

Dr A.J. (Tony) Williams

QUALIFICATIONS

B.Sc. Cum laude. in Geography, University of Sheffield, UK 1964

Postgraduate Certificate in Museum Studies, University of Leicester, UK 1968

M.Sc. Zoology, University of Sheffield, UK 1972

Ph.D. Zoology, University of Cape Town, South Africa 1980

EMPLOYMENT

- 2008-present: **Consultant. Co-director: African Insights, Director: Dr Williams Bird Surveys**
- 2001-2007 Seconded by Cape Nature to the **Avian Demography Unit, University of Cape Town:**
- 1988-2007** Senior Ornithologist **at Cape Provincial Nature Conservation:** Responsible for Walvis Bay and guano islands 1988-1994; Expert avifaunal advisor in Cape Town: 1994-2001.
- 1982-1988: Ornithologist for **Department of Conservation and Tourism SW Africa/ Namibia**
- 1973-1982: Research officer at **Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town:** dealing with sub-Antarctic Marion and Gough Islands (23 published scientific papers) and coastal birds in the southwestern Cape (6 papers)
- 1965- 1973: **Norway** (1969-1973) – research assistant at Tromso University
- Canada** (1964-1965) - Assistant Planner in Vancouver, British Columbia;
- Britain** – (1964) Peak District National Park - Assistant planner;
- Overall: 43 years as a professional ornithologist, 25 years as a conservation officer; 20 years involvement in consultancy.**

CONSULTATIONS

Fields of expertise:

Specialist avifaunal assessments/ surveys;

Development of tourism concepts;

Provision of nature interpretational material/signage

TERRESTRIAL DEVELOPMENTS

Energy projects:

Eskom: Appraisal of bird impacts for 5 new Eskom lines: at Kimberley; Misverstand (Swartland); and 3 lines related to wind farms in the Roggeveld area (Northern/Western Cape border area). Review of the potential impacts of electricity infrastructure on birds in the entire West Coast District Municipality.

Wind Energy Farms (WEFs): Work on 10 WEFs. Scoping for a WEF, with associated radar survey and full moon observations of bird movements, near Vredenburg; Scoping for Denham WEF near Struis Bay; Avifaunal EIA section for Zen WEF near Gouda (2013-2014); Seasonal pre-construction avifaunal field monitoring for 5 WEFs in the Roggeveld region between Matjiesfontein and Sutherland (2013-16); Socio-economic plans related to Witteberg WEF near Laingsburg, and for proposed WEFs near Klawer and in the Richtersveld. Reports on associated powerlines between Roggeveld WEFs, transformer substations, and from substations to Eskom substation.

Solar Power Plants (SPP) Avifaunal EIAs for 9 PV solar arrays: near Langebaan (2014); near Touws River (2015); near Vanderkloof Dam in the Free State (2015-2016); and 6 proposed SPPs near Vryburg in the North west Province (2015-2016).

Nuclear Power Plants

Peer-reviewer for faunal reports prepared for 3 proposed nuclear plants (2009)

URBAN PROJECTS:

Residential developments: Strandfontein (2008), Paarl golf estate (1999), Atlantic Hills (Cape Town) (2012)

Landfills: Avifaunal appraisals in terms of habitat loss, bird use, and problems in developed landfills for proposed new regional landfills for the Eden (2011) and Winelands (2013) District Municipalities

Roads: Impacts of new roads on birds, including pollution and disturbance: In Cape Town - R 300 Strandfontein (2004) & Military Road (2008) proposals. In the West Coast District Municipalities - R27 Elands Bay to Lamberts Bay phases 1 (2000) and 2 (2004). Also prepared a global review of road impacts on reptiles

WETLAND RELATED DEVELOPMENTS

Century City, Cape Town – Reports on: the control of building heights (2007); Canoeist disturbance of birds (2008); Impacts on birds of rotenone poisoning of fish (2009). Also 20 years as ornithologist on the environmental advisory committee for the Intaka Island Nature reserve within Century City.

Paardevlei, Somerset West: - Pre-draining appraisal (2004), Impacts on birds of rotenone poisoning of fish (2005), wetland development plan and bird monitoring ongoing 2013-2016

Flamink Vlei, Berg River: 2006-2011 impacts on birdlife of this major – 900 residential units – development; reports on potentials for avi-tourism (2007) and for establishing a guano enterprise (2007)

Paarl: 10 years in advisory role for the Bird Sanctuary/ WWTW; Advice to the Paarl Golf Estate;

Miscellaneous: Assessment of impacts on birds of developments at Uilenkraal (2 separate residential development proposals eastern (2002) western (2005)); Thesen Island, Knysna (1996); De Plaats – on Berg River (2005-2011); Atlantic Hills, Richwood (2012): – How to reduce waterbird use of wetlands to avoid collision mortalities.

MARINE/ COASTAL DEVELOPMENTS

Offshore: Marine oil, gas and diamond EIAs (1998-2004). Assessment of proposed salmon farm in Saldanha Bay (2012)

Onshore: Avifaunal advisor for Saldanha Port development (2014-2016); Site selection for the proposed West Coast District Municipality desalination plant (2012); Report on the potential for further guano platforms along the Namibian coast (1989). Effects of off-road vehicles on beach birds (published scientific paper)

Coastal residential developments: in the Uilenkraal valley, near Gansbaai (1999), Laaiplek (2005), Doring Bay (2008), Strandfontein - near the Olifants River (2008)

TOURISM/ ECO-EDUCATION DEVELOPMENTS

Concept developer, fund raiser, and partial project manager of numerous tourism developments most connected with the development of local communities

Rietvlei wetland eco-centre: 1996. Developed concept, motivated funding, taken to full Scoping level.

West Coast Investment Initiative: 1997-1999. Prepared tourism development proposals for Verloren Vlei and Pakhuis Pass (Cederberg). Concept development, fund motivator, and project manager for Lamberts Bay Bird Island tourism phases 1 (completed 1998) and 2 (completed 2001).

Cape Nature: Project manager for the Whale Hiking Route at De Hoop Nature Reserve (2002). Rocher Pan – provision of interpretation material (2009).

Coastcare: 2005. Developed proposals for Coastcare funding of tourism facilities at Kleinbaai (near Gansbay), Bettys Bay, and Lamberts Bay. All were short-listed, field inspected, and endorsed by the authorities. However, the foreign donor withdrew funding at national level. The Bettys Bay development at Stoney Point has been developed under different funding and I provided the interpretation material (2012-2014).

Flandos & associates: Matzikama Eco-park in Vredendal taken from concept to completion (2002-2004). Proposed developments at Doring Bay (2007), Graafwater, Citrusdal, and near Darling are still being considered.

Miscellaneous: Boschberg eco-residential/ ecotourism development (Somerset East) for Blue Crane Route (2010); Paardevlei (Heartlands); Flamenco Eco-centre, De Plaats; provision of interpretation material for Lamberts Bay Bird Island tourism phase 3 (2012-2015).

SCIENTIFIC ACHIEVEMENT

110 peer-reviewed papers in the international scientific literature

SANCCOB (South African National Council for Conservation of Oiled Birds). Member of the executive committee 1994-2000, chairperson 1998-2000. High level involvement during the *Apollo Sea* spill in 1994; research into subsequent survivability and reproduction of de-oiled penguins 1994-1999; and advisor to the top level daily response committee for the *Treasure* spill of 2000.