

### **Project Update: May 2009**

Our Zimbabwean wild dog project continues to go well. Interviews (done in collaboration with Marwell Trust Zimbabwe) have been completed in the communal lands surrounding Savé Valley Conservancy and in the resettled areas within the conservancy. We have a school field trip planned for June where we will be hosting a group of children from Harare to teach them about wildlife and conservation and pave the way for local schools to come as well. On the fieldwork side, I'm excited to be able to report the first sign of the 2009 denning season: at least 2 of the alpha female wild dogs in the conservancy are pregnant! We've also just completed a short field trip to Gonarezhou National Park where we picked up plenty of signs of wild dogs (and other carnivores) and made good progress mapping the roads etc. Monitoring of the nine wild dog packs in the conservancy continues.



Left: A very pregnant alpha female - the first sign of the 2009 denning season! Right: Snared wild dog immobilised for treatment.