

**EMS
FOUNDATION**

compassion • synergy • social justice

Per Electronic Communication

Deputy Executive Mayor, Ald Elnora Gillion

egillion@overstrand.gov.za

Executive Mayor, Archie Klaas

Overstrand Municipality

mayor@overstrand.gov.za

cc.

Doug Wolhuter, Manager NSPCA Wildlife Protection Unit

Wild3@nspca.co.za

Tuesday 27th May 2025

Dear Deputy Executive Mayor Elnora Gillion,

Offer by the EMS Foundation to the Overstrand Municipality for the Expert Removal of the Inhumane Collars from Baboons in Hermanus

The EMS Foundation is delighted at your successful election and appointment as Deputy Executive Mayor of the Overstrand Municipality, we wholeheartedly congratulate you and wish you every success.

The EMS Foundation is a registered trust, nonprofit and public benefit organisation, established in 2014. Our Foundation is committed to social and inclusive justice, compassion and the advancement and protection of the dignity, rights, wellbeing and welfare of vulnerable and marginalised groups and individuals in South Africa, with particular focus on: youth at risk, the elderly and the conservation of wildlife.

Our Foundation's financial commitment to the Overstrand geographical area is substantial and we have proudly invested a lot of time, energy and money into the Overstrand community. We are committed to finding solutions for the creation of a better South Africa for everyone. The Overstrand is one of the areas of where we have put our vision into action.

The protection of the vulnerable Chacma baboon species in the Overstrand is extremely important to our Foundation. We rely upon the expertise of ecologists, zoologists, social scientists, primatologists, economists and environmental lawyers as well as the collection of real-time data recorded daily related to baboon behaviour in Pringle Bay and Hermanus. This data has been collected by our affiliated organization, KVET - in Pringle Bay since December 2022 and in Hermanus since April 2025.

Of urgent importance to the wellbeing and welfare of the baboons in Hermanus, our Foundation hereby offers to fund the cost of removing the inhumane collars from the baboons in Hermanus which were fitted by HWS, a company previously contracted by the Overstrand Municipality. These collars,

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EMAIL info@emsfoundation.org.za **TRUST** No. IT 222949/14 **NPO Reg No.** 168-304 NPO **PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATION** No. 939953286

which are not aligned with best practices for the wellbeing and welfare of non-human primates, should not have been left on the baboons, additionally, they are serving no purpose.

Background Briefing Documents in relation to the Hermanus Baboons and the Pringle Bay baboons were sent to the Executive Mayor at the end of April and they are also attached for your kind perusal.

The offer to fund the process to have these collars removed by our experienced veterinarian is based on our concern for the baboons. Our offer is supported by a number of wildlife protection and conservation organisations in the Overstrand Municipal area and all over South Africa who are equally concerned about the wellbeing and welfare of the baboons in the Overstrand.

Furthermore, regrettably the current baboon management system designed by the current Overstrand Municipality baboon project manager is in our considered view simply not working and there have simply been too many fatalities and too many avoidable injuries.

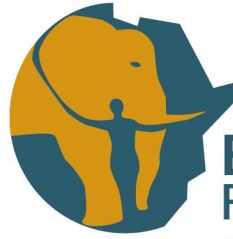
We have requested an urgent meeting with the Honourable Mayor to discuss a way forward in this regard and it is our sincere wish that you will be included in this meeting.

We trust that you will take us up on this generous offer as a matter of urgency.

Please note that this letter is supported and endorsed by 75 South African animal welfare and protection organisations.

We look forward to working with you.





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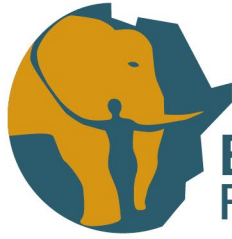
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Kind Regards

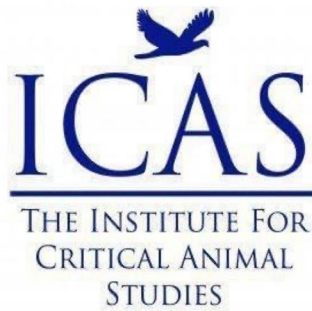
Michele Pickover
Executive Director, EMS Foundation

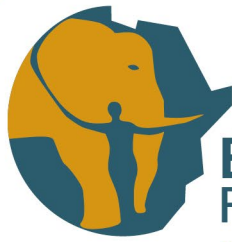




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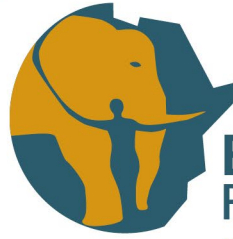


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SAFFR

SOUTHERN AFRICAN
FIGHT FOR RHINOS

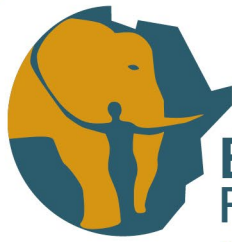


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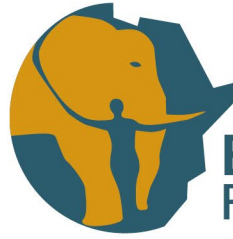
**RHINOS
IN AFRICA**



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