

Curriculum Vitae

GWYNETH KAY LETLEY

Languages: English (excellent), Afrikaans (fair)

Email: gwyn@anchorenvironmental.co.za

Present occupation: Consultant, Anchor Environmental Consultants (Pty) Ltd.

Summary Profile

Gwyneth gained experience in terrestrial ecology in the Western Cape and Mpumalanga provinces and marine and coastal ecology experience on the south and west coasts of South Africa during her undergraduate and honours degrees at UCT. During her MSc degree in Conservation Biology she developed a keen interest in resource economics and resource valuation theory and techniques. She has since gained experience in these areas having worked on socio-economic projects in South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe and Mozambique. Gwyneth has a postgraduate certificate in Applied Environmental Economics from the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) at the University of London. In addition to these interests, Gwyneth has an interest in rocky shore ecology, ornithology and water resources management.

Academic History

Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Environmental Economics, 2013 - 2014

School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London

Modules: Economics of Environmental Policy, Economic Principles, Natural Resource Economics and Environmental Valuation: Theory, Techniques and Application.

MSc Conservation Biology, 2009 - 2010

Percy FitzPatrick Institute of African Ornithology, University of Cape Town, South Africa

Thesis: "Causes of variable reproductive performance by Southern Ground-Hornbills *Bucorvus leadbeateri*: implications for management"

BSc Honours Zoology and Marine Biology, 2008

University of Cape Town, South Africa

Research Project: Responses and tolerances of the limpet genus *Siphonaria* to changes in salinity with a particular focus on the endangered species *Siphonaria compressa*

Research Project: The combined effects of elephant and fire on the Marula tree *Sclerocarya birrea* in the Kruger National Park, South Africa

BSc Earth and Environmental Sciences, 2005 – 2007

University of Cape Town, South Africa

Pass Senior Certificate with Endorsement 2003

Subjects: Mathematics, Physical Science, Biology, Accounting, English, Afrikaans

Employment History

Anchor Environmental Consultants, Cape Town November 2014 - current

Habinteg Housing Association, London July 2012 - October 2014

Learning Habitat Kindergarten, Hong Kong 2011

Anchor Environmental Consultants, Cape Town 2010 – 2011

Selected Project Experience

Period	Project/Tasks
Nov 2014 - 2015	<p>Promoting Green Urban Development in Africa: enhancing the relationship between urbanization, environmental assets and ecosystem services. World Bank through AECOM Washington. Three case study cities (Kampala, Durban and Dar es Salaam). Ecosystem services assessment and scenario analysis.</p>
Jan – Mar 2015	<p>Socio-Economic Impact Assessment for the proposed Batoka Gorge Hydropower Facility – Zimbabwe/Zambia. Conducted tourism business interviews and surveys in Livingstone and Victoria Falls to determine the value of tourism in the study area and the contribution of the Batoka Gorge to this value. Estimated the magnitude of socio-economic impacts of the proposed dam.</p>
2011	<p>Ecological surveys for proposed wind farms in the Western Cape, South Africa Assisted with some of the ecological surveys conducted on proposed wind farm sites. The surveys focused predominantly on assessing bird species, numbers and nesting sites</p>
2011	<p>Agulhas Somali Current Large Marine Ecosystem Valuation of Marine and Coastal Resources (UNOPS) A desktop study which involved valuing the coastlines of eastern South Africa and Mozambique (within the ASCLME) using available data.</p>
2011	<p>Sector Plan for the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries Assisted with the editing of reports and with stakeholder consultation.</p>
2010 - 2011	<p>National Biodiversity Assessment: South African National Estuary Conservation Plan. Co-author with Dr Jane Turpie on a project aimed at developing a conservation plan for the estuaries of South Africa. The study concentrated on the development of an overarching conservation plan that involved using conservation planning techniques (MARXAN and CLUZ) and ArcView GIS.</p>
2010 - 2011	<p>Uilkraals Estuary Situation Assessment and Estuary Management Plan The situation assessment provided a geographic and socio-economic context, a description of the ecosystem functioning and biodiversity, the legal and planning context, threats to the system, and its conservation importance. The document formed the basis of the development of a vision and strategy for the management of the estuary in a participatory process involving stakeholders.</p>
2010 - 2011	<p>The economic value of Namibia's wetlands Assisted with a report on the economic value of the wetland systems in Namibia, including socio-economic benefits to local communities. It formed part of a larger study on the potential for enhancing the tourism value of Namibia's wetland areas.</p>
2010	<p>Makgadigadi Protected Areas Project (BirdLife Bots, GEF, DWA) Assisted with the desktop valuation of protected areas of the Makgadikgadi Pans, financial/economic models of conservation models involving co-management, and the development of a financing strategy.</p>
2010	<p>Ecological study of the Ruvuma River Mozambique This report included a description of the aquatic biodiversity of the Ruvuma river basin in Mozambique, which included descriptions on habitats and biotic groups, populations and species. The descriptions were linked to the ecosystem characteristics and the quantity and quality and timing of river flows.</p>
2010	<p>Marine specialist baseline report and EIA of the Witsand Desalination Plant Assisted with the writing and compiling of report that identified and assessed possible impacts of a proposed reverse osmosis (RO) desalination plant on the marine environment off Witsand on the southern Cape Coast.</p>
2010	<p>Study on the economic value of natural resource use in the Makgadigadi Pans, Botswana Direct use values were estimated using social survey methods in conjunction with existing information, and existing economic models. Information on use of natural resources was collected by means of focal group discussions in villages situated around the Makgadigadi Pans and used to determine the value of natural resources in the area.</p>

Publications

Wilson, G. & Hockey, P. A. R. 2013. Causes of variable reproductive performance by Southern Ground-hornbill *Bucorvus leadbeateri* and implications for management. *Ibis* **155**: 476 - 484.

Helm, C., Wilson, G., Midgley, J., Kruger, L. & Witkowski, E. T. F. 2011. Investigating the vulnerability of an African savanna tree (*Sclerocarya birrea* ssp. *caffra*) to fire and herbivory. *Austral Ecology* **36**: 964-973.

Wilson, G., Branch, G. M. & De Coito, P. 2009. Comparative salinity tolerances of four siphonariid limpets in relation to habitat restriction of the rare and endangered *Siphonaria compressa*. *African Journal of Marine Science* **31** (3): 311-318.

Reports

Turpie, J.K., Wilson, G. & Van Niekerk, L. 2011. Biodiversity plan for South African Estuaries. Report to South African National Biodiversity Institute.

Other Working Experience

Biology Demonstrator: 1st year Marine Ecology course at the University of Cape Town, 2008-2009

Stats Tutor at the University of Cape Town, 2008

Field Assistant for the Hadedra Ibis programme: Avian Demography Unit (UCT), 2007

Aupair and tutor, 2006-2010

Teacher aid and border mistress at Abberley Hall Primary School, Worcestershire, England, 2004

Skills, Training and Interests

Computer: MS Suite, ArcGIS, PhotoShop, Primer, Statistica 7, Excel Solver, Program R

Driving: Code B drivers licence with own vehicle

Diving: Recreational PADI Advanced Open Water diver (2006)

Interests: Hiking, birding, reading, swimming, tennis, travelling, camping

References available on request