



LEARNING THROUGH NATURE

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NEWSLETTER – JANUARY 2014

Dear Friends of **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE**,

Best wishes to all for a successful and happy 2014.

SUSTAINED / WESSA

Assessments of Portfolios - A lot of attention has been given to all the portfolios of evidence (PoE's) that were submitted for the many training courses that SustainEd and other WESSA regions have run over the past year. (See the details on the right) Congratulations to the Free State region and Port Elizabeth for running the Enviro. Eds. course for the first time.

Assessor Course – in November SustainEd ran an assessor course at which **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** was asked to co-facilitate.



The **Environmental Practices – Nine Level 2 Skills Programmes** were held in KZN with all groups completing 5 modules. These groups were – uMshwathi (Wartburg), Ulundi, Okhahlamba (Bergville), uMkhanyakude (Mkuze), Nongoma, eDumbe (Paulpietersburg), Kokstad, uMvoti and a group from DUCT. The same course was run in the western and southern Cape (Cape Town, Hermanus and George) and is known as the **DEA YES** course. In total 220 learners registered for this course. A new course has just begun with 15 learners from Uitenhage involved in the **Working for Water** programme.

The Environmental Education Training and Development Practices (EETDP) Fifteen learners participated in the Level 5 qualification which was completed at the end of 2013.

Second assessments have been done of PoE's for the 2011/2012 **EETDP** course run by WESSA Western Cape in which 15 learners participated.

Ten learners participated in the **DEL P (Developing an Environmental Learning Programme)** course. This is Module 3 of the EETDP course which is run as a stand-alone course.

Twelve **Environmental Educators Courses** were run throughout the country. This popular course was run in Cape Town, two courses in East London (Border-Kei region), Free State, Nelspruit, Bushpigs (Gauteng region), Port Elizabeth, Twinstreams (Umtunzini), Treasure Beach (Durban), a special course for the Groen Sebenza interns, Umgeni Valley (January and November). A total of 136 learners submitted PoE's.

Wart
Environmental Education Specialist



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OTHER ASSESSMENTS

Endorsement of PoE's was requested by the **Delta Environmental Centre**, Johannesburg (Environmental Practices Level2, Modules 4 and 5) and the **Global Carbon Exchange** (Environmental Practices Level 5 Module 1)

MODERATOR'S COURSE

During November Jeanette attended a Moderator's Course presented by Russell McDiarmid from the **Inkwazi Learning Network** in Howick. She is hopeful that she will be able to offer the services as moderator soon. Also attending the course were Nomusa Mhlongo and Christain Buthelezi from MERSETA.



WESSA – CONSERVATION

LEARNING THROUGH NATURE were asked to assist with research and capture of contacts within the Umgeni River Catchment locating operations providing formal and informal ecological training taking place in this area

LIMA RURAL DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

LEARNING THROUGH NATURE is pleased to announce that after the final site visit in November Lima has been granted accreditation to proceed with various learning programmes.

UNISA

Face-to-face **tutoring** of Fundamental of Conservation continued at the Pietermaritzburg campus during the second semester. **Marking** of the same module continued, with a higher number of on-line assignments being received during this time. Over 300 exam scripts were received after the October examination.

This newsletter is dedicated to Stella Stewart. Who died on the 24th October 2013. **LEARNING THROUGH NATURE** has lost their number one supporter.



Best wishes, Jeanette

Jeanette Stewart
Environmental Education Specialist