

Sponsorship of Windows to Help Save Ground Hornbills

Ground hornbills are notorious window breakers and over a period of time one group can break hundreds of windows. This in part has led to their decline when irate landowners are forced to destroy the birds in order to protect their properties. The Mabula Ground Hornbill Project has come a long way in addressing this problem by educating landowners about the plight of the species and helping them to find solutions. In South Africa ground hornbills have lost at least 66% of their habitat in the last 100 years, of which 20% has occurred in the past 15. This means that the conservation of every single individual outside of protected areas is critical to their future survival.

One group in particular is in peril. They occur at the foot of the Blouberg Mountains in the Limpopo Province close to Vivo and are the last remaining birds in this area. Unfortunately the ground hornbills discovered two of the local schools (Pokanong Primary and Mabea high School) and have broken over 100 windows. At least one member of the group was shot before we were notified. The project is currently working with the community to address the problem but in order to conserve the remaining alpha pair we need to protect the schools. The only practical solution is to systematically replace windows broken by ground hornbills with polycarbonate plastic, which the birds can't break. Unfortunately these windows are a bit more expensive and out of the schools budget. We need your help to sponsor the windows and ensure the future survival of this group.

One window costs approximately R50 and we need in the vicinity of 150 windows. If you are able to contribute please send a donation to the bank details supplied below or contact us. All money will enter into a fund designated specifically for window breaking. Only with your help can we ensure the long-term survival of this group.

Account Holder: The Ground Hornbill Project

Bank: First National Bank, Bela-Bela

Account type: Cheque

Account number: 62071001912

Branch Code: 260347

Reference number: window breaking and your name



Windows broken by ground hornbills

The alpha pair resident at Blouberg