiso Magagula Ali Hussein Carol Horne Maaike Maarten Anne Gray Geoff Lockwood Richard Hughes Palma Cesore David Letsoalo

2006

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
Africa Geographic AVCASA Clear Channel Independent Lique pour la Protection des Oiseaux N3TC Uthungulu District Municipality Anglo American Chairman's Fund Charl van der Merwe Trust Igroup Mazda Wildlife Fund Richards Bay Minerals	De Beers Consolidated Mines Eskom RSPB Sasol E Oppenheimer and Son Rio Tinto plc Sappi WWF Tree Routes Partnership The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation	Jonathan Stacey Ken Newman Sarah Venter Arie Claassens Fuz Caforio Sheila Burland Stan Madden Rob Filmer Neil Smith Frieda van Rooyen

2005

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
Anglo American Chairman's Fund Clear Channel Indepedent Mazda Wildlife Fund Uthungulu District Municipality Black Eagle Publishing E Oppenheimer & Son The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation Witwatersrand Bird Club	Eskom RSPB WWF-SA Rio Tinto plc Sasol	Avian Demography Unit Capricorn Fisheries Ltd - Observer Agency Dr Peter Ryan Dr Richard Dean Paul Jooste Nigel Stainforth

2004

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
Nil **Distinguished Service**	E Oppenheimer and Son Rio Tinto Mazda Wildlife Fund	Malcolm Drummond Anton Odendal Mike Bridgeford

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl	Eagle
Mike Spain Gordon Bennett	Struik Sasol The Green Trust Northern Cape Department of Agriculture Eskom British High Commission Richards Bay Minerals The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation The Aage V. Jensens Foundation South African National Lottery	Tim Wood Rick Nuttall Gordon Holtshausen Roy Cowgill Murrie Slotar

2003

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl
Andy Simpson Pat Brenchley Ramrod Charl van der Merwe Foundation Mazda Wildlife Fund Peter Borchert The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation RCI	Sasol British High Commission Oppenheimer Trust

2002

Owl Award	Eagle-Owl
Nil	Nil

2001

Owl Award
Sasol Eskom Di Beeton Budget Rent-a-Car Ramrod Helen Williamson The Anglo America Chairman's Fund The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation RCI

Owl Award
The Royal Netherlands Embassy Wolfram Zwecker

2000

Owl Award
BirdLife International RSPB The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation Gavin Dawes Nedbank Peter MacQuilkan Thyme Sports and Leisure Sappi Sasol Jonathan Boucher The Mazda Wildlife Fund New Horizons Computer Training Centre Swarovski Optik and Whysalls UUNet

1999

Owl Award
Bushnell Nedbank The Tony and Lisette Lewis Foundation Denis Lock Sasol UUNet-Africa BirdLife International