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LEOPARD
TRUST

المينة الملكية لمحافظة الصناد
Royal Commission for AlUla



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MEDIA RELEASE

For immediate issue

2024.02.26

CAPE LEOPARD TRUST LAUNCHES INNOVATIVE 'CONSERVATION KRAAL CHALLENGE' TO MITIGATE FARMER-PREDATOR CONFLICT

CAPE TOWN – On 1 February 2024, the Cape Leopard Trust (CLT) announced a national competition to find designs for an affordable, safe, durable, portable and predator-proof kraal (a coral or protective enclosure) to secure livestock. The initiative, dubbed 'Mobi-kraal', seeks to leverage creative input and expertise from a diverse pool of participants, aiming to support livestock farmers in South Africa and globally. The competition includes a generous prize for the winning design.

Why Mobi-kraal?

In regions where agriculture intersects with wildlife habitats, predators may pose a considerable threat to farming operations. When wild prey is unavailable or livestock is accessible, predators opportunistically hunt livestock, sometimes causing significant economic damage to both subsistence and commercial farmers. Retaliation may follow, but the reduction or removal of predators is not a feasible or sustainable solution. Often, the most effective mitigation method is to secure livestock overnight when at their most vulnerable, but for many farmers a permanent structure is not a viable option.

After engaging with communities affected by leopard conflicts, the CLT recognised the need to design and rigorously test a mobile predator-proof kraal, with the ultimate aim of sharing a freely available blueprint for livestock farmers and conservation organisations worldwide to add to their depredation mitigation toolbox. The Mobi-kraal project was borne from this need. The CLT is inviting applications from individuals and teams nationally who can apply their creativity and engineering know-how to provide a practical solution for farmers who suffer stock losses.

Supported by leading organisations

The Mobi-kraal project garners support from prestigious entities including the [Royal Commission for AlUla](#), [Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust](#), [Van Tienhoven Foundation](#), [Oppenheimer Generations Research & Conservation](#), [Shangani Holistic](#), and [Spoor & Fisher](#).

Competition details

The Conservation Kraal Challenge welcomes entries from 1 February to 30 June 2024. Participants stand a chance to win a cash prize of up to R50 000, as well as travel and accommodation costs valued at R20 000 to help the CLT develop and field test their design.

The challenge is open to South African citizens or permanent residents of South Africa, who are 18 years or older. Entries will be accepted from individuals or teams of up to 5 people, from any discipline (engineering, agricultural and/or conservation experience is beneficial) and any degree of qualification, including students, professionals, and amateurs.

Entry process

1. Review the Conservation Kraal Challenge [Competition Guide](#) for comprehensive details (including competition rules and framework, entry requirements and submission process, design criteria and judging process).
2. Prepare your entry by downloading the [Entry Questions](#) to compose your answers offline.
3. Submit your design via the [Entry Portal](#) on the [Mobi-Kraal website](#) between 1 February and 30 June 2024. Create a profile for your individual or team entry, accept the [Terms and Conditions](#), answer the entry questions, upload your design and click submit.
4. Winners will be announced 10 August 2024, following a thorough evaluation by a panel of judges.

Visit mobikraal.org or email mobikraal@capeleopard.org.za for more details.

About the Cape Leopard Trust

The Cape Leopard Trust (CLT, Est 2004) is an environmental NGO and non-profit based in the Western Cape, South Africa. We facilitate and promote the conservation of biological diversity, with a focus on the leopard as a flagship species. Our purpose and vision is to ensure the continued survival of leopards for the benefit of nature and society, by supporting the protection of their habitat and prey species, promoting peaceful coexistence between leopards and people, as well as fostering community custodianship of the Cape's unique biodiversity.

About the Royal Commission for AIUla

The Royal Commission for AIUla (RCU) is committed to recovering native species, including the critically endangered Arabian leopard. RCU supports the conservation of leopard populations around the globe through several partnerships including Panthera and the Cape Leopard Trust.

About the Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust

The Hans Hoheisen Charitable Trust provides grants to conservation bodies engaged in physical biodiversity conservation and working in the cross-cutting environmental governance and advocacy, climate change, research and education arenas.

About the Van Tienhoven Foundation

The Van Tienhoven Foundation makes small grants available for the protection of threatened species and key ecosystems across the globe.

About Oppenheimer Generations Research & Conservation and Shangani Holistic

Oppenheimer Generations Research and Conservation (OGRC) facilitates targeted first-class research, and meaningful dialogue, with impactful and applicable outcomes in African landscapes and beyond, while developing the next generation of African researchers. OGRC's partner entity, Shangani Holistic Ranch, is pioneering a holistic management style to sustainably manage cattle, wildlife and people together. Shangani Holistic seeks to positively impact the livestock industry in Shangani, across Zimbabwe and beyond.

About Spoor & Fisher

Spoor & Fisher is a distinguished pan-African IP law firm with a century-long history, specialising in every facet of intellectual property law across the continent, including registration, enforcement, trademarks, patents, copyright, anti-counterfeiting, and commercial IP.

Issued by the Cape Leopard Trust

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