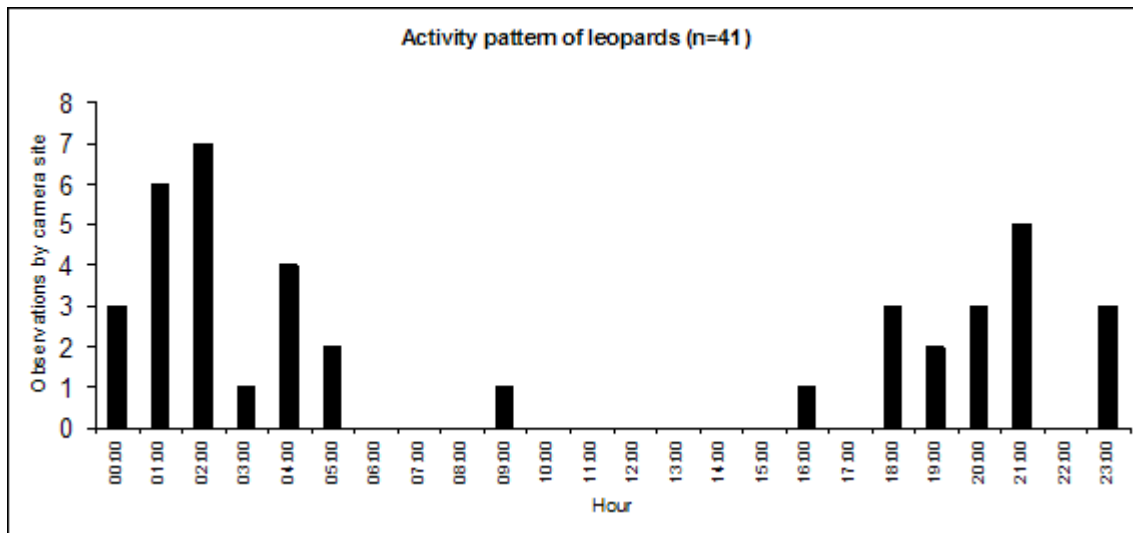


## Project Update: June 2005

The influence of land-use types on the population density of the leopard (*Panthera pardus*) in the Cederberg Mountains, South Africa; identifying conflict hotspots and core safe areas to conserve a unique population.



This graph shows the times that we have monitored leopard's activity in the Cederberg Mountains

Our third and last summer survey in the Matjiesrivier Nature Reserve (Conservation area) proved to be very productive. We managed to get a staggering twenty-two leopard camera trap photographs. This included a series of photos of "Johan", the predominant territorial male in the area, as well as two "new" females and a sub-adult (unsexed as of yet). I have completed a preliminary analysis of the data captured halfway through the first year of the project. The number of recaptures of individuals is currently too low for a significant result using the programme CAPTURE. However, we have significant results pertaining to the behaviour of these elusive cats. Previous work suggests that leopards in the mountainous areas of the Cape are predominantly diurnal – moving between 6a.m. and 6p.m. This was based on triangulation plots using VHF telemetry equipment. We have 41 "captures" or specific instances, 39 of which are between 6p.m & 6a.m. – exactly the opposite. We have included one of our very few daytime photographs.