

Western Cape Birding Forum

Now represents 17 clubs with more than 2,000 members in the Western Cape.

Extract Minutes of the meeting held at Geelbek Manor House, at the West Coast National Park on Saturday, 8 February 2014.

Vernon Head - Chaired the Meeting.

Sylvia Ledgard - Minutes.

Present

Cape Bird Club: Vernon Head, Sylvia Ledgard, Anne Gray, Dave Whitelaw, Otto Schmidt.

Tygerberg Bird Club: Brian Vanderwalt, Ione' Vanderwalt.

Hermanus Bird Club: Barbara Palmer, Craig Holmes.

West Coast Bird Club: Colin de Kock, Keith Harrison.

BirdLife Worcester: Kobus Graaff.

BirdLife Overberg: Anton Odendal.

BirdLife Plettenberg Bay: Mike Bridgeford.

Lakes Bird Club: Pat Nurse, Bill Naude.

Somerset West Bird Club: Brian Dennis, Sakkie Krynauw, Caroline Crump, Denise Rizzo.

Stanford Bird Club: Peter Hochfelden.

BLSA: Mark Anderson (CEO).

BLSA: Western Cape Dale Wright.

SABAP2: Peter Nupen.

Visitors: Annemarie Krynauw, Elzette Krynauw. Tony Williams (Ornithologist).

Guest Speaker: Dr. Tony Ribbink (Director of the Sustainable Seas Trust).

Apologies: Brigid Crewe, Barbara Palmer.

Record of Note: This meeting of the Western Cape Birding Forum formed part of a weekend conference with representatives from most of the bird clubs of the Western Cape. Family members attended the weekend's events.

1. KEYNOTE ADDRESS - Dr. Tony Ribbink - **“Sustainable Seas - a Vision worth Achieving”**.

The Sea is the life of the planet, the Sea is in trouble. We are putting everything in and taking everything out. Pollution and over-harvesting of resources by irresponsible fishing and poaching are contributing to the damage of our seas and coastlines. This is still reversible if we commit to treating our coastal environments in a responsible, sustainable manner.

“Hope Spots”.

The Sustainable Seas Trust (SST) is seeking to develop a relationship with BirdLife South Africa to facilitate the development of “Hope Spots” along South Africa’s coastline. This is in line with the vision of Dr. Sylvia Earle, renowned international oceanographer, National Geographic Explorer and patron of SST, to develop “Hope Spots” around the world where ocean life can be protected from any disturbance and be allowed to flourish.

The SST along with the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) engaged in the SAMSA Sea Pledge Saldahna to Sodwana Tour, touring South Africa’s coastline, spreading the word of coastal conservation to everyone from school children to mayors and dignitaries along the way and identifying

potential “Hope Spots”. “Hope Spots” are areas where rural coastal communities can be empowered by way of knowledge, education and new skills training to take “ownership” of their coastal environment and become a part of the solution and not the problem. For such a goal to be reached, the needs of coastal communities must be addressed. There cannot be environmental stability without the issues of poverty, food security, education and human dignity being considered simultaneously.

There is time to reverse the trend by establishing a network of protected areas with a strong community of people who care. Partnerships are needed. The SST will play a facilitative role in partnership with Mission Blue and BirdLife South Africa. The way forward is to give people new skills. The SST works closely with sea communities. Core funding is needed to enable the SST to run ground breaking projects and meet the needs of local communities.

Comment (IvdW): Will BLSA be working with the Dept. of Coastal & Marine Management to use the approach of education rather than the big stick? (VH): It is essential that Government is on board for driving the concept of “Hope Spots” and we will be talking to people across the board. Funding may come from the Oceans Science Trust.

“Hope Spots” identified to date are the Aliwal Shoal and Algoa Bay, Nature’s Valley, Plettenberg Bay, Knysna and associated coastline, and the Overstrand around and near Hermanus. A committee will be established at each “Hope Spot” to provide motivation and material assistance.

Comment (CdK&KH): A “Hope Spot” is needed on the West Coast. Elands Bay is an ideal location. The community is one of the poorest in South Africa and BLSA is already there. (TR): To establish a “Hope Spot”, we will need a champion and people to drive the project. (VH): Talk to the chairs of local clubs.

Photographic Competition and Book Launch

The SST will be launching a coffee table book, featuring the “Splendour of South African Seas”. This will be a photographic book featuring images of the ocean in the categories Recreational Activities & Sports, Marine Landscapes, Cultural, Historical and Marine Life. Amateurs, professionals, hobbyists and youth were invited to participate in a photographic competition and submit images for inclusion in the book. Canon supplied cameras to each “Hope Spot” to enable children in impoverished areas to get involved and become inspired by the ocean. A further competition invited people to come up with a more catchy title for the book. The book will be published in November 2014 and launched in coastal towns in December. Dr. Sylvia Earle will be the keynote speaker.

- VH encouraged coastal clubs to get involved with the book and make a function out of the launch. He will be seeing big fishing heads to fund a tour up the coastline.

2. BLSA REGIONAL CONSERVATION PROGRESS REPORT-Western Cape - Dale Wright.

* A detailed Progress Report written by DWr for the Rupert Nature Foundation - Year 2013 – has been distributed separately to WCBF members.

Summary Highlights of the Year 2013

- Dale received the “Young Conservator of the Year” Award at the Fynbos Forum 2013.
- Securing R3-million to implement the Verlorenvlei Protected Environment project. BLSA has appointed a Project Manager (Samantha Schroder). Samantha will report to DWr.
- Hosting the first False Bay Ecology Park Fun Walk with 200 participants from local, impoverished communities.
- Co-supervision of a Stellenbosch Conservation Ecology Honours student who received an award for her management plan thesis on Fire management in the False Bay Ecology Park.
- Signing a MOU with the Overberg Lowlands Conservation Trust for collaborative work in the Overberg Wheatbelt IBA,
- Establishment of BirdLife Plettenberg Bay and BirdLife Eastern Cape Local Conservation Groups (LCGs).
- Successful Environmental Education events hosted for World Wetlands Day, National Bird Week and participation in the Kirstenbosch Biodiversity Careers Day.

- Completion of 90% of the Western Cape IBA Assessments (20 out of 22) together with a further five completed for the Eastern Cape. It is envisaged that sites will be reassessed every four to five years. Northern Cape and balance of Eastern Cape to do.
- Continued partnerships with SA National Parks, CapeNature Conservation, Eastern Cape Parks & Tourism Agency, City of Cape Town, WWF-SA, WESSA, University of Cape Town, Stellenbosch University and Western Cape bird clubs.
- Updated online IBA webpage directory for Western Cape and Eastern Cape sites.
- Engagement and comment on a number of relevant Environmental Impact Assessments.
- Major support and partnership with the Fynbos endemic birds and climate change research project led by Dr. Phoebe Barnard (SANBI) and Dr. Alan Lee (Percy Fitzpatrick Institute).

Major Goals/Activities for 2014

- Management and implementation of Verlorenvlei Protected Areas Project, involving Biodiversity Stewardship at the Verloren Estuary and its Moutonshoek catchment.
- Completion of IBA Assessments for De Hoop Nature Reserve, Dyer Island, Swartberg Mountains, Dwessa/Cwebe Forests, Alexandria Coastal Belt, Platberg-Karoo Conservancy and Gariep Dam.
- Implementation of False Bay Ecology Park MoU, namely corporate funding, hosting of Fun Walk and driving student research projects.
- Implementation of Overberg Lowlands Conservation Trust MoU, producing and distributing an information booklet for farmers (AO will organise), fundraising and investigating conservation servitudes on private land.
- Raising funds for Hottentot Buttonquail survey and filling data gaps in Fynbos endemic bird research.
- Development of additional estuary conservation projects in partnership with WWF-SA. Get estuary management plan going at Verlorenvlei with Berg and Bot in the pipeline.
- Implementation with NCC (Environmental Services) of the Waterbirds and Farm Dams rehabilitation project. The objective is to work with wine farmers to create awareness and protect habitat for waterbirds. Farmers will be given the tools/knowledge to manage small dams. (Comment BvdW: Bird clubs can get involved by doing atlasing outings; will need contact list.)
- Supporting existing LCGs to implement local conservation projects and establishing a third LCG in the region.
- Funding and installing IBA signboards at relevant locations.
- Awareness activities including public talks, popular articles and a new initiative with WILD CARD.
- Representation on a range of environmental forums and committees, representing BLSA or providing input on bird conservation related matters.

Of particular relevance to Bird Clubs and potential assistance:

- Establishment of Local Conservation Groups.
- Installation and funding of IBA signboards.
- Assistance with initiating monitoring programmes in IBAs. Also, set up My Bird Patches where people can access birds.
- Filling atlas gaps in IBAs.
- Dale available to do follow-up presentations to clubs.

AO registered a vote of thanks to Dale for his hard work and commitment.

3. FALSE BAY ECOLOGY PARK (FBEP)/STRANDFONTEIN (IBA SA116) - Dave Whitelaw.

(1) IBA Pilot Site-Corporate Funding. Following the signing of the MoU between BLSA, the Cape Bird Club and the City of Cape Town regarding the management of the IBA, the priority is to raise corporate funding for the FBEP. A funding proposal has been prepared to take to potential sponsors that outlines skills development and environmental education projects that will be undertaken at the FBEP and how

these will benefit local communities. In support of this, a high quality video production has been produced that showcases the planned projects at the FBEP and how corporates can get involved. One presentation has been made and we await feedback.

(2) FBEP Infrastructure Development. FBEP offers opportunities as an urban IBA. We will be going to the Department of Tourism with a view to improving the infrastructure for tourism. This year a massive number of waders has come in following removal of sludge from the ponds.

(3) Management of Birding Area: Following Council's agreement to incorporate the Manager's post as a permanent appointment at FBEP, agreement has been reached regarding the appointment of a Foreman. This will be a two-year contract initially and thereafter will become a permanent posting.

(4) MoU with City of Cape Town: The MoU with the City ends in June in respect of funds to support the extended workforce team under Manager Erica Essig and tools/equipment for working on the ponds, weed clearing, etc. We will be looking for new funding.

(4) "Birdathon" Fun Walk: The second FBEP "Birdathon" will take place in April with Bird ID quiz for kids, stalls, exhibits and prizes. John Dory will provide 700 free lunches for kids. The plan is for the event to become an annual festival. (VH): Events of this nature will be replicated at other IBAs.

4. WEST COAST UPDATE: Environmental Threats and Concerns.

(1) Klein Mooimaak Public Resort on Langebaan Lagoon (IBA SA105) - Colin de Kock.

Colin thanked all the clubs that had registered as I&APs in the case of the proposed Klein Mooimaak Rest Camp development. He demonstrated the location of the proposed site on the eastern edge of the lagoon. Increased activities in this section of the lagoon would impact directly on feeding and roosting waders. Originally, the Rest Camp was planned at Kraalbaai but the siting was rejected at the EIA stage. Klein Mooimaak then became the favoured site and SANParks changed the zoning to "low intensity leisure" to allow for motorised activities. We have recommended to Park management that the residential component of the resort be located at Mooimaak, a site which is well inland from the lagoon. We are awaiting the EIA at which stage we will lodge a formal objection. Comment (DWr): According to the consultant, the development proposal is on hold.

Other Environmental Threats and Concerns - Keith Harrison.

The report covers:

(2) Renewable Energy:

- Wind farm at Hopefield in production.
- Solar farm at Aurora in production.
- West Coast No. 1 wind farm commenced construction.
- Vredendal wind farm (Eskom) commenced construction.
- Hopefield Community wind farm (3 turbines). Blue Cranes winter in areas adjacent to this wind farm. A full bird list has been submitted.

Comment (TW): Post-construction monitoring must be done on wind farms. There may be opportunity for BLSA to train local people. What an acceptable level of carcasses will be must be approved by BLSA.

(3) Mining on the West Coast. Mining remains the biggest concern.

- Beach mining for heavy minerals underway at Olifants Estuary.
- Heavy mineral prospecting between Olifants River and Dwarskersbos - 5 applications in hand.
- Tungsten mining at Moutonshoek - application for prospecting rejected in court.

- Phosphate mining at Elandsfonteyn Reserve (buffer zone to West Coast National Park - mining activity will involve the Elandsfonteyn aquifer which feeds into the Langebaan lagoon.
- Shell mining at Laaiplek.

(3) Industrial.

- Saldahna Industrial Area: Large-scale heavy industrial development for processing, storage, packing and export of minerals and storage of oil and LPG gas. Note: Doubling of oil harbour capacity as envisaged has been put on hold until future markets indicate.

(4) Infrastructure Damage to road surface and bridges on coastal section of R27 north of Velddrif due to transportation of commodities by large bulk transporters to Saldahna. Concern is the potential for accidents and pollution which could have adverse consequences for IBAs on this route.

(5) Gas Pipeline off West Coast. A proposed off-shore pipeline from the Ibhubesi gas field in SA waters would probably land at Koeberg for the Atlantis power plant and at St. Helena Bay for a power plant at Saldahna Steel.

(6) Species Concerns

- (a) Seabird breeding failure. It has been a disastrous breeding season for seabirds, probably due to prey shortage. Peter Ryan and Davide Gagleo have been studying prey utilisation in St. Helena Bay.
- (b) Land bird research. Researchers working on egg survival rate of ground nesting plover species found that out of 58 nests only five hatched, the main cause being predation by Pied Crows.

(7) Salmon Farming at Saldahna -Tony Williams. The farm is proposed either between Malgas and Marcus Islands or between Jutten Island and the adjacent mainland. TW was commissioned to write a report on these two sites. The area supports 30,000 seabirds, two species of which are Endangered, one Vulnerable and four Near-Threatened. The concerns raised in the report are:

- (a) Direct mortality of birds by becoming entangled in peripheral nets.
- (b) Bait falling into water (approx. 20%), attracting seabirds and seals. This will provide a food subsidy for sub-adult male Fur Seals that are the main predators of seabirds with particular concern for local populations of the endangered African Penguin and Bank Cormorants.
- (c) Introduction of a range of potentially toxic chemicals used to deter algal growth on netting and to rid salmon of sea lice. Overseas there is frequent use of organophosphates, which are known to have a negative effect on birds and would be especially dangerous to cormorants.

The proposed siting of the farm is at the application stage and there are several other applications being prepared for the African coast. It is important that BirdLife South Africa has a policy position on this. TW recommends that the operation be shifted onto land.

(8) Port Nolloth Bird Park - Dave Whitelaw. We have been approached by the Port Nolloth authorities to develop an educational programme for the Port Nolloth Bird Park to help raise conservation and environmental awareness in the local community.

(9) Orange River Estuary - Dave Whitelaw. A request has been made to carry out CWAC counts on the Orange River Estuary, a RAMSAR site in danger of being de-proclaimed. Noted that a mining operation that commenced in the area has been discontinued.

(10) Bird Hides. Verlorenvlei burned down. Berg River (De Plaat) in bad condition and will be removed. Vredenburg Golf Club vandalised beyond repair. Abrahamskraal (WCNP) - reed growth restricts viewing. Seeberg (WCNP): (VH) We are talking to the Parks Board about re-developing the hide. A basic

assessment must be done. (CdeK) Sandbanks have developed to the south taking birds out of view; may have to consider re-siting or re-alignment of the hide

5. OVERBERG UPDATE - Anton Odendal

(1) Progress on MoU between CapeNature (Overberg) and BirdLife Overberg. The purpose of the MoU signed in July 2013 is to assist CapeNature with bird monitoring and counts at selected Nature Reserves and Biodiversity Stewardship Sites in the Overberg region. Training of CapeNature staff forms an integral part of the project and to this end a “My Bird Patch” training session was held with BLO club members and CapeNature staffers. A coastal CWAC count was done in collaboration with CapeNature staff members at Die Plaat between Hermanus and De Kelders. Next will be a BIRP (Birds in Reserves) count at De Mond Nature Reserve. At least one count per month will be undertaken with CapeNature staff and Bird Club outings will be linked into the counts. Some of the target areas coming up are Pearly Beach, De Dam and Soetendalsvlei.

(2) Educational Posters. Posters have been erected at the Pearly Beach Information Centre and Dick Dent gardens in Somerset West and are scheduled for Fernkloof Nature Reserve in May. Trails are being developed for school kids. Also scheduled for Intaka Island and Nature’s Valley.

(3) “Flight for Birders” Identification and Conservation Course. The course content is being redeveloped and will become area specific. We will be taking it to other provinces later in the year. In January, we ran the course at George and Plettenberg Bay and it is scheduled for Intaka Island, Hermanus and Cape Agulhas in February and Stanford in March. SANParks and CapeNature staff are attending the courses. In February we will celebrate the 10th anniversary of F4B courses.

(4) Possible New Bird Club at Vanrhynsdorp. A couple at Vanrhynsdorp wants to form a bird club. (BvdW): The problem with assisting outlying clubs by giving talks, etc. is the cost of getting there.

(5) Website. Visits to the website have doubled, with 200 visits a day, 90 of which are new and 26% international enquiries. The website is now on Facebook and Twitter.

(6) Birding Tourism. WESGRO, the official Destination, Marketing, Investment and Trade Promotion Agency for the Western Cape Province, has once again shown their commitment to the promotion of birding tourism to the province by commissioning AO to develop a birdfinder webpage for the Cape Metro. This page will be incorporated in www.westerncapebirding.co.za and will probably be posted also on the WESGRO and Cape Town tourism websites. This will finally allow us to develop comprehensive birding route descriptions for all regions of the province, creating a “one-stop-shop” for local and visiting birders to plan their birding excursions to the province. It is anticipated that the webpage will be launched before the arrival of the summer migrants.

(7) BLO Golf Day 2014 at Arabella Golf Course (19 March). 50% of funds raised will go to research and projects in support of the Black Harrier, 25% to Dale for WC Reg. Conservation and 25% to Overberg Lowlands Conservation Trust. Sponsorship is needed on a variety of levels.

Noted (VH): The Sunshine Tour has selected BirdLife South Africa as their conservation partner of choice. This major golf tournament will give BLSA good exposure. Continental Media and big business sponsor free billboards.

6. SABAP 2 UPDATE - Peter Nupen.

(1) National. Currently, there are 1,366 observers registered to participate in SABAP2 across South Africa. To date, 99,738 Full Protocol Cards (FPCs) have been submitted to the SABAP2 database. Within the next few days, the 100,000 FPCs’ milestone will be reached. This is an outstanding achievement by citizen scientists. Pentad coverage across South Africa, Lesotho and Swaziland stands at 12,960 representing 73.28% of the entire region. Outstanding virgin pentads are in very mountainous territory or far away from atlasing centres. The cost of petrol makes planning to get to these areas very challenging.

“Turning Kruger Green” is a 3-year project to establish the Kruger National Park as a monitor of potential environmental change, using birds as the indicator. The objective is to Turn Kruger Green on the SABAP2 South African map by atlasing all the pentads four times, thus providing a solid baseline for future scientific analysis.

(2) Western Cape. Of the 1,837 pentads, 1,570 have at least one FPC, equating to 85.5% coverage of the Western Cape, 1,233 pentads have at least two cards (67.1% coverage) and 544 pentads have at least seven cards - the more cards submitted for a pentad, the more valuable is the data. Total FPC coverage now stands at 19,666 and very soon the 20,000 barrier will be broken which is an exceptional achievement. The area represented is more than twice the size of Gauteng. An atlas trip is being planned in late April to the Murraysburg area in the eastern most section of the Western Cape. There are 18 unatlased pentads in this area and the intention is to atlas all these remaining pentads.

Noted that most EIA ornithological work carried out for Wind Energy Farms across South Africa uses SABAP2 data to identify priority species for their baseline studies. Once again, this indicates the extent to which SABAP2 data is being used for bird conservation throughout the country. The importance of SABAP2 cannot be over emphasised.

(3) International. Angola, Kenya, Zimbabwe and Malawi are all now part of the SABAP2 atlasing project.

7. BIRDLIFE South Africa - Vernon Head.

(1) “Flock in the ‘Berg” 2014. Venue: Mont-Aux Sources in the Drakensberg. Dates: LAB Ornithological Conference 13 and 14 March, AGM 15 March. We are trying to create a special event every year and move this around the country. 2014 will see the inaugural LAB (Learn about Birds) ornithological conference, an interactive series of lectures, presentations and discussions co-hosted by BLSA and the Percy Fitzpatrick Institute of African Ornithology. Running parallel with this will be opportunities for birding with the specialists. An ornithological conference will be attached to the AGM every second year. The Gill Memorial Medal and the inaugural Austin Roberts Memorial Medal will be made at the AGM. In 2015, Flock will go back to sea, this time on the Indian Ocean sailing from Durban to Portuguese Island.

(2) SOS Festival 2014 (Oct. 6 - 12). The festival will follow the successful formula of previous years with an international marine photographic competition and series of lectures by eminent speakers. The S.A. Agulhas 1 will be engaged for a trip out of Cape Town. 250 American Birding Association delegates will be in Cape Town. This year, the festival will be going to Durban and Johannesburg and ultimately satellite events will be extended to smaller towns in the country.

(3) New BLSA Membership Policy. The proposed policy will go to Council in March. The key difference between the current and new policies is that Club membership and BirdLife South Africa membership will be separate and distinct and a Club member may choose to become a member of BirdLife South Africa. Full and Partial branch membership will fall away and be replaced by Options 1 and 2. Under Option 1, the Club will administer its membership; under Option 2, the Club may ask BLSA to administer its membership for a fee. The intention is to make Club membership more accessible where members cannot afford a dual fee and ultimately to get as many people as possible to be part of the organisation. BLSA now has an advanced membership system that can cater for different types of membership.

(4) Bird of the Year 2014 -Tristan Albatross: Posters and educational material have been distributed and pin badges are ready.

(5) Bird of the Year 2015. - Anne Gray. WCBF has nominated the Blue Crane as Bird of the Year 2015/16. AG thanked the Clubs for their endorsement of the nomination. An excellent motivation prepared by AG was forwarded to BLSA and will be tabled at the forthcoming AGM along with nominations from other bird clubs; these are Verreaux’s Eagle, Black Harrier and Secretary Bird. Mark Anderson was concerned that selection of the Blue Crane as Bird of the Year might upset EWT as they

have been doing research on the Blue Crane. However, it has been established that EWT will not object so long as BLSA gives credit on all promotional material.

Note: The Blue Crane was unanimously elected at the BLSA AGM as Bird of the Year 2015/16.

8. OTHER

(1) Phillipi Wetlands (Dave Whitelaw). This is a seasonal wetland within the City's boundaries supporting waterbirds. It is best known as the Phillipi Horticultural Area - a community of small farmers (Phillipi Horticultural Assoc.) producing and selling vegetables to local retailers. The area has been under threat from development that is presently on hold. Problems of crime and pollution are an issue. The farmers are making a pittance in profits and the temptation is there to sell the land. In order to conserve the area as a wetland and for farming, profit margins must be increased and we are looking to engage key companies like Woolworths to support the farmers.

(2) Knysna Warbler Project (Dave Whitelaw). The Cape Bird Club is proceeding with endeavours to determine where, if any, populations of the Knysna Warbler remain on the Cape Peninsula. The bird has abandoned known localities due to changes in habitat structure. Playback of the bird's call will be strictly limited as it is felt over-use of playbacks may be a reason for the birds' retreat at some locations.

(3) CWAC-Loss of ADU Data (Keith Harrison). The ADU computer was hacked with the loss of all data from 2009. Linda du Plessis is collecting the data from all the Provinces for re-capture.

(4) Proposed Frank Wygold Conservation Award (Dave Whitelaw): Frank Wygold devoted his time and money to eco education. Thousands of students passed through his Eco Centre at Paarden Eiland and we want to find a way to keep his legacy alive. This could be in the form of an annual prize to students who have made a contribution to the ecology by way of projects or other activities.

9. WCBF FINANCES - Sakkie Krynauw

The financial report of Income and Expenditure for the year ended 31/12/2013 Key items:

- Opening balance: R14,436
- Income: R 9,820
- Expenditure: R 6,345
- Balance on hand: R17,91

Income was derived from Forum contributions, a donation and the BLSA grant. Expenditure covered venue costs, fuel costs and a memorial notice in the press in respect of the late Dr. Phil Hockey. The average cost per meeting was R1,869 (R1,609 in 2012).

WCBF MEETINGS:

(1) Forthcoming meetings 2014;

- **07 June** at Intaka Island, Century City, Cape Town.
- **04 Oct** at Durbanville Nature Reserve, Cape Town.

(2) Weekend Events.

VH thanked delegates for their participation in the Duinepos Conference Weekend, the first of its kind for WCBF, bringing together the bird clubs of the Western Cape. The weekend provided opportunities for socialising, networking, birding activity and participation in the Forum meeting. We will look at running a similar weekend next year and will try to find funds to subsidise the event. Bill Naude suggested the Garden Route would be a good destination and offered to investigate Ebb & Flow (Wilderness) for the purpose.