



**Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species**

**Half-Year Report 2006: Ref 13/014**

***Capacity building in mammal  
management for Western Cape nature  
reserves***

**Dr Russell Hill & Dr Rebecca Smith**

Evolutionary Anthropology Research Group  
Department of Anthropology  
Durham University  
43 Old Elvet  
Durham  
DH1 3HN  
UK



# Darwin Initiative for the Survival of Species

## Half Year Report (due 31 October each year)

<b>Project Ref. No.</b>	13/014
<b>Project Title</b>	Capacity building in mammal management for Western Cape nature reserves
<b>Country(ies)</b>	South Africa
<b>UK Organisation</b>	Durham University
<b>Collaborator(s)</b>	CapeNature, South Africa
<b>Report date</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> October 2006
<b>Report No. (HYR 1/2/3/4)</b>	Half Year Report 2
<b>Project website</b>	<a href="http://www.dur.ac.uk/r.a.hill/zebra_conservation.htm">http://www.dur.ac.uk/r.a.hill/zebra_conservation.htm</a>

### **1. Outline progress over the last 6 months (April – September) against the agreed baseline timetable for the project (if your project has started less than 6 months ago, please report on the period since start up).**

The primary objectives over the past 6 months were to complete the final assessment of pilot study at De Hoop Nature Reserve for incorporation into general management plan and to plan a training workshop for field staff from other nature reserves. The pilot study has been successfully completed and the Project Officer has made a presentation of the findings to CapeNature senior management staff. A written report was also provided. The Project Leader and Project Officer met with the regional ecology staff from Kammanassie and Gamkaberg Nature Reserves in August 2006 and the training workshop on censusing methods for Cape mountain zebra is being held at De Hoop Nature Reserve next week. As a consequence the project continues to progress in line with the project timetable. Furthermore, the following manuscript was submitted for publication in September 2006 in line with the proposed project outputs:

Smith, R.K., Marais, A., Chadwick, P., Lloyd, P & Hill, R.A. (under review) Monitoring and management of the endangered Cape mountain zebra *Equus zebra zebra* in the Western Cape, South Africa. *Oryx*

In summary, therefore, the project has made excellent progress over the last 6 months and is in line with the baseline timetable laid down in the original application.

### **2. Give details of any notable problems or unexpected developments that the project has encountered over the last 6 months. Explain what impact these could have on the project and whether the changes will affect the budget and timetable of project activities.**

There have been no significant problems over the past six months. As mentioned in the last annual report, the long-term viability of CyberTracker for all CapeNature reserves is still under assessment given the terrain involved in some of the areas. As a consequence the final management reports may not advocate the use of CyberTracker for Cape mountain zebra monitoring. Although this would represent a slight change to the plan laid out in the project objectives, it would nevertheless be consistent with the other objectives to develop clear large mammal census techniques for Western Cape nature reserves.

<b>Have any of these issues been discussed with the Darwin Secretariat and if so, have changes been made to the original agreement?</b>	
Not applicable.	
<b>Discussed with the DI Secretariat:</b>	<b>no/yes, in..... (month/yr)</b>
<b>Changes to the project schedule/workplan:</b>	<b>no/yes, in.....(month/yr)</b>

<b>3. Are there any other issues you wish to raise relating to the project or to Darwin's management, monitoring, or financial procedures?</b>
None.

**If you were asked to provide a response to this year's annual report review with your next half year report, please attach your response to this document.**

**Please note: Any planned modifications to your project schedule/workplan or budget should not be discussed in this report but raised with the Darwin Secretariat directly.**

Please send your **completed form by 31 October each year per email** to Stefanie Halfmann, Darwin Initiative M&E Programme, [stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk](mailto:stefanie.halfmann@ed.ac.uk) . The report should be between 1-2 pages maximum. **Please state your project reference number in the header of your email message.**