

Project Update: February 2013

PERIOD COVERED: September – February 2013

Population census

The photographic census has already received a number of photographs from tourists and residents of the area. Additionally, compact digital cameras are being used by field guides working in NOTUGRE. Twice daily, tourists are taken on wildlife-viewing game drives by experienced field guides, tracking and locating sought-after species, including cheetahs. These cameras are particularly well suited for this survey as they are programmed to record the GPS coordinates of the photograph, hence all photographic data will be accompanied with records of date, time and the location of cheetah sightings.

Additionally to the photographic survey, a camera trap survey is being conducted. Sixty points were randomly selected whilst taking into consideration the minimum home range of a cheetah.



Human-predator conflict

Questionnaire survey: An interview based questionnaire was carried out; livestock farmers were interviewed to collect comprehensive data on predator occurrences and livestock loss to predators. Furthermore, by visiting cattle posts a better understanding of the current methods and farming practices used to protect livestock from predators was gained. We also took the opportunity to advise on livestock loss prevention, how to identify the more common predators and the status of cheetah and their conservation.

