

AFRISAM SPONSORS TWO STUDENTS IN NATURE CONSERVATION

AfriSam, the leading black-controlled building construction materials group, has awarded bursaries to two deserving students to study environmental management at the Southern African Wildlife College in the Kruger National Park, Mpumalanga.

The sponsorship, amounting to over R100 000 in tuition fees, is part of the company's on-going environmental education initiative, aimed at arming the community with knowledge and skills on caring for the environment.

The two students, Suzette Pieterse and Nolan Stevens, are from the Saldanha Bay community in the Western Cape where AfriSam owns in excess of 1 800 hectares of land.

The two students have enrolled for a Certificate in Conservation Natural Resource Management, which includes courses in anti-poaching techniques, vegetation, animal management as well as soil management.

This is the third year of this annual bursary programme for AfriSam. The company sponsored two students in 2007 and 2008 respectively, before deciding to take on two students this year.

"I would like to thank AfriSam for giving me the opportunity to fulfill my life-long dream," says Stevens. "This is an opportunity of a lifetime for me and I hope to apply my knowledge and skills to contribute to the fight against the abuse of our planet and wildlife."

NOTE TO EDITORS:

About AfriSam

AfriSam is the leading black-controlled building construction materials group in southern Africa. With operations in South Africa, Botswana, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland, the company has total assets in excess of R3.7 billion, over 2 000 employees and an annual production capacity of 4.6 million tons of cement.

It has 6 Cement production facilities, 9 cement depots, 16 quarries and Aggregate operations, 33 Readymix concrete plants and a Slag Milling plant. The company has a 62.5 percent interest in Tanzania-based and listed, Tanga Cement Company.

About Southern African Wildlife College (SAWC)

The SAWC is a partnership between the WWF SA and the Peace Parks Foundation. The main objective of the SAWC is to provide people from Africa with the required motivation and the relevant skills to manage and conserve their protected areas and associated fauna and flora on a sustainable basis in cooperation with local communities. The college opened its doors in 1997 and offers various courses in nature conservation.