

## **WILDLIFE COLLEGE ACCREDITED AS PRIVATE PROVIDER OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**October 2011** - The Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC) is proud to announce that it has received provisional registration as a private provider of Higher Education (Accreditation Number: 2011/HE08/004). This follows a site visit earlier this year by the Higher Education Quality Committee (HEQC) of the Council on Higher Education (CHE), which is responsible for the accreditation of Higher Education learning programmes.

“In terms of the regulatory framework, all higher education programmes must be accredited by the HEQC before an institution can offer such a programme; which in turn leads to a qualification registered on the National Qualification Framework (NQF),” said Dr Maria Kanjere the Wildlife College’s Executive Manager: Academic Affairs.

After the initial screening process, the accreditation committee of the HEQC recommended that that the College be accredited. The committee then submitted their recommendation to HEQC for final approval which was recently granted together with recommendations due for implementation by March next year (2012).

The SAWC, which is located 10km west of the Orpen Gate of the Kruger National Park, offers two certificated programmes in conservation management as well as a number of different learnerships and short course programmes. “Our courses are aimed at producing highly competent protected area managers that are able to manage and conserve their protected areas and associated fauna and flora on a sustainable basis within the stated conservation objectives and in cooperation with local communities. This formal recognition and certification, represents a milestone in the College’s history and in its endeavour to become the most sought after Centre of Excellence in Conservation Education and Wildlife Management training in the southern African sub-region,” said Theresa Sowry, CEO of the Wildlife College.