

## **Project Update: September 2022**

### **3D sampling of cheetah trails by using a drone**

Cheetah trails (i.e., continuous sequence of tracks made by the same individual) contain gait characteristics. It is interesting to study the gaits of different animals to compare different species, and potentially different individuals. We 3D sampled the trails from eight different cheetahs in N/a'ankusê Wildlife Sanctuary in Namibia. This sampling was realised with a drone (aerial photogrammetry) and with a handheld DSLR camera (terrestrial photogrammetry). The goal is to compare these two remote sensing techniques against direct measurement (with a measuring tape) to develop a new drone sampling method for trails. The drone was flying at a height of 2 m, back and forth the length of the trail. This method has the advantages of being faster, more practical (remote control, non-destructive) and allows to cover longer distances.



