

Project Update: July 2010

Denning season is well underway with the wild dogs in Zimbabwe's Lowveld. We have located the dens of five packs to date and continue to monitor them closely. Very sadly, in late July 2010 we had a pack wiped out by rabies – most likely spread from domestic dogs in the surrounding community. Thanks to our close monitoring of the situation, we were able to both ascertain cause of death and were able to rescue the last two surviving pups and take them up to a wild dog rehabilitation facility in the north west of the country. So far they are doing well and will be released back into the wild after teaming up with other rehabilitated individuals to form a pack. Although too late for this pack, this incident highlights the need for the rabies vaccination campaigns we have planned for late September – we hope to be able to vaccinate close to 1000 domestic dogs in communities bordering wildlife areas.



Left: Digging out the wild dog den to rescue the last two pups after all the adults died of rabies. Right: Rosemary performing a post mortem on an African wild dog to ascertain cause of death.