



TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

LEVEL OF EXPERTISE: HENK RUITENBEEK

Mr Henk Ruitenbeek is a world renowned photographer who specialises in the capture of wildlife (fauna and flora), local peoples and sustainability issues on film for prosperity and the promotion of conservation.

In March 2007, Mr Ruitenbeek addressed our university students at the School of Natural Resource Management, situated at Saasveld in George, on the art of wildlife photography, using modern photographic technology, long term proven camera handling skills and film capabilities. The presentation was based on a sound scientific knowledge of ecological principles and environmental awareness. The full presentation has been captured as a source document in our academic library.

In the Netherlands, a picture publication of a wetland area produced by Mr Ruitenbeek mobilised sufficient concern and interest for the preservation of a unique wetland which was under severe threat of degradation due to land clearing and industrial development. The pictures taken over a period of all the various seasons, reflected the significance of the rich biodiversity which existed in the wetland. Today, this wetland is a protected national asset.

Mr Ruitenbeek has good interpersonal communication skills and is a strong believer in striving to and achieving a high standard of excellence in what he does.

I trust that this recommendation shall receive favourable consideration.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.H. Louw', written over a faint, large watermark of a stylized figure.

Dr J.H. LOUW
Director: School of Natural Resource Management