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Ecology of the white lion: conservation management of the white lion (*Panthera leo melanochaita* Hamilton Smith 1842) in the Greater Kruger Park Region, South Africa

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Curriculum Vitae

Jason Andrew Turner was born on 14 May 1973 in Johannesburg, South Africa. From 1978 to 1990 he attended primary and secondary school at De La Salle College in Johannesburg, South Africa. From 1990-1994 he completed a BSc Zoology and Grassland Science at the University of KwaZulu Natal, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. This degree provided a solid theoretical and practical grounding in the discipline of Zoology and Botany, and Grassland Science. In 1995-1996 he completed a BSc Honours Wildlife Management at the University of Pretoria (South Africa), providing an introduction to specialist theory and skills in wildlife management in South Africa. From 2000 to 2005 he completed a MSc Wildlife Management at the Centre for Wildlife Management, in Pretoria, South Africa, specializing in lion predation and predator-prey relationships in the Greater Kruger Park Region. Whilst completing his MSc, in 2004 he was asked by the Global White Lion Protection Trust (GWLPT), a NPO conservation trust, to help initiate the first rewilding and reintroduction program of white lions to their natural habitat. In 2013, Turner initiated the collaborative international study that identified the genetic marker for the white lion in September 2013 (see Cho et al. 2013). In 2018 he became a member of the African Lion Working Group (ALWG), responsible for the management of wild lions in Africa, and the Lion Management Forum (LiMF). From 2018 to 2023, Turner conducted Environmental Consulting and Conservation Management in South Africa, whilst also being registered as a PhD candidate at Leiden University (Netherlands) focused on the Conservation Management and Ecology of the white lion (*Panthera leo melanochaita* Hamilton Smith 1842) in the Greater Kruger Park Region, South Africa. In 2023, Jason Turner was appointed as a Protected Area Manager for the King Salman Bin Abdulaziz Royal Reserve in Saudi Arabia.

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