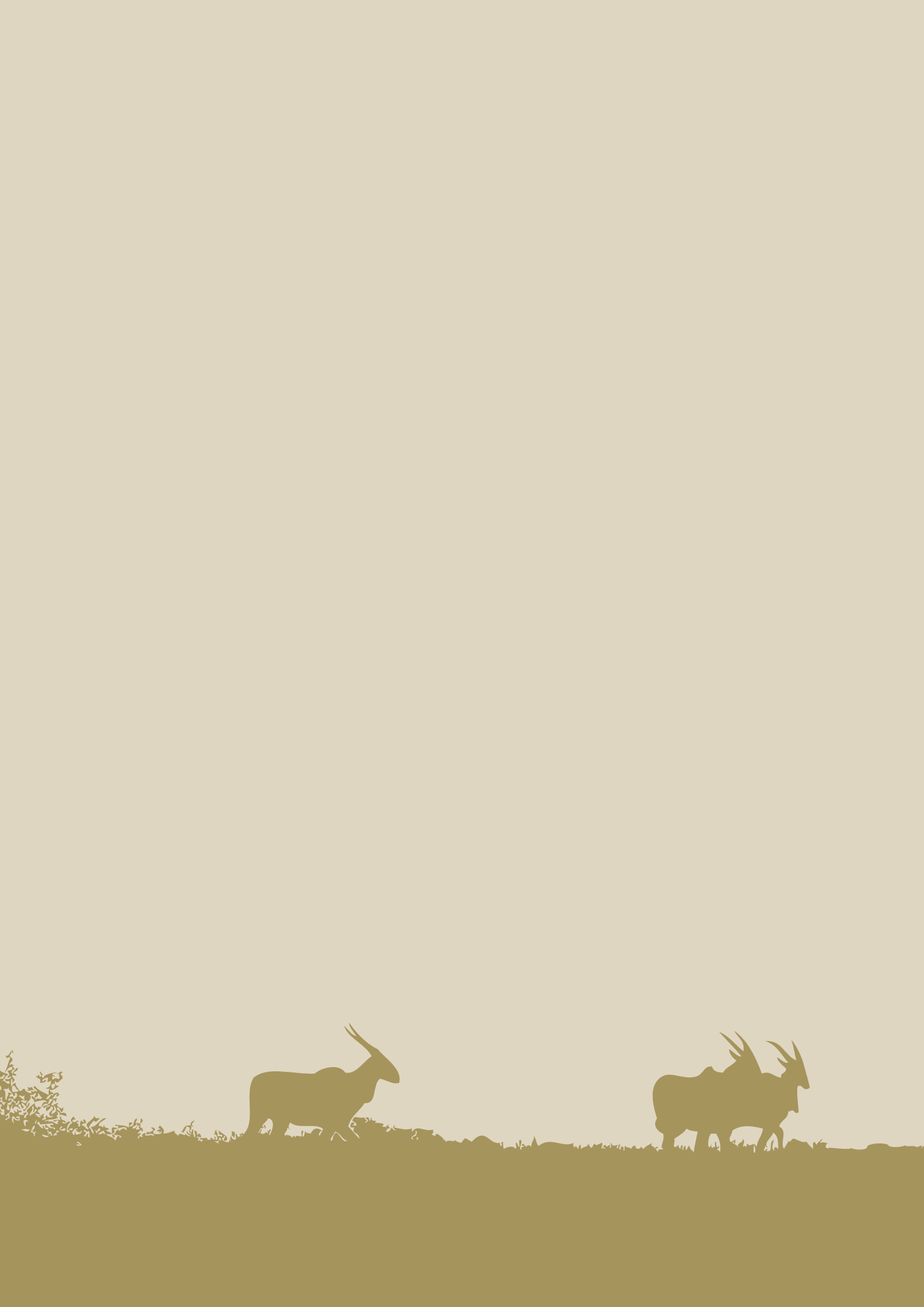




ANNUAL REPORT

2012





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Wilderness Wildlife Trust supports a wide variety of projects in southern Africa, within the categories of wildlife management, research and education. These projects address the needs of existing wildlife populations, seek solutions to save endangered species and provide education and training for local people and their communities.

The goal of the Trust is to make a difference to Africa, her wildlife and her people.

ABOUT THE TRUST

The Wilderness Wildlife Trust, an independent entity within the Wilderness Group, was formed in the late 1980s when it was understood that the Group, a luxury ecotourism business operating brands such as Wilderness Safaris, could only do so much for conservation in the course of its day-to-day activities and needed a dedicated vehicle to take matters further. More funds and a greater reach were needed in order for overall conservation activities to be more effective. Accordingly, it was decided that an independent entity that facilitated fundraising and the disbursement of the monies to deserving projects would mean that, both directly and indirectly, Wilderness could reach more people, wildlife and places.

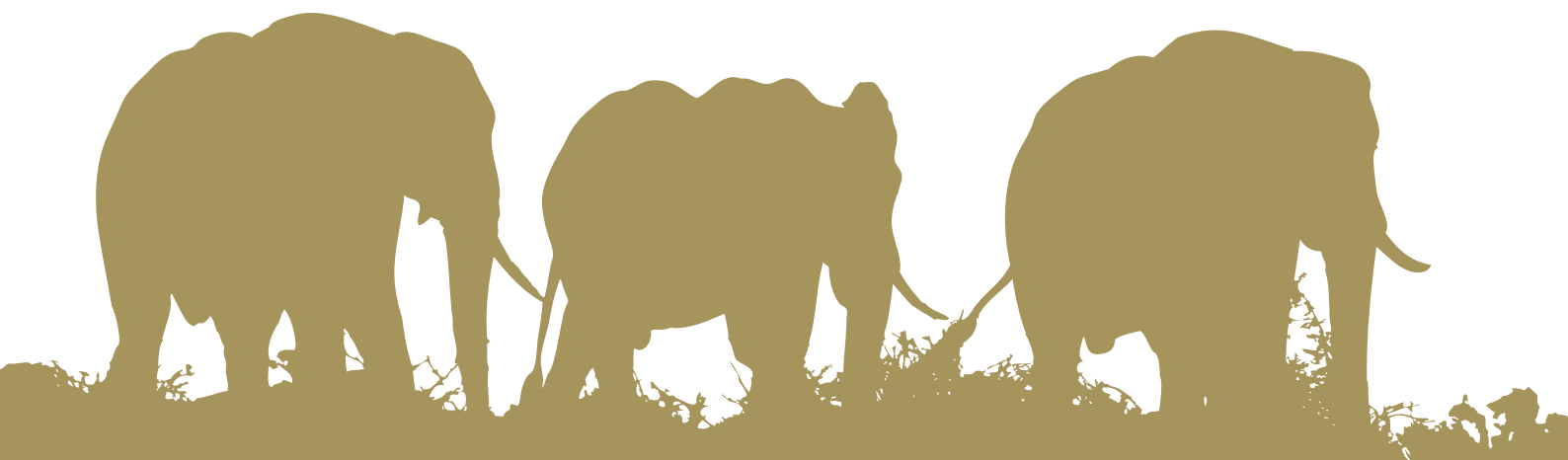
The relationship between the Wilderness Group and the Trust is therefore symbiotic. In many projects supported financially by the Trust, Wilderness is able to contribute through logistics and in-kind support (e.g. equipment; manpower; fuel; vehicle servicing; access; accommodation) to ensure the enhanced viability of the work. On the other hand, the fact that the Trust is independent also means that it is able to engage with projects beyond the geographic scope of Wilderness Safaris' camps and concessions and ensure that conservation is the driving force.

The Trust focuses its work in three key areas: i) research and conservation, ii) community empowerment and education, and iii) anti-poaching and management.

Research and Conservation: These include ecological studies of specific species, transboundary movements, migration corridors and human-animal conflicts, interactions between species, and climate change. Such studies are not science for the sake of science, but rather help pave the way for better informed conservation management decisions and thus the sustainability of Africa's wildlife and wilderness areas.

Community Empowerment and Education: Conservation of animals and plants is only as strong as the people who live in their vicinity. Without the engagement and involvement of such people, conservation is likely to exist only on paper. Therefore, educational and financial empowerment of local communities is the bedrock of the Trust, providing much-needed skills and knowledge to these communities.

Anti-poaching and Management: Hands-on management contributes to the survival of both individual species and their endangered habitats. The Trust supports a number of anti-poaching entities and assists in further management initiatives, from the maintenance of waterhole pumps to aerial surveys and other programmes.



LETTER FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Wilderness Wildlife Trust had a busy year in 2011, supporting 35 projects in seven southern African countries. We entered the year acutely aware that the financial climate around the world was increasing pressure on wildlife and wildlife areas, and that charitable contributions for wildlife were decreasing. Southern Africa has been no stranger to the former – the number of annually poached rhino increased by 3400% between 2008 and 2011 in South Africa alone. The statistics on less-managed and less well-known animals are unclear, but the numbers of persecuted carnivores, polluted rivers, decimated raptor populations, deforested wildlife areas are only some of the increasing environmental issues that we continue to face.

This situation has increased our focus on the importance of creating our own climate of wildlife charity through ecotourism, our largest supporter. With immense gratitude to our generous donors we have managed to continue our support of a wide range of projects. These include those that protect endangered species, such as the rhino; that research movement of megafauna such as elephant, roan or mountain zebra for effective conservation planning; that mitigate human conflict with carnivores; that explore little known species; and that elevate conservation awareness among people living in close proximity to wildlife, including the children who participate in the Children in the Wilderness programme. In addition to our funders, it is these projects on the ground and the dedicated people who run them that we are also indebted to.

Threats to wildlife in southern Africa and the want of local funds for conservation necessitate a continual reworking of our objectives and fundraising strategies. In 2011, we sought out, or further developed, partnerships that will assist the Wilderness Wildlife Trust in its efforts to raise funds and awareness. One such partnership is with B&H, who in 2012 are sponsoring a photographic competition that we hope will be of interest to many of the Trust's supporters with a keen interest in photography. Once again, we also received generous support services from our auditors (Deloitte & Touche), legal advisors (Bell-Dewar), web designers (Buynary Digital), printers (ColorPress) and Amos Eno and Angela Bellegarde from the Resources First Foundation. A sincere thank you to all of the above for your continued faith in our organisation and the projects that we support.

At Wilderness Safaris, a number of individuals donate their time and expertise to the Trust: we'd like to thank administrator Mari dos Santos, accountant Richard van der Wel, advisor Chris Roche, Ilana Stein and members of the Creative Team who build and maintain our website and wrote, edited and designed this Annual Report.

Finally, we wish to thank all who have contributed towards the Trust's conservation activities in 2011: our donors, sponsors and the dedicated conservation scientists on the ground. Furthermore, we would like to thank all who continue to visit Africa and who, by doing so, highlight the importance of its wildlife areas.

Russel Friedman, Andrew Leontsinis & Dr. Jennifer Lalley

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3. Kalengo Library (p.31)

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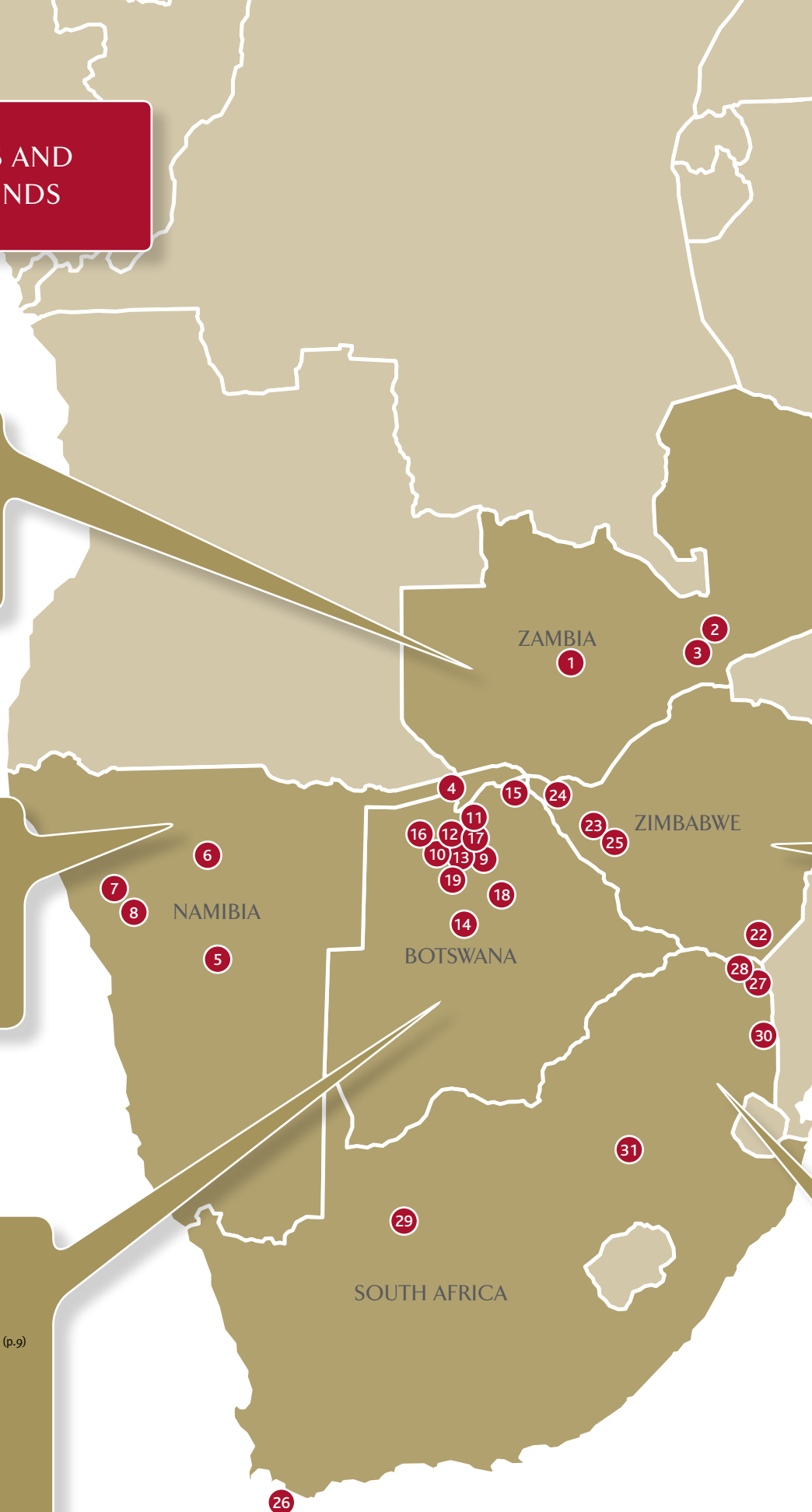
PROJECT LOCATIONS:

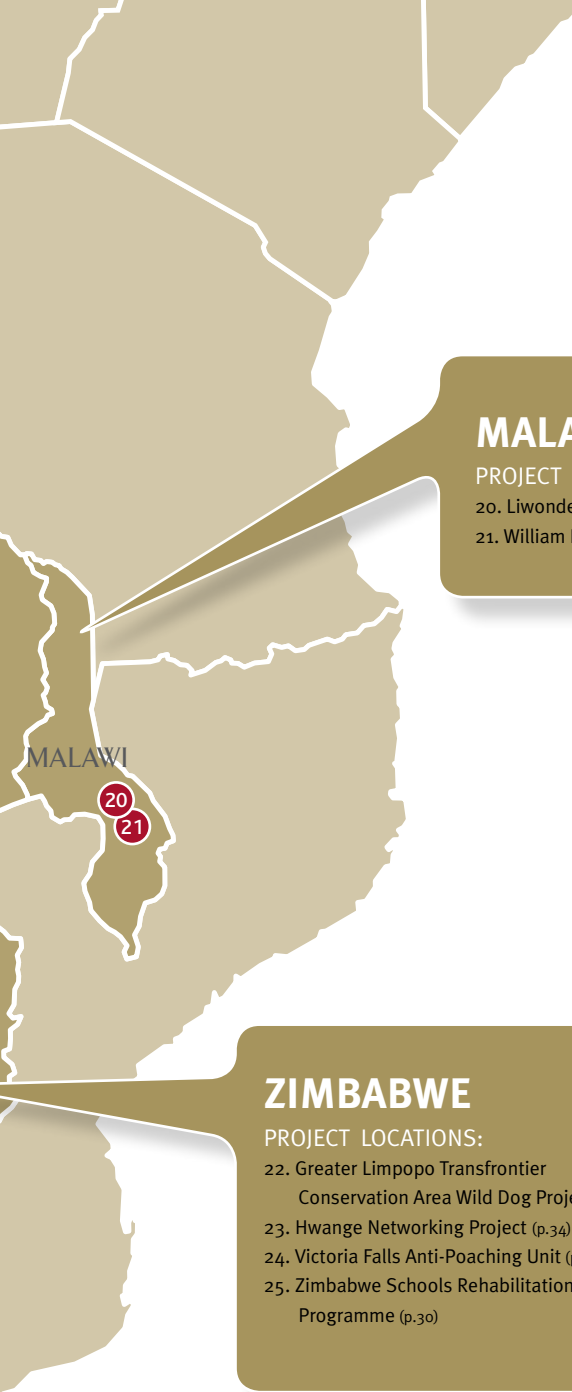
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- 24. Victoria Falls Anti-Poaching Unit (p.38)
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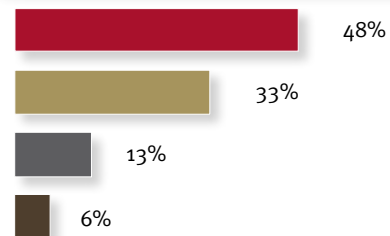
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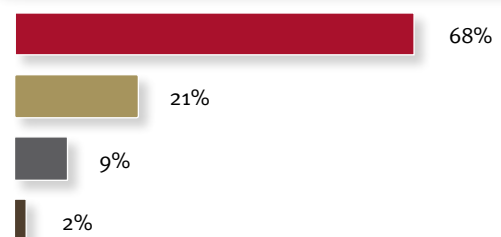
SOURCE OF FUNDS

- WILDERNESS GUESTS/DIRECT
- FUNDING AGENCIES
- WILDERNESS SAFARIS
- SALE OF WILDERNESS WARMERS



DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

- RESEARCH & CONSERVATION
- COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT & EDUCATION
- ANTI-POACHING & MANAGEMENT
- ADMINISTRATION



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BOTSWANA LION GENETICS PROJECT

Researcher: Simon Dures

2011 was a fantastic start to the Botswana Lion Genetics Project. The year focused on developing the logistics and capacity for the project to continue into a wider and further-reaching study and has had considerable success with this. To date, the project has attracted the attention of the Zoological Society of London (ZSL), which will be acting as additional conservation advisors for the project, along with Imperial College London, which will be providing laboratory access for the genetic sequencing as well as supervising the principal investigator of the project for a PhD.

In the field, the project has had much excitement, with a number of lions being darted with biopsy darts to collect DNA samples. Early in the year the principal investigator underwent training by a registered vet to ensure his darting ability was suitable and that the appropriate set of protocols was in place. Subsequently three lions were darted in the Linyanti Concession, close to Kings Pool. Since then, more lions have been darted to provide samples from the Linyanti, Vumbura and Mombo concessions, and in 2012, this exercise will be expanding to incorporate Chitabe, Abu and elsewhere in the Delta.

The sampling has very little impact on the lions, since no drags are required to sedate them. The dart hits the lion on the rump, cutting a small piece of skin, and drops off to be collected when the lion moves on. It is little more than the pinch of an insect bite that startles the lion but causes no more disturbance, and certainly no risk of injury. The only risk is to the investigator who has to keep his eyes peeled and ensure that the lions really have moved away before he leaves the vehicle to collect the dart!

Unfortunately, until a much larger number of lions have been sampled, no results can be reported, however the interest and support that is being given by a number of prominent academic institutions bodes well for the success of this project in the long term.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BOTSWANA RHINO RELOCATION AND REINTRODUCTION PROJECT*Coordinators: Kai Collins & Map Ives*

2011 was another successful year for the Botswana Rhino Relocation and Reintroduction Project, during which the rhino monitoring team worked very closely with the Department of Wildlife and National Parks Anti-Poaching Unit as well as the Botswana Defence Force, with regular patrols throughout the areas where reintroduced rhinos have settled.

A few more births in the past year once again indicated the continually growing and healthy population in optimal habitat. Several horn implant operations were also carried out to enable continued rigorous monitoring and security of the existing free-ranging populations.

The Botswana Rhino Relocation and Reintroduction Project is a true success story: Collaborative conservation efforts between Wilderness Safaris, Wilderness Wildlife Trust, Botswana's Department of Wildlife (DWNP) and the Botswana Government have realised a dream with the successful reintroduction of black and white rhino into the Mombo area of the Moremi Game Reserve and elsewhere in the Okavango Delta. Remove that last sentence.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BOTSWANA ROAN HABITAT RESEARCH*Researcher: Carl Havemann*

The ecology of roan antelope in northern Botswana is largely unknown despite the apparent abundance of this otherwise rare species within the region. This project aims to investigate roan antelope ecology, focusing on determination of numbers, home range size, and seasonal changes in both habitat utilisation and foraging behaviour. The results from this project will provide valuable data regarding roan antelope ecology that could be used to assist in the management of small/declining roan antelope populations in other areas.

The project on roan antelope in the Linyanti Concession (NG15) of northern Botswana started in December 2010 and three adult female roan antelope have been successfully collared.

Both direct and indirect methods are currently being used to determine roan abundance within the Linyanti Concession. Track counts along three line transects and around six pans distributed throughout the concession form part of the indirect methodology and are sampled once a week. Facial photography of roan antelope for individual recognition has proven to be very successful and we have currently identified 25 different individuals within the concession using this method. These photographs will be collated into distinct sampling events and used in a mark-recapture analytical framework as a direct method to estimate the abundance of roan.

Over 2011, we established a good database containing information about the movement patterns, habitat use and feeding data of this antelope species. The collared females are only followed once a week due to their skittish behaviour. GPS points downloaded from the collars are randomly selected and vegetation plots are conducted at these points. This data provides us with information regarding the grass composition and habitat types utilised by roan antelope. Due to the elusive nature of this antelope species, direct observation is often difficult. The feeding ecology of the roan will therefore be determined primarily by stable carbon isotope analysis of faeces. To date, a sizeable collection of scat has been obtained from roan throughout the concession.

The project will continue with fieldwork until December 2012. All collars will be removed at the end of the study and full-time data analysis and write-up will commence in 2013.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BOTSWANA SABLE RESEARCH*Researcher: Michael Hensman*

The study assessed food requirements and established home range and habitat use of sable antelope in the Kwedi Concession. Several discoveries were made, including several grass and browse species that have rarely if ever been documented as being in the diet of sable.

A particularly interesting finding was the use sable made of the floodplains. The seasonal fluctuations of flooding in the Delta have been linked to primary productivity – water typically covers the floodplain grasslands downstream of the Panhandle between February and August, limiting the area available for foraging; grass regrowth is induced soon after as the floodwaters begin to recede. The green grass regrowth could potentially alleviate nutritional stress for herbivores between August and November as the dry season progresses.

With this in mind, the Kwedi sable herds were expected to forage more on the floodplains during August to November with its abundance of green palatable grass. Contrary to expectations, they spent about half as much time (19% vs. 35% of GPS locations) during this period than during December and January and even less during August (13% of GPS locations) when the floodplains were still partially flooded.

The sable herds seemed to be faced with the problem of how much time to spend on the floodplains during the dry season. If they foraged entirely there, they increased the risk of competition and predation but if they fed entirely in the uplands, they increased the risk of starvation, particularly towards the end of the late dry season when grass there is dry. Between August and November the sable utilised the floodplains just enough to delay starvation, as indicated by faecal nitrogen and phosphorus levels, utilising the uplands for the remainder of the period to find shade and to avoid predation and competition on the floodplain.

There are two possible explanations for this. The first is that after the rains when green grass and water became available across the landscape, competitors and predators dispersed into the uplands thereby reducing the risk of predation on the floodplains. Sable then had an opportunity to use the floodplain with reduced predation risk. The second is that sable in the Kwedi calved between late-January and mid-March and their demand for high quality resources a few weeks prior to calving may have drawn them to the floodplains despite the predation risk there.

The floodplains in the Kwedi Concession could constitute an important key resource area for sable antelope facilitating the survival of the species in an otherwise arid region through the extended dry season.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BOTSWANA WILDLIFE RESEARCH – INCREASING CAPACITY

Coordinator: Kai Collins

The research capacity within private concession areas in northern Botswana has been increased by hosting and funding researchers and research that addresses questions of national and international importance in the fields of ecology, community and endangered species protection.

Three research tents were constructed in 2009, and three dedicated research vehicles were acquired for use in conjunction with the research tents, funded by The Leading Travel Companies Conservation Foundation. The research vehicles have been built for rugged fieldwork and driving in extremely harsh conditions and are maintained by the mechanic teams in the tourist camps closest to the particular research base. The Mombo research unit uses 100% renewable energy, being powered off photovoltaic solar panels, inverter and batteries as well as solar water heating. The other two research bases currently have solar water heating.

A number of research projects are currently benefiting from the research units and facilities associated with them. One of the major benefits is the logistical support provided by the Wilderness Safaris camps, including food, access to vehicle workshop and mechanics, and logistical support, allowing researchers to operate in such remote areas.

Currently the new research tents and research vehicles are being very well utilised. During the course of 2011, these facilities hosted research projects including the Roan Habitat Project, Lion Genetics Project, Rhino Relocation and Reintroduction Project, Elephants Without Borders, Okavango Biodiversity Project and the Okavango-Kalahari Wild Dog Research Project.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

CAPRIVI SPOTTED HYAENA PROJECT*Researcher: Lise Hanssen*

The focus for 2011 was to collect supporting data to be able to advocate the removal of spotted hyaena from the trophy hunting quota for Namibia's Bwabwata National Park (BNP). The complex population dynamics of this species makes them a poor candidate for consumptive utilisation.

The study area covered approximately 2 000km² between the Kwando River and the settlement of Chetto, situated approximately 90km west of the Kwando River. Bait and infrared remote cameras were set up in five locations between July and December 2011. The sites were checked for spoor, and photos from the cameras were downloaded every two days. With the assistance of Khwe trackers, all known tracks and pans were monitored for spoor and latrines. Only one bait site at Weyaxa Pan was successful for spotted hyaena where a single subadult male was the only visitor.

The results (Table 1) indicate that there are no permanent clans of spotted hyaena in the interior of BNP. This is most likely due to the lack of water in the late dry season, which affects prey density. However, this is an important area for migrant males and commuting hyaena originating from the core areas. With a density of less than 0.1 hyaena per 100km², removal of individuals will impact significantly on core area hyaena as well as clans in neighbouring countries.

The results ensured that, in November 2011, the Kyaramacan Association (Park Residents Association) formally requested that spotted hyaena be removed from the hunting quota for BNP.

BAITING AREA	BAITING PERIOD	OUTCOME (INFRA-RED PHOTOS)	SPOTTED HYAENA SPOOR	LATRINE PRESENCE
Xamtco//ana Pan	1 month	1 x leopard	2 x spotted hyaena on one occasion	No
Weyaxa Pan	2 months	1 x leopard 1 x spotted hyaena 1 x wild dog	1 x spotted hyaena throughout baiting period	No
Guixa Pan	1.5 months	2 x domestic dogs	2 x spotted hyaena on one occasion	No
Core Area Cutline	2 weeks	3 x domestic dogs	1 x spotted hyaena on one occasion	No
Mukwanyati (In Core Area)	2 weeks	–	1 x spotted hyaena on one occasion	Yes

Table 1: Results of baiting, infrared, tracking and locating latrines to identify hyaena presence in BNP.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

**CENTRAL KALAHARI WILD DOG
RESEARCH**

Researchers: Botilo Tshimologo & Dr Glyn Maude



The Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) Wild Dog Research Project had a varied year over 2011.

Although there are still occasional sightings, wild dog presence in the northern CKGR is very limited, with known packs living on the boundary of the reserve having been decimated by stock farmers. This sadly includes the secondary study pack; the main study pack died off. With approximately less than 20% of the wild dogs we knew of two years ago alive today, we conclude that persecution of wild dogs is a serious threat to the long-term population viability of wild dogs in the area.

It seems unlikely that, with such high levels of persecution in the area, existing populations have survived without significant influx of individuals into the area from elsewhere. It is possible that during the present wet season, wild dogs may move into the northern CKGR from northern Botswana via the Motopi region and Sehitwa, but there is no evidence of this. We have, therefore, put a satellite collar onto a pack of seven adults and six pups living in the Motopi region, with the aim of learning more about dispersal of wild dogs into the CKGR from the north. We still have a VHF collar on a small pack of two adults and two pups (the other seven were shot) and aim to try to place a satellite collar on them too so as to continue to monitor this pack. Over the next 12 months, we hope to learn more about possible corridor routes and mechanisms through which wild dogs move in the region.

In 2012 a widespread survey of farmers will be undertaken to increase our knowledge of wild dog/farmer related issues. We have already had some success in communicating with farmers to try and reduce the number of dogs being shot and we intend to increase this aspect of the project.

In March 2012 a 1 500km wild dog spoor survey will be done throughout the CKGR/Khutse and on the boundaries as well as deploying camera traps across the Kalahari to help gain a greater understanding of wild dog distributions and densities. MSc student Botilo Tshimologo has almost completed his fieldwork and will write up his research during the year.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

CETACEANS OF GREATER DYER ISLAND*Researcher: Katja Vinding Petersen*

The project aims to monitor the distribution, habitat use and behaviour of cetaceans in the Greater Dyer Island area, Western Cape, South Africa.

Historic data (2000-2012) from the local whale-watching boat from Dyer Island Cruises reveal that the main whale and dolphin species in the area are: Southern right whale (*Eubalaena australis*), Humpback whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), Bryde's whale (*Balaenoptera edeni*), Indo-pacific humpback dolphin (*Sousa chinensis*), Common dolphin (*Delphinus delphis*) and Indo-pacific bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops aduncus*).

An article based on this data will be submitted to an international journal in 2012, focusing on species, GPS positions, group compositions and behaviour. This data has been found to be reliable and provides evidence of the distribution, seasonality and home range of the six cetacean species.

The process of analysing the ID photos taken from the boat has begun, the objective being to determine the quality and consistency of the photos, which potentially can be utilised for identification of individual whales and dolphins. An important step was the establishment of two main land-based theodolite tracking stations that enabled the researcher to track and obtain knowledge of the cetaceans: time spent in the area, site preference and behaviour patterns.

As part of the Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM) method, a pilot study was carried out in cooperation with the Danish Environmental Institute, where a specially-designed underwater sound recorder (a "Loggerhead") was tested. The results provide the baseline for the future setup when the Loggerhead will be mounted on the seafloor during extended time periods. So far, sound recordings of humpback dolphins have been obtained, which is a first for this area of South Africa.

A programme has been established as well where volunteers were trained in data collection, entry and analysis. During off-sea days, volunteers were involved in cropping and matching of archive ID photos, entering data from the theodolite tracking and checking archive data.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

ELEPHANTS WITHOUT BORDERS

Researchers: Dr Michael Chase & Kelly Landen

During the 1970s, elephant were rarely seen in the Okavango Delta, but in the early 1980s, their occurrence began to increase, an event that seems to be connected with the increase in permanent waters in the Delta. Concurrently, this growth in elephant numbers appears to have been followed by a decline in woodland density; many mature woodlands are being drowned by high waters and, together with heavy elephant browsing, this has resulted in increased pressure.

Elephants Without Borders began a study entitled “Ecology of elephants on Chief’s Island in the Okavango Delta, Botswana” which aims to improve understanding of the spatial ecology and habitat use of elephants within the Okavango Delta. Specifically, the aim is to provide reliable information on the role of elephants on the vegetation in the region and to determine how much of the structural and compositional change of Chief Island’s tree community is attributed to elephants and how much may be attributed to other herbivores, fires and/or climate change. The research also looks at how elephants affect the density and diversity of other wildlife species.

Several elephant have been collared with satellite telemetry collars on Chief’s Island in the Mombo Concession – and made possible by various Trust donors: Jeff Neu, Iva Spitzer, and Madeleine and Jerry Delman-Cohen. By receiving hourly readings of their locations, the elephants have provided significant data on habitat use. Unlike other elephants in the Delta region, two have revealed limited, small home ranges throughout the seasons and remain on or in close proximity to Chief’s Island. Two others, collared in 2010, have remained faithful to the Savute Channel/ Linyanti areas.

In combination with monitoring elephant herd movements and their duration on Chief’s Island, assessing the wildlife populations and proposed vegetation studies, it is hoped that the project will be able to provide information critical for land-use planning and habitat protection for the elephant and the woodlands.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

**GIRAFFE CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION***Coordinator: Dr Julian Fenessy*

In early July 2011, the Giraffe Conservation Foundation together with the IUCN International Giraffe Working Group and the Namibia Nature Foundation as in-country host organised the world's first-ever Wild Giraffe Conference in Namibia. "Giraffe Indaba: The forgotten Megafauna" attracted over 30 delegates from 11 countries.

The morning sessions of the conference included fascinating presentations and posters covering a breadth of topics, from poaching proliferation and lion predation, and ecological, social and gender issues to the very latest in computer-assisted identification software and methodology. These were followed by interactive workshop sessions on taxonomy, genetics and research technology in the afternoons. The highlight was the final day's workshop session on developing a conservation management strategy framework for giraffe. The resulting document is in its final draft stage and will be published shortly.

It was abundantly clear from the conclusions and the workshop sessions that there remain a worryingly large number of questions about giraffe research and conservation management still unanswered. Mainly, it would seem, because in many cases the questions have never been raised before and giraffe have simply been 'forgotten'! With giraffe numbers across the continent estimated below 80 000 – down from some 140 000 at the turn of the century – there is a clear requirement to reverse, or at least halt, this alarming decline.

By virtue of its cooperative and inclusive nature, all of the delegates left inspired and motivated by the tone and outcome of the conference, assured they are working towards a common goal with a group of newfound friends, though intensely aware that there remains an enormous amount to be done.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

**GIRAFFE SOCIAL ORGANISATION
STUDY – ETOSHA***Researchers: John & Kerry Carter*

2011 research findings have revealed that giraffe do not associate randomly with other giraffe as previously thought, and there is a definite structure to their associations. Females in the study site showed preferred/avoided associations with other females, but males did not show preferences with other males. Therefore females are forming non-random associations with other females, whereas males are not exhibiting this pattern. This confirms the role of females in determining the basic social structure in giraffe populations and suggests that male giraffe organise their movements around the female social structure, rather than create one themselves.

In 2011, 10 microsatellite genetic markers were isolated from giraffe tissue DNA collected from Etosha giraffe, to be published and made available to the giraffe community during 2012. Importantly, these markers have been able to show us that female giraffe tend to associate more with related females (when available) than with non-related females. However, like humans, they have many relationships that are not just confined to relatives.

We have also found that once the wet season arrives, the size of giraffe groups and the number of associates per individual change notably, suggesting an easing of resource competition at this time. At this productive period, vegetation produces more growth (which is of higher quality), so that giraffe may be able to spend less time feeding and more time socialising during this time – which explains the increased social behaviour we saw in large groups during the wet season. In the dry season, due to decreased resource availability, female giraffe do not have as many female associates, they don't associate as strongly with them, and they forage in smaller groups and forage further apart. Therefore it is clear that sociality is significantly affected by seasonal resource availability and appears to be closely tied to rainfall events.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

GREATER LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER CONSERVATION AREA (GLTCA) WILD DOG PROJECT

Researcher: Dr Rosemary Groom



This project continues to investigate the abundance, distribution, conservation status and trans-border movements of endangered African wild dogs in Gonarezhou National Park, Zimbabwe.

It was a busy field season in 2011 with good progress in our conservation objectives. More faecal samples were collected for genetic analyses and good progress was made with the photographic matching project, which was a major objective for 2011. Our understanding of the lion and wild dog population in the Gonarezhou National Park increased significantly, and a photographic database of over 50 wild dogs was built.

Unfortunately, we were unsuccessful in our attempts to collar wild dogs.

Head tracker Rueben Bote and I spent many weeks in the Park trying to find dogs and on the rare occasion that we were successful, we had to approach on foot with no opportunities for darting. We knew it would be a challenge to get the collars on, and although we are disappointed to have failed, we are continuing in our efforts in 2012. We did however manage to fit three collars onto lion, as the start of a full-time lion project in Gonarezhou; these are providing us with valuable information already, particularly regarding the conflict on the Park boundary.

Unfortunately, the wild dog that was collared in August 2010 was found dead in a snare in July 2011. She had been collared in the south of the Park, but a few weeks before her death, she had dispersed with the collar providing extremely interesting and valuable information about dispersal. Sadly, she was killed 200 metres from the border, when she was apparently on her way into Mozambique. Such incidents highlight the law enforcement issues along the Park's boundary with Mozambique and we will be putting effort into tackling these in the forthcoming years.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

**GREATER LIMPOPO TRANSBOUNDARY
BUFFALO MOVEMENTS***Researcher: Erika Pretorius*

The aim of this project is the classification and mapping of the estimated spatial and temporal characteristics of grazing resource distribution as one of the drivers of buffalo movements in the northern Pafuri region of the Kruger National Park. The analysis is being based on in-situ data collections, existing environmental data and satellite imagery.

Four field visits associated with different periods of the hydrological cycle have been completed. A total of 33 sites were identified utilising ocular estimates along with 2009 Geo-corrected Spot Imagery for the area as well as available vector data on vegetation zones and land types. Each site had to be homogeneous in nature and accessible from a road. Where necessary, adjustments to site locations were made once in the field. Field observations were recorded using a fieldwork proforma and supporting photographic evidence (see below). Multispectral Spot Imagery that corresponds with the time of the in-situ observations has been obtained, with the exception of the high rainfall period during summer. Available environmental data includes, amongst others, vector data layers on soil, land types, eco-zones and topographic data.

This research project now enters the image analysis phase during which the relationship between vegetation structure and different vegetation indices derived from satellite imagery will be examined. The aim is to apply supervised sub-classification using SPOT 5 multispectral satellite imagery until each of these sub-classes represents a homogeneous area from where a reasonable correlation with the quantity of grazing resources can be established. Due to the impact of factors like tree canopy cover and soil moisture on reflectance values when analysing satellite imagery, this correlation is expected to differ spatially and seasonally between sub-classes.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

GROUND PANGOLIN ECOLOGY STUDY*Researcher: Darren Pietersen*

This study aims to assess the ecology and physiology of ground pangolins (*Smutsia temminckii*) in the western parts of South Africa. Part of this research aims to determine the home range size of this species, and is the first project to look at this species in an arid environment.

Our studies have indicated that pangolins in the Kalahari have the largest home ranges of any population that has been studied to date. Our data also indicate that pangolins are able to move vast distances without maintaining a fixed home range. Two reasons for these movements have been identified: Firstly, young animals reaching sexual maturity have a tendency to travel long distances in search of a vacant area in which to establish their home range. From our limited data, these animals can travel in excess of 60km from their natal areas before establishing a home range. The second phenomenon has been displayed by young, sexually mature males. These males show a tendency to 'float', that is, to roam across a wide area without a fixed home range and traversing the home ranges of numerous territorial males and females. Although we are unsure at present for how long these males remain floaters, we surmise that it may be in the order of a couple of years. Of the males that we have been able to track with VHF telemetry, one covered 80km in two weeks before being lost, and a second travelled 38km in three weeks before the transmitter had to be removed.

Due to the vast distances that young animals travel, and to get a better idea of their movements, we are in the process of purchasing two GSM (cell phone) transmitters that will be attached to young animals and will enable us to more accurately monitor these animals' movements for longer periods of time.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

**HARTMANN'S MOUNTAIN ZEBRA
CONSERVATION PROJECT***Researchers: Jeff Muntifering & Dr Tara Harris*

This study constitutes a habitat assessment of key conservation management areas for Hartmann's mountain zebra (*Equus zebra hartmannae*).

In late 2011, a previous study was expanded by collaring an additional four Hartmann's mountain zebra (one stallion, one bachelor male and two mares) by helicopter in the Palmwag Concession, increasing the total count of collared animals to seven individuals. The aim was to extend the study sample to include the zebras using the more arid, western gravel plains and to test new satellite collar technology as opposed to the previously deployed GPS-UHF devices.

Data was downloaded and summarised between 20 November 2011 and 3 January 2012. A total of 2 537 locations have been recorded every three hours daily. Preliminary analysis revealed the average daily elevation occupied by the collared zebras ranged between 776 and 1 308 metres. Individuals appeared to ascend in the late afternoons and descend around dawn, reaching their minimum elevation range around midday. Field experience confirms that this is when the zebra move to drink at ephemeral springs typically located in riverbeds. The evening migrations to higher elevations may reflect anti-predatory behaviour by avoiding areas traversed by lions at night, their prime hunting period.

The average distance covered per day ranged between 450 and 780 metres with a maximum of 5km. Interestingly, the two mares moved much less than the males and although Stallion SAT167 moved by far the greatest distance from his capture location (roughly 55km when he crossed over the Grootberg Range on his migration east following the early rains), the total distance covered by each individual was not much different. Mare SAT169 was clearly ranging along the veterinary fence, maybe trying to cross to the south. In past drought periods, hundreds of Hartmann's zebra died trying to cross the fence heading south, presumably to try to reach grazing and water.

The satellite collar data will continue to be downloaded and maps produced for distribution to MET as well as the surrounding conservancies twice per year, to assist with management planning efforts and better understand how Hartmann's zebra use the arid, rugged landscape.



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

KAFUE LION PROJECT*Researcher: Neil Midlane*

The Kafue Lion Project enjoyed a productive second season of field operations, where a number of surveys conducted in the 2010 season were extended, thus building on our understanding of lion distribution, and the factors driving it, within Zambia's Kafue National Park. The use of GPS collars to track and record lion movements allowed us to identify potential threats to these individuals and their prides. Unfortunately, two of the three males collared in 2010 were not seen in 2011, and we observed new coalitions in the ranges previously occupied by the collared animals. Whether the previous incumbents were ousted through natural takeovers, or died from an anthropogenic cause, we will unfortunately never know.



During the 2011 field season, we deployed eight new GPS collars, four of them replacing existing ones, and four placed on 'new' lions. These new collars use a satellite phone network to send regular GPS fixes, providing updates directly from the field on the animals' whereabouts. This technology should enable us to locate the animals and identify the causes of mortality, should this be necessary.



At the outset of the project, we identified poaching as one of a suite of potential threats to Kafue's lions, and during our work in 2011 we observed or were informed of seven lions carrying wire snares. The affected lions were immobilised and treated where possible, but some individuals could not be relocated after an initial sighting. The fate of these animals, and potentially many more that go undetected, is almost certainly one of a slow and painful death. This is further compounded by the reduction in available prey through the illegal snaring of animals for bushmeat; we suspect that this activity may pose the single biggest threat to Kafue's lions.

A major focus of the project in 2012 will be the collection of data to support this theory, thus allowing us to work with the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA) and other stakeholders on designing management interventions to combat this threat.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

KUNENE RHINO CONSERVATION PROJECT*Coordinator: Simson Uri-Khob*

The overall aim of the project (November 2010–October 2011) was to enhance the security of the desert-adapted black rhino within the Kunene area, aid in the monitoring efforts of Save the Rhino Trust (SRT), and to deliver outreach and training to neighbouring “Custodian” community conservancies.

Over eight months, all four of SRT’s tracking teams were deployed, and Community Game Guards (CGGs) trained and audited. Further activities included the attendance of Simson Uri-Khob at various meetings as a representative of SRT and delivering presentations to prospective donors and various other groups. All field data from rhino identification forms and field patrol reports were checked and verified, the data put into the database each month during the reporting period.

All SRT’s tracking teams were involved in a joint capture operation with Namibia’s Ministry of Environment and Tourism (MET) in March 2011, where 32 animals were immobilised, some fitted with tracking devices and then translocated. The animals would not have been found so easily had SRT’s trackers not had such an intimate knowledge of the six ecozones involved and of the individual animals.

During the reporting period, a total of 5 637km was travelled during 17 night-time patrols in key areas. These high ‘at-risk’ areas are identified by a vulnerability index using a threat score that takes factors such as the proximity of rhino sightings to roads as well as the ruggedness of the terrain into account.

Finally, eight joint ground patrols with MET staff were successful in meeting training needs and improving the monitoring skills of both MET and SRT staff. In addition, a very successful air-to-ground joint exercise with MET was undertaken in July 2011.

Challenges during 2011 included very high rainfall which impacted on monitoring activities, and a poaching incident, the first in 17 years in the Kunene region: SRT’s Southern Team found the carcass of a rhino calf caught in a cable snare with both horns removed.

SRT update: CEO Rudi Loutit retired from SRT as both CEO and Trustee on 15 November 2011. Rudi dedicated most of his working life to conservation and, for the past five years, managed the Trust under difficult circumstances. The Wilderness Wildlife Trust would like to acknowledge the immense contribution made by Rudi over the past years to the conservation of this iconic species.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

**LIMPOPO TRANSFRONTIER
PREDATOR PROJECT***Researchers: Kristoffer & Leah A. Everatt*

This project has been surveying an area where critical baseline data for predators such as cheetah, lion and wild dog are lacking – the Limpopo National Park (LNP) in Mozambique, which forms part of the Greater Limpopo Transfrontier Conservation Area with Zimbabwe and South Africa.

In September 2011, a 50km x 80km study area was plotted in the centre of the Park, between the Kruger National Park border and the Limpopo River. This area contains some key wildlife areas and two villages. 43 camera stations were then established and repeat track, scat and prey count transects systematically conducted, resulting in substantial data on carnivore occurrence and distribution. The use of camera traps has provided abundant photographic data on leopard, spotted hyaena, lion, cheetah and meso-carnivores.

We have narrowed down four small lion prides, ranging from two to seven individuals, based on minimum counts obtained from camera trap data. Two of the prides are centred along the Kruger Park border and two are located in the central sandveld. Unfortunately human/lion conflict is prevalent here, and we have documented two lions killed by villagers and two others with snares around their necks.

We have yet to find evidence of wild dog in the study area, nor have there been any sightings of wild dog reported in the park for the last two years. While we are hopeful that they may be present there is concern that snaring, which is common here, may be drastically impacting on the species.

The scat detector dog has proven his proficiency at finding cheetah and lion scats and found the first sign of cheetah. The combination of scat, track and photo data have shown cheetah to occur across the majority of the sandveld region. Photographic data obtained from camera traps has provided a minimum count of eight individual cheetah, including one pregnant female and one with cubs. This is especially exciting considering that it is the first concrete evidence of a resident cheetah population in Mozambique!



RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

MAKGADIKGADI BROWN HYAENA RESEARCH PROJECT

Researchers: Viyanna Leo & Dr Glyn Maude



This project, taking place in the Makgadikgadi and Nxai Pans National Park and surrounding area aims to determine brown hyaena genetics, social organisation and to help in their overall conservation. Since the commencement of research, we have succeeded in erecting a fully functional research base. The site chosen had been a research base for over ten years; however as it had been unused for a while, it took considerable time to renovate the area to make it appropriate to work from.



In September our first darting session led to the successful collaring of two large brown hyaena males. Both males were fitted with GPS satellite collars supplying us with their exact GPS locations. This not only enables us to locate them but also to analyse interactions of the brown hyaenas by overlaying the GPS points onto a map.

During the darting session while the hyaena were tranquilised, tissue, blood and hair samples were taken for DNA studies. These samples will allow us to determine the relatedness of individual hyaenas within clans. The University of Sydney Australia will be providing laboratory access for genetic sampling.



The two males, since named Rumble and Enrique, are now slowly becoming habituated to our presence and have led us to our first active den. Infrared camera traps at the den site led to a delightful discovery in late 2011 – footage of three six-month-old cubs inspecting these strange devices. We have now identified at least seven different individuals in the area.

As brown hyaena are nocturnal, following them begins just before sunset and ends at sunrise. During follows, scent-marking locations are recorded as well as samples taken. Any interesting behaviour or interactions are also noted.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

MAKULEKE TRANSBOUNDARY ELEPHANT MOVEMENTS

Researchers: Dr Steve Henley, Dr Michelle Henley & Chris Roche

This project's aim is firstly to establish where the elephants that occur in the far northern Kruger National Park (KNP) in the dry winter months move to when the rains come in the summer. Secondly, to determine if there is any linkage between this elephant population and that of southern Gonarezhou National Park (GNP), and if so, what route elephants follow when moving across the more than 20km of densely settled communal lands that separate the two Parks.

With 12 collars being fitted to elephants in 2008-2009, the project is currently tracking the movements of six adult cows and six bulls from the Pafuri region. Of these, one bull and one cow have moved between the two National Parks. The other elephants have remained within KNP or moved between here and Limpopo NP in Mozambique.

In addition to the data provided by the collars, we are also comparing sightings records from both locations to determine the degree to which the broader populations may be mixing. Using individually distinctive features, such as nicks and tears in the ears, a register of known individuals has been developed in the Pafuri region, largely with data collected by Wilderness Safaris guides. There are currently 86 identified elephant bulls and 10 herds (unlike bulls, cows and immature animals move in relatively stable family groups and so this is the unit of identification).



Similar data have been collected in southern GNP when searching for resightings of the Pafuri elephants. As previous experience had highlighted the difficulty in gathering usable photographs of elephants in this area (the bush is dense, road network limited and elephants relatively shy), in March 2011 we placed 11 camera traps in the GNP to collect photographs by day and night independent of an observer. These were placed at waterholes and along game paths and substantially improved the number of sightings: 48 trap days provided usable photographs of 16 elephant groups.

The original plan for this project called for at least two full years of data collection, and we are currently in the process of analysing the data from this initial phase. However, the project has generated significant preliminary findings, and thus plans to continue. Additional funding for the identification study in Pafuri has been secured through a new US Fish and Wildlife Service grant. Wilderness Wildlife Trust and Save the Elephants are working to secure funds to replace some of the collars which are at the end of their functional lifespan.



The main aim of this study is to develop a baseline monitoring programme for wetland ecosystem condition and water quality monitoring by using aquatic invertebrate biodiversity as indicators. This baseline data for aquatic invertebrate biodiversity will be collected across various pristine sites in the Okavango Delta and Linyanti systems. This data will also form part of a collaboration between the Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission (OKACOM) and the Southern Africa Regional Environmental Programme (SAREP).

Objectives include developing typical baseline aquatic invertebrate biodiversity indicators for the various habitat types within pristine areas of the Okavango Delta; using these baselines to compare with a long-term biodiversity monitoring programme in order to be able to identify any changes or imbalances in the system; and refining the Okavango Assessment System (OKASS) bio-monitoring index developed during the Water Research Fund for Southern Africa (WARFSA) project.

The sampling protocol is a rapid, field-based method that is largely based on family-level identifications of aquatic macro-invertebrates. It provides qualitative data on aquatic macro-invertebrates for the sampled habitat, e.g. marginal vegetation in current (i.e. in a flowing channel) or marginal vegetation out of current (i.e. a lagoon or slack water). A sampling net is used to sweep the vegetation to dislodge the attached organisms, which are then collected in the net. The nets are then rinsed out, all specimens collected and sorted by family and preserved in alcohol. The steps in the sampling protocol are followed as per the methodology outlined in the OKASS bio-monitoring index document.

The anticipated project outputs include baseline data that will also hopefully form part of a Master's degree research project, which will then result in scientific paper publication. The baseline data will be used as education material for students at University of Botswana as well as for guides working in the Okavango and Linyanti systems.

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

OKAVANGO-KALAHARI WILD DOG RESEARCH*Researchers: Botilo Tshimologo, Kai Collins & Dr Glyn Maude*

This study compares wild dog packs at two locations within the Okavango Delta Ramsar site with wild dog packs in the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR). Movement and activity data from GPS collars, as well as behavioural observations of wild dog packs in the CKGR are compared with that of wild dogs in the Delta.

During the past year, observations have been carried out on the study packs, focusing on scent-marking behaviour in different habitats and parts of their home range. Several mortalities were observed, mostly pups killed by lion. Several dispersal events were also recorded. Prey transects using distance sampling were carried out in the wet and dry seasons. One faulty GPS collar was replaced and a second one was removed as the data collection period for that pack had been completed. Due to recent advances in technology, the collars are lighter than before which is vital for such a highly mobile species.

Movement has been noted between packs in the northern Okavango and Linyanti region, with both areas close to villages and communal rangeland areas. This is a major cause for concern as rabies can easily spread from domestic dog populations into free-ranging wild dog populations, a significant threat to the species. Preliminary results have showed some surprising and alarming findings with packs moving very close to villages where domestic dogs occur, potentially bringing them into close contact with domestic dogs that might have diseases such as rabies or canine distemper. This project thus has links with Maun Animal Welfare Society, a non-profit organisation that aims to improve the lives of domestic animals by providing free veterinary services and educational programmes in northern Botswana. In the past year, funds were raised for Maun Animal Welfare Society to carry out domestic dog vaccination and sterilisation programmes in the villages closest to the wild dog study pack ranges – it is hoped this will reduce the chances of rabies or distemper coming into contact with the packs.

This study forms part of an MPhil research project being carried out by Botilo Tshimologo, through the University of Botswana's Okavango Research Institute. The project is linked to the Central Kalahari Wild Dog Research Project (pg.14) as both studies compare data.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT
AND EDUCATION

**ZIMBABWE SCHOOLS
REHABILITATION PROGRAMME**

Coordinator: Sue Goatley

In 2008, Children in the Wilderness (CITW) Zimbabwe began running CITW educational camps, with participants from four villages: Ziga, Mpindo, Kapane and Ngamo, all situated on the south-eastern border of the Hwange National Park. But, given the state of the schools and malnutrition of the children, it was decided that, instead of establishing a Follow-up Programme, it would be better off going back to the source and helping the children in their communities and in their schools. From this came the birth of the feeding and school rehabilitation programmes. The feeding programme currently provides around 790 children with a meal a day – this has been essential given the malnourished state of the local community.

A borehole was also sunk at Ziga School with the aim to provide fresh water for the purposes of health, diet and cleanliness. Not only would fresh water keep the children and their teachers hydrated, but it would enhance the feeding scheme currently in progress at the school by watering the “Trench Garden” which in turn allows for healthy growth of vegetables for the wellbeing and nutrition of the children and the local community.

A 4x4 vehicle has been purchased which is dedicated to school visits throughout the year to monitor the students on the scholarship programme. Another important aspect of the vehicle’s use is to provide transport of materials for the feeding programme. This vehicle also provides transport for teacher training workshops and environmental club visits within the district as well as various community programmes in progress.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

KALENGO LIBRARY

Coordinators: Emma Seaman & Robbie Mwale

Kalamu Lagoon Camp is situated in the South Luangwa National Park in the Eastern Province of Zambia. 70% of the staff working in the camp come from the villages around the Park. The majority of these villages fall within the Malama Chiefdom, which comprises 214 households and a population of approximately 1 079 people. Infrastructural development and government support is largely lacking in these villages.

The Kalengo Community School is situated close to Chilekati Village along the border of South Luangwa and services the majority of the children living in the area. Through donations from Wilderness Safaris guests, the Wilderness Trust and Wilderness Safaris Zambia a library was built next to the school, which will service all the villages in the Malama Chiefdom and will provide children in the area with the opportunity to read, study and further their education.



Numerous studies have shown the critical importance of education in terms of conservation and future employment. These rural villages are a long distance from any urban areas and the construction of the library has been welcomed with great enthusiasm and excitement by the villagers. The school and library are in a traditionally very poor area that relies largely on subsistence agriculture, along with the constant threat of elephants raiding crops.

On the 20th of October 2011 the Kalengo Wilderness Community Library was officially opened by Chief Malama of the Malama Village, with a good selection of books and games for younger children, which were all donated generously by the Lusaka Community and Wilderness Safaris guests. The library has been established to institute a solid foundation for improvement of education which we hope will help the community and the South Luangwa area in general.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

WILLIAM KAMKWAMBA COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Coordinator: Lindsay Miller

Kwenje Village is based in the Balaka district, less than two kilometres from Wilderness' Mvuu Lodge and Camp in Liwonde National Park. As a very remote district, the local people have limited access to education, resources and capital. With the assistance of H.E.L.P. Malawi (Hope, Educate, Love and Protect) and Children in the Wilderness, the area has been much improved.

As there are no libraries or educational centres within a four-hour radius of the Balaka district, H.E.L.P. Malawi approached the Wilderness Wildlife Trust in order help fund the completion of a library where all citizens of the area would have access to materials of higher education. These include books in technology, agriculture/permaculture, education, health, and conservation – all of which are useful and practical for this particular community of over 17 000 people. Children who have attended Children in the Wilderness camps are also welcome to make use of the library, furthering their knowledge and skills attained at the programmes.

At the time of writing, the interior shelving and furnishings are completed and the books are in transit – we plan to have all books on the shelves in the next few months. The extended community is very excited about this new addition and is looking forward to the grand opening of the William Kamkwamba Community Library.

With increased and improved education, this will broaden horizons for students and the local people as a whole in the hope to build brighter futures – some using their land and others finding gainful employment with Wilderness or elsewhere. H.E.L.P. Malawi is excited about this new opportunity to allow access to knowledge and resources for the greater community.



COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

EDUCATION BURSARIES

Coordinator: Dr Jennifer Lalley

Recipients: Francis Buhle, Maxine Whitfield, Rorisang Mokoena & Jessica Kavonic

In its continuing efforts to educate the youth of Africa, the Trust's Education Bursaries Programme funds bursaries for students at the post-graduate level in the wildlife and environmental fields. 2011 saw bursaries given to Francis Buhle (Stellenbosch University), Maxine Whitfield (University of Pretoria), Rorisang Mokoena (University of Witwatersrand) and Jessica Kavonic (University of Cape Town).

Rorisang Mokoena is studying the effect of monkey pests on subsistence farmers in rural South Africa. Her project considers the interaction between poverty and biodiversity, specifically subsistence farmers and primate pests. The results of this study can serve to better inform poverty alleviation and conservation strategies implemented in the rural areas of South Africa.

Maxine Whitfield's Honours study looked at whether colour cue learning can improve selectivity and foraging efficiency in amethyst sunbirds (*Chalcomitra amethystina*), effectively adding to the evidence supporting the significance of learning within a foraging environment.

Jessica Kavonic's research dealt with the effect of extreme rainfall events on soil infiltration and the potential effects on terrestrial ecosystems. Her study showed that precipitation is a major determinant for vegetation productivity in the Namaqualand region and that changing rainfall regimes could potentially lead to huge shifts in ecosystem functioning. The results of this study, the complex interactions and the multiple limitation of the study are key considerations for further studies on future climate change and ecosystem responses.

Francis Buhle completed her study investigating the influence of the invasive alien *Opuntia fulgida* on diversity, abundance of indigenous woody plants and soil nutrients, in south-western Zimbabwe. She found that *Opuntia* was indeed detrimental to ecosystems and the environment and proposed that Zimbabwe intervene either by using bio-controls or consider the economic benefits of the species as a way to manage it.



ANTI-POACHING AND MANAGEMENT

HWANGE NETWORKING PROJECT

Coordinator: Dr Herve Fritz

One of the challenges in conservation is communication, not only between scientists and managers, but also between these and other stakeholders able to influence policies and modify practices and values. The Hwange system comprises various stakeholders with different histories, experiences and expectations. The aim of this project, initiated by the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) is to offer to the Hwange community (i.e. Parks and Wildlife Management Authority, traditional leaders, CAMPFIRE-Hwange, research organisations, NGOs and safari operators) the chance to gather around conservation issues on a monthly basis – thus stimulating communications within the system.

There have been seven meetings in the last 10 months, with aims to develop into a more regular monthly meeting routine in the next year. Feedback so far from all the stakeholders has been very positive: from managers, safari operators, traditional and local government authorities as well as researchers.

These meetings have also allowed for better coordination between all parties, especially around issues pertaining to human-wildlife conflict (e.g., a Human-Wildlife Conflict workshop organised in June, where all the chiefs from Hwange District were present).

The stakeholders who attended these meetings at least once alongside the CNRS HERD staff are: Hwange Lion Research, Painted Dog Conservation, National University of Sciences & Technology, Friends of Hwange, Wild Horizons Wildlife Trust, Snare Line, Chief Nelukoba, Headman Bitu, CAMPFIRE Zimbabwe, Police, French Embassy, NPWMA, Forestry Commission, Gwaai ICA representative, Hwange Safari Lodge, The Hide, Ivory Lodge, Sikumi Tree Lodge, and Wilderness Safaris.

While the project has been successful in encouraging most stakeholders to meet, difficulties included making sure these meetings were regular and in achieving the presence of the majority of stakeholders on each occasion. However, as these meetings are developed, it is hoped that all stakeholders will attend at least three meetings a year and that those working closest with wildlife management and conservation will attend six annually.



ANTI-POACHING AND MANAGEMENT

LIWONDE NATIONAL PARK AERIAL CENSUS

Coordinators: Derek Macpherson & Chris Badger

Liwonde National Park (LNP), covering an area of about 55 000 hectares, has undergone six consecutive annual censuses, the last three conducted with near identical methodology. It is hoped that this will result in an increase in reliability of the trends that are noted with respect to populations of those species that are easily counted from the air in Liwonde, notably elephant, buffalo, sable, waterbuck, impala, warthog and hippo.

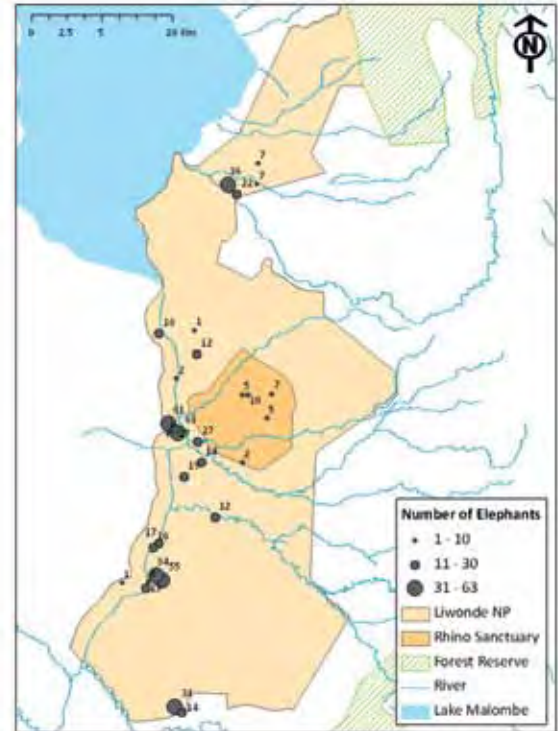
The objectives of the 2011 aerial census were to arrive at a minimum total count for species that can be counted effectively from the air; compare the results of this census with the aerial censuses conducted in previous years; gain a deeper understanding of the distribution of elephant, buffalo and sable in LNP; monitor the extent of human encroachment into the corridor linking Liwonde National Park and Magochi Forest Reserve; evaluate the condition of the boundary fence along the western, southern and eastern boundaries of the Park; evaluate the extent of illicit use of the Park using indicators easily seen from the air whilst conducting the census; and conduct an aerial count of the Rhino Sanctuary for all species.

The census and fence line survey were carried out over four days from 13th to 16th October 2011 before the rains started in earnest and when leaf cover was at a minimum.

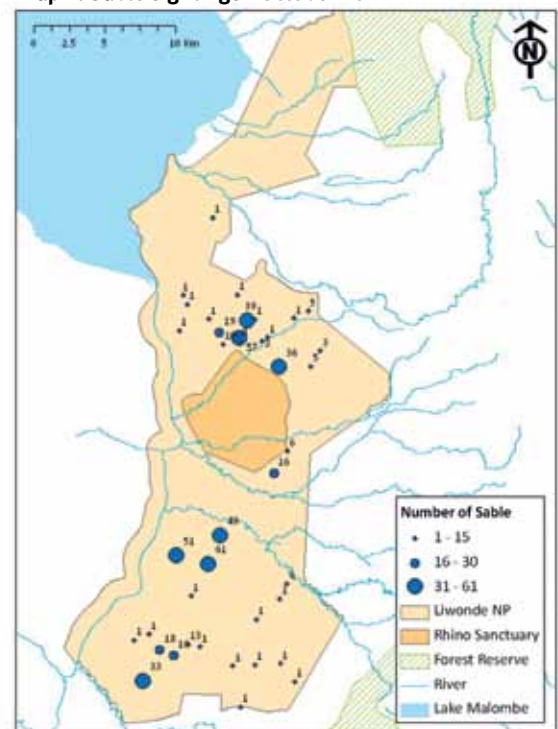
RESULTS

Comparison of the 2010 and 2011 census figures reveal a recorded increase, during the intervening period, in all of the populations of the seven species that are reliably counted from the air in Liwonde National Park, with 35% increases in the elephant population, 45% in the buffalo population, 9% sable, 58% waterbuck, 13% impala, 60% warthog and 71% hippo. Natural recruitment through births cannot account for the majority of these significant increases, and immigration from surrounding areas is not possible (except possibly in the case of elephant from Magochi). Population increases in some cases, therefore, are attributable to near ideal counting conditions. This was certainly the case for hippo, with very clear water in the Shire River during the count. The buffalo population increase is presumed to be due to an influx of some animals from the fenced Sanctuary within the National Park.

Map 1: Elephant sightings - October 2011



Map 2: Sable sightings - October 2011



ANTI-POACHING AND MANAGEMENT

MAUN ANIMAL WELFARE SOCIETY STERIVAC PROGRAMME

Coordinator: Tana Hutchings

Maun Animal Welfare Society (MAWS) is a non-profit organisation that aims to protect Botswana's wildlife through domestic animal care. It is based in Maun on the fringes of the Okavango Delta, and its primary objectives are: to sterilise and vaccinate dogs and cats to reduce the disease risk posed to human and wildlife populations; provide free/subsidised veterinary services to domestic animals belonging to indigent people in Botswana; and encourage responsible domestic animal and livestock ownership through education initiatives.

MAWS welcomes vet volunteers from all over the world who travel to Maun to work with the charity in its Sterivac Programme. Funding is vital as it allows MAWS to conduct outreach clinics, specifically targeting rural areas where villagers live alongside wildlife, bringing vital veterinary care to remote locations and helping to prevent the transmission of rabies and canine distemper – diseases that can decimate wildlife including the endangered African wild dog as well as lion, leopard and cheetah.

During 2011 a total of 48 volunteers performed 2 173 sterilisations and administered 2 390 vaccines in areas throughout northern Botswana including Maun, Mababe, Gweta, Sankuyo, Khwai, Rakops, Shakawe, Seronga, Nxamaseri and others. This is significant progress towards its goal of reducing the unwanted, free-roaming domestic dog population of Maun and its surrounding communities. In doing so it has produced an effective and sustainable model of mobile sterilisation and vaccination for the Northern Ngamiland region of Botswana.

MAWS worked with community members and local chiefs to raise awareness amongst villagers of the value of sterilisation and vaccination. The project has increased the rabies vaccination coverage of the Department of Veterinary Science and has paved the way for acceptance of the programme for domestic dogs, which will significantly reduce the threat of a rabies outbreak, thus aiding in MAWS' goal of controlling the health and welfare of domestic animals so they do not encroach on or infect wildlife populations.

In particular, the Trust would like to thank Dr. Richard and Mrs Barbara Nelson for volunteering their time as well as their donation of equipment and medicines.



ANTI-POACHING AND MANAGEMENT

SOUTH LUANGWA CONSERVATION SOCIETY – ANTI-POACHING SUPPORT

Coordinator: Rachel McRobb



The South Luangwa Conservation Society (SLCS) continued in its goal of decreasing illegal snaring activities through community-based law enforcement, and supporting village scouts in South Luangwa National Park.

As predicted, 2011 presented us with an ongoing battle against snaring – numerous reports of snared animals were received from anti-poaching scouts, safari guides and members of the community.

As the human population in Luangwa continues to rise in concert with the development of the area as a result of tourism, this in turn leads to an increase in the demand for protein-based food in the form of bushmeat, and a subsequent increase in illegal snaring activities.

Large numbers of animals have been targeted and snared; however many non-target animals have been caught as well, such as elephant, lion and giraffe. In total this year, SLCS wildlife rescue teams have immobilised eighteen elephant, two snared giraffe, four lion and many small antelope. Efforts to remove snares and prevent other illegal wildlife activities through SLCS-supported anti-poaching patrols and the collaborative efforts of the Zambia Wildlife Authority (ZAWA), local Community Resource Boards (CRB) and the Zambian Carnivore Programme (ZCP) remain critical to wildlife conservation.

64 long patrols and 152 short/day patrols have been conducted in 2011, 114 suspects apprehended, 485 snares removed from the bush and 56 firearms confiscated. Wet season anti-poaching fly-camps have also been successful in protecting critical portions of the Luangwa and are an ongoing part of our resource protection work.

ANTI-POACHING AND MANAGEMENT

VICTORIA FALLS ANTI-POACHING UNIT

Coordinator: Charles Brightman

Since the unit was founded in 1999, Victoria Falls Anti-Poaching Unit (VFAPU) has removed nearly 21 000 wire snares from the bush, has apprehended over 560 serious offender poachers and has treated and released over 150 mammals that were injured through poaching activities. The unit currently has 16 scouts working seven days a week, patrolling an area of 50 square kilometres surrounding Victoria Falls, as well as large parts of the Zambezi National Park. VFAPU works closely with and in support of the National Parks and Wildlife Management of Zimbabwe in a collective effort to fight poaching in the region.

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS FOR 2011:

SNARES LOCATED: 388

PERSONS APPREHENDED WITHIN NATIONAL PARK ESTATE: 291

13 x mammal poachers, 18 x illegal miners, 152 x wood poachers, 36 x illegal vendors, 7 x illegal entry into park's estate, 1 x drug dealer, 1 x selling game meat illegally, 4 x fish poachers, 1 x smuggler.

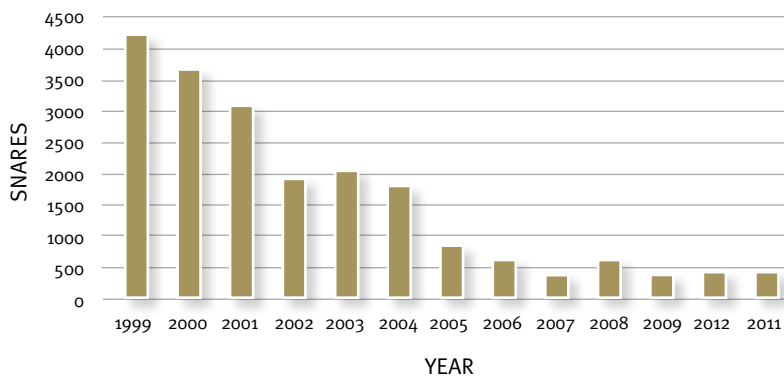
MAMMALS DARTED: 11

4 x warthog, 4 x elephant, 1 x kudu, 2 buffalo.

MAMMALS POACHED: 34

6 x eland, 4 x kudu, 3 x elephant, 1 x hippo, 7 x buffalo, 1 x waterbuck, 4 x warthog, 1 x porcupine, 2 x impala, 1 x sable, 2 x baboon, 1 x spotted hyaena, 1 x bushbuck.

SNARES REMOVED 1999-2011



At the close of another year in our mission to combat poaching, VFAPU thanks all its supporters for their valuable contributions throughout the year. We cannot emphasise enough just how vital it is that we all make a stand together to save our wildlife, not just for us but for the benefit of generations to come.



NEW PROJECTS FOR 2012

The following are projects that were funded in the financial year 2011, but set to run during 2012. Follow-up or final reports on these and all others funded in 2012 will be reported on in the next Annual Report.

CENTRAL KALAHARI WILDEBEEST POPULATION STUDY

The purpose of this project is to assess whether the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (CKGR) can maintain viable numbers of blue wildebeest independent of surrounding areas. This study aims at evaluating the CKGR as a viable habitat patch of a mostly transformed Kalahari landscape for the conservation and management of the declining and vulnerable Botswana blue wildebeest population. Objectives include determining movement patterns and home ranges of wildebeest in the CKGR and neighbouring wildlife management areas (WMAs), looking at factors regulating the population and determining its dietary and habitat selection. To monitor movement patterns of the wildebeest, one female wildebeest in a herd will be immobilised and a satellite collar deployed on it. At least 15 collars will be deployed across the study area in this way, with focus on the core area i.e., the CKGR. The collars will be programmed to record the positions of the wildebeest every 30 minutes for at least two years (which include two dry seasons and two wet seasons).

HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT IN THE OKAVANGO DELTA

The aim of this project is to reduce perceived and actual Human-Elephant Conflict (HEC) through community empowerment in the Okavango Delta panhandle, Botswana. The elephant population in Botswana appears to be increasing and consequently their range is expanding, while the human population is increasing and people are cultivating more and more land. Consequently, increased competition between people and elephants is occurring, particularly where resources such as space, food and water are limited. Many local communities are experiencing an increase in crop raiding, property damage, fear of walking to work/school, and even human deaths as a result of increasing human-elephant coexistence. There is a pressing need to find methods to reduce such conflicts among communities living close to elephants. The Trust funded the first part of this project in villages in the Okavango panhandle in 2010, empowering 25 farmers to protect their own fields from elephant raiding and improve harvest yields. Local community members were employed as enumerators to monitor mitigation trials and lead an active role in the management of HEC. Farmers were enthusiastic to trial this new approach and are keen to continue. This proposed project aims to draw on past project activities, both research and mitigation components, to continue and improve community-based HEC management trials in the Okavango Panhandle.

KWAZULU-NATAL PALAEO-LITHIC VEGETATION RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT

The aim of the study is to assess how grassland, savannah, forest and thicket dynamics at ecotones in KwaZulu-Natal are related to climate, competition, herbivory, and nutrient biogeochemistry at millennial-decadal timescales – specifically during the Palaeolithic Period (approx. 3 million years ago until about 12 000 BCE). One approach to understanding how these complex factors have affected vegetation over time is to study vegetation-climate, herbivory and fire through palaeo-ecological methods. This knowledge may be used by scientists, conservation and development practitioners, to develop biome-specific baselines and targets for ecosystem management in a changing world.

HELP MALAWI – NEW VEHICLE

H.E.L.P. (Hope, Educate, Love and Protect) is a non-profit NGO that is dedicated to sustainable primary education in impoverished African regions. Its model trains community members to become inspiring teachers while improving the level of education in primary schools. However, by the end of 2011, both H.E.L.P. Malawi's vehicles were inoperable and beyond repair. It was thus essential that a reliable vehicle was procured; the Wilderness Trust funded some of the cost for this vehicle and Mvuu Lodge has continued to donate vehicle maintenance and care. With a new vehicle in place H.E.L.P. Malawi will be able to be more effective in transporting supplies to and from the community, income-earning produce from the communities to Mvuu Camp and Lodge, and staff to and from meetings in Lilongwe.

NEW PROJECTS FOR 2012

ZIMBABWE SCHOOLS PROJECT – NUTRITION PROGRAMME FOR JABULANI SCHOOL

Children in the Wilderness Zimbabwe undertook to create feeding schemes in four schools on the outskirts of Hwange National Park; Jabulani Primary School on the outskirts of Victoria Falls town was added to this programme in early 2011. Funds have been committed to feeding the children – and teachers – one meal per every school day for 2012. This will assist in improving the health, diet and wellbeing of the children and teachers at this village school. A vegetable garden, borehole and educating the children on Trench Gardening is also being looked at for Jabulani.



PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2011

RESEARCH AND CONSERVATION

BOTSWANA BATELEUR EAGLE PROJECT

The principal objective was to assess the spatial and temporal distribution of bateleur eagles and determine any negative anthropogenic and natural factors impacting on populations inside and outside conservation areas in Botswana.

CHEETAH NICHE SEGREGATION IN THE OKAVANGO DELTA

Cheetah are negatively influenced by both lion and spotted hyaena, but quantitative evidence of such influence on the behaviour and ecology of cheetah is scarce. This research, in the Okavango Delta in northern Botswana, investigated the spatial and temporal mechanisms that allow cheetah to coexist with the two species.

ECOLOGY OF BUFFALO IN THE OKAVANGO

This study aimed at increasing understanding of the ecology of the African buffalo in the Okavango Delta so that a conservation and management plan for the species can be developed. Buffalo were collared and the information gathered is being written up and submitted as a PhD thesis (by Emily Bennitt) in 2012.

HUMAN-ELEPHANT CONFLICT IN THE OKAVANGO

Information on the ecology and movements of elephants in human-elephant conflict (HEC) 'hotspot' areas of the Okavango's Panhandle was collated, with the goal to assist wildlife managers and farmers in developing practical and effective alternative land-use planning strategies to reduce such conflict in the area. Data included elephant population numbers and structure, movements and migration routes, and habitat utilisation.

KUNENE REGIONAL CONSERVATION STRATEGY

This is a long-term and multifaceted programme run by NGO Round River with a particular emphasis on supporting the development and implementation of synchronised, scientifically informed land management plans for the proposed protected area system in Namibia's Kunene Region.

LINYANTI ELEPHANT AND BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

This project assesses the effect of concentrated elephant impact on biodiversity, by looking at savannah systems over large spatial and long temporal scales. The existence of high resolution (1:10 000) aerial photographs taken in 1992, 2001 and 2010, covering 50km of riparian woodland and 18 years of data, showed exciting results where tree canopy cover declined, shrub canopy cover increased, and the intensity of these changes pointing to possible causes.

MAKULEKE PAN CHARACTERISTICS PROJECT

This study aims to establish how perennial pan characteristics (water quality, surrounding land cover, soil type and degree of human activity) in the Makuleke Wetland System of Kruger National Park influence pan usage by mammals. Field data was collected in 2011 to highlight seasonal discrepancies.

MAKGADIKGADI ZEBRA MIGRATION PROJECT

Initiated from 2001-2005 in response to a plan to fence the Makgadikgadi, it was restarted in 2008 in order to assess what impact, if any, the fence had had on the zebra population within the Makgadikgadi. GPS data from collared adult zebra mares during 2009 and 2010, as well as the detailed sampling of grazing and water resources and behavioural observations, allowed for the analysis of current trends and for a comparison with pre-fence data.

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2011

NAMIBIA CRANE AND WETLAND BIRD CONSERVATION PROJECT

Assessing the small subpopulation of blue crane and its survival within Etosha and the Lake Oponono wetlands showed decreasing numbers, despite conservation efforts, which led to a reassessment of the project and the development of a five-point Blue Crane Action Plan, namely to collate and analyse existing data, determine where the birds are and how they use the landscape; investigate habitat changes and address human impacts and other threats.

NAMIBIA ELEPHANT POPULATION DYNAMICS PROJECT

Over a thousand elephants were photographed from the air for demographic and age determination purposes, with the aim being to record as many elephants as possible in the arid north-western regions of Namibia. 21 elephants were collared with GPS transmitters to allow for accurate follow-up on select herds and provide accurate movement data of these.

OKAVANGO AMPHIBIAN BIODIVERSITY AND CONSERVATION

Using various monitoring techniques, observations of amphibian species occurrence were made at three locations in the Okavango, representing different degrees of isolation over a 20-month period. Breeding indicators were observed and frogs were screened for amphibian chytrid fungus.

SELF-MEDICATIVE BEHAVIOUR IN CHACMA BABOONS

This was the first study to document geophagy in the genus *Papio* since a brief account by Hall, 1965; the findings were presented at the International Primatological Society's Congress in September 2010. Results of statistical analyses on over 1 800 trap camera images at clay sites on Wildcliff Nature Reserve determined preferred soil type and time spent consuming clay by age class, gender and reproductive state.

SHADOW HUNTER PROJECT

The Trust supported this project over many years, and excitingly after all data was analysed, the species is now officially recognised as Namibia's largest endemic carnivore. It is hoped that the information gathered will be valuable in terms of establishing targeted conservation practices and management of Namibia's granite inselbergs through collaboration with local communities.

SPOTTED HYAENA DILEMMA

This project investigated the competition pressure between lion and spotted hyaena in Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe, as well as aimed at quantifying and determining the characteristics of the human-hyaena conflict. The goal is to propose mitigation solutions to limit consequences of this conflict both for humans and hyaena and participate in large carnivore conservation in Africa.

WILDLIFE MIGRATION CORRIDOR STUDY – NORTHERN BOTSWANA

During this study, investigating herbivore distribution and movement patterns within the Okavango Delta, researcher Hattie Bartlam and colleagues discovered a zebra migration that moved between the Delta and the Makgadikgadi National Park, at 580km the second longest intact zebra migration in the world after the Serengeti-Mara migration. The results from this study are relevant for the long-term conservation of the Delta system particularly illustrating the importance of flooding regime on herbivore assemblage patterns in the Delta, through their effect on landscape heterogeneity and resource quality.

ZAMBIA WILD DOG CONSERVATION PROJECT

Intensive studies of African wild dog and lion took place in the Luangwa Valley, Zambia, where minimum estimates of dog populations in the system for 2010 were over 110 adults. Dog presence continued to be documented in previously undescribed areas, the most notable of which was Lukusuzi National Park, the last of the protected areas in the Luangwa and mid-Zambezi valleys to have dogs present – further emphasising the importance of eastern Zambia for wild dog conservation.

PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 2011

ANTI-POACHING AND MANAGEMENT

HWANGE ANTI-POACHING PROJECT

Since 2007, with the aid of a vehicle funded by the Wilderness Wildlife Trust, anti-poaching efforts have been augmented to counteract the large amount of poaching taking place in the south-eastern corner of Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe. In addition, five elephant and one buffalo were successfully immobilised and de-snared.

HWANGE GAME WATER SUPPLY

Wilderness Safaris has been supplying water to the wildlife in the south-eastern section of Hwange National Park since 1997, taking on the responsibility of drilling, pumping and maintaining a number of waterholes in and around the Linkwasha Concession. The Trust supported this project over a number of years, with 2010 being a year of experimentation and change with regards to pumping, including two new windmills arriving to replace diesel engines as well as other experimental pumping systems.

HWANGE RESEARCH COORDINATOR AND ECOLOGIST

Research Coordinator, Jaelle Claypole, established various projects over two years, including monthly rhino monitoring exercises, monthly full moon 24-hour pan counts, road strip counts, spoor transects, assisting with Lion and Leopard Research Projects (run by independent researchers), assessment of game water supply, measurement of borehole depths throughout the season, darting and snare removal, assisting with anti-poaching, vulture counts, and environmental assessments of Wilderness camps.

ZAMBIA POACHER TRANSFORMATION

Threats to wildlife and natural resources caused by food shortage, lack of income and of livelihood skills continue to be a challenge for wildlife conservationists around Luangwa Valley. To address this challenge, two Poacher Transformation Trainings were conducted in Serenje, where 226 poachers were trained by Community Markets for Conservation (COMACO), a Zambian-registered NGO that forms business partnerships with rural communities. As a result, 411 guns and 3 092 snares were collected.

COMMUNITY EMPOWERMENT AND EDUCATION

SIMONGA VILLAGE

From 2000, the Trust helped support The River Club in Zambia in its partnership with the nearby Simonga Village. In the ten years a range of projects in the village were carried out, funded by the generous donations of guests in conjunction with the Trust. Projects focused particularly on assisting children via schooling, and the inhabitants generate an income, therefore helping the entire community.

For previous projects please refer to the website: www.wildernesstrust.com

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO AFRICA

Africa's conservation needs are enormous and in urgent need of money and logistical support. The Trust is therefore grateful for all donations received either for specific projects or those donated in general to be used wherever they are needed most.

THE WILDERNESS TRUST RECEIVES DONATIONS IN A NUMBER OF DIFFERENT WAYS:

1. Wilderness Safaris camp guests regularly donate to a project of their choice.
2. A small percentage is paid by Wilderness Safaris for each guest bednight booked.
3. Fundraising initiatives such as the Wilderness Trust Warmer: In return for a donation of US\$20, guests at Wilderness camps receive this versatile and stylish headwear that is extremely useful for safari. All proceeds accrue to the Trust.
4. Independent donations from concerned individuals or organisations.
5. Via our partner organisation – the Resources First Foundation. This facility, for donations from the USA, is tax-deductible (501c) and levies a small administration fee. Please contact Sandy Cleveland at the Resources First Foundation on scleveland@resourcesfirstfoundation.org or 207-221-2753 for more details.
6. Wilderness staff members are enthusiastic about raising funds for the Trust and CITW – marathons are run and mountain bike rides undertaken all in the name of the Trust.

If you would like to assist us in any of these efforts, please contact Mari dos Santos at marid@wilderness.co.za or telephone +27 11 257 5057. More information can be found on our website at <http://www.wildernesstrust.com/donations>

ABOUT RESOURCES FIRST FOUNDATION:

The Wilderness Safaris Wildlife Trust is supported by the Resources First Foundation (RFF), a non-profit organisation formed to promote and design conservation and education tools and solutions to promote conservation and restoration activities for fish, wildlife and other natural resources primarily on privately owned lands across the United States and in southern Africa. Many community-based and private landowner conservation techniques and policies were first initiated and developed in a number of countries in southern Africa. Because the Foundation's financial resources are relatively small, grants will be made only upon the invitation of the Foundation's officers and board. An area of grant-making focus includes training and education programmes for wildlife professions and innovative wildlife restoration projects (from the tagging of marine turtles to the reintroduction of white rhinoceros). Donations via RFF are tax-deductible in the USA.

HOW YOUR DONATIONS ARE USED

Donors to the Trust have the choice to contribute to the general funds, to be used wherever required, or to a particular theme (Anti-poaching and Management, Research and Conservation or Community Empowerment and Education), project, or even specific part of a project. Since less than 5% is spent on administration costs, donors can be assured of their monies being spent almost completely on their chosen component.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DONORS

Thanks to the generosity of many donors over the past year, we have achieved some notable successes in the conservation of animal and plant species, a furthering of knowledge of ecosystems and the ongoing engagement of neighbouring communities. We would like to thank all our donors in this regard.

The Trust is dependent on funds donated by individuals and we applaud those committed individuals who have undertaken to raise funds of their own accord. Such people include many who have cycled, run or walked for our conservation and community projects.

UNDER \$5000

Amy Hayes	Kate Doty – Geographic Expeditions
Amy Kales	Kelly Shea
Anna S. Friedman	Kim Meecham in memory of Robert Charles Meecham – Geographic Expeditions
Atlas Branding & Design, Inc.	Leslee Hall
Barbara Nelson	Linda Dawe
Barbara Regan	Linda Ellis
Carol Simons	Mary Ann MacDonald
Carolyn Bond	Mary Bransfield
David Bruck	Michael Fredericks
Deborah Reynolds – via Wilson B. Reynolds and Juanita E. Reynolds Fund of Minnesota Community Foundation	Michael and Linda Salzberg
Donald and Rene Pizzo	Nancy Lund
Dr. Richard and Mrs Barbara Nelson – Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund	Norman Pieters – Karell Travel
Ellen R. Roth	Otto Werdmuller
Friends of the Topeka Zoo, Inc.	Peter and Cathy Ridder
Galileo Planning, Inc.	Peter Lemon – Peregrine
Game Plan, Michigan	RJ Marnitz
Geographic Expeditions	Russel Friedman
Georges Sayegh	Sandy Dennis
Gerhard and Irene Lechner	Sara E. Sheppard
Global Travel Marketing, Inc.	Sarah Crane
Janice Ferguson	Scott Lowe and Ginger Lowe
Jennifer D'Oli	Taicoa Corp
Joan Steuer	Trevor Gee
Joel Mintz and Meri-Jane Rochelson	United Jewish Appeal Federation of Jewish Philanthropies
John and Carol Davidson	WildlifeCampus
Julie Kohl	William and Margee Bracken
Julie S. McDermid	William Marks – In honour of Drs Moreno and Morris, NJ physicians

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DONORS

OVER \$5000

Buynary Digital	Robert and Shirley Sanderson
Foster Bam	SATIB
Iva Spitzer	Stephen and Brennan Rimer – Journeys Unforgettable
Jeffrey Neu – River Terminal Development Co.	The Tiffany & Co foundation
Madeleine Delman Cohen and Jerome Cohen – Delman Trust	Tina and Kevin Willens
Paul Swart – Natural Migrations	Truist – On behalf of Trevor J. Gee
Pierre and Margaret Faber – Classic Africa	

TRACY BAMBER – SPONSORS FOR COMRADES MARATHON

Ami Azoulay	Julian Harrison – Premier Tours
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Anke Patterson	Keith and Maureen Vincent
Anke Schaffelhuber	Lesley Bellus Kilman – Bellus Public Relations, LLC
Beverly Leitch	MalaMala
Bruce Simpson	Malcolm McCulloch
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Claire Griffin – Grifco	Paul Swart – Natural Migrations
Claudio Nauli – Private Safaris	Philippa and Hilton Kort
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Dave van Smeerdijk	Roberto Viviani
Derek de la Harpe	Russel Friedman
Emma de Leiburne	Sally-Anne Follet-Smith
Expert Africa	Simon Collier
Francis Antrobus	Simon Stobbs
Hanspeter Zeier – African Collection	Steve Cameron – AWS
James Ramsay	Ute Latzke
Joost Tania Thika	Vee Thompson – Game Plan Africa

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DONORS



A rather wonderful sign made by three young ladies in their hometown near Denver Colorado.

Wilderness Environmental Manager Map Ives was the private guide of the Ridder family safari in June 2011, consisting of Peter and Kathy Ridder Senior, Peter and Maura Ridder Junior and their three children Madeleine (13), Kilian (11) and Delaney (7). “During their stay at Mombo we got to discussing rhinos and I gave them a short slide show which included information on the current situation in South Africa and Zimbabwe where rhinos are once again being killed. The three girls took it on themselves to go out and raise funds for the rhino project by selling homemade snacks and lemonade around their town and at the local golf course. Their mother, Maura, tells me that they have raised \$150 so far, which they will be sending to the Trust.”





CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS



Children in the Wilderness is an environmental and life skills educational programme that focuses on the next generation of rural decision makers, developing environmental leaders who are inspired to care for their natural heritage so that they become the custodians of these areas in the future. By exposing the children to their wildlife heritage, Children in the Wilderness aims to create a network of learning sanctuaries that uplifts, conserves and cares for our children and our planet.



ABOUT CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS

Children in the Wilderness (CITW) has as its overall goal to facilitate sustainable conservation through leadership development of rural children in Africa. Such children are offered a programme at a Wilderness Safaris camp that combines leadership skills, environmental education and recreation – all in a unique and safe wilderness environment, where Nature is both teacher and healer.

The programme aims at increasing the children's understanding and appreciation of the diversity of natural environments, as well as to encourage them by demonstrating the opportunities that exist for them. Finally, the programme is designed to increase self-esteem, teach new skills and impart knowledge to our children.

Using a curriculum suited to the specific country or community, delivered in a fun and engaging manner, Children in the Wilderness introduces children to their wildlife heritage, builds and strengthens their capabilities to cope with life's challenges and educates them with the life skills necessary to actualise their greatest potential. During the programme, Children in the Wilderness also aims to develop leadership values amongst the participants, so as to create leaders who are inspired to care for their legacy and can show others the way.

HISTORY

In August 2001, Paul Newman and his family travelled to Africa on a two-week safari with Wilderness Safaris. During this trip, it was suggested that the respective visions of the Association of Hole in the Wall Camps and Wilderness Safaris could be combined and blended to create a sustainable and effective African programme. In December of the same year the first Children in the Wilderness programme was launched.

The creation of Children in the Wilderness was an organic evolution of the vision of Wilderness Safaris, which has always been that we need to face the challenge of Africa's wildlife areas being under severe pressure – indeed, the areas in which Wilderness Safaris operates are some of the planet's more sensitive and fragile environmental hotspots. Therefore, by focusing on children, Children in the Wilderness believes that a programme of this calibre can impact significantly on the local communities in the hope of securing the future of these fragile areas.

Since running its first camp in Botswana, Children in the Wilderness has expanded its operations to seven of the countries in which Wilderness Safaris operates: Botswana, Namibia, Malawi, South Africa, Seychelles, Zambia and Zimbabwe. With the right sponsorship, the programme has the potential to grow and make a huge contribution to the sustainability of Africa's people and parks.



HOW IT WORKS

Wilderness Safaris closes some of its camps for a number of weeks each year, allowing Children in the Wilderness to host groups of selected rural children instead. Groups of 16 to 45 children between the ages of 10 and 17, pre-selected from schools and communities in the surrounding areas, are invited to spend five nights in camp and participate in the programme.

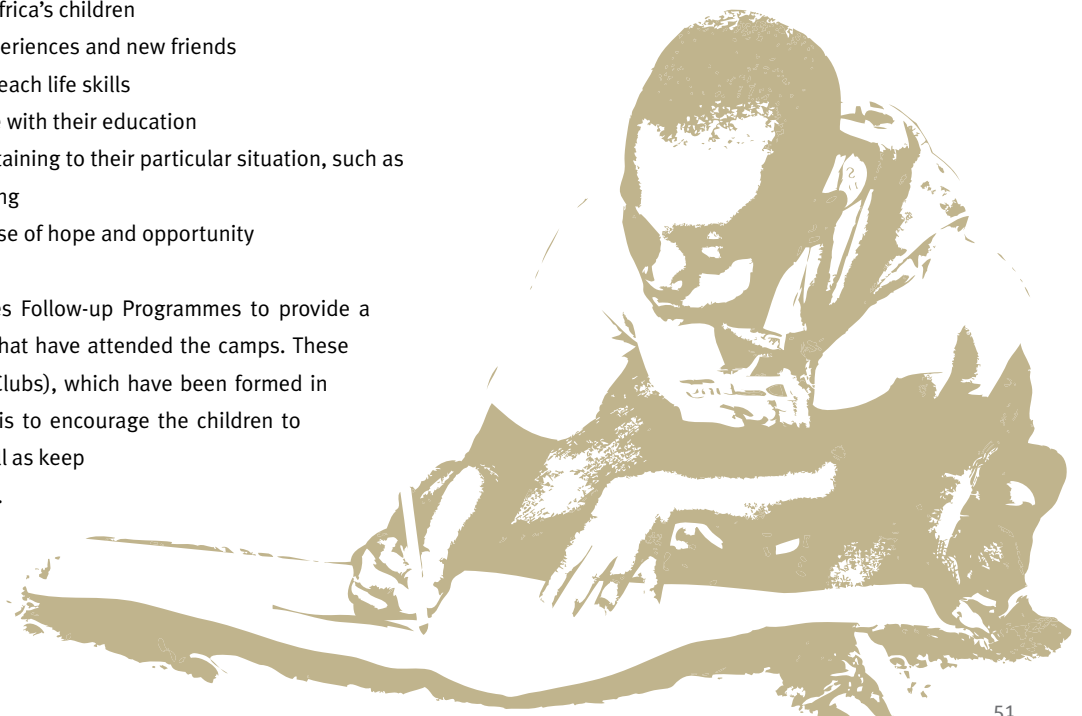
When the programme began in 2001, the selection process focused mainly on the vulnerable children in the communities. However, the concepts of leadership values became a growing priority, with the result that children with leadership qualities or community influence have been included as participants alongside the vulnerable youngsters. In this way, the programme facilitates sustainable conservation through leadership development, reaching further than one camp, and growing in strength and influence.

The programmes are run by a Camp Director assisted by a full staff complement of mentors, generally consisting of Wilderness camp staff who volunteer their time and energy to this cause. Ultimately, since many mentors come from the same communities or villages as the camp participants, they are excellent role models who in effect restore a sense of hope to the children.

The Children in the Wilderness programme and curriculum:




- Practises and teaches sustainable environmental education
- Fosters leadership qualities in Africa's children
- Exposes the children to new experiences and new friends
- Helps to build self-esteem and teach life skills
- Inspires the children to continue with their education
- Focuses on everyday issues pertaining to their particular situation, such as HIV/AIDS, nutrition, and poaching
- Provides the children with a sense of hope and opportunity

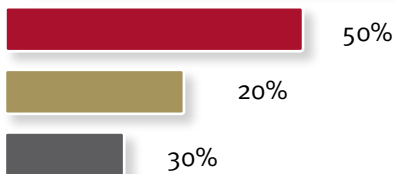
Children in the Wilderness operates Follow-up Programmes to provide a support structure for the children that have attended the camps. These include Eco Clubs (Environmental Clubs), which have been formed in the schools. Part of their function is to encourage the children to continue with their education as well as keep their newfound love of wildlife alive.






FUNDS 2011

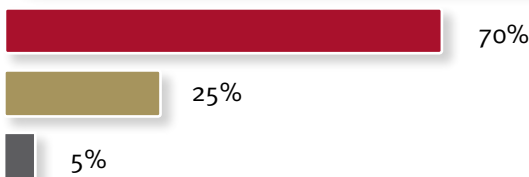
ESTIMATED SOURCE OF FUNDS

-  FUNDRAISING EVENTS
-  CORPORATE DONORS
-  WILDERNESS SAFARIS GUESTS AND INDIVIDUALS



ALLOCATION OF RESOURCES

-  CITW PROGRAMMES
-  FOLLOW UP PROGRAMMES
-  ADMINISTRATION



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For approximately
us\$400
sponsor a child to attend
a six day CITW Camp

SPONSOR A CITW CAMP

For approximately
us\$6400
you can host and
brand a full CITW
Camp



For more information on how to help go to page 77.

FROM THE TRUSTEES

The Children in the Wilderness Trustees have been in a fortunate position of seeing the programme grow from humble beginnings in 2001 to the sustainable environmental educational programme that it is today. Over the years, Children in the Wilderness has been implemented in seven of the African countries in which Wilderness Safaris operates.

Over the past year we have been busy at work developing an environmental curriculum that we feel has relevance to the world we live in today. We have also focused on developing common materials and resources to ensure that the learning content of our programme is enhanced.

Children in the Wilderness' commitment has seen the reach of the programme extend far beyond just the initial camp programme and in many communities environmental clubs have been initiated, intended to provide opportunities for learners who are interested in the environment to meet, learn, discuss and expand their knowledge of environmental issues.

Our staff have been involved in teacher training programmes, providing community teachers with new and interactive intentional programming techniques and equipment. The project directors have encouraged communities to develop their own projects and we have seen many community projects initiated, from fixing park fences to planting trees and creating vegetable gardens.

The most exciting aspect of it all has been seeing some of the original Children in the Wilderness participants joining conservation organisations and in some instances joining Wilderness Safaris and Children in the Wilderness as full time staff members.

Our cycle tour and other fundraising initiatives are growing from strength to strength and all in all, we feel that Children in the Wilderness is well positioned to grow and to make a sustainable difference to our planet and the lives of the children that live alongside our wilderness area.

TRUSTEES

*Malcolm McCulloch, Derek de la Harpe,
Richard van der Wel, Miles Crisp, Mike White,
Jan Mallen, Leone Jooste, Sue Snyman,
Rita Bachmann.*



PROJECT LOCATIONS 2011

REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

COMING SOON!

ZAMBIA (p.71)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

1. Kalamu Lagoon Camp
2. Lufupa Camp
3. Kapinga Camp
4. Toka Leya Camp

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

84

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

246

NAMIBIA (p.63)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

5. Andersson's Camp
6. Kulala Wilderness Camp

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

72

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

862

BOTSWANA (p.56)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

7. Jacana Camp
8. Vumbura Plains Camp

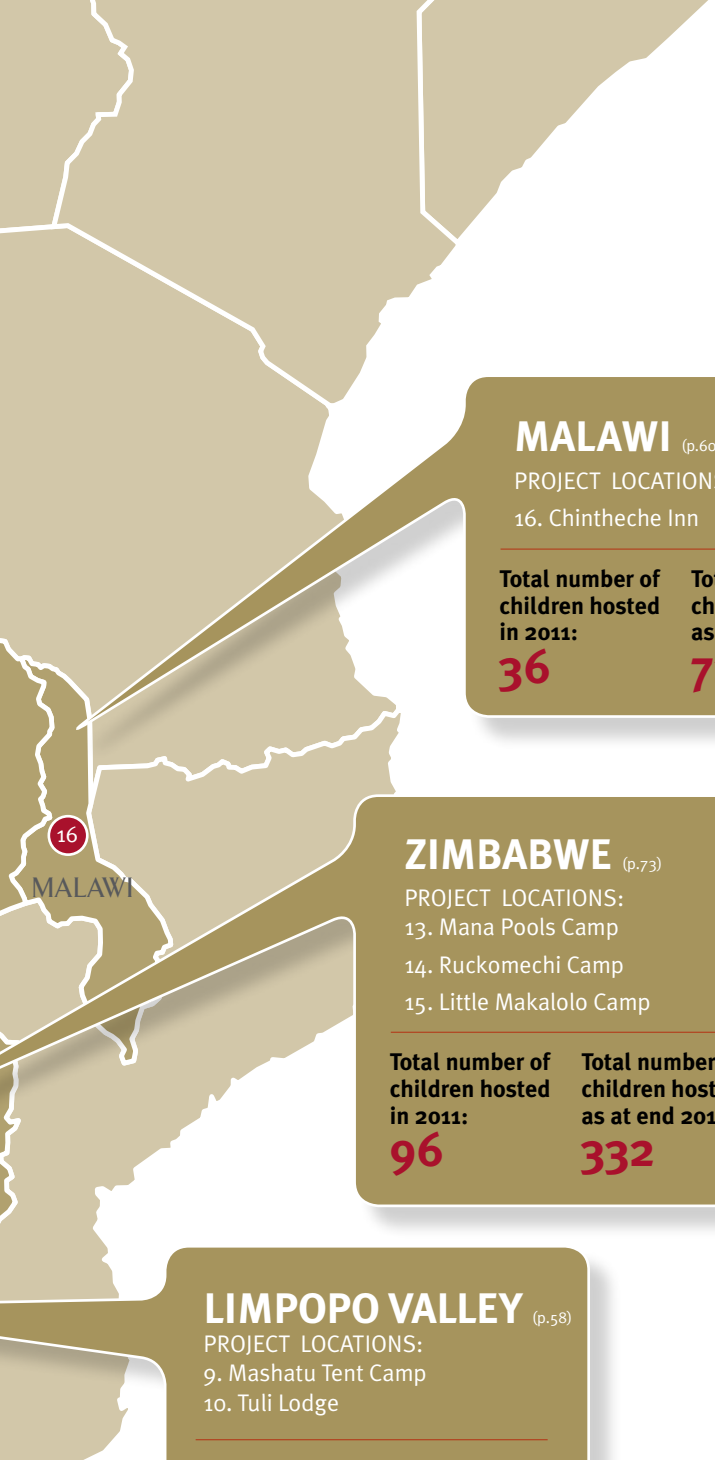
Total number of children hosted in 2011:

96

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

1267





SEYCHELLES

17

SEYCHELLES (p.66)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

17. North Island

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

30

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

126

MALAWI (p.60)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

16. Chintheche Inn

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

36

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

721

ZIMBABWE (p.73)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

13. Mana Pools Camp

14. Ruckomechi Camp

15. Little Makalolo Camp

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

96

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

332

LIMPOPO VALLEY (p.58)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

9. Mashatu Tent Camp

10. Tuli Lodge

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

56

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

88

SOUTH AFRICA (p.68)

PROJECT LOCATIONS:

11. Pafuri Camp

12. Rocktail Beach Camp

Total number of children hosted in 2011:

69

Total number of children hosted as at end 2011:

399

NUMBER OF CHILDREN HOSTED BY CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS

As of the end of 2011, Children in the Wilderness has hosted **4 041** children in seven southern African countries, changing their lives dramatically and positively. As the programme has been rolled out to many of the regions in which Wilderness Safaris operates, so its contribution has become greater. Children in the Wilderness hosted **539** children in 2011 and is determined to increase this number in 2012. Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe each host slightly less than 100 children per year, with smaller numbers being hosted in South Africa, Namibia, Malawi and Seychelles annually or biennially.

Total number of children hosted 2001-2011:

4 041

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
BOTSWANA*Coordinator: Geoffrey Aupiti***CAMPS**

Children in the Wilderness Botswana ran a number of successful camps in 2011. These took place at the end of the year and were hosted at Jacana and Vumbura Plains camps in the Okavango Delta. In this way the annual target of 96 children was reached.

NUMBER OF CAMP PARTICIPANTS	AGE	VILLAGE OF CHILDREN	CAMP
16	10-14	Tubu	Jacana Camp
16	10-14	Gumare	Jacana Camp
16	10-14	Sankoyo	Vumbura Plains Camp
16	10-14	Shashe	Vumbura Plains Camp
32	10-17	Okavango Community Trust Villages	Vumbura Plains Camp
96 Total			

CURRICULUM TOPICS

The primary activities of course were the wildlife activities, being game drives, mokoro and walks. In addition, on each daily schedule, the children were given lessons based on the core values of our objective – the 4Cs of Conservation, Culture, Community and Commerce – as we are aiming at creating future responsible conservation ambassadors.

Other topics that we dealt with included HIV/AIDS, Culture, Tourism and Friendship, and Conservation and Responsibility – this last focusing on the areas around the villages in three mini-topics: Me and my home, me and my river and me and my wildlife conservation. The main concerns here are poaching, water pollution, veld fires, littering and the effects of all this on our environment.

A favourite topic was Delta Day – which looked at the formation of the Okavango Delta, where it comes from and the animals that help in its formation. Children got to understand its importance toward tourism and its benefit to our country and citizens.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES

Children in the Wilderness Botswana is in its seventh year of conducting Follow-up Programmes, the aim of which is to strengthen the relationship between CITW, the children, the schools and the parents.

CITW Botswana runs four Follow-up Programmes a year at each of the village schools in which past CITW camp participants are living. Eco Clubs have been established, which promote culture, tourism and conservation.

Follow-up Programmes are also one of the primary tools with which we can measure our camps, as we are able to obtain feedback from teachers and parents on the changes they have seen in the children before and after camp.

All feedback so far has been extremely positive. Parents, for example, mentioned that they noticed changes in the children's behaviour with regard to taking responsibility for their actions, taking care of themselves (in terms of hygiene), as well as smaller siblings, and taking on the role of looking after their homes.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

**CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
BOTSWANA**

Coordinator: Geoffrey Aupiti

In schools, teachers have seen big behavioural changes, where the past participants can now be seen in leadership roles, excelling in teamwork, socialising better and helping others with kindness and care.

PLANS FOR 2012

2011 has been an exciting year and the success of the programme has been tremendous. We are looking forward to 2012 and are more than ready to start our Follow-up Programmes – to see, teach and learn from the children. The Follow-up camps began in the second week of February 2012.



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
LIMPOPO VALLEY*Coordinator: Tanya McKenzie*

Children in the Wilderness Limpopo has gone from strength to strength in its second year of operation. It hosted three camps during 2011, and has begun Follow-up Programmes as well. Project Coordinator is Tanya McKenzie, who is also Administrator and Fundraiser. Stuart Quinn is responsible for the implementation and delivery of the CITW Limpopo Valley camps and Follow-up Programmes through Environmental Clubs. Finally, Daniel Lefadola, Community Liaison Officer, is responsible for building relationships with the communities and promoting the CITW programme through the Environmental Clubs and Follow-up Programme.

CAMP PARTICIPANTS

The three camps held in 2011 took place at Mashatu Tent Camp (twice, with 16 children at each) and at Tuli Lodge (24 participants). Mashatu Tent Camp is situated on the northern border of Northern Tuli Game Reserve (Notugre), near the Tuli Circle in Zimbabwe, whilst Tuli Lodge is situated in the south of Notugre on the banks of the Limpopo River. The children are all selected from the periphery of the Mashatu Reserve, from the Bobirwa district of Botswana, and speak Sebirwa, a dialect of Setswana. They consider themselves Batswana. Some children were chosen for their leadership abilities, some for their interest in conservation, whilst still others were chosen from vulnerable backgrounds.

The children came from Lentswe le Moriti School, Mothabaneng Primary School and Mathathane Primary School respectively, all villages on the periphery or within the boundaries of the reserve.

CURRICULUM

Some of the topics covered in the curriculum included herbivore and bird worksheets and drives, the elephant story and the cycle of life, all of which have strong conservation and moral messages. The creative activities included lapdesk decorating, making of dream-catchers and painting T-shirts. HIV and nutrition were also topics that formed part of the syllabus.

The conservation-based activities involved the children going out into the reserve with resident lion and leopard researcher Andrei Snyman to track lion and leopard. It gave Andrei the opportunity to explain the important roles that these animals play in maintaining the health of an ecosystem. Rex Masupe included some invaluable and interesting anti-poaching activities, as poaching occurs on the periphery of the reserve; this was an important activity as most of the children know poachers who live in their communities and indeed, sometimes in their families. The children also went on outings to the Limpopo Valley Airport, Tuli Lodge, Mashatu Main Camp and the Pont Drift Customs and Immigrations Office, where they learned about different careers and various job opportunities associated with these places.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS LIMPOPO VALLEY

Coordinator: Tanya McKenzie

As well as being fun, the morning games, songs and team challenges provide moral lessons. It is during these activities where the various personalities of the children become apparent.

Game drives always prove to be an invaluable time to get to know the children and their various personalities. The volunteers and staff are always astonished by the eagerness to learn and the curiosity of the children. They always take their workbooks with and write down what they see and experience. The children love to interact with volunteers from other continents like Europe, America and Australia. The game drives were exceptional: some of the children saw a young kudu being killed by a cheetah and her cub. They also saw lion, elephant, jackal, hyaena and an abundance of plains game.

All in all, we feel that we have created many little ambassadors in the villages on our boundaries.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES:

CITW Limpopo Valley ran successful Follow-up Programmes in two villages bordering (and within) the Northern Tuli Game Reserve, namely Motlhabaneng and Lentswe le Moriti. Both have one primary school each. A Follow-up Programme will be initiated at Mathathane in 2012.

Vegetable gardens are thriving in both schools, and indigenous plant playgrounds are in the process of being built. Children at Mathathane will be assisted in creating their own veggie garden and playground. Lentswe le Moriti and Motlhabaneng have been registered with the Environmental Society of Botswana. Worksheets have been taken to the schools to expand on what has been learnt during the camps – focusing primarily on conservation aspects such as birds, plants, animals and tracking, but also including nutrition and recycling. Children have been taken into the reserve on game drives; anti-poaching activities have also been initiated in the Follow-up Programme.

CITW representatives have maintained a regular presence, not just in the schools, but also in the communities, where the progress of past camp participants is being regularly monitored. It is thrilling that, through regular communication and inclusion of community members as camp staff, CITW Limpopo Valley has gained the trust, encouragement and admiration of the community elders.

PLANS FOR 2012

CITW Limpopo Valley will run three camps during 2012. The first will be an expansion from Botswana into South Africa to be held at Mapungubwe National Park, while the second and third camps are planned for Mashatu Tent Camp. The participants will come from Motlhabaneng, Lentswe le Moriti and Mathathane in Botswana and Alldays in South Africa. Plans are being made to host another 24 children at Tuli Lodge at some stage.



FEEDBACK

Keotshephile 11yr old girl: To describe my feelings during the camp is that I am the most lucky student and I will never forget this all my life. I saw a leopard which I have never seen it before. We learnt about the different jobs in the game reserve and what subjects we need to pass to get the job. A lasting memory of the camp is that we should conserve natural resources and nature and this will make you proud of your country.

Kelebemang (Kay) 12yr old girl: Uncle Rex Masupe is an important people because he told us how to care about animals and not to use poaching animals like cheetah and leopard because they are not too many left in this country.



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS MALAWI

Coordinator: Symon Chibaka



CAMPS

Children in the Wilderness Malawi's camp programme saw its ninth year in 2011, hosting 36 children at a one-week camp at Chintheche Inn on the shores of Lake Malawi.

The children came from the Nkhata Bay District, an area where the natural environment – in terms of its original forest – is being rapidly degraded. A major aim of the camp therefore is about opening the eyes of the children to see how fast this is occurring and to become equipped to take action in advocating for forest protection and reforestation – incredibly important in Malawi today.

The local culture is a mixture of Chewa from central Malawi and Tumbuka from the north. Most children in these areas remain within the restricted limits of farming, fishing and selling fish as well as early marriages (around the age of 14 to 18). However, some also find jobs in a number of lodges on the lakeshore.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES

Our Follow-up Programmes are incredibly successful and take place in four centres – namely in four primary schools. In each centre, four activities of two hours each take place on a monthly basis, with about 80 to 150 children participating. Primary school teachers, CITW mentors and some local professionals volunteer to run activities and small-scale projects that assist the children in practising the knowledge and skills gained from their camp programmes.

The following topics are dealt with: Research, conservation, permaculture/sustainable agriculture, human/child's rights, HIV/AIDS/health, art and craft/culture/social connections skills. Micro-projects include: Recycling, making products for income generating activity (IGA) groups and general conservation and reforestation.

Another excellent concept is that of "refreshers" – where groups of 30 children at a time from all four centres return to where they had their camp for a one-day refresher camp. No less than 450 children experience this refresher, the aim of which of course is to keep their memories and inspiration alive. A number of camp activities are run, and discussions are had of the challenges being experienced in day-to-day life and in implementing new strategies and conservation ideas.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS MALAWI

Coordinator: Symon Chibaka



ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMES

SCHOLARSHIPS

CITW Malawi has run a scholarship programme for disadvantaged children, with sponsorship from well-wishers and supporters, for seven years now. So far, the programme has helped 130 needy children to access higher education, something that they would have not been able to do without a scholarship.

Aside from coordinating the sponsors' funding, CITW also organises the feedback process between the child and his/her sponsor. Currently 81 children are being sponsored in various secondary schools. From among those who have finished their secondary schooling, four have found jobs, while two others are studying in Teachers' Training Colleges.

CHINTHECHE TREE PLANTING

In 2011, CITW Malawi became involved in the Chintheche Inn Reforestation Project, the children subsequently taking part in the process of tubing, seeding, distributing and planting. In 2011, project director Master Banda and the children propagated over 25 000 trees of a variety of different species, which were in turn distributed to over 50 community clubs and schools.

OTHER PROJECTS

Three other projects that CITW Malawi runs are: Recycling and making products for IGA, Liwonde National Park fence maintenance and protection, and teaching permaculture and nutrition security.

PLANS FOR 2012

CITW Malawi will be running two camps at Mvuu Camp this year, hosting a further 72 children. The Follow-up Programme is continuous and will be running its weekly meetings and conservation projects throughout the year. In addition, another Reforestation Project is currently being established, this time at Nanthomba Primary School, on the outskirts of Liwonde National Park. The project is expected to grow 15 000 seedlings of different species of trees. This idea has come from the CITW children themselves who live in the area, and is being supported by Mvuu Camp and forestry officers from the local community.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS MALAWI

Coordinator: Symon Chibaka



CAMPER PROFILE: MARIA CHIRWA

Maria, from a very poor family in the Nkhata Bay District, came to camp in 2005 when she was 13. Her mother used to sell firewood in small bundles at the roadside, where getting Mk200 (R10) in a day was good. When Maria came to camp, she was filled with fears, and here she felt some relief and some caring mentors. She asked many questions about how she could create a brighter future. At the end of camp, she felt empowered and was awarded a “Kingfisher” for her love of water sports and being determined to achieve her goals.

Maria became a fulltime participant of weekly Follow-up meetings and worked hard in school so that, by 2007, she had passed her primary school leaving exams. She was selected to go to Bandawe Boarding Secondary but it was too expensive. Then Maria remembered that CITW sometimes assisted needy children with scholarships, so she presented her call for help. She was included on the list of children under the sponsorship of the Rosemary Pencil Foundation. She went to school.

Maria worked very hard at Secondary School and after four years, in 2010, she passed her exams. In 2011, she was enrolled at Karonga Teachers Training College and she is now in second year.

During the 2011 camp season she participated in CITW as a mentor. Indeed, Maria is really a role model to so many girls – not only in CITW but also to every girl who comes from a similar background. She has a strong heart and good determination to accomplish what she wants to achieve, in spite of the incredible challenges that most women of her age in this community have to overcome.

Her goal is to become an expert in Environmental Education. She would like to become a voice that helps the environment of her District, Malawi and that of all southern Africa.



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
NAMIBIA*Coordinator: Kim Aubrey*

2011 brought a new team together at Children in the Wilderness headquarters in Windhoek: Kim Aubrey was Programme Coordinator, with Stefanus Nangombe being Follow-up Programme Coordinator. Kim has twenty years' experience in biodiversity conservation and sustainable development and has worked with international conservation organizations in Africa and South America, and has a master's degree from Yale University's School of the Environment. Stefanus joins CITW with a background in youth programmes and HIV prevention, with an Honour's degree from the International University of Management in HIV/AIDS Management. Approximately 50% of our volunteers were new this year, with 99% of our camp team being Wilderness staff from 10 camps, and only one external volunteer.

CAMPS

Four camps were held in 2011: two initial camp programmes and two Follow-up Programmes, with two taking place in the north and two in the south respectively.

In May, Andersson's Camp of Ongava Game Reserve was our host. This was the first time that CITW has been to Ongava Reserve, which gave us the opportunity to introduce children to a completely new habitat and to one of Namibia's most important wildlife reserves: Etosha National Park. The logistics were challenging due to the fact that the children came from remote areas: The journey they took crossed a diverse array of landscapes, introducing them to completely new scenery, as most had not left their villages before.

Andersson's Camp provided the platform that allowed the children to see wildlife and experience Etosha. The children saw their first lion and rhino, as well as many other creatures all new and special to them. The CITW team collaborated to adapt our activities to the site; we introduced many new activities, such as looking at rhino to explore the concepts of habitat and species conservation. Black and white rhino don't eat the same plants, so this included a fun hunt for rhino food, plant identification, and game of "pin the food on the rhino"!

CITW held its December programmes at Kulala Wilderness Camp, introducing campers to one of Namibia's natural treasures: Sossusvlei. Here the children climbed and rolled on the famous red sands, visited canyons, and considered weavers' nests and Bushman rock paintings. One of our



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
NAMIBIA*Coordinator: Kim Aubrey*

new activities was a lesson in cheetah-tracking. Campers used radio-tracking devices to locate collared cheetah, coming within ten metres of the animals, expertly guided and encouraged by wildlife biologists who work in the area to translocate animals into protected lands. "I saw a cheetah with my OWN EYES," wrote Henrico in awe. This programme allowed for a basic introduction to the animals (the kids also saw their first giraffe and jackal) as well as a discussion about human-wildlife conflict and potential solutions.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES

Our Follow-up camps at Andersson's Camp had an advanced curriculum involving an introduction to managing land for conservation, and to answer questions such as: What is research? Who does it and why? What is the value of a rhino?

The Follow-up Programme at Kulala offered more advanced learning in geology, climate, the purpose and opportunity of conservation and the tourism industry. A new activity for the teens this year was bird-ringing. Campers identified, measured and tagged birds at Kulala Desert Lodge. Having the opportunity to actually participate in a hands-on way is an empowering learning experience, unlike learning in a classroom. For the older participants, we also emphasise visioning one's future and talking about jobs, where each activity leader describes their profession and the story of how they got their job, sharing practical information as well as personal stories of perseverance and goal-creation.

Another new highlight of the Follow-up camp was flying. Wilderness Air took the kids on a fly-over, teaching them about aviation and the job of being a pilot. Flying above the escarpment and beyond to the dunes gave new perspective and connection to the habitat and geology themes that had been studied during the week. Seeing the ground from the air with our generous pilots was an experience CITW campers will never forget. And they all screamed at take-off!

OTHER PROGRAMMES

Many of our innovations have been within our camp programmes, refining our curriculum with emphasis on hands-on conservation and ecological research, learning about people in jobs etc.

We are initiating a scholarship programme to sponsor school fees for some of our Follow-up campers, and have our first student. We have also been able to support some of our former campers in the isolated Himba community of Otjikondavirongo by sponsoring uniforms and equipment for their successful netball team.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
NAMIBIA*Coordinator: Kim Aubrey***PLANS FOR 2012**

Plans exist for two initial camps and two Follow-up camps in 2012. We are currently designing a new opportunity for our Follow-up campers, in the form of an Explorations Journey, hoping to take two smaller groups on a camping journey to expose the teens to a diversity of habitats and ecological issues while expanding the challenge and bonding aspects of our programme. We will look to expand opportunities for our Follow-up campers to join us as CITW junior staff and offer 'job shadows' for teens considering their future after school, and continue to build the programme for school-fee sponsorships.

STORY OF A CAMPER

Tjiuaharo ('Carlos') Zangu is a 19-year-old boy from Otjivero, a Himba village 60km south of Opuwo. Carlos first attended CITW at Desert Rhino Camp in 2007, and joined us this year in May for a Follow-up Programme at Andersson's Camp outside Etosha. A game drive at Andersson's requires passing the Ongava airstrip. The nearby lion and zebra were not enough to keep Carlos from turning his neck and leaning in any direction in order to catch a glimpse of the planes and pilots on the airstrip. In fact, we noticed that quite a few kids were completely distracted by the planes. So we decided to incorporate it into the programme, visiting the airstrip and being generously received by Wilderness Air who gave a tour of the planes and later joined our group to talk about the job of piloting, how to become a pilot and the Namibian bursary programme for pilots. A few of the children latched onto this idea. Carlos, the oldest in the group as a student finishing his Year 10, was invited to help CITW as a junior tent leader, and in between camps Wilderness Air invited him to do a 'job shadow,' to explore the idea of flying as a career. Carlos 'flew' for two days, from Kulala to Swakopmund to Windhoek and back to Kulala, and is more interested than ever in dedicating himself to his studies towards the bursary process.

CITW is very grateful to Wilderness Air for this opportunity and will be looking to find other job-shadows among the departments and partners at Wilderness. Carlos, having passed his exams, is now moving into Year 11 with school sponsorship provided by CITW. He will be working hard on his studies, especially math and geography, with an extra focus on English. He will have to keep his feet on the ground while his head is in the clouds! CITW hopes to help our teens find the bridges to their opportunities, one by one.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
SEYCHELLES (NORTH ISLAND)*Coordinator: Cate Procter*

As North Island runs one Children in the Wilderness camp every two years, all the staff get involved in all different aspects of the camp. Sheena Talma, part of the Environmental Team, was the Camp Coordinator/Facilitator this year. The Seychellois bundle of power had discovered her passion for children during the previous North Island CITW programme. For 2011, she planned all activities, environmental games and educational angles in conjunction with Environment Officer, Linda Vanherck. Human Resources Manager Fiona Denis organised the staff welfare for the duration of the camp and Cate Procter and Jens Kozany were responsible for the logistics, team briefs and structure of the event.

CAMPS

From 11-14 December 2011, North Island closed its doors to paying guests once again to accommodate and host a group of Seychellois children for another CITW Camp in collaboration with the National Council for Children (NCC).

The participants numbered 30 children between the ages of 10 to 16 from various regions and districts on the main island, Mahé. Most live with their families, while a few are resident at local children homes.

The three-and-a-half day camp was filled with memorable experiences for the children, including the observation of a sea turtle nesting one afternoon on East Beach and, to crown it all, on the final day of camp just before their departure, the children danced with joy to the chant of “Chica racka chica boom!” as they watched 19 sea turtle nestlings head out to sea and ride the waves.

For the first time in their lives, 30 children were able to see the wonders of North Island that had previously been out of their reach. Their screams of delight and laughter could be heard for miles as they were propelled into a world of luxurious fun and educational activities, which included singing, dancing, tree planting, teambuilding, tug of war, and lessons on how to resist peer pressure and say “no” to drugs and alcohol abuse.

Eight guest villas had been put at their disposal to offer an authentic camp experience. The children particularly enjoyed the afternoon dip in the swimming pools as well as dining each night in North Island’s restaurant, where they partook of healthy, exquisite and delectable food.

The programme was specifically designed to increase the children’s awareness of the history of the Island and its function as a Noah’s Ark Project protecting vulnerable species – ultimately inspiring a passion for the environment both on the Island and back on Mahé. At the same time, the

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
SEYCHELLES (NORTH ISLAND)*Coordinator: Cate Procter*

programme aimed at developing life skills necessary to actualise every participant's potential and restore their sense of hope and pride as well as build up their self-esteem. Most of the children attending the camp were also involved with the National Council for Children's Living Values programme.

"It's not every day one gets a chance to live on such an island, it's a dream come true and from the bottom of my heart I would like to thank all those who made this a reality", said Deje, a young member of the programme, who had been presented with this rare occasion to discover new things and live a dream.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES

In the Seychelles the National Council for Children takes on the Follow-up Programmes – due to the distance and logistics, the North Island team is not involved in these events.

**CAMPER PROFILE: JUNIO RACOMBO**

For the camp organisers, the objectives of the programme proved their value when they saw Junio Racombo among the North Island team. Junio had been a participant of the 2008 CITW North Island programme and the professionalism of the staff, their friendliness and sense of well-being had inspired and motivated him to work hard at school and then apply for a job there. Junio was visibly excited to see the happy faces around him and the atmosphere transported him back to the days when he too had enjoyed the tranquillity, the luxury and the activities that would be taking place. Junio is a member of the staff bistro team and is very enthusiastic about the staff welfare on North Island.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS SOUTH AFRICA

Coordinator: Janet Wilkinson

2011 saw some new faces for Children in the Wilderness South Africa. Janet Wilkinson joined as Project Coordinator, based in Johannesburg, and Nancy Baloyi was appointed as Pafuri's CITW Coordinator. Eugene Tembe continued in his role as Rocktail's Community Coordinator.

CAMPS

ROCKTAIL BEACH CAMP, ISIMANGALISO WETLAND PARK

Rocktail Beach Camp was up first, and while the October spring weather did not oblige with sunny days, no-one really minded. 33 children from the neighbouring Mqobela and Mpukane communities were hosted on a six-day life skills, leadership and environmental awareness programme, aimed at equipping and shaping tomorrow's leaders. The programme was full and the children were kept engaged despite the mostly inclement weather.

Geographically different, Rocktail is not a typical safari location and some activities therefore are tailored to its unique environs. The boat ride, bringing the children close to humpback whales and dolphins, was the most exciting highlight for many of the children. Most saw hippo for the first time ever on their outing to Lake Sibaya and they learned about traditional uses for plants, the geology and the sustainable use of resources in the area.

Both the children and Rocktail staff responded incredibly well to the doctor who came to explain how HIV is spread, the ways in which we can protect ourselves from it, and how to better take care of ourselves if we do get it.



PAFURI CAMP, KRUGER NATIONAL PARK

The hot, humid weather did not deter new friendships or dampen fun as 40 children from the Makuleke community were hosted at Pafuri Camp in December. The children were members of the CITW Eco Clubs that are operational at the four primary schools in the community. Quiet, rather shy children arrived, but within minutes joined the staff in the singing and dancing characteristic of Pafuri staff welcomes.

The full programme was highlighted by the game drive activities (some even lucky enough to spot a leopard), bird identification, Circle of Life and interdependence, and a very special visit to Deku (an old Makuleke site on the Concession). Members of South African National Parks (SANParks) Anti-Poaching Unit addressed the children on sustainable conservation in Kruger National Park. Other learning components and activities included HIV, Nutrition, Arts and Crafts and Career Orientation.

All of these topics and CITW camp interactions are underpinned with sound leadership values that include awareness, creativity, integrity, perseverance, service, focus and empathy. We believe these values are the moral fibre that defines all good leaders.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
SOUTH AFRICA*Coordinator: Janet Wilkinson*

Highlights for the staff at both camps ranged from showing the children various employment possibilities in the industry, to sharing the children's excitement on game drive/boating activities. The staff are always delighted at having the opportunity to share their camps with children from their communities.

Each year, CITW South Africa invites different teachers from each school to attend the programme in order to increase teachers' exposure to the programme's aims and values. We believe this will benefit both children and teachers, now and in the future.

Feedback from the children, teachers and staff involved continues to show that the CITW programme has a real impact on the way the children think about themselves, their futures and the world around them.

**FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES**

Eco Clubs are aimed at teaching the children environmental concepts in a fun way, instilling a passion for the environment, and creating environmental ambassadors in the communities. During the year, Pafuri's CITW Coordinator ran sessions at the four primary schools and the only high school in the Makuleke villages. Topics and activities covered soil quality, pollution, waste and its management, the water cycle. The final session was a visit to the nearby Kruger National Park where the club members were addressed by a SANParks Environmental Officer on the importance of South African heritage and tourism. This was the first time that a number of children had been to the Park. A tree-planting ceremony was held at the CITW Eco Club schools for Arbour Day 2011 and 40 indigenous trees were planted in the school grounds.



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS SOUTH AFRICA

Coordinator: Janet Wilkinson

PLANS FOR 2012

Our hope is that we can expand and focus the South African programme in 2012 to ensure an even bigger, and more sustained impact – not only on the children, but also on their communities.

FEEDBACK ROCKTAIL:

One thing I will always remember about camp is the boat because my first day it be happy and in my life I don't know the sea is blue. Mkhululi (13)

One thing I will always remember about camp: go to Sibhaya and I see hippo and big river and dong bittles male and female. Nhlakanipho Mlambo (12)

I feel happy and I say to my friend "I'm proud of this time and this day. Sphephelo (10)

Rice & chicken & chees and eggs was overjoying. Lindekuhle (10)

A lasting memory of camp: to flash toilet Zoleka (10)

We see the hamback (humpback whale). Nhlakanipho Ngema (12)

Watching the children slowly chant "We are going to burn our fears" as they went to the fire was an amazing moment for me. Russell (Camp Manager)

Getting to know all the kids and staff on that level was great. Nhlaka's deep thinking and questions. Sprite's totally disarming nature and confidence. Tina (Wilderness Adventures Volunteer)

PAFURI:

For the first time in my life during camp I learn Lider Ship (leadership) Value. Mimie 11 years old

One thing I will always remember about camp: it is the Deku tree and fish eagle that was a beautiful bird at the Pafuri Camp. Nyiko 12 years old

I learn with the perseverance in my life. I drawing the picture and answer the question. Mavis 12 years old

I loved this moment cooking for children a very nice food. I really enjoyed it. Millet (chef)

I personally have been blown away they the intelligence and ambition of many of these kids. Brian (guide)



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS ZAMBIA

Coordinator: Robby Mwale

In March, Children in the Wilderness Zambia appointed Robby Mwale as full-time Coordinator; his responsibilities include planning and preparation for all camps and Follow-up Programmes, managing funds and report backs. Emma Seaman still oversees the programme and gives day-to-day direction.

CAMPS

During the 2011 season we ran four camps in Zambia. The first was held at Lufupa Camp in March where we hosted 12 children and a teacher from Kabulwebulwe School in Nalusanga, on the eastern boundary of Kafue National Park. This was our third programme with this school and was a huge success.



In June, the second camp was hosted at Kalamu Lagoon in South

Luangwa National Park with 24 children and three teachers from three schools – Kalengo Community School, Chilongozi and Malanga Basic Schools. On this last camp it was also a privilege to have Jonathan Rossouw and Giovanna Fasanelli from Zegrahm & Eco Expeditions, main sponsor of this camp.

The third programme was initially planned to be held at Shumba Camp on the Busanga Plains, Kafue, but due to a lioness giving birth to three cubs on one of the room decks, it was moved to nearby Kapinga Camp instead! Here we hosted 24 children from Jifumpa and Kamakechi Basic Schools.

Our final camp was held at Toka Leya in Livingstone. This was our first programme here, with 24 children and two teachers from Sinde Community School, as we have recently started working with the Sinde community. We are currently assisting the school in building additional accommodation for teachers, through donations from guests and Wilderness Safaris Zambia.

All in all, during 2011 we hosted 84 children between 9 and 13 years old. Most come from the villages where our staff live, and they spoke a range of Kikaonde, Ila, Lozi, Tonga and Njanja.

FOLLOW-UP PROGRAMMES

In May 2011, we had a Follow-up day at Kabulwebulwe School with 48 children who had participated on camp at Lufupa. A similar Follow-up took place in June at Jifumpa and Kamakechi with 40 children that had been hosted over the last two years.

The children were all given lapdesks to decorate and we revised some of the lessons learnt in camp, in particular those related to conservation – it was astounding to see how much the children had remembered and had tried to put into practice in their own homes. They were very eager to play games that they had learnt on camp, and we were joined by other students from the schools. We then spent some time talking with each of the children, one-on-one, to find out how they were doing.

In October, we took the 18 children from Kalamu Camp in South Luangwa to Chipembele Wild Life Centre to learn more about conservation and wildlife in the South Luangwa area. This was a huge highlight and a great day out: our guides brought a picnic lunch that everyone enjoyed before being given their lapdesks to decorate and taking a scenic game drive back to the village.

CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS ZAMBIA

Coordinator: Robby Mwale

Throughout the year, the children were visited by our CITW Camp Coordinators to follow up on various projects, and we managed to bring clothing, stationery, and sporting equipment that our guests had kindly donated.

ADDITIONAL PROGRAMMES

Through various generous guest donations, we collected a range of books and games for the library we built in South Luangwa. The Kalengo Wilderness Community Library (funded partly by the Wilderness Trust, see pg. 31) was officially opened by Chief Malama on behalf of community on 20th October 2011 and is being used by all the villages in the area. Our next project is to get more books and stationery for the library and the children from the surrounding schools.

PLANS FOR 2012

Camps will be run throughout 2012 in both Kafue and South Luangwa National Parks, with the aim of adding more schools, as others are now requesting to be included on our programme. Over the year we aim to host 90 children at CITW camps. Follow-up programmes with all the children we hosted in 2011 will be run.

Two past campers now in secondary school have asked for help with their school fees and we hope to source these funds and assist, as their guardians cannot afford to pay.

We would also like to consolidate the Conservation Clubs we started in some of the schools and see to it that all our other schools have clubs running with the assistance of the schoolteachers and our guides. We would like the conservation messages that the children are introduced to on camp to be continued in their daily lives in their schools and homes and for this to become a part of their lives.



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS
ZIMBABWE*Coordinator: Sue Goatley*

Sue Goatley continues as Children in the Wilderness Programme and Camp Coordinator, and Communities Project Coordinator, Maureen Vincent is Scholarship Programme Coordinator, Renee Archer is the Assistant CITW and Community Projects Coordinator and Mxolisi Sibanda is the Community Projects Assistant.

Zimbabwe has enjoyed a gradual increase in tourism numbers over the past two years, the tourist industry moving in leaps and bounds with renewed interest and vigour from many regional and international corporations, as well as a revived energy and enthusiasm from local trade.

Communities and schools continue to need sustainable, self-servicing projects and both the teaching and parenting communities are very willing to participate and assist with these. With the correct guidance and support, we can help by providing them with the tools they require to take their projects forward.

CAMPS

Africa's future lies with her children and, since inception of CITW Zimbabwe in January 2008, Wilderness Safaris has closed the doors of two of its camps to full paying guests for a total of six weeks during the quieter summer season each year. During this time CITW has sole use of the camps and they are opened to primary schoolchildren between the ages of 10 to 13 years old (Grades 6 and 7). We offer two types of camps:

Traditional Children's Camps are sponsored by the Wilderness Wildlife Trust and donor funding and are aimed at disadvantaged children from the rural areas around the Wilderness camp concessions. The Traditional Children's Camp programme is dedicated to helping and giving hope to children whose childhoods have been interrupted and/or disrupted by life threatening conditions such as illness, poverty and the HIV/AIDS epidemic.

Self-Funding Children's Camps are advertised and sold to urban children from private junior schools around the country and are aimed at instilling a love and respect for nature. Our aim here is to expose children from more affluent communities to the wilderness environment and those in their own country less advantaged than they are. The funds raised from these camps go towards the funding of CITW Traditional Camps.



CAMP PROGRAMMES 2011

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS ZIMBABWE

Coordinator: Sue Goatley

All these participants will be the custodians of our flora and fauna in the future. The emphasis at both these camps is on environmental awareness, conservation, team building and leadership skills. Volunteers assisting with these camps assist at their own expense, and work with a specifically designated CITW Team Leader out in the field.

CITW Zimbabwe runs children's camps twice a year: in March/April at Ruckomechi, Mana Pools National Park, Mashonaland (predominantly Shona children), and in November on a rotational basis at one of the four camps in Hwange National Park, Matabeleland (predominantly Ndebele children).

To date, we have hosted 332 children at our traditional camps and 60 at our self-funding children's camps.

PLANS FOR 2012

In 2012, we have plans to host a further 40 children at Ruckomechi in March/April and 72 in November at Davison's Camp in Hwange. Added to this will be 20 self-funding children's camp participants who will be hosted at Mana Canoe Trails Camp in April. In January 2013, our plan is to combine the 20 most passionate environmentalists from the camps held in 2012 (Self-Funding and Traditional Children's Camps) to take part in a Follow-up Programme that will build on the previous camp curriculum, but will also include elementary guiding skills, career guidance and life skills.

CHILDREN'S MEMORIES

'I will never forget this camp, because I saw a lion. It was my first time to see a lion and to swim in a swimming pool.'

Thabo Mkandla (12 years old)

"I am writing this letter about my trip to CITW camp in Hwange national parks on the 23rd of November. I was impressed because of the way they welcomed us. I learnt something there. We played many games I had never played, we saw many animals I have never seen for example giraffe and zebra. We eat a variety of food I had never eaten. I will never forget those days. I wish you to come and take us back again. I wish to go and work there and see Flora.

Yours faithfully"

Sanele Ncube. 12 year Ziga primary school



FUNDRAISING



The costs of operating the Children in the Wilderness programme in seven southern African countries are extensive. We are very grateful for all the support that we receive from Wilderness guests, tour operators and other travel agencies and corporate companies who give monetary donations, goods in kind and in some instances sponsor an entire camp.

However, over and above this, in order for the programme to be sustainable, Children in the Wilderness needs to run fundraising activities and events for the group as a whole, while each country is also responsible for initiating some of its own fundraising activities.

One of 2011's successful fundraising activities was an evening in Johannesburg with guest speaker, Lewis Pugh, where R50 000 was raised. His is a remarkable story and extraordinary testimony to one man's belief in life and conservation. In 2007, wearing just a Speedo swimsuit – the old-fashioned one that barely covers all that needs to be covered – he swam one kilometre across the North Pole. Lewis Pugh strives to help protect the most wonderful places on the planet and to reverse the damage we have done to our environment and he has given up everything to dedicate his life to this purpose.



FUNDRAISING

Driven by nothing more than deep belief, he has achieved things that most would regard as impossible. He doesn't tell us what we must do but shows what can be done. His story is simply remarkable and he had every Children in the Wilderness supporter spellbound.

Children in the Wilderness' prime fundraising activity for all the regions is our annual mountain bike event – the Tour de Tuli. With the cooperation of Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa, the five-day mountain biking adventure continues to grow in popularity every year whilst generating revenue for Children in the Wilderness.

In 2011, the 7th annual multi-stage, multi-country mountain bike tour, the Fedhealth Tour de Tuli – Mapungubwe Route 2011 – now one of South Africa's premier mountain biking events – took place. Despite its success in the cycling fraternity, the overriding objective is to raise money for the Children in the Wilderness programme and that we did – raising approximately R1.5 million for Children in the Wilderness.

The 2011 Tour comprised 364 cyclists, 150 staff and volunteers that did everything possible to create the adventure of a lifetime. It is four and a half days of serious single-track riding, mainly along elephant and other game trails, deep into rural areas. Approximately 290km of cycling is covered with the cyclists crossing at specially arranged informal borders between Botswana, Zimbabwe and South Africa. The cooperation and success of this event is an excellent demonstration of the ability of all three countries to handle government bureaucracy on matters related to cross-border access and consolidating the foundation of the cross-border concept of Transfrontier "Peace" Parks.

The tour starts in the Northern Tuli Game Reserve in Botswana. From here, cyclists traverse through Zimbabwe and end in South Africa's Mapungubwe National Park – a World Heritage Site. During the four and a half days of cycling some cyclists were lucky enough to enjoy sightings of elephant, wild dog and lots of plains game. They also endured high temperatures, winds and saddle sores! A beer at the Maramani Tavern and cultural interaction were just some of the highlights for many cyclists. The overnight camps were set up in scenic locations along the route and a fitting end to a hard day in the saddle.

While the tour attracts many top South African business leaders, we are also seeing more international participants attending this event. This year's event was represented by a "united nations," including Australia, Botswana, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Seychelles, South Africa, USA and Zimbabwe.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

HOW YOU CAN HELP

As the Children in the Wilderness programme continues to be successful, there is still an urgent need to grow and expand the programme for greater impact and to reach as many children in sub-Saharan Africa as possible. With the right sponsorship, the programme has the potential to make a huge contribution to the sustainability of Africa's parks and wildlife.

If you are interested in helping us with our programme, below is a list of opportunities:

1. **Monetary donations** to assist in covering the day-to-day camp operational expenses.
2. **Sponsor a child** on a Children in the Wilderness camp – A donation of US\$400 (or the equivalent) will sponsor a child to attend a six-day life skills and environmental Children in the Wilderness programme and includes follow-up.
3. **Sponsor a Children in the Wilderness Camp** – For a donation of approximately US\$6 400.00 you can host and brand an entire Children in the Wilderness camp of approximately 16-24 children. The costs do vary depending on the region and the number of children hosted in a specific camp.
4. **Become a Fundraising Ambassador** – Create a fundraising event or participate in a sporting event and make Children in the Wilderness the beneficiary. You can create your own webpage and circulate to potential donors who can donate online via credit card at the BackaBuddy site: www.backabuddy.co.za/cw/
5. **Donations in kind** – i.e. services or products in kind that could be utilised on the programme and thereby reduce the camp's operational costs. These would include items such as stationery, sporting equipment, school equipment etc. When making donations in kind, please ensure that the CITW Project Director is advised in advance as there is paperwork for importation that is required to be completed. In some instances relevant import fees may outstrip the value of the goods and therefore this does need some consideration.

PAYMENT OPTIONS

If you wish to make a donation, we have various options available as below:

A. DEPOSIT DIRECTLY INTO THE CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS COUNTRY BANK ACCOUNT

When donating to a specific country, please email info@childreninthewilderness.com with your name, donation amount, and the country to which you have donated funds.

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS BOTSWANA

Registration Number:	55127
Account Name:	Children in the Wilderness
Bank:	First National Bank, Maun, Botswana
Account Number:	62047685443
Branch code:	282367
Branch:	Maun
Swift Code:	FIRNBWGX

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS LIMPOPO VALLEY (BOTSWANA)

Account name: Mashatu Investments
Bank: Nedbank
Account number: 1305832167
Branch code: 130526
Branch: Smith Street, Durban

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS MALAWI

Account Name: Children in the Wilderness
Bank: Standard Bank
Account Number: 014/00/030375/00
Branch Code: 1015
Branch: Capital City, Lilongwe
Swift Code: SBIC MWMX

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS NAMIBIA

Registration Number: 21/2004/487
Account Name: Children in the Wilderness Namibia Trust
Bank: Standard Bank Namibia
Account Number: 241503876
Branch code: 08277200
Branch: Gustav Voigt Centre, Windhoek
Swift Code: SBNMNX

Donation reference to be sent to: citw@wilderness.com.na, with 'CITW Namibia Donation' in the subject line.

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS SEYCHELLES & SOUTH AFRICA (18A FACILITY FOR SA CITIZENS)

Registration Number: 2004/024727/08
Account Name: Children in the Wilderness Mkambati
Bank: Standard Bank
Account Number: 023031735
Branch Code: 001255
Branch: Rivonia
Swift Code: SBZAZAJJ

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS ZAMBIA

Account Name: Children in the Wilderness
Bank: First National Bank, Maun, Botswana
Account Number: 62177978560
Branch code: 282367
Branch: Maun
Swift Code: FIRNBWGX

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS ZIMBABWE

Account Name: Children in the Wilderness
Bank: First National Bank, Maun, Botswana
Account Number: 62177978560
Branch code: 282367
Branch: Maun
Swift Code: FIRNBWGX

MAKE A DIFFERENCE

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS GENERAL – (18A STATUS FOR SA CITIZENS)

Funds paid into this account and referenced 'CITW General Donation' will be allocated to a pool to be distributed across all the programmes in the various countries.

Registration Number: 2004/024727/08
 Account Name: Children in the Wilderness Mkambati
 Bank: Standard Bank
 Account Number: 023031735
 Branch Code: 001255
 Branch: Rivonia
 ABA Routing No use Swift Code: SBZAJJ

NOTE: Children in the Wilderness has a Beneficiary Analysis Certificate, certifying that 100% of its beneficiaries are black children. Donors can thus claim the full donation back on the basis of the Socio Economic Development and BEE Scorecard.

B. PAYMENT VIA RESOURCES FIRST FOUNDATION (501C FOR USA RESIDENTS)

To donate through the Resources First Foundation cheques can be mailed to:

Resources First Foundation
 189 Main Street
 Yarmouth, MA 04096

Please Note:

- Resources First Foundation can only accept donations in U.S. dollars.
- The Resources First Foundation collects donations for many different programmes, so please ensure that your donation is clearly earmarked for CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS.
- If you would like to do an EFT into the Resources First Foundation account, please contact Angela Bellegarde at angelab@resourcesfirstfoundation.org for more information.

C. DONATE VIA CREDIT CARD:

If you would like to make a credit card donation, this can be done directly via the Children in the Wilderness website – www.childreninthewilderness.com.

D. WILDERNESS SAFARIS AGENTS:

Wilderness Safaris agents can elect to give a donation per booking to Children in the Wilderness that will be invoiced at the time of making your reservation. Should you be interested in this option please email info@childreninthewilderness.com to facilitate this process.

CHILDREN IN THE WILDERNESS COMMUNICATIONS

We communicate with our donors via an email newsletter every three to four months. Should you wish to be included in the newsletter communication please email info@childreninthewilderness.com and let us know.

OUR SPONSORS

We are very grateful to the following individuals, companies, travel partners and charitable trusts and foundations for their generous support. We certainly could not have achieved what we have without your kind support.

We would also like to thank and acknowledge all our cyclists, volunteers and other fundraising ambassadors who participate in our fundraising events and also arrange and operate their own. There are too many people to name, however their time and donations have made an enormous difference to the Children in the Wilderness programmes.



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If we have left anyone out, this was unintentional. Please let us know and accept our apologies.





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